

21 Singling Allah out with all worship

QUESTION: What does this actually mean, that Muslims should single Allah out with all worship?

ANSWER: We saw last time that Islam requires that as well as affirming Tawheed ur Ruboobiyyah (the Uniqueness of Allah in terms of his Lordship and Creating and Sustaining and Controlling the Universe) a person must affirm its logical consequence – which is that he singles Allah out for worship.

As mentioned last time, this concept – that it is only Allah who should be worshipped – is called *Tawheed ul Uloohiyyah*.

It is no exaggeration to say that this is the single most important concept in the whole of Islam. Everything in Islam revolves around it.¹

Muslims believe that this was what all the Prophets called to.

And indeed We sent amongst every nation a messenger (who proclaimed to the people): "Worship Allah (alone) and avoid the false objects of worship!"
Surah an Nahl (the 16th chapter) verse 36

Indeed We sent Noah to his people and he said: "O my people, worship Allah! You have no other ilaah (deity worthy of worship) except for Him"
Surah al Araaf (the 7th chapter) verse 59

And the Quran mentions that this was the same for all the other Prophets.

So we see that Tawheed ur Ruboobiyyah refers to the oneness of Allah with regards to HIS actions – eg creating, sustaining, controlling the Universe.

And Tawheed ul Uloohiyyah refers to the oneness of Allah with regards to OUR actions - ie actions of worship.

QUESTION: What kind of things does this worship refer to?

ANSWER: One of the most famous scholars of the 7th century after Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was a man called ibn Taymiyyah. He gave a concise definition of worship:

Worship is "a comprehensive term referring to everything which Allah loves and is pleased with, from the person's speech and actions, both outward visible actions and inward (i.e.

¹ Refer to 'aqeedah ut tawheed p46 of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan for more information

hidden) actions."

What sort of things does this actually include though?

It refers to actions such as:

Making supplication to Allah alone

Sacrificing for Allah alone

Having hope in, fear of, trust in, awe of and dread of Allah alone

Turning in repentance to Allah alone

And other actions like this.

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NEXT TIME:

Why should this type of tawheed be the first thing that the Messengers called to?

Why so much emphasis on this one part of Islam?