# ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Selected verses from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh

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#### **SPLENDOR**

BAHÁ

But for the pleasure of beholding the **splendours** of Thy realm of glory, why should I cherish sight?

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 113

Hear Me, ye mortal birds! In the Rose Garden of changeless **splendor** a Flower hath begun to bloom, compared to which every other flower is but a thorn, and before the brightness of Whose glory the very essence of beauty must pale and wither.

Gleanings, pp. 320-321

The world's horizon is illumined by the **splendours** of this Most Great Revelation.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 244

From the beginning that hath no beginning the ensign proclaiming the words 'He doeth whatsoever He willeth' hath been unfurled in all its **splendour** before His Manifestation.

Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 13-14; Gleanings, pp. 206-207

All should know, and in this regard attain **splendours** of the sun of certitude, and be illumined thereby: Women and men have been and will always be equal in the sight of God.

Compilation of Compilations, Vol II (Women), p. 379

#### **GLORY**

Out of Zion hath gone forth the Law of God, and Jerusalem, and the hills and land thereof, are filled with the **glory** of His Revelation.

Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 111; Gleanings, pp. 12-13

There is no **glory** for him that committeth disorder on the earth after it hath been made so good.

Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, p. 24

In the estimation of the people of Baha man's **glory** lieth in his knowledge, his upright conduct, his praiseworthy character, his wisdom, and not in his nationality or rank.

*Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 125

**Glory** not in love for your country, but in love for all mankind. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, pp. 138-139

The source of all **glory** is acceptance of whatsoever the Lord hath bestowed, and contentment with that which God hath ordained.

#### **BEAUTY**

## JAMÁL

Praise be unto God, incomparable in majesty, power and **beauty**, peerless in glory, might and grandeur...

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 101

The Ancient **Beauty** hath consented to be bound with chains that mankind may be released from its bondage, and hath accepted to be made a prisoner within this most mighty Stronghold that the whole world may attain unto true liberty. *Gleanings*, pp. 99-100

Truly, had God's creatures but conformed their actions to the will and pleasure of God, exalted be His glory, the whole earth would by now be seen as a single country, a blessed land of **beauty** and light.

Compilation of Compilations, Vol II (Trustworthiness), p. 336

O SON OF MAN!

Neglect not My commandments if thou lovest My **beauty**, and forget not My counsels if thou wouldst attain My good pleasure.

The Hidden Words, Arabic #39

Make me ready, in all circumstances, O my Lord, to serve Thee and to set myself towards the adored sanctuary of Thy Revelation and of Thy **Beauty**. *Prayers and Meditations*, p. 240

#### GRANDEUR

**'AZAMAT** 

How can the creature who is as nothing comprehend Him Who is the Ancient of Days, or succeed in describing the full measure of His sovereignty, His glory, and His **grandeur**?

Prayers and Meditations, p. 229

Though the sword be ready to fall on my head, I call Thy loved ones with such a calling that the hearts are carried away towards the horizon of Thy majesty and **grandeur**.

Prayers and Meditations, pp. 170-171

The Day is approaching when...when the Tongue of **Grandeur** will proclaim: "The Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the All-Praised!"

Gleanings, pp. 342-343

O SON OF MAN! My majesty is My gift to thee, and My **grandeur** the token of My mercy unto thee....

The Hidden Words, Arabic #65

Hearken unto the Voice of thy Lord, the All-Glorious, calling aloud from the dayspring of **grandeur** and majesty.

## LIGHT

NÚR

Consider how all created things eloquently testify to the revelation of that inner **Light** within them.

Kitáb-i-Íqán, p. 140

Man is even as steel, the essence of which is hidden: through admonition and explanation, good counsel and education, that essence will be brought to **light**. *Compilation of Compilations,* Vol I (Bahá'í Education), p. 247

So powerful is the **light** of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth. *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 14

No **light** can compare with the **light** of justice. The establishment of order in the world and the tranquillity of the nations depend upon it. *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, pp. 28-29

The **light** of a good character surpasseth the **light** of the sun and the radiance thereof.

