

Fasting

*The Fourth of High Grades of At-Taqwa
(Seeing by Allah's Light)*

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In the name of God, the All-Compassionate, the All-Merciful

The reality and Wisdom of Fasting

Oh Human, the Almighty has granted you a qualification to be elevated and to ascend to the highest degree of perfection; and all what you need to achieve this great rank for which you are nominated is only to think.

This is true, the Almighty has supplied you with a perfect machine and a precious jewel; if you take advantage of it you will have your heart's eye open.

Your spirit will observe realities and, therefore, will no more incline to this mean world and the corruptive attractions it contains which are to be followed by shame and humiliation.

If human ponders on their origin, they will realize that they are nothingness; then if they contemplate their growth and how they, along with all that is around them in this universe, are provided with all their needs they will sense the greatness of their Provider.

This contemplation will ultimately lead them to perceive their fate and certain departure from this world. They will come to know for certain that this world is not a place of abiding residence.

There and then, they will seriously seek to recognize the truth. Once a human becomes true in their search for the truth, the Almighty will surely reveal it to them.

To gain access to sublimity and eminence is not a difficult thing; all what you need is only to faithfully join to the school of purity and follow this guidance with a firm and true will.

Once you do this, you will come to see realities. You will find this path so easy, and so, you will mount up the tops of supreme knowledge and ascend the orbits of the highest standing. You will attain the blessings of perfection and wear garments of companionability.

But if your spirit gets lost in its childish whim so that you set to crave after this and that of the fleeting pleasures of this world and its vanities, neglecting to attain sublimity by following these rules, you will be fond of nothing other than vice.

Oh people, know that the deeds you perform in this world will justly be returned upon you tomorrow. Those who have neglected their thought and have refused to follow what is right and true are practising low deeds, but their distance from the Creator of the heavens will cause them to fall in valleys of misery, which are lower than their deeds. They are proceeding towards this fate in a hurry, persisting on such horrible situation until the advent

of the hour of death. At that moment, their eyes will be fixed in terror forever.

The reason for the dreadful degradation of humanity which we touch in all human communities and the secret behind these calamities, troubles, famines, earthquakes, diseases, and other afflictions which we see nowadays is that humankind have become proud of what they have attained of worldly science and high prestige.

This can be noticed clearer in the fields of worldly inventions and achievements. They spend their times in amusement and play and depravity, turning their back to the truth.

They did not see what this lofty and supreme revelation and guidelines, adorned with truth and perfection, speaks of sound logic. Rather, they found it strange to hear it!

But what is the point of oddity in this? Did the Almighty Allah not send Envoys to every nation?

So, why do they not compare their achievements with his (cpth)[1] achievements?

Did they not realize his (cpth) perfection?

Do they not know that on Doomsday everybody will seek to save only himself?

With regard to fasting, a human cannot attain the fruit of fasting unless all their deed, with no exception, are good.

In reality, the human spirit is free in its choice and will. The Almighty granted it unrestricted freedom. Therefore, a human cannot drive their spirit by force; they can lead it by proof and logic argument. Once you convince your spirit, it will follow you and agree with you. So, if you render good deeds and mend your ways, it will draw close to Almighty Allah, the Source of all blessings and the Origin of all excellent qualities from Whom it absorbs perfect attributes. This is sure to happen on condition that you commit no wrong, for one infringement will break your fast and make your spirit unable to approach His Majesty. This is because it will lose its confidence and become diffident from its Provider.

Today, many people fast formally, that is to say, they abstain from eating and drinking, meanwhile, they do not perform the daily prayers. Others may make the pilgrimage, however, they practice usury, thus such people believe only in what is consistent with their whim and reject all that is inconsistent with their desire.

Andalusia, for example, was a great Islamic state, yet it vanished because the Muslim rulers used to seek the help of the non-Muslims against each other. This is the same act of the Jews, the people of the book (Al-Torah), who resorted to the pagan Arabs to aid them against each other.

Not so is the believer, for they believe in all God's Words. They do not follow what appeals to them

and neglect what does not satisfy their pleasures. Rather they strive against the inclinations of spirit and its whim.

