

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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God knows you

For every religion there is much written about the concept of knowing God. What does it mean to know God and His attributes? We know there are many attributes of God in the Quran. And there are many verses in the Quran which help us get a grasp of who God is and what God is capable of. God is capable of doing anything.

[2:117] The Initiator of the heavens and the earth: to have anything done, He simply says to it, "Be," and it is.

[3:47] She said, "My Lord, how can I have a son, when no man has touched me?" He said, "GOD thus creates whatever He wills. To have anything done, He simply says to it, 'Be,' and it is.

[6:73] He is the One who created the heavens and the earth, truthfully. Whenever He says, "Be," it is.

[19:35] It does not befit GOD that He begets a son, be He glorified. To have anything done, He simply says to it, "Be," and it is.

[36:82] All He needs to do to carry out any command is say to it, "Be," and it is. [40:68] He is the only One who controls life and death. To have anything done, He simply says to it, "Be," and it is.

So, God gives us many verses and lessons and allegories to help us understand Him and comprehend Him, to get to know Him. Even with these words to help guide us it is still hard to comprehend God's greatness. It's mind boggling really. God is in control of so much. There is so much going on at once and we know God is in full control of it all.

With all that God has going on, it's hard to imagine that God can actually make time for us as individuals. How well does God know us, know you. Does God know you?

[7:172] Recall that your Lord summoned all the descendants of Adam, and had them bear witness for themselves: "Am I not your Lord?" They all said, "Yes. We bear witness." Thus, you cannot say on the Day of Resurrection, "We were not aware of this."

All the descendants of Adam, all the human beings, about 150 billion humans. And we chose to take this test. And here we are. Does God know you? God knew us from the start of our test here on earth.

[3:6] He is the One who shapes you in the wombs as He wills. There is no other god besides Him; the Almighty, Most Wise.

[13:8] GOD knows what every female bears, and what every womb releases, or gains. Everything He does is perfectly measured.

[31:34] With GOD is the knowledge regarding the Hour (end of the world). He is the One who sends down the rain, and He knows the contents of the womb. ...

So, God knew us even before we had consciousness or a developed ego. And now we are trying to get back to God and His kingdom. Most of us were not born into Submission; by God's grace we were guided to it.

[28:56] You cannot guide the ones you love. GOD is the only One who guides in accordance with His will, and in accordance with His knowledge of those who deserve the guidance.

So, we have this great blessing of being guided by God. But we still have tests.

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And some of these tests are very challenging. And I feel that as humans we tend to implore a little more when we're being tested. But does God really know you?

[6:61] He is Supreme over His creatures, and He appoints guards to protect you.

[11:6] There is not a creature on earth whose provision is not guaranteed by GOD. And He knows its course and its final destiny. All are recorded in a profound record.

God knows you...

[11:56] "I have put my trust in GOD, my Lord and your Lord. There is not a creature that He does not control. My Lord is on the right path.

[17:30] For your Lord increases the provision for anyone He chooses, and reduces it. He is fully Cognizant of His creatures, Seer.

[25:58] You shall put your trust in the One who is Alive—the One who never dies—and praise Him and glorify Him. He is fully Cognizant of His creatures' sins.

God knows you...

[29:60] Many a creature that does not carry its provision, GOD provides for it, as well as for you. He is the Hearer, the Omniscient.

[42:19] GOD is fully aware of all His creatures; He provides for whomever He wills. He is the Powerful, the Almighty.

[23:17] We created above you seven universes in layers, and we are never unaware of a single creature in them.

God knows you...

There are 98 verses that have the phrase "God is fully aware of ..." For instance, He is aware of the disbelievers (2:19), the wicked (2:95), the righteous (3:115), the innermost intention (4:63), and of course, all things (9:115 et.al). He is "fully Cognizant" of His

worshipers (17:96), His creatures (17:30), and everything you do (2:234, etc.).

God knows you...

[34:3] Those who disbelieve have said, "The Hour will never come to pass!" Say, "Absolutely—by my Lord—it will most certainly come to you. He is the Knower of the future. Not even the equivalent of an atom's weight is hidden from Him, be it in the heavens or the earth. Not even smaller than that, or larger (is hidden). All are in a profound record."