#### MERCY

#### RAHMAT

O ye peoples of the world! Know assuredly that My commandments are the lamps of My loving providence among My servants, and the keys of My **mercy** for My creatures.

The Kitáb-i-Áqdás, K3; Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 119-120; Gleanings, p. 332

#### O SON OF MAN!

The true lover yearneth for tribulation even as doth the rebel for forgiveness and the sinful for **mercy**.

The Hidden Words, Arabic #49

Blessed are such as hold fast to the cord of kindliness and tender **mercy** and are free from animosity and hatred.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 36

Blessed is the house that hath attained unto My tender **mercy**, wherein My remembrance is celebrated, and which is ennobled by the presence of My loved ones...

Compilation of Compilations, Vol I (Family Life), pp. 385-386

Set your reliance on the army of justice, put on the armour of wisdom, let your adorning be forgiveness and **mercy** and that which cheereth the hearts of the well-favoured of God.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 138-139

#### WORDS

## KALIMÁT

O friend of mine! The Word of God is the king of **words** and its pervasive influence is incalculable.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 173

He hath clearly set forth His straight Path in **words** and utterances of highest eloquence.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 101

Immerse yourselves in the ocean of My **words**, that ye may unravel its secrets, and discover all the pearls of wisdom that lie hid in its depths. *The Kitáb-i-Áqdás*, K182Z;

Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 118-119; Gleanings, p. 136

The essence of faith is fewness of **words** and abundance of deeds; he whose **words** exceed his deeds, know verily his death is better than his life. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 156

No man of wisdom can demonstrate his knowledge save by means of **words**. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 172

#### PERFECTION

## KAMÁL

So **perfect** and comprehensive is His creation that no mind nor heart...can ever grasp the nature of the most insignificant of His creatures...

Gleanings, p. 62

Were men to observe that which We have sent down unto them from the Heaven of Revelation, they would, of a certainty, attain unto **perfect** liberty. *The Kitáb-i-Áqdás*, K125; *Gleanings*, p. 336

Were the mysteries, that are known to none except God, to be unraveled, the whole of mankind would witness the evidences of **perfect** and consummate justice.

Gleanings, p. 117

As for what the Supreme Pen hath previously set down, the reason is that in every art and skill, God loveth the highest **perfection**. *Compilation of Compilations,* Vol I (Bahá'í Education), p. 249;

(Excellence in All Things), p. 368

Indeed, O Brother, if we ponder each created thing, we shall witness a myriad **perfect** wisdoms and learn a myriad new and wondrous truths.

The Seven Valleys, p. 32

#### NAMES

Everything besides Him is as nothing when brought face to face with the resplendent revelation of but one of His **names**...

Gleanings, p. 187

Every created thing in the whole universe is but a door leading into His knowledge, a sign of His sovereignty, a revelation of His **names**...

Gleanings, p. 160

Cling, O ye people of Baha, to the cord of servitude unto God, the True One, for thereby your stations shall be made manifest, your **names** written and preserved, your ranks raised and your memory exalted in the Preserved Tablet. *The Kitáb-i-Áqdás*, K120

God willing, thou mayest accomplish a deed whose fragrance shall endure as long as the **Names** of God - exalted be His glory - will endure.... *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 252

Blessed is the rich man whom earthly possessions have been powerless to hinder from turning unto God, the Lord of all **names**. *Compilation of Compilations*, Vol I (Huqúqu'lláh), p. 496

#### MIGHT

Lauded be Thy name, O Thou in Whose hands is the kingdom of all names, and in the grasp of Whose **might** are all that are in heaven and all that are on earth!

Prayers and Meditations, p. 118

All praise and glory be to God Who, through the power of His **might**, hath delivered His creation from the nakedness of non-existence, and clothed it with the mantle of life.

Gleanings, pp. 77-78

Where is he to be found that hath the power to quench the fire which hath been kindled through the **might** of thy Lord, the All-Powerful, the All-Compelling, the Almighty?

