

Love of Allah

أدعية القرآن والسنة

Arabic · Latin reading where available · English
meaning

37 complete cards

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The life of the heart

محبة الله هي قوت القلوب وغذاء الأرواح وقرة
العيون، وهي الحياة التي من حرمها فهو من
جملة الأموات، والنور الذي من فقدّه فهو في
بحار الظلمات.

Pronunciation

Maḥabbatullāhi hiya qūtul-qulūbi wa ghidhā'ul-arwāḥi wa
qurratul-‘uyūni, wa hiyal-ḥayātullatī man ḥurimahā fa
huwa min jumlatil-amwāti, wan-nūrulladhī man faqadahu
fa huwa fī biḥāriḏ-ẓulumāt.

English meaning

Love of Allah nourishes hearts and souls. Ibn al-Qayyim describes it as life, light, healing and delight for the believer.

Source: Ibn al-Qayyim, cited in the supplied book

Love shown in obedience

هي معانقة الطاعة ومباينة المخالفة.

Pronunciation

Hiya mu'ānaqatuṭ-ṭā'ati wa mubāyanatul-mukhālafah.

English meaning

Sahl ibn Abdullah describes love as embracing obedience and keeping away from disobedience.

Source: Sahl ibn Abdullah

Freedom through devotion

الدخول تحت رق المحبوب وعبوديته والحرية
من استرقاق ما سواه.

Pronunciation

Ad-dukhūlu taḥta riqqil-maḥbūbi wa ‘ubūdiyyatihi wal-
ḥurriyyatu ministirqāqi mā siwāh.

English meaning

Devotion to Allah frees the heart from being enslaved
by everything else.

Source: Attributed saying in the supplied book

A heart travelling to Allah

المحبة سفر القلب في طلب المحبوب ولهج
اللسان بذكره على الدوام. من أحب شيئاً أكثر
ذكره.

Pronunciation

Al-maḥabbatu safarul-qalbi fī ṭalabil-maḥbūbi wa lahajul-
lisāni bidhikrihi ‘alad-dawāmi. Man aḥabba shay’an
akthara dhikrah.

English meaning

Love is the heart's journey toward its Beloved and the
tongue's frequent remembrance of Him. We speak
often of what we love.

Source: Attributed saying; explanation by Ibn al-Qayyim

Sincerity of intention

توحيد المحبوب بخالص الإرادة وصدق الطلب.

Pronunciation

Tawḥīd-ul-maḥbūbi bikhāliṣil-irādati wa ṣidqit-ṭalab.

English meaning

Direct your deepest intention and sincere seeking
toward Allah alone.

Source: Attributed saying in the supplied book

The tree of love

إذا غرست شجرة المحبة في القلب وسقيت بماء
الإخلاص ومتابعة الحبيب أثمرت أنواع الثمار.

Pronunciation

Idhā ghurisat shajaratul-maḥabbati fil-qalbi wa suqiyat
bimā'il-ikhlāṣi wa mutāba'atil-ḥabībi athmarat anwā'ath-
thimār.

English meaning

When love is planted in the heart and watered by
sincerity and following the Prophet ﷺ, it bears lasting
fruit.

Source: Attributed saying in the supplied book

Follow the Messenger ﷺ

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ
وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ.

Pronunciation

Qul in kuntum tuḥibbūnallāha fattabi'ūnī
yuḥbibkumullāhu wa yaghfir lakum dhunūbakum.

English meaning

Say: If you love Allah, follow me; Allah will love you
and forgive your sins. Following the Messenger ﷺ is
the Qur'anic measure of this claim.

Source: Qur'an 3:31; commentary attributed to Ibn al-Qayyim

Longing to meet Allah

من علامات محبة الله حب لقاء الله تعالى في
جنانه العاليات ورضوانه الأكبر.

Pronunciation

Min ‘alāmāti maḥabbatillāhi ḥubbu liqā’illāhi ta‘ālā fī
jinānihil-‘āliyāti wa riḍwānihil-akbar.

English meaning

One sign of love for Allah is longing to meet Him and
attain His pleasure in Paradise.

Source: Azhar Ahmad Mahmud, supplied compilation

Love whom Allah loves

المتحابون في جلالى لهم منابر من نور يغبطهم
النبىون والشهداء.

Pronunciation

Al-mutaḥābbūna fī jalālī lahum manābiru min nūrin
yaghbiṭuhumun-nabiyyūna wash-shuhadā'.

English meaning

Love for Allah includes loving those He loves. Those
who love one another for His sake are promised
pulpits of light in this report.

