

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

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GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

God has an Independent Will because:

GOD HAS INTENTIONS

إِنَّمَا أَمْرُهُ إِذَا أَرَادَ شَيْئًا أَنْ يَقُولَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ﴿٨٢﴾

Verily His [God's] Command, **when He intends a thing**, is only that He says to it "Be!" – and it is.¹

God has intentions and, therefore, a Will, by which divinely ordained events occur.

GOD HAS NO DOUBTS AND DOES NOT DELIBERATE

مَا كَانَ لِلَّهِ أَنْ يَتَّخِذَ مِنْ وَلَدٍ سُبْحَانَهُ إِذَا قَضَىٰ أَمْرًا فَإِنَّمَا يَقُولُ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ﴿٣٥﴾

It befits not Allah [swt] that He should beget a son. Glorified is He. **When He decrees a thing**, He only says to it, "Be!" – and it is.²

هُوَ الَّذِي يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ فَإِذَا قَضَىٰ أَمْرًا فَإِنَّمَا يَقُولُ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ﴿٦٨﴾

It is He Who gives life and causes death. **And when He decides upon a thing** He says to it only, "Be!" – and it is.³

God has no doubts. His intentions, decisions and decrees are all-in-one.

GOD CREATES WHAT HE WILLS

وَاللَّهُ خَلَقَ كُلَّ دَابَّةٍ مِنْ مَّاءٍ فَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَىٰ بَطْنِهِ ۚ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَىٰ رِجْلَيْنِ وَمِنْهُمْ

مَنْ يَمْشِي عَلَىٰ أَرْبَعٍ ۗ تَخْلُقُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٤٥﴾

Allah [swt] has created every moving creature from water. Of them there are some that creep on their bellies and some that walk on two legs and some that walk on four. **Allah [swt] creates what He wills**. Verily Allah [swt] is Able to do all things.⁴

¹ Surah Ya-Sin Chapter 36 Verse 82

² Surah Maryam Chapter 19 Verse 35

³ Surah Ghafir Chapter 40 Verse 68

⁴ Surah An-Nur Chapter 24 Verse 45

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وَرَبُّكَ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ مَا كَانَ لَهُمُ الْخِيَرَةُ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَتَعَالَىٰ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴿٦٨﴾

And your Lord creates whatsoever He wills and chooses: no choice have they [in this matter].
Glorified is Allah [swt] and exalted above all that they associate [as partners with Him].⁵

﴿٦٩﴾ اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ ضَعْفٍ ثُمَّ جَعَلَ مِنْ بَعْدِ ضَعْفٍ قُوَّةً ثُمَّ جَعَلَ مِنْ بَعْدِ قُوَّةٍ ضَعْفًا وَشَيْبَةً يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ الْعَلِيمُ الْقَدِيرُ ﴿٧٠﴾

Allah [swt] is He Who created you in weakness, then gave you strength after weakness, then after strength gave weakness and grey hair. **He creates what He wills.** And it is He Who is the All-Knowing, the All-Powerful.⁶

﴿٤٩﴾ لِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ يَهَبُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ إِنثًا وَيَهَبُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ الذُّكُورَ ﴿٥٠﴾

To Allah [swt] belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. **He creates what He wills.** He bestow female [offspring] upon whom He wills and bestows male [offspring] upon whom He wills.⁷

GOD DOES WHAT HE WILLS

﴿١٤﴾ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُدْخِلُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْعَلُ مَا يُرِيدُ ﴿١٥﴾

Truly Allah [swt] will admit those who believe and do righteous good deeds to Gardens underneath which rivers flow. **Verily Allah [swt] does what He wills.**⁸

