Actions that lead to Paradise

1

Belief in Allah with sincerity

وَعَدَ ٱللَّهُ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَٱلْمُؤْمِنَٰتِ جَنَّٰتٍ تَجْرِى مِن تَحْتِهَا
ٱلْأَنْهَٰرُ خَٰلِدِينَ فِيهَا وَمَسَٰكِنَ طَيِّبَةً فِى جَنَّٰتِ عَدْنٍ ۚ
وَرِضْوَٰنٌ مِّنَ ٱللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ هُوَ ٱلْفَوْزُ ٱلْعَظِيمُ ﴿٧٢﴾

Allāh has promised the believing men and believing women gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally, and pleasant dwellings in gardens of perpetual residence; but approval from Allāh is greater. It is that which is the great attainment.
[*al-Tawbah*, 9:72]

وَبَشِّرِ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا۟ وَعَمِلُوا۟ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّٰتٍ
تَجْرِى مِن تَحْتِهَا ٱلْأَنْهَٰرُ ۖ كُلَّمَا رُزِقُوا۟ مِنْهَا مِن ثَمَرَةٍ
رِّزْقًا ۙ قَالُوا۟ هَٰذَا ٱلَّذِى رُزِقْنَا مِن قَبْلُ ۖ وَأُتُوا۟ بِهِۦ مُتَشَٰبِهًا ۖ
وَلَهُمْ فِيهَآ أَزْوَٰجٌ مُّطَهَّرَةٌ ۖ وَهُمْ فِيهَا خَٰلِدُونَ ﴿٢٥﴾

And give good tidings to those who believe and do righteous deeds that they will have gardens [in Paradise] beneath which rivers flow. Whenever they are provided with a provision of fruit therefrom, they will say, "This is what we were provided with before." And it is given to them in likeness. And they will have therein purified spouses, and they will abide therein eternally.
[*al-Baqarah*, 2:25]

Actions that lead to Paradise

2

Fearing Allah and disciplining the soul

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِۦ وَنَهَى ٱلنَّفْسَ عَنِ ٱلْهَوَىٰ ﴿٤٠﴾
فَإِنَّ ٱلْجَنَّةَ هِىَ ٱلْمَأْوَىٰ ﴿٤١﴾

But as for he who feared the position of his Lord and prevented the soul from [unlawful] inclination. nd as for those who were in awe of standing before their Lord and restrained themselves from [evil] desires, Paradise will certainly be [their] home [*al-Nāzi'āt,* 79:40-41]

3

Performing obligations and avoiding prohibitions

Certainly will the believers have succeeded. They who are during their prayer humbly submissive. And they who turn away from ill speech. And they who are observant of *zakāh*. And they who guard their private parts. Except from their wives or those their right hands possess, for indeed, they will not be blamed. But whoever seeks beyond that, then those are the transgressors - And they who are to their trusts and their promises attentive - And they who carefully maintain their prayers. Those are the inheritors who will inherit al-Firdaws. They will abide therein eternally. [*al-Mu'minūn*, 23:1-11]

4

'Ubādah ibn al-Ṣāmit (*raḍyAllāhu 'anhu*) reported: The Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* said, "He who bears witness that there is no true god except Allāh, alone having no partner with Him, that Muḥammad is His slave and His Messenger, that 'Īsa (Jesus) is His slave and Messenger and he (Jesus) is His Word which He communicated to Maryam (Mary) and His spirit which He sent to her, that Jannah is true and Hell is true; Allāh will make him enter Jannah accepting whatever deeds he accomplished." [*Bukhāri* and Muslim]

5

Abu Umāmah narrates that the Prophet *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* said, "Whoever recites *āyat'l-kursi* after every obligatory prayer, nothing will prevent them from entering Paradise except death." [*al-Nasā'i*]

Actions that lead to Paradise

6

Anas ibn Mālik narrates that the Prophet (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said, "A *sūrah* that is composed of thirty verses, it argued on behalf of its companion until it entered them into Paradise. It is Sūrat'l-Mulk." [*al-Ṭabarāni]*