Source: Al-Tirmidhi, as cited in the supplied compilation

Turn from disobedience

من علامات محبة الله أن لا تعصيه تعالى في
أمره ونهيهِ.

Pronunciation

Min ‘alāmāti maḥabbatillāhi an lā ta‘ṣiyahu ta‘ālā fī
amrihi wa nahyih.

English meaning

Love is shown by taking Allah's commands and
prohibitions seriously.

Source: Azhar Ahmad Mahmud, supplied compilation

Delight in the Qur'an

حبه لكلامه تعالى وتلاوته والأنس بمناجاته
وذكره.

Pronunciation

Ḥubbuhu likalāmihi ta‘ālā wa tilāwatihi wal-unsu
bimunājātihi wa dhikrih.

English meaning

A sign of love is affection for Allah's words: reading the Qur'an, remembering Him and finding comfort in prayer.

Source: Azhar Ahmad Mahmud; accounts of Amir ibn Abd Qays and Muslim ibn Yasar

Gentleness with believers

يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ أَذِلَّةٌ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَعِزَّةٌ عَلَى
الْكَافِرِينَ ... وَلَا يَخَافُونَ لَوْمَةَ لَائِمٍ.

Pronunciation

Yuḥibbuhum wa yuḥibbūnahu adhillatin ‘alal-mu’minīna
a‘izzatin ‘alal-kāfirīna, wa lā yakhāfūna lawmata lā’im.

English meaning

Allah describes people He loves and who love Him as
humble toward believers, firm in faith and unafraid of
blame in His cause.

Source: Qur'an 5:54 The original card contains an excerpt; all supplied wording is
translated.

Obligations then voluntary worship

وما تقرب إلي عبدي بشيء أحب إلي مما
افترضته عليه وما زال عبدي يتقرب إلي بالنوافل
حتى أحبه.

Pronunciation

Wa mā taqarraba ilayya ‘abdī bishay’in aḥabba ilayya
mimmāftaradtuhu ‘alayhi wa mā zāla ‘abdī yataqarrabu
ilayya bin-nawāfilī ḥattā uḥibbah.

English meaning

Allah loves the prescribed duties most; continued voluntary worship is a path to His love. The hadith promises His help and response.

Source: Sahih al-Bukhari, hadith of the wali

Nearness through love

فمن أحبه الله رزقه محبته وطاعته والاشتغال
بذكره فأوجب له ذلك القرب منه.

Pronunciation

Fa man aḥabbahullāhu razaqahu maḥabbatahu wa
ṭāʿatahu wal-ishtighāla bidhikrihi fa awjaba lahu dhālikal-
qurba minhu.

English meaning

Ibn Rajab says that when Allah loves a servant, He
grants them love, obedience and remembrance,
bringing them closer to Him.

Source: Ibn Rajab, cited in the supplied book

Acceptance among people

إذا أحب الله العبد نادى جبريل إن الله يحب
فلاناً فأحبه ... ثم يوضع له القبول في أهل
الأرض.

Pronunciation

Idhā aḥabballāhul-‘abda nādā Jibrīla innallāha yuḥibbu
fulānan fa aḥibbahu, thumma yūḍa‘u lahul-qabūlu fī ahlil-
arḍ.

English meaning

When Allah loves a servant, Jibril and the inhabitants
of heaven are called to love that person, and
acceptance is placed for them on earth.

Source: Al-Bukhari and Muslim The original card contains an excerpt; all supplied
wording is translated.

The greatest gain

من فاته الله فلو حصلت له الجنة بحذافيرها
لكان مغبوناً.

Pronunciation

Man fātahullāhu fa law ḥaṣalat lahul-jannatu
biḥadhāfirihā lakāna maghbūnan.

English meaning

Ibn Rajab stresses that nearness to Allah is the
believer's greatest treasure, beyond worldly gain.

Source: Ibn Rajab, cited in the supplied book

The journey of those who love

أجابوا منادى الشوق إذ نادى بهم حي على
الفلاح، وبذلوا نفوسهم في طلب الوصول إلى
محبوبهم.

Pronunciation

Ajābū munādiyash-shawqi idh nādā bihim ḥayya ‘alal-
falāḥi, wa badhalū nufūсахum fī ṭalabil-wuṣūli ilā
maḥbūbihim.

English meaning

Ibn al-Qayyim pictures devoted believers answering
the call to success and persevering until they reach
their Lord.

Source: Ibn al-Qayyim, cited in the supplied book

Love is real

يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ.

