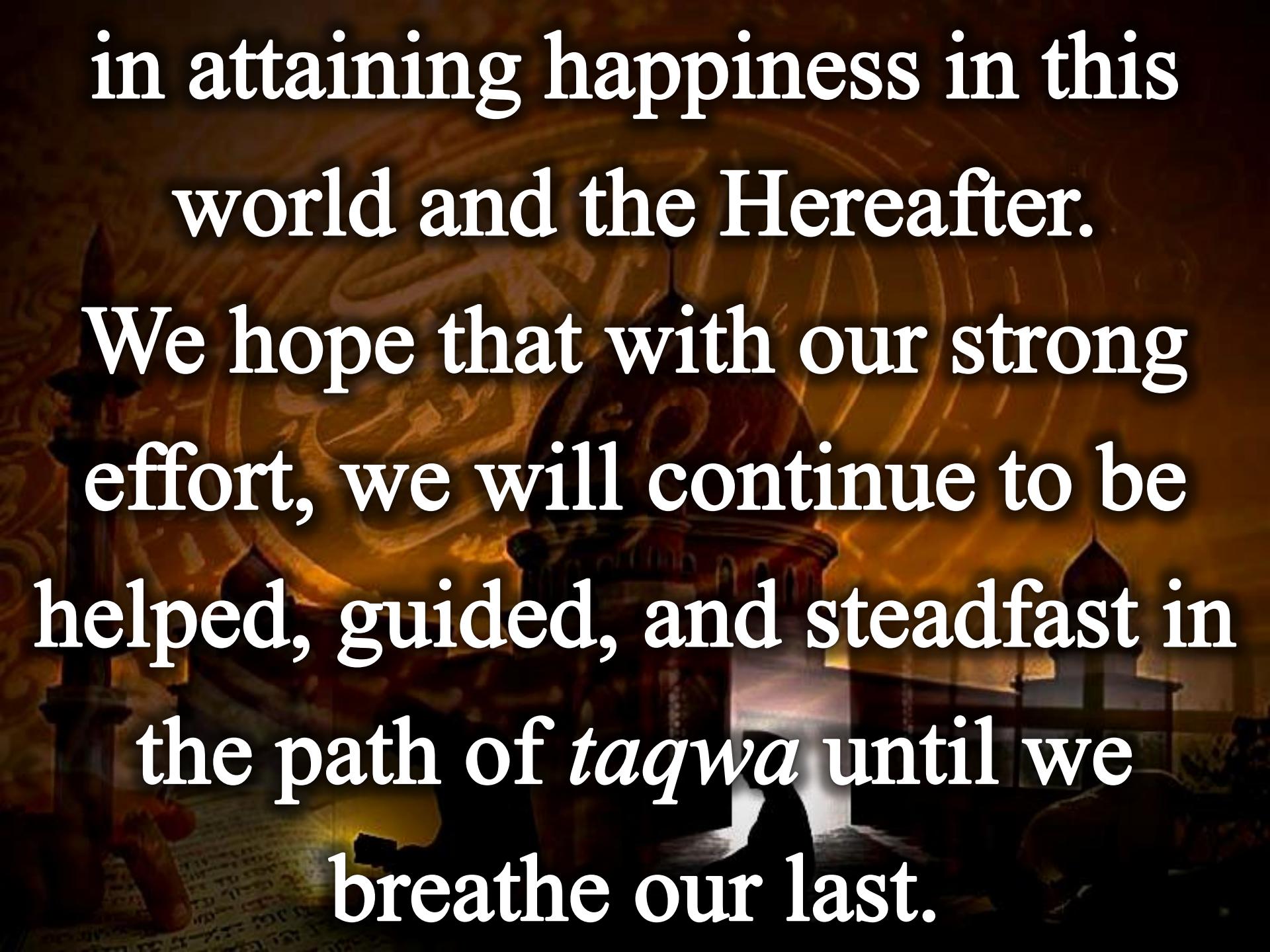




TAKING ADVANTAGE OF LIFE BEFORE DEATH

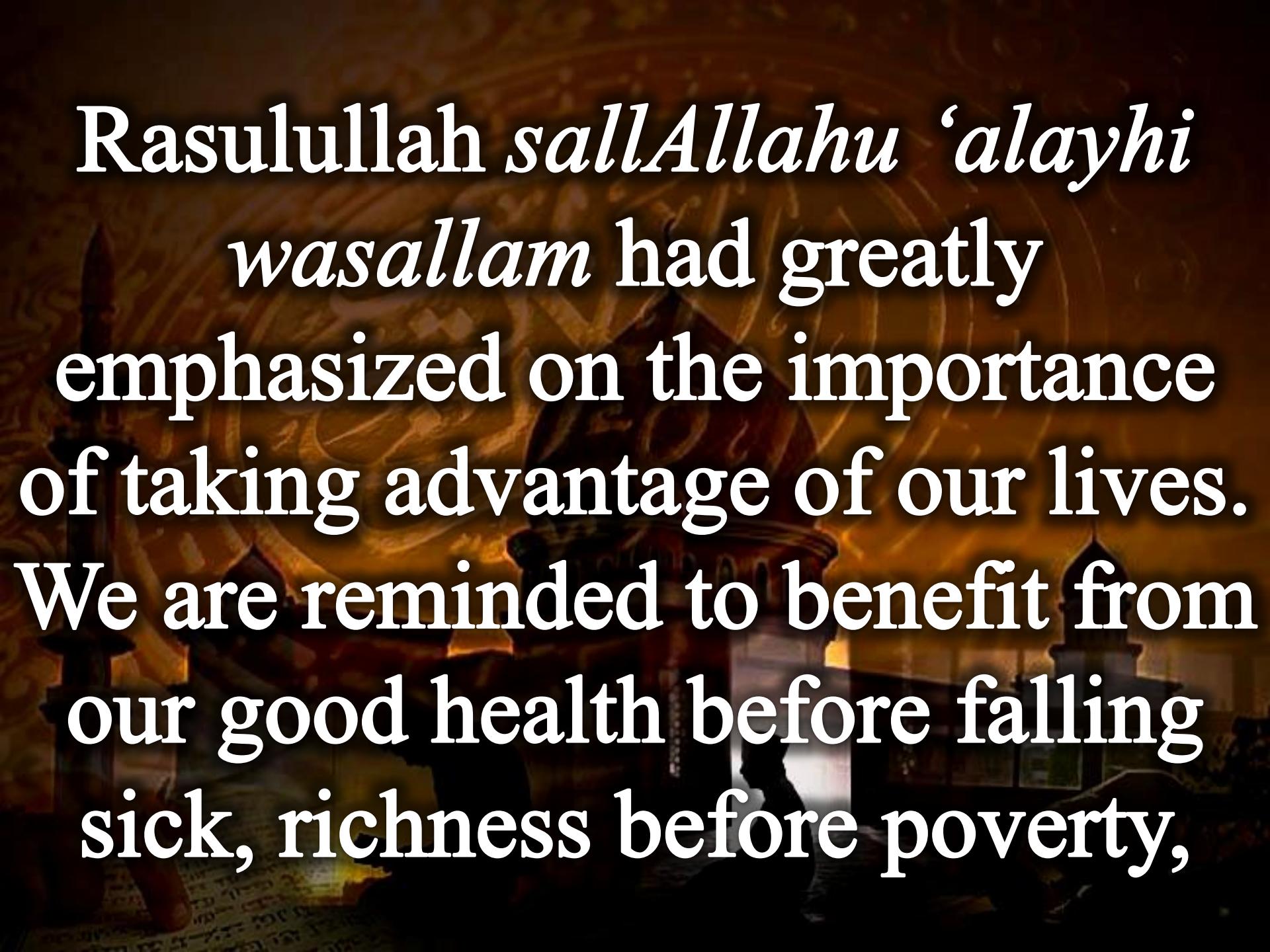


Let us actualize the call for
taqwa by fulfilling all the
Commandments of Allah
Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala and
avoiding all of His prohibitions,



in attaining happiness in this world and the Hereafter.

We hope that with our strong effort, we will continue to be helped, guided, and steadfast in the path of *taqwa* until we breathe our last.



