
Affirming and negating in the issue of Tawheed

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

With regards to the ithbaat (affirmation) and nafee (negation) in the statement laa ilaaha ill Allaah, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al ‘Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹ states:

And Tawheed (singling Allaah out in worship) will not be completed except with two pillars - and they are:

a) ithbaat (affirmation)

b) nafee (negation)

- since nafee alone is pure ta’teel (denial) and ithbaat alone does not rule out there being partners.

An example of that:

“Zayd is standing” – this (statement) indicates the affirmation of Zayd’s standing. However it does not prove that he is alone in that (standing).

“And no one is standing” – this is a pure negation.

“And no one is standing except Zayd - this is Tawheed (being alone) in standing for him (Zayd), because (this statement) includes an affirmation and negation.

(Al qawl ul mufeed (1/29) of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al ‘Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ))

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