

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

# Submitters Perspective

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Community of Submitters

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## Imploring God

There is one thing that's always been constant, and even more so in today's world, and that is needing God's help. In sura 1, verse 5 we say: *You alone we worship; You alone we ask for help.*

So, early on, God reminds us that we must both worship God alone, and ask God alone for help.

And the first thing we ask for help with is guidance: [1:6-7] *Guide us in the right path; the path of those whom You blessed; not of those who have deserved wrath, nor of the strayers.*

Submitters observe *Salat* regularly. And every *Salat* includes *Al-Fātehah* which means we are praying to God for guidance 17+ times a day. And reminding ourselves that we worship God alone, and ask Him alone for help.

We learn from Quran that we should ask for God's help (since that's a form of worship). This is in contrast with some religious teachings which say not to bother God since He's too busy. Or it's selfish of us to ask for ourselves, we should only pray for globally useful things like world peace. But God teaches us we can also pray for

ourselves, especially for our guidance, salvation, forgiveness and help in general.

*Supplication: A Form of Worship\**  
[40:60] *Your Lord says, "Implore Me, and I will respond to you. Surely, those who are too arrogant to worship Me will enter Gehenna, forcibly."*

\*40:60 *Supplication, imploring God for anything, even material luxuries, is a form of worship. Hence the commandment to implore God whenever we have any need. An atheist will never implore God for anything.*

So, if God says, "implore Me" then we should implore Him. But what of the people who refuse to? It seems they're called arrogant. This is also in the footnote of 40:60: "atheist will never implore God for anything".

[6:42] *We have sent (messengers) to communities before you, and we put them to the test through adversity and hardship, that they may implore.*

[6:43] *If only they implored when our test afflicted them! Instead, their hearts were hardened, and the devil adorned their works in their eyes.*

[23:75] *Even when we showered them with mercy, and relieved their problems, they plunged deeper into transgression, and continued to blunder.*

[23:76] *Even when we afflicted them with retribution, they never turned to their Lord imploring.*

From these verses I learn that someone who is arrogant, disbelieves in the Hereafter and whose heart is hardened, won't ask for God's help. There are also others who do pray during bad times but then they forget (10:12, 39:8, 41:49 etc.).

So it seems there are two categories: those who simply refuse to pray because they don't believe in God. They'd sooner die than acknowledge God or seek His help. And the "bad weather friends". God willing we're NOT among either of these categories. And instead we worship God, implore God and seek His help consistently. Because even in good times, we need God's help.

*God Answers the Prayers  
of "His Servants"*

[2:186] *When My servants ask you about Me, I am always near. I answer*

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

their prayers when they pray to Me. The people shall respond to Me and believe in Me, in order to be guided.

[13:14] *Imploring Him is the only legitimate supplication, while the idols they implore beside Him, cannot ever respond. ...*

[6:40] Say, "What if GOD's retribution came to you, or the Hour came to you: would you implore other than GOD, if you are truthful?" [6:41] *The fact is: only Him you implore, and He answers your prayer, if He so wills, and you forget your idols.*

Some of the things we should pray for:

### **Our soul**

[2:201] *Others would say, "Our Lord, grant us righteousness in this world, and righteousness in the Hereafter, and spare us the retribution of Hell."*

Abraham: [2:128] *"Our Lord, make us submitters to You, and from our descendants let there be a community of submitters to You. Teach us the rites of our religion, and redeem us. You are the Redeemer, Most Merciful.*

[2:286] *GOD never burdens a soul beyond its means: to its credit is what it earns, and against it is what it commits. "Our Lord, do not condemn us if we forget or make mistakes. Our Lord, and protect us from blaspheming against You, like those before us have done. Our Lord, protect us from sinning until it becomes too late for us to repent. Pardon us and forgive us. You are our Lord and Master. Grant us victory over the disbelieving people."*

[3:8] *"Our Lord, let not our hearts waver, now that You have guided us. Shower us with Your mercy; You are the Grantor.*

[3:147] ... *"Our Lord, forgive us our sins, and our transgressions, strengthen our foothold, and grant us victory over the disbelievers."*

[3:193] *"Our Lord, we have heard a caller calling to faith and proclaiming:*

*'You shall believe in your Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord, forgive us our transgressions, remit our sins, and let us die as righteous believers.*

[3:194] *"Our Lord, shower us with the blessings you promised us through Your messengers, and do not forsake us on the Day of Resurrection. You never break a promise."*

[4:106] *You shall implore GOD for forgiveness. GOD is Forgiver, Most Merciful.*

[7:126] ... *"Our Lord, grant us steadfastness, and let us die as submitters."*

[20:25] ... *"My Lord, cool my temper.*

[20:114] ... *"My Lord, increase my knowledge."*

[25:65] ... *"Our Lord, spare us the agony of Hell; its retribution is horrendous.*

[25:66] *"It is the worst abode; the worst destiny."*

In these prayers, we ask God to accept our worship, admit us into Heaven and spare us the retribution of Hell, to cool our tempers and increase our knowledge. We ask for forgiveness, guidance, mercy and protection.

