

Al-Qawlul Mufeed

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Indeed all Praises are for Allah alone. We praise Him, seek His assistance, and seek His forgiveness. And we seek refuge in Him from the evil of our own selves and the evil consequences of our actions. Whomever Allah guides, there is no one to lead him astray, and whomever is lead astray, there is no guide for him. I testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, who is alone without any partner, and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and final messenger. To proceed:

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Concern for Learning the Quran

By the great scholar Shaikh
Abdul-Azeez bin Baz
(رحمه الله)

There is no doubt that the Quran is the revealed speech of Allah, which is not created, from Him it came and to Him it shall return. He sent it to His servant and messenger the seal of the prophets Muhammad ibn Abdillah (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) containing an evidence (or argument) over all His servants. The Most High said, **"(This is) a Book which We have revealed unto you (O Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)) in order that you might lead mankind out of darkness (of disbelief and polytheism) into light (of belief in the Oneness of Allah and Islamic Monotheism) by their Lord's leave to the Path of the All-Mighty, the Owner of all Praise."** (Ibrahim 14:1) and **"And this is a blessed Book (the Quran) which We have sent down, so follow it and fear Allah (i.e. do not disobey His Orders), that you may receive mercy (i.e. saved from the torment of Hell)."** (Al-An'am 6:155). So it is an obligation upon every responsible individual to act in accordance with this book and to follow its directive, what Allah has conveyed therein and refrain from that which is in opposition to it. Likewise it is obligatory upon everyone to

act according to the prophetic practice as the Most High said, **"Say: 'Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, but if you turn away, he (Messenger Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)) is only responsible for the duty placed on him (i.e. to convey Allah's Message) and you for that placed on you. If you obey him, you shall be on the right guidance. The Messenger's duty is only to convey (the message) in a clear way.'" (An-Nur 24:54) and "And whatsoever the Messenger (Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)) gives you, take it, and whatsoever he forbids you, abstain from it" (Al-Hashr 59:7). Allah the Glorified has conveyed that He sent him to all of mankind, both man and jinn, Arab and non-Arab and said, **"Say (O Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)): 'O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the Messenger of Allah - to Whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth. Lâ ilâha illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He); It is He Who gives life and causes death. So believe in Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)), the Prophet who can neither****

read nor write (i.e. Muhammad (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam)) who believes in Allah and His Words [(this Quran), the Taurât (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel) and also Allah's Word: "Be!" - and he was, i.e. 'Iesa (Jesus) son of Maryam (Mary)], and follow him so that you may be guided.'" (Al-A'raf 7:158). Thus guidance is found in following him (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) and following what has come in Allah's book as He the Glorified said, And the prophet (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) said, "I was sent to all of mankind" therefore it is a must that every accountable person hold firm (and follow) Allah's book and practice of His messenger (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam). In another tradition he (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) said, "I have left you with two things, the first is Allah's book which contains guidance and light so take Allah's book and adhere to it" and Allah created the creation to worship him as He said, **"And I (Allah) created not the jinns and humans except they should worship Me (Alone)." (Adh-Dhariyat 51:56). This worship is obedience to Allah which is monotheism, fear of Allah, piety, and guidance as the Most High said, **"Whereas there has surely come to them the Guidance from their****

