

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Kitab al-Tawhid

Chapter 16: What the Lord has said

Preview

In this lesson/chapter we will learn, insha Allah:

- Proof for prohibition of shirk
- How revelations occur
- Role of shooting stars
- How soothsayers (fortunetellers) receive information from the devils

Terms to Know

Memorize the Arabic for the following terms:

Term	Arabic
heaven	السماء
magician	ساحر
fortuneteller	كاهن
shooting star	شهاب
revelation	وحي
the Truth	الحقّ

Read

1. Read the following pages in the text: pp. 98 - 102
2. If you do not have the text, please refer to the summary at the end of this lesson.
3. Additional suggested reading: Tafsir for ayaat: 34:23

? Recall

1. What does the Saying of Allah sound like?
2. Who listens for words in the heavens in order to steal them to retell to fortunetellers?
3. What sometimes strikes the devils before they are able to convey (pass on) what they heard from the heavens?
4. What do wizards do with the information they receive from the devils?
5. Why do people often believe in magicians?

Match the English term on the left with its Arabic equivalent on the right:

Column A	Write the correct letter from column A here	Arabic
a. fortuneteller		شهاب
b. heaven		كاهن
c. magician		الحقّ
d. revelation		ساحر
e. shooting star		السماء
f. the Truth		وحي

Activity

Draw a flowchart showing how a revelation occurs (or write a time order paragraph in your own words) of this process as related in the text.

Think about it!

Have you ever seen a shooting star?
What do the kuffar say the cause of
shooting stars are or what they are?



Summary

Prohibition of Shirk

Ayah 34:23 is a proof for "the invalidation" of shirk:

Intercession with Him profits not except for him whom He permits. So much so that when fear is banished from their (angels') hearts, they (angels) say: "What is it that your Lord has said?" They say: "The truth. And He is the Most High, the Most Great."

How the Devils steal words from the heavens to pass on to fortunetellers

Volume 6, Book 60, Number 324:

Allah's Prophet said, "When Allah decrees some order in the heaven, the angels flutter their wings indicating complete surrender to His saying which sounds like chains being dragged on rock. And when the state of fear disappears, they ask each other, "What has your Lord ordered? They say that He has said that which is true and just, and He is the Most High, the Most Great." (34.23). Then the stealthy listeners (devils) hear this order, and these stealthy listeners are like this, one over the other." (Sufyan, a sub-narrator demonstrated that by holding his hand upright and separating the fingers.) A stealthy listener hears a word which he will convey to that which is below him and the second will convey it to that which is below him till the last of them will convey it to the wizard or foreteller. Sometimes a flame (fire) may strike the devil before he can convey it, and sometimes he may convey it before the flame (fire) strikes him, whereupon the wizard adds to that word a hundred lies. The people will then say, 'Didn't he (i.e. magician) tell such-and-such a thing on such-and-such date?' So that magician is said to have told the truth because of the Statement which has been heard from the heavens."

How a revelation is Made (Summarized from text)

When Allah wished something to be revealed to man, He speaks the words to be revealed. The sound of these words is like that of chains being dragged on rock. The inhabitants of the heavens are taken by shock and fall prostrate. The first of them to raise his head is angel Jibreel (alayhi salaam) to whom Allah speaks to (with the revelation). Jibreel (alayhi salaam) passes by the other angels in different heavens and is asked at each station, "What did our Lord say?" Jibreel (alayhi salaam) answers that "He said the Truth; He is the Most High, the Most great," and they all repeat the same after him. Then Jibreel (alayhi salaam) moves on to the destination of the revelation, wherever commanded by Allah. (from a hadith narrated by An Nauwas bin Sam'an)

End of Summary/Lesson 16