Whoever adopts this conduct, that is to say, whoever believes in a part of the Book and rejects other parts will face the same miserable end as they have recognized the truth yet they do not follow it. Then a horrible destination awaits them in the life to come when they find themselves bare of any good deed, fitting for meeting the Almighty Allah, a deed that is completely void of any worldly benefit related to people's honor or wealth. At this, and since they will have regained their perfect disposition and there will be no more pleasures and lusts, they will flame with contrition. They will find no treatment nor sedative for their spiritual suffering to cling to other than the Fire. What a miserable treatment and a bad association!

Conversely, when the spirit turns towards the Almighty Allah, driven by its confidence of its good deeds, which are free from any mean purposes, it will derive perfection and become graced with it.

This produces in it a love for the people of perfection and a feeling of reverence for them, and as a result, it will keep in company with them. This companionship with the people of perfection leads the loving spirit to enter with them into the Godly Presence where it gets immersed in the oceans of the Godly Majesty and beauty.

In this way, a spirit grows in capacity and abilities, provided with pure and noble Godly love and thus it rids itself of all base pleasures and spiritual purposes. Such a spirit will aspire to be repaid for its charity from its Originator, the Creator of all blessings, and not from His creatures.

There and then, it will become illuminated by His Light (Glory to Him) and become able to distinguish between what is good and what is evil. God says: **“Enter into My servants, and enter My Paradise”**

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 89 [2], al-Fajr (The Coming Appearance),
verses 29-30*

This is the fruit of fasting as referred to in the holy saying when God says, **“All deeds of sons of Adam are done for himself, except fasting, it is done for me, and therefore, it is Me who gives the reward of it”**[3]

By fasting, the believer gains the **“Night of Valuation”** after which the spirit of the faster abstains from all forbidden things, furthermore, it loathes them by virtue of the Godly Light it has derived in this blessed night and which shows it what they contain of evils.

Thus, the faster will acquire the noblest traits of character, and this acquirement is accessible for every believer.

After the believer gains this degree, they should be careful not to turn away from the Almighty in order to perform a perfect and correct communication with Him.

This is because true faith and fast protect the believer from falling in sin and instill confidence in themselves that makes them approach the Almighty and perform a right communication with Him through which the Almighty obliges them with a heart purification. In this way, the spirit will be cleaned of all its imperfections and the faster will become pure and rarefied as when he was a newborn child.

Having become so, the believer then will spare no effort in achieving reformation, doing favor and rendering good deeds. This is because they have become a true human being in the full sublime sense of humanity. They have enjoyed the company of God, the Source of all-good, and so they have attained good and flooded it over people, seeking no reward from them nor any worldly purpose. Therefore, the creation will like their company.

This is the purpose for which we were created; it is to be a human being that can enjoy happiness and help others enjoy it. Thus, we can live in Paradise on this land, and thus peace, Humane and honest love, and life of plenty and pleasure will spread.

This is the goal of the Most Merciful God, the Provider of all the worlds. He is not a Provider for

some nations without others, and He is not only our Provider, Rather He is the Provider of all the worlds, Who want all His creation to enjoy happiness. He wishes them to attain worldly happiness and then eternal afterworldly happiness, a great felicity that is obtained and then prevailed only by the fasting believer.

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**(Fasting) The Fourth of High Grades of At-Taqwa
(Seeing by Allah's Light)**

Fasting is a high grade that the Almighty God (Glory to Him) has enjoined to graduate believers illuminated by His Light. He has bid His Obedient followers to fast so that they may attain this elevated degree and acquire a Godly Light, which serves as a distinction showing them the good as good and the evil as evil. God says: **“You who believe, fasting is decreed for you as it was decreed for those before you, so that you may see by My Light”**

*The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 2, al-Baqara (The Cow), verse 183*

By fasting, the spirit forgets all its muddiness and renounce this worldly life with all its ornament, and what is more, fasting causes the relation between the spirit and the devil to be broken, this is because when the devil approaches the faster to whisper evil to their spirit or to allure it with this carnal world and its pleasures, the spirit will give no ear to him and pay no attention to his whispers as hunger and thirst have attracted it from anything else and made it forget its pleasures. Thus, it will be concerned in one direction, the matter which allows the fasting human to easily control it and direct it towards its Maker and Originator.