### **Worldly things**

[4:32] *You shall not covet the qualities bestowed upon each other by GOD; the men enjoy certain qualities, and the women enjoy certain qualities. You may implore GOD to shower you with His grace. GOD is fully aware of all things.*

[4:75] *Why should you not fight in the cause of GOD when weak men, women, and children are imploring: "Our Lord, deliver us from this community whose people are oppressive, and be You our Lord and Master."*

[14:35] *Recall that Abraham said, "My Lord, make this a peaceful land, and protect me and my children from worshipping idols.*

[18:10] ... *"Our Lord, shower us with Your mercy, and bless our affairs with Your guidance."*

[21:83] *And Job implored his Lord: "Adversity has befallen me, and, of all the merciful ones, You are the Most Merciful." [21:84] We responded to him, relieved his adversity, and restored his family for him, even twice as much. That was a mercy from us, and a reminder for the worshipers.*

[21:89] *And Zachariah implored his Lord: "My Lord, do not keep me without an heir, though You are the best inheritor." [21:90] We responded to him and granted him John; we fixed his wife for him. That is because they used to hasten to work righteousness, and implored us in situations of joy, as well as fear. To us, they were reverent.*

[23:97-8] ... *"My Lord, I seek refuge in You from the whispers of the devils. And I seek refuge in You, my Lord, lest they come near me."*

[25:74] ... *"Our Lord, let our spouses and children be a source of joy for us, and keep us in the forefront of the righteous."*

[113:1-5] Say, *"I seek refuge in the Lord of daybreak. "From the evils among His creations. "From the evils of darkness as it falls. "From the evils of the troublemakers. "From the evils of the envious when they envy."*

Here, we ask God for peace on earth, freedom from oppression, and victory. We ask for provisions of food, spouses and children. And we seek refuge in God from Satan's whispers and all the evil things on this earth. We know that only He can protect us. As the footnote for 40:60 says: we can implore God for whatever we need.

*Supplication: A Form of Worship\**  
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## Anecdote: the Atheist and the Student

A young teacher with obvious scorn for religion explains to the class of small children that he is an atheist. He asks the class if they are atheists too. Not really knowing what atheism is but wanting to be like their teacher, their hands explode into the air like fleshy fireworks. There is, however, one exception. A girl that has not gone along with the crowd. The teacher asks her, "Why did you decide to be different?" The girl replied, "Because I'm not an atheist."

Then, asks the teacher, "What are you?" "I'm a monotheist," she said. The teacher is a little perturbed now, his face slightly red. He asks, "Why are you a monotheist?" She responds, "Well, I was brought up knowing and loving God. My mom is a monotheist, and my dad is a monotheist, and I am a monotheist."

The teacher is now angry. "That's no reason," he says loudly, "What if your mom was a moron and your dad was a moron—what would you be then?"

She paused, and smiled. "Then," said the girl, "I'd be an atheist."

*Contributed by Robert*

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## Anecdote: the Atheist and the Bear

An atheist was taking a walk through the woods. "What majestic trees! What powerful rivers! What beautiful animals! And how intelligent is man to conquer them!" he said to himself.

As he continued walking alongside the river he heard a rustling in the bushes. Turning to look, he saw a 7-foot grizzly charging towards him. He ran

as fast as he could up the path. Looking over his shoulder he saw that the bear was closing in on him. His heart was pumping frantically and he tried to run even faster. He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw the bear raising his paw to take a swipe at him.

At that instant the atheist cried out: "Oh God ..."

Time stopped.

The bear froze.

The forest was silent.

It was then that a bright light shone upon the man and a voice was heard: "You deny my existence for all of these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light. "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Submitter now, but perhaps, could you make the BEAR a Submitter?"

"Very well," said the voice. The light went out, and the sounds of the forest resumed.

Then the bear lowered his paw, bowed his head and spoke: "God, Glory be to You for all Your blessings including this food I am about to receive and for which I am truly thankful. *Bismillah.*"

*Contributed by Faiz*

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## Atheists

According to a website dedicated to American atheists, they have nearly 400,000 members and they brag that they are growing. In the face of all the world's difficulties, this is very sad. We know that the only way to save ourselves, and the world, is to turn to God alone. We can joke about atheism, but we know in the end it isn't funny. All we can do in the face of this growing move-

ment is to use every opportunity to spread the message of worship God alone.

