

Explanation of The Book of Tawheed

Class Notes – Chapter 65

بَابُ لَا يُسْتَشْفَعُ بِاللَّهِ عَلَى خَلْقِهِ

None asks the intercession of Allah before His creation.

- **Relevance of the chapter to the book:** The chapter shows the clear prohibition of seeking Allah's intercession with one of His creations, as it is an act of transgressing the Lordship of Allah, which no doubt impairs the perfection of *tawheed*.

An intercessor only intercedes with the one who is superior in status to them. Allah is far above such an imperfection as there is none who is superior to Him.

عَنْ جُبَيْرِ بْنِ مُطْعِمٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: جَاءَ أَعْرَابِيٌّ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ ﷺ فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! نُهِكَّتِ الْأَنْفُسُ، وَجَاعَ الْعِيَالُ، وَهَلَكَتِ الْأَمْوَالُ فَاسْتَسْقَى لَنَا رَبَّكَ فَإِنَّا نَسْتَشْفَعُ بِاللَّهِ عَلَيْكَ وَبِكَ عَلَى اللَّهِ. قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ، سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ. فَمَا زَالَ يُسَبِّحُ حَتَّى عُرِفَ ذَلِكَ فِي وُجُوهِ أَصْحَابِهِ، ثُمَّ قَالَ: وَيْحَكَ أَتَدْرِي مَا اللَّهُ؟ إِنَّ شَأْنَ اللَّهِ أَعْظَمُ مِنْ ذَلِكَ، إِنَّهُ لَا يُسْتَشْفَعُ بِاللَّهِ عَلَى أَحَدٍ. وَذَكَرَ الْحَدِيثَ. رَوَاهُ أَبُو دَاوُدَ

Jubair bin Mut'im narrated: A Bedouin came to the Prophet ﷺ and said: 'O Messenger of Allah, people are fatigued, the children are hungry and wealth has perished, so ask your Lord to send us some rain, for we seek intercession of Allah upon you, and of you upon Allah'. The Prophet ﷺ said: Subhan Allah, Subhan Allah. He continued to glorify Allah until the effect of that was apparent on the faces of his Companions. He then said. Woe to you! Do you know Who Allah is? Allah's greatness is far above that! It is not permissible to seek Allah's intercession with one of His creations. [Abu Dawud]

- **Jubayr:** Ibn Mut'im Ibn 'Adiyy al-Qurashi. He was one of the nobles of Quraysh. He embraced Islam before the conquest of Makkah, and died in the year 57 A.H.
- **Takhreej:** The *hadith* is narrated by Abu Dawood, with a weak (*da'eef*) chain of narration.
- (نَسْتَشْفَعُ بِاللَّهِ عَلَيْكَ) – “We seek Allah's intercession upon you”. That is, we make Allah an intermediary to reach you.
- (عُرِفَ ذَلِكَ فِي وُجُوهِ أَصْحَابِهِ) – “The effect of that was apparent on the faces of his companions”. That is, they became angry because the Prophet ﷺ was angry, and whatever angered him, angered them.
- (أَتَدْرِي مَا اللَّهُ) – “Do you know who Allah is?”. The question denotes the Bedouins lack of knowledge of Allah and His great Majesty.
- **General meaning of the hadith:** Jubair Ibn Mut'im informs us in this *hadith* that a Bedouin man came to the Prophet ﷺ and complained to him of the deprivation, hunger, and financial loss which they were suffering due to prolonged drought. He requested the Prophet ﷺ to pray to Allah to lift this

affliction from them and send down rain, but the method he used constituted a great wrong against Allah and His Messenger, as he sought Allah's intercession upon the Prophet ﷺ.

- When the Prophet ﷺ heard this, he became extremely angry and began to praise Allah repeatedly, rebuking the Bedouin and informing him that Allah is greater than to be called as an intercessor for any of His creation because He possesses all of them, and they are under His complete authority.
- ***Relevance of the hadith to the chapter:*** Although the *hadith* is weak, it proves the prohibition of seeking Allah's intercession with His creation, as it implies attributing imperfections to Allah, which He is far above.
- ***Important issues of the Chapter***
 1. ***The Prophet's disapproval and rebuke of the Bedouin's statement: 'We seek intercession of Allah upon you'.***
 2. ***The change in the Prophet ﷺ from this statement was clear enough to be seen on the faces of the Companions.***
 3. ***The Prophet ﷺ did not disagree with the request for his intercession before Allah.*** Because when he rebuked him, he only did so for seeking intercession of Allah upon His creation.
 4. ***The meaning of Subhan Allah.*** It is an affirmation that Allah is far removed from any imperfections, of them, seeking His intercession before the creation.
 5. ***That the Muslims would ask the Prophet ﷺ to pray for rain.*** This is only in his lifetime. As for after his death it is forbidden, because the dead can no longer perform acts of worship (such as making *du'aa* for rainfall).