Then, if the spirit turns to itself it will know that it has pleased God by its fasting and its obedience,

and thus it will draw close to Him by its such deed and its opposition to its desires. Once the spirit perceives this, it will mend its pace to Allah and enter into His Presence through the Nightly prayers which are performed during Ramadan month. This is because a spirit cannot approach anyone unless it is sure that it is well-doer not bad-doer, faithful and sincere to the one it wants to approach.

This is a firm rule: no change may you find for Allah's rules.

If the spirit persists in its link with its Provider and its communication with God; if it keeps stuck to the Presence of its Maker, wholly directed towards its Creator, it will gain spiritual life, animation, repose, and closeness to the All-Merciful, the All-Compassionate, the Source of generosity and charity. Consequently, it will promote and ascend high until ultimately it gets its heart's eye open and witness realities, something which may not be attained in a month other than Ramadan as fasting is the best helpful means for spirits to attain this.

The noble Prophet informed us of the legitimacy of fasting and clarified the purpose behind this Godly Order when he (cpth) revealed the holy saying of God in which He (Glory to Him) says: **“All deeds of sons of Adam are done for themselves, except fasting, it is done for Me, and therefore, it is Me who gives the reward of it”**[4]

The statement **“except fasting, it is done for Me”** refers to the fruit of fasting and the sublime purpose behind it.

Performing the ritual ablution before prayer makes human vital and active so that they become ready to stand between God’s hands to be in communication with Him through their prayers. The aim of the Five daily prayers is to drive one’s spirit to the Source of perfection where human stands between God’s Hands in order to recognize the law descended by our Provider and which we should follow to enjoy happiness. As for fasting it helps humanity achieve the supreme purpose behind our creation.

By fasting, the faithful spirit attains the highest rank of humanity through the Nightly prayers during which it accompanies the leader (cpth) of all envoys and the master of all creation and then enters with his company into Allah’s Presence where it witnesses wide realms of His Majesty and Perfection.

By fasting, the spirit gains access to the most beloved One to it, it comes to meet the Origin of this existence and the Source of this universe. There and then, it will watch the Supreme Godly Names and witness a part of the greatest marvels of its Provider.

In a holy saying God says: **“Oh sons of Adam, seek Me and you shall find Me, once you find Me, you will find everything, but if once you miss**

Me, you will have missed everything. To you. I am the most beloved one than everything else”[5]

This is the fruit of fasting as we understand it from the statement **“except fasting, it is done for Me”**

When the Almighty enjoined fasting on humanity, He but wanted to lead us to His supreme and high Honor so that we may taste His Mercy and witness scenes of His Magnificence and Beauty, the matter which enlightens our hearts with a brand of His Light to be a beacon helping us proceed straightly in this life and never stray from the right way.

Thus we can profit ourselves from this precious life as we will not commit any wrong action nor will we be remiss any good deed. Then, when our age runs out and our lifetime comes to an end, we shall be admitted to the eternal bliss and live under the Wing of our Merciful Provider, God says: **“Those who strive in Our Cause We shall surely guide them to Our Own Paths. Allah is with the do-gooders”**

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 29, al-‘Ankabut (The Spider), verse 69*

Now we shall talk in some detail about the fruit of fasting Ramadan and the great benefits it entails upon the fasters who gain access to witnessing the Night of Valuation.

So, what is meant by **‘the Night of Valuation’?**

In the Quranic Fortress ‘Valuation’, the Almighty says:

(In the name of God, the All-Compassionate, the All-Merciful)

- 1. “We have revealed It on the Night of Valuation.”**
- 2. “Would that you knew what the Night of Valuation is!”**
- 3. “Better is the Night of Valuation than a thousand months.”**
- 4. “On It the angels and the Soul are brought down by their Provider’s permission on every errand,”**
- 5. “Peace is it, till the rise of morn.”**

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Interpretation of Al-Qadr Fortress (Valuation)

When we say, “a man Valuation his Creator”, it means that he knew His high Rank and His great Majesty and Perfection.

