

## 22 Emphasis on uloohiyah

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**QUESTION:** Why should tawheed ul uloohiyah (singling Allah out in matters of worship) be the first thing that the Prophets called to? Why so much emphasis on this one part of Islam?

**ANSWER:** It may seem that this point is being given undue emphasis in these postings. One might ask how many times does this point about tawheed need to be made?

Muslims believe that this right of Allah to have all worship directed towards Him alone is the foundation of a person's Islam. Every single other aspect of Islam is built upon this. <sup>1</sup>

The Quran states:

**If you join others in worship together with Allah, then indeed all your (good) actions will be nullified; and you will certainly be among the losers.**

*Surah Az Zumar (the 39th surah) ayah 65*

And it is also stated:

**Indeed Allah does not forgive that partners be associated with Him; but He forgives lesser (sins) than that for whomsoever He wishes.**

*Surah an Nisaa (the 4th Surah) ayah 116*

If a person dies upon shirk (associating partners with Allah) without repenting from it, then Allah will not forgive him/her – even though He may forgive other sins that a person comes with on the Day of Judgement.

So this is why it was the priority for all the Prophets whether it was Jesus, Moses, Muhammad, Abraham (peace and blessing be upon them all) or any Prophet other than them. All the Prophets came with the same aqeedah (beliefs).

So for this reason we see that the first step in becoming a Muslim is to state that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah – in Arabic, '*laa ilaha ill Allah*'.

As a further example of its importance, we see that the Quran mentions in numerous places those matters which Allah has made obligatory – and He mentions *tawheed ul uloohiyah* as the first in the list each time.

**Worship Allah alone and associate none with Him in worship, and be good to parents....**

*Surah an Nisaa (the 4th chapter) verse 36*

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to '*aqeedah ut tawheed* p48 to 49 of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan for more information

**And your Lord has ordained that you worship none except Him alone, and that you do good to your parents...**

*Surah al Israa (the 17th chapter) verse 23*

And there are many examples of this that could be quoted.

So Muslims give emphasis to this aspect of belief because it is the foundation of everything in Islam. It is for this reason that we will spend a little bit more time discussing this before moving on.

## **NEXT TIME:**

Muslims affirm that '*la ilaha ill Allah.*' What is the correct translation of this in English, because we see Muslims and non Muslims translating it in many different ways?

This phrase '*la ilaha ill Allah*' has been divided into 2 parts by the scholars of the past: an affirmation and a negation. What does this actually mean?

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