All the praises and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of the 'Âlamîn (mankind, jinn and all that exists). (2) The Most Gracious, the Most Merciful (3) The Only Owner (and the Only Ruling Judge) of the Day of Recompense (i.e. the Day of Resurrection) (4) You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help (for each and everything). (5) Guide us to the Straight Way. (6) The Way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not (the way) of those who earned Your Anger, nor of those who went astray. (7)

Introduction

- The more you know about Allah (swt), the more you will take things easily. And this comes with a purified heart that knows about Allah (swt).
- The people of paradise, after they enter paradise, they speak about how Allah (swt) dealt with them, and they end it with Allah (الغفور السهور) – Al Ghaffoor Ash Shakoor – The All-Forgiving, The Most Appreciative.
- We talked about how Allah Al Fatah opens for the believer and the disbeliever, and Al Fatah is the One Who judges, He brings the truth and reality of everything, including yourself. Al Fatah is the One Who gives you victory.
- Allah (swt) judges between the creation on the Day of Judgement.
- You will see Allah Al Fatah opened His book with Surah Al Fatiha (The Opening). The Opening of the Quran. And in every salat, you will open it with Surah Al Fatiha. Any raka’a without Surah Al Fatiha does not count as salat. So it is a very essential obligation in the salat.

Virtues of Surah Al Fatiha

- Umm Al Katab (Mother of the Quran): It is called ‘Umm Al Katab’ (The Mother of the Quran). Why mother? Mother is like a source, and if you take any other ayah, it can be referenced back to Surah Al Fatiha. Subhan Allah.
- If you know Surah Al Fatiha, then it is as if you have the knowledge of everything, subhan Allah. When you take all of the divine books, and take the essence of these books, it is all found in the Quran, and when you take the Quran, and condense it, it is summarized from Surah Qaf to the end. And when you take this part, and condense it even further, then you have Surah Al Fatiha. And if you further condense it, it goes down to one ayah, (إِيَّاكَ نَعۡبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسۡتَعِينُ (You (Alone) we worship, and You (Alone) we ask for help) – because that is between us and Allah. Subhan Allah.
- And this is the first surah that was revealed in its entirety to the Prophet (pbuh).
- The Seven Praises (سبيع المثاني): imagine Allah (swt) gave the Prophet (pbuh) both the Quran and the Surah Al Fatiha.
  - Surah Al Hijr 87 (وَلَقَدْ عَفِيتَنَا مِنَ الْمَثَانِي وَالْفَزَانَ المَعْظِمِ) (And indeed, We have bestowed upon you seven of Al-Mathâni (the seven repeatedly recited Verses), (i.e. Sûrat Al-Fâtihah and the Grand Qur’ân)
Hadith:  
While we were on one of our journeys, we dismounted at a place where a slave girl came and said, "The chief of this tribe has been stung by a scorpion and our men are not present; is there anybody among you who can treat him (by reciting something)?" Then one of our men went along with her though we did not think that he knew any such treatment. But he treated the chief by reciting something, and the sick man recovered whereupon he gave him thirty sheep and gave us milk to drink (as a reward). When he returned, we asked our friend, "Did you know how to treat with the recitation of something?" He said, "No, but I treated him only with the recitation of the Mother of the Book (i.e., Al-Fatiha)." We said, "Do not say anything (about it) till we reach or ask the Prophet so when we reached Medina, we mentioned that to the Prophet (in order to know whether the sheep which we had taken we were lawful to take or not). The Prophet said, "How did he come to know that it (Al-Fatiha) could be used for treatment? Distribute your reward and assign for me one share thereof as well." – Al Bukhari

Shafiah (Curer):  
It gives you cure but you need yaqeen that it is from Allah. And it is not just an outer cure, but even inner, which is why we read it during our prayer. It purifies our hearts.

And it is a bida’a to open anything with Surah Al Fatiha, for example when starting class, or when someone dies, etc.

There was a story of a girl who was in high school in Dubai, and as part of their curriculum – regardless of their religion, they had to learn Surah Al Fatiha. She was Christian and objected to this. She went to the principal and told him that she refuses to learn it since she is a Christian. He told her it’s just one lesson and it’s not worth complaining about it since she is doing well in her other classes. She then came back and wore a big gold cross, and still refused, but in the end she said she will just do it and get it done with. Subhan Allah when she read it, she said it was so beautiful. And then she said that she wanted to join the Islamic classes in school but they refused since that is strictly for Muslims. Ultimately, Allah opened her heart and Surah Al Fatiha was an opening for her, and she reverted to Islam at the age of 18, subhan Allah.