*[4:36] You shall worship GOD alone--do not associate anything with Him. You shall regard the parents, the relatives, the orphans, the poor, the related neighbor, the unrelated neighbor, the close associate, the traveling alien, and your servants. GOD does not like the arrogant showoffs.*

*[10:104] Say, "O people, if you have any doubt regarding my religion, I do not worship what you worship beside GOD. I worship GOD alone; the One who will terminate your lives. I am commanded to be a believer."*

*[39:66] Therefore, you shall worship GOD alone, and be appreciative.*

*[2:172] O you who believe, eat from the good things we provided for you, and be thankful to GOD, if you do worship Him alone.*

*[3:51] "GOD is my Lord and your Lord; you shall worship Him alone. This is the right path."*

*[6:102] Such is GOD your Lord, there is no god except He, the Creator of all things. You shall worship Him alone. He is in control of all things.*

*[40:65] He is the Living; there is no god except He. You shall worship Him alone, devoting your religion absolutely to Him alone. Praise be to GOD, Lord of the universe.*

We will be challenged by those who worship another god beside God and by those who claim there is no God.

*[7:70] They said, "Did you come to make us worship GOD alone, and abandon what our parents used to worship? We challenge you to bring the doom you threaten us with, if you are truthful."*

*[16:51] GOD has proclaimed: "Do not worship two gods; there is only one god.*

*(Continued on page 4)*

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(Continued from page 3)

*You shall reverence Me alone."*

We can't control anyone or guide anyone. Each individual decides for him/herself what they want to follow. All we can do is remind. [2:256] *There shall be no compulsion in religion: the right way is now distinct from the wrong way. Anyone who denounces the devil and believes in GOD has grasped the strongest bond; one that never breaks. GOD is Hearer, Omniscient.*

Ultimately, we can say:

[109:1] *Say, "O you disbelievers.*

[109:2] *"I do not worship what you worship.*

[109:3] *"Nor do you worship what I worship.*

[109:4] *"Nor will I ever worship what you worship.*

[109:5] *"Nor will you ever worship what I worship.*

[109:6] *"To you is your religion, and to me is my religion."*

*Lydia*

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[59:24] *He is the One GOD; the Creator, the Initiator, the Designer. To Him belong the most beautiful names. Glorifying Him is everything in the heavens and the earth. He is the Almighty, Most Wise.*

## From a sister in Georgia

Peace, sisters and brothers

Thank you for doing God's will. I feel so grateful for your help. This is as it always has been—God's time. I feel that this is a time when God has the world's attention with covid. The world stopped by the grace of God. God has shown us His love, but man has shown his inability to comprehend our Lord. The fact that the smoke from the west has made it to the east; this proves that all things are possible with God. The Gulf area has been hit by hurricanes as often as we get rain. With all the things that God is showing us, we should all totally submit. God is using us to be strong to help others to be strong.

*Your sister, Eula*

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[4:126] *To GOD belongs everything in the heavens and the earth. GOD is in full control of all things.*

[55:29] *Imploring Him is everyone in the heavens and the earth. Every day He is in full control.*

[2:112] *Indeed, those who submit themselves absolutely to GOD alone, while leading a righteous life, will receive their recompense from their Lord; they have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve.*

## Ramadan 2022

God willing the month of Ramadan (2:183-7) is coming soon. The new moon times for determining the beginning and ending of Ramadan are given below in UTC (Universal time) or GMT.

April 1, 2022: 6:24 AM (UTC/GMT)

April 30, 2022: 20:28 PM (UTC/GMT)

The actual time for each time zone is relative to UTC. In order to calculate the Ramadan start date, compare the time of the New Moon with the Sunset in your location. If the new moon is before sunset, we fast the next day, God willing. Similarly, to determine the last day of fasting, compare the time of the next New Moon with the sunset in your location. If the new moon is before sunset, the Ramadan month is complete on that day. Otherwise one fasts the next day. For more details on how dates are calculated, please refer to the [September 2009](#) issue of the Submitters Perspective

Based on this, God willing, Ramadan dates for USA and Canada, are: **April 2 – April 30, 2022.**

The Night of Destiny will start, God willing, at sunset on April 22, 2022 for USA and Canada.

For more details or to use a tool to assist you in calculating / verifying Ramadan details for your location, please visit: <https://masjiduntucson.org/Ramadan/>