But how can one recognize God and know His Mightiness and Majesty? How can the creature value his Creator as He worthes?

I say, man can not get such sublime degree unless he witnesses God’s Mightiness and views His Perfection.

For example I can not know your position unless I see you at work or when managing your affairs, or when I notice your qualities which prove your high

position and bespeak your elevated rank and great degree.

Similarly, the spirit will not be sure of its Creator's Grandeur until it witnesses the Might of that Mighty Possessor in His kingdom when He provides His creatures and supplies them all with a flood of His favor and benevolence, and overwhelms the universe with His clemency and wide mercy.

If man, by thought, believed in his Provider and confessed the might and the compassion of his Creator, then he abided by His commands and kept obeying Him without committing any breach and approaching Him by being charitable to all creatures, undoubtedly he would witness God's perfection by the eye of his heart and his spirit will assuredly sink in that Godly light where it sees the Greatness of its Creator and Originator and views His Tenderness, Sympathy and Mercy upon it and upon all creatures. Thus it will know the rank of its Provider and becomes certain in His Compassion and Kindness upon it.

So, the night when man gets and enjoys such spiritual witnessing by which he acquires that real knowledge: that great night is called the night of Valuation, that is, the night when man watches the Mightiness of the Creator and appreciates the perfection of God.

I say on that night, even you can say, at the moment of getting these spiritual sights, the truth will be

printed on the heart of this believer, and all the realities of faith and of the Holy Qur'an will descend on it and thus he shall perceive the purpose and the wisdom behind the Qur'anic verses.

Therefore, God addressed His noble Messenger saying:

Verse no. 1

“We have revealed It on the Night of Valuation.”

That is, revealing the facts folded under the Holy Qur'an was but on the Night of Valuation, i.e. the night when you witnessed the Might of your Provider and esteemed your Creator.

The Almighty addressed His Envoy by such words so as to inform us of that: man can not become aware of the Qur'an's facts or get right knowledge about the verses contained in it and which lead to happiness and welfare and call to right and charity except on the “Night of Valuation”.

So, this noble verse shows us that the real science should be only about Al'lah and it can not be acquired except by Him (glory to Him).

All humankind, individually and in nations, throughout the ages and generations are unable to bring the guidance brought by the Envoy (cpth) and such indication and science which he elucidated to people, even if they help each other.

How then could the noble Envoy (cpth) who never studied a book before or took lessons by any of people, bring such guidance, alone?! Indeed he (cpth) challenged all generations in all ages and showed their failure to bring an indication equal to it.

So, this verse refutes what Quraish claimed and what the owners of narrow minds claim of that the Qur'an was composed by the Envoy (cpth). It acquaints us with that supreme source from which the Messenger (cpth) got this guidance and indication which lead to the right path, humanity and perfect bliss, as it declares that the perfect guidance brought by the Envoy (cpth) is a revelation descended from Al'lah on His noble Envoy's heart on the "Night of Valuation", when he (cpth) esteemed his Provider's perfection and glorified his Creator.

Also, this noble verse disproves what was fabricated by some people who said that if you want to understand the Qur'an, you need to learn sixteen kinds of several sciences and engage in studying those lengthy books!

In fact, the detailed studies do not help in knowing the truth for man does not get the true knowledge unless he be honored with gifts of God (glory to Him) and gains that blessed night.

But, is this witnessing available for any person?

And when can the “Night of Valuation” be obtained?

I say, the Godly Justice necessitates not to let the divine gift restricted to one missing another. So each person who prepares himself properly to attain such viewing, that is to say, anyone that obeys his Provider perfectly so that he does not neglect any of God’s Orders or commit any sin, certainly he will be honored with this witnessing and get that night.

The harmful disobedient spirit cannot witness it because when it stands to perform its communication it feels ashamed of its Provider. It is unable to turn toward God or to enter into His Presence, so its performance of the communication is formal not real as its sins create a veil and a cover between it and the Almighty Al’lah.

As for the obedient spirit, when it stands before its Provider, it positively stands directed towards Him and drawing near to Him, because the charity it holds in its hands makes it proud of its deed, feeling with confidence and assurance of God’s satisfaction with it.

