

Allaah Has Cut Off All Of the Ways [to Shirk] That the Mushrikeen Are Attached To

By Ibn al-Qayyim
Madaarij us-Saalikeen (1/351)

Ibn al-Qayyim (rahimahullaah) said:

“And Allaah the Most High has cut off all of the ways, avenues that the Mushrikeen are attached to [in justifying their Shirk] in their entirety, absolutely, and the one who reflects upon it will know that whoever takes a protector (waliy) besides Allaah, or an intercessor (shafee’), then he is “...**like the example of a spider, who builds (for itself) a house, but verily, the frailest (weakest) of houses is the spider's house**” (Ankabut 29:41).

So Allaah, the Most High said, “Say: “Call upon those whom you assert (to be associate gods) besides Allâh, they possess not even the weight of an atom (or a small ant), either in the heavens or on the earth, nor have they any share in either, nor there is for Him any supporter from among them”. Intercession with Him profits not, except for him whom He permits”. (Saba' 34:22-23)

Thus, the Mushrik, he takes something as his object of worship on account of what he believes that on account of it he will attain some benefit. And benefit cannot be brought about except from one who has any of these four characteristics:

- a) Either an owner (maalik) of whatever his worshipper seeks from him
- b) So if he is not an owner, then he is a partner (shareek) to the owner [in what he owns]

- c) And if he is not a partner to him [in what he owns], then he is a helper (mu'een) and an aide (dhaheer) to him
- d) And if he is not an aide and nor a helper, then he is one who intercedes with him (i.e. the owner).

So, He, the Sublime, negated all of these four levels, in a successive manner, moving from the one that is the highest to the one that is less than it. So he negated dominion, (mulk, i.e. ownership), and partnership (sharikah), and aiding, assisting (mudhaaharah), and intercession (shafaa'ah) which the Mushrik thinks to be so [but in reality it is Shirk]. And then He affirmed the [true, affirmed] intercession in which there is no portion for the Mushrik, and this is the intercession that occurs with His permission.

So sufficient is this verse as light, and evidence, and deliverance, and purity in Tawheed, and cutting off the foundations of Shirk, and its underlying roots, for the one who understands it. And the Qur'aan is full of what is similar and equal to this (verse). However, most people do not perceive and realise that the current realities enter into it, and is comprised within it (i.e. what occurs in the Qur'an of explanation of Shirk). And so they think that it is only of a particular type and that it is only found in a people who have passed by, and who were not followed by those who inherited from them (their ways). And this (thought) is what comes in between the heart and understanding of the Qur'aan.

And by Allaah, even if they had passed by, then those who are just like them have inherited (their ways) from them, or those who are more evil than them, or who are less evil than them. And the Qur'aan applies to these just like it applies to those. However, the affair is 'Umar bin al-Khattaab (radiallaahu anhu) said, "Verily the handholds of Islaam will be removed one by one, until a person is brought up within Islaam, not even knowing what is Jaahiliyyah".

And this is because when he does not know al-Jaahiliyyah and ash-Shirk, and what the Qur'aan has criticised and rebuked, then he will fall into it and will affirm it, call to it, consider it to be correct and good, while he does not even realise that this is what the people of Jaahiliyyah were upon, or what is equal to it, or more evil than it, or less evil than it.

So as a result of this, the handholds of Islaam will be removed from his heart, and thus what is ma'roof will turn to munkar, and the munkar to m'aroof, and bid'ah to sunnah and sunnah to bid'ah. And a man will be declared a disbeliever merely on account of [his correct, sound] Imaan and purity in Tawheed, and he will be declared an Innovator by his purity in following and imitating the Messenger (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam), and his separating from the People of Desires and Innovations.

And whoever has baseerah (insight) and a living heart will see that clearly and directly, and from Allaah is all aid sought.”