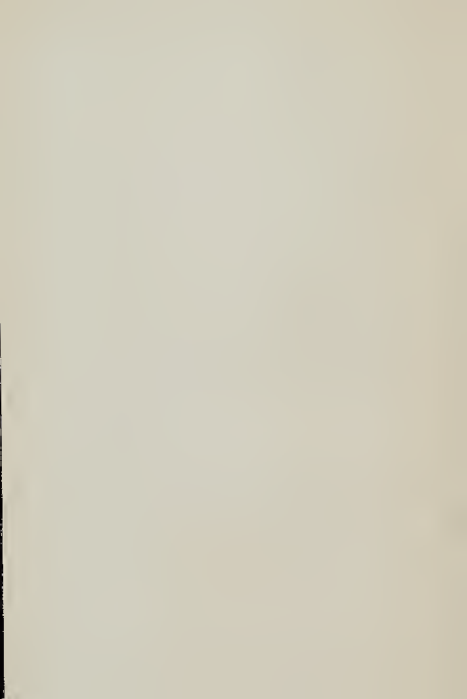


HIDDEN
WORDS







Hidden Words

WORDS OF WISDOM
and
COMMUNES

FROM "THE SUPREME PEN"
of
BAHA'U'LLAH

TRANSLATED BY
MIRZA AMEEN U. FAREED

Published by
BAHAI PUBLISHING SOCIETY
CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.
1905

“HIDDEN WORDS”

(From the Arabic)

HE IS EL-BAHA-EL-ABHA!

*He Is The Glory of
The Most Glorious!*

(1) This is that which descended from the Source of Majesty, through the tongue of Power and Strength upon the prophets of the past. We have taken its essences and clothed them with the garment of brevity, as a favor to the beloved, that they may fulfil the Covenant of God; that they may perform in themselves that which He has entrusted to them, and attain the victory by virtue of devotion in the land of the Spirit:

(2) O SON OF SPIRIT!

The first counsel is: Possess a good, a pure, an enlightened heart, that thou mayest possess a Kingdom eternal, immortal, ancient, and without end.

(3) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Justice is loved above all. Neglect it not, if thou desirest Me. By it thou wilt be strengthened to perceive things with thine own eyes and not by the eyes of men, to know them by thine own knowledge and not by the knowledge of any in the world. Meditate on this—how thou oughtest to be. Justice is of My Bounty to thee and of My Providence over thee; therefore, keep it ever before thy sight.

(4) O SON OF MAN!

In My Ancient Entity and in My Eternal Being, was I hidden. I knew My Love in thee, therefore I created thee; upon thee I laid My Image, and to thee revealed My Beauty.

(5) O SON OF MAN!

I loved thy creation, therefore I created thee. Wherefore love Me, that I may acknowledge thee and in the Spirit of Life confirm thee.

(6) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Love Me, that I may love thee.
If thou lovest Me not, My Love can
never reach thee. Know this, O Servant!

(7) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Thy paradise is My Love; thy
heaven is My Nearness: Therefore
enter thou and tarry not. This was
ordained for thee from Our Supreme
Kingdom and Exalted Majesty.

(8) O SON OF HUMANITY!

If thou lovest Me, turn away
from thyself; if My Will thou seekest,
regard not thine own, that thou mayest
die in Me, and I live in thee.

(9) O SON OF SPIRIT!

No peace is ordained for thee
save by departing from thyself and
coming to Me. Verily, thy glory should
be in My Name, not in thy name; thy
trust upon My Countenance, not upon
thine own; for I will to be loved above
all that is.

(10) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

My Love is My Fortress. Who enters therein is rescued and safe; whoever turns away from it is led astray and perishes.

(11) O SON OF PERCEPTION! (*Beyan*)

My Fort thou art: Enter thou in that thou mayest be safe. My Love is in thee: Seek, and thou wilt find Me near.

(12) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

My lamp thou art, and My Light is in thee: Therefore be illumined by it, and seek no one but Me, for I have created thee rich and upon thee have I showered abundant grace.

(13) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

By the Hands of Power I have made thee, and by the Fingers of Strength have I created thee. I have placed in thee the essence of My Light: Therefore depend upon it, and upon nothing else, for My Action is perfect and My Command has effect. Doubt this not, and have no uncertainty therein.

(14) O SON OF SPIRIT!

I have created thee rich: Why dost thou make thyself poor? Noble have I made thee: Why dost thou degrade thyself? Of the essence of Knowledge have I manifested thee: Why searchest thou for another than Me? From the clay of Love I have kneaded thee: Why seekest thou another? Turn thy sight unto thyself, that thou mayest find Me standing within thee, Powerful, Mighty and Supreme.

(15) O SON OF MAN!

Thou art My Possession, and My Possession shall never be destroyed: Why art thou in fear of thy destruction? Thou art My Light, and My Light shall never become extinct: Why dost thou dread extinction? Thou art My Glory (*Baha*), and My Glory shall not be veiled: Thou art My Garment, and My Garment shall never be outworn. Therefore abide in thy love to Me, that thou mayest find Me in the Highest Horizon.

(16) O SON OF PERCEPTION! (*Beyan*)

Look thou to My Face, and turn from all save Me, for My Authority is eternal and shall never cease, My Kingdom is lasting and shall not be overthrown. If thou seekest another than Me, yea, if thou searchest the universe forevermore, yet shall thy search be vain.

(17) O SON OF LIGHT!

Forget all else save Me, and be comforted by My Spirit. This is from the essence of My Command: therefore direct thyself to it.

(18) O SON OF MAN!

Let thy satisfaction be in Me, rich above all else. Ask for no other helper than Me, for none but Me can ever satisfy thee.

(19) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Ask thou not of Me that which thou desirest not for thyself. Be contented with what We have ordained for thy sake (*face*): This is for thy good, if thou art content with it.

(20) O SON OF THE HIGHEST SIGHT!

I have placed within thee a spirit from Me, that thou mightest be My Lover: Why hast thou forsaken Me and sought to love another?

(21) O SON OF SPIRIT!

My Right to thee is great and cannot be denied. My Mercy for thee is ample and cannot be ignored. My Love in thee exists and cannot be concealed. My Light to thee is manifest and cannot be obscured.

(22) O SON OF HUMANITY!

I have ordained for thee from the Tree of Splendor (*El-Abha*) the holiest fruits: Why hast thou cast them aside and contented thyself with those that are inferior? Return, therefore, to that which is best for thee in the Highest Horizon.

(23) O SON OF SPIRIT!

I created thee sublime, but thou hast degraded thyself: Therefore ascend to that for which thou wast created.

(24) O SON OF THE SUPREME!

I beckon thee to Life, but thou desirest death: Why hast thou neglected My Will and followed thy desire?

(25) O SON OF MAN!

Go not beyond thy limitation, nor claim what is not for thee. Venerate the countenance of thy Lord, the Almighty.

(26) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Boast not of thine own glory over the poor, for I walk before him, and I see thee in thy miserable condition and ever grieve for thee.

(27) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Why hast thou overlooked thine own faults and art observing defects in My Servants? Whoever does this is condemned by Me.

(28) O SON OF MAN!

Breathe not the sins of any one as long as thou art a sinner. If thou doest contrary to this command thou art not of Me: To this I bear witness.

(29) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Know verily that he who exhorts men to equity and himself does injustice, is not of Me, even though he bear My Name.

(30) O SON OF EXISTENCE.

Attribute not to any soul that which thou desirest not to be attributed to thyself, and do not promise that which thou dost not fulfil. This is My Command to thee: obey it.

(31) O SON OF MAN!

Withold not from My servant in whatsoever he may ask of thee, for his face is My Face, and thou must reverence Me.

(32) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Examine thy deeds each day, before thou art judged, for death will suddenly overtake thee, and then thy deeds shall judge thee.

(33) O SON OF THE SUPREME!

I made death for thee as glad-tidings: Why art thou in despair at its

approach? I made light for thee a
splendor: Why dost thou hide from it?

(34) O SON OF SPIRIT!

The Gospel of Light I herald to
thee: Rejoice in it. And to the state
of Holiness I call thee: Abide in it,
that thou mayest be in peace for ever
and ever.

(35) O SON OF SPIRIT!

The Holy Spirit heralds comfort
to thee: Why dost thou grieve? The
Spirit of Command confirms thee in the
Cause: Why dost thou remain apart?
The Light of the Face walks before
thee: Why dost thou seek darkness?

(36) O SON OF MAN!

Grieve not save when thou art
far from Us, and rejoice not save when
thou art near and returning to Us.

(37) O SON OF MAN!

Lift up thy heart with delight,
that thou mayest be fitted to meet Me,
and to mirror forth My Beauty.

(38) O SON OF MAN!

Clothe thyself with My Beautiful Garment and forfeit not thy portion from My Living Fountain that thou mayest not thirst forever.

(39) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Keep My Commands for love of Me, and deny thyself thine own desires if thou wishest My Pleasure.

(40) O SON OF MAN!

Neglect not My Laws if thou lovest My Beauty, and forget not My Counsels if thou art hopeful to attain My Will.

(41) O SON OF MAN!