Thus, straightening upon God’s command and drawing near to Him by rendering good actions: both of them are the two main conditions, that is to say the two wings which make the spirit fly up to that Supreme heavens where it witnesses a part of God’s perfection and acquires virtue and knowledge.

As regard the proper time at which spirit becomes ready for reaching this state of viewing and enjoying that blessed Night, it is the month of Ramadan, and exactly during the last ten days of it as told by the truthful and trustworthy Prophet (cph). That is because those two main conditions are available for the faster at that time. The hunger and thirst in Ramadan help in causing rupture of relations between man and Satan, and man's spirit will be drilled on such favorable separation all during its day of which he feels no shame before his Provider at all.

Besides, his obedience to God by fasting gives him a great motive and a strong drive that move him to come nearer to his Provider.

Therefore, when he stands to perform the communication with God during the evening prayer after having a little of food and drink, he will be wholly directed to God and wholly present in His presence, and then his spirit will fly soaring in that supreme heaven with no obstacle that may block it and no screen that may stand between it and its Creator.

So, as soon as the faster starts his communication he will see himself immersed in a flood of God's light, staring at Al'lah by his heart-vision, and truly worshiping Him for he views Him.

He keeps on his worshiping day after day and night after night until the coming of the last ten days of

this blessed month when his spirit will have grown stranger and will become more firm for receiving that divine light and qualified for witnessing the Godly perfection. Then, the veil will be uncovered to show the spirit a proportion of God's Beauty, Majesty and supreme Attributes that it can bear.

It views the subsistence of the universe entirely based upon His sustain and steering, sinking in His Beauty and Favor and plunged in His Compassion and Tenderness.

By watching that Godly Loftiness and Beauty and Perceiving the perfection of the most high Provider, and because of seeing the comprehensive Mercy, Sympathy and Tenderness, man shall wholeheartedly love God the source of Majesty, Glory, Sympathy and Benefaction. That is because spirit is naturally predisposed on loving beauty and perfection and appreciating the owner of charity.

By this magnific love for the Possessor of Perfection (glory to Him), the spirit will be colored with a stain of perfection; and only such kind of love corrects man's morals and changes the state of spirit from one to another.

So, when the communication with God finishes, the communicant will return from that auspicious travel having got the best supplies. The virtue will be his intimate friend, the perfection his confederate companion, the piety his provision, and doing the

good for creatures absorbing his interests and wishes.

That is the “Night of Valuation”. It is the night when the obedient follower witnesses the Grandeur of his Provider and His supreme Attributes and when the facts of the Qur’an are revealed in his heart.

That is the “Night of Valuation” which the Almighty Al’lah has ennobled Ramadan with.

That is the night which every man should get in order to leave the rank of the animal and join to the humanists who are characterized by mercy, charity and tenderness, and that who dies without witnessing it has failed to make use of his life and has lost his age in vain. God says: **“...the worldly life is but a preparation for the hereafter”**

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 13, Ar-Ra’d (The Thunder), verse 26*

In another verse He says: **“The life of this world is but amusement and play. It is the Home in the Hereafter that is the true life: if they but knew.”**

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 29, Al-’Ankabut (The Spider), verse 64*

God wanted to show us the great importance of this Night, so He says:

Verse no. 2

“Would that you knew what the Night of Valuation is!”

That is, what a great this night is and what a plenty welfare man obtains when witnessing it!

Oh man! You are unable to have a comprehensive knowledge of what is contained in the Night of Valuation and of the bounty and the good that the believer wins on this blessed Night.

God detailed that saying:

Verse no. 3

“Better is the Night of Valuation than a thousand months.”

The “thousand months” is nearly equal to eighty-four years, if we add to them the years of childhood, the total of that will be nearly one hundred years.

Thus, the science, the knowledge, the virtue and the perfection which be printed on the believer’s spirit on that Night or you can say, at that moment are better than the knowledge which one of hundred years old acquires during thousand months spent in fasting and hard study.

Only suffering and loss are the share of the opposer who forgets God, he gets no use of his life whatever it takes him a long time, even if he lives for a hundred years, as well as people get nothing of his deed other than damage and harm.