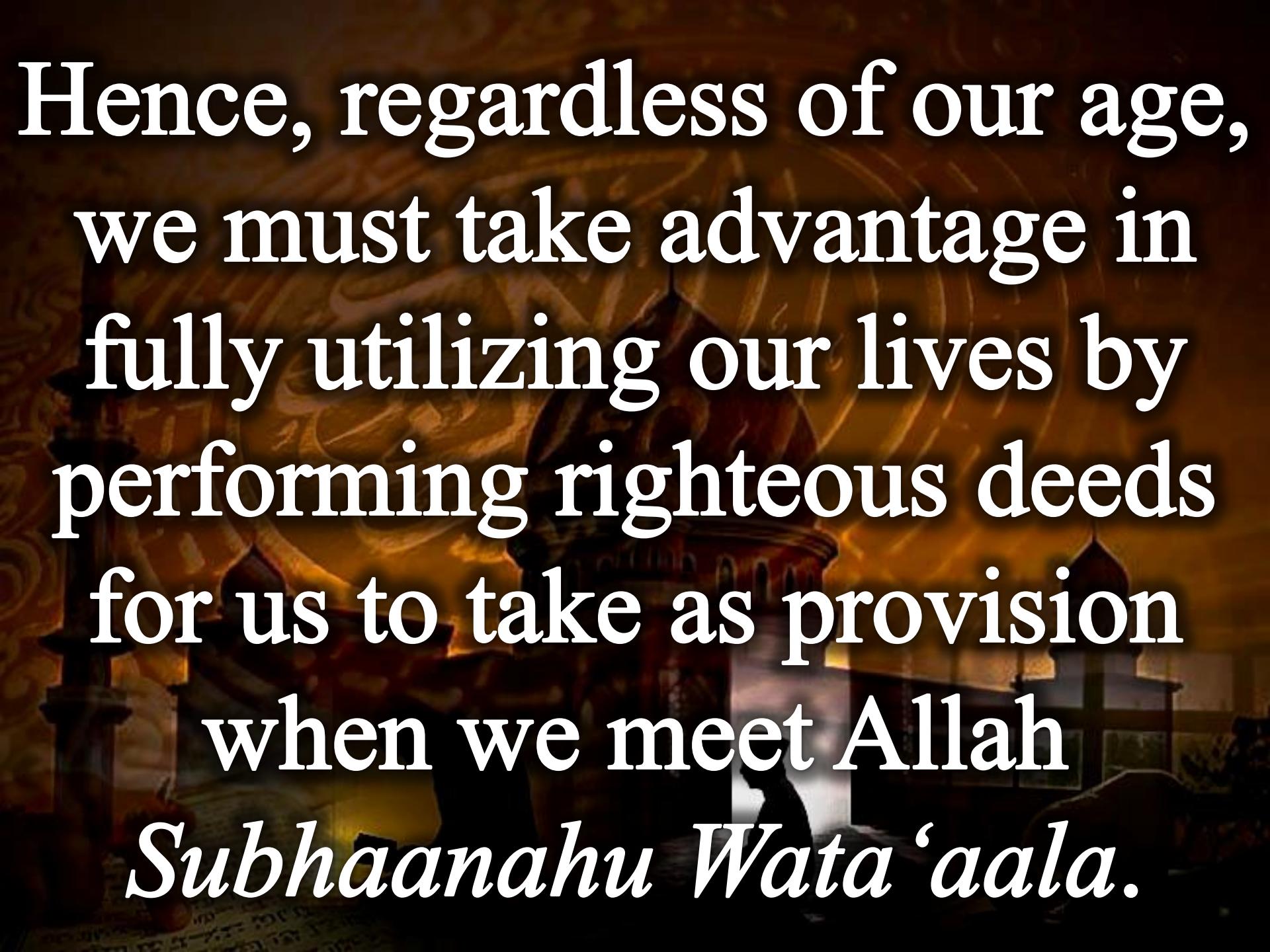
Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* had greatly emphasized on the importance of taking advantage of our lives. We are reminded to benefit from our good health before falling sick, richness before poverty,

having free time before becoming busy, youth before old age, and life before death. It is clear that being alive before death is very precious to the servants of Allah in this world. Indeed, death which is certain, will cease all opportunities

of servitude to Allah *Subhaanahu
Wata'aala*, as He mentions in al-
Qur'an:

“[He] who created death and life to
test you [as to] which of you is best
in deed – and He is the Exalted in
Might, the Forgiving”
(al-Mulk 67:2)

Hence, regardless of our age,
we must take advantage in
fully utilizing our lives by
performing righteous deeds
for us to take as provision
when we meet Allah
Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.



Even more importantly if we are in old age, these moments must be utilized in manifesting our gratefulness to Allah

Subhaanahu Wata‘aala for having granted a long life to His servant.

In one *hadeeth*, a man had asked the Messenger of Allah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam*: “O Messenger of Allah, which of the people is best?” He *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: “The one who lives long and does good.”

He (the questioner) then asked:
“Which of the people is worst?”