If thou run through all immensity and speed through the space of heaven, thou shalt find no rest save in obedience to Our Command and in devotion before Our Face.

(42) O SON OF MAN!

Magnify My Command that I may reveal to thee the secrets of Greatness and illumine thee with the Lights of Eternity.

(43) O SON OF MAN!

Be submissive to Me that I may descend to thee, and serve My Cause that thou mayest be victorious in Me.

(44) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Remember Me in My earth that I may remember thee in My Heaven, thus may our eyes delight therein.

(45) O SON OF THE THRONE!

Thy hearing is My Hearing: hear thou with it. Thy sight is My Sight: see thou with it. Thus mayest thou attest within thyself My Holiness, that I may attest within Myself a place of exaltation for thee.

(46) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Seek martyrdom in My Path with content in Me, and be thankful for My Decree. Thus mayest thou rest with Me in the pavilion of Glory behind the veils of Might.

(47) O SON OF MAN!

Ponder over thy condition and be thoughtful in action. Dost thou prefer

to die upon thy bed, or to be martyred in My Path upon the dust; to be a manifestation of My Command and an expression of My Light in the Highest Paradise? Discern justly, O My servant.

(48) O SON OF MAN!

By My Beauty! To tinge thy hair with thy blood is greater to Me than the creation of the two realms and the splendor of the Two Lights. Therefore strive therein, O servant.

(49) O SON OF MAN!

For everything there is a sign. The sign of love is patience through My Ordeal and long-suffering for My Sake.

(50) O SON OF MAN!

The sincere lover longs for suffering as the rebel craves forgiveness, and the sinner prays for mercy.

(51) O SON OF MAN!

If calamity befall thee not in My Path, how wilt thou tread in the way of those who are content in My

Will? If affliction overtake thee not in thy longing to meet Me, how canst thou attain the Light of the Love of My Beauty?

(52) O SON OF MAN!

My Calamity is My Providence. In appearance it is fire and vengeance; in reality it is Light and Mercy. Therefore approach it, that thou mayest become an Eternal Light and an Immortal Spirit. This is My Command; know thou it.

(53) O SON OF HUMANITY!

Rejoice not if fortune smile upon thee, and if humility overtake thee—mourn not because of it, for, in their time, they both shall cease and be no more.

(54) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

If thou encounter poverty, grieve not; for, in the Time, the King of riches will descend to thee. Fear not humility, for glory shall be thy portion.

(55) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

If thou lovest the Immortal and Eternal Kingdom, the Ancient and Everlasting Life, then forsake this mortal and vanishing kingdom.

(56) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Be not engrossed with this world, for with fire We test the gold, and with gold We try the servants.

(57) O SON OF MAN!

Thou desirest gold, and We desire thy separation from it. Thou hast realized therein the riches of thyself, while I realize thy wealth to consist in thy freedom from it. By My Life! This is My Knowledge, while that is thine imagining; how can My Thought agree with thine?

(58) O SON OF MAN!

Distribute My possessions among My poor, that in Heaven thou mayest receive from the boundless treasures of Glory and from the stores of Eternal Bliss. But by My Life! The sacrifice

of the spirit is more glorious, couldst thou see with Mine Eye.

(59) O SON OF HUMANITY!

The temple of being is My Throne. Purge it of everything, that I may descend therein to reign over it.

(60) O SON OF EXISTENCE!

Thy heart is My Home; purify it for My Descent: Thy spirit is My Outlook; prepare it for My Manifestation.

(61) O SON OF MAN!

Put thy hand into My Treasury; then will I lift My Head radiant above thy treasures.

(62) O SON OF MAN!

Ascend to My Heaven that thou mayest drink of the pure Wine which has no likeness—from the Chalice of everlasting Glory.

(63) O SON OF MAN!

Days have passed by thee, and thou hast occupied thyself with thy fanci-

ful imaginations. How long wilt thou thus sleep upon thy bed? Lift up thy head from slumber, for the Sun has climbed to the zenith, that He may illumine thee with Lights of Beauty.

(64) O SON OF MAN!

The Light has shone upon thee from the horizon of the Mount, and the Spirit of Purity has breathed in the Sinai of thy heart. Therefore empty thyself of doubts and fancies; then enter into this Mansion, that thou mayest be prepared for the Eternal Life, and ready to meet Me. Herein there is no death, no trouble nor burden.

(65) O SON OF MAN!

My Eternity is My creation. I have created it for thee; therefore make it the garment of thy temple. My Oneness is My design. I have designed it for thee; therefore clothe thyself with it. Thus thou mayest be a star of My Omnipresence forever.

(66) O SON OF MAN!

My Greatness is My Bounty to thee. My Majesty is My Mercy to

thee, but that which is due to Me none can realize or comprehend: Verily I have treasured it in the stores of My Secrets, in the treasury of My Command—as a favor to My servants and a mercy to My people.

(67) O CHILDREN OF THE INVISIBLE ENTITY!

Ye shall be hindered from My Love, and souls shall be disturbed when I am mentioned, for the mind cannot grasp Me, nor the heart contain Me.

(68) O SON OF BEAUTY!

By My Spirit and by My Providence! By My Mercy and by My Beauty! All that I uttered for thee by the Tongue of Power and wrote with the Pen of Strength, verily, We revealed it according to thy capacity and perception, not according to My State and Reality.

(69) O CHILDREN OF MEN!

Do ye know why We have created ye from one clay? That no one should glorify himself over the other.

Be ye ever mindful of how ye were created. Since We created ye all from the same substance, ye must be as one soul, walking with the same feet, eating with one mouth and living in one land, that ye may manifest with your being, and by your deeds and actions, the signs of unity and the spirit of oneness. This is My Counsel to ye, O people of Lights! Therefore follow it, that ye may attain the fruits of holiness from the Tree of Might and Power.

(70) O CHILDREN OF THE SPIRIT!

Ye are My treasures, for in ye I have treasured the pearls of My Mysteries and the Gems of My Knowledge. Guard them, lest the unbelievers among My people, the wicked ones among My creatures, should discover them.

(71) O SON OF HIM WHO STOOD BY HIS OWN ENTITY IN THE KINGDOM OF HIMSELF!

Know that I have sent unto thee the fragrances of Holiness, have accomplished the Word in thee, have fulfilled

the Bounty through thee, and have willed for thee what I have willed for Myself. Therefore be content in Me and thankful to Me.

(72) O SON OF MAN!

On the tablet of the spirit write all We have uttered to thee, with the ink of Light; and, if thou canst not do this, then make the ink of the essence of thy heart; and, if still thou art unable, then write with the red ink shed in My Path. Verily this is more precious to Me than all else for this radiance shall last forever.

"HIDDEN WORDS"

(From the Persian)

(1) IN THE NAME OF THE MIGHTY SPEAKER!

O ye possessors of intelligence and hearing, the first melody of the Beloved is: O nightingale of Significance, seek no refuge save in the rose-garden of significances! O messenger of the Solomon of Love, dwell not but in the Sheba of the Beloved! O phoenix of Immortality, choose no abode except in the Mount of Faithfulness! This is thy station if thou art soaring to the Placeless on the wings of Life.

(2) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Every bird seeks a nest, and each nightingale desires the beauty of the flower, but the birds of the minds of men which are content with mortal dust, and are far from the eternal Nest; viewing the mire of remoteness and bereft of the flowers of Nearness. Strange,

grievous and pitiable is it that for a single cup they have deprived themselves of the waves of the Supreme Companion and have remained far from the Glorious Horizon.

(3) O FRIEND!

In the garden of the heart plant only flowers of Love, and withdraw not from clinging to the nightingale of love and yearning. Esteem the friendship of the just, but withdraw both mind and hand from the company of the wicked.

(4) O SON OF EQUITY!

What lover seeks to dwell save in the Home of the Beloved? What seeker can repose far from the Desired One? A sincere lover finds life in the presence of the Beloved, and dies in separation. His breast is void of patience, and his heart is beyond endurance. He forsakes a hundred thousand lives, and hastens to the Mount of the Beloved.

(5) O SON OF DUST!

Verily I say the most negligent of the servants is he who disputes and prefers himself to his brother. Say, O brethren! Adorn yourselves with deeds rather than words.

(6) O SONS OF EARTH!

Know the truth that a heart, wherein lingers the least trace of envy, shall never attain unto My Immortal Dominion, nor feel the fragrances of purity from My Holy Kingdom.

(7) O SON OF LOVE!

Only one step separates thee from the plane of nearness and the Exalted Tree of Love. Plant the first foot, and, with the other, step into the Kingdom of Eternity and enter the pavilion of Immortality. Then hearken to what has descended from the Pen of Glory.

(8) O SON OF GLORY!

Be swift in the Way of Holiness, and step into the Heavens of Intimacy. Clear the heart with the burnish of the

Spirit, and betake thyself to the Presence of the Most High.

(9) O FLEETING SHADOW!

Pass by the low degrees of fancy, and soar to the exalted heights of Certainty. Open the eye of Truth that thou mayest behold the Radiant Beauty, and say: "Blessed be God, the Most Excellent of Creators!"

(10) O SON OF DESIRE!

