

Nūrun ‘alad-Darb – Arabic-English Q&A Series

- Qur’ān
 - Selected *Tafsīr*

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Meaning of Favours of Allāh in Verse 18 of Sūrah An-Naḥl

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ARABIC – ENGLISH TRANSLATION
ALONG WITH VOCABULARY TABLES

Meaning of Favours of Allāh in Verse 18 of Sūrah An-Nahl

الْمُذِيعُ: أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكُمْ وَنَفَعَ بِكُمْ، هَذَا السَّائِلُ يَقُولُ:
قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا إِنَّ اللَّهَ
لَغَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ﴾ يَقُولُ: مَا هِيَ النِّعَمُ الْمَقْصُودَةُ فِي هَذِهِ الْآيَةِ؟

الشَّيْخُ الْفَوْزَانُ: جَمِيعُ النِّعَمِ، يَدْخُلُ فِي هَذِهِ الْآيَةِ جَمِيعُ النِّعَمِ
الَّتِي يُنْعِمُ اللَّهُ بِهَا عَلَى عِبَادِهِ مِنَ الصَّحَّةِ وَالْأَمْنِ وَالرِّزْقِ
وَالْعِلْمِ وَغَيْرِ ذَلِكَ. نِعَمٌ عَظِيمَةٌ لَا يُحْصِيهَا الْإِنْسَانُ، وَإِنْ
عَدَّهَا فَإِنَّهُ يَعْجِزُ عَنْ إِحْصَائِهَا. نِعَمٌ ظَاهِرَةٌ وَنِعَمٌ بَاطِنَةٌ لَا
يَعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى، فَوَاجِبُ الْعَبْدِ الشُّكْرُ لِلَّهِ عَزَّ
وَجَلَّ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ. قَالَ اللَّهُ جَلَّ وَعَلَا: ﴿وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِنْ
شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ﴾
وَشُكْرُ النِّعَمِ لَهُ ثَلَاثَةٌ أَرْكَانٌ:

✓ التَّحَدُّثُ بِهَا ظَاهِرًا، ﴿وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ﴾،
 ✓ وَالْاعْتِرَافُ بِهَا بَاطِنًا، بِأَنَّهَا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ لَا بِحَوْلِهِ وَلَا
 بِقُوَّتِهِ،
 ✓ وَصَرَفُهَا فِي طَاعَةِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ. نَعَمْ.

Host: May Allāh grant you goodness and benefit others through you. This questioner says: Allāh, the Exalted, says:

﴿وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَغَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ﴾

“And if you would count the favours of Allāh, never could you be able to count them. Truly! Allāh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” [An- Nahl: 18] He asks: What are the favours intended in this verse?

Shaykh Al-Fawzān: All favours, this verse encompasses all favours that Allāh bestows upon His servants, such as health, security, sustenance, knowledge, and many others. These are great favours that a person cannot enumerate; and if he were to count them, he would be unable to enumerate them. There are apparent favours and hidden favours, which only Allāh, Glorified and

Exalted, knows. Thus, it is obligatory upon the servant to be grateful to Allāh, the Mighty and Majestic, for His favours and blessings. Allāh, the Majestic and Most High, says:

﴿وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَفَرْتُمْ
إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ﴾

“And (remember) when your Lord proclaimed: ‘If you give thanks (by accepting Faith and worshipping none but Allāh), I will give you more (of My Blessings), but if you are thankless (i.e. disbelievers), verily! My Punishment is indeed severe.’” (Ibrāhīm: 7] And gratitude for favours and blessings is based on three pillars:

- ✓ Speaking of them outwardly, (as Allāh, the Exalted says:)

﴿وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ﴾

“And as for the favour of your Lord (in granting you Prophethood, the Qur’ān and all other bounties), then narrate it (to others).”
[Aḍ-Ḍuḥā: 11]

- ✓ **Acknowledging them inwardly**, recognizing that these blessings are from Allāh alone, not by one's own might or power,
- ✓ **And using them in obedience to Allāh**, the Mighty and Majestic.

Yes.

List of Nouns

Meaning (English)	Plural	Noun	S. No.
Announcer, Broadcaster, Presenter	مُذِيعُونَ	مُذِيعٌ	1.
Questioner, Asker, Petitioner	سَائِلُونَ / سُؤَالٌ	سَائِلٌ	2.
Blessing, Favor, Grace, Bounty	نِعَمٌ / أَنْعَمَ	نِعْمَةٌ	3.
Verse (Quranic), Sign, Miracle	آيَاتٌ	آيَةٌ	4.
Servant, Slave, Worshipper	عِبَادٌ / عَبِيدٌ	عَبْدٌ	5.
Health, Soundness, Validity	---	صِحَّةٌ	6.
Security, Safety, Peace	---	أَمْنٌ	7.
Provision, Sustenance, Livelihood	أَرْزَاقٌ	رِزْقٌ	8.

Knowledge, Science, Learning	عِلْمٌ	عِلْمٌ	9.
Human, Man, Person	أَنَاسِي / نَاسٌ	إِنْسَانٌ	10.
Punishment, Torment, Penalty	أَعَذِبَةٌ	عَذَابٌ	11.
Pillar, Corner, Essential element	أَرْكَانٌ	رَكْنٌ	12.
Might, Power, Change	أَحْوَالٌ	حَوْلٌ	13.
Strength, Power, Force	قُوًى	قُوَّةٌ	14.
Obedience, Devotion	طَاعَاتٌ	طَاعَةٌ	15.
elder, scholar, shaykh	شُيُوخٌ	شَيْخٌ	16.
counting, enumeration, calculation	---	إِحْصَاءٌ	17.
gratitude, thankfulness	---	شُكْرٌ	18.
speaking, mentioning	---	تَحَدَّثَ	19.
acknowledgement, admission	---	اعْتِرَافٌ	20.

List of Verbs

Meaning (English)	Imperative (أَمْرٌ)	Present (مُضَارِعٌ)	Past (مَاضٍ)	S. No.
To benefit, to be useful	إِنْفَعْ	يَنْفَعُ	نَفَعَ	1.

To say, to speak	قُلْ	يَقُولُ	قَالَ	2.
To count, to number	عَدَّ / اَعَدَّ	يَعُدُّ	عَدَّ	3.
To encompass, to calculate	أَحْصَى	يُحْصِي	أَحْصَى	4.
To bestow favor, to bless	أَنْعَمَ	يُنْعِمُ	أَنْعَمَ	5.
To be unable, to fail	إِعْجَزَ	يَعْجِزُ	عَجَزَ	6.
To know, to be aware	إَعْلَمَ	يَعْلَمُ	عَلِمَ	7.
To proclaim, to declare	تَأَذَّنَ	يَتَأَذَّنُ	تَأَذَّنَ	8.
To thank, to be grateful	أَشْكُرُ	يَشْكُرُ	شَكَرَ	9.
To disbelieve, to be ungrateful	أَكْفَرُ	يَكْفُرُ	كَفَرَ	10
To speak, to narrate, to tell	حَدَّثَ	يُحَدِّثُ	حَدَّثَ	11
To spend, to divert, to turn	إِصْرَفَ	يَصْرِفُ	صَرَفَ	12
To benefit, to be useful	إِنْفَعَ	يَنْفَعُ	نَفَعَ	13

Feedback and Comments Welcome:

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