On the contrary, the lifetime of the believer who always draws nearer to God floods with good, humanity and favor, and the Night of Valuation which he gains is a school where he learns virtue, humanity, compassion and benefaction.

What a great difference between a negligent opposer whose deeds are filled with evil and injury, and a close believer whose purpose of his deeds is but lending a helping hand to the whole creatures wishing for God's satisfaction!

Such being the case, the Night of Valuation which the believer gains is better than a thousand months i.e. it is better than the full age of the unbeliever and his life which is completely far from any benefit and it yields nothing other than offense and loss.

If one Night of Nights of Valuation that the near to Al'lah is honored with is better than a lifetime which lasts for a hundred years, how different is, then, the believer's lifetime if compared with that of the far disbeliever!!

How great is the science of the first in comparison with that of the latter!

What a low grade of the opposer comparing with that of the close believer whose age is full of good and whose life is filled with humanity!

Since the Nights of Valuation are revealed in succession upon such near believer so that he moves from one Night to another higher and loftier, from

one degree of knowledge to another more sublime and more perfect, so, absolutely, there is no way to compare between one near to God and one inattentive and far from Him. The oppose can not acquire a bit of the believer's science, knowledge, perfection and virtue whatever he overworks and exerts himself.

Indeed, the distance between them is like that between the heaven and the earth. The Almighty gave us an example to demonstrate this fact, He says: **“The blind and the seeing are not alike, nor are the darkness and the light. The shade and the heat are not alike, nor are the living and the dead, Al’lah can cause him who wills to hear, but you can not make those who are in graves hear”**.

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 35, Fatir (Orignator), verse 19-22*

I say, if every night, nay if every moment of the believer's moments is much better than the whole lifetime of the far unbeliever, then, what can we say about the Envoy (cpth) whose every moment was a Night of Valuation Nights of Valuation?

How can we imagine that perfection and science and those Prophetic morals which his spirit had?

How far distance is between us and him (cpth)!

What a great difference is between all humankind and him (cpth): the wide sea, the brilliant moon and the bright shining lamp!

However, none knows the rank of God's Envoy (cpth) except those who recognize Al'lah and get the Night of Valuation, because only people of favor know it. And Al'lah is of infinite favor.

After that, God wanted to show us the state of the believer who has become colored with a stain of perfection and virtue and the right was imprinted on the surface of his pure and clean spirit. He says:

Verse no. 4

“On It the angels and the Soul are brought down by their Provider's permission on every errand,”

“On It, the angels and the Soul are brought down”: due to their great nearness to their Provider, all Prophets and Envoys reached to a degree of spiritual purity and sensible knowledge that made their spirits never incline to any of the forbidden things or think of any of the evil wishes. The Godly light is always shining in their spirits, therefore the realities are clearly visible to them all the time, and the angels are always bringing the soul down upon them by their Provider's leave. So, their witnessing are unceasing and lasting, and that is what made them impeccable. The holy saying denotes: **“We, companies of Prophets,; our eyes sleep but our hearts never sleep.”**[6]

As for the believers who did not reach and will never reach the ranks of Envoys and Prophets, some desires may strike their mind and their spirits may

feel an inclination to some forbidden acts, but since their hearts have been illuminated by the light of right and they viewed the perfection, liked it, and colored with it on the Night of Valuation, therefore they seek refuge in their Provider from what has arisen inside them and resort to Him asking to be cured of what has befallen them.

By such resorting to God and such seeking refuge in Him, His light shines in their hearts to show them the reality, so they witness the harm and the evil folded under this lust and that inclination by that divine light which the Almighty God named "Soul". God says: **"If Satan tempts you, seek refuge in God; He hears all and knows all. Those that become illuminated by God's light: if they are tempted by Satan, they remember God, then they shall see by His light"**

*The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 7, Al-A'raf (The Heights), verse 200-201*

That is what this noble verse of Valuation fortress denotes. So, as previously mentioned, the "Soul" is that Godly light which the Almighty Al'lah manifests in the heart of His obedient followers when they seek refuge in and resort to Him.

"By their Provider's permission on every errand," this statement serves that by this Soul, the reality of each desire becomes clearly visible the virtue or the vice involved behind each matter becomes uncovered.