Listen truly: Mortal eye shall never perceive the Everlasting Beauty, and the dead mind delights only in lifeless clay, for like seeks like and has affinity with its own kind.

(11) O SON OF CLAY!

Be blind, that thou mayest behold My Beauty: Be deaf, that thou mayest hear My Sweet Melody and Voice: Be ignorant, that thou mayest enjoy a portion from My Knowledge: Be poor, that thou mayest obtain an everlasting share from the sea of My Eternal Wealth.

Be blind, that is, to all save My Beauty: Be deaf, that is, to all except My Word: Be ignorant, that is, of all but My Knowledge. Thus shalt thou enter My Holy Presence with pure eyes, keen ears and a mind undimmed.

(12) O POSSESSOR OF TWO EYES!

Close one eye, and open the other. Close the one to the world and all that is therein, and open the other to the Holy Beauty of the Beloved.

(13) O MY CHILDREN!

I fear that, without having enjoyed the melody of the Nightingale, ye may return to the region of mortality; and, without seeing the beauty of the Rose, ye may return to the water and clay.

(14) O FRIENDS!

Be not satisfied with the beauty that is mortal, discarding the Eternal Beauty, and attach not thyself to the world of clay.

(15) O SON OF SPIRIT!

The time cometh when the Nightingale of Holiness will be prevented from unfolding the Inner Significances, and all shall be bereft of the Merciful Melody and Divine Call.

(16) O ESSENCE OF NEGLIGENCE!

Alas, that a hundred thousand ideal languages are spoken by One Tongue, and that a hundred thousand hidden meanings are unfolded in One Melody, and there is no ear to hearken, nor any heart to perceive a single letter!

(17) O COMRADES!

The doors of the Placeless are opened, and the City of the Beloved is adorned with the blood of the lovers, but all are bereft of this spiritual City, except a few; and out of this few, have appeared but very few with pure hearts and holy souls.

(18) O PEOPLE OF THE DELECTABLE
PARADISE!

Let the people of Certainty know that a new Garden has appeared near the Rizwan in the Open Court of Holiness, and that all the people of the Heights, and the temples of the Exalted Heaven, are around it. Therefore endeavor to reach that Station, and discover the truths of the mystery of Love from its red tulips, and unveil abundant knowledge of the Oneness from its eternal fruits. Radiant are the eyes of him who has entered therein with trust.

(19) O MY FRIENDS!

Have ye forgotten that true, bright morn when ye were all in My Presence on that blessed plain under the shade of the Tree of Life, planted in the Great Paradise, when I addressed to thee three Holy Words; ye heard them and were overwhelmed!

The Words are these: "O Friends, Prefer not your will to Mine; desire not that which I have not desired for thee; approach Me not with dead minds

stained with desire and hope." If ye purify your breasts, that condition, and the view of that Open Court will appear to you, and my Expiation will become manifest.

(20) *In the eighth of the Lines of Holiness, in the Fifth Tablet of Paradise, He reveals the following:*

O DEAD MEN ON THE BED OF
NEGLIGENCE!

Centuries have passed, and ye have ended your precious lives; yet not a single breath of purity hath ever come from ye to Our Holy Presence. Ye are drowned in the sea of polytheism while talking of Oneness. Ye have loved that which hateth Me, and ye have taken My foe to be your friend. Ye are walking with mirth and pleasure upon My earth, heedless that it detests you, and that the things of the earth are fleeing from you. Should ye open your eyes but a little ye shall know that a hundred thousand griefs are preferable to this pleasure, and ye will consider death to be preferred before this life.

(21) O MOVING DUST!

I am attached to thee, while thou art without hope in Me. The sword of rebellion has severed the tree of thy hope. I am always near unto thee, while in every condition thou art far from Me, I have chosen unceasing honor for thee, while thou hast sought an endless humility for thyself. While there is yet time avail yourself of the opportunity, and return.

(22) O SON OF PASSION!

The people of wisdom and insight struggled for years, and failed to attain the meeting of the Exalted One, hastened all their lives, and did not see the Most Beautiful; while thou hast arrived at home without hastening, and hast attained the goal without search. Yet, after gaining all these degrees and ranks, thou wert so veiled with thyself that thine eyes did not behold the Beauty of the Beloved, and thine hand did not reach to the Hem of the Friend. Therefore marvel at this, O possessors of insight!

(23) O PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY OF LOVE!

The Eternal Candle is besieged by mortal winds, and the beauty of the Spiritual Servant is shrouded in the darkness of dust. The King of kings of Love is oppressed under the hand of the subjects of tyranny, and the Dove of Holiness is clutched in the talons of owls. All the people of the Pavilion of Glory and of the Supreme Concourse are mourning and wailing, while ye are living at ease upon the earth of negligence, and have counted yourselves of the sincere lovers. Therefore that which ye have assumed is false.

(24) O IGNORANT ONES WHO HAVE A REPUTATION FOR KNOWLEDGE!

Why do ye outwardly claim to be shepherds while inwardly ye have become wolves of My sheep? Your example resembles the star preceding the dawn, which is apparently bright and luminous, but in reality leads the caravans of My City astray, and causes their destruction.

(25) O PERFECT IN APPEARANCE, AND
INWARDLY DEFECTIVE!

Your example is like unto a clear but bitter water, which outwardly appears pure and clear, but, when it falls into the hand of the Divine Assayer, not one drop of it is accepted. Yea, the radiance of the sun is cast upon the dust and upon the mirror, but the difference is great between the earth and the guarding stars; nay, that distance is vast.

(26) O MY FRIEND BY WORD!

Reflect a little! Hast thou ever heard of the beloved and the stranger dwelling in the same heart? Therefore, send away the stranger, so that the Beloved may enter His home.

(27) O SON OF DUST!

All things in the heavens and in the earth have I ordained for thee, except the hearts which I have appointed as a place for the descent of the manifestation of My Beauty and Glory; but thou hast given up My place to another

than Me. Thus, whenever My Holy Manifestation came to His own place, finding there the stranger, homeless He hastened to the sacred precincts of the Beloved. Yet have I concealed this as secret, desiring not thy shame.

(28) O ESSENCE OF PASSION!

Many a morning have I come from the orient of the Placeless unto thy place, and found thee upon the bed of ease, engaged with other than Myself. Then, like Spiritual Lightning, I returned to the clouds of Regal Honor, and, in the retreat of My Nearness, revealed it not to the hosts of Holiness.

(29) O SON OF GENEROSITY!

Thou wert in the deserts of non-being, and, by means of the earth of command, I made thee to appear in the world of possession. I charged all the atoms of dependence and the realities of creation with thy training; so that, before thou didst issue from the womb of thy mother, I ordained for thee two fountains of bright milk. I appointed eyes to guard thee, set thy love in all

hearts, and with pure generosity I reared thee under the shadow of My Mercy, and protected thee with the essence of My Grace. The purpose of all this was to enable thee to arrive to Our Eternal Might and to deserve Our Invisible Favors. But thou, O heedless one, when thou didst reach maturity, neglected all My Bounties, and engaged thyself in thy fancy to such degree that thou didst entirely forget Me, and, leaving the house of the Beloved, went and dwelt in the porch of the enemy.

(30) O SERVANT OF THE WORLD!

At many a dawn has the breeze of My Grace passed through thee, and found thee asleep upon the bed of neglect, and returning back it wept over thy condition.

(31) O SON OF THE EARTH!

If thou desirest Me, desire no other than Me. If thou seekest My Beauty, withdraw thy glance from the people of the world, for My Will and the will of another is like fire and water which

cannot be contained in the same mind and heart.

(32) O MY BROTHER!

Hear My Beautiful Words from My sweet Tongue, and drink the Water of Life from the Fountain of My Lips. That is, sow the seeds of My Innate Wisdom in the pure ground of the heart and water it with conviction; then the hyacinth of My Knowledge and Wisdom shall spring up verdantly in the holy city of the heart.

(33) O STRANGER TO THE FRIEND!

The candle of thy mind is lighted by the hand of My Power; extinguish it not with the contrary winds of desires and passions. The healer of all thy troubles is remembrance of Me; forget it not. Make My Love thy capital, and cherish it as the spirit of thine eye.

(34) O PEOPLE OF MY GARDEN!

I set the plant of your love and friendship in the holy garden of Paradise with the hand of Tenderness and watered it with the showers of Mercy.

The time for its fruitage is at hand; endeavor that it be preserved and be not burned with the fire of desire and lust.

(35) O MY FRIENDS!

Extinguish the lamp of ignorance and kindle the ever-burning torch of guidance in the heart and mind. For in a short while the Assayers of Being shall accept naught but pure virtue in the portico of the Presence of the Adored One, and will receive none but holy deeds.

(36) O SON OF DUST!

The wise men of the people are those who speak not unless they find a listener; as the cup-bearer never offers a cup unless he find one who desires, nor does the lover cry out from the depth of his heart until he attains to the beauty of the beloved. Therefore sow the seeds of knowledge and wisdom in the fertile ground of the mind, and conceal them there until the hyacinth of Divine Wisdom springs up in the heart, and not in the clay.