Pronunciation

Yuḥibbuhum wa yuḥibbūnah.

English meaning

Ibn al-Jawzi reflects on Allah's words, 'He loves them and they love Him,' and on the reality of love expressed in obedience.

Source: Qur'an 5:54; Ibn al-Jawzi

The proof of love

لَا تَقْبَلُ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَى إِلَّا بَبَيِّنَةٍ: قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ
اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ.

Pronunciation

Lā tuqbalu hādhihid-da‘wā illā bibayyinatīn: qul in kuntum
tuḥibbūnallāha fattabi‘ūnī yuḥbibkumullāh.

English meaning

Ibn al-Qayyim says that the claim of love is tested by
following the Prophet ﷺ in deeds, words and
character.

Source: Ibn al-Qayyim; Qur'an 3:31

Read the Qur'an thoughtfully

قراءة القرآن بالتدبر والتفهم لمعانيه.

Pronunciation

Qirā'atul-Qur'āni bit-tadabburi wat-tafahhumi lima'ānīh.

English meaning

Read the Qur'an with reflection and try to understand its meanings.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Add voluntary worship

التقرب إلى الله بالنوافل بعد الفرائض.

Pronunciation

At-taqarrubu ilallāhi bin-nawāfilī ba‘dal-farā’id.

English meaning

After fulfilling the obligatory duties, draw near to Allah through voluntary acts of worship.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Remember Allah often

دوام ذكره تعالى على كل حال باللسان والقلب
والعمل.

Pronunciation

Dawāmu dhikrihi ta‘ālā ‘alā kulli ḥālin bil-lisāni wal-qalbi
wal-‘amal.

English meaning

Remember Allah consistently with the tongue, heart
and deeds.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Choose what Allah loves

إِثَارَ مَحَابَبِهِ عَلَى مَحَابَبِكَ عِنْدَ غَلَبَةِ الْهَوَى.

Pronunciation

Īthāru maḥābbihi ‘alā maḥābbika ‘inda ghalabatil-hawā.

English meaning

When desires compete, give priority to what Allah loves.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Know His names

مطالعة القلب لأسمائه وصفاته ومعرفتها؛ فمن
عرف الله تعالى بأسمائه وصفاته وأفعاله أحبه.

Pronunciation

Muṭāla‘atul-qalbi li asmā’ihi wa ṣifātihi wa ma‘rifatihā, fa
man ‘arafallāha ta‘ālā bi asmā’ihi wa ṣifātihi wa af‘ālihi
aḥabbah.

English meaning

Learn and reflect on Allah's names, attributes and
actions; knowing Him deepens love for Him.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Notice His gifts

مشاهدة بره وإحسانه وآلائه ونعمه الباطنة
والظاهرة.

Pronunciation

Mushāhadatu birrihi wa iḥsānihi wa ālā'ihī wa ni'amihil-
bāṭinati waẓ-ẓāhirah.

English meaning

Notice Allah's kindness and the blessings seen and
unseen in your life.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Bring a humble heart

انكسار القلب بكليته بين يدي الله تعالى.

Pronunciation

Inkisārul-qalbi bikulliyyatihi bayna yadayillāhi ta‘ālā.

English meaning

Stand before Allah with a humble, dependent heart.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Private worship at night

الخلوة به في وقت النزول الإلهي لمناجاته
وتلاوة كلامه ثم ختم ذلك بالاستغفار والتوبة.

Pronunciation

Al-khalwatu bihi fī waqtin-nuzūlil-ilāhī limunājātihi wa
tilāwati kalāmihi thumma khatmu dhālika bil-istighfāri
wat-tawbah.

English meaning

Spend quiet time in night prayer, recite His words,
speak to Him and end with repentance and seeking
forgiveness.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Good company

مجالسة المحبين الصادقين والتقاط أطايب
ثمرات كلامهم.

Pronunciation

Mujālasatul-muḥibbīnaṣ-ṣādiqīna waltiqāṭu aṭāyibi
thamarāti kalāmihim.

English meaning

Spend time with sincere people who love Allah and
benefit from their best counsel.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Remove barriers

مباعدة كل سبب يحول بين القلب وبين الله عز
وجل.

Pronunciation

Mubā'adatu kulli sababin yaḥūlu baynal-qalbi wa
baynallāhi 'azza wa jall.

English meaning

Keep away from habits and distractions that put
distance between the heart and Allah.

Source: A means of love in the supplied compilation

Delight in remembrance

المحب لا يجد مع حب الله عز وجل للدنيا لذة ولا
يغفل عن ذكر الله طرفة.