As for the angels, they carry down the Soul because they are mediums through whom the Godly light flows to the near spirits, just as the wires through which the electric power flows, where it shines therein and shows them the realities of everything.

Yet this never happens except by the permission Provider, viz, none can witness and view except he whom God allows to do, and God gives permission only to those who have entered into the presence of their Provider and whose spirits have derived perfection from God so that they have appreciated Him in a deal equivalent to their direction and nearness.

Summarizing the speech we say:

A desire may grow inside the spirit of the believer, yet the stain of perfection which his spirit was colored with before on the Night of Valuation makes him turn to his Provider for help asking to show him the reality of this desire and the badness it contains. Then, the Soul is brought down upon his heart, viz the angels bring him that divine light from his Lord to show him the fact he asks for, and when he refers to the Qur'an he finds the verse confirming what he has witnessed and seen: thereby so his heart becomes assured and his spirit tends to the right with love.

The noble Prophet (cpth) says: **“None of you shall believe unless his whim agrees with that I have brought.”**[7]

And God says in a Holy Speech: **“The obedient follower keeps drawing nearer to Me by supererogatory performances until I like him. When I do, I shall be his hearing he hears by, his sight he sees by and his tongue he speaks by.”**[8]

The second part of this saying is mentioned in another saying in other words "...When I do, I will be a hearing and a sight for him. By Me he hears, by Me he sees, and by Me he speaks."

Thus, anyone that takes God's speech as a guide in all his affairs, certainly feels with safety and assurance in all his movement, and that whose lamp is God's Light, certainly enjoys a life filled with happiness and peace.

God revealed that when He says:

Verse no. 5

“Peace is it, till the rise of morn.”

The statement “rise of morn” expresses death, because by death the spirits' covers are removed from them and there becomes no screen nor veil that prevent them from watching the truth. All people will see the facts clearly visible to the heart-eyes as they will view the truth that the Envoys (cptt)[9] called to.

The example of the believer who has followed the right path and has witnessed the “Night of Valuation” before death is like that of a man who

walks inside caves or through deserts at night holding a shining luminous lamp in his hand.

He has got a vision and a light that always shows him the truth. Besides, there is a guidebook (a way-map) in his other hand that leads him in order not to mistake the right path.

So, he feels with tranquility and peace all during his life, and he always rolls in welfare and does good deeds. Then when his lifetime ends and the morn rises, he shall die while being in best case and shall get good news, happiness and bliss because of what he has done.

Thus, if you want to have science and knowledge, if you seek after perfection and virtue, if you want the truth to be printed on your heart, if you want your spirit to be colored with a stain of Al'lah "**...and who has a stain better than Al'lah's?!...**"

*The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 2, Al-Baqara (The Cow), verse 138*

And if you want to have a light in your heart that enlightens your way in darkness and gives you a proof and a discrimination from Al'lah, you have to work hard in order to witness the Night of Valuation, for only then you can take advantage of your precious and valuable life and gain this age. God says: "**That who has been blind in this (life), shall be blind in the life to come and go farther astray**"

The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 17, Al-Isra' (The Night Journey), verse 72

In another verse, He says: **“He that strives strives but for himself. Al’lah is in no need of all worlds.”**

The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 29, Al-'Ankabut (The Spider), verse 6

And He says: **“Those that strive to be nearer to God We will surely guide to our own paths. Al’lah is with the righteous.”**

The Holy Qur'an,
Fortress 29, Al-'Ankabut (The Spider), verse 69

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But one may ask...

‘If I fasted Ramadan, but in the end could not become illuminated by God’s Light, the purpose for which fasting was legalized, would I then be one of the losers? Does this mean that I shall have gained no fruit of my fasting? Will all my deeds and prayers avails me nothing?’