(37) *In the first line of the Tablet, mentioned before, it is recorded and preserved behind the veil of Divine Protection:*

O MY SERVANT!

Abandon not the Eternal Dominion for a carnal desire, and relinquish not the Kingdom of Paradise for a lust. This is the "River of Life" which flows from the fountain of the Pen of the Merciful. Blessed are they who drink.

(38) O SON OF SPIRIT!

Break the cage, and like unto the bird of love soar in the atmosphere of holiness; leave the self, and rest with heavenly souls upon the sacred Plain of God.

(39) O SON OF ASHES!

Content not thyself with the repose of a single day and lose not the everlasting rest; exchange not the immortal garden of Eternal Joy for the earthly furnace of mortality. Ascend from the dungeon to the beautiful plains of Life, and arise from the cage of the

world to the alluring garden of the Placeless.

(40) O MY SERVANT!

Free thyself from the worldly bond, and escape from the prison of the self. Appreciate the value of the time, for thou shalt never see it again, nor shalt thou find a like opportunity.

(41) O SON OF MY MAID-SERVANT!

Wert thou to see the immortal Kingdom, verily thou wouldst abandon the mortal possessions of earth; yet there is a wisdom in the former being concealed and in the latter being manifest, and this is known only to hearts that are pure.

(42) O MY SERVANT!

Purge the mind from malice and, free from envy, enter the presence of Unity.

(43) O MY FRIENDS!

Walk ye in the path of the good pleasure of the Friend; His good pleasure is ever in His creatures That

is—a friend should not enter the home of his friend without his good pleasure, nor interfere with his possessions, nor prefer his desire to that of his friend, nor seek preference in any condition. Then consider this, O ye people of thought.

(44) O COMPANION OF MY THRONE!

Hear no evil and see no evil; degrade not thyself, neither lament: That is—speak no evil, that thou mayest not hear it; think not the faults of others to be great, that thine own may not seem great; approve not the abasement of any soul, that thine own abasement may not be exposed. Then with stainless mind, holy heart, sanctified breast, and pure thoughts, thou mayest be free during all the days of thy life which are counted less than an instant, and with freedom may return from this mortal body to the paradise of Inner Significances, and abide in the Immortal Kingdom.

(45) ALAS! ALAS! O LOVERS OF PASSION!

With the swiftness of lightning ye have left the Spiritual Beloved, and to

satanic thoughts have ye attached your minds. Ye worship fancy and call it a fact; ye are gazing at a thorn, and call it a flower. Not an unselfish breath have ye breathed, nor hath a breeze of self-denial come from the garden of your hearts. Ye have cast to the winds the merciful counsels of the Beloved, have effaced them from the tablet of your minds, and have become as low animals feasting in the pastures of lust and desire.

(46) O BROTHERS OF THE PATH!

Why are ye heedless of the remembrance of the Beloved, and why are ye far from the Presence of the Friend? The Absolute Beauty is established upon the Throne of Glory, under the Peerless Canopy, while ye are engaged in contention according to your own desire. The fragrances of holiness are wafted, and the breezes of generosity are blowing, but ye have lost the power of scent, and are bereft of them all. Alas for you, and for them who follow in your steps and walk after your ways.

(47) O SONS OF HOPE!

Divest yourselves from the garment of pride, and lay aside the robe of haughtiness.

(48) *In the third of the lines of Holiness, which is contained in the "Ruby Tablet" and recorded with the latent Pen, it is thus written:*

O BROTHERS!

Deal with one another in patience:
Sever your minds from the world:
Boast not thyself when in honor:
And be not ashamed in abasement.

I declare by My Beauty that I have created ye all from the dust, and to dust shall I turn ye again.

(49) O CHILDREN OF DUST!

Let the rich learn the midnight sighing of the poor, lest negligence destroy them and they be deprived of their portion of the tree of wealth. Giving and Generosity are qualities of Mine. Happy is he who adorns himself with My Virtues.

(50) O ESSENCE OF PASSION!

Greed must be abandoned, that thou mayest find content; for the greedy has ever been deprived, while the contented has ever been loved and esteemed.

(51) O SON OF MY MAID-SERVANT!

Let not poverty trouble thee, nor rest assured in wealth. All poverty is succeeded by wealth, and all wealth is followed by poverty. But to be poor in all save God is a great blessing; make it not small, for, in the end, it will make thee rich in God. This condition is hidden in the verse of the Koran: "Ye are poor," but the blessed word, "God only is rich" shall appear, shine forth and illumine, like the true morn, from the horizon of the lover's mind, and shall be established upon the Throne of Wealth.

(52) O CHILDREN OF NEGLIGENCE AND PASSION!

Ye have allowed My enemy to enter My home, and have sent away My friend, since ye have placed the love of

another than Myself in the mind. Harken ye to the utterance of the Friend, and advance to His Paradise. Unreal friends have loved and love one another with regard to their personal interests, but the Real Friend loveth and hath loved ye for the sake of yourselves; Aye, for your special guidance hath He endured countless afflictions. Forsake not such a Friend, and hasten to His Abode. This is the sun of the Word of Truth and Faithfulness, which has dawned from the horizon of the Finger of the Possessor of Names. Open your ears that ye may hear the Word of God, the Protector, the Self-subsisting.

(53) O YE WHO BOAST BECAUSE OF
MORTAL POSSESSIONS!

Know ye that wealth is a strong barrier between the seeker and the Desired One, between the lover and the Beloved. Never shall the rich arrive at the abode of Nearness, nor enter into the city of contentment and resignation, save only a few. Then good is the state

of that wealthy one, whose wealth preventeth him not from the Everlasting Kingdom, and depriveth him not of the Eternal Possessions. Verily, I declare by the Greatest Name that the light of that wealthy one shall illumine the people of Heaven, as the sun shines upon the people of the earth.

(54) O YE WHO ARE WEALTHY ON EARTH!

The poor among ye are My trust. Therefore guard My Trust, and be not wholly occupied with your own ease.

(55) O CHILD OF PASSION!

Purge thyself from the dross of wealth, and, with perfect peace, step into the heavens of poverty; thus shalt thou drink the wine of Immortality from the fountain of death.

(56) O MY SON!

The company of the wicked increaseth sorrow, and the fellowship of the righteous removeth the rust of the mind. He who desires to associate with God, let him associate with His

beloved; and he who desires to hear the Word of God, let him hear the words of His chosen ones.

(57) BEWARE! O SON OF DUST!

Walk not with the wicked and confederate not with him, for the companionship of the wicked changeth the light of Life into the fire of remorse.

(58) O SON OF MY MAID-SERVANT!

If thou seekest the attainment of the Holy Spirit, be a companion of the noble, for the righteous have quaffed from the Chalice of Immortality passed by the hand of the Cup-Bearer of Eternity, and they quicken and illumine the hearts of the dead as doth the true Morn.

(59) O HEEDLESS ONES!

Think not that the mysteries of hearts are concealed; nay, rather know with certainty that they are inscribed in clear type, and are openly manifest in the Presence.

(60) O FRIENDS!

Truly I say—all that ye have concealed in your hearts, is before Us, clear, manifest and open as the day; but the cause of concealment is from Our Generosity and Mercy, not from your merit.

(61) O SON OF MAN!

I have shed a dew from the vast ocean of My Mercy upon the dwellers of the world, and have found none approaching, because all have attached themselves to the impure water of wine, and have left the immortal, delicate Wine of Unity; they have turned from the Chalice of the Immortal Beauty, and have been content with the mortal cup. "Evil is that with which they are contented."

(62) O SON OF DUST!

Close not thine eye to the peerless Wine of the Eternal Beloved, and open not thine eye to the turbid and mortal wine. Take immortal Cups from the hand of the Cup-Bearer of Oneness, and

thou shalt become all consciousness, and hear the invisible Utterance of Reality. Say: O worthless ones: why have ye turned from My Eternal, Holy Wine, to mortal water?

(63) O PEOPLE OF THE EARTH!

Know verily a sudden ordeal is following ye and a great eagle is pursuing ye. Think not that all ye have committed is effaced from before the Sight. I declare by My Beauty that all your deeds are engraved in clear type upon Chrysolite Tablets.

(64) O YE OPPRESSORS ON EARTH!

Withdraw your hands from oppression, for I have vowed to pass not over any one's oppression. This is a Covenant which I have decreed in the Preserved Tablet, and sealed it with the seal of Power.

(65) O REBELLIOUS ONES!

My forbearance hath made thee bold and My patience hath made thee negligent, so that ye fearlessly ride upon

the steeds of the fire of passion in the pathways of destruction. Perchance ye have thought Me heedless, and considered Me to be ignorant.

(66) O EMIGRANTS!

The tongue is especially for the mention of Me; stain it not with slander. If the fire of self overcome ye, be mindful to remember your own faults, and speak not evil of My creatures, because each one of ye is more conscious and better informed of his own self than of My creatures.

(67) O CHILDREN OF IMAGINATION!

Know ye that when the Radiant Morn dawns from the eternal horizon of Holiness, then all the satanic secrets and deeds, which have been committed in the dark night, shall become manifest to the people of the world.