[2:255] GOD: there is no other god besides Him, the Living, the Eternal. Never a moment of unawareness or slumber overtakes Him. To Him belongs everything in the heavens and everything on earth. Who could intercede with Him, except in accordance with His will? He knows their past, and their future. No one attains any knowledge, except as He wills. His dominion encompasses the heavens and the earth, and ruling them never burdens Him. He is the Most High, the Great.

[10:61] You do not get into any situation, nor do you recite any Quran, nor do you do anything, without us being witnesses thereof as you do it. Not even an atom's weight is out of your Lord's control, be it in the heavens or the earth. Nor is there anything smaller than an atom, or larger, that is not recorded in a profound record.

God knows you...

[50:16] We created the human, and we know what he whispers to himself. We are closer to him than his jugular vein.

[8:24] O you who believe, you shall respond to GOD and to the messenger when he invites you to what gives you life. You should know that GOD is closer to you than your heart, and that before Him you will be summoned.

God knows you...

[6:3] He is the one GOD in the heavens and the earth. He knows your secrets and your declarations, and He knows everything you earn.

[6:60] He is the One who puts you to death during the night, and knows even the smallest of your actions during the day. He resurrects you every morning, until your life span is fulfilled, then to Him is your ultimate return. He will then inform you of everything you had done.

[17:54-55] Your Lord knows you best. According to His knowledge, He may shower you with mercy, or He may requite you. We did not send you to be their advocate. Your Lord is the best knower of everyone in the heavens and the earth.

God knows you...

So, as we try to navigate this world, this matrix, which we know is an illusion, with all of its many blessings to keep us content and appreciative of God, and all of its distractions and challenging tests, which are uniquely designed for us by God as individuals, we can take comfort knowing that God knows us as individuals and that we can have a deeply personal relationship with Him 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

[2:186] When My servants ask you about Me, I am always near. I answer their prayers when they pray to Me. The people shall respond to Me and believe in Me, in order to be guided.

[22:15] If anyone thinks that GOD cannot support him in this life and in the Hereafter, let him turn completely to (his Creator in) heaven, and sever (his dependence on anyone else). He will then see that this plan eliminates anything that bothers him.

Bob

[53:32] ... He has been fully aware of you since He initiated you from the earth, and while you were embryos in your mothers' bellies. Therefore, do not exalt yourselves; He is fully aware of the righteous.

* * * * *

SUBMITTERS PERSPECTIVE

Fearing only God

Submitters go through tests. These tests are designed to separate those who worship God alone under all circumstances from those who do not (Quran 29:2). Fear is one of Satan's tools and a test. Satan tries to put fear in our hearts or to trick us into doubting God's Omniscience and Omnipotence. To help us pass the test, God provided us with guidance in the Quran. God tells us:

Fear: The Devil's Tool

[3:175] It is the devil's system to instill fear into his subjects. Do not fear them and fear Me instead, if you are believers.

Submitters fear only God, because God is the only One we are accountable to. Consider the following example: suppose I'm afraid that asking for an adjustment to my schedule to do Friday Prayers will be seen poorly by my boss or co-workers. And let's say I don't ask permission to go pray because I'm afraid of how they will see me or how it will affect my chance for progressing at work.

If I think about it – God is the One I am trying to please. God is the only One who possesses all power. It does not matter therefore if my asking permission to do

Quran app: Android, iOS, Windows

Read, in the name of your Lord, who created. [96:1]

> By God's grace, we have a Quran app available for iOS & Android phones and tablets, and Windows PCs. You can read Quran, search for a verse, save bookmarks and

more. Please visit: https://masjidtucson.org/quran/app/

> Quran: The Final Testament (Authorized English Version) Translated from the Original by Rashad Khalifa, Ph.D.

something good (pray) will be looked down upon by my boss or annoy my coworkers. Instead, what matters is whether what I'm doing is pleasing to God. God controls the boss, the job, the provisions, and the hearts of co-workers.

On the one hand, fear of someone else's reaction is not helpful to the growth of my soul. It can prevent me from making the right choice or cause me pain. Instead of helping me in this situation, fear causes irrational action or inaction. On the other hand, trusting in God and imploring God—actually helps.

Happiness Now, and Forever [22:15] If anyone thinks that GOD cannot support him in this life and in the Hereafter, let him turn completely to (his Creator in) heaven, and sever (his dependence on anyone else). He will then see that this plan eliminates anything that bothers him.

