

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Tawheed, The Two Shahaadahs, and their True Meanings **(Worksheet)**

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All praise is due to Allaah. We praise Him, seek His aid, and His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allaah from the evils of our souls and the evils of our actions. Whomsoever Allaah guides, none can misguide. And whomsoever Allaah allows to go astray, none can guide him. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allaah, Alone and without any partners, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger.

Linguistically, Tawheed means Oneness. In the Sharee'ah (Islam), Tawheed authentically means singling out Allaah in that which is specific to Him. So whoever wants to enter Jannah (Paradise) has to believe and act upon all of the following:

- 1- To believe that Allaah is the only Creator, the only Provider, the only Disposer of all affairs, the only Giver of life and death; and
- 2- To believe that Allaah, the Most High, is the One worshipped in truth, and He has no partners besides Him in that. And this is the meaning of *Laa Ilaaha Illa Allaah*, and the meaning of this is: there is no deity worshipped in truth except Allaah (and that which is worshipped besides Him is worshipped in falsehood).

[La ma'booda bi Haqqin illAllaah (wa ghairullaahi in 'ubida fa fi baatil)]

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْحَقُّ وَأَنَّ مَا يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ هُوَ الْبَاطِلُ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْكَبِيرُ

“That is because Allaah He is the Truth (the only True Lord of all that exists, Who has no partners or rivals with Him), and what they (the polytheists) invoke besides Him, it is Batil (falsehood) And verily, Allaah He is the Most High, the Most Great.” (Al-Hajj 22:62)

So Allaah is to be singled out in each and every act of worship, such that du'aa is only directed to Allaah alone (no exceptions), and that salat is only directed to Allaah alone (no exceptions), sacrifice is only for Allaah alone (no exceptions), fasting is only directed to Allaah alone (no exceptions), reverence (awe) is only for Allaah alone (no exceptions), Hope is only in Allaah (no exceptions), etc...;

3- Then it is to believe in everything that has been revealed in the Noble Qur'aan and the authentic ahadeeth from the names of Allaah and His attributes. And affirming them for Allaah alone, at the level that is befitting the Most High, without Tahreef (perverting the texts), without Ta'teel (denying their meanings), without Takyeef (seeking after their specific details), and without Tamtheel (likening Allaah to His Creation). Complying with the statement of the Most High:

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ 1) اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ 2) لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ 3) وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ 4)

“Say (O Muhammad): “He is Allaah, (the) One. Allaah-us-Samad (The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, He neither eats nor drinks). He begets not, nor was He begotten; And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him.” (Al-Ikhlās 112:1-4)

And His (سبحانه وتعالى) statement:

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

“There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.” (Ash-Shura 42:11)

This is Tawheed, my Muslim brothers and sisters; as you can see, it is more than saying "Allaah is One." If you go to Egypt, the Christians and Coptics who speak Arabic say "Allaah is One." Does that make them Muslim? No! If you ask your Christian or Jewish neighbor John Smith or Kathy Goldstein, they'll say "God is One." Does that make them Muslim? No!

Why?

This is because they worship other than Allaah. Worshipping only Allaah is the part of Tawheed that some people from this Ummah ignore, so you see some of these people saying "La ilaaha il Allaah" with their tongue but negating it with du'aa to the Prophet or the dead - a clear indication they have not understood the statement of Tawheed. Refuge in Allaah is sought from this.

Read what Allaah, Exalted Be He, commanded His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) to ask the mushrikeen, such as Abu Lahab and Abu Jahl:

قُلْ مَنْ يَرْزُقُكُمْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَمْ مَنْ يَمْلِكُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَمَنْ يُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَيُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ وَمَنْ يُدَبِّرُ الْأَمْرَ فَسَيَقُولُونَ اللَّهُ فَقُلْ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

“Say (O Muhammad): “Who provides for you from the sky and from the earth? Or who owns hearing and sight? And who brings out the living from the dead and brings out the dead from the living? And who disposes the affairs?” They

will say: "Allaah." Say: "Will you not then be afraid of Allaah's Punishment (for setting up rivals in worship with Allaah)?" (Yunus 10:31)

So if the mushrikeen, such as Abu Lahab and Abu Jahl, affirmed that Allaah is The Creator and The Provider and the One Who disposes all the affairs of everything that exists, then why did Allaah declare them kufaar (disbelievers)?

They were declared kufaar (disbelievers) because they worshipped other than Allaah. They gave some of their du'aa to other than Allaah, they sacrificed for other than Allaah, they sought refuge in other than Allaah, etc...

