

أسماء الله الحسنى

Allah has 99 names, and the way the hadith is worded, 100 minus 1, will make this firm in your mind.

The word أَحْصَى is difficult to translate accurately. It is not merely to enumerate, but to keep constantly in mind, on the tip of your tongue, with the purpose of acting upon it. Enumerate these 99 names, learn them, apply them, make them a part of your life, and you will enter Jannah.

This is such a great reward for a small action. When you know a little bit more about Allah, you become a little bit closer to Him. The more you learn about Allah, the closer you are to Him.

Your fear of Allah is directly proportionate to your knowledge about Him. When you know and fear Allah, your salah will have khushu'.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said : إِنَّ أَنْتَمْ وَأَعْلَمُ بِاللَّهِ أَنَا

I am the most Allah fearing, and know Allah better than all of you do.

صحيح البخاري ، حديث # 20

The Messenger of Allah

سَمِّيَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ : إِنَّ اللَّهَ تِسْعَةٌ وَتِسْعُينَ اسْمًا مِئَةً إِلَّا وَاحِدًا، مَنْ أَحْصَاهَا دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ.

Allah has ninety-nine names, one-hundred minus one, and whoever knows them will go to Paradise

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Learning the names of Allah is a stairway, giving huge growth to your iman.

The hadith has two principles. Indeed Allah has 99 names, not there is no specific number for them. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ didn't say أَدَاتُ الْحَسْرَةِ, meaning this is

all there is. But that is not applicable in this hadith. Think of a person having 1000 dirhams, who has to pay someone 100 dirhams, he has them. This is the same for this hadith. Allah has more than 99 names, we don't know how many, and the 99 we know are special because they are applicable by us, we can relate to them.

An evidence that Allah has more than 99 names is found in the du'a of distress.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي عَبْدُكَ، ابْنُ أَمْتَكَ، نَاصِيَتِي بِيَدِكَ، مَاضٌ فِي حُكْمِكَ، عَدْلٌ فِي فَضْلِكَ،
أَسْأَلُكَ بِكُلِّ اسْمٍ هُوَ لَكَ، سَمِّيَتْ بِهِ نَفْسِكَ، أَوْ أَنْزَلْتَهُ فِي كِتَابِكَ، أَوْ عَلَمْتَهُ أَحَدًا مِنْ خَلْقِكَ، أَوْ أَسْتَأْتَرْتَ بِهِ فِي عِلْمِ الْغَيْبِ عِنْدَكَ
أَنْ تَجْعَلَ الْقُرْآنَ رَبِيعَ قُلُوبِي، وَنُورَ صَدْرِي، وَجَلَاءَ حُزْنِي، وَذَهَابَ هَمِّي

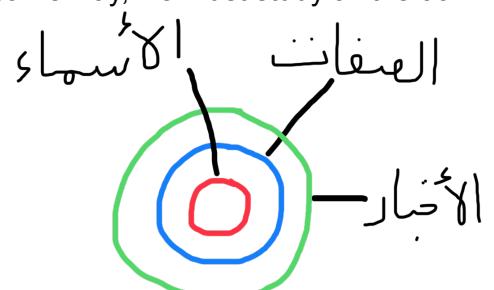
O Allah, I am your servant, the son of your servant, the son of your maid-servant. My forelock is in your hand, your command concerning me prevails, and your decision concerning me is just. I call upon you by every one of the beautiful names with which you have described yourself, or which you have revealed in your Book, or you have taught to any of your creatures, or which you have chosen to keep in the knowledge of the unseen with you, to make the Quran the delight of my soul, the light of my heart, and to remove my sadness and dispel my anxiety.

مسند أحمد، حديث # 3704

If you would look through the Qura'an and sunnah, and count the names of Allah mentioned, you will find more than 99. This is evidence which is related to your intellect and is connected to the legislation : دليل عقلي شرعي . These 99 names have a special quality, the one who أحصاها, learns and implements them, will enter Jannah.

As a comparison, look at the example of the date of laylatul qadr. We haven't been told when it is specifically, from the last 10 nights of Ramadan, so we worship on all the nights. In the same way, we must study all the 99 names so that we can go to Jannah.

Think of 3 concentric circles, each within the other. The outermost is the news of actions of Allah which we have been told of in the Qura'an. The second circle is the attributes of Allah, and the innermost circle is the names of Allah. Every name of Allah has an attribute, but every attribute isn't always connected with a name of Allah.



For example ذُو الرَّحْمَةِ . وَرَبُّ الْغَفُورُ ذُو الرَّحْمَةِ : The word الغفور is a name of Allah, while ذُو الرَّحْمَةِ is His attribute. The news of Allah are things which we say about Allah, such as that He exists. There is no name for this, but we know He exists.

[Source : *The Most Beautiful Names of Allah* by Ustadh Mohammad Tim Humble, Dar Al-Ber Society]