

## 4 – Promises of Allah ﷻ

The fourth promise of Allah ﷻ reflects His Mercy which is at the root of His Forgiveness. How can we truly thank and worship our Rabb who is so incredibly forgiving and merciful? Even more strange, how can we deny and rebel against Him?

That is why He asked:

كَيْفَ تَكْفُرُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَكُنْتُمْ أَمْوَاتًا فَأَحْيَاكُمْ ثُمَّ يُمَيِّتُكُمْ ثُمَّ يُحْيِيكُمْ ثُمَّ  
إِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ

**Baqara 2: 28.** *How can you disbelieve in Allah? Seeing that you were dead and He gave you life. Then He will give you death, then again will bring you to life (on the Day of Resurrection) and then unto Him you will return.*

That brings me to the fourth promise of Allah ﷻ where He said:

... وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ مُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَهُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ

**Al Anfal [8:33]** *...and Allah would not punish them while they seek forgiveness.*

That is why it is so important for us to continuously seek Allah ﷻ's forgiveness and to change our lives and make them obedient to Allah ﷻ's orders and the Sunnah of Rasoolullah ﷺ.

About seeking forgiveness Allah ﷻ said:

قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

**Zumar 39: 53.** *Say: "O 'Ibadi (My slaves) who have transgressed against themselves (by committing evil deeds and sins)! Despair not of the Mercy of Allah, verily Allah forgives all sins. Truly, He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.*

My brothers and sisters, what do you say about the One who calls those who transgress against Him, 'My slaves'? To thank Allah ﷻ for His Mercy is to obey Him.

Allahﷻ ordered us to make sincere Tawba. He said:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا تَوْبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَوْبَةً نَّصُوحًا عَسَىٰ رَبُّكُمْ أَن  
يُكَفِّرَ عَنْكُمْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَيُدْخِلَكُم جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِن تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ  
يَوْمَ لَا يُخْزِي اللَّهُ النَّبِيَّ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَعَهُ نُورُهُمْ يَسْعَىٰ بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ  
وَبِأَيْمَانِهِمْ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا أَتْمِمْ لَنَا نُورَنَا وَاغْفِرْ لَنَا إِنَّكَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ  
قَدِيرٌ

**Tahreem 66: 8.** O you who believe! Turn to Allâh with sincere repentance! It may be that your Lord will remit from you your sins, and admit you into Gardens under which rivers flow (Jannah) the Day that Allâh will not disgrace the Prophet (Muhammad SAW) and those who believe with him, their Light will run forward before them and with (their Records Books of deeds) in their right hands they will say: "Our Rabb! Keep perfect our Light for us [and do not put it off till we cross over the Sirât safely] and grant us forgiveness. Verily, You are Able to do all things.

إِنَّمَا التَّوْبَةُ عَلَى اللَّهِ لِلَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ السُّوءَ بِجَهَالَةٍ ثُمَّ يَتُوبُونَ مِنْ  
قَرِيبٍ فَأُولَٰئِكَ يَتُوبُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَلِيمًا حَكِيمًا  
وَلَيْسَتِ التَّوْبَةُ لِلَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ السَّيِّئَاتِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا حَضَرَ أَحَدَهُمُ  
الْمَوْتُ قَالَ إِنِّي تُبْتُ الْآنَ وَلَا الَّذِينَ يَمُوتُونَ وَهُمْ كُفَّارًا أُولَٰئِكَ  
أَعْتَدْنَا لَهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا

**An-Nisa 4: 17.** Allâh accepts only the repentance of those who do evil in ignorance and foolishness and repent soon afterwards; it is they to whom Allâh will forgive and

*Allâh is Ever AllKnower, AllWise. 18. And of no effect is the repentance of those who continue to do evil deeds until death faces one of them and he says: "Now I repent;" nor of those who die while they are disbelievers. For them We have prepared a painful torment.*

Allahﷻ mentions those who deliberately commit sin and refuse to repent:

فَلَمَّا نَسُوا مَا ذُكِّرُوا بِهِ فَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ أَبْوَابَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ حَتَّى إِذَا  
فَرِحُوا بِمَا أُوتُوا أَخَذْنَاهُمْ بَغْتَةً فَإِذَا هُمْ مُبْلِسُونَ

***Al Ana'am 6:44*** Then, when they had forgotten all that they had been told to take to heart, We threw open to them the gates of all [good] things until -even as they were rejoicing in what they had been granted - We suddenly took them to task: and lo! they were broken in spirit;