Likewise, we cannot have mistakes in any part of Tawheed ('Aqidah). We cannot say Allaah - in His Self - is "everywhere" or "in every place" when He has told us in the Qur'an:

وَهُوَ الْقَاهِرُ فَوْقَ عِبَادِهِ

“And He is the Irresistible, above His slaves.” (Al-An'am 6:18)

And also has told us:

أَأَمِنْتُمْ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاءِ أَنْ يَخْسِفَ بِكُمْ الْأَرْضَ فَإِذَا هِيَ تَمُورُ

“Do you feel secure that He, Who is over the heaven (Allaah).” (Al-Mulk 67:16)

And also has told us:

الرَّحْمَنُ عَلَى الْعَرْشِ اسْتَوَى

“The Most Beneficent (Allaah) Istawa (rose over) the (Mighty) Throne (in a manner that suits His Majesty).” (Ta-Ha 20:5)

So we say about Allaah what Allaah says about Himself, that He is above us, above the heavens, and above His Throne. As for Allaah's Knowledge, then yes, Allaah's Knowledge is everywhere. As for His Self, He is The Most High.

Know, may Allaah have mercy upon you, that we have to believe in everything above, as Allaah says:

فَإِنْ آمَنُوا بِمِثْلِ مَا آمَنْتُمْ بِهِ فَقَدِ اهْتَدَوْا وَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنَّمَا هُمْ فِي شِقَاقٍ فَسَيَكْفِيكَهُمُ اللَّهُ
وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

“So if they believe in the like of that which you believe, then they are rightly guided, but if they turn away, then they are only in opposition. So Allaah will suffice you against them. And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower.” (Al-Baqarah 2:137)

Does your 'aqidah match the 'aqidah of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and his companions? Do you attend 'aqidah classes, my Muslim brothers and sisters, or has shaytan tricked you into thinking "You got Jannah made?" Allaah's Help is Sought from this disease.

The Status of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)

Muhammad ibn 'Abdullaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) was a slave not to be worshipped, and a Messenger not to be denied. [‘Abdun la yu’bad wa rasulan la yukathab]

No act of worship is to be directed toward the Prophet or anyone other than Allaah, and nothing besides the reward from Allaah is to be sought from any act of worship. Muhammad ibn 'Abdullaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is the seal of all Prophets, and no Prophet will come after him. The Prophet was not sent to be worshipped, but rather was sent to be followed. Allaah sent the Prophet with Tawheed (worshipping Allaah alone), and the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) called to Tawheed and refuted shirk for 23 years before dying at the age of 63.

وَلَقَدْ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ وَإِلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكَ لَئِنْ أَشْرَكَتَ لَيَحْبَطَنَّ عَمَلُكَ وَلَتَكُونَنَّ مِنَ
الْخَاسِرِينَ

“And indeed it has been revealed to you (O Muhammad), as it was to those (Allaah’s Messengers) before you: “If you join others in worship with Allaah, (then) surely (all) your deeds will be in vain, and you will certainly be among the losers.” (Az-Zumar 39:65)

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

“Say (O Muhammad to mankind): “If you (really) love Allaah then follow me (i.e. accept Islamic Monotheism, follow the Qur’an and the Sunnah), Allaah will love you and forgive you of your sins. And Allaah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” (Aali Imran 3:31)

تَبَارَكَ الَّذِي نَزَّلَ الْفُرْقَانَ عَلَى عَبْدِهِ لِيَكُونَ لِلْعَالَمِينَ نَذِيرًا

“Blessed be He Who sent down the criterion (of right and wrong, i.e. this Qur`an) to His slave (Muhammad) that he may be a warner to the 'Alameen (mankind and jinns).” (Al-Furqan 25:1)

Believing in Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) means to:

- 1- Believe in what he (صلى الله عليه وسلم) came with.
- 2- Do what he commanded.
- 3- Refrain from what he forbade.
- 4- Do not worship Allaah except with what he legislated (in type, manner etc), in accordance with the Prophet's statement:

"Whosoever does an action not in accordance with our matter (Sunnah), then it will be rejected." [Muslim]

The Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is our Imam, and we take no one's words over his words, as Allaah said about him in Surat an-Najm (verses 3-4):

وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ (3) إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَىٰ (4)

“Nor does he speak of (his own) desire. It is only an Inspiration that is inspired.”

The Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is the only human we will be asked about in the grave. The Prophet was not created from noor - as some people of bid'ah deviantly claim - rather the Prophet was a man created from that which men are created from, he had a shadow, walked in the market, ate, had relations with his wives, and went to the bathroom.

قُلْ إِنَّمَا أَنَا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ

“Say (O Muhammad, (صلى الله عليه وسلم)): "I am only a man like you..." (Al-Kahf 18:110)

And he (صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not know the Ghaib (unseen), except what Allaah revealed to him.

