

Muhammad last Prophet ordered to believe in before speaking about other Prophets

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: You say that a Muslim believes in all the Messengers of Allaah and makes no distinction between them; yet the formula of the Shahahdah (Testimony of Faith) through which one enters into Islaam is: I testify that there is no god worthy of worship but Allaah and that Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)¹ is the Messenger of Allaah. Does not this involve rejecting the other Prophets?

Shaykh Bin Baaz (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ)²: This is to be stated by one at the beginning of one's embracing Islaam because Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is the last Prophet in whom one is ordered to believe before speaking about the other Prophets. Regarding people to whom Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) was sent, they must confess this Shahahdah (Testimony of Faith) testifying that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allaah and that Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is the Messenger of Allaah. Then one is to be informed about what relates to all the Messengers and belief in them. Furthermore, one should be informed about the angels, the Books, Paradise and Hell. Testifying that Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is the Messenger of Allaah is as necessary as testifying that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allaah in order for one to be considered a Muslim. Then one is to be informed about the rest of the rites in Islaam. The same applies to the time of Prophet 'Isaa (Jesus) (عليه السلام)³, i.e. one was to be informed about Prophet 'Isaa (Jesus) (عليه السلام) and what he brought. Then one was to be informed about past Prophets to believe in them. The same applies to the time of Prophet Moosa (Moses) (عليه السلام) and all the Prophets preceding him, i.e. one was to be informed about the Messenger sent to one at one's time to believe in him and to testify that there is no God worthy of worship but Allaah, to believe in the other Messengers, and then to believe in the other matters of faith regarding Paradise, Hellfire, the angels, and the Books.

¹ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

² (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

³ (عليه السلام) ('alaihissalaam) Peace be upon him

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This should follow one's belief in the Messenger sent at one's time. Since Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is the last Messenger, it is obligatory upon people both during his time and after to believe in him first and testify that there is no God worthy of worship but Allaah. After believing in him, there is the belief in the Messengers preceding him, as it is he who informed them. Thus, one can believe in the previous Prophets only after believing in this Prophet who informed about them. In other words, believing in this Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) means believing in the other Messengers.