

الله

God Or No God

Islamic Viewpoint vs.
Atheist Viewpoint

God is there

part 15

By Haya Muhammad Eid



الله اعلم
والله اعلم



GOD IS THERE



“WITH HIM ARE THE KEYS OF THE UNSEEN; NONE KNOWS THEM BUT HE. HE KNOWS WHATEVER IS IN LAND AND SEA. NOT A LEAF FALLS, BUT HE KNOWS IT. NOT A GRAIN IN THE DARKNESS OF THE EARTH, NOT A THING, FRESH OR WITHERED, BUT IT IS WRITTEN IN A CLEAR RECORD.”

[QUR’AN 6:59]



- ● **You are not more difficult to see than a black ant, scampering over a black rock, under the cover of the darkest of moonless nights.**
- ● **What is inside you is not harder to know than every single leaf that changes color and falls off every autumn tree.**
- ● **God sees you, hears you, and knows what is hidden so deep within you that it may still be a mystery to you.**



- ● **He can distinguish your quiet, whispering voice from the voices of billions of others. The bustling of marketplace shouts and arguments do not drown you out. The roaring of stormy oceans does not drown you out. Your voice does not crackle or get cut off when you are calling out to Him. This is not a long-distance phone call.**
- ● **Your suffering is not unknown to Him. Your anger is not unknown to Him. That which you have suppressed and controlled within you is not unknown to Him. The truth of everything, though you may be hiding it from everyone else, is not unknown to Him.**



- ● **There is never a moment when His Seeing, Hearing, or Knowledge fail.**
- ● **Why then do you seek to solely be seen or heard or understood by His creation whose seeing, hearing and knowledge fail all the time?**
- ● **Everyone is hiding something. And if all that is hidden is only known to Him, it must follow that true contentment and true ease and true peace can only be sought at His door.**

Writer Asmaa Hussein



SLAVE TO ONESELF



- ● **All humans, in the Qur'an's own words, have a god – even if the god is the person himself. “Have you seen the one who takes as his god his own desire?” (Qur'an 24:43)**
- ● **To say it differently, there are no real atheists. All humans take some god. All humans worship something and cling to it as the focus of their adoration and servitude. It could be wealth, objects, pleasure, prestige, or power, as expressed by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him): “Miserable indeed is the slave of Dinar, Dirham, and Khamisa (money and luxurious clothes).”**




There is no possibility of a human worshipping and serving nothing. As the novelist **David Foster Wallace put it: “There is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.”**



- ● **The Russian novelist **Dostoevsky** poignantly wrote:**
“To live without God is nothing but torture... Man cannot live without kneeling... If he rejects God, he kneels before an idol of wood or of gold or an imaginary one... They are all idolaters and not atheists. That’s what they ought to be called.”



- ● **Worship of the creature rather than the Creator is contrary to the Creator's design and can never satisfy the human soul. The soul, like nature, abhors a vacuum. Where God is removed, something must move in to fill the emptiness and take His Place. The vacuum may be filled — with nothing in particular — with desperate attempts to obliterate the emptiness. Yet, whatever substitutes for God are used to ease the void, they only work for a while, just as narcotics do, before the emptiness returns, amplified by the awareness that nothing can really obliterate the incessant aching emptiness and provide satisfaction in this life. Humankind's substitutes for God always leads to frustration and**



restlessness. Even enjoying the good things in life cannot be satisfying without God's presence. Only God can provide satisfaction and rest. **“Verily, in the remembrance of God do hearts find rest,”** says the Qur'an (13:28).



- ● **Humans are created with the capacity for a relationship with God that makes them desire God. Since God created humans with such a longing, they cannot find peace or meaning without Him. What can only be found in God can never be sought in anything less. Famous atheist philosopher, Bertrand Russell, admitted this in his autobiography:**



“The center of me is always and eternally a terrible pain – a curious wild pain – a searching for something beyond what the world contains, something transfigured and infinite, the beatific vision – God. I do not find it, I do not think it is to be found, but the love of it is my life ... it fills every passion I have. It is the actual spring of life in me.”



