



Ramadan Daily Quran Studies, by Dr Zahid Aziz, 2024

Produced by:

Ahmadiyya Anjuman Ishaat Islam Lahore (UK)

Study 28:

The Oneness of God – 2





- Since the Holy Prophet Muhammad's mission was to establish belief in the oneness of God, it is this to which he invited people of other religions. He is told in the Quran to say:

قُلْ يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ تَعَالَوْا إِلَى كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ

أَلَّا نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَلَا نُشْرِكَ بِهِ شَيْئًا

وَلَا يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ ط

فَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَقُولُوا اشْهَدُوا بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾





“Say: O People of the Book, come to an equitable word between us and you,
that we shall serve none but Allah
and that we shall not set up any partner with Him,
and that some of us shall not take others for lords besides Allah.

But if they turn away, then say:
Bear witness, we are Muslims.”

(3:64)

- Here *the crux of what Islam is trying to achieve* is explained, rather than simply asking people to accept the Holy Prophet Muhammad and become Muslims.



- Three points are made here, as follows:
 - (1) Only the One God should be worshipped and have prayers addressed only to Him. There must be no worship of idols, trees, animals, tombs, heavenly bodies, forces of nature, or human beings who are supposed to be demi-gods or gods or incarnations of God or sons or daughters of God.
 - (2) The attributes of God must not be ascribed to anyone or anything else, for example beliefs of the kind that God has delegated His powers to other agencies or beings to act for Him.



(3) No one other than God is to be taken as the absolute and unconditional authority to be obeyed.

- This is what Islam requires of mankind. It is a different matter that it was only the Holy Prophet Muhammad who provided the fullest and best evidence for these beliefs, and to hold these beliefs in their proper sense a person needs to follow him.



- The Quran tells us that every person, when in distress and unable to find a way out, turns to the One God only, forgetting everything else:



وَإِذَا مَسَّكُمُ الضُّرُّ فِي الْبَحْرِ ضَلَّ مَنْ تَدْعُونَ إِلَّا إِلَهًا
فَلَمَّا نَجَّيْكُمْ إِلَى الْبَرِّ أَعْرَضْتُمْ ۗ وَكَانَ الْإِنْسَانُ كَفُورًا ﴿٦٧﴾



1. “And when distress afflicts you in the sea,
away go those whom you call on except He;
but when He brings you safe to the land, you turn away.
And man is ever ungrateful.”
(17:67)



قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ أَتَاكُمْ عَذَابُ اللَّهِ أَوْ أَتَتْكُمُ السَّاعَةُ أَغَيْرَ اللَّهِ تَدْعُونَ ۗ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٤٠﴾



بَلْ إِيَّاهُ تَدْعُونَ فَيَكْشِفُ مَا تَدْعُونَ إِلَيْهِ إِنْ شَاءَ وَتَنْسَوْنَ مَا تُشْرِكُونَ ۗ ﴿٤١﴾



2. “Say: See, if the punishment of Allah overtake you
or the hour come upon you,

will you call on others than Allah, if you are truthful?

No, Him you call upon,

so He removes that (distress) for which you pray, if He pleases,

and **you forget what you set up as partners** (with Him).”

(6:40–41)



- Those other than God which are worshipped are powerless to do anything. The Quran says about this:



يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ ضُرِبَ مَثَلٌ فَاستَمِعُوا لَهُ^ط
إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ لَنْ يَخْلُقُوا ذُبَابًا وَلَوْ اجْتَمَعُوا لَهُ^ط
وَإِنْ يَسْلُبْهُمُ الذُّبَابُ شَيْئًا لَا يَسْتَنْقِذُوهُ مِنْهُ^ط ضَعُفَ الطَّالِبُ وَالْمَطْلُوبُ ﴿٤٣﴾



1. “O people, a parable is set forth, so listen to it.

Surely those whom you call upon besides Allah cannot create a fly,
though they should all gather for it.

And if the fly carry off anything from them, they cannot take it back from it.

Weak are (both) the invoker and the invoked.” (22:73)



... وَالَّذِينَ تَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ مَا يَمْلِكُونَ مِنْ قِطِيرٍ ﴿١٣﴾



إِنْ تَدْعُوهُمْ لَا يَسْمَعُوا دَعَاءَكُمْ ۖ وَلَوْ سَمِعُوا مَا اسْتَجَابُوا لَكُمْ ۗ ...

2. "...And those whom you call upon besides Him own not a straw.



If you call on them, they do not hear your call;

and if they heard, they could not answer you...." (35:13–14)



أَيُّ شُرَكَائِكُمْ مَا لَا يَخْلُقُ شَيْئًا وَهُمْ يُخْلَقُونَ ﴿١٩١﴾ وَلَا يَسْتِطِيعُونَ لَهُمْ نَصْرًا وَلَا أَنْفُسُهُمْ يَنْصُرُونَ ﴿١٩٢﴾



3. "Do they set up (as gods) that which has not created anything,

while they are themselves created?



And they cannot give them help, nor can they help themselves." (7:191–192)



- The Quran says that even the great men who are mistakenly taken for gods were powerless:



لَقَدْ كَفَرَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ^ط

قُلْ فَمَنْ يَمْلِكُ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا إِنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يُهْلِكَ الْمَسِيحَ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ وَأُمَّهُ وَ مَنْ فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا^ط

وَاللَّهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا^ط يُخْلِقُ مَا يَشَاءُ^ط وَاللَّهُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١٤﴾



“They indeed disbelieve who say:
Surely, Allah — He is the Messiah, son of Mary.
Say: Who then could control anything as against Allah
if He wished to destroy the Messiah, son of Mary, and his mother
and all those on the earth?
And Allah’s is the kingdom of the heavens and the earth
and all that is between them.
He creates what He pleases. And Allah is Powerful over all things.”
(5:17)



- Here it is stated that God's power extends over Jesus and Mary, as it does over everyone else.
- No matter how great, and how beloved of God, someone might be, they do not acquire the attributes of God and remain His creation, subject to the laws that govern His creation.



- This is why the Quran says:



مَا الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ
وَأُمُّهُ صِدِّيقَةٌ كَانَا يَأْكُلِنِ الطَّعَامَ ...



1. “The Messiah, son of Mary, was only a messenger — messengers had indeed passed away before him.

And his mother was a truthful woman.

They both used to eat food. ...”

(5:75)

وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ ۖ قَدْ خَلَتْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ الرُّسُلُ ۗ
أَفَأَنْ مَاتَ أَوْ قُتِلَ انْقَلَبْتُمْ عَلَىٰ أَعْقَابِكُمْ ۗ ...

2. “And Muhammad is but a messenger —
messengers have already passed away before him.
If then he dies or is killed, will you turn back upon your heels? ...”
(3:144)

END OF STUDY 28