
Seeking refuge with Allaah's Words

Translated by Abu Abdirrahmaan Nasser ibn Najam

Taken from the works of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

With regards to seeking refuge in the Words of Allaah, the Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ)¹ comments on the hadeeth where the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) advised us to seek refuge with the Words of Allaah when we stop off at a place²:

And the point of witness from the hadeeth is his (صلى الله عليه وسلم)³ saying:

I seek refuge with the Words of Allaah...

And the author quotes this under the heading "(From shirk is) Seeking refuge with other than Allaah" - and (yet) here is seeking refuge with words, and not seeking refuge with Allaah. So how is this?

I reply: that the Words of Allaah are an Attribute from His Attributes. And for this reason the scholars use this hadeeth as a proof that the Speech of Allaah is from His Attributes and is not created – because istiaa'adhah (seeking refuge) with a created thing is not permissible in the like of this matter.

And were the Words (of Allaah) created, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) would not have directed (us) towards seeking refuge with them.

And therefore the intent behind the words of the author "(From shirk is) Seeking refuge with other than Allaah" is with the meaning "or (other than) an Attribute from His Attributes".

(Al qawl ul mufeed (1/255) of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ))

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² Reported by Muslim (2708) and others

³ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him