7

It is narrated on the authority of Abu Hurayrah that when, the son of Ādam recites the *āyah* of *sajdah* (prostration) and then falls down in prostration, the Satan goes into seclusion and weeps and says:
"Alas (and in the narration of Abu Kurayb the words are: Woe unto me) the son of Ādam was commanded to prostrate, and he prostrated and Paradise was entitled to him and I was commanded to prostrate, but I refused and am doomed to Hell." [Muslim]

8

It was narrated that ʻUmar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb said: The Messenger of Allāh said, "There is no Muslim who performs ablution and does it well, then says: *Ashhadu an lā ilaha illaAllāh, wa ashhadu anna Muḥammadan ʻabduhu wa rasūluhu* (I bear witness that none has the right to be worshipped but Allāh, and I bear witness that Muḥammad is His slave and Messenger), (except that) eight gates of Paradise will be opened for him, and he will enter through whichever one he wants." [Muslim]

9

Shaddād ibn Aws (*raḍyAllāhu ʻanhu*) narrated that the Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said: The best manner of asking for forgiveness is to say, "O Allāh! You are my Lord. None has the right to be worshipped except You. You created me and I am your servant and I abide by your covenant and promise as best I can. I seek refuge in you from the evil, which I have committed. I acknowledge your favor upon me and I acknowledge my sins, so forgive me, for verily none can forgive sin except you." [Bukhāri]

Actions that lead to Paradise

10

Narrated ‘Abdullāh ibn ‘Amr: The Prophet (ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam) said, “There are two qualities or characteristics, which will not be committed to by any Muslim without his entering Paradise. While they are easy, those who act upon them are few. One should say: ‘Glory be to Allāh’ ten times after every prayer, ‘Praise be to Allāh’ ten times and ‘Allāh is Most Great’ ten times. That is a hundred and fifty on the tongue, but one thousand and five hundred on the scale. When he goes to bed, he should say: ‘Allāh is Most Great’ thirty-four times, ‘Praise be to Allāh’ thirty-three times, and ‘Glory be to Allāh’ thirty-three times, for that is a hundred on the tongue and a thousand on the scale.” (He said:) I saw the Messenger of Allāh (ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam) counting them on his hand.

The people asked, “Messenger of Allāh! How is it that while they are easy, those who act upon them are few?” He replied, “The Devil comes to one of you when he goes to bed and he makes him sleep before he utters them, and he comes to him while he is engaged in prayer and calls a need to his mind before he utters them.” [Abu Dawūd] except You. You created me and I am your servant and I abide by your covenant and promise as best I can. I seek refuge in you from the evil, which I have committed. I acknowledge your favor upon me and I acknowledge my sins, so forgive me, for verily none can forgive sin except you.” [Bukhāri]

11

Sālim ibn ‘Abdullāh ibn ‘Umar narrated from his father, from his grandfather, that the Messenger of Allāh (ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam) said, “Whoever enters the marketplace and says, ‘There is none worthy of worship except Allāh, Alone, without partner, to Him belongs the dominion, and to Him is all the praise, He gives life and causes death, He is Living and does not die, in His Hand is the good, and He has power over all things, (La ilāha illallāh, waḥdahu lā sharīka lahu, lahul-mulku wa lahul-ḥamdu, yuḥyī wa yumītu, wa huwa ḥayyun la yamūtu, biyadihil-khairu, wa huwa ‘alā kulli shay’in qadīr)’ Allāh shall record a million good deeds for him, wipe a million evil deeds away from him, and raise a million ranks for him.” [Tirmidhi]

Actions that lead to Paradise

12

Abu Hurayrah (raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu) reported: The Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam)* said, “Allāh makes the way to Jannah easy for him who treads the path in search of knowledge.” [Muslim]

13

Whosoever’s last words are: la ilāha ilaAllāh, will enter Paradise.” [Abu Dāwūd]

14

Abu Bakr reported on the authority of his father that the Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam)* said: He who observed two prayers of the cool hours (fajr and ‘aṣr) would enter Paradise. [Bukhāri and Muslim]