NO ONE TO THANK



The Qur'an wonders in what areas and in what ways humans rely on their own strength when they fail to acknowledge God as the Giver, saying: "O humankind! What has made you careless concerning your Lord, the Most Generous?" (Qur'an 82:6)



At some point during the day, each human experiences thirst, hunger, and fatigue. While such basic needs clearly expose to each human their own powerlessness and dependence, they strongly point them to the power outside themselves, generously providing for them.



Missing food or sleep for one day has profound negative effects on the body. The need is not only physical; the spiritual need is just as strong. And whether humans face grief, failure, and loss, or happiness, gain, and success, they need God just as much for inward provision and mysterious satisfaction.



G.K. Chesterton bitterly but truthfully remarked: “The worst moment for an atheist is when he is really thankful and has no one to thank.”



ATHEISM BRIEFLY DEFINED



Brown University molecular biologist Kenneth Miller said: **“The categorical mistake of the atheist is to assume that God is natural, and therefore within the realm of science to investigate and test. By making God an ordinary part of the natural world, and failing to find Him there, they conclude that He does not exist. But God is not and cannot be part of nature. God is the reason for nature, the explanation of why things are. He is the answer to existence, not part of existence itself.”**



ISLAM'S WAY TO FIND GOD... SURELY AND NATURALLY



In the words of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham, peace be upon him):

“I have turned my face to Him Who created the heavens and the earth as a Hanif (i.e. an upright believer and worshiper of God alone), and I am not of those who associate gods with God.”

(Qur’an 6:79)

“I have turned my face...”: I have directed my face and my heart to the love and worship of the Maker and Originator of the universe, Who created it without a prior model.

“As a Hanif ...”: As one who inclines to truth, to God, and stays away from all false doctrines and religions.

“...And I am not of those who associate gods with God”: I am not one of those who joins false gods with God, either in their words, or in their actions.

QUR’ANIC INTERPRETATION BY SHEIKH TANTAWI



It was narrated that a Bedouin was traveling on his camel when his camel suddenly dropped dead. He descended from the camel's back and started circling it while meditatively saying:
Why don't you get up?

Why don't you come back to life?

Here are your limbs! They are perfectly complete and your body is sound!

What is the matter with you?

What used to keep you going?

What worked in you to make you alive?

What caused you to die?

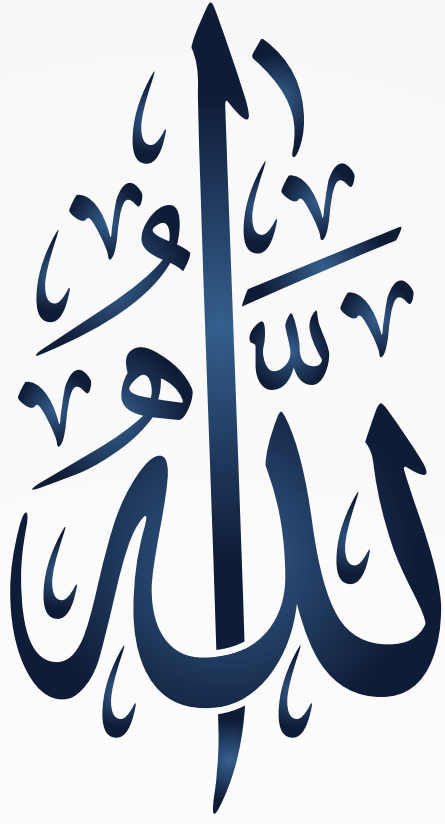
What stopped you now from moving?

Then he left his camel in amazement, wondering what had happened to it.

THERE ARE TRACES OF PAST AND PRESENT CREATIONS EVERYWHERE — ARE THEY MEANINGLESS OR LIVING SIGNS ?OF A CREATOR GOD



*Done with
Allah's Help
and Grace*



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