

### 34-Perseverance & Steadfastness

It is from the bounty of God that man is selected for the highest degree; and the differences which exist between men in regard to spiritual progress and heavenly perfections are also due to the choice of the Compassionate One. For faith, which is life eternal, is the sign of bounty, and not the result of justice. The flame of the fire of love, in this world of earth and water, comes through the power of attraction and not by effort and striving. Nevertheless, by effort and perseverance, knowledge, science and other perfections can be acquired; but only the light of the Divine Beauty can transport and move the spirits through the force of attraction.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Some Answered Questions*, p. 130

The first and foremost duty prescribed unto men, next to the recognition of Him Who is the Eternal Truth, is the duty of steadfastness in His Cause.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 290

Go thou straight on and persevere in His service. Say: O people! The Day, promised unto you in all the Scriptures, is now come. Fear ye God, and withhold not yourselves from recognizing the One Who is the Object of your creation. Hasten ye unto Him. Better is this for you than the world and all that is therein. Would that ye could perceive it!

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 314

It is imperative to acquire the knowledge of divine proofs and evidences, and to acquaint oneself with convincing testimonies which demonstrate the revelation of God's resplendent Light. The study group thou didst organize hath imparted much joy and happiness to the heart of 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Thou must exert much effort and show forth perseverance and constancy that, God willing, through the reviving breaths of His mercy, souls may be so educated as to become like radiant candles shining in the assemblage of divine knowledge and understanding. This matter is highly important. It is binding on every one and must be regarded as an obligation....

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Compilation of Compilations, Vol I* (The Importance of Deepening), p. 194

We have described unto thee the constancy, the firmness, the steadfastness, the certitude, the imperturbability and the dignity of the martyrs of this Revelation, that thou mayest be well-informed.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, p. 87

The companions of God are, in this day, the lump that must leaven the peoples of the world. They must show forth such trustworthiness, such truthfulness and perseverance, such deeds and character, that all mankind may profit by their example.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Advent of Divine Justice*, p. 19

Perseverance is an essential condition. In every project firmness and steadfastness will undoubtedly lead to good results; otherwise it will exist for some days, and then be discontinued.

'Abdu'-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, p. 144

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'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, p. 144

Rest ye assured that if a soul ariseth in the utmost perseverance and raiseth the Call of the Kingdom and resolutely promulgateth the Covenant, be he an insignificant ant he shall be enabled to drive away the formidable elephant from the arena, and if he be a feeble moth he shall cut to pieces the plumage of the rapacious vulture.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, p. 209

Happy is the man that pondereth in his heart that which hath been revealed in the Books of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Meditate upon this, O ye beloved of God, and let your ears be attentive unto His Word, so that ye may, by His grace and mercy, drink your fill from the crystal waters of constancy, and become as steadfast and immovable as the mountain in His Cause.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings*, p. 13

As regards religious zeal and true piety, their touchstone and proof are firmness and steadfastness in noble qualities, virtues, and perfections, which are the greatest blessings of the human race; but not interference with the belief of this one or that one, demolition of edifices, and cutting off of the human race.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *A Traveler's Narrative*, p. 90

Be ye the embodiments of such steadfastness amidst mankind that ye will not be kept back from God by the doubts of those who disbelieved in Him when He manifested Himself, invested with a mighty sovereignty.

Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Áqdas*, K 134

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Bahá'u'lláh, *The Kitáb-i-Áqdas*, K 134

It behoveth every one in this Day of God to dedicate himself to the teaching of the Cause with utmost prudence and steadfastness.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 242

This is the day when the gems of constancy that lie hid in the mine of men's inner selves should be made manifest. O people of Justice! Be as brilliant as the light and as splendid as the fire that blazed in the Burning Bush.

Bahá'u'lláh, *Tablets of Bahá'u'lláh*, p. 88

The essential thing is firmness and steadfastness.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, *Tablets of 'Abdu'l-Bahá*, p. 696