Pronunciation

Al-muḥibbu lā yajidu ma‘a ḥubbillāhi ‘azza wa jalla lid-dunyā ladhathan wa lā yaghfulu ‘an dhikrillāhi ṭarfah.

English meaning

Fath al-Mawsili describes the lover of Allah as finding deep delight in remembrance rather than being absorbed in worldly pleasure.

Source: Fath al-Mawsili

Never tired of drawing near

ما يكاد يمل القربة إلى الله تعالى محب لله عز
وجل.

Pronunciation

Mā yakādu yamallul-qurbata ilallāhi ta‘ālā muḥibbun
lillāhi ‘azza wa jall.

English meaning

Muhammad ibn al-Nadr says one who loves Allah
hardly grows tired of drawing near to Him.

Source: Muhammad ibn al-Nadr al-Harithi

A heart seeking His pleasure

المحب لله طائر القلب كثير الذكر متسبب إلى
رضوانه بكل سبيل يقدر عليها.

Pronunciation

Al-muḥibbu lillāhi ṭā'irul-qalbi kathīrudh-dhikri
mutasabbibun ilā riḍwānihi bikulli sabīlin yaqdiru 'alayhā.

English meaning

The lover of Allah remembers Him often and seeks His
pleasure through every good means available.

Source: Attributed saying in the supplied book

The lasting joy

من كان بالله وأسمائه وصفاته ودينه أعرف كان
له أحب وكانت لذته بالوصول إليه ومجاورته
والنظر إلى وجهه أتم.

Pronunciation

Man kāna billāhi wa asmā'ihī wa ṣifātihi wa dīnihi a'rafa
kāna lahu aḥabba wa kānat ladhdhatuhu bil-wuṣūli ilayhi
wa mujāwaratihi wan-naẓari ilā wajhihi atamm.

English meaning

Ibn al-Qayyim connects deeper knowledge of Allah
with deeper love and the lasting joy of nearness to
Him in the Hereafter.

Source: Ibn al-Qayyim, cited in the supplied book

The sweetness of faith

ثلاث من كن فيه وجد حلاوة الإيمان: أن يكون
الله ورسوله أحب إليه مما سواهما، وأن يحب
المرء لا يحبه إلا لله، وأن يكره أن يعود في الكفر
كما يكره أن يقذف في النار.

Pronunciation

Thalāthun man kunna fīhi wajada ḥalāwatal-īmāni: an
yakūnallāhu wa rasūluhu aḥabba ilayhi mimmā
siwāhumā, wa an yuḥibbal-mar'a lā yuḥibbuhu illā lillāhi,
wa an yakraha an ya'ūda fil-kufri kamā yakrahu an
yuqdhafa fin-nār.

English meaning

Three qualities bring the sweetness of faith: loving
Allah and His Messenger above all, loving someone for
Allah's sake, and detesting a return to disbelief.

Source: Al-Bukhari and Muslim

Find sufficiency in Allah

إذا استغنى الناس بالدنيا فاستغن أنت بالله وإذا
فرحوا بالدنيا فافرح أنت بالله.

Pronunciation

Idhā staghna n-nāsu bid-dunyā fastaghni Anta billāhi wa
idhā fariḥū bid-dunyā fafraḥ Anta billāh.

English meaning

Ibn al-Qayyim urges the believer to find joy,
companionship and dignity in drawing near to Allah.

Source: Ibn al-Qayyim, cited in the supplied book

Sincerity protects the heart

فبِعِزَّتِكَ لَا تُغْوِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ إِلَّا عِبَادَكَ مِنْهُمْ
الْمُخْلِصِينَ.

Pronunciation

Fa bi'izzatika la ughwiyanahum ajma'īna illā 'ibādaka
minhumul-mukhlaṣīn.

English meaning

The Qur'an recounts that Satan cannot claim authority
over Allah's sincere servants who believe and trust
Him.

Source: Qur'an 38:82-83; 16:99-100; commentary attributed to Ibn al-Qayyim

Presence in prayer

قيل لبعض العارفين: إنا لنوسوس في صلاتنا.
قال: بأي شيء؟ قالوا: بالدنيا.

Pronunciation

Qīla liba‘dil-‘ārifīna innā lanuwaswisu fī ṣalātinā. Qāla bi
ayyi shay’in? Qālū bid-dunyā.

English meaning

An early teacher asked what distracts people in prayer; the answer, worldly concerns, reminds us to return the heart to Allah.

Source: Attributed anecdote in the supplied book