
Al-Albaanee and the American hitchhiker ... Is Allaah everywhere?

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Shaykh al-Albaanee (rahimahullaah)¹: A woman who was also teaching at the university [asked me] ... a doctor was arguing with her about the topic of Allaah's Ascendancy over the Throne. The doctor said [that such a belief] was a mistake and that Allaah is everywhere.

Interjection: May Allaah guide him.

Shaykh al-Albaanee (rahimahullaah): By Allaah! A disbeliever would not even accept this belief, and this is something I have experience of.

One time I was travelling in Syria from Aleppo to Idlib, and from Idlib on to Latakia, westwards. One of our brothers, Abdur-Rahmaan Shilbee, was with us, [so] we went to Latakia from Idlib.

You know that the Europeans have a particular way of asking for a free car ride ... the ones who get in to cars for free, what do they do?

Interjection: They call it, 'Stop.' [i.e., hitching a ride].

Shaykh al-Albaanee (rahimahullaah): I don't know. A person [lit. beggar] stands on the road asking for a ride. [So] I'm going in my car and my companion is sitting next to me, naturally we were going slightly fast, or very fast [even], I don't know ... the important thing is that after we had travelled some distance I heard [i.e., was told] that there was a man who had raised his thumb so we stopped and looked in the [rear view] mirror. And indeed [there was, so I said], 'What do you think, Abdur-Rahmaan, let's take him with us, the car's empty.'

The point is that we went back and found that the man was an American and his wife was standing ... but she wasn't in plain view, [she was standing] to the side, so when we stopped the car he signalled to her [to come]. So I said to [our brother] Abdur-Rahmaan, 'We'll cover the distance [on the journey] with them,' after we came to know that they were foreigners.

They both got in and we left. My companion [Abdur-Rahmaan] speaks English as for me, I do not. My Albanian is enough for me.

I said to him, 'Ask them where they're from ...,' until we go to the point [where I told him to ask them], 'What is your belief in Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic?' The American replied, 'He's everywhere,' this is [also] the Aqeedah of the doctor [at the university]. How strange that the belief of a non-Muslim American ... [in fact] it's not strange.

¹ (rahimahullaah) (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) May Allaah have mercy on him

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I said to Adbur-Rahmaan, 'Say this to him, say that to him ...,' so he's translating until we got to the crux of the matter. [After explaining the correct Islaamic belief to him], the American said, 'By God, this makes sense. It makes sense that God is above all creation.'

Because Allaah existed when there was no creation, no time, no place, [so] how can it be said that Allaah is everywhere.

The Egyptian doctors still don't understand this creed and teach the students that He is everywhere; in Azhar University, an Azharee will come and debate with you [about this issue] and then above that will declare you to be misguided because you say, '**The Most Gracious rose over the [Mighty] Throne [in a manner that suits His Majesty].**'^{2 3}

² Soorah Taa Haa 20:5

³ *Al-Hudaa wan-Noor*, 282.