⁵ Surah Al-Qasas Chapter 28 Verse 68

⁶ Suah Ar-Rum Chapter 30 Verse 54

⁷ Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 49

⁸ Surah Al-Hajj Chapter 22 Verse 14

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَسْجُدُ لَهُ مَنْ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَالشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ وَالنُّجُومُ
وَالْجِبَالُ وَالشَّجَرُ وَالْدَّوَابُّ وَكَثِيرٌ مِّنَ النَّاسِ وَكَثِيرٌ حَقَّ عَلَيْهِ الْعَذَابُ وَمَنْ يُهِنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ
مِن مُّكْرِمٍ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْعَلُ مَا يَشَاءُ ﴿١٨﴾

See you not that whoever is in the heavens and whoever is on the earth and the sun and the moon and the stars and the mountains and the trees and the moving creatures and many of mankind prostrate themselves to Allah [swt.] But there are many [men] on whom the punishment is justified. And whomsoever Allah [swt] disgraces none can honour him. **Verily Allah [swt] does what He wills.**⁹

فَعَالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ ﴿١٦﴾

[Allah (swt) is the] Doer of whatsoever He intends.¹⁰

GOD PROVIDES AS HE WILLS

تُولِجُ اللَّيْلَ فِي النَّهَارِ وَتُولِجُ النَّهَارَ فِي اللَّيْلِ وَتُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَتُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ وَتَرْزُقُ مَنْ تَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ ﴿٢٧﴾

You [Allah (swt)] make the night to enter into the day and You make the day to enter into the night. You bring the living out of the dead and You bring the dead out of the living. **And You give wealth and sustenance to whom You will without limit.**¹¹

⁹ Surah Al-Hajj Chapter 22 Verse 18

¹⁰ Surah Al-Buruj Chapter 85 Verse 16

¹¹ Surah Al-Imran Chapter 3 Verse 27

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فَتَقَبَّلَهَا رَبُّهَا بِقَبُولٍ حَسَنٍ وَأَنْبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا وَكَفَّلَهَا زَكَرِيَّا ط كُلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيْهَا زَكَرِيَّا الْمِحْرَابَ وَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا رِزْقًا ط قَالَ يَمْرِئُ مُنِّي لَكَ هَذَا ط قَالَتْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ ط إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْزُقُ

مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ ﴿١٧﴾

*So her Lord [Allah (swt)] accepted her with goodly acceptance. He made her grow in a good manner and put her under the care of Zakariya [Prophet Zachariya (as).] Every time he entered the private chamber to [visit] her, he found her supplied with sustenance. He said, "O Maryam [Mary]! From where have you got this?" She said, "This is from Allah [swt]." **Verily Allah [swt] provides sustenance to whom He wills without limit.**¹²*

اللَّهُ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ ۗ وَفَرِحُوا بِالْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا فِي الْآخِرَةِ إِلَّا

مَتَاعٌ ﴿٣٦﴾

***Allah [swt] increases the provision for whom He wills and straitens [it for whom He wills] and they rejoice in the life of this world whereas the life of this world as compared with the Hereafter is but a brief passing enjoyment.**¹³*

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ ۗ إِنَّهُ كَانَ بِعِبَادِهِ خَبِيرًا بَصِيرًا ﴿٣٠﴾

***Truly your Lord enlarges the provision for whom He wills and straitens [for whom He wills.] Verily He is Ever All-Knower, All-Seer of His slaves.**¹⁴*

لِيَجْزِيَهُمُ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنَ مَا عَمِلُوا وَيَزِيدَهُم مِّن فَضْلِهِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَرْزُقُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ ﴿٢٨﴾

*That Allah [swt] may reward them according to the best of their deeds and add even more for them out of His Grace. **And Allah [swt] provides without measure to whom He wills.**¹⁵*

¹² Surah Al-'Imran Chapter 3 Verse 37

¹³ Surah Ar-Ra'd Chapter 13 Verse 26

¹⁴ Surah Al-Isra' Chapter 17 Verse 30

¹⁵ Surah An-Nur Chapter 24 Verse 38

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

وَأَصْبَحَ الَّذِينَ تَمَنَّوْا مَكَانَهُ بِالْأَمْسِ يَقُولُونَ وَيَكَانُ اللَّهُ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَوْلَا أَنْ مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْنَا لَخَسَفَ بِنَا^ط وَيَكَانَهُ لَا يُفْلِحُ الْكَافِرُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

And those who had desired [for a position like] his [Qarun's (Korah's)] position the day before began to say, "Know you not that it is Allah [swt] Who enlarges the provision or restricts it to whomsoever He pleases of His slaves. Had it not been that Allah [swt] was Gracious to us, He could have caused the earth to swallow us up [also]! Know you not that the disbelievers will never be successful."¹⁶

اللَّهُ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَهُ^ع إِنَّ اللَّهَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢٧﴾

Allah [swt] enlarges the provision for whom He wills of His slaves and straitens it for whom [He wills.] Verily Allah [swt] is the All-Knower of everything.¹⁷

أَوَلَمْ يَرَوْا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ^ع إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٢٨﴾

Do they not see that Allah [swt] enlarges the provision for whom He wills and straitens [it for whom He wills?] Verily in that are indeed signs for a people who believe.¹⁸

قُلْ إِنَّ رَبِّي يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ وَيَقْدِرُ لَهُ^ع وَمَا أَنْفَقْتُمْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَهُوَ يُخْلِفُهُ^ط

وَهُوَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴿٢٩﴾

Say, "Truly my Lord enlarges the provision for whom He wills of His slaves and restricts [it] for him and whatsoever you spend of anything [in Allah's Cause] He will replace it. And He is the Best of providers."¹⁹

أَوَلَمْ يَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ^ع إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

Do they not know that Allah [swt] enlarges the provision for whom He wills and straitens it [for whom He wills?] Verily in this are signs for the folk who believe!²⁰

¹⁶ Surah Al-Qasas Chapter 28 Verse 82

¹⁷ Surah Al-Ankabut Chapter 29 Verse 62

¹⁸ Surah Ar-Rum Chapter 30 Verse 37

¹⁹ Surah Saba' Chapter 34 Verse 39

²⁰ Surah Az-Zumar Chapter 39 Verse 52

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

لَهُ مَقَالِيدُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ إِنَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿١٢﴾

To Him belong the keys of the heavens and the earth. **He enlarges the provision for whom He wills and straitens [it for whom He wills.]** Verily He is the All-Knower of everything.²¹

اللَّهُ لَطِيفٌ بِعِبَادِهِ ۖ يَرْزُقُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۖ وَهُوَ الْقَوِيُّ الْعَزِيزُ ﴿١٩﴾

Allah [swt] is very Gracious and Kind to His slaves. **He gives provisions to whom He wills.** And He is the All-Strong, the All-Mighty.²²

﴿ وَلَوْ بَسَطَ اللَّهُ الرِّزْقَ لِعِبَادِهِ لَبَغَوْا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَٰكِن يُنَزِّلُ بِقَدَرٍ مَّا يَشَاءُ ۚ إِنَّهُ بِعِبَادِهِ خَبِيرٌ ﴿٢٧﴾

بَصِيرٌ ﴿٢٧﴾

And if Allah [swt] were to enlarge the provision for His slaves they would surely rebel in the earth **but He sends down by measure as He wills.** Verily He is in respect of His slaves the Well-Aware, the All-Seer.²³

GOD GUIDES WHOM HE WILLS

كَانَ النَّاسُ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً فَبَعَثَ اللَّهُ النَّبِيِّنَ مُبَشِّرِينَ وَمُنذِرِينَ وَأَنْزَلَ مَعَهُمُ الْكِتَابَ بِالْحَقِّ لِيَحْكُمَ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ فِي مَا اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهِ ۚ وَمَا اخْتَلَفَ فِيهِ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ أُوتُوهُ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَتْهُمْ الْبَيِّنَاتُ بَغْيًا بَيْنَهُمْ ۚ فَهَدَى اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لِمَا اخْتَلَفُوا فِيهِ مِنَ الْحَقِّ بِإِذْنِهِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ

يَهْدِي مَن يَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٢١٣﴾

Mankind was one community, and Allah [swt] sent Prophets with glad tidings and warnings and with them He sent down the Scripture in truth to judge between people in matters wherein they differed. And only those to whom [the Scripture] was given differed concerning it after clear proofs had come unto them through hatred one to another. Then Allah by His Leave guided those who believed to the truth of that wherein they differed. **And Allah guides whom He wills to the Straight Path.**²⁴

²¹ Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 12

²² Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 19

²³ Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 27

²⁴ Surah Al-Baqarah Chapter 2 Verse 213

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وَاللَّهُ يَدْعُو إِلَى دَارِ السَّلَامِ وَيَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٢٥﴾

Allah [swt] calls to the Home of Peace [Paradise] and **guides whom He wills** to the Straight Path.²⁵

وَكَذَلِكَ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ آيَاتٍ بَيِّنَاتٍ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي مَنْ يُرِيدُ ﴿٢٦﴾

Thus have We sent it [this Qur'an] down as clear signs evidences and proofs and **surely Allah [swt] guides whom He wills**.²⁶

لَقَدْ أَنْزَلْنَا آيَاتٍ مُبَيِّنَاتٍ وَاللَّهُ يَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٢٧﴾

We have indeed send down manifest signs. And **Allah [swt] guides whom He wills** to the Straight Path.²⁷

إِنَّكَ لَا تَهْدِي مَنْ أَحْبَبْتَ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ ﴿٥٦﴾

Verily you [O Muhammad (saws)] guide not whom you like **but Allah [swt] guides whom He wills**. And He knows best those who are the guided.²⁸

وَمَا يَسْتَوِي الْأَحْيَاءُ وَلَا الْأَمْوَاتُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُسْمِعُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَا أَنْتَ بِمُسْمِعٍ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ ﴿٢٩﴾

﴿٢٩﴾

Nor are [alike] the living and the dead. Verily **Allah [swt] makes whom He wills** to hear but you cannot make hear those who are in the graves.²⁹

²⁵ Surah Yunus Chapter 10 Verse 25

²⁶ Surah Al-Hajj Chapter 22 Verse 16

²⁷ Surah An-Nur Chapter 24 Verse 46

²⁸ Surah Al-Qasas Chapter 28 Verse 56

²⁹ Surah Fatir Chapter 35 Verse 22

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

اللَّهُ نَزَّلَ أَحْسَنَ الْكِتَابِ كِتَابًا مُتَشَابِهًا مَثَانِي تَقْشَعِرُّ مِنْهُ جُلُودُ الَّذِينَ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُمْ ثُمَّ تَلِينُ جُلُودُهُمْ وَقُلُوبُهُمْ إِلَىٰ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ ذَٰلِكَ هُدَىٰ اللَّهِ يَهْدِي بِهِ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَن يُضَلِلِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ

مِّن هَادٍ ﴿٢٣﴾

Allah [swt] has sent down the Best Statement, a Book, its parts resembling each other [and] oft-repeated. The skins of those who fear their Lord shiver from it. Then their skin and their heart soften to the remembrance of Allah [swt]. That is the guidance of Allah [swt]. **He guides therewith whom He wills**; and whomever Allah [swt] sends astray for him there is no guide.³⁰

﴿ شَرَعَ لَكُم مِّنَ الدِّينِ مَا وَصَّىٰ بِهِ نُوحًا وَالَّذِي أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ وَمَا وَصَّيْنَا بِهِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَىٰ وَعِيسَىٰ أَنْ أَقِيمُوا الدِّينَ وَلَا تَتَفَرَّقُوا فِيهِ ۚ كَبُرَ عَلَى الْمُشْرِكِينَ مَا تَدْعُوهُمْ إِلَيْهِ ۗ اللَّهُ يَجْتَبِي إِلَيْهِ

مَن يَشَاءُ وَيَهْدِي إِلَيْهِ مَن يُنِيبُ ﴿٢٤﴾

He [Allah (swt)] has ordained for you the same religion which He ordained for Nuh [Prophet Noah (as)] and that which We have revealed to you [O Muhammad (saws)] and that which We ordained for Ibrahim [Prophet Abraham (as)] Musa [Prophet Moses (as)] and 'Isa [Prophet Jesus (as)] saying you should establish religion and make no divisions in it. Intolerable for the polytheists is that to which you [O Muhammad (saws)] call them. **Allah (swt) chooses for Himself whom He wills** and guides unto Himself who turns to Him in repentance and in obedience.³¹

وَكَذَٰلِكَ أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ رُوحًا مِّنْ أَمْرِنَا ۗ مَا كُنْتَ تَدْرِي مَا الْكِتَابُ وَلَا الْإِيمَانُ وَلَٰكِن جَعَلْنَاهُ نُورًا ۗ نَهْدِي بِهِ مَن نَّشَاءُ مِّنْ عِبَادِنَا ۗ وَإِنَّكَ لَتَهْدِي إِلَىٰ صِرَاطٍ مُّسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿٢٥﴾

And thus We have sent to you [O Muhammad (saws)] a spirit of Our Command. You knew not what is the Book nor what is Faith? But We have made it [this Qur'an] a light **wherewith We guide whosoever of Our slaves We will**. And verily you [O Muhammad (saws)] are indeed guiding [mankind] to the Straight Path.³²

³⁰ Surah Az-Zumar Chapter 39 Verse 23

³¹ Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 13

³² Surah Ash-Shura Chapter 42 Verse 52

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

وَمَا جَعَلْنَا أَصْحَابَ النَّارِ إِلَّا مَلَائِكَةً ۖ وَمَا جَعَلْنَا عِدَّةَهُمْ إِلَّا فِتْنَةً لِلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لِيَسْتَيْقِنَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ وَيَزِدَّادَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِيمَانًا ۖ وَلَا يَرْتَابَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَلِيَقُولَ الَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِم مَّرَضٌ وَالْكَافِرُونَ مَاذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِهَذَا مَثَلًا ۗ كَذَلِكَ يُضِلُّ اللَّهُ مَن يَشَاءُ وَيَهْدِي مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَمَا يَعْلَمُ جُنُودَ رَبِّكَ إِلَّا هُوَ ۗ وَمَا هِيَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْبَشَرِ ﴿٣٣﴾

And We have set none but angels as guardians of the Fire. And We have fixed their number only as trial for the disbelievers in order that the people of the Scripture [Jews and Christians] may arrive at a certainty and the believers may increase in Faith and that no doubt may be left for the people of the Scripture and the believers and that those in whose hearts is a disease [of hypocrisy] and the disbelievers may say, "What Allah [swt] intends by this example?" Thus **Allah [swt] leads astray whom He wills and guides whom He wills**. And none can know the hosts of your Lord but He. And this is nothing else than a reminder to mankind.³³

يُدْخِلُ مَن يَشَاءُ فِي رَحْمَتِهِ ۗ وَالظَّالِمِينَ أَعَدَّ لَهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا ﴿٣٤﴾

He [Allah (swt)] will admit to His Mercy whom He wills and as for the polytheists – He has prepared a painful torment.³⁴

GOD HELPS WHOM HE WILLS

بِنَصْرِ اللَّهِ يَنْصُرُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٣٥﴾

With the help of Allah [swt.] **He helps whom He wills** and He is the All-Mighty, the Most Merciful.³⁵

أَفَمَن زُيِّنَ لَهُ سُوءُ عَمَلِهِ فَرَآهُ حَسَنًا ۗ فَإِنِ اللَّهُ يُضِلُّ مَن يَشَاءُ وَيَهْدِي مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ فَلَا تَذْهَبْ نَفْسُكَ عَلَيْهِمْ حَسْرَاتٍ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٣٦﴾

Is he then to whom the evil of his deeds is made fair-seeming so that he considers it as good? **Verily Allah [swt] sends astray whom He wills and guides whom He wills**. So destroy not yourself [O Muhammad (saws)] in sorrow for them. Truly Allah [swt] is the All-Knower of what they do!³⁶

³³ Surah Al-Muddaththir Chapter 74 Verse 31

³⁴ Surah Al-Insan Chapter 76 Verse 31

³⁵ Surah Ar-Rum Chapter 30 Verse 5

³⁶ Surah Fatir Chapter 35 Verse 8

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

GOD FORGIVES WHOM HE WILLS

وَلِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۖ يَغْفِرُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ وَيُعَذِّبُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا

رَّحِيمًا ﴿٤٨﴾

And to Allah [swt] belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth. **He forgives whom He wills** and punishes whom He wills. And Allah [swt] is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.³⁷

GOD PUNISHES WHOM HE WILLS

يُعَذِّبُ مَن يَشَاءُ وَيَرْحَمُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَإِلَيْهِ تُقَلَّبُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

He [Allah (swt)] punishes whom He wills and shows mercy to whom He wills; and to Him you will be returned.³⁸

وَلِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۖ يَغْفِرُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ وَيُعَذِّبُ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا

رَّحِيمًا ﴿٤٨﴾

And to Allah [swt] belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth. **He forgives whom He wills** and **punishes whom He wills**. And Allah [swt] is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.³⁹

GOD BESTOWS PROPHETHOOD ON WHOM HE WILLS

قَالَتْ لَهُمْ رُسُلُهُمْ إِنْ خُنُّوا إِلَّا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ ۗ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَمُنُّ عَلَىٰ مَن يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ ۗ وَمَا كَانَ لَنَا أَنْ نَأْتِيَكُمْ بِسُلْطَنٍ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ ۗ وَعَلَىٰ اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

Their Messengers said to them, "We are no more than human beings like you **but Allah [swt] bestows His Grace to whom He wills of His slaves**. It is not ours to bring you an authority except by the Permission of Allah [swt.] And in Allah [swt] let the believers put their trust.⁴⁰

³⁷ Surah Al-Fath Chapter 48 Verse 14

³⁸ Surah Al-'Ankabut Chapter 29 Verse 21

³⁹ Surah Al-Fath Chapter 48 Verse 14

⁴⁰ Surah Ibrahim Chapter 14 Verse 11

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

يُنزِلُ الْمَلٰٓئِكَةَ بِالرُّوحِ مِنْ اَمْرِهِ عَلٰٓى مَنْ يَشَآءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهٖۗ اَنْ اَنْذِرُوْا اَنْهٗ لَا اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اَنَا

فَاتَّقُوْنَ ﴿٢١﴾

He [Allah (swt)] sends down the angels with the Revelation of His Command to whom of His slaves He wills [saying,] "Warn mankind that none has the right to be worshipped but I. So fear Me."⁴¹

رَفِيعُ الدَّرَجٰتِ ذُو الْعَرْشِ يُلْقِي الرُّوحَ مِنْ اَمْرِهِ عَلٰٓى مَنْ يَشَآءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهٖۗ لِيُنذِرَ يَوْمَ التَّلَاقِ

﴿١٥﴾

[He is Allah (swt)] Owner of High Ranks and Degrees, the Owner of the Throne. **He sends the revelation by His Command to any of His slaves He wills** that he may warn of the Day of Mutual Meeting [the Day of Resurrection.]⁴²

يَتَّيِبٰٓهَا لِّلَّذِيْنَ ءَامَنُوْا اَتَّقُوْا اللّٰهَ وَاٰمِنُوْا بِرِسُوْلِهٖۗ يُوْتِكُمْ كِفٰلَيٰنِ مِنْ رَّحْمَتِهٖۗ وَتَجْعَلْ لَّكُمْ نُوْرًا

تَمْشُوْنَ بِهٖۗ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ؕ وَاللّٰهُ غَفُوْرٌ رَّحِيْمٌ ﴿٢٨﴾ لِّغَلَا يَعْلَمَ اَهْلُ الْكِتٰبِ اِلَّا يَقْدِرُوْنَ عَلٰٓى

شَيْءٍ مِّنْ فَضْلِ اللّٰهِ وَاَنَّ الْفَضْلَ بِيَدِ اللّٰهِ يُوْتِيهِ مَن يَشَآءُ ؕ وَاللّٰهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيْمِ ﴿٢١﴾

O you who have believed, fear God and believe in His Messenger; He will [then] give you a double portion of His Mercy and make for you by which you will walk and forgive you; and God is Forgiving and Merciful.

[This is] so that the People of the Scripture may know that they are not able [to obtain] anything from the bounty of God and that [all] bounty is in the hand of God; **He gives it to whom He wills.** And God is the possessor of great bounty.⁴³

The Qur'an confirms the rationally derived attribute of God – a Will that is independent of all causes.

⁴¹ Surah An-Nahl Chapter 16 Verse 2

⁴² Surah Ghafir Chapter 40 Verse 15

⁴³ SIT Surah Al-Hadid Chapter 57 Verses 28-29

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

TIMELESS CAUSALITY

In the course of deriving timeless-eternality of an immaterial transcendent personal God, we concluded:

- that only God can know how He causes, how He brought into existence and indeed how He interacts with the material time-contingent universe
- that the answer could only be found, if at all, in divine revelation
- that the answer has to be accepted as a matter of belief because as material human beings we cannot comprehend the answer as we will have reached the limit of human knowledge, the boundary between reason and belief in the Unseen

As shown above, in the Qur'an, God confirms that He only has to intend a thing for it to happen, to say "Be" and it is.

The answer from divine revelation as to the nature of timeless-causality is so simple and so intuitive that it can be believed without further explanation. It is the best explanation by Ockham's Razor.

His Command may, however, be carried out by material agents in the material temporal world. For example, on death,

اللَّهُ يَتَوَفَّى الْأَنْفُسَ حِينَ مَوْتِهَا وَالَّتِي لَمْ تَمُتْ فِي مَنَامِهَا فَيُمْسِكُ الَّتِي قَضَىٰ عَلَيْهَا الْمَوْتَ وَيُرْسِلُ الْأُخْرَىٰ إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ مُّسَمًّى ۚ إِنَّ فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٤٢﴾

It is Allah [swt] Who takes away the souls at the time of their death, and those that die not during their sleep. He keeps those [souls] for which He has ordained death and sends the rest for a term appointed. Verily in this are signs for a people who think deeply.⁴⁴

God "takes away the souls at the time of death", however His Command is acted upon by the angels,

وَمَا تَنْزَلُ إِلَّا بِأَمْرِ رَبِّكَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِينَا وَمَا خَلْفَنَا وَمَا بَيْنَ ذَٰلِكَ ۗ وَمَا كَانَ رَبُّكَ نَسِيًّا ﴿٦٤﴾

And we [angels] descend not except by the Command of your Lord [O Muhammad]. To Him belongs what is before us and what is behind us and what is in between those two; and your Lord is never forgetful.⁴⁵

"who descend...by the Command" of God, because, on death,

⁴⁴ Surah Az-Zumar Chapter 39 Verse 42

⁴⁵ Surah Maryam Chapter 19 Verse 64

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

وَهُوَ الْقَاهِرُ فَوْقَ عِبَادِهِ ۗ وَيُرْسِلُ عَلَيْكُمْ حَفَظَةً حَتَّىٰ إِذَا جَاءَ أَحَدَكُمُ الْمَوْتُ تَوَفَّتْهُ رُسُلُنَا
وَهُمْ لَا يُفَرِّطُونَ ﴿٦١﴾

And He [God] is the Irresistible over His slaves, and He sends guardians [angels] over you until, when death approaches one of you, Our Messengers take his soul, and they never neglect their duty.⁴⁶

God sends the angels to take the soul from the body.

كَلَّا إِذَا بَلَغَتِ التَّرَاقِيَ ﴿٦٢﴾ وَقِيلَ مَنْ رَاقٍ ﴿٦٣﴾

Nay, when [the soul] reaches to the collar bone. And it will be said, "Who can cure him?"⁴⁷

The angels draw out the soul from the body until it "reaches to the collar bone,"

فَلَوْلَا إِذَا بَلَغَتِ الْحُلُقُومَ ﴿٦٤﴾ وَأَنْتُمْ حِينِيذٍ تَنْظُرُونَ ﴿٦٥﴾ وَنَحْنُ أَقْرَبُ إِلَيْهِ مِنْكُمْ وَلَكِنْ لَا
تُبْصِرُونَ ﴿٦٥﴾

Then why do you not [intervene] when [the soul] reaches the throat? And you at the moment are looking on- But We [Our angels] are nearer to him than you, but you see not.⁴⁸

and then "it reaches the throat", whereupon,

وَقَالُوا أَإِذَا ضَلَلْنَا فِي الْأَرْضِ أَإِنَّا لَفِي خَلْقٍ جَدِيدٍ ۗ بَلْ هُمْ بِلِقَاءِ رَبِّهِمْ كَافِرُونَ ﴿٦٦﴾ ﴿٦٦﴾ قُلْ
يَتَوَفَّنَا مَلَكُ الْمَوْتِ الَّذِي وُكِّلَ بِكُمْ ثُمَّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكُمْ تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿٦٧﴾

And they say, "When we are lost in the earth, shall we indeed be created anew?" Nay, but they deny the Meeting with their Lord! Say, "The angel of death who is set over you will take your souls. Then you shall be brought to your Lord."⁴⁹

the Angel of Death beckons the soul from out of the body.

⁴⁶ Surah Al-An'am Chapter 6 Verse 61

⁴⁷ Surah Al-Qiyamah Chapter 75 Verses 26-27

⁴⁸ Surah Al-Waqi'ah Chapter 56 Verses 83-85

⁴⁹ Surah As-Sajdah Chapter 32 Verses 10-11

GOD HAS AN INDEPENDENT WILL

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أَرْتَدُّوا عَلَىٰ أَدْبَارِهِم مِّن بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الْهُدَىٰ الشَّيْطَانُ سَوَّلَ لَهُمْ وَأَمَلَىٰ لَهُمْ ﴿١٥﴾ ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا لِلَّذِينَ كَرَهُوا مَا نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ سَنُطِيعُكُمْ فِي بَعْضِ الْأَمْرِ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ إِسْرَارَهُمْ ﴿١٦﴾ فَكَيْفَ إِذَا تَوَفَّتْهُمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَضْرِبُونَ وُجُوهَهُمْ وَأَدْبَارَهُمْ ﴿١٧﴾

Verily, those who have turned back as disbelievers after the guidance has been manifested to them – Shaytan [Satan] has beautified for them [their false hopes] and [Allah] has prolonged their term. This is because they said to those who hate what Allah [swt] has sent down, “We will obey you in part of the matter.” But Allah knows their secrets. **Then how [will it be] when the angels will take their souls at death, smiting their faces and their backs?**⁵⁰

However, the souls of the disbelievers cling to their bodies causing “the angels to take their souls at death, smiting their faces and their backs.”

⁵⁰ Surah Muhammad Chapter 47 Verses 25-27