

From His signs are the night and the day

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (حفظه الله)¹:

Shaykhul-Islam Muhammad ibn ‘Abdul-Wahhaab, (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)², said: “From His signs are the night and the day the sun and the moon. From His creation are the seven heavens and the seven earths; those who are within them and those who are between them.”

Explanation

His statement: “From His signs are the night and the day the sun and the moon...” Aayaat are of two types:

The First Type: Universal Aayaat which you see. Such as the heavens, the earth, the stars, the sun, the moon, the mountains, the trees, and the oceans; (these are all) called signs, because by way of them one gets an indication of their Creator, (سبحانه وتعالى)³. Due to this, Aboo al-‘Itaahiyah said:

How strange is it how the Ilaah (i.e. Allaah) is disobeyed
Or the insolent one can be insolent towards Him
In everything there is a sign of Him
Indicating that He is One
For Allaah, within every moving and still being
From Mankind, there is a witness

How can one be insolent against Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى), and say: “There is no Lord for this entire universe; these created beings came into existence by another creator.” And if they did come into existence with another creator, then who is this Creator other than Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى); inform me?! You will not find a creator other than Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى).

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him

² (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

³ (سبحانه وتعالى) (Subhanahu wa-ta'ala) The Exalted, The Most High

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أَمْ جَعَلُوا لِلَّهِ شُرَكَاءَ خَلَقُوا كَخَلْقِهِ فَتَشَابَهَ الْخَلْقُ عَلَيْهِمْ قُلِ اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ الْوَاحِدُ الْقَهَّارُ
[Or do they assign to Allaah partners who created the like of His creation, so that the creation (which they made and His creation) seemed alike to them." Say: "Allaah is the Creator of all things, He is the One, the Irresistible."]⁴

The Second Type: Qur'aanic Aayaat which are recited from the Revelation which was sent down to the Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)⁵. All these are proofs for the Existence of the Lord, (سبحانه وتعالى); for His Perfection, His Attributes, His Names, and that He Alone has the right to be worshipped, there being no partners for Him. All of them indicate that; the universal Aayaat and the Qur'aanic Aayaat.

The universal Aayaat indicate their Creator, the One Who brought them into existence; the One who Dictates their Affair. The Qur'aanic Aayaat contain commands to worship Allaah and they contain confirmation of Tawheed ar-Ruboobeeyyah (Oneness of Lordship) and Tawheed al-Ulooheeyyah (Oneness of Allaah's Worship) is derived from them as is the command to worship Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى). The entirety of the Qur'aan revolves around this matter and it was revealed for the sake of this affair.

From His signs are the night and the day and the sun and the moon. These are from the greatest of His signs, (سبحانه وتعالى). The dark night which covers this creation and the radiant day which enlightens this creation so that the people spread out engaging in their occupations. Allaah (تعالى)⁶ said:

قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكُمُ اللَّيْلَ سَرْمَدًا إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ مَنْ إِلَهٌ غَيْرُ اللَّهِ يَأْتِيكُم بِضِيَاءٍ أَفَلَا تَسْمَعُونَ ۚ قُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكُمُ النَّهَارَ سَرْمَدًا إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ مَنْ إِلَهٌ غَيْرُ اللَّهِ يَأْتِيكُم بِلَيْلٍ تَسْكُنُونَ فِيهِ أَفَلَا تُبْصِرُونَ ۚ وَمِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ جَعَلَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ لِتَسْكُنُوا فِيهِ وَلِتَبْتَغُوا مِنْ فَضْلِهِ وَلِعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ۗ ۚ

[Say (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)): "Tell me! If Allaah made night continuous for you till the Day of Resurrection, who is an Ilaah (a god) besides Allaah who could bring you light? Will you not then hear?" Say (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)): "Tell me! If Allaah made day continuous for you till the Day of Resurrection, who is an Ilaah (a god) besides Allaah who could bring you night wherein you rest? Will you not then see?" It is out of His Mercy that He has put for you night and day, that you may rest therein (i.e. during the night) and that you may seek of His Bounty (i.e. during the day), and in order that you may be grateful.]⁷

This is from the greatest signs of Allaah; this night and this day. The entire time does not consist of night nor does the entire time consist of day. This is because if the affair was like this then the benefits of the servants would be suspended and they will be exhausted.

⁴ سورة الرعد - Soorah ar-Ra'd [13:16]

⁵ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁶ (تعالى) Ta'aala (He, The Most High)

⁷ سورة القصص - Soorah al-Qasas [28:71-73]

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Allaah has made for them the night and the day following each other in succession. Moreover, the night and the day are organised and neither of them differ nor do they change to the organisational structure of the other. From that which indicates the wisdom of the All-Wise (سبحانه وتعالى), is that the actions of the servants and their concoctions will be destroyed and become mixed up, whatever they may be, and they will cease. As for the creations of Allaah (عزوجل)⁸, they will not fall apart except at a time wherein Allaah allows for them to fall apart.

So the night and the day run perpetually and neither of them break down; whereas the concoctions of the creation break down, malfunction, and expire; even if they are big and strong.

How many abandoned cars, planes, and trains do you see, whilst they were strong and useful; however, they expired and broke down. Do the night or the day break down? No. This is because their Manufacturer is All-Capable and All-Wise, (عزوجل).

صُنِعَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَتَقَنَّ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ إِنَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَفْعَلُونَ

[The Work of Allaah, Who perfected all things, verily! He is Well-Acquainted with what you do.]⁹

⁸ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁹ سورة النمل - Soorah an-Naml [27:88]