Gleanings, pp. 272-273

If it be your wish, O people, to know God and to discover the greatness of His **might**, look, then, upon Me with Mine own eyes, and not with the eyes of any one besides Me.

Gleanings, pp. 341-342

Think not that We have revealed unto you a mere code of laws. Nay, rather, We have unsealed the choice Wine with the fingers of **might** and power.

The Kitáb-i-Áqdás, K5; Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 120; Gleanings, pp. 332-333

#### WILL

## MA<u>SH</u>ÍYYAT

Through His world-pervading **Will** He hath brought into being all created things.

Gleanings, pp. 317-318

The purpose of religion as revealed from the heaven of God's holy **Will** is to establish unity and concord amongst the peoples of the world... *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, pp. 129-130

Aid me, O my Lord, to surrender myself wholly to Thy **Will**, and to arise and serve Thee...

Gleanings, pp. 311-312

Valiant acts **will** ensure the triumph of this Cause, and a saintly character **will** reinforce its power.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 86

It behoveth thee to consecrate thyself to the **Will** of God. Whatsoever hath been revealed in His Tablets is but a reflection of His **Will**.

Gleanings, p. 338

#### **KNOWLEDGE**

Praise be unto Thee, O my God, that we have wakened to the splendors of the light of Thy **knowledge**.

Prayers and Meditations, p. 233

The source of all learning is the **knowledge** of God, exalted be His Glory, and this cannot be attained save through the **knowledge** of His Divine Manifestation.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 156

**Knowledge** is one of the wondrous gifts of God. It is incumbent upon everyone to acquire it.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 39

In truth, **knowledge** is a veritable treasure for man, and a source of glory, of bounty, of joy, of exaltation, of cheer and gladness unto him. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, pp. 51-52

In the estimation of the people of Baha man's glory lieth in his **knowledge**, his upright conduct, his praiseworthy character, his wisdom, and not in his nationality or rank.

#### POWER

## QUDRAT

The essence of all **power** is God's, the highest and the last End of all creation. *Gleanings*, p. 341

Through the **power** of the words He hath uttered the whole of the human race can be illumined with the light of unity...

Gleanings, pp. 286-287

The source of courage and **power** is the promotion of the Word of God, and steadfastness in His Love.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 156

This Revelation is endowed with such a **power** that it will act as the lodestone for all nations and kindreds of the earth.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 200

Humility exalteth man to the heaven of glory and **power**, whilst pride abaseth him to the depths of wretchedness and degradation.

#### **SPEECH**

Who else but Baha hath the power to **speak** forth before the face of mankind? Judge ye fairly and be not of the unjust.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 76

Whoso ariseth among you to teach the Cause of his Lord, let him, before all else, teach his own self, that his **speech** may attract the hearts of them that hear him.

Gleanings, p. 277

...the greatest means for the promotion of...unity is for the peoples of the world to understand one another's writing and **speech**.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 127-128

...an enlightened man of wisdom should primarily  ${\bf speak}$  with words as mild as milk...

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 172-173

Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy **speech**. Be unjust to no man, and show all meekness to all men.

*Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, pp. 93-94; *Gleanings*, p. 285

## **QUESTIONS**

## MASÁ'IL

We noted the **questions** thou hast asked and will readily answer thee. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 183

The Prophets of God should be regarded as physicians whose task is to foster the well-being of the world and its peoples...To none is given the right to **question** their words or disparage their conduct...

Gleanings, pp. 80-81

This is not the day for any man to **question** his Lord.

Gleanings, p. 163

The most burning fire is to **question** the signs of God, to dispute idly that which He hath revealed, to deny Him and carry one's self proudly before Him. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 156

O SON OF BEING!

With the hands of power I made thee...  $\ensuremath{\textbf{Question}}$  it not, nor have a doubt thereof.

The Hidden Words, Arabic #12

#### HONOR

# These are the earliest days of my life, O my God, which Thou hast linked with Thine own days. Now that Thou hast conferred upon me so great an **honor**, withhold not from me the things Thou hast ordained for Thy chosen ones.

