



The fourth question of Fatwa No. (189) : Q4: What is the ruling on believing that having children, or decrease and increase in sustenance are a result of invoking someone other than Allah?

A4: Whoever believes that children are a gift from someone other than Allah, or that someone else can increase and decrease his sustenance is considered a Mushrik (one who associates others with Allah in worship) even more detestable than the Arabs and others during the time of Jahiliyyah (pre-Islamic time of ignorance). When the Arabs were asked who sustained them, brought the living from the dead, and brought the dead from the living, they said, "Allah." They worshipped their false idols only because they claimed that they brought them near to Allah. Allah the Exalted stated, ﴿ Say (O Muhammad peace be upon him): "Who provides for you from the sky and the earth? Or who owns hearing and sight? And who brings out the living from the dead and brings out the dead from the living? And who disposes the affairs?" They will say: "Allah." Say: "Will you not then be afraid of Allah's punishment (for setting up rivals in worship with Allah)?" ﴾

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He also says, ﴿ And those who take Auliya' (protectors, helpers, lords, gods) besides Him (say): "We worship them only that they may bring us near to Allah." Verily, Allah will judge between them concerning that wherein they differ. Truly, Allah guides not him who is a liar, and a disbeliever. ﴾ He also says, ﴿ Who is he that can provide for you if He should withhold His provision? ﴾

It is authentically established in the Sunnah that giving and withholding are only from Allah. This was narrated by Al-Bukhary in the Chapter entitled "Dhikr after Salah" in his Sahih. He said that Warrad, the scribe of Al-Mughirah Ibn Shu`bah said, Al-Mughirah Ibn Shu`bah dictated a letter to me for Mu`awiyah informing him that the Prophet (peace be upon him) used to recite after each obligatory Salah, ﴿ La ilaha illa Allah, wahdahu la shareeka lahu, lahul-mulku wa-lahul-hamdu, wa-huwa 'ala kulli shai'in qadeer, Allahumma la mani'a lima 'a'tait wa-la mu'tia lima mana't, wa-la yanfa'u dhal-jaddu minkal-jadd (None has the right to be worshipped but Allah (alone) who has no partner, to Him belong all sovereignty and praise, and He is omnipotent. Oh Allah! No one can withhold what you give and no one can give what You withhold . No one's might is of any avail against Your Will). ﴾ However, Allah may grant His servant offspring and increase his sustenance through worship, as mentioned in Surah Ibrahim when Ibrahim (Abraham, peace be upon him) supplicated to Allah and He answered his supplication. It is also mentioned in Surah Maryam, Al-Anbiya', and others that Zakariyyah supplicated to Allah and He answered his supplication. It is authentically established that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said, "I heard the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) say, ﴿ 'Whoever is pleased that he be granted more wealth and that his life be prolonged, then he should keep good relations with his kith and kin.' ﴾ Narrated by Al-Bukhari

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and Musim in their two Sahih (authentic) books of Hadith. And knows the best.

Peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and his Companions.

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