In the name of Allah, The Most Merciful, The Especially Merciful

Majority of the scholars agree that (بِسۡمِ ٱللهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَـٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ) is not an ayah of Surah Al Fatiha, since all surah, except At Tawba, begin with (بِسۡمِ ٱللهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَـٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ).

When we begin with (بِسۡمِ), it is as if ‘I am starting and seeking the help and reliance’.

Seek the help in the name (استعين باسم)
Begin in the name (ابتدأ باسم)

In what name? In the name of Allah, (لا هو إلا الله)

Allah includes all of His names, it is a powerful name.

That is why we say (لا هو إلا الله) – and how much you believe in it and its weight (لا هو إلا الله) depends on how many names of Allah (swt) that you know. And not just knowing it, but applying it as well. Subhan Allah.
Moses (as) asked Allah (sw) to teach me a word that I can remember you, Allah said (لا اله الا اله) then Moses (as) but everybody says this. Allah (swt) said, if the seven heavens and the earths were on one side and (لا اله الا اله) on the other, then (لا اله الا اله) will outweigh them.

That’s why you get blessings from (بِسۡمِ ٱللهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَـٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ).

And Allah (swt) stopped and will stop anyone from thinking to call himself (لا اله الا اله). Subhan Allah.

Allah (بِسۡمِ ٱللهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَـٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ)

All of His name and attributes are perfect. The minimum Allah deals with us is justice and the maximum is with favor. The minimum, the sinner is dealt with justice. Subhan Allah.

The One who is worthy of being worshipped and attached to. Anything else you attach to, Allah (swt) will bring it down. That’s why tawheed protects you, your heart, your family, your husband. It protects you from so much evil. Allah (swt) is perfect, and humans love perfection. Anything else is not perfect.

The Most Merciful, The Especially Merciful ( الرحمن الرحيم)

After starting in the name of Allah, Allah is dealing with you with mercy, and not just one name of mercy, two names of mercy. Subhan Allah. Because His mercy precedes His anger. That is why it is easy to please Allah and difficult to anger Him. Subhan Allah.

(الرحيم): attribute of mercy, which means all good and away from evil.

- It is vast mercy (واسعة). It is filled with mercy. If you collect all of the mercies around the world, it will be no where close to Allah’s mercy. The mercy in your heart is from Allah. Allah is more merciful to you than to yourself. Subhan Allah.
- It is a general mercy (عامة) – it includes all of humanity and even the animals. Allah’s mercy is even given to the disbelievers, by giving them wealth, family, etc. Allah’s gives them not out of their goodness, but out of His mercy. Subhan Allah.
- We are sinners, and Allah (swt) does not deprive us from food and drink, and there are mothers who deprive their children from food. Subhan Allah. Allah is dealing with us with His names and attributes.
- The merciful ones, Allah has mercy on them. (الرحمن يرحمهم الله)
- (الرحمن على العرش استوى) – The Most Merciful rose over the throne. It shows you your Ruler and King is the Most Merciful. Subhan Allah.
- Allah’s mercy was there before our creation. Unlike us who show mercy only when in a situation. Allah is Ar Rahman even alone, without us, He is the Most Merciful.

( الرحيم): attribute of mercy, which means all good and away from evil.

- Special mercy of Allah ( خاصة). When Allah (swt) gives you the deen, the faith, knowledge, this is a special mercy to the believers. We are enshrouded by mercy, but we cannot see it, if we were able to see it, we would be prostrating the whole time. Prayer is a special mercy, anything that can take you to paradise is a special mercy.
- You have a small increase of faith, and Allah rewards you with abundant mercy, more than you deserve.
- Allah’s mercy is connected (واسلة). If you are a believer, then you will have the special mercy, it is connected to you. But you need to start the connection, how? Believe. May Allah (swt) busy our heart and thoughts with Him. Ameen. That is paradise.
May Allah (swt) open for us all goodness and cover us with His mercy. Ameen.