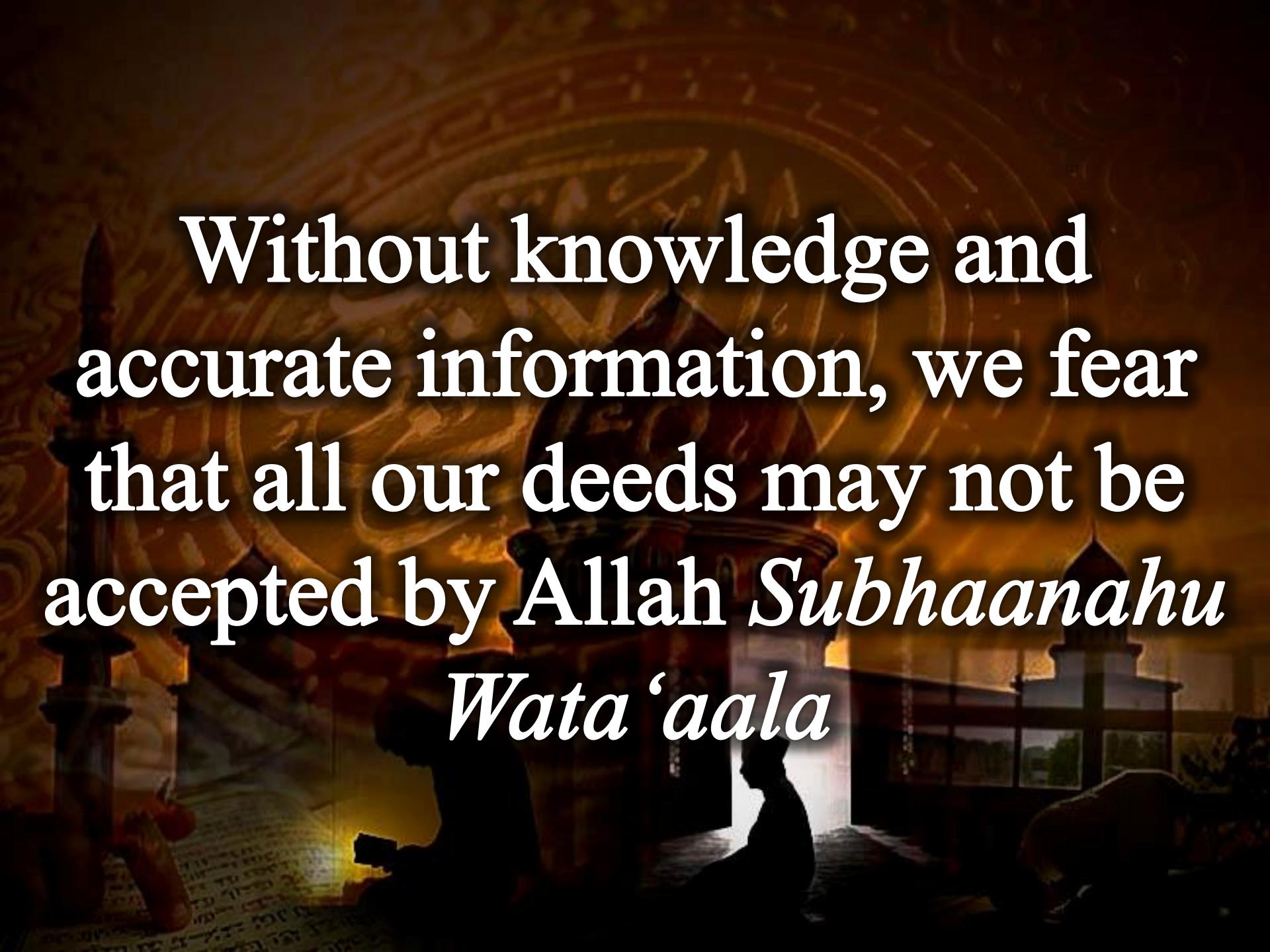
He *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam*
said: “The one who lives long
and does evil
(at-Tirmidhi and Ahmad:
saheeh)

From the essence of this *hadeeth*, we must wake up to realize, and prepare a lifelong schedule in charting our lives according to the guidelines of Rasulullah *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam*.

Hopefully with a long life, we will be successful in becoming excellent servants of Allah that continues to perform righteous deeds until death overtakes us.

Among the essentials necessary in becoming the best of people are:

1- Allocating time for seeking knowledge in ensuring that all our ‘ibaadah performed are accurate and conforms the Sunnah of Rasulullah *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam*. We must be serious in learning the Islamic knowledge and practicing them.

A silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer in front of a mosque at sunset. The mosque has multiple domes and minarets. The sky is filled with warm orange and yellow hues. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

Without knowledge and
accurate information, we fear
that all our deeds may not be
accepted by Allah *Subhaanahu
Wata 'aala*

2- Being in the company of those who will rectify our mistakes and shortcomings, helps to increase our religious understanding, willing to correct and advice, and always present in time of need.

Choosing the right companion is among the significant factors because of their influence in determining and shaping our personality and lifestyle. It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* said:

The Messenger of Allah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* said:

“A man will follow the way of his close friends, so let one of you look to whom he takes as a close friend.”

