

14-Action & Deeds

The virtues and attributes pertaining unto God are all evident and manifest, and have been mentioned and described in all the heavenly Books. Among them are trustworthiness, truthfulness, purity of heart while communing with God, forbearance, resignation to whatever the Almighty hath decreed, contentment with the things His Will hath provided, patience, nay, thankfulness in the midst of tribulation, and complete reliance, in all circumstances, upon Him. These rank, according to the estimate of God, among the highest and most laudable of all acts. All other acts are, and will ever remain, secondary and subordinate unto them....

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 290

In this Most Great Revelation goodly deeds and a praiseworthy character are regarded as the hosts of God, likewise is His blessed and holy Word. These hosts are the lodestone of the hearts of men and the effective means for unlocking doors. Of all the weapons in the world this is the keenest.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 256

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.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 172

If His faithful servants could realize how meritorious are benevolent deeds in these days, they would all arise to do that which is meet and seemly.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Compilation of Compilations, Vol I* (Huqúqu'lláh), p. 489

Briefly, if to the knowledge of God is joined the love of God, and attraction, ecstasy and goodwill, a righteous action is then perfect and complete. Otherwise, though a good action is praiseworthy, yet if it is not sustained by the knowledge of God, the love of God, and a sincere intention, it is imperfect.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Some Answered Questions*, p. 302

No goodly deed was or will ever be lost, for benevolent acts are treasures preserved with God for the benefit of those who act. Blessed the servant and the maidservant who have fulfilled their obligation in the path of God our Lord, the Lord of all worlds....

Bahá'u'lláh, *Compilation of Compilations, Vol I*, p. 502

Now is the time for service, and for servitude unto the Lord. Release yourselves from all distracting thoughts, deliver the Message with an eloquent tongue, adorn your assemblages with praise of the Beloved, till bounty shall descend in overwhelming floods and dress the world in fresh greenery and blossoms. This streaming bounty is even the counsels, admonitions, instructions, and injunctions of Almighty God.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections From the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, p. 318

Therefore strive that your actions day by day may be beautiful prayers. Turn towards God, and seek always to do that which is right and noble. Enrich the poor, raise the fallen, comfort the sorrowful, bring healing to the sick, reassure the fearful, rescue the oppressed, bring hope to the hopeless, shelter the destitute!

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Paris Talks*, p. 81

Unless he teacheth his own self, the words of his mouth will not influence the heart of the seeker.

Take heed, O people, lest ye be of them that give good counsel to others but forget to follow it themselves.

Bahá'u'lláh *Gleanings*, p. 277

[E]very cooperative attitude and activity of human life is praiseworthy and foreintended by the will of God.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Promulgation of Universal Peace*, p. 338

In this Revelation the hosts that can render it victorious are the hosts of praiseworthy deeds and upright character. The leader and commander of these hosts hath ever been the fear of God, a fear that encompasseth all things and reigneth over all things.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 126

Set before thine eyes God's unerring Balance and, as one standing in His Presence, weigh in that Balance thine actions every day, every moment of thy life. Bring thyself to account ere thou art summoned to a reckoning, on the Day when no man shall have strength to stand for fear of God, the Day when the hearts of the heedless ones shall be made to tremble.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 51