

The True God is Allaah, and man is need of Him

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[Acknowledgment: original article transcribed from the site www.understand-islam.net by sister Ummammar, may Allaah reward her with all good.]

Article taken and slightly adapted from: abdurrahman.org

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

I testify that there is no true god worthy of worship except Allaah and that Muhammad is Allaah's true slave and Messenger.

The term **worship** in Islam translates to a code of life, because worship means everything which Allaah loves from actions and (or) sayings that are apparent and (or) hidden.

Many are those who do not believe in Allaah as the Only True God. Many as well believe that there is a Creator. However, they are in state of confusion as to who is this Creator. In this article a presentation is aimed to direct to the conclusion that Allaah is the true "God", the Creator, and that man is in need of Him.

The Creator must be the creator of everything, the heavens, the earth and all that is in between them, mankind and all that exists. It is anticipated that anyone who says "I believe in the Creator," that he believes in this. It also entails that he should necessarily believe that the Creator possesses Perfect Attributes. He is Perfect in His attributes, in Himself, in His Names, and in His Actions. This is a natural flow, otherwise, it is a delusion not a true belief in the "Creator."

"I believe in a Perfect Creator," should lead to another obvious admission: if you believe that the Creator is Perfect then He is Perfectly Wise in all of His Actions. Does He then Create because of a Perfect Wisdom, or aimlessly? This is the important linkage. Does He Create for a need? Or He Creates based upon Wisdom? It is anticipated that to be in harmony with having belief in the Creator, that His Wisdom is necessarily linked to His Knowledge, His Will and to all of His Attributes. The question, therefore, would you think the One who creates does so for a purpose or He creates to leave the creation aimless? The person who believes the Creator is Perfect, would agree that His creating is not aimless. If so, then Who else other than Allaah has stated this? And you know where? It is in His Final Revelation to man.

Contemplate what He has said:

["Did you think that We have created you in play without any purpose and that you will not be brought back to us, so exalted be Allaah the true king none has the right to be worshipped but He, the Lord of the Supreme Throne"] [Qur'aan 23: 115-116].

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[Does man think that he will be left aimless (without purpose)?] [Qur'aan, 75:36].

So Allaah is the One whom you believe to be “the Creator.” He chose this title for Himself and He stated that He is the Only Creator, and that He Creates with Wisdom:

[Such is Allaah, your Lord, the Creator of all things, there is no god but He: Then how you are deluded away from the Truth!] [Qur'aan, 40:62].

So this creation which Allaah creates must have a code organising its existence and its aims. Hence:

- 1- Allaah creates and His creating is all Wise and for a purpose.
- 2- Allaah did not leave us aimless. He set a code to live accordingly. So He legislates, commands, and prohibits, and justly sets reward and accountability, because He is all Just.
- 3- In all aspects of this code, the manifestations of His Names and Attributes become known, contemplated and realised. Being the Creator necessitates creating as well as purpose, guidance and legislations. Whoever ascribes is rewarded, since He is the Most Generous. When one commits a sin, he realises that his Creator accepts repentance and is oft-Forgiving. So the manifestations of Allaah’s Names and Attributes become realised on earth and this is beloved to Allaah, the Creator.
- 4- Allaah gives man life, physical sustenance, and spiritual guidance through the revelation which He entrusted His Messengers with. He guides man to know how to benefit from the provisions, what is good for him and what is harmful. He raises in honour those who submitted to Him, and justly puts in humiliation those who disdain and are arrogant. He Forgives and is Merciful; He punishes and rewards in order that man shapes his life with the code that is all beneficial to man and which makes his life on this earth upright. And it cannot be upright unless man ascribes to the guidance sent to him by His creator.
- 5- If all mankind come to ascribe to his code (i.e. worship) Allaah on one heart, then this does not oblige any change in Allaah’s Essence nor in His Attributes. If all the creation is on one heart, this does not increase in the dominion of Allaah anything.

That is why He stated:

[But Allaah is free of all wants, and it is you that are needy.] [Qur'aan, 47:38]

6-And that is why He mentioned:

[“If you do good, you do good for your own selves”] [Qur'aan, 17:7]

[“And whoever does righteous good deeds, then such will prepare a good place in paradise for themselves.”] [Qur'aan, 30:44]

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And as the Prophet Muhammad [May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] related in the authentic Hadeeth that Allaah said:

“O My slaves, you will not attain harm in Me so as to harm Me, and you will not attain benefit in Me so as to benefit Me; O My slaves, were the first of you and the last of you, the human of you and the jinn of you to be as pious as the most pious heart of any one man of you, that will not increase My Kingdom in anything; O my slaves, were the first of you and last of you, the human of you and the jinn of you to be as wicked as the most wicked heart of any one man of you, that will not decrease My Kingdom in anything; O My slaves, it is but your deeds that I reckon up for you and I recompense you for. So let him who finds good praise Allaah and let him who finds other than that blame no one but himself.”¹

On daily basis the person makes what is known as ritual purity (wudoo). In every drop of water used to wash the face, hands, arms, head, and feet, sins fall off. It is therefore a tangible and intangible benefit to man. Listen to what Allaah, the Most High, says:

[“Allaah does not want to place you in difficulty but He wants to purify you and to complete His favour upon you that you may be thankful.”] [Qur’aan, 5:6]

Also concerning the ritual of offering a sacrificial animal (from the cattle) in the pilgrimage, we read in the Qur’aan:

[“It is neither their meat nor their blood that reaches Allaah but it is piety from you that reaches Him.”] [Qur’aan, 22:37].

