



Readings in al-Qawaa'id al-Arba'ah (The Four Principles) : Part 7

Text by

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Explained by

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From this treatise:

When you acknowledge that Allaah has created you for His worship, then know that worship is not regarded as such unless it is accompanied by tawheed, just as prayer is not regarded as prayer unless it is accompanied by purification (taharah). So when shirk enters into worship it corrupts it just like an impurity invalidates purification

Part 7: The Fourth Principle

Shaikh Salih al-Fawzaan says:

TEXT

The fourth principle is that the mushrikeen of our time are worse in their shirk than the mushrikeen who came before. This is because those who came before committed shirk during times of ease and made their worship purely for Allaah during times of difficulty. However, the shirk of the mushrikeen of our time is continuous, during times of ease and difficulty. The proof is His, the Most High's, saying,

“And when they embark on a ship they invoke Allaah making their faith pure for Him only, but when He brings them safely to land, behold, they give a share of their worship to others.” [al-Ankaboot (29):65].

EXPLANATION

The fourth principle –and it is the last- is that the mushrikeen of our time are worse in their shirk than the mushrikeen to whom the Messenger of Allaah (may Allaah's peace and blessings be upon him) was sent.

The reason for this is clear: That Allaah, the Mighty and Most High, mentioned that the mushrikeen who came before used to devote their worship purely for Allaah when matters became difficult for them and they did not call upon other than Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic, due to their recognition that there was no one to save them from difficulties except Allaah, as He, the Most High, said,

“And when harm touches you upon the sea, those that you call upon besides Him vanish from you except Him (Allaah Alone). But when He brings you safely to land, you turn away (from Him). And man is ever ungrateful.” [al-Israa (17):67]

And in another verse,

“And when a wave covers them like shades, they invoke Allaah, making their religion purely for Him..” [Luqmaan (31):32]

Meaning making their supplication purely for Allaah.

“But when He brings them safely to land, there are those who stop in the middle (between belief and disbelief).” [Luqmaan (31):32]

And in another verse,

“But when He brings them safely to land, behold, they give a share of their worship to others.” [al-Ankaboot (29):65]

So those who came before used to commit shirk during times of ease and they used to call upon idols, stones and trees. However, when they fell into hardship and came close to

destruction, they did not call upon an idol, a tree, a stone or any created being rather they called upon Allaah alone, the One free from all imperfections, the Most High. So if Allaah alone could help them in times of difficulty then how could they call anyone besides Him during times of ease?

As for the present mushrikeen i.e. those of the later times amongst whom shirk has occurred from ummah of Muhammad (may Allaah's peace and blessings be upon him), then their shirk is continuous during times of ease and hardship. They do not direct their worship purely for Allaah even during times of difficulty. Rather, whenever their affairs become difficult their shirk becomes even more severe and they call upon Hassan, Hussain, Abdul Qaadir and ar-Rafa'ee and others and this is something well known.

Amazing stories are narrated about certain incidents that happen to them when they are in the sea, such that when matters become difficult for them they shout out the names of the awliyaa and the righteous and they seek aid from them besides Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic. This is because the callers of falsehood and misguidance say to them, "We will rescue you from the seas, so when you are afflicted with something, call out our names and we will rescue you."

And this is reported from the Mashaaikh of the Sufi ways and if you wish then read "Tabaqaat ash-sha'raani" for it contains that which causes the skin to shiver. It mentions what are called miracles of the awliyaa and the fact that they can rescue people from the seas. In it he says that he extends his hand to the sea, carries all of the ship and delivers it to the shore and not even a drop of water touches his sleeves and other things from their lies and superstitions. So their shirk is continuous during times of ease and distress and thus they are worse than the mushrikeen who came before.

Also as the Shaikh has said in "Kashf ush shubahaat" -from another view point- " That the mushrikeen who came before used to worship righteous people from the angels, prophets and awliyaa, as for the people of our time then they worship the most sinful of the people, and they acknowledge this fact." So those whom they call the Aqtaab (pillars of the universe) and Aghwaath (helpers) do not pray or fast and are not free from fornication, sodomy and shameless deeds. This is because they claim that those people are free from religious duties and responsibilities. So they believe there is no halaal or haraam for them rather these things are only for the common masses. And they acknowledge the fact that their leaders do not pray or fast and that they do not refrain from evil deeds however despite this they worship them, rather they worship the most sinful and despicable of the people like Al-Hallaaj, ibn Arabee, Ar-Rafaa'ee, Al – Badawee and others besides them.

And the Shaikh has mentioned the proof for the fact that the mushrikeen of our times are more severe and worse in their shirk than those who came before, because they used to make their deen sincerely for Allaah during times of difficulty and commit shirk during times of ease, and he concluded that from His, the Most High's, saying,

"And when they embark on a ship, they invoke Allaah, making their Faith purely for Him." [al-Ankaboot (29):65]

May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon our Prophet Muhammad and his family and all his companions.