The answer for this question may serve as a warning for some people, and a as reassurance for others. We say:

Every human knows best than others about their own spirits. So, their Lord and Provider grants them of His Favor in a deal proportional to their own state. If human is one of those who give free rein to themselves and pay no heed to the Commands of their Provider, so they let their glance wander freely among what is forbidden to look at and leave their spirits immersed in objectionable actions throughout the year, then when Ramadan comes they begin to fast; I say that such people will gain nothing of their fasting, even if they spend all their life fasting, this is what the noble Envoy (cpth) hinted at when he said: **“whoever does not abstain from telling lies and practising falsehood [should know that] God is in no need of their abstaining from having food and drink”**[10]

He (cpth) meant that if fasting is not preceded by straight conduct and refraining from what is forbidden, it will avail the faster nothing. Such

faster will not gain illumination by God's Light, which is the lofty purpose for which fast was legalized.

As to those who prepare their spirit properly throughout the year, and then when Ramadan comes they fast, they can indulge in the happy hope that their Provider will surely oblige them with His Favor.

This preparation is accomplished by moving the spirit from the stage of dogmatic belief that there is no god except Allah, to the stage of observational faith in this fact. For thus human enters an impenetrable fort which protects them from falling in breaches and disobedience, the matter which spurs them to draw closer to God during their communication with Him in prayers. This closeness graces their spirit with attributes of perfection and purifies it from its imperfections and sins.

Such believers will definitely and eventually become illuminated by God's Light whatever long time they need. In everyday, their straightness and true communication with God draw them closer to God than the day before, and in every year, they become higher and more elevated than the year before. They will keep advancing in this way until their spirits become qualified for this supreme gift and great Godly Donation. There and then, the Almighty will bestow his Favor upon them and dress up their spirit with the garment of piety (illumination by God's light)

What should, or should not, we do when fasting in order to witness the Night of Valuation?

The believer whose fasting is associated with refrainment from causing harm to any creature and avoidance to earn sins or commit a breach of God's Orders; the believer who fasts and spares no effort in doing what is good and right, then they lead their spirit to their Provider and turn it to its Creator, seeking earnestly and persistently to recognize Allah, the believer who fasts, and satisfy themselves with a light meal at the time of their breakfast in order not to overburden their stomach: once the believer abides by these directions aforementioned then with activity and agility they stand to perform the Nightly Prayers, invoking their Provider, complaining no pain and seeking no worldly purpose other than a meeting with His Majesty, assuredly, in one night of Ramadan's nights, Allah will honor and grant such believers what He grants His obedient and well-doing worshipers.

Definitely, there will be a night when such pure spirit, crowned with perfect attributes, becomes overwhelmed with Godly Lights and sinks in oceans of heavenly knowledge. At this, it will have a criterion and derive a light that will ultimately produce a heart vision for it by which it can witness realities and avoid falling in evil and sins. It will be able to observe the good included in each of the Godly Orders and the evil caused by any breach and negligence to any of them.

The Qur'anic verse denotes, **“you who believe, be under Allah’s Light and believe in His Envoy, for then He will grant you two portions of His Mercy and make a light for you to proceed by it”**

*The Holy Qur’an,
Fortress 57, al-Hadid (Iron), verse 28*

Endnotes

[1] (cpth): Communication with Al'lah and Peace are through him

[2] 'Fortress' this word means a 'Surah' of the Holy Qur'an. On reading 'a fortress' of the Holy Qur'an the faithful believer minds and sees the sublime meanings of its holy and divine words and sentences, or verses lited by God's lit that surrounds his heart, strictly as the walls surround a fort. I. e. entering into God's Presence through minding reading, makes the spirit surrounded by His Light. God's light stands as a rampart between the true faithful spirit and the malicious devil if he tries to break through it. Then the malignant devil would burn and perish. Minding the sublime meanings of the words of one Fortress or Surah in Arabic which means exactly fortress in English) fortifies yourself and those who love you against the evil and harm of your enemy the devil.

[3] Sahih al-Bukhari.

[4] Sahih al-Bukhari.

[5] Mentioned in al-Zabur (Psalms), (David, Testament), (Ihya Ulum Al-Din authored by Al-Ghazali, part 4, page 469), said "He who seeketh Me shall find Me and he who seeketh another doesn't find Me" Abou Al Dar'da said: "I witness I heard God's Messenger say that."

[6] Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.

[7] Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.

[8] Sahih al-Bukhari.

[9] (cptt): Communication with Al'lah and Peace are through them.

[10] Al-Jami' al-Sagheer.