In human to human relationship, people do good for each other to attain their own interests, or to be praised. But with Allaah, if you do good, you do good for yourself, because this good that you do does not benefit Allaah.

In light of the above, we need to contemplate the great purpose for which we have been created. This is clearly stated by Allaah:

[“And Allaah have not created not the jinn and the men except that they should worship me alone.”] [Qur’aan, 51: 56-57].

So they are called for what benefits them. Remember the definition of worship in the beginning of this discussion? They are the ones who, if they comply, will win. And that is why He asserted in the next verse:

[“I seek not any provision from them nor do I ask that they should feed Me.”] [Qur’aan, 51:57].

¹ Reported in Saheeh Muslim, No. 6246

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Why did Allaah mention food and provisions here? It is traditionally known that the greatest need for man is the need for food, clothing and residence. This requires means and provisions, and this is the wealth. That is why Allaah began with it: **“I seek not any provision from them,”** and then He referred to food, because it is the thing most needed by people: **“nor do I ask that they should feed Me,”** because He is all-Rich, free of all want; Self-Sufficient, needs nothing. He related to us in things we relate closely to so as to make this matter vividly clear.

Hence, the creation of man is not to bring a benefit for Allaah, but to establish this code of life which links him to his Creator. The Noble objective is to submit and deliver. Otherwise there can be no love of our Creator without submission. And to deliver so as to establish uprightness. But who defines what is good and upright? It is laid down by the one who is All-Knowing and Perfect: Allaah. If it is left to us, then your good is an evil to me and vice versa! So, the code of life is set in accordance with what Allaah has defined as worship, outwardly, and inwardly. So imagine someone saying he loves Allaah and worships others besides Him or to the exclusion of Him! This is neither submission nor compliance. That is why love and magnification of Allaah means worshipping none but Him. This is the essence of all the revealed Messages to all the Prophets and Messengers. It is a single Message of Tawheed: singling Allaah alone as the true God worthy of worship and disassociating from any kind of worship to other than Him

We often hear people say: what is important is “love.” In reality, the true love is the love of Allaah, our Creator, sustainer, and provider. No one is more beloved to Allaah than the one who loves Him and praises Him and complies with His code which He has set for us in this life. Shirk (opposite of Tawheed): associating partners with Allaah in worship is the most hated thing to Allaah because this diminishes (or may eliminate) the love of Allaah. It sets between Allaah and man an associate, and that is why Allaah does not love it. It takes away from the love of Allaah alone and equates Allaah, the Perfect, with the imperfect. This is not even acceptable in human relations. So one must not set up any rival to Allaah in worship. Allaah warned about this, saying:

[“And of mankind are some who take for worship others besides Allaah as rivals, they love them as they love Allaah but those who believe love Allaah more than anything else.”]

[Qur'aan 2, 165]

So the truly beneficial thing to man is to know of His Creator, magnify Him, and love Him so that he gains His love and thus be amongst the happy ones in this life and in the hereafter. However, since man has tendencies towards his own lusts and desires, then this objective cannot be attained except when man follows what is pleasing to His Creator, Allaah. The stronger man's love of Allaah is, the more he gains of His love and guidance. In practice this needs to be translated into compliance with the code of life set by Allaah.

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The one who is in need of Allaah is the created, because the One who is Self Sufficient and Perfect is Allaah. It is out of His generosity and benevolence that He is rewarding for singling Him alone in worship. And in that, His names and attributes become manifested, and this is beloved to Him. He loves for the person to repent; He loves for the person to return to Him in repentance; He loves forgiving; He loves pardoning; He loves clemency, and He loves justice because He is All-Just. When man realises the manifestations of Allaah's Names, Attributes and actions in the creation, then he knows the meaning of worship and clings to that.

I hope that in this discussion, there is a benefit for the person who says that he believes in the Creator, and that it takes him to the final conclusion of submitting to Allaah in Islam. As to those who do not believe in Allaah, they are directed to the discussions we have on this matter under the title: "who deserves to be worshipped alone" on the site www.understandislam.net. And all Praise is due to Allaah, the most Beneficent the most Merciful.

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17/5/1427 AH

June 13, 2006