

God does not fear the reproach of any reproacher, and He does not retreat. A successful person, due to their differences and advancements compared to others, may sometimes face the scorn of others. However, the disdain and humiliation of others do not affect them. On the other hand, their progress is not in worldly matters where they would compete with materialists. Their success lies in the maximum flourishing of their own talents and those of others, based on divine plans.

****Tuhaf al-Uqul, p. 370****. The believer is a stranger in this world; they do not despair over its humiliation nor compete with its people for worldly honor.

****Kamil al-Tammar said that Imam al-Baqir (peace be upon him) said****: "O Kamil, the believer is a stranger; the believer is a stranger." Then he said, "Do you know what Allah means when He says, 'The believers have succeeded'? I said, 'They have succeeded, prospered, and entered Paradise.' Then Imam al-Baqir said, 'The believers who have submitted to God are the chosen ones.'"

****Al-Mahasin, Vol. 1, p. 271, Hadith 367****.

How much do you enjoy solitude and being alone with God?

****Chapter 1: Factors Influencing Success****

The factors influencing success and misery can be divided into four categories: God, self, others, and nature. These four factors are influential in achieving success, and each plays a role. God, as the Creator and source of all power, helps all His creations reach their desires. Everyone created by God is given the blessing of free will, and they can shape their future with this choice. Some choose success, and others choose failure. God created individuals and societies in a way that they influence and are influenced by others in life. Nature, as the final influential factor, also impacts the lives of individuals and societies. Anyone who wishes to achieve success must also utilize the capacities of nature.

1. ****God****

God is the most fundamental factor in the success of all individuals and societies. The most effective influence throughout the life of all people and societies is always alive, steadfast, and never sleeps—not even for a moment. God is the One who...