

3 The Importance of Tawheed

QUESTION: What is the importance of this belief in 'tawheed', directing all worship to Allah alone?

ANSWER: In Islam, it is without doubt the single most important issue.¹

If a person associates any partners with Allah in any aspect of worship – and this is called 'shirk' in Arabic - then he/she runs the risk of all his/her good deeds being nullified.

Allah says in the Quran:

And indeed it has been revealed to you - as it was to those before you - that if you commit shirk (joining others in worship with Allah), then surely all your (good) deeds will be nullified, and you will certainly be amongst the losers.

Surah Az Zumar (the 39th surah) ayah 65

The Prophet Muhammad (may Allah's peace and blessing be upon him) spent the first 13 years of his prophethood – when he was in Mecca - explaining this issue of tawheed in great detail.

He spent this long calling to this one issue because it is the foundation upon which the whole religion of Islam is built.

Many of the key Islaamic duties, such as pilgrimage and zakaat and fasting, were not imposed by Allah until after the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessing be upon him) had left Mecca and migrated to Medina.

This length of time – 13 years - highlights even further the crucial nature of this issue, and that we should try to spend some time learning about it.

NEXT TIME:

Muslims believe in Prophets that are also mentioned in the Bible, such as Jesus and Moses. What do Muslims believe about these people? is the importance of this belief in 'tawheed', the oneness of God?

¹ Refer to 'aqeedah ut tawheed p9 of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan for more information