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Spreading the Message of Islam

Belief in Prophets

Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

QUESTION: Muslims believe in Prophets that are also mentioned in the Bible, such as Jesus and Moses. What do Muslims believe about these people?

ANSWER:

Muslims believe that Allaah sent thousands of men over the course of time to call the people to worship Allaah alone.¹

Allaah says in the Qur'aan:

And indeed We sent to every nation a messenger (saying) 'Worship Allaah (alone) and abandon the false objects of worship!'

[Soorah an Nahl (the 16th Soorah) ayah 36]

Many Prophets are named in the Qur'aan and in the statements of the Prophet (may Allaah's peace and blessing be upon him) – such as Moosa (Moses), Ibraaheem (Abraham), Daawood (David), etc – may Allaah shower blessings upon them all. Muslims believe in and love all of these.

Many Prophets are not named at all, but Muslims still believe in them and love them.

Muslims believe that all Prophets came with the same core message – as mentioned in the Qur'aanic verse above – **'worship Allaah alone and abandon the false objects of worship'**.

They all came to teach the people 'Tawheed'.

There may have been some slight differences in the Sharee'ah from one Prophet to the next - for example, one Prophet's Sharee'ah may have allowed the eating of some food but a later Prophet might have come with a Sharee'ah that forbade this kind of food.

¹ Refer to 'Aqeedah ut Tawheed p8 – 9 of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan for more information

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However, the set of beliefs about Allaah, the Day of Judgement, etc that each Prophet came with was the same.

Islam makes it obligatory to believe in all the Prophets. If a Muslim rejects any one of them, then he stops being a Muslim and leaves Islam.

However, Muslims believe that the last of the Prophets was Muhammad (may Allaah's peace and blessing be upon him) and that his Sharee'ah overrules and replaces any Sharee'ah that came before it.

So it is not allowed for anyone nowadays to say that they are following another Sharee'ah – for example, that of Moosa – since the Sharee'ah of Muhammad overrules all other Sharee'ahs.

And Muslims believe that unlike the previous prophets, Muhammad (may Allaah's peace and blessing be upon him) was sent to all the people of the world, not just his own nation.