15

‘Ubādah said that he had heard the Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam)* say, “Allāh the Majestic and Mighty has written five prayers for mankind, and whoever does them and does not waste anything of them by making light of what is due to them, there is a pact for him with Allāh that He will admit him into the Garden. Whoever does not do them, there is no pact for him with Allāh. If He wishes, He punishes him, and if He wishes, He admits him into the Garden.” [Abu Dawūd]

16

‘Uqbah ibn ‘Āmir reported: We were entrusted with the task of tending the camels. On my turn when I came back in the evening after grazing them in the pastures, I found Allāh’s Messenger *(ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam)* stand and address the people. I heard these words of his: “If any Muslim performs ablution well, then stands and prays two rak‘āt setting about them with his heart as well as his face, Paradise would be guaranteed to him.” [Muslim]

Actions that lead to Paradise

17

Umm Ḥabībah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anha*) the Mother of the Believers reported: I heard the Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) saying, “A house will be built in Jannah for every Muslim who offers twelve *rak‘āt* of optional *ṣalāh* other than the obligatory *ṣalāh* in a day and a night (to seek the Pleasure of Allāh).” [Muslim]

18

‘Abdullāh ibn Salām (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) narrated that the Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “O people, extend greetings (saying *salām* to each other), keep relations with your kin, provide food (to people) and pray at night when people are asleep, and you will enter Paradise in peace.” [Tirmidhi]

19

Sahl ibn Sa‘d (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) reported that the Prophet (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “In Jannah there is a gate which is called *al-Rayyān* through which only those who observe *ṣawm* (fasting) will enter on the Day of Resurrection. None else will enter through it. It will be called out, ‘Where are those who observe fasting?’ So they will stand up and proceed towards it. When the last of them will have entered, the gate will be closed and then no one will enter through that gate.” [Muslim]

20

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) reported that Allāh’s Messenger (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “Who amongst you is fasting today?” Abu Bakr said, “I am.” He (again) said, “Who amongst you followed a funeral procession today?” Abu Bakr said, “I did.” He (the Prophet) again said, “Who amongst you served food to the needy?” Abu Bakr said, “I did.” He (again) said, “Who amongst you has today visited the sick?” Abu Bakr said, “I did.” Thereupon Allāh’s Messenger (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “Anyone in whom (these good deeds) are combined will certainly enter paradise.” [Muslim]

21

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) reported: The Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “(The performance of) ‘*Umrah* is an expiation for the sins committed between it and the previous ‘*Umrah*; and the reward of *Ḥajj Mabrūr* (i.e., one accepted) is nothing but *Jannah.*” [Bukhāri and Muslim]

Actions that lead to Paradise

22

Narrated Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*): I heard Allāh’s Messenger (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) saying, “The example of a mujāhid in Allāh’s Cause –and Allāh knows better who really strives in His Cause–is like a person who fasts and prays continuously. Allāh guarantees that He will admit the *mujāhid* in His Cause into Paradise if he is killed, otherwise He will return him to his home safely with rewards and war spoils.” [Bukhāri]

23

Ḥudhayfah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) added: I also heard him saying, “From among the people preceding your generation, there was a man whom the angel of death visited to capture his soul. (So his soul was captured) and he was asked if he had done any good deed. He replied, ‘I don’t remember any good deed.’ He was asked to think it over. He said, ‘I do not remember, except that I used to trade with the people in the world and I used to give a respite to the rich and forgive the poor (among my debtors).’ So Allāh made him enter Paradise.” [Bukhāri]

24

Narrated Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*): The Prophet (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “A man saw a dog eating mud from (the severity of) thirst. So, that man took a shoe (and filled it) with water and kept on pouring the water for the dog till it quenched its thirst. So Allāh approved of his deed and made him to enter Paradise.” [Bukhāri]

25

Narrated Sahl (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*): Allāh’s Messenger (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said, “I and the one who looks after an orphan will be like this in Paradise,” showing his middle and index fingers and separating them. [Bukhāri]

26

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ‘anhu*) reported Allāh’s Messenger (*ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) as saying that saw a person enjoying himself in Paradise because of the tree that he cut from the path which was a source of inconvenience to the people. [Muslim]

Actions that lead to Paradise

27

Sahl ibn Sa'd (*raḍyAllāhu 'anhu*) reported: The Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* said, "Whosoever gives me a guarantee to safeguard what is between his jaws and what is between his legs, I shall guarantee him *Jannah*." [Bukhāri]

