

Worships Allaah alone but lazy

Article taken and slightly adapted from: alifta.gov.sa

[Part No. 1; Page No. 55]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Question: What is the Islaamic ruling on someone who worships Allaah alone (Glorified be He), but shows laziness in performing some obligatory acts of worship?

Shaykh Abdul-Azeez ibn Baaz (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹: The 'Eemaan (belief) of this person is incomplete and the same applies to those who commit some sins, their 'Eemaan diminishes, according to the opinion of Ahl-ul-Sunnah wal-Jama'ah (adherents to the Sunnah and the Muslim mainstream). They say that 'Eemaan is translated into words, deeds, and 'Aqeedah (creed) which increases by acts of obedience and decreases by acts of disobedience. For example: abandoning Sawm (Fast) during the whole or part of Ramadhan with no excuse is a grievous sin that decreases and weakens 'Eemaan. Some scholars deem the person who does this a Kaafir (disbeliever).

The correct opinion is that such a Muslim is not deemed a Kaafir by doing this, as long as they admit that Sawm is obligatory, but do not observe Sawm on some days out of negligence and laziness.

The same applies to a Muslim who does not give out Zakaah (obligatory charity) on its due time out of slackness or do not give it out at all, this constitutes a grievous sin and is due to weak 'Eemaan.

Some scholars deem such a person a Kaafir for not paying Zakaah.

The same applies to a Muslim who cuts off the ties of kinship or is undutiful to their parents. This is considered a lack and weakness of 'Eemaan and so are the rest of sins.

Regarding the abandonment of Salaah (Prayer), it contradicts 'Eemaan and constitutes Riddah (apostasy from Islaam), even if the person who abandons Salaah does not deny its obligation. This is based on the more correct of the two opinions of the scholars, because the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **(The head of the matter is Islaam, its pillar is the Salaah and its highest peak is Jihaad (fighting/striving in the Cause of Allaah).)**² Moreover, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **(The covenant between us and them is Salaah; anyone who abandons it has committed Kufr (disbelief))**³. There are other Hadeeths indicating the same meaning.

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

² Related by Al-Tirmidhee, who said it was a fine and true hadeeth.

³ Sunan Ibn Maajah - Saheeh