

Inanimate objects have feelings

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

Shaykh Muhammad bin Saalih al-Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹ said²:

‘How can Allaah (تعالى)³ offer a trust to the Heavens, the earth and the mountains when they are inanimate objects?

Allaah said:

إِنَّا عَرَضْنَا الْأَمَانَةَ عَلَى السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَالْجِبَالِ فَأَبَيْنَ أَنْ يَحْمِلْنَهَا وَأَشْفَقْنَ مِنْهَا وَحَمَلَهَا الْإِنْسَانُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ ظَلُومًا جَهُولًا

[Truly, We did offer Al-Amanah (the trust or moral responsibility or honesty and all the duties which Allaah has ordained) to the heavens and the earth, and the mountains, but they declined to bear it and were afraid of it (i.e. afraid of Allaah’s Torment). But man bore it. Verily, he was unjust (to himself) and ignorant (of its results).]⁴

Shaykh al-Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) said in his explanation of this Ayaah:

‘If a person says, how can Allaah (تعالى) offer a trust to the Heavens, the earth and the mountains when they are inanimate, they do not have intellect or feelings?

The Answer: That according to Allaah (عزوجل)⁵ every inanimate object has an intellect which it understands and follows a command.

Do you not see the statement of Allaah (تعالى) which the Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)⁶ informed about: ‘Indeed when Allaah (تعالى) created the Pen He said to it write.’

So Allaah addressed the Pen and it is an inanimate object. The pen asked: ‘What shall I write?’ Because the matter was general and unclear, and it is not possible to follow a general, unclear command except with a clarification.

Allaah said: ‘Write what will exist till the Day of Judgement.’⁷

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

² From ‘Fawaid ala Riyadh as-Saliheen’ p.92

³ (تعالى) Ta’aala (He, The Most High)

⁴ سورة الأحزاب – Soorah al-Ahzaab [33:72]

⁵ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁶ (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁷ Silsilah: 133 similar wording