28

Abu'l-Dardā' said, "A man came to the Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* and said, 'Tell me something to do that will enter me into paradise.' He *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* said, 'Don't become angry and you will enter Paradise.'" [*al-Ṭabarāni*]

29

Abu'l-Dardā' reported: "I had heard Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* saying, "A parent is the best of the gates of Jannah; so, if you wish, keep to the gate, or lose it." [Tirmidhi and Ibn Mājah]

30

It was narrated from Mu'āwiyah ibn Jaḥimah al-Sulami that Jaḥimah came to the Prophet *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* and said, "O Messenger of Allāh! I want to go out and fight (in *jihād*) and I have come to ask your advice." He said, "Do you have a mother?" He said, "Yes." He said, "Then stay with her, for Paradise is beneath her feet."

31

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu 'anhu*) reported: The Messenger of Allāh *(ṣallallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam)* said, "Allāh, the Exalted, says, 'I have no reward other than *Jannah* for a believing slave of Mine who remains patient for My sake when I take away his beloved one from among the inhabitants of the world.'" [Bukhāri]

32

The people of Paradise are three: One who wields authority and is just and fair, one who is truthful and has been endowed with power to do good deeds. And the person who is merciful and kindhearted towards his relatives and to every pious Muslim, and one who does not stretch his hand in spite of having a large family to support. [Muslim, Ibn Ḥibbān]

Actions that lead to Paradise

33

Narrated Thawbān: The Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said, "Whoever dies and he is free of three: *kibr* (pride), *ghulūl,* and debt, he will enter Paradise." [Tirmidhi]

34

Adhere to the *jamāʻah,* beware of separation, for indeed Shayṭān is with one, and he is further away from two. Whoever wants the best place in Paradise, then let him stick to the *jamāʻah*. [Tirmidhi]

35

ʻAbdullāh ibn ʻAmr ibn al-ʻĀṣ (*raḍyAllāhu ʻanhu*) said: The Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said, "He who desires to be rescued from the fire of Hell and to enter *Jannah*, should die in a state of complete belief in Allāh and the Last Day, and should do unto others what he wishes to be done unto him." [Muslim]

36

ʻUbādah ibn al-Ṣāmit narrates that the Prophet (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said, "Guarantee for me six things from yourselves and I will guarantee for you Paradise: Be truthful when you speak, fulfill what you promise, return what you are entrusted with, guard your private parts, lower your gaze, and restrain your hands." [Aḥmad]

37

Abu Hurayrah (raḍyAllāhu ʻanhu) reported: I heard Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) saying, "Whosoever visits an ailing person or a brother of his to seek the Pleasure of Allāh, an announcer (angel) calls out: 'May you be happy, may your walking be blessed, and may you be awarded a dignified position in *Jannah*.'" [Tirmidhi]

38

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ʻanhu)* reported: The Messenger of Allāh (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) was asked about the deed which will be foremost to lead a man to *Jannah*. He replied, "Fear of Allāh and the good conduct." Then he was asked about indulgence which will admit a man to Hell (Fire) and he answered, "The tongue and the private parts." [Tirmidhi]

Actions that lead to Paradise

39

Abu Hurayrah (*raḍyAllāhu ʻanhu*) narrates that the Prophet (*ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam*) said, "If a woman prays her five, and fasts her month, and guards her chastity, and obeys her husband, she will enter from whatever of the gates of Paradise she wishes." [Ibn Ḥibbān and *al-Ṭabarāni*]

40

Anas reported: The Prophet said, "No Muslim servant visits his brother for the sake of Allāh but that a caller from the heavens announces: You are purified, and Paradise is purified for you! Otherwise, Allāh says in the realms of His throne: My servant has visited Me and his guest for My sake, so I am not pleased for him to have any reward other than Paradise." [*Musnad al-Bazzār*, 6466]

41

Abu Hurayrah reported: The Messenger of Allāh said, "Allāh has ninety-nine names. Whoever preserves them will enter Paradise." [Bukhāri & Muslim]