(al-Haakim and Ahmad: good *isnaad*)

3- Hasten in making *tawbah* (repentance) and returning the rights of Allah and others (mankind) that were unjustly taken. Making *tawbah* and returning the rights to its rightful owners are among essentials that must be taken

seriously in achieving security
in the Hereafter. Let us ponder
upon the *hadeeth* of Abu
Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*
where the Messenger of Allah
sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam
said:

"Do you know who is the one
who is bankrupt?" They said,
“The bankrupt is the one who
has no money and no
possessions.” He *sallAllahu*
‘alayhi wasallam said, “Among
my *Ummah*, the one who is
bankrupt

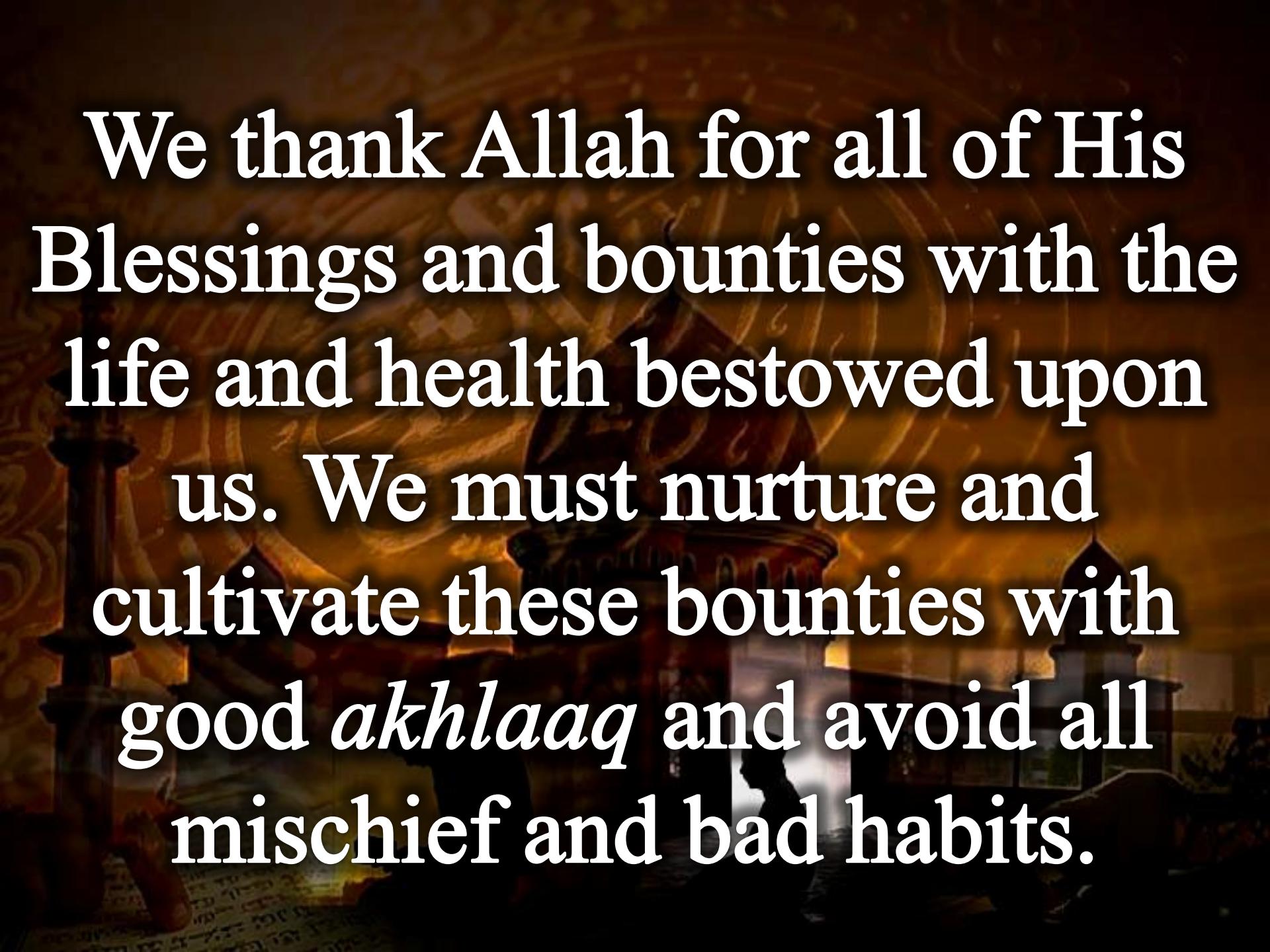
is the one who will come on the Day of Resurrection with prayer and fasting and *Zakaah* (to his credit), but he will come having insulted this one, slandered that one, consumed the wealth of this one and shed the blood of that

one, and beaten that one. So they will all be given some of his *hasanaat*, and when his *hasanaat* run out, before judgment is passed, some of their sins will be taken and cast onto him, then he will be cast into the Fire.“ (Muslim)

4- Constantly making sincere *du‘a* and sincerely hoping for the help and guidance from Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala* until the last breath. Among the best *du‘a* to be practiced is the one mentioned in al-Qur‘an:

