



Readings in Kashf ush-Shubuhaat (Removal of the Doubts) : The Fourth Study

INTRODUCTION

All Praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him, seek His aid and His Forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allaah from the evils of our souls and the evils of our actions. Whomsoever Allaah guides there is none to misguide and whomsoever Allaah misguides there is none to guide. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allaah, alone, without any partners and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and messenger.

To proceed: this is the treatise of the Shaikh ul-Islam, Establisher of Tawheed, and Reviver of the Religion, Muhammad bin Abdul-Wahhaab entitled “the Removal of the Doubts” and it is one of the most essential and fundamental writings on the subject of Tawheed and what is connected to it. The translation of the text has been taken from the work of Muhammad bin Abdur-Rahmaan al-Khumayyis who has added some brief explanatory notes and some additional footnotes pointing out some other doubts that the enemies of Tawheed use and spread amongst the people. The whole book is serialised in sections and explanatory titles have been given to each portion of the text to aid understanding, study and revision.

We pray that Allaah revives the light of Tawheed and the Sunnah and that He removes what remains of the darkneses of Shirk and Bid’ah, and that He corrects the affairs of the Ummah, by granting them success in correcting their own souls, following in all of that the Methodology of the Inheritors the Prophets in every generation, that of Imaam Maalik, that of the Prophets and Messengers themselves.

To proceed: The Fourth Study...

The Fourth Study: The Obligation of Learning That Which Repels the Doubts of the Mushriks

The Shaikh of Islaam, Muhammad bin Abdul-Wahhaab continued:

4.1 [The Straight Path, the Erudition of the Enemies, Satan, and the Believers Weapon]

So when you have come to know all of that (i.e. what has preceded), and when you have come to know that the path to Allaah will inevitably have enemies lying in wait upon it, people who have eloquence, knowledge and arguments, then it is obligatory upon you that you learn that from the deen of Allaah what will in turn become a weapon for you, by which you will fight against those devils (Shayaateen), those whose Imaam (leader) and spokesman said to your Lord – the Mighty and Majestic: **“Surely I will sit in wait against them (human beings) on Your Straight Path. Then I will come to them from before them and behind them, from their right and from their left, and You will not find most of them as thankful ones (i.e. they will not be dutiful to You).”** (Al-A'raf 7:16-17).

4.2 [The Decisive Proofs Are Obtained From Allaah And the Strength of the Common Person Amongst the Muwvahids Over the Erudite Scholars Amongst the Mushriks]

However, when you turn to Allaah and pay close attention to His [decisive] arguments and his clarifications, then do not fear and nor despair, **“Ever feeble indeed is the plot of Shaitân (Satan).”** (An-Nisa 4:76). And the common person from amongst the Muwahhideen will overcome a thousand from the Ulamaa (scholars) amongst the those Mushriks, just as the Most High has said, **“And that Our soldiers, they verily would be the victors.”** (As-Saffat 37:173) . So the Soldiers of Allaah, they are the victorious by way of evidence and the tongue, just as they are victorious by the sword and the spear.

4.3 [The Defenceless Muwahhid!!]

But indeed it is feared for the Muwahhid who traverses the path without any weapon. Yet Allaah the Most High has favoured us with His Book, which He has made, **“as an exposition of everything, a guidance, a mercy, and glad tidings for those who have submitted themselves (to Allâh as Muslims).”** (An-Nahl 16:89)

4.4 [All Arguments Are Eternally Rendered Futile By the Qur'an]

So no person of falsehood comes with any argument except there is in the Qur'an that which will nullify it and expose its falsehood, as the Most High said, **“And no example or similitude do they bring (to oppose or to find fault in you or in this Qur'ân), but We reveal to you the truth (against that similitude or example), and the better explanation thereof.”** (Al-Furqan 25:33). Some of the Mufasssiroon (Exegetes) have said, “This verse is generally applicable until the Day of Judgement to every argument that the people of falsehood bring.”

End of the Shaikh's words.

Points to Note

4A. Know that the Enemies of Tawheed who sit on the path that leads to Paradise – and how great and diverse they are – have their fare share of knowledge and argument with which they rejoice and on account of which they display pride and exultation.

4B. When that is the case, then it is not wise that you expose yourself to them, to their doubts, and to their arguments and whisperings, for you will inevitably come across them and hence you must acquire the weapon with which you will assault the Soldiers of Satan the Accursed. But while you are upon this path, do not pay attention to those who speak of the simplicity of Tawheed, and assert that it can be taught and learnt in 10 minutes or less, the while they themselves have turned their attention to other than in which the Prophets dedicated their lives, and have sought the Innovators and Strayers as their leaders and guides. And the enemies of Tawheed have but multiplied and diversified and their [arsenal of] arguments, their sophisticated “weaponry”, and their doubts and desires are such that Tawheed can neither be learnt or taught in ten 10 minutes (or less). For the required Tawheed is not merely an intellectual understanding of its basic concepts, rather it extends to a knowledge-based implementation of the requisites of Tawheed in every sphere of the heart’s emotions and feelings, the statements of the tongue and the actions of the limbs. The Prophets dedicated their whole lives in explaining and clarifying the great affair of Tawheed. It took Shaikh ul-Islaam Muhammad bin Abdul-Wahhaab a fair share of his life to explain Tawheed to the people. It took him more than 10 minutes to compose this book and ponder over its content, prior to writing it, and explaining it, and teaching it!!

