



LESSON 2

IS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF IMAN NECESSARY?

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MCMC LEARNING SERIES:

CONTEMPORARY COMPREHENSION OF THE IMAN: BELIEFS, ARGUMENTS AND PROOFS



IS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF IMAN NECESSARY?

الحمد لله وحده، والصلاة والسلام على من لا
نبي بعده، وعلى آله وصحبه، أما بعدُ



IS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF ĪMĀN NECESSARY?

REASONS FOR STUDYING 'AQĪDAH

ISLAM IS BOTH 'AQIDAH AND ACTION. ACTIONS ARE NOT VALID WITHOUT IMAN AND ACTIONS WILL NOT BE COUNTED WITHOUT TRUE IMAN. THUS, IT IS IMPERATIVE TO DEEPLY UNDERSTAND THIS MATTER.

1. 'Aqīdah is the most important of the religious sciences, more than manners and morals, more than the 'ibādāt and mu'āmalāt.
2. 'Aqīdah is the first duty of a *mukallaf*. When a person enters into Islam, his first step is to learn his 'Aqīdah.



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3. When the Prophet ﷺ sent Mu'ādh to Yemen, he instructed him:

فليكن أول ما تدعوهم إليه أن يُوحّدوا الله تعالى، فإذا عرّفوا ذلك، فأخبرهم أن
الله فرض عليهم خمس صلوات

“Let the first thing that you call them to be to declare the unity of Allah. When they know that, then inform them that Allah has made five prayers compulsory upon them.” (Al-Bukhari & others)

4. ‘Aqīdah is the first duty of a *mukallaf*. When a person enters into Islam, his first step is to learn his ‘Aqīdah.

5. In the entire Makki phase of 13 years, the emphasis was on Tawhid. The practical laws were revealed only in Madīnah.



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The rewards for deeds depends on the soundness of Īmān. If a person is a kāfir, his deeds will not be accepted and he will have no rewards on the DOJ, no matter how many and how great they are.

Deeds will only be accepted if the doer was a Muslim and he did them for the sake of Allah and in accordance with the sharī'ah.



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﴿وَلَقَدْ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ وَإِلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكَ لَئِنْ أَشْرَكَتَ لَيَحْبَطَنَّ عَمَلُكَ وَلَتَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ﴾

And it was already revealed to you and to those before you that if you should associate [anything] with Allah, your work would surely become worthless, and you would surely be among the losers." (39:65)

﴿وَلَوْ أَشْرَكُوا لَحَبِطَ عَنْهُمْ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ﴾

But if they had associated others with Allah, then worthless for them would be whatever they were doing. (6:88)



IS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF IMAN NECESSARY?

Knowledge of 'Aqidah increases fear of Allah and keeps away from sins.

Study of 'Aqidah is the way to increase knowledge.

Knowledge of 'Aqidah also dispells doubts.

Doubts in 'Aqidah are a great source of confusion.



IS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF IMAN NECESSARY?

Let the purpose of studying 'Aqīdah be:

1. Following in the footsteps of the prophets who taught the proper 'Aqīdah before deeds.

وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَّسُولًا أَنْ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّاغُوتَ ۗ

And We certainly sent into every nation a messenger, "Worship Allah and avoid ṭāghūt."(16:36)

2. Purifying our 'Aqīdah from *bid'ah*, *shirk*, *khurāfāt*, etc.