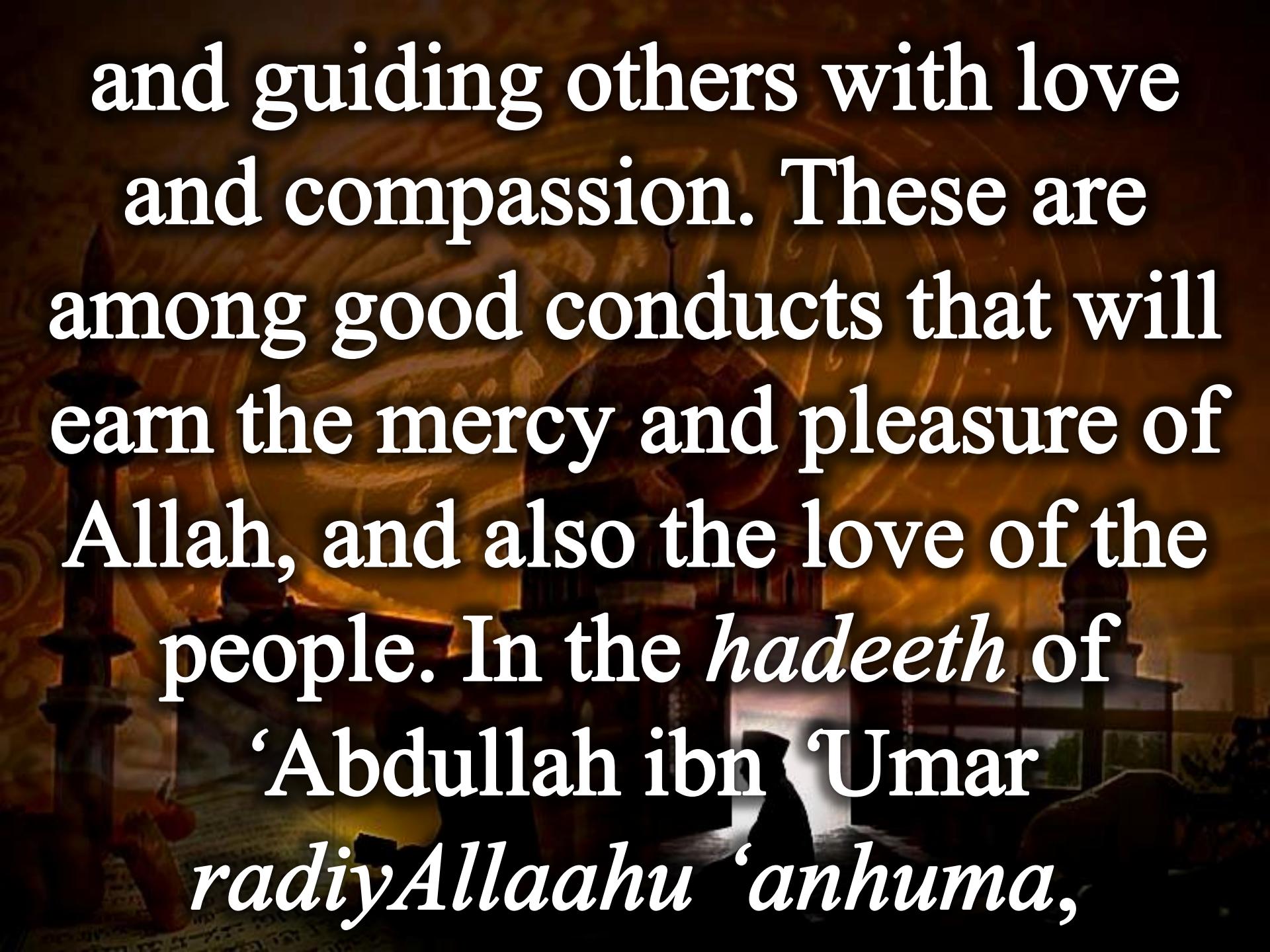
“[Who say], “Our Lord, let not our hearts deviate after You have guided us and grant us from Yourself mercy. Indeed, You are the Bestower.””

(Aali-‘Imraan 3:8)



We thank Allah for all of His Blessings and bounties with the life and health bestowed upon us. We must nurture and cultivate these bounties with good *akhlaaq* and avoid all mischief and bad habits.

Good *akhlaaq* is likened to a flower that continues to give off sweet aroma and vividly remembered even though it no longer exists on earth. Display excellent *akhlaaq* such as obedience in ‘ibaadah, advising others with gentleness,



and guiding others with love and compassion. These are among good conducts that will earn the mercy and pleasure of Allah, and also the love of the people. In the *hadeeth* of ‘Abdullah ibn ‘Umar *radiyAllaahu ‘anhu*,

The Messenger of Allah
sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam
said:

“The Most Merciful shows
mercy to those who have mercy
on others. Show mercy to those
on earth,

and the One above the heaven will
show mercy to you.”