(68) O PLANT OF THE EARTH!

How is it that thou wilt not touch thine own garment with hands soiled with sugar, while, with thy mind soiled with the filth of passion and lust, thou

seekest companionship with Me, and desirest to be directed to the dominions of My Holiness. Alas! Alas! for that which ye have desired!

(69) O SONS OF ADAM!

"The good word" and pure and holy deeds ascend to the glorious Heaven of Oneness. Strive that thy deeds may be cleansed from the dust of hypocrisy and from the turbidness of self and of passion, and thus enter the glorious Presence of Acceptance. For soon the Assayers of Existence, in the portico of the Presence of the Worshipped One, shall accept naught but pure virtue, and shall admit naught except pure deeds. This is the sun of Wisdom and Significances which has dawned from the horizon of the Mouth of the Divine Will. Blessed are they who advance.

(70) O SON OF DELIGHT!

The plain of being is a pleasant plain, if thou dost reach it; the home of Immortality is a goodly home, if thou

wilt step beyond the dominion of mortality; the ecstasy of wine is sweet, if thou drinkest it from the Chalice of Inner Significances passed by the hand of the Divine Servant. Shouldst thou attain to these degrees thou shalt become free from mortality, affliction and error.

(71) O MY FRIENDS!

Remember the Covenant ye entered into with Me upon the Mount of Paran, situated under the blessed Shrine of Teman. I took as witness to that Covenant the Supreme Concourse and the dwellers in the City of Life. Now I find none steadfast in that Covenant. Pride and disobedience have indeed effaced it from the minds to such a degree that not a trace of it has remained, and, although knowing this, I have endured it patiently and have not divulged it.

(72) O MY SERVANT!

Thou art like unto a jeweled sword concealed in a dark sheath, by reason of which its value is unknown to the

jewelers. Then come forth from the sheath of self and desire, that thy jewels may become open and manifest to the people of the world.

(73) O MY FRIEND!

Thou art the sun of the heaven of My Holiness; defile not thyself with the eclipse of the world. Tear asunder the veil of negligence, that thou mayest emerge from behind the veil, be uncovered from the cloud, and array all beings with the robe of Life.

(74) O SONS OF PRIDE!

For a few days' mortal reign ye have rejected My Immortal Dominion, and are arraying yourselves in robes of red and yellow, and boasting because of this. I declare by My Beauty that I will bring ye all together under the unicolored tent of dust, and will efface the colors of all, save those who choose My Color which is pure from all color.

(75) O SONS OF NEGLIGENCE!

Attach not your minds to mortal sovereignty, and rejoice not therein. You are like unto the heedless bird, warbling

with all tranquility upon a branch in the garden, when suddenly the hunter of death brings it down to the dust. Then will there remain no trace of melody, form or color. Therefore be admonished, O servant of desire.

(76) O CHILD OF MY MAID-SERVANT!

Guidance hath ever been by words, but at this time, it is by deeds. That is, all pure deeds must appear from the temple of man, because all are partners in words, but pure and holy deeds belong especially to Our friends. Then strive with your life to be distinguished among all people by deeds: Thus We exhort ye in the holy and radiant Tablet.

(77) O SON OF JUSTICE!

In the eve of beauty, the Temple of Immortality returned to the Sadrat-el-Montaha from the "emerald hill" of Faithfulness, and wept with such a wailing that the Supreme Concourse and the Cherubim wept because of His grief. When He was asked the cause of lamentation and grief, He declared: "I was

waiting, as commanded, upon the hill of Faithfulness, and found not the fragrance of fidelity from the dwellers of the earth. Therefore I returned and declared unto them that many doves of holiness are suffering under the claws of the dogs of the earth."

Thereupon the Divine Houri hastened, unveiled, from the Spiritual Palace, and questioned their names. All were mentioned save one of the names. And when they insisted, the first letter of that name flowed forth from the tongue, whereupon the people of the upper chambers hurried forth from their retreats of honor. When the second letter was mentioned, all dropped down upon the dust. Then came forth from the Retreat of Nearness this Voice: "More than this is not permissible. Verily we were witness to that which they have done and are doing at this time."

(78) O CHILD OF MY MAID-SERVANT!

Drink the wine of Significances from the Tongue of the Merciful, and behold the radiance of the lights of the

Sun of Explanation, without veil or cover, from the Dawning-Place of the Word of God. Spread the seeds of My Immediate Wisdom in the fertile soil of the heart, and water it with the water of certainty: thus shall the hyacinths of My Knowledge and Wisdom spring up verdantly from the holy city.

(79) O SON OF DESIRE!

How long fliest thou in the atmosphere of self? I have granted thee wings that thou mightest soar in the holy atmosphere of realities, and not in the air of satanic fancies. I favored thee with a comb, that thou mightest comb My Black Locks, and not to wound My Throat.

(80) O MY SERVANTS!

Ye are the trees of My garden; ye must bear fresh and beautiful fruits, that ye and others may be profited by them. Therefore it is necessary for ye to engage in arts and business. This is the means of attaining wealth, O ye possessors of intellect. Affairs depend

upon means, and the blessing of God will appear therein and will enrich ye. Fruitless trees have been and will be only fit for fire.

(81) O MY SERVANT!

The lowest of men are those who bear no fruit upon the earth; they are indeed counted as dead. Nay, the dead are preferred in the Presence of God before those who are indolent and negligent.

(82) O MY SERVANT!

The best of people are they who gain by work, and spend for themselves and their kindred in the Love of God, the Lord of the creatures.

(83) The bride of wonderful Significances, who was concealed behind the veils of words, hath appeared through Divine Providence and Heavenly Bounties, like unto the radiance of the Beauty of the Beloved. I testify, O Friends, that the Bounty has become

complete, the Evidence is accomplished,
the Argument manifested, and the Reason
affirmed. Now what will your endeavors
show forth from the degrees of devotion?
Thus are the favors perfected unto ye
and unto all who are in the Heavens
and earths. Praise be unto God, the
Lord of all mankind!

“WORDS OF WISDOM”

(Selections)

The Sun of Truth is the Word of God, upon which depends the training of the people of the country of thought. It is the Spirit of Reality and the Water of Life. All things owe their existence to It. Its manifestation is ever according to the capacity and coloring of the mirror through which it may reflect. For example: Its Light, when cast on the mirrors of the wise, gives expression to wisdom; when reflected from the minds of artists it produces manifestations of new and beautiful arts; when it shines through the minds of students it reveals knowledge and unfolds mysteries.

All things of the world arise through man and are manifest in him, through whom they find life and development; and man is dependent for his (Spiritual) existence upon the Sun of the Word of

God. All the good names and lofty qualities are of the Word. The Word is the Fire of God, which, glowing in the hearts of people, burns away all things that are not of God. The minds of the lovers are ever aflame with this fire. It is the essence of water, which has manifested itself in the form of fire. Outwardly it is the burning fire, while inwardly it is calm light. This is the Water which giveth life to all things.

We beg of God that we may partake of this Life-Giving Water of Heaven and quaff from the Spiritual chalice of rest, and thus be free from all that tends to withhold us from approaching His Love.

Glory be upon the people of Glory!

O Son of Man! Wert thou to observe Mercy thou wouldst not regard thine own interest, but the interest of mankind. Wert thou to observe Justice, choose thou for others what thou choosest for thyself.

Verily, man is uplifted to the heaven of glory and power through Meekness;

again, through Pride, is he degraded to the lowest station.

O ye discerning ones of the people: Verily the Words which have descended from the heaven of the Will of God are the source of unity and harmony for the world. Close your eyes to racial differences and welcome all with the light of Oneness. Be the cause of comfort and promotion of humanity. This handful of dust, the world, is one home: let it be in unity. Forsake pride, it is a cause of discord. Follow that which tends to harmony.

Consort with all the people with love and fragrance. Fellowship is the cause of unity, and unity is the source of order in the world. Blessed are they who are kind and serve with love.

In this day he who seeks the Light of the Sun of Truth must free his mind from the tales of the past, must adorn his head with the crown of severance,

and his temple with the robe of virtue. Then shall he arrive at the ocean of Oneness and enter the presence of Singleness. The heart must become free from the fire of superstitions, that it may receive the light of Assurance, and that it may perceive the Glory of God.

Oneness, in its true significance, means that God alone should be realized as the One Power which animates and dominates all things, which are but manifestations of Its energy.

God, singly and alone, abideth in His Own Place which is Holy above space and time, mention and utterance, sign, description and definition, height and depth.

O my God! O my God! Adorn the heads of Thy chosen ones with the crown of Love, and their temples with the robes of virtue.

The people of Baha must serve the Lord with wisdom, teach others by their

lives and manifest the Light of God in their deeds. The effect of deeds is in truth more powerful than that of words.

The progress of man depends upon faithfulness, wisdom, chastity, intelligence and deeds. He is ever degraded by ignorance, lack of faith, untruth and selfishness. Verily, man is not called man until he be imbued with the attributes of the Merciful. He is not man because of wealth and adornment, learning and refinement. Blessed is he who is free from the names, seeking the shore of the sea of Purity, and loving the melody of the dove of Virtue.