Prayers and Meditations, p. 177

Every soul that walketh humbly with its God...shall find itself invested with the **honor** and glory of all goodly names and stations.

Gleanings, p. 159

How great the blessedness that awaiteth him that hath attained the **honor** of serving the Almighty!

Gleanings, p. 334

Show **honour** to your parents and pay homage to them. This will cause blessings to descend upon you from the clouds of the bounty of your Lord, the Exalted, the Great.

Compilation of Compilations, Vol I (Family Life), p. 386

The goodliest vesture in the sight of God in this day is trustworthiness. All bounty and **honour** shall be the portion of the soul that arrayeth itself with this greatest of adornments.

Compilation of Compilations, Vol II (Trustworthiness), p. 327

#### **SHARAF**

#### SOVEREIGNTY

## SULTÁN

At Thy command Thou doest what Thou willest, and by the power of Thy **sovereignty** Thou rulest as Thou pleasest.

Prayers and Meditations, p. 32

Is there any doubt concerning God? Behold how He hath come down from the heaven of His grace, girded with power and invested with **sovereignty**. *Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 99

This is the Day whereon the All-Merciful hath come down in the clouds of knowledge, clothed with manifest **sovereignty**.

Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh, pp. 98-99; Gleanings, p. 45

I have believed in Thee after Thou didst enable me to know Thy Self, Whom Thou hast revealed to men's eyes through the power of Thy **sovereignty** and might.

Prayers and Meditations, p. 80

#### O SON OF SPIRIT!

My first counsel is this: Possess a pure, kindly and radiant heart, that thine may be a **sovereignty** ancient, imperishable and everlasting.

The Hidden Words, Arabic # 1

#### **DOMINION**

#### MULK

Earth and heaven, glory and **dominion** are God's, the Lord of all men, and the Possessor of the Throne on high and of earth below!

Prayers and Meditations, p. 315

In the East the light of His Revelation hath broken; in the West have appeared the signs of His **dominion**.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 13

I bear witness that Thy power hath encompassed the entire universe, and that the hosts of the earth can never dismay Thee, nor can the **dominion** of all peoples and nations deter Thee from executing Thy purpose.

Gleanings, p. 243

O SON OF MAN! Thou art My **dominion** and My **dominion** perisheth not, wherefore fearest thou thy perishing?

The Hidden Words, Arabic #14

Regard not the children of the world and all their doings but fix thy gaze upon God and His never-ending **dominion**.

# AYYÁM-I-HÁ

The beginning of magnanimity is when man expendeth his wealth on himself, on his family and on the poor among his brethren in his Faith. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh,* p. 156

It is not for him to pride himself who loveth his own country, but rather for him who loveth the whole world. The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens.

Gleanings, p. 250

Beware lest ye commit that which would sadden the hearts of your fathers and mothers. Follow ye the path of Truth which indeed is a straight path. *Compilation of Compilations,* Vol I (Family Life), p. 386

Make me ready, in all circumstances, O my Lord, to serve Thee and to set myself towards the adored sanctuary of Thy Revelation and of Thy Beauty. *Prayers and Meditations*, p. 240

## **LOFTINESS**

Every time I lift up mine eyes unto Thy heaven, I call to mind Thy highness and Thy **loftiness**, and Thine incomparable glory and greatness... *Prayers and Meditations*, p. 272

Were man to appreciate the greatness of his station and the **loftiness** of his destiny he would manifest naught save goodly character, pure deeds, and a seemly and praiseworthy conduct.

Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 172

Through [wisdom] the **loftiness** of man's station is made manifest and evident. It is all-knowing and the foremost Teacher in the school of existence. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 66

Fair speech and truthfulness, by reason of their **lofty** rank and position, are regarded as a sun shining above the horizon of knowledge. *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 40

Supremely **lofty** will be thy station, if thou remainest steadfast in the Cause of thy Lord.

Gleanings, pp. 245-246

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