

Messengers 1 – Is there a need for Prophets and Messengers?

So far in these postings, we have covered the basic aspects of Tawheed – the belief that Allaah is unique in terms of His Lordship, His Right to be worshipped and His Names and Attributes.

We will now move onto the topic of the Messengers and Prophets - and what Muslims believe about them. This is obviously linked to the issue of Tawheed since Muslims believe that it was the Prophets who clarified the issues of Tawheed to mankind.

Muslims believe that the Prophets had a number of roles. Amongst them were:

- conveying the Message of Allaah to His Creation
- establishing a proof upon His Creation so that people should not have any excuse on the Day of Judgement for not obeying their Creator.

It might seem to some people that this is something unnecessary since belief in Allah - as we have discussed previously – is something that is ingrained in the human's mind.

What is the need for Prophets to tell people of something that they already know?

However as we will discuss over the next few postings, the realisation that there is a Creator watching over us does not tell us the details of how He wants us to behave, what things to do and what things to avoid. It also does not tell us about what will happen after we die, and other matters of the 'Unseen' nor about what happened to previous nations who obeyed or disobeyed Allah.

For this Prophets and Revelation are needed.

Islam teaches that it is obligatory to believe in the Prophets – all of them.¹

The Qur'an states:

¹ Refer to *al irshaad ilaa saheeh il i'tiqaad* of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan p177

However, righteousness is that a person believes in Allah, the Day of Judgement and the Angels and the Book and the Prophets.

Soorah al Baqarah (the 2nd chapter) verse 177

To believe in some of the Prophets, but not all of them, renders a person's Islam null and void. This is something which many, if not most, non Muslims are not aware of.

The Qur'an states:

Indeed those who disbelieve in Allah and His Messengers, and who wish to distinguish between Allah and His Messengers, saying: 'We believe in some and disbelieve in others!' And they wish to adopt a way in between. Then they are in truth the disbelievers!

Soorah al Nisaa (the 4th chapter) verse 150

So it can be seen that the Qur'an mentions belief in Allah together with belief in the Messengers here, and mentions that the person who believes in some of the Messengers but not in all of them is considered a non Muslim.

This error is something that all other religions have fallen into.

So for example the Jews do not accept Jesus and Muhammad - peace and blessings be upon them - as being messengers.

And the Christians do not accept Muhammad - peace and blessings be upon him - as a messenger.

But Muslims are obligated to believe in and love all the Messengers.

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NEXT TIME:

Why do Muslims believe that it was necessary for Allah to send Messengers?

How many Messengers are mentioned in the Qur'an?