

Lesson 22

Summary Notes

Islām and Īmān

Islām and Īmān (II)

"Islām does not become established except by submission and resignation, for whoever hankers after that whose knowledge has been put beyond him, his longing veils him from pure unicity, clear cognizance and correct faith.. Thus, he vascillates between unbelief and belief, affirmation and denial, and assertion and disavowal. [He is] suggestible, perplexed and doubting, [being] neither an affirming believer nor a denying rejector." [36]

"We believe in performing Ṣalāh behind every righteous man and sinner from among the **People of the Qiblah**, and [in praying] over whoever among them dies." [69]

"We do not consign any of them to Heaven, nor to Hell, nor do we testify against them of unbelief, nor polytheism, nor hypocrisy, as long as none of that manifested itself from them. We leave their secret thoughts to Allāh, the Exalted." [67]

"We love the people of and justice and honesty, and we hate the people of injustice and treachery." [74]

"We view the **Jamā'ah** as truth and rectitude, and sectarianism as deviation and punishment." [102]

" . . . those who have contradicted the **Sunnah** and the **Jamā'ah**, and allied with error. We absolve ourselves of them, and they are, by us, astray and vile." [(106)]

How to enter Islam

By pronouncing the two testifications, and negating anything from one's previous religion which contradicts Islamic doctrine. Also, one must have the intention to remain Muslim permanently.

Pronouncement of the Testifications of Faith.

Faith by blind following (taqlīd).

"Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of night and day, are signs for people of understanding." Qur'ān [3:190]

Conditional faith : saying 'I am a believer, if Allāh wills.'

Social relations

- *Greeting with Salām*
 “Do not initiate salām to the Jews, nor to the Christians.” [Abū Dāwūd]
- *Leadership of prayers* (see below).
- *Asking forgiveness*
 “It is not allowed for the Prophet, nor for the believers, to ask forgiveness for the polytheists, even if they be close kin, after it has become plain to them that they are people of the Blazing Fire.” Qur’ān [9:113]
- *Burial in Muslim graveyards*
- *Marriage*
- *Inheritance*
- *Slaughtered animals*
- *Encouragement to do good deeds*
- ***Walā’ and Barā’***
 “Do not incline towards the wrongdoers lest the Fire should smite you.” Qur’ān [11:113]

Leadership of Prayers

“Pray behind every righteous man and sinner.” [Dāraqutnī]

“People shall be led by the one who is the most knowledgeable in the Qur’ān. Then, if they are equal in recitation, (they should be led by) the most knowledgeable in the Sunnah. Then, if they are equal in the Sunnah, (they should be led by) the one who performed Hijrah earlier. Then, if they are equal in Hijrah, (they should be led by) the one who accepted Islām earlier (according to another narration : the one greater in age.)” [Muslim]

‘Abdullāh ibn ‘Umar (رضي الله عنه) and Anas ibn Mālik (رضي الله عنه) used to pray behind Hajjāj ibn Yūsuf al-Thaqafī, who was a great tyrant. [Bukhārī]

Imām Ḥasan al-Baṣrī was asked about praying behind an innovator, and he said, “Pray. The consequences of his innovation are for him alone.”

All this is provided the **imām** satisfies all the prerequisites and essentials of the prayer.