

Lesson 7: THE NAMES OF ALLAH ﷻ

In all that we have said about Allah ﷻ, we can see that He has many names (attributes). Through His names, we learn of His powers and His traits. This information is useful in learning how to better serve him. You may have heard of the ninety-nine “Beautiful Names of Allah ﷻ”. They are found in different parts of the Quran. You have already learned some of them.

There is one particular passage in the Quran in which Allah ﷻ reveals much about Himself through many of His names and attributes:

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُ
الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٢٢﴾

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقُدُّوسُ السَّلَامُ الْمُؤْمِنُ
الْمُهَيِّمُ الْعَزِيزُ الْجَبَّارُ الْمُتَكَبِّرُ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا
يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَلِيقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَا فِي
السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿٢٤﴾

Allah is He, besides Whom there is no other god. The knower of the visible and the invisible. He is the Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Allah is He, besides Whom there is no other god: the King, the Holy, the Source of Peace and Salvation, the Keeper of Faith, the Guardian, the Majestic, the Compeller, The Supreme! Glory to Allah! High is He above the partners that (men) attribute to Him. He is Allah, the Creator, The

Shaper out of naught. His (alone) are the most Beautiful Names; All that is in the heavens and the earth glorify Him and He is Mighty, the Wise!

(Al-Hashr 59: 22-24)

Two very important names of Allah ﷻ found in the Quran repeatedly, and at the beginning of almost every *Surah* are *Ar-Rahman, Ar-Rahim*, “The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.” From these names we understand the Magnitude of Allah’s Grace and Mercy. We find evidence of this fact in every blessing He has given us. Think about what Allah ﷻ has done for you: it is overwhelming. We should remember Allah’s blessings to us and be grateful for His Mercy.

In another verse, Allah ﷻ says:

الله نُّورُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

Allah is the Light of the Heavens and the earth.

(An-Nur 24:35)

Allah ﷻ also says in the Quran:

وَنَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ حَبْلِ الْوَرِيدِ

And We (God) are nearer to him (man) than his jugular vein

(Qaf 50:16)

We know that Allah ﷻ is so great, because He is never far away, where He cannot see or hear us. He says:

وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ

Call unto Me and I will respond you.

(Ghafir 40:60)

Moreover, it has been reported by Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه that Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:
Ihsan is to worship Allah as if you see Him; and if you do not achieve this state of devotion, then Allah sees you.

(Transmitted by Muslim)

Obviously, it is important that we are conscious of Allah سبحانه at all times, and that we behave with the full understanding that He is present with us and a Witness to all that we do.