In this day all must serve God with purity and virtue. The effect of the word spoken by the teacher depends upon his purity of purpose and his severance. Some are content with words, but the truth of words is tested by deeds and dependent upon life. Deeds reveal the station of the man. The words must be according to what has proceeded from the Mouth of the Will of God and is recorded in Tablets.

The source of all good is trust in God, obedience to His Command, and satisfaction in His Will.

The principle of religion is to acknowledge what is revealed by God, and to obey the Laws established in His Book.

The origin of glory is to be content with that which God has provided, and to be satisfied with what He has ordained.

The source of love is to advance to the Beloved and to abandon all else save Him, and to have no hope save His Will.

The principle of faith is to lessen words and to increase deeds. He whose words exceed his acts, know verily, that his non-being is better than his being and death better than his life.

The root of all knowledge is the Knowledge of God: Glory be to Him! And this Knowledge is impossible save through His Manifestation.

The beginning of strength and

bravery is to promote the Word of God and to remain firm in His Love.

The cause of all benefit is to manifest the blessings of God and to be thankful under all conditions.

The source of all these utterances is Justice. It is the freedom of man from superstition, and imitation, that he may discern the Manifestations of God with the eye of Oneness, and to consider all affairs with keen sight.

COMMUNES AND PRAYERS

THE FIRST COMMUNE

O my God! Give me Knowledge, Faith
and Love.

Adorn my head, O God, with the crown
of Thy Providence:

My heart with the light of knowing
Thee:

My tongue with the utterance of Thy
Greatest Name:

And mine ear with listening to Thy
Holy Word:

For Thou art the One whose Action
was, is, and ever shall be glorified, and
whose Commands shall ever be obeyed.

O God! Help me to be just. Lift
me up from the ocean of superstitions
and imaginations, and grant me a
penetrating sight to see and realize from
the surrounding existence Thy Oneness
and Thy Truth.

PRAYER OF AWAKENING

O my God! I arise in Thy shelter,
and it is fitting for him who seeketh Thy

protection to be under the shield of Thy care and in the fortress of Thy defense. O my Lord! Illumine me within by the lights of the dawn of Thy Manifestation, as Thou hast illumined me without by the light of the sunrise of Thy Favor.

MORNING PRAYER

Praise to Thee, O my God! For Thou hast awakened me after my sleep, restored me after my absence, and raised me after my death.

I arose this morning facing the light of the dawn of Thy Manifestation, which shone upon the horizon of the heavens of Thy Power and Majesty, confessing the truth of Thy Word, believing in Thy Book, and holding to Thy Robe.

I beg of Thee—by the power of Thy Will and the completion of Thy Wish—to make what Thou hast revealed to me in my vision a solid foundation for the house of Thy Love in the hearts of Thy chosen ones, and

the best cause for the manifestation of Thy Generosity and Providence.

O my God! Let my destiny, which is written by Thy Greatest Pen, be to attain the blessings of the worlds to come and of the present one.

I hereby bear witness that in Thy Hands are the reins of all things; that Thou changest them according to Thy Will, and that there is no God but Thee, for Thou art the One, the Almighty, the Faithful.

Thou art the One who changes by His Command the dishonored to the highest state of honor, the weak to be strong, the failing to have power, the confused to be in peace, and the doubtful to have strong faith.

There is no God but Thee! Thou art the Precious, the Generous! The heavens of Thy Mercy and the oceans of Thy Bounty are so vast that Thou hast never disappointed those who begged of Thee, nor refused those who willed to come to Thee.

Thou art the Most Powerful, the Almighty!

THE DAILY PRAYER

★

O my God! Strengthen my hands to take Thy Book with such firmness that the hosts of the world shall not prevent them: Then protect them from claiming that which is not their own. Verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty!

★ ★

O Lord! I have turned my face unto Thee: Enlighten it with the Lights of Thy Face: Then protect it from turning to any but Thee.

★ ★ ★

God hath testified that there is no God but Him. The Command and the Creation are His. He hath manifested the Dawning-Point of Revelation, and the Speaker of the Mount, through whom the Supreme Horizon shone, the Sadrat-el-Montaha spoke, and the Voice proclaimed between earth and Heaven: "The King hath come! The Kingdom, and Power, and Glory, and Majesty are

to Him, the Lord of mankind, the Ruler of the Throne and of the dust!"

* * * *

Thou art glorified above my praise and that of others: Holy above my mention and that of all in the Heavens and the earth.

* * * * *

O my God! Disappoint him not, who by the fingers of hope held to the train of Thy Mercy and Bounty, O Thou, who art most merciful of the merciful!

* * * * *

I confess Thy Oneness and Singleness and that Thou art God: There is no God but Thee! Thou hast manifested Thy Command, fulfilled Thy Covenant, and opened the gate of Thy Bounty to all who are in the Heavens and upon the earth. Prayer and peace, praise and glory be upon Thy beloved, who were not prevented by the deeds of the people from turning unto Thee, and who offered what they had for the hope of what Thou hast. Verily Thou art the Merciful, the Forgiving!

THE SHORT PRAYER

Which may be used instead of the longer "Daily Prayer." After ablution of hands and face, turn toward the east and say:

I testify, O my God, that Thou hast created me to know Thee and to adore Thee. I testify at this moment that I am powerless and Thou art Powerful; I am weak and Thou art Mighty; I am poor and Thou art Rich. There is no God but Thee, the Protector, the Self-Subsistent!

To-day, O Lord, deliver us from all temptations, tests and evil suggestions of those who have turned their faces from Thee: Then, O Thou Merciful God, confirm us through Thine invisible hosts, and reinforce us through Thy heavenly angels.

O Lord! We are weak, poor, submissive and humble: Strengthen us, enrich us, and uplift us above all earthly conditions. O Thou God! As Thou hast illumined our hearts with the Light

of knowing Thee, make us firm in Thy Blessed Covenant. Verily Thou art the Clement, the Forgiver!

PRAYER WHEN ASSUMING DAILY DUTIES

He is the Exalted and
the Truthful!

I have come to this day, O my God, by Thy Generosity, and I depart from the house, depending upon Thee and delivering my affairs unto Thee.

Send down upon me from the heavens of Thy Mercy a special blessing from Thy Presence: Then bring me back in peace and righteousness, as Thou hast sent me forth.

There is no God but Thee! Thou art the One of Knowledge and Wisdom!

I ask Thee, O Ruler of existence and Beloved of all who are in the world of creation, to assist me in all conditions, that I may advance toward the Goal of Thy Command, and that I may ever show forth Thy Love among Thy creatures: Then grant me, through

Thy Bounty, that which will benefit me in this world and in the world to come. Thou art the Almighty, the Supreme, the Precious, the Powerful!

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER

He is The Most Glorious!

Glory be unto Thee, O my God! I beg of Thee—by the radiance of Thy Beauty, the Exalted, the Supreme; by the appearance of the might of Thy Dominion between the heaven and earth, and by the Glory of Thy Face whereby the denizens of the cities of Eternity are illumined—to withhold me not from the wonders of the sunrise of Thy Knowledge, and deprive me not from entering the sacred influence of Thy Presence. Verily Thou art powerful in that which Thou willest: Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful!

O my God! I am he who has turned away his face from the faces of all the created beings, and has turned unto the Holy Face of Thy Oneness; who fled from himself and from all else save Thee,

and sought shelter in the shadow of the Tree of Thy Singleness. Therefore, O my God, leave me not to myself, nor to anything which is created between the heavens and the earth.

Then, O my God, usher me into the tents of Thy Nearness and the pavilions of Thy Love: Then unfold to me, O my God, that which is concealed from the sight of Thy servants and that which is veiled from the knowledge of Thy creatures: Grant, O my God, that I may be of those who have entered the fortress of Thy Assistance and who abide in the neighborhood of Thy Mercy. Verily Thou art the doer of whatsoever Thou willest, and ruler over that which Thou desirest.

Protect me, O my God, from my enemies and from all that is not loved by Thy Will: Then send down upon me from the heaven of Thy Generosity that which may sever me from all the creatures and may cause me to reach unto Thyself, the Supreme, in this most pure and brilliant Garment.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

I ask Thee, O my God—by Thy Power, Might and Dominion, which have encompassed all who are in Thy heaven and earth—to point out to Thy servants Thy straight pathway, that they may acknowledge Thy Oneness and Singleness with a certainty that shall not be clouded by the imaginations of doubters, nor veiled by the conjectures of straying wanderers.

O God, illumine the eyes and the hearts of Thy servants with the light of Thy Knowledge, that they may know of this, the Highest Station and Glorious Horizon, that they may not be withheld by false voices from beholding the effulgence of the light of Thy Oneness, nor prevented from turning unto the horizon of Renunciation.

“THE DAY OF GOD”

Praise be to Thee, O God of Names and Creator of Heaven! Praise be to Thee, for Thou hast made known unto Thy servants Thy Day, wherein the

River of Life streamed forth from the finger of Thy Generosity, and the Fountain of Revelation and Unity became manifest by Thy Manifestation, to all who are in Thy earth and heaven.