Allahﷻ says about those who commit sins repeatedly and refuse to obey Allahﷻ on the false plea that they were weak:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَوَفَّاهُمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ ظَالِمِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ قَالُوا فِيمَ كُنْتُمْ قَالُوا كُنَّا  
مُسْتَضْعَفِينَ فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا أَلَمْ تَكُنْ أَرْضُ اللَّهِ وَاسِعَةً فَتُهَاجِرُوا فِيهَا  
فَأُولَئِكَ مَاوَاهُمْ جَهَنَّمُ وَسَاءَتْ مَصِيرًا  
إِلَّا الْمُسْتَضْعَفِينَ مِنَ الرِّجَالِ وَالنِّسَاءِ وَالْوِلْدَانَ لَا يَسْتَطِيعُونَ حِيلَةً وَلَا  
يَهْتَدُونَ سَبِيلًا

***An Nisa 4:97.*** Verily! As for those whom the angels take (in death) while they are wronging themselves, they (angels) say (to them): "In what (condition) were you?" They reply: "We were weak and oppressed on earth." They (angels) say: "Was not the earth of Allâh spacious enough for you to emigrate therein?" Such people will find their abode in Hell - What an evil destination! **98.** Except the (truly) weak ones among

men, women and children who cannot devise a plan, nor are they able to direct their way.

أَفْتُمُونَن بَبَعَضِ الْكِتَابِ وَتَكْفُرُونَ بِبَعَضِ فَمَا جَزَاءُ مَن يَفْعَلُ  
ذَلِكَ مِنكُمْ إِلَّا خِزْيٌ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ يُرَدُّونَ إِلَىٰ أَشَدِّ  
الْعَذَابِ وَمَا اللَّهُ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ

**Al Baqara 2:85** Then do you believe in a part of the Scripture and reject the rest? Then what is the recompense of those who do so among you, except disgrace in the life of this world, and on the Day of Resurrection they shall be consigned to the most grievous torment. And Allâh is not unaware of what you do.

Allahﷻ tells us about the sincere people who try their best to do good but sometimes they may slip up; not because they want to or try to disobey Allahﷻ deliberately but because of their weakness or forgetfulness; such people immediately make Tawba as soon as they realize their mistake.

وَآخَرُونَ اعْتَرَفُوا بِذُنُوبِهِمْ خَلَطُوا عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَآخَرَ سَيِّئًا عَسَىٰ اللَّهُ  
أَن يَتُوبَ عَلَيْهِمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

**At-Tawba 9: 102.** And (there are) others who have acknowledged their sins, they have mixed a deed that was righteous with another that was evil. Perhaps Allâh will turn unto them in forgiveness. Surely, Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful

The Qur'an asks this question for us to answer:

أَفَلَا يَتُوبُونَ إِلَىٰ اللَّهِ وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَهُ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

**Ma'aida 5: 74.** Will they not repent to Allah and ask His Forgiveness? For Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

Allahﷻ taught us the sequence of repentance.

وَأَنِ اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ ثُمَّ تُوبُوا إِلَيْهِ يُمَتِّعْكُمْ مَتَاعًا حَسَنًا إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ  
مُّسَمًّى وَيُؤْتِ كُلَّ ذِي فَضْلٍ فَضْلَهُ وَإِن تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنِّي أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمْ  
عَذَابَ يَوْمٍ كَبِيرٍ

**Hud 11: 3.** And (commanding you): "Seek the forgiveness of your Rabb, and turn to Him in repentance, that He may grant you good enjoyment, for a term appointed, and bestow His abounding Grace to every owner of grace (everyone who deserves it). But if you turn away, then I fear for you the torment of a Great Day

Finally, for those who make sincere Tawba is the glorious Mercy of Allahﷻ who promised not only to forgive our sins but to convert them to good deeds. What more can anyone ask?

إِلَّا مَن تَابَ وَآمَنَ وَعَمِلَ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا فَأُولَٰئِكَ يُبَدِّلُ اللَّهُ سَيِّئَاتِهِمْ  
حَسَنَاتٍ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَّحِيمًا

**Furqan 25: 70.** Except those who repent and believe (Islâm), and do righteous deeds, for those, Allâh will change their sins into good deeds, and Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful

And if we do this, then Allahﷻ's promise is true.

... وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ مُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَهُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ

**Al Anfal [8:33]** ...and Allah would not punish them while they seek forgiveness.

Allahﷻ is the Only One whose support we need and whose support we can count on. Like all those whose support we seek, first we must get them to be in our favor. We can't expect support from those we have angered and displeased. Therefore, let us make Istighfaar and Tawba and ask Allahﷻ to forgive us and to protect us from all evil. I make this dua for you all and for your families.