You should know and understand O Sunni, that volumes upon volumes have been written on the subject of Tawheed, and the Salaf spent a fare share of their lives in explaining, and clarifying this Tawheed. It is not possible for a Sunni to understand and appreciate Tawheed – **in the desired manner** – except that he must enter into a detailed study of its finer details – increasing his weaponry, and his arsenal and his decisive argument, such that the Soldiers of Satan flee in every direction. This is the way of the Muwahhid and this is his struggle and Thus Taught the Prophets. The Prophets did not teach that the Muwahhid ought to become an activist revolutionary and that he should show great patience in rebelling against the authorities, and in amassing a great following and mobilising it for public demonstrations, and demanding human rights, and that this is the required and desired struggle. Nor did the Prophets teach that the Muwahhid should seize the reins of power by ousting the tyrants and demolishing their thrones of power. Thus Taught the Prophets Not.

So beware O Weaponless Muwahhid!! Tawheed and the call to Tawheed is not a simple matter!! For what benefit will it be to you if Tawheed is explained to you in 10 minutes and so you understand it – and indeed the Mushriks too understood it – but then you do not act upon its requirements and learn in detail what nullifies it, or impairs it – from amongst the affairs of major shirk, minor shirk and hidden shirk – such that you are saved and delivered?! Allaah the Most High, stated, **“And (remember) when Ibrâhim (Abraham) said: “O my Lord! Make this city (Makkah) one of peace and security, and keep me and my sons away from worshipping idols. O my Lord! They have indeed led astray many among mankind.”** (Ibrahim 14:35-36). Al-Mugheerah bin Qaasim said, *“Ibraahim at-Taymee used to*

narrate and his narrations he would say, “Who will be secure from tribulation after the Khaleel of Allaah, Ibraaheem, when he has said, “O Lord, and keep me and my sons away from worshipping idols?”¹. So when it is the case that Ibraaheem, the Hanif, the firm and upright, the Monotheist, who was not of the Mushriks, feared from falling into the worship of idols, then what of those lesser than him?! And what benefit is it if one understands or is able to explain the simplicity of Tawheed in 10 minutes or less?!

4C. That amongst the Soldiers of Satan are those who have their proofs and arguments for their rejection of Tawheed al-Uloohiyyah, and those who have their proofs and arguments for their rejection of Tawheed ul-Asmaa was-Sifaat. All of them have their books, their reference points, their leaders and guides, their theorists and thinkers, and their arsenal of arguments of proofs.

4D. Therefore, one must seek his weapon by turning to Allaah and to His Book, to understanding the arguments of the Soldiers of Satan, how they have all been anticipated and answered in the Book. And when he is granted success in that then he will overcome a thousand from amongst the Soldiers of Satan. **“And the common person from amongst the Muwahhideen is the one who affirms Tawheed with its three types: al-Uloohiyyah, ar-Ruboobiyyah and al-Asmaa was-Sifaat, and he is the one who will overcome a thousand of the scholars amongst the Mushriks. Since, the scholars of those Mushriks do not affirm from the Tawheed of Allaah except His Ruboobiyyah. And this is a deficient Tawheed, and is not true Tawheed in reality...”** (Shaikh Ibn Uthaimeen, Kashf ush-Shubuhaat p.67). “And what is not mean is the common-person who is ignorant, Allaah No! Unless he is one to whom Allaah has granted success in attaining rational proofs...” (Sharh Kashf ush-Shubuhaat of Shaikh Ibn Ibraaheem p.48). And this is the Soldier of Allaah.

4E. When it is the case that the rectification of the affairs of the world and hereafter are built around this Tawheed, then what great fear there is upon the Weaponless Muwahhid, who all but exposes himself!! “How, then can a person be at ease, and not fear for himself?” **“...hence it is necessary that a person should have knowledge by which he can repel the doubts and by which he can silence and dumbfound his opponent...”** (Shaikh Ibn Uthaimeen, Kashf ush-Shubuhaat p.70).

4F. And when you have been granted success in all of that, then ever weak and feeble will be the plot of Satan when it faces you – if Allaah wills.

¹ Tafseer Ibn Jareer (7/460)

Action Plan of the Muwahhid

1. Beware that the Soldiers of Satan are lying in wait for you. Either to assault and attack you from the aspect of the affairs relating to al-Uloohiyyah (which is the subject of this treatise) or the affairs of al-Asmaa was-Sifaat (which is covered elsewhere). Hence, know and anticipate this. And if the Soldiers of Satan do not attack you directly, then Satan himself will take advantage of your ignorance in these two fields in order to make you fall into that which Allaah does not forgive.
2. Prepare yourself to acquire your understanding from Allaah and His Book (and which will be detailed in what is yet to come), then you will be able to overcome the equivalent of a thousand or more from the Learned Soldiers of Satan amongst the Mushriks.
3. If you do not prepare yourself, then know that either you will become prone to the Soldiers of Satan, and their plotting and planning, and their doubts and arguments, or you will become prone to falling into that which Allaah does not forgive. So you have an even greater need of preparing yourself.
4. Think, ponder and reflect over all of this. Then, when you are satisfied with your understanding and acquisition, then proceed to Part 5, seeking Allaah's aid and assistance in all of that.

And may the prayers and peace be upon Allaah's Messenger, his family, his companions and those who follow him upon Tawheed and the Sunnah till the affair is established.