Lord!" (An-Najm 53:23). Thus it is a must that these types of worship be learned and understood as they are the religion of Islam and you are a creation (made) for worship. It is a must that man and woman learn and know these types of worship well so that they can be performed upon insight. These acts of worship are what you were created for and Allah called this religion worship due to the servant performing them in this world with submissiveness to Allah. The religion of Islam is worship; the prayer is worship, giving the mandatory charity is worship, fasting is worship, the pilgrimage is worship, and struggling in the way of Allah is worship. Similar is all that Allah obligated us to perform in His obedience. This is a great religion, the religion of Islam, a religion of worship which you have been created for, a religion of guidance, piousness, and awareness of Allah. Thus it is a must that everyone, both male and female, fear Allah and worship Him by being obedient, following His command and refraining from His prohibitions, being sincere to Him alone not worshipping anyone or thing other than Him, which embodies the testimony "there is no god but Allah" meaning, "there is no god worthy of worship except Allah" as the Most High mentioned in the Quran, **"That is because Allah He is the Truth (the only True God of all that exists, Who has no partners or rivals with Him), and what they (the polytheists) invoke besides Him, it is Bâtil (falsehood) And verily, Allah He is the Most High, the Most Great."** (Al-Hajj 22:62). This is the meaning of "there is no god but Allah" and a god is that which the heart deifies and glorifies with many types of worship and none are worthy of that except Allah alone, nor is it correct to worship others. Hence it is an obligation upon every responsible male and female on the face of the earth, both Arab and non-Arab, to worship Allah and be aware of Him, obey His commands, stay away from that which He prohibited, and not overstep the bounds which He set out of obedience, truthfulness, desire, and fear as they were created for this, they were created for Islam and Allah commands this, **"Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam."** (Aali Im-

ran 3:19). This is Islam, the way of life which Allah is pleased with. He will not accept another religions. Islam is Allah's worship, monotheism, and conforming to His legislation in speech, action, and creed. There is no path to the knowledge and awareness of this worship except by (the grace of) Allah and then by learning, understanding, and studying. Learning, understanding, and having care and concern for the Quran and sunnah is a must in order to learn this mentioned worship which you have been created for so that you may act accordingly, sincerely for Allah, loving Him, and glorifying Him in all situations and circumstances. It is a must that you are always righteous and upright upon monotheism, His obedience, following His legislation, and abandoning that which He has prohibited wherever you are until you pass away. Allah the Most High said to His prophet (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam), **"And worship your Lord until there comes unto you the certainty (i.e. death)."** (Al-Hijr 15:99) and He said, **"O you who believe! Fear Allah (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islam (as Muslims) with complete submission to Allah. And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah (i.e. this Quran), and be not divided among yourselves..."** (Aali Imran 3:102-103) This is the worship which you have been created for; fearing Allah, holding firm to His rope (i.e. the Quran), and being upright (and righteous) in the religion and from the means of obtaining this are having concern for the Quran (i.e. dedicating yourself to it), studying it and gaining understanding in it and the practice of His messenger (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) according to the statement of the prophet (salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam), "whoever Allah wants good for, He grants him understanding in the religion" [agreed upon by Al-Bukhari and Muslim]. For this, I congratulate those who are responsible for the schools which care for the Quran and I thank them for what they are doing, glorifying the book of Allah and teaching it to the generations. This is the way to true hap-

piness for the one who is upright and sincere in doing that.

We ask Allah to aid them in that which He is pleased with, that which contains their happiness and understanding in the religion. I request both teachers and students to have concern for the book of Allah, the teacher, student, and employee and I advise everyone to dedicate themselves to the book of Allah, reciting it, reflecting over it, understanding it, acting according to it, and memorizing it because it contains guidance and light as the Glorified said, **"Verily, this Quran guides to that which is most just and right"** (Al-Isra 17:9), **"Say: 'It is for those who believe, a guide and a healing.'" (Fussilat 41:44), and "And this is a blessed Book (the Quran) which We have sent down, so follow it and fear Allah (i.e. do not disobey His Orders), that you may receive mercy (i.e. saved from the torment of Hell)."** (Al-An'am 6:155). This is a great book containing guidance and light, every letter contains reward, and everyone who learns a single letter will be rewarded ten fold. I advise everyone to take care of Allah's book being dedicated to reading it, reflecting over it, striving to know its meaning, and acting according to it along with memorizing that which is easy. This is Allah's book, the greatest and most truthful book which He sent down as a mercy for mankind and a healing for the heart. Likewise He made His messenger a mercy to all of mankind and guidance to all people as he said, **"O mankind! There has come to you a good advice from your Lord (i.e. the Quran, ordering all that is good and forbidding all that is evil), and a healing for that (disease of ignorance, doubt, hypocrisy and differences, etc.) in your breasts, - a guidance and a mercy (explaining lawful and unlawful things, etc.) for the believers."** (Yunus 10:57)

Translated and Summarized by
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