O God! This is a Day, the Light of which Thou hast sanctified above the sun and its effulgence. I testify that this Day is illumined by the Light of Thy Face and by the effulgence of the dawning Lights of Thy Manifestation.

O Thou, my God, and the Beloved of my heart! With the name of this Day Thou hast adorned Thy Tablet, which is known only to Thee. Thou hast called it "The Day of God." Nothing is to be seen therein but Thy Supreme Self, and naught is to be remembered save Thy sweetest Name. Wherefore, when He appeared, the foundations of nations trembled, the learned were bewildered and the wise men were confounded, save those who came near unto Thee, took from the hand of Favor the pure wine of Thy Inspiration, and drank in Thy Name, saying: "Praise be unto Thee,

O Desire of the nations! Praise be to Thee, O Beloved of the hearts of the yearning!"

PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

Praise be to Thee, O my God, for Thou hast made me to hear Thy Voice, to know the Manifestation of Thy Signs and to walk in Thy straight Path. I ask Thee to deprive me not of that which Thou hast ordained unto Thine elect and beloved. All living things testify of Thy Benevolence, Bounty, Beneficence, Mercy and Might, that: "There is no God but Thee, the Precious, the Wise!"

PRAYER FOR STEADFASTNESS

Glory be to Thee, my God and my Beloved! Thy Fire is burning in me, O my Lord, and I feel its glowing in every member of my weak body. Every organ of my temple declares Thy Power and Thy Might, and every member testifies that Thou art powerful over all things. By Thy Strength I feel strong to withstand all trials and all temptations.

Make firm Thy Love in my heart, and then I can bear all the swords of the earth. Verily every hair of my head says, "Were it not for trials in Thy Path I should not have appreciated Thy Love." O my Lord, strengthen me to remain firm, and to uphold the Hands of Thy Cause, to serve Thee among Thy people. Thou art Loving! Thou art Bountifull

SUPPLICATION

Praise be unto Thee, O my God! I pray to Thee—by the fragrance of Thy Mercy and the sunrise of Thy Love—to give to me and to those who sought Thy Glorious Face all that befits Thy Bounty and Abundance. O Lord, I am poor—immerse me in the ocean of Thy wealth; and I am thirsty—grant me the chalice of Thy favor. I ask Thee—by Thyself and by Him whom Thou hast chosen to manifest Thee—to gather Thy servants together under the shelter of Thy Love, to feed them from its fruits, and to teach them Thy melodies. Verily Thou art God, and there is no God but Thee!

SUPPLICATION

In the Name of God! the
Supreme! the High!

I ask Thee--by the sorrow of the hearts of the beloved, and by the tears of the eyes of the lovers--to deprive me not from the fragrances of Thy Godliness in Thy Days, and from the melodies of the Dove of Thy Oneness at the appearance of the Lights of Thy Face.

O Thou, my God! I am poor, wherefore I hold to the robe of Thy Name, the Rich. I am mortal, wherefore I grasp the rope of Thy Name, the Immortal.

I ask Thee, by Thyself, the Supreme, the High--leave me not alone to myself and my desire: Take my hand by the hand of Thy Might, and save me from superstitions and imaginations: Purge me from all that is not approved by Thy Will: Then cause me to direct myself unto Thee, fleeing to Thee and trusting in Thee.

Verily Thou doest whatever Thou wishest by Thy Power, and dost com-

mand what Thou wilt by Thy Might!
Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the
Precious, the Bountiful!

SUPPLICATION

Thou art my God and my Beloved.
Shower upon me from the right-hand of
Thy Mercy and Providence the holy
waves of Thy Goodness, and draw me
from myself and from the world unto the
shore of Thy Presence and Communion.
For thou art powerful to do whatever
Thou wishest, and Thou art ever per-
vading the universe.

SUPPLICATION

O my God! Make Thy Beauty to
be my food and let Thy Presence be my
drink: Let my trust be in Thy Will,
and my deeds according to Thy
Command: Let my service be accept-
able to Thee, and my action a praise to
Thee: Let my help come only from

Thee, and ordain my home to be Thy Mansion, boundless and holy.

Thou art the Precious, the Ever-Present, the Loving.

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

In the name of the
Most Merciful!

Praise to Thee, O God, my Lord! Every time I try to mention Thee my awful sins and dreadful crimes prevent me, and by them I find myself removed far from Thee and prevented from calling on Thee for help: But my assurance of Thy Generosity and my full trust in Thy Bounty enables me to mention Thee and ask of Thee what Thou hast to give.

O my God! I beg of Thee—by Thy Mercy, which was before all things existing, and to which all those who are in the depths of the seas of Names did bear witness—leave me not to myself, for it always desires to do what is wrong. Keep me in the stronghold of Thy

Shelter and amid the surroundings of Thy Protection.

O my God! I do not want but what was appointed to me by Thy Power; and this is what I have chosen to myself—that Thy Good Destiny and Judgment may confirm me, and that I may be exalted by what Thou hast written and ordained for me.

I beg of Thee, O Thou, Beloved of the hearts of Thy lovers—by the manifestation of Thy Commandments, by the depths of Thine Inspiration, by the heights of Thine Exaltation, and by the stores of Thy Wisdom—forbid me not from visiting Thy Sacred House and Holy Abode. Permit me, O my God, the privilege to drink from the fountain of its holy place, to wander around its courts, and to stand beside its gates: For Thou art He, who is, was and ever shall be, Powerful and Mighty! Nothing can be hidden from Thy Knowledge! Thou art He who has all the Power, the Majesty and the Glory! Praise be to God, the Lord of all the worlds!

SUPPLICATION

O God! I ask Thee—by Thy Supreme Pen and by Thy Name, the Most Holy, the Greatest, the Impregnable, the Most High, the Most Glorious—to forgive me my debts through Thy Grace and Bounty, and to overlook and pardon my tresspasses by Thy Benevolence and Mercy. Then make me steadfast in Thy service and an utterer of Thy Name and praise. Verily, Thou art the Exalted, the Forgiver, the Clement.

SUPPLICATION

Hold Thou my right arm, O God! and dwell continually with me. Guide me to the fountain of Thy Knowledge, and encircle me with Thy Glory. Let mine ears harken unto Thy melodious Tone, and comfort me with Thy Presence. For Thou art the strength of my heart, and the trust of my soul, and I desire no one beside Thee.

COMMUNE OF HEALING

(Repeat Nine Times)

O my God! Thy Name is my healing: Thy Remembrance is my remedy: Thy Love is my companion: Thy Mercy is my need and my aid in the world, and in the Day of Judgment! Verily, Thou art the Knower, the Wise!

COMMUNE OF HEALING

In the Name of God, the Healer,
the Sufficer, the Helper!

Praise be unto Thee, O God! O my God and my Beloved: I ask Thee—in Thy Name through which Thy Mercy anticipated all things, and by the Sun of the Beauty of Thy Hidden Name, which hath shone forth from the horizon of Thy Appearance and by which Thy Grace was perfected upon those who are in earth and in heaven—to shower upon this sick one, from the clouds of Thy Mercy, that which shall purify him from every disease, weakness and trial. Immerse him in the ocean of

Thy Healing, O Thou in whose grasp is the kingdom of destiny and the power of execution.

Verily Thou art the doer of that which Thou wishest and of what Thou wilt. Verily Thou art the Forgiver, the Compassionate!

COMMUNE OF HEALING.

O my God! my God! I beg of Thee—

By the ocean of Thy Healing Power:

By the dawning lights of the Orb of
Thy Generosity:

By Thy Name which enables Thy
servants to perform Thy Orders:

By the executive power of Thy Supreme
Word:

By the might of Thy Greatest Pen:

By Thy Glorious Sun of Righteousness:

And by Thy Mercy which existed
before the creation of the heavens
and the earth—

To shower upon me (*and upon———*)
Thy gifted waters to purify me (*us*)
from every affliction and disease, from
every defect and weakness.

Thou seest, O my God, that the needy one is standing at the door of Thy Bounty, and the waiting one is holding on to the robe of Thy Generosity. I beg of Thee, disappoint him not in what he desires from the sea of Thy Favor and from the shining sun of Thy Providence. For Thou art the Omnipotent. There is no God but Thee! Thou art the Most Powerful and Mighty!

PRAYERS FOR GUIDANCE

Praise be to Thee, O God, my hope, my protection, my home, my glory, my wealth and my poverty. I ask of Thee—through Thy Name which has conquered the earth, and by Thy Power which is manifest in all things—to help those who are ignorant of Thee and who are far from Thy Presence. Thou art, O God, the Answerer of all prayers, the Helper of the poor and the Lover of Thy creatures.

And now, O God, I pray to Thee and ask of Thee to make this servant

one of those who walk only in Thy path and seek only Thy Will. Verily Thou art the Supplier of all necessities, and Mighty in all things.

O my God! O my God! Thou seest me seeking Thy Will and gazing to the horizon of Thy Mercy, praying for Thy Light and looking for Thy Illumination.