(at-Tirmidhi: *hasan saheeh*)

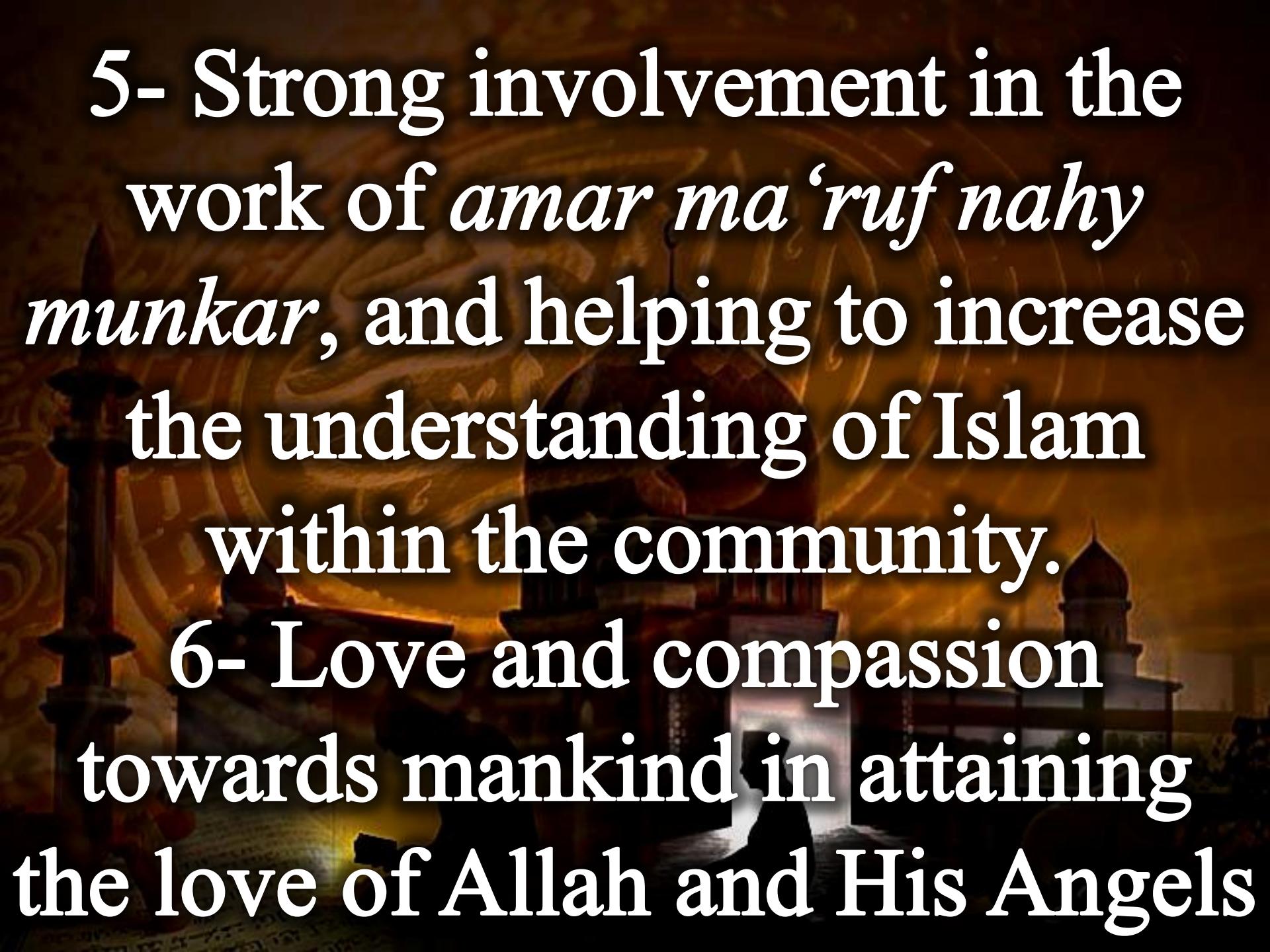
To conclude, let us review the main
points of today’s *khutbah*, so that it
will become a beneficial guideline
in our lives.

Among them are:

- 1- Long life (age) is a great *ni'mah* that must be appreciated
- 2- Increased effort in seeking Islamic knowledge and doing righteous deeds, and decorating one's personality with excellent *akhlaaq* and noble characters

3- Choosing good
companionship and living in an
environment that will bring one
closer to Allah and obedience to
His Commands.

4- Hastening to make *tawbah* in striving upon the true path of Islam, and making sincere *du‘a* pleading for constant guidance of Allah until the end of life.



5- Strong involvement in the work of *amar ma 'ruf nahy munkar*, and helping to increase the understanding of Islam within the community.

