

**Rizq/Sustenance/Provision 1/14/11**  
**Part 1**

Rizq is everything that benefits you. Wealth, strength, health, beauty, intelligence, family status, good character, good spouse, good Islam, etc.

Ar-Razzaq is one of the names of Allah (SWT). If you study this name it means that He is the Only Owner of provision and He's the Only provider.

Allah (SWT) provides two kinds of Rizq/sustenance to His creatures:

**1. General/Material/Temporary/Lower sustenance:** This consists of wealth, food, spouses, children, and so on. This is the sustenance Allah (SWT) provides for everyone, whether they are righteous or wicked and whether they believe in Him or not.

There is no moving creature on earth but its sustenance depends on Allah.  
**(11:6)**

How many living creatures are there on Earth, not just on land, but also in the ocean depths? How many more must there be spread throughout the universe? Allah (SWT) provides for them all, arranging for the means of their sustenance in ways we cannot understand and ways we cannot even imagine.

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And (remember) when Ibrâhim (Abraham) said, "My Lord, make this city (Makkah) a place of security and provide its people with fruits, such of them as believe in Allah and the Last Day." He said: And whoever disbelieves, I will grant him enjoyment for a short while, then I shall compel him to the torment of the Fire, and it is an evil destination. **(2:126)**

The Prophet (pbuh) said, "By Him in Whose hand my soul is, if this world equaled to Allah (SWT) a mosquito's wing, He would not give anything from it to the unbelievers and the hypocrites."

**2. Special/Permanent/Higher sustenance:** This Allah (SWT) provides to His choicest servants. It is the gift of faith. The one who received it is to be inclined to the worship of Allah (SWT), to know Him, and to obey Him, and to thereby attain His pleasure. Happiness with what he gave you. Blessings.

There is a difference between what you earn and your Rizq/Sustenance. Not all the wealth we have belongs to us. Spouse, children, rent, doctor, mechanic, gas, employees, poor people (Zakat), etc. Allah has entrusted us with that wealth. We are just a carrier of other people provision.

The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Son of Adam says: 'My wealth, my wealth.' Do you own of your wealth other than what you eat and consume, and what you wear and wear out, or what you give in Sadaqah (charity), and that what you will have in stock for yourself."

Other than that we are a guard protecting it till we pass it to whomever it is his rizq. It is temporarily in your custody. Even the miser has a role to play in life, he does not spend his money or enjoy it because it is not his rizq and his role is to protect it and pass it in to his heirs.

Material Rizq can be reached through Halal (lawful) means or haram means.

O mankind! Eat of that which is lawful and good on the earth and do not follow the footsteps of the Shaitan; surely he is your open enemy. **(2:168)**

Shaytan approach you through fear. You don't have enough money, what about your children, how they will survive if something happens to you. Why can't you be rich like so and so? You can do it quickly through haram and he convinces you just one time only. Eventually haram becomes a part of your normal behavior.

Machiavelli: The end justifies the means. Islam the means are the only thing that is important because the results are not in our hands they are determined by Allah (SWT) alone. Therefore, we have to seek lawful (halal) means in whatever we do.

Some people think that Rizq is a sign of Allah's (SWT) happiness with you. In reality, been rich or poor is all a test from Allah (SWT).

And as for man, when his Lord tries him, then treats him with honor and makes him lead an easy life, he says: My Lord honors me. But when He tries him, restricting his subsistence for him, he says: My Lord has humiliated me. No! **(89:15, 16, 17)**

Allah (SWT) in his wisdom distributed Rizq on all human beings so we are all depending on each other. Even if you are Bill Gates you still need, customers, a doctor when you get sick, a plumber to fix your bathroom, a farmer so you can buy fruits and vegetables to eat. And in turn they need his money so they buy other things and services from other people and so on.

If Allah (SWT) created us all rich, how can we live? Who will clean the streets? who will fix cars? Who will paint homes?

Nobody can take your Rizq. We do not listen to what Allah (SWT) says:

And in the heaven is your provision, and that which you are promised. **(51:22)**

For Allah is He Who gives (all) Sustenance, Owner of Power, the Most Strong. **(51:58)**

Fishermen story.

The Prophet (pbuh) said “After 120 days Allah sends an angel who breathes the life into the lump of flesh, and (the angel) is commanded to record four things about it: Its provision, its term of life, its conduct and whether it will be happy or miserable.”