I ask of Thee, O Thou Beloved of the hearts and the Hope of the Lovers, to make us pure and without desire, following Thy Command, and leaving our delights to seek Thy Good Pleasure. O God, adorn us with the robe of Thy virtues and illumine us with the light of severance. Assist us, O God, with the hosts of wisdom and utterance, that we may spread Thy Word among Thy people, and establish Thy Command among Thy servants. Thou art He who is powerful in all things, and in Thy Hand is the rule of all affairs.

There is no God but Thee, the Forgiving, the Loving!

O my God! Thy Face is the goal of the lovers: Thy Meeting is the hope of the sincere: Thy Countenance radiates Light: Thy Name is the Spirit of Life: All that proceedeth from Thy Lips is the Water of Life to the thirsty ones in the heavens and in the earths.

I ask Thee---by the griefs laid upon Thee---to send upon me from Thy Heaven Thy blessings, and to purge me with showers from Thy clouds of Mercy.

O Lord, strengthen me to serve Thy beloved and to help those who need Thee. Reveal Thyself to them, and illumine them with Thy Light. Thou hast ever been the Helper of him who sought Thee, and the Giver to him who begged of Thee, and Thou art full of Bounty and Mercy.

Glory is Thine, O my God, and praise is to Thee, O my Lord. I ask Thee---by Thy Name which manifested Thy Power and Thy Strength---to purify the mirrors of the hearts of Thy servants from the dross of doubt and uncertainty,

and to lead the wandering souls to Thy Light, that they may realize Thy Oneness and acknowledge Thy Singleness. O my God! There is no refuge save Thee, and there is no pathway but leadeth to Thy Abode. When Thy people learn of Thee, O God, they will not leave Thy way. Help them to remain constant and faithful while in this journey to Thee, so that they may reach Thy Kingdom and attain Thy Will. Thou art the Almighty, the Merciful!

O my God! O my God! Unite the hearts of Thy servants, and reveal to them Thy Great Purpose. May they follow Thy Commandments and abide in Thy Law. Help them, O God, in their endeavor, and grant them strength to serve Thee. O God, leave them not to themselves, but guide their steps by the light of Knowledge, and cheer their hearts by Thy Love. Verily Thou art their Helper and their Lord!

COMMUNE

O my God! Thy Nearness is my hope, and to commune with Thee is my joy: Thy Love is my comfort: Thy Name is my prayer: Thy Presence is my peace: Thy Word is my healing: Thy Mercy is my light: And to serve before Thee is my utmost desire.

O my God! I ask Thee—by Thy Name, which strengthened those who learned of Thee to soar in the atmosphere of Thy Knowledge, and which brought the righteous to Thy Sanctuary—to reveal Thyself to me and to help me to look evermore to Thy Beauty.

O my Lord! This is he who has severed himself from all save Thee, hoping to draw near unto Thee. O Thou, my Beloved! Give unto me Thy sign of assurance to guard me from the doubts of the wandering. Thou art my Helper, the Powerful, the Mighty!

O Thou, by whose Name the sea of joys moveth and the fragrances of happiness waft: I beg of Thee to show

me from the wonders of Thy Favor that which shall brighten my eyes and gladden my heart.

COMMUNES BEFORE SLEEP

He is the Creator of
All the Names!

O my God! my God! How can I choose to sleep, and the eyes of Thy chosen ones are awakened because of Thy Departure: How can I take my rest upon my bed, and the hearts of Thy beloved are aching because Thou hast left them.

O my God! I put my spirit, my soul and myself into the right hand of Thy Power and Safety. I lay my head upon my pillow under the power of Thy Protection, and I lift it up according to Thy Wish and Will. Thou art the Protector, the Watcher, the Almighty and the Powerful!

By Thy Glory, I do not want, sleeping or waking, but what Thou wishest me to be. I am Thy servant.

and in Thy hand: Confirm me to do that which brings the wave of the sweet fragrance of Thy Pleasure. This is my hope, and the hope of every one who is near to Thee.

Praise to Thee, O God of all the worlds!

Thou art He who praises
and is Praised!

O my God, my Lord and my Desire: This, thy servant, desireth to sleep under the shelter of Thy Mercy and to rest under the Dome of Thy Favor, protected by Thy Watchful Presence. O my Lord, I invoke Thee—by Thine Eye which sleepeth not—to protect my sight from looking to aught beside Thee: Then increase its light by witnessing Thy Signs, and by looking to the Horizon of Thy Manifestation.

Thou art He before Whose Manifestation of Might the existence of power is subdued. There is no God but Thee, the Almighty, the Conqueror, the Free One.

APPENDIX

HIDDEN WORDS (*Arabic*)

Verse No. 48 and following.

Wherever mention is made of sacrifice and martyrdom it refers to the living, spiritual sacrifice, and not to self-destruction. BAHÁ'U'LLAH in his writings has strictly forbidden suicide. The expressions concerning martyrdom refer to those who are martyred by others for their faith.

HIDDEN WORDS (*Persian*)

Verse No. 1. "Sheba"—a symbol used to express the home or dwelling place.

Verse No. 18. "Rizwan" means a garden or paradise, and signifies a heavenly condition.

Verse No. 58. "Cup-Bearer of Eternity"—a name for a Manifestation of God, who offers humanity the Cup of Life.

Verse No. 62. "Cup-Bearer of Oneness" signifies that all Prophets and Manifestations of God have taught the Oneness of God and the same Truth.

Verse No. 71. "Mount of Paran" (or Faran, *Arabic*) and "Shrine of Teman." See Deut. 33: 2. and Habbakkuk 3: 3. Teman is the Hebrew word for Time, and is used as a symbol for Eternity.

Verse No. 77. "Sadrat-el-Montaha" (the furthestmost Tree) referred to a tree, planted by the Arabs in ancient times at the end of a road, to serve as a guide. Here it refers to the Manifestations of God on earth.

THE DAILY PRAYER

Forms of use to accompany petitions:

- (1 Star). While washing the hands, say:
 - (2 Stars). While washing the face, say:
 - (3 Stars). Stand, facing the East, and say:
 - (4 Stars). Bowing down, with hands upon the knees, say:
 - (5 Stars). Standing, with hands stretched forward and upward, say:
 - (6 Stars). Sitting down, say:
-

The following questions were asked the Commentator of the Divine Utterances, the Center of the Covenant, ABDUL-BAHA (may my life be His Sacrifice) concerning certain references and statements in the "Hidden Words." He has answered each; they are translated from the Persian and are recorded here, each in its respective order, as the text appears in the "Hidden Words." —*Translator.*

QUESTION I.—No 20. (Hidden Words from the Persian). "In the eighth of the Lines of Holiness, in the Fifth Tablet of Paradise, He reveals the following:"

No. 37. "In the first line of the Tablet mentioned before, it is recorded and preserved behind the Veil of Divine Protection."

No. 48. "In the third of the Lines of Holiness, which is contained in the 'Ruby Tablet,' and recorded with the latent Pen, it is thus written:"

ANSWER I.—These are the Tablets of the Kingdom written by the Supreme Pen in the Preserved Tablet. Such Tablets have not descended from the Realm of the Kingdom to the earthly world; nay, they are preserved and protected in the invisible treasury. If at any time a soul show such Tablets attributing them to God saying that it is the "Ruby Tablet" or the "Fifth Tablet of Paradise," it is without truth.

(Sig.) ABDUL-BAHA.

QUESTION II.—No. 71. "Remember the Covenant ye entered into with me upon the Mount of Paran, situated under the Blessed Shrine of Teman."

ANSWER II.—This is the Covenant and Testament which the Blessed Beauty (BAHA'U'LLAH) established through the Supreme Pen in the Holy Land under the shade of the tree of Anissa, and which was promulgated after the Ascension.
(Sig.) ABDUL-BAHA.

QUESTION III.—No. 77. "O Son of Justice: In the Eve of Beauty, the Temple of Immortality returned to the Sadrat-el Montaha from the emerald hill of faithfulness," etc.

ANSWER III.—This station, the "emerald hill," according to the terminology of the honorable Sheikh of Ahssa and His Holiness the Supreme (BAB) (may my spirit be His sacrifice), is the world of Ghader. This hill is very difficult of passage.
(Sig.) ABDUL-BAHA.

QUESTION IV.—No. 77. "All were mentioned save one of the names, and when they insisted, the first letter of that name flowed forth from the Tongue, whereupon the people of the upper chambers hurried forth from their retreats of honor. When the second letter was mentioned, all dropped down upon the dust. Then came forth from the Retreat of Nearness this voice: 'More than this is not permissible. Verily we were witness to that which they have done and are doing at this time.'"

ANSWER IV.—This great name is the Greatest Name. The Blessed Beauty (BAHA'U'LLAH) is intended. What we have today are the meanings of two of the letters of the Greatest Name. They are: B and H.
(Sig.) ABDUL-BAHA.

QUESTION V.—The capital loss is for him whose days passed away and He did not know himself.

ANSWER V.—The purpose is this, that until man know God he is deprived of knowing himself, for man must first comprehend the Light of the Sun, and through the Light witness himself. Without light nothing is seen.

(Sig.) ABDUL-BAHA.

Translated for the Bahai Publishing Society.

By DR. AMZEN ULLAH FAREED.

Chicago, December 25, 1906.