[2:277] Those who believe and lead a righteous life, and observe the Contact Prayers (Salat), and give the obligatory charity (Zakat), they receive their recompense from their Lord; they will have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve.

[2:38] We said, "Go down therefrom, all of you. When guidance comes to you from Me, those who follow My guidance will have no fear, nor will they grieve.

[41:30] Those who proclaim: "Our Lord is GOD," then lead a righteous life, the angels descend upon them: "You shall have no fear, nor shall you grieve. Rejoice in the good news that Paradise has been reserved for you.

God reassures the steadfast that they deserve His blessings and mercy. [2:155-157] We will surely test you through some fear, hunger, and loss of money, lives, and crops. Give good news to the steadfast. When an affliction befalls them, they say, "We belong to GOD, and to Him we are returning." These have deserved blessings from their Lord and mercy. These are the guided ones.

Even when the odds seem insurmounta-

ble, we can trust that God can help His servants. Consider the following verses. [3:159-160] ... Once you make a decision, carry out your plan, and trust in GOD. GOD loves those who trust in Him. If GOD supports you, none can defeat you. And if He abandons you, who else can support you? In GOD the believers shall trust.

[5:22] They said, "O Moses, there are powerful people in it, and we will not enter it, unless they get out of it. If they get out, we are entering." [5:23] Two men who were reverent and blessed by GOD said, "Just enter the gate. If you just enter it, you will surely prevail. You must trust in GOD, if you are believers."

[9:40] If you fail to support him (the messenger), GOD has already supported him. Thus, when the disbelievers chased him, and he was one of two in the cave, he said to his friend, "Do not worry; GOD is with us." GOD then sent down contentment and security upon him, and supported him with invisible soldiers. He made the word of the disbelievers lowly. GOD's word reigns supreme. GOD is Almighty, Most Wise.

[3:173] When the people say to them, "People have mobilized against you; you should fear them," this only strengthens their faith and they say, "GOD suffices us; He is the best Protector."

When God says He sends shifts of angels to be with us, should we be afraid? God's reassurance is perfect. [13:11] Shifts (of angels) take turns, staying with each one of you—they are in front of you and behind you. They stay with you, and guard you in accordance with GOD's commands. Thus, GOD does not change the condition of any people unless they themselves make the decision to change. If GOD wills any hardship for any people, no force can stop it. For they have none beside Him as Lord and Master.

When Satan whispers and tries to put fear in our hearts, we should seek refuge in God, remember Him and implore Him.

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[7:200] When the devil whispers to you any whisper, seek refuge in GOD; He is Hearer, Omniscient.

[23:97-98] Say, "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."

Anytime something pushes us into fear, it helps us if we can turn around and remember God and put our trust in Him.

The following Psalm is a nice reminder to put our trust in God. To have faith that God will protect us.

Psalm 91

Assurance of God's Protection

- ¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
- who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
- ² will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress;
- my God, in whom I trust.'
- ³ For He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler

and from the deadly pestilence;

- ⁴ He will cover you with his pinions, and under His wings you will find refuge His faithfulness is a shield and buckler.
- ⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day,

- ⁶ or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday.
- ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

⁸ You will only look with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.

- ⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
- the Most High your dwelling-place,
- ¹⁰ no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.
- ¹¹ For He will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
- ¹² On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
- ¹⁴ Those who love Me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know My name.
- ¹⁵ When they call to Me,
 I will answer them
 I will be with them in trouble,
 I will rescue them and honour them.
- ¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy them, and show them My salvation.

God Willing 38th Annual Conference

United Submitters

July 28-30, 2023

Vancouver, Canada



God willing, the annual United Submitters International Conference will be in the beautiful city of Vancouver, B.C., Canada (on July 28-30). It's an opportunity to remember God, increase our knowledge and meet our brethren in faith (3:191-194, 18:28, 58:11, 49:10).

Registration and hotel details will be available soon, God willing, at: <u>www.masjidtucson.org/conference/;</u> but save the dates and start planning for another special gathering of submitters. To help us organize a successful conference—and God has always been generous and gracious towards us please let us know your plans as soon as you can. As usual, attendance is by invitation. For information or an invitation email us: info@masjidtucson.org

If you prefer to fly into Seattle instead of Vancouver, it's about a 2-hour drive across the Canadian border.

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