

First khutbah

My brothers, it is the fundamental belief of the Muslim to believe that Allah is one **سُبْحَانَهُ**. We all believe in La Ilaha Illallah. We all submit to La Ilaha Illallah, but what is sad is often the meaning of La Ilaha Illallah is not understood properly. If you were to ask two separate Muslims what is the meaning of La Ilaha Illallah, it is likely that you would get different answers, hence Allah **وَتَعَالَى** **سُبْحَانَهُ** has told us to go back to the understanding of:

فَاعْلَمْ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

“So know, [O Muhammad], that there is no deity except Allah” Muhammad (Muhammad)

47:19

Learn and know what is, otherwise there wouldn't be much difference between you and the followers of other religions. Ibn Qayyim **رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ** he says:

“If a person strays away from guidance and the revelation, he will then be tested with ideas and beliefs that are filthy. His intelligence will become a skip for piling upon it nonsense and he will have his way of thinking polluted”

My brothers we understand and we know that Allah **وَتَعَالَى** **سُبْحَانَهُ** has sent to every single Ummah a Prophet to teach them La Ilaha Illallah, the Oneness of Allah **وَتَعَالَى** **سُبْحَانَهُ** and to eradicate shirk. So from the very

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beginning, Nuh عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ was sent when they started making shirk with idols. Ibraheem عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ was sent where they were making shirk with idols, but also with theories and philosophies and this continued until we have Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, He sent him to Banu' Israel.

At that time my brothers, people were believing in kufr. People were engaging in sihr. People were engaging in idol worship. So Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى sent Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ with the call of tawheed, to come back to La Ilaha Illallah. We know that he was rejected initially by the coptics in Egypt in Firawun and Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى saved his nation, the one that believed in La Ilaha Illallah. But what we also know is that after they were saved and Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى took them to Sham, one of the biggest things that they did to deviate from the call of Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ is then to fall into shirk again and when they were falling into shirk, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى punished them as a nation and this punishment comes in this narration from Abdullah ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه, he said that:

“These people strayed away from tawheed and the Oneness of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى so much, they had the Torah, they had the scriptures, they had Prophets, they had revelation, they had religion, they only acted upon what they wanted to act upon and they ignored and changed other parts” - a form of shirk my brothers and as a punishment and as a result, Abdullah ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه he goes on to say:

“When they lost their religion, when they lost La Ilaha Illallah, when they gave up the following of the Torah and understanding it and practising upon it, and they chose their desires and their theories instead, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى raised the Torah from them. No one had the Torah left, even if they had memorised it from before, nobody had it left in their hearts. Nobody had it left in their memorization”

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This is because Abdullah ibn Abbas رضى الله عنه is saying here, these people were negligent and rejected La Ilaha Illallah. Then he goes on to say Abdullah ibn Abbas رضى الله عنه , “How did the Torah come back to them?”

There was a pious man and some of the Ulema have said that he was a Nabi. His name is Uzayr عليه السلام and they call him Ezra. This man was a pious man and he supplicated to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى upon end. Asking Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى to return back the Torah, return back hidayyah. He used to stand the depths of the night asking Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

Abdullah ibn Abbas رضى الله عنه he goes on, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, “A light came down from the sky and it entered into Uzayr عليه السلام. Uzayr عليه السلام now has the Torah returned back to him. He revived their religious text. He revived La Ilaha Illallah”, but look what happens as a nation - they were punished because they left La Ilaha Illallah, they wanted La Ilaha Illallah to come back and look at what happens once it comes back, Abdullah ibn Abbas رضى الله عنه he says, “They started saying by Allah, Uzayr has not been given this miracle and this favour that the Torah has come back, he must be the son of God! He must be the son of God”, and this is now the kufr which they have returned to after Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى guided this nation.

My brothers we are talking about a whole nation, here we are talking about one of the biggest Ummah after the Ummah of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم. Here we are talking about a nation who was sent to them Musa عليه السلام, Esa عليه السلام and Prophets upon Prophets and two revelations: the Torah and the Injeel. They were given miracles and they saw firsthand, yet La Ilaha Illallah was something which is difficult for them to understand and hold on to. They ended up believing, at least a group of them ended up believing that this man was the son of God naudubillah, leaving off La Ilaha Illallah.

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Added to the problem that they again fell into the rejection of the Torah. Once it was returned back to them, they corrupted it again hence Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** sent to them another Prophet and Messenger. From the best of them, Esa ibn Maryam **عليه السلام**, to purify their beliefs and to bring them back to the correct way of hidayah and shariyyah upon which Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** wanted from them; to the point that Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** made it clear from the very beginning giving Isa **عليه السلام** a miracle that as soon as he was given birth from his mother, the very first words, the first thing that he said:

“Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** has not taken a son!”

Their ideas and aqeedah and creed was incorrect, but also from the very beginning he is saying Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** does not have a son. So if people were to say this about him afterwards, then he has completely disassociated himself from this. **سُبْحَانَهُ** , Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** is far greater than that!

وَإِذَا قَضَىٰ أَمْرًا فَإِنَّمَا يَقُولُ لَهُ كُن فَيَكُونُ ١١٧

“When He decrees a matter, He only says to it, “Be,” and it is” al-Baqarah (The Cow) 2:117

Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** controls the creation and all He has to say is be and it becomes! How can He have a partner:

وَإِنَّ اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَرَبُّكُمْ فَأَعْبُدُوهُ هَذَا صِرَاطٌ مُسْتَقِيمٌ



“[Jesus said], "And indeed, Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. That is a straight path" Maryam (Mary) 19:36

Some of the people of Banu' Israel listened, but most of them didn't, they ended up calling him a magician. They ended up saying that he's got sihr with him and Shayateen with him and he is deceiving you and he's fooling your eyes, so they ended up rejecting him most of them, until they plotted to kill him.

Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى honored Esa عليه السلام coming to this nation, telling them about the Oneness of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and to return back to the following of the Torah. Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى elevated this man and in this is a lesson for us all; is that if you stick to the Oneness of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and obedience to Him, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى will elevate you also.

So these people tried to plot and plan against Esa عليه السلام, Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى says:

يَعِيسَى إِنِّي مُتَوَفِّيكَ وَرَافِعُكَ إِلَيَّ وَمُطَهِّرُكَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا

“[Mention] when Allah said, "O Jesus, indeed I will take you and raise you to Myself and purify you from those who disbelieve" al-Imran (The Family of Imran, The House of Imran) 3:55

Esa ibn Maryam عليه السلام is now lifted and they have returned back to their kufr and their hearts have now become hard. Ibn Taymiyyah رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ says that:

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“What happened to the Christians, the followers of Esa عليه السلام, they followed the same footsteps as what happened to the followers of Musa عليه السلام from before”. He says Ibn Taymiyyah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ, “The idea of God having a son in the Christian faith was introduced by a person called Paul, this man Paul pretended to become a Christian from a Jewish background but he was not actually a Christian, he was a hypocrite. He was pretending to be a Christian claiming that he is like them and have the same beliefs. 50 years after Esa عليه السلام was lifted, he came up with an idea similar to what happened to his nation from before, he says, “Let's believe now that God has a son and he is Esa عليه السلام !”

Naudubillah! Innovation which has no precedence in the religion of Esa, Esa عليه السلام is completely free from it, but this is how it was introduced as Ibn Taymiyyah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ explains exactly what happened before, a nation that was told to have La Ilaha Illallah, but they lost their iman. They lost their tawheed. They lost their aqeedah. They lost their submission to Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and look what's happened now. Now we have two nations who have been corrupted, believing that God has a son naudubillah and Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى is free from having any partners.

With this my brothers we learn, that the Oneness of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and you believing in it is an honour from Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى. One of the greatest miracles that he can give to any one of his servants is that he allows you to be upon La Ilaha Illallah and be steadfast upon it until you die. Therefore stick firm to La Ilaha Illallah and do not let that become corrupt because in this you will then lose the submission of Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

Second Khutbah

My brothers, Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us in the Qur'an:

وَلَا تُجَادِلُوا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ إِلَّا بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ

“And do not argue with the People of the Scripture except in a way that is best...”

al-'Ankabut (The Spider) 29:46

Have a dialogue with them so that you can understand one another. Explain to them the Oneness of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** and tawheed. Explain to them why we believe that Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** does not have a son, because Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** is the One who creates everything and He is the one who has dominion over everything, so why would He have partners? And why would we take partners with Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** in His Lordship and worship? Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** tells us in the Qur'an:

وَقُولُوا ءَامَنَّا بِالَّذِي أُنزِلَ إِلَيْنَا وَأُنزِلَ إِلَيْكُمْ وَإِلَهُنَا وَإِلَهُكُمْ وَاحِدٌ وَنَحْنُ لَهُ مُسْلِمُونَ ٤٦

“...and say, "We believe in that which has been revealed to us and revealed to you. And our God and your God is one; and we are Muslims [in submission] to Him” al-'Ankabut (The Spider) 29:46

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But also my brothers, it is very important with this now that we take a reflection in the importance of knowledge and preserving our aqeedah, because when knowledge is lost and when your aqeedah is lost, you can end up believing in some of the most despicable things and you were left then questioning yourself whether what I believe is correct or not. An example of this Ibn Qayyim رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ has a series of questions for those people who believe that God has a son, he says رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ:

“If God has a son and he was killed as you believe, what kind of God would allow for His son to be killed? If He has a son [naudubillah], how can the father allow for His son to be killed? If God has a son and He didn't stop the killers, this means one of two things; either Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى [naudubillah], either your God is pleased with the oppression, that they are killing His son unjustly; or that He doesn't have enough power to stop them? Which one is it?”

You can see here from the basis it creates even more problems which are irrational. He then goes on رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ :

“But then they say God's son was crucified and God's son was on the cross and whilst he was on the cross he was crying and supplicating to his father to help him”

Ibn Qayyim رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ is saying here in your now aqeedah now, if he is supplicating, who is he supplicating to? Some of them believe that he was God, so who is he supplicating to? Himself? But if he is the son of God as some of them believe, how is it possible that he has supplicated to his father and he hasn't listened to the dua of his son, but rather has listened to the dua of those people who want to murder his son instead? Was God not able to respond to His own son, Ibn Qayyim رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ is saying? And there are a number of questions that he brings up with this false belief. He then summarises it by saying:

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“Please let's not humiliate ourselves in front of Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** or say anything which is unjust about the
One true Lord of all creation **إِسْبُحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى**”

My brothers, the Muslim must respect other people's belief even if you do not accept or agree with what other people believe in; it is not permissible as a Muslim to ridicule or insult others. A person of Jannah doesn't have bad manners in the dunya, therefore it is not permissible for us to ridicule them, but likewise, it is not permissible for us to get involved with the festivals that they have, which are based on these false beliefs. So, it's upon us and our children and our families that we preserve La Ilaha Illallah. We preserve our religion. Be pleased with La Ilaha Illallah and the honour that Allah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** that He has given to you and chosen for you.

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“One who guides to something good has a reward similar to that of its doer”- Saheeh Muslim vol.3, no.4665.