قُلْ لَا أَمْلِكُ لِنَفْسِي نَفْعًا وَلَا ضَرًّا إِلَّا مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ وَلَوْ كُنْتُ أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ لَأَسْتَكْتَرْتُ مِنَ الْخَيْرِ وَمَا مَسَّنِيَ السُّوءُ إِنْ أَنَا إِلَّا نَذِيرٌ وَبَشِيرٌ لِّقَوْمٍ يُؤْمِنُونَ

“Say (O Muhammad, (صلى الله عليه وسلم)): "I possess no power of benefit or hurt to myself except as Allaah wills. If I had the knowledge of the Ghaib (unseen), I should have secured for myself an abundance of wealth, and no evil should have touched me. I am but a warner, and a bringer of glad tidings unto people who believe.” (Al-A'raf 7:188)

قُلْ لَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ عِنْدِي خَزَائِنُ اللَّهِ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ الْغَيْبَ وَلَا أَقُولُ لَكُمْ إِنِّي مَلَكٌ إِنْ أَتَّبِعُ إِلَّا مَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الْأَعْمَىٰ وَالْبَصِيرُ أَفَلَا تَتَفَكَّرُونَ

“Say (O Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم)): "I don't tell you that with me are the treasures of Allaah, nor (that) I know the unseen; nor I tell you that I am an angel. I but follow what is revealed to me by inspiration." Say: "Are the blind and the one who sees equal? Will you not then take thought?" (Al-An'aam 6:50)

And he (صلى الله عليه وسلم) was sent to all of mankind:

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ فَأَمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ الَّذِي يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَكَلِمَاتِهِ وَاتَّبِعُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

“Say (O Muhammad, (صلى الله عليه وسلم)): "O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the Messenger of Allaah - to Whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth. La ilaaha illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He); It is He Who gives life and causes death. So believe in Allaah and His Messenger (Muhammad), the Prophet who can neither read nor write (i.e. Muhammad) who believes in Allaah and His Words [(this Qur'an), the Taurat (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel) and also Allaah's Word: "Be!" - and he was, i.e. 'Iesa (Jesus) son of Maryam (Mary),], and follow him so that you may be guided.” (Al-A'raf 7:158)

So the status of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) with Ahlus-Sunnah wal Jama'ah is the status that Allaah and His Messenger commanded us to uphold, baarak Allaahu fikum (may Allaah bless you).

The Prophet said:

"Do not over praise me like the Christians over praised the son of Maryam. Indeed I am a slave of Allaah and His Messenger." [Bukhari]

And in another hadeeth, he said:

"I am a slave. I eat what a slave eats and sit like a slave sits." [al-Baghawee]

Review Questions

- 1- Define Tawheed, as relates to the Sharee'ah (Islam).
- 2- Explain with some detail the categories of Tawheed:
- 3- Write out the complete definition of *Laa Ilaaha Illa Allaah*.
- 4- Mention one proof from the Qur`an that establishes the correct meaning of *Laa Ilaaha Illa Allaah*.
- 5- Bring one proof from the Qur`an that proves that Allaah ('azza wa jall) has attributes, and yet His attributes are **not** similiar to those of the creation.
- 6- Why is the statement "Allaah is One" or "Allaah is The Creator" or "Allaah is The Lord" not sufficient for one to become a Muslim? Explain.
- 7- What is the part of Tawheed that many people from this Ummah ignore?
- 8- Give some examples of Shirk:
- 9- What becomes apparent about the person who says with his tongue "*Laa Ilaaha Illa Allaah*," yet that same person raises his hands in du'aa to other than Allaah, or seeks refuge in the occupant of the grave?
- 10- True or False: An error in the form of Major Shirk in any category of Tawheed nullifies belief in all the categories of Tawheed.

11- List three proofs of Allaah's *'Uluw*.

12- Our 'aqidah has to be the same as _____ and _____.

13- Do we guarantee Jannah (Paradise) for ourselves? Explain.

14- So the Prophet (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) being a slave means _____, and him being a Messenger of Allaah means _____.

15- In any act of worship, our intention has to be to please _____.
_____. [The answer - may Allaah bless you - is one, but notice that there are two blanks.]

16- The Prophet (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) was sent to be _____;
he called to _____ and forbade _____ for 23 years, and died at the age
of _____.

17- Was the command to worship Allaah alone for the Prophet (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) also, or was he excluded from this command? Why, or why not?

18- In aya 31 of Surat Aali 'Imran, Allaah (*'azza wa jall*) commanded the Prophet (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) to tell the people (what means), "**If you truly love Allaah, then _____ . Allaah will love you and forgive you of your sins.**" So for doing this highly praiseworthy matter, you would be counted among those who love Allaah, and Allaah will love you and forgive you of your sins. SubhanAllaah!

19- Believing in (and loving) Prophet Muhammad (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) means to:

- a-
- b-
- c-
- d-

20- Mention one proof that our worship must be in accordance with the Sunnah; otherwise it is rejected.

21- Why is it futile to put someone's words above the words of the Messenger of Allaah (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*)?

22- Why is it important to emphasize that the Messenger of Allaah (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) was a man who walked in the market, ate, slept, had a shadow, went to the bathroom, had relations with his wives, and was **not** created from noor?

23- From the 'aqidah of which deviant sect do people exaggerate with the status of the Prophet (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*), some even devoting worship to him? [Aoodhoobillaah!]

24- Did the Messenger of Allaah (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) know the *Ghaib* (unseen)? Explain.

25- The Messenger of Allaah (*salallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam*) warned us to not over-praise him as the _____ over-praised _____.

Extra Credit: Mention some similarities between the deviant Christian religion and the deviant Soofi sect.