6- Love and compassion towards mankind in attaining the love of Allah and His Angels

“Say, “Indeed, the death from which you flee – indeed, it will meet you. Then you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you about what you used to do.””
(al-Jumu‘ah 62:8)

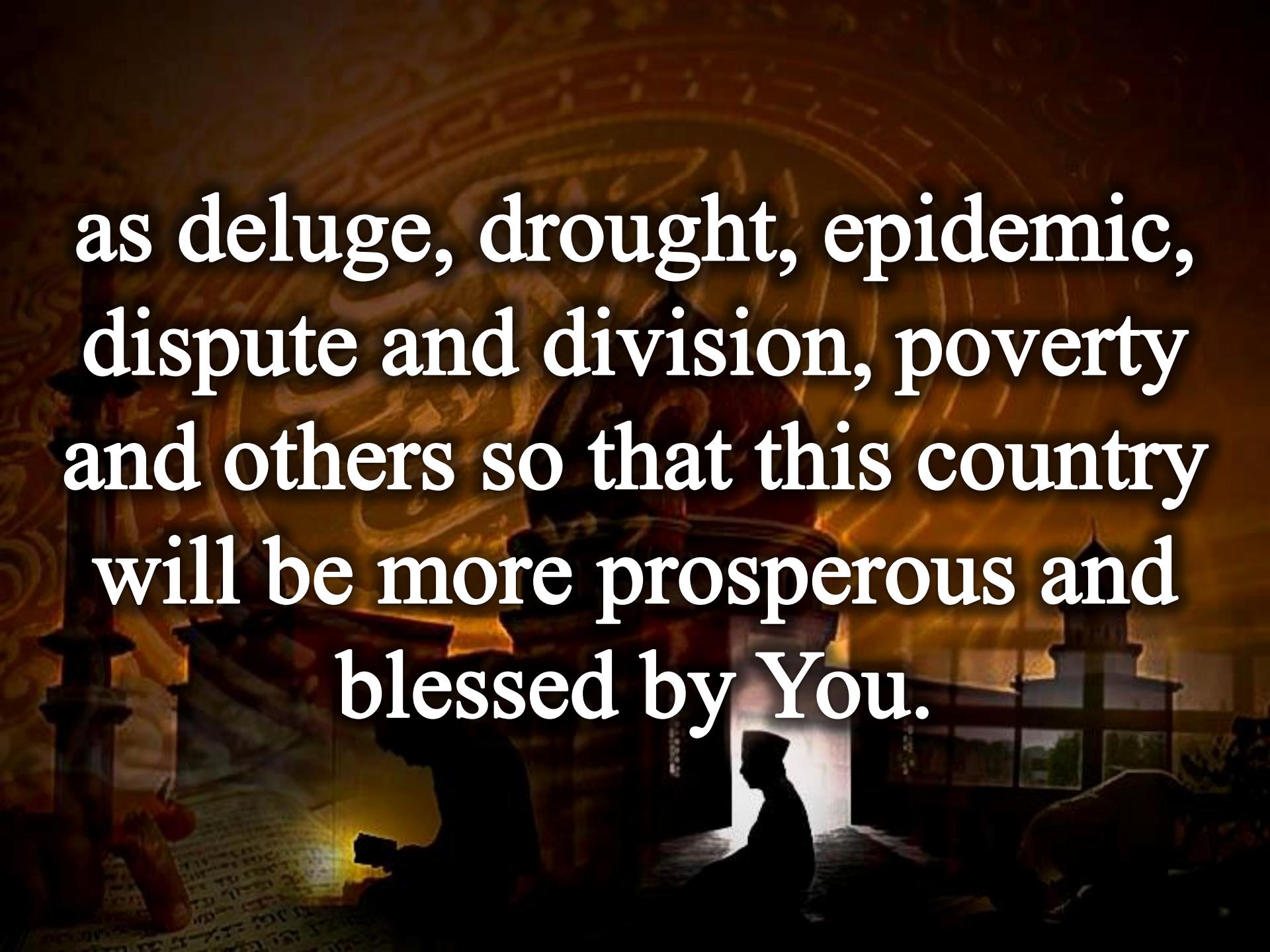
بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي
وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاقُتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ
قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ
إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّجِيمُ

O Allah,

The Most Merciful, we thank You
for all Your Mercy and Pleasure that
enable us to enhance and strengthen
our Islamic states, especially
Selangor, as a developed and
peaceful state.

O Allah,

We beg you to increase our good practice, strengthen our unity, grant us prosperous life, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, flourish our souls with noble character, return our youngsters to the right path, save us from Your biggest test such

A silhouette of a person standing in a doorway, looking out at a landscape with traditional buildings under a cloudy sky.

as deluge, drought, epidemic,
dispute and division, poverty
and others so that this country
will be more prosperous and
blessed by You.



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH:
UNIT KHUTBAH,
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:
UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR