

Meaning of Al-Fatah, Khair Al-Fathin

1. First meaning is the one who judges with the truth:

The name Al-Fatah is mentioned once in the Quran in Surat *Saba'a* 34:26

قُلْ يَجْمَعُ بَيْنَنَا رَبُّنَا ثُمَّ يَفْتَحُ بَيْنَنَا بِالْحَقِّ وَهُوَ الْفَاتِحُ الْعَلِيمُ {26}

Say: "Our Lord will gather us together and will in the end decide the matter between us (and you) in Truth and justice: and He is the One to decide, the One Who knows all."

،افتح بيننا بالحق، to open up to us with truth. In this Ayah, the verb Fataha means judging with the truth. Allah is Al-Fatah because he judges with the truth.

In Surat *Al-A'raf* 7:89

{89} قَدْ افْتَرَبْنَا عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا إِنْ عُدْنَا فِي مِلَّتِكُمْ بَعْدَ إِذْ نَجَّانَا اللَّهُ مِنْهَا وَمَا يَكُونُ لَنَا أَنْ نَعُودَ فِيهَا إِلَّا أَنْ يَشَاءَ اللَّهُ رَبُّنَا وَسِعَ رَبُّنَا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ عِلْمًا عَلَى اللَّهِ تَوَكَّلْنَا رَبُّنَا افْتَحْ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَ قَوْمِنَا بِالْحَقِّ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْفَاتِحِينَ

"We should indeed invent a lie against Allah, if we returned to your ways after Allah hath rescued us therefrom; nor could we by any manner of means return thereto unless it be as in the will and plan of Allah, our Lord. Our Lord can reach out to the utmost recesses of things by His knowledge. In Allah is our trust. Our Lord! decide thou between us and our people in truth, for thou art the best to decide."

When you don't have a decree, you are stuck. When the decree comes, this is an opening because it is a relief. This is why the Day of Judgment is called the Day of

Fath. Surat *Al-Sagda* 32:28-29:

وَيَقُولُونَ مَتَى هَذَا الْفَتْحُ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ {28}

They say: "When will this Fath be, if ye are telling the truth?"

قُلْ يَوْمَ الْفَتْحِ لَا يَنْفَعُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِيمَانُهُمْ وَلَا هُمْ يُنظَرُونَ {29}

Say: "On the Day of Fath, no profit will it be to Unbelievers if they (then) believe! nor will they be granted a respite."

In the Day of Judgment, the decree and the judgment come.

2. Second meaning is open:

المفتاح key. فتح الباب means open.

In the Hadith: Allah has given me the key of eloquence, the key of Balagha البلاغة

In the Hadith: Allah has the keys of heavens and earth and he offered them to me and I turned them down.

3. Third meaning is victory:

When you are surrounded by the enemy you are trapped. The victory opens the trap for you.

Surat Al-Fatih 48:1.

إِنَّا فَتَحْنَا لَكَ فَتْحًا مُبِينًا Verily We have granted you a manifest Victory.

Surat Al-Saf 61:13

{13} وَأُخْرَىٰ تُحِبُّونَهَا نَصْرٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَفَتْحٌ قَرِيبٌ وَبَشِيرٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

And another (favour will He bestow), which ye do love; help from Allah and a speedy victory. So give the Glad Tidings to the Believers.

When you are surrounded by the enemy you are trapped. The victory opens the doors of relief for you.

Types of Allah's Decree or Fath:

Allah Qadar and decree are of two types.

1. The first decree is the religious decree (شرعي). For example, Allah decreed that he should to be worshiped alone. People have freedom of choice to obey or not to obey. These are the Islamic laws.
2. The second decree is the decree regarding the laws of nature (كوني). No one has the choice to disobey.

Allah is Fatah because both decrees belong to him.

Allah is the one who open up the doors of his decree on us.

Surat Fatir 35:2

{2} مَا يَفْتَحُ اللَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ مِنْ رَحْمَةٍ فَلَا مُمْسِكَ لَهَا وَمَا يُمْسِكُ فَلَا مُرْسِلَ لَهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

What Allah opens of His Mercy to mankind there is none can withhold: what He does withhold, there is none can grant, apart from Him: and He is the Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom.

Allah opens the doors of Rahama and no one can stop his Rahma. Allah choses what to give his creation. When Allah opens a door, nothing can get between you and what is behind that door. When Allah shuts the door, no one would be able to reach to what is behind.

Allah opens the doors of mercy
Allah opens the doors of Rizq
Allah opens the doors of Maghfira
Allah opens the doors of money
Allah opens the door of peace and tranquility

Surat Al-An'am 6:59

{59} وَعِنْدَهُ مَفَاتِحُ الْغَيْبِ لَا يُعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ وَمَا تَسْقُطُ مِنْ وَرَقَةٍ إِلَّا يَعْلَمُهَا وَلَا حَبَّةٍ فِي ظُلُمَاتِ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا رَطْبٍ وَلَا يَابِسٍ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ مُبِينٍ

With Him are the keys of the Unseen, the treasures that none knoweth but He. He knoweth whatever there is on the earth and in the sea. Not a leaf doth fall but with His knowledge: there is not a grain in the darkness (or depths) of the earth, nor anything fresh or dry (green or withered), but is (inscribed) in a Record clear (to those who can read).

Al-Fatah has the keys of all that is hidden, he chooses to give and he chooses to keep, and no one knows the hidden other than him.

Al-Fatah gives you what you need by giving you the key and opening the door for you.

Al-Fatha decrees how you will get it, where you get and in it what procedure you will get it.

Al-Fatah is the one who chooses which door to open, at what time, and how much. How much to give of these Mafateeh keys that unlock the treasures.

Al-Fatah is used at every time of difficulty, every time we feel surrounded, every time we are scared and our hearts are trembling and we don't know how to get out, the Fatah will open the doors of relief to us.

Surat Al-Talaq 65:2-3

{2} فَإِذَا بَلَغْنَ أَجَلَهُنَّ فَأَمْسِكُوهُنَّ بِمَعْرُوفٍ أَوْ فَارِقُوهُنَّ بِمَعْرُوفٍ وَأَشْهِدُوا ذَوَيْ عَدْلٍ مِنْكُمْ وَأَقِيمُوا الشَّهَادَةَ لِلَّهِ ذَلِكَ يُوعِظُ بِهِ مَنْ كَانَ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَمَنْ يَنْقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا

Thus when they fulfil their term appointed, either take them back on equitable terms or part with them on equitable terms; and take for witness two persons from among you, endued with justice, and establish the evidence (as) before Allah. Such

is the admonition given to him who believes in Allah and the Last Day. And for those who fear Allah, He (ever) prepares a way out,

{3} وَيَرْزُقُهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَالِغُ أَمْرِهِ قَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدْرًا
And He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine. And if anyone puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him. For Allah will surely accomplish His purpose: verily, for all things has Allah appointed a due proportion.

We need to be careful that Allah might open the doors that we might think it is mercy but it is not mercy. We think it is a benefit, but it is a test (Fitnah).

Surat Al-An'am 6:44

{44} فَلَمَّا نَسُوا مَا ذُكِّرُوا بِهِ فَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ أَبْوَابَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ حَتَّى إِذَا فَرِحُوا بِمَا أُوتُوا أَخَذْنَاهُمْ بَغْتَةً فَإِذَا هُمْ مُبْلِسُونَ

But when they forgot the warning they had received, We opened to them the gates of all (good) things, until, in the midst of their enjoyment of Our gifts, on a sudden, We called them to account, when lo! they were plunged in despair!

They got money, power, status, ... etc. They became deceived of what Allah has given them. Like the Pharaoh and others. Allah is also Fatah here but not the we want. Allah opens the doors as a test and as a punishment.

In the Bukhari the story of a Sahabi that was stuck in a very difficult predicament he was going to be punished for something he didn't do. He made Du'a to Allah that (أَلْهِمِ افْتَحْ عَلَيَّ) Oh Allah open the doors of mercy to me. As a result of his Du'a Allah revealed Ayat in Surat Al-Noor that cleared him from the charge and he became free and innocent. This is because he invoked the Name of Allah Al-Fatah.

We invoke this name when we need to ask for Rahma. When we enter the Masjid we say اللهم افتح لي ابواب رحمتك Ya Allah open the doors of mercy to me.

In the story of Prophet Noah. His people rejected him, ridiculed him and attempted to kill him, he made Du'a to Allah in Surat Al-Shu'ra'a 26:117-118

{117} قَالَ رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي كَذَّبُونِ

He said: "O my Lord! truly my people have rejected me.

{118} فَأَفْتَحْ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَهُمْ فَتْحًا وَنَجِّنِي وَمَنْ مَعِيَ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

"Judge Thou, then, between me and them openly, and deliver me and those of the Believers who are with me."

As a result, for his Du[^]a, Allah said in Surat Al-Qamar 54:11-12.

{11} فَفَتَحْنَا أَبْوَابَ السَّمَاءِ بِمَاءٍ مُنْهَمِرٍ

So We opened the gates of heaven, with water pouring forth.

{12} وَفَجَّرْنَا الْأَرْضَ عُيُونًا فَالْتَقَى الْمَاءُ عَلَى أَمْرٍ قَدْ فُضِرَ

And We caused the earth to gush forth with springs. So the waters met (and rose) to the extent decreed.

Allah opened the doors of heaven with water that humanity has never been seen. And Allah opened the doors of earth gushing water that the humanity has not seen. All of this is because Prophet Noah invoked the name of Al-Fatah asking him to open these doors against my enemies.

The name Al-Fatah should increase our dependence on Allah and hope. Al-Fatah is the one who can help when no one else can help. Al-Fatah can grant when no one else can grant. Allah has the keys that no one has. There is no impossibility for Allah Al-Fatah. He can open ways out for us.

We invoke Al-Fatah in every trouble situation, for every worry. Al-Fatah can make the impossible possible and can make every difficulty easy.

The Hadith: اللهم لا سهلا إلا ما جعلته سهلا وأنت إذا شئت تجعل الحزن سهلا

The Prophet made this Du[^]a: Nothing is easy except what you make easy, and you can make any difficulty easy. Oh Allah make my difficulty easy.