



Lesson 4

Faith

Introduction

A Muslim often experiences peace and tranquillity when he reads or recites the Qur'an or worships Allah Almighty by engaging in prayer or any other act of worship. This good feeling which elevates some to higher levels of happiness and joy is one of the significant effects of faith that motivates Muslims to dedicate all their lives to Allah, comply with His commands cheerfully and out of love and avoid what He forbids in utter submission and obedience. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the concept of faith and its pillars and benefits.

What is Faith?

Faith (*Eemaan* in Arabic) is to confess with one's mouth and believe in one's heart everything that has come from Allah, totally submit to His will, out of love, hope and fear, and translate that into reality. Allah Almighty says, "Believers, believe in Allah and His Messenger and the Book which He has revealed to His Messenger and the Books which He revealed before. Whoever denies Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers and the Day of resurrection has indeed strayed far away."

(Soorat An-Nisaa', 4:136)

Discuss



What is the difference between hope and fear?

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The Pillars of Faith

The Muslim faith rests on six pillars, namely:

- 1 **Belief in Allah:** A Muslim believes that Allah Almighty exists and believes in His names and attributes. He equally believes that He is the Lord and sole Creator of this vast universe, to whom belongs everything in it, who manages all its affairs and provides sustenance to all His creation, that there is no god is worthy of worship besides or instead of Him and that He has perfect attributes.
- 2 **Belief in the angels:** A Muslim believes that the honourable angels exist, that it is Allah Almighty who created them and that they worship Him, execute His commands and never disobey Him. He also believes in their attributes and duties which are mentioned in the Book and the Sunnah.
- 3 **Belief in the divinely revealed books:** A Muslim believes that Allah sent down divine books to His Messengers to guide people to the truth and teach them their religion. These include the Torah (*At-Tawraah*) which He revealed to Moses (Moosaa) son of 'Imraan, the Zaboor which He revealed to David (Daawood), the Gospel (*Al-Injeel*) which He revealed to Jesus ('Eesaa) son of Mary and the Qur'an which He revealed to Muḥammad, peace be upon them all. He also believes that the Qur'an is the last of them and that it has final authority over them all.
- 4 **Belief in the prophets:** A Muslim believes that Allah Almighty sent messengers to their people and supported them with miracles to prove their truthfulness. He sent them to give the believers good news of reward, warn the unbelievers of punishment and teach their people their religion. Those to whom they were sent must obey and follow them. Muḥammad ﷺ was the final prophet whom He sent to all mankind.
- 5 **Belief in the Last Day:** A Muslim believes in Resurrection Day. He believes that Allah will raise the dead from their graves on that day and judge and repay them according to their deeds. Some will enter Paradise while others will enter Hell.
- 6 **Belief in the divine decree:** A Muslim believes that everything in this universe, whether good or evil, happens according to Allah's decree, that He foreknows all events which He has already written in the Preserved Tablet, and that everything in this universe happens according to His will.



Shirk

This means the act of holding someone or something as equal to Allah and directing acts of worship to them. It is a grave and an unforgivable sin. The Qur'an says, "Allah does not forgive those who worship others besides Him, but He forgives anything else to whoever He pleases. Whoever associates a partner with Allah has indeed committed a very great sin."

(Soorat An-Nisaa', 4:48).

By the phrase "the Book and Sunnah" is meant the Noble Qur'an and the sayings of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ, as they are the two main sources of legislation in Islam.

Al-Lawh Al-Mahfoodh (the Preserved Tablet) is the book in which Allah has written everything He has decreed for all creation until the Day of Resurrection.



Al-Qadar, or divine decree, refers to the things Allah Almighty has already preordained and His foreknowledge that they will occur at times known only to Him and in a particular manner.

Benefits of Faith

Faith has many benefits, including the following:

- **Peace and tranquillity:** Faith gives the believer tranquillity and reassurance. He submits to Allah's decree, or qadar, and fears none but Allah.
- **Getting to know Allah Almighty:** A believer gets to know his Lord and His names, attributes and actions, so much so that he becomes more attached to Him.
- **Glorying Allah:** the more a believer gets to know his Lord, the more he extols and loves Him, the more he hopes for His mercy and the more God-fearing he becomes.
- **Getting to know Allah's graciousness to His servants:** for sending messengers to them and divine books to them to guide them to the true religion.
- **Loving the angels:** for worshipping Allah and showing obedience to Him.
- **Loving Allah's Messengers:** Allah Almighty chose them to convey His message to people.
- **Diligent worship:** the stronger the faith, the more worship one performs.
- **A truly happy life:** A believer is content with what Allah has apportioned to him and knows that whatever calamities befall him in this world elevate his rank and efface his sins. He also hopes for the bliss He has prepared for the believers in the life to come.
- **Not to be deluded by this world:** The life of this world is temporary and only serves as a means to eternal life in the hereafter.
- **Exposing myths:** Faith exposes and nullifies many myths.
- **Entering Paradise:** This is the abode of eternal bliss which Allah Almighty has prepared for His believing servants.



My Notes

Write down some of the benefits of faith that you have enjoyed after embracing Islam.

Lined area for writing notes.



Assessment Questions

1

Believing in Allah's messengers means believing that Muḥammad ﷺ was the only prophet.

☐

True

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False

2

Watch the video entitled "Who is Allah?", and then talk about the greatness of the Creator.



Scan the QR code to watch the video

3

Watch the video entitled "The Six Fundamentals of Faith" and list the benefits that you gain from your belief in each of the six fundamentals, or pillars, of faith.



Scan the QR code to watch the video