42

Anas ibn Mālik reported: The Prophet said, "Shall I not tell you about the best of your men?" We said, "Of course, O Messenger of Allāh." The Prophet said, "The Prophet is in Paradise, the truthful are in Paradise, the martyrs are in Paradise, the child who dies is in Paradise, and a man who visits his brother in a faraway land, only visiting him for the sake of Allāh, is in Paradise." [*Al-Muʻjam al-Kabīr*, 1743]

43

Ibn ʻAbbās reported: The Prophet said, "The first to be called to Paradise are those who always praised Allāh in times of ease and adversity." In another narration, the Prophet said, "Those who praised Allāh in every situation." [*Al-Muʻjam al-Kabīr*, 12345]

Actions that lead to Paradise

44

Abu Dharr reported: My dear friend, the Prophet, instructed me with virtuous traits. He instructed me not to look at those above me and to look at those below me. He instructed me to love the poor and be close to them. He instructed me to maintain my family ties even if they turn their backs. He instructed me not to fear the blame of the blamer in the matter of Allāh. He instructed me to speak the truth even if it is bitter. He instructed me to increase in declaring there is no power or might but in Allāh, for it is a treasure among the treasures of Paradise. [*Ṣaḥīḥ Ibn Ḥibbān*]

45

Ibn Abbas reported: The Prophet said, "Seventy thousand from my nation will enter Paradise without reckoning. They are those who do not rely on spiritual healing (from others), nor believe in omens, but rather they trust in their Lord." [*Ṣaḥīḥ* Bukhārī]

46

Abu Hurayrah reported: The Messenger of Allāh said to him, "O Abu Hurayrah, go forth and whomever you meet who testifies with conviction in his heart that there is no God but Allāh, give him the glad tidings of Paradise." [*Ṣaḥīḥ* Muslim]

47

Buraydah reported: The Messenger of Allāh said, "Verily, the Qur'ān will meet its companion on the Day of Resurrection, when his grave is cleaved open, as a pale man, saying: Do you recognize me? He will say: I do not recognize you. The pale man will say: I am your companion, the Qur'ān, who made you thirsty in the midday heat and sleepless at night, for every trader is beyond his trade and today you are beyond every transaction. He will be given the dominion in his right hand and eternal life in his left hand. A crown of dignity will be placed on his head and his parents will be clothed in two garments, which no people from the world could ever afford. They will say: Why have you dressed us with this? It will be said: Your child held to the Qur'ān. Then it will be said to him: Recite and ascend the levels of Paradise and its chambers! He will continue to ascend as long as he recites, whether slowly or quickly." [Musnad Aḥmad]

Actions that lead to Paradise

48

Buraydah reported that the Prophet *(ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam)* said, "The judges are three kinds: two judges are in Hellfire and one judge is in Paradise. A man who judges without the truth while he knows it, he is in Hellfire. A judge who has no knowledge and violates the rights of people, he is in Hellfire. A judge who judges with the truth, he is in Paradise." [Tirmidhi, 1322]

49

Abu Hurayrah reported: The Prophet *(ṣallallāhu ʻalayhi wa sallam)* said to Bilāl at the time of dawn prayer, "O Bilāl, tell me of the most hopeful deed you practiced in Islam. I heard the scuffle of your sandals before me in Paradise." Bilāl said, "The most hopeful deed to me is that I do not perform ablution by day or night that I pray along with it as much as Allāh decreed me to pray." [Bukhāri and Muslim]

50

It was narrated from Ibn ʻUmar that the Messenger of Allāh said, "Whoever calls the adhān for twelve years, he will be guaranteed Paradise, and for each day sixty ḥasanāt (good deeds) will be recorded for him by virtue of his adhān, and thirty ḥasanāt by virtue of his *iqāmah*." [Ibn Mājah; classified as weak/*daʻīf*]

51

The Prophet said: "All of my *ummah* will enter Paradise except those who refuse." It was asked, "Who would refuse O Messenger of Allāh?" He said, "Whoever obeys me will enter Paradise, and whoever disobeys me has refused (Paradise)." [Bukhāri]

May Allah grant us and our loved ones the best of deeds in this life and the highest levels of Paradise.

Ameen