By Muhammad ibn Abdul-Wahhab ibn Sulayman al-Tamimi
(1115–1206 A.H.) May Allah have mercy on him.

These lessons teach us about Tawheed, which means worshipping Allah alone. We learn why Shirk is wrong, why we make Dua to Allah alone, how to trust Allah, how to use His Names correctly and how to protect our worship. We learn the proofs from the Qur'an and Sunnah so we can worship Allah alone and follow the Qur'an and Sunnah as understood by the Salaf (Pious Predecessors) of this Ummah.

Chapter 1: At- Tauhid (The Oneness of Allah)

Tawheed means worshipping Allah alone and not giving worship to anyone else. Allah created us to worship Him. We must also respect our parents, be honest, be fair and stay away from what Allah forbids. A false god or anything worshipped besides Allah is called Taghut.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah created jinn and people to worship Him alone. (Surah Adh-Dhariyat 51:56)
- Allah sent a messenger to every nation telling people to worship Allah and stay away from Taghut. (Surah An-Nahl 16:36)
- Allah commands us to worship Him alone and treat our parents kindly. (Surah Al-Isra 17:23–24; Surah An-Nisa 4:36)
- Allah teaches us not to commit Shirk, harm our children, hurt innocent people or take an orphan's property unfairly. He also commands honesty and following His straight path. (Surah Al-An'am 6:151–153)
- Ibn Mas'ud pointed to Surah Al-An'am 6:151–153 as a very important teaching from the Prophet ﷺ.
- The Prophet ﷺ taught Mu'adh ibn Jabal that Allah's right upon us is to worship Him alone without partners. He also taught the great reward for people who do not commit Shirk and warned Mu'adh not to let people become careless about their duties. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah created us to worship Him alone.
2. Tawheed is the most important duty.
3. Every messenger called people to Tawheed.
4. Shirk means giving worship to other than Allah.
5. Worshipping Allah includes obeying His commands and treating people well.

Chapter 2: The superiority of Tawhid and what it removes of sins

Tawheed is the greatest foundation of good deeds. Allah rewards sincere faith and forgives sins. Saying La ilaha illa Allah means that nobody has the right to be worshipped except Allah. These words must be believed in the heart and followed through our actions.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah promises safety and guidance to people who keep their faith free from Shirk. (Surah Al-An'am 6:82)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that believing in Allah alone, believing Muhammad ﷺ is His servant and Messenger, believing Isa (peace be upon him) is Allah's servant and Messenger and believing in Paradise and Hell are important parts of faith. (Sahih al-Bukhari 3252)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that saying La ilaha illa Allah sincerely to please Allah is a reason for protection from Hell. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Allah taught Prophet Musa (peace be upon him) the great value of La ilaha illa Allah. These words outweigh the seven heavens and the seven earths. (Ibn Hibban; Al-Hakim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that Allah promises great forgiveness to the person who meets Him without Shirk, even if that person has many sins. (At-Tirmidhi)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Tawheed brings great rewards.
2. La ilaha illa Allah means worship Allah alone.
3. The words must be sincere.
4. Allah can forgive many sins.
5. Belief in Paradise and Hell is part of Islam.

Chapter 3: Who purifies Tauhid (from Shirk..etc) will enter Paradise without giving an Account

We must keep our Tawheed free from Shirk and false beliefs. Tawakkul means trusting Allah. We can use lawful treatment when sick, including permitted Ruqyah, while knowing that Allah alone gives the cure. People can have different levels of trust and good deeds.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah praises Ibrahim (peace be upon him) for worshipping Him alone and staying away from Shirk. (Surah An-Nahl 16:120)
- Allah praises those who do not worship anyone besides Him. (Surah Al-Mu'minun 23:59)
- The Prophet ﷺ told Ibn Abbas about earlier prophets and their followers. Some prophets had many followers, some had very few and some had none. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that 70,000 people from his Ummah would enter Paradise without an account. They had strong trust in Allah, did not believe in omens and did not request certain spiritual or burning treatments for themselves. 'Ukkashah ibn Mihsan was given the good news that he was one of them. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Companions discussed this report and wanted to be among those who had complete trust in Allah. Ruqyah using Qur'an and correct Dua is permitted; the lesson does not forbid lawful treatment.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Keep Tawheed free from Shirk.
2. Trust Allah in every situation.
3. Do not believe in bad-luck signs.
4. Ruqyah without Shirk is allowed.
5. Good deeds and sincere trust matter more than how many followers someone has.

Chapter 4: Fear of Shirk (Polytheism)

We must protect our worship from Shirk. Riya means doing worship to make people praise us. It is a form of minor Shirk. We should pray, give charity and do good things to please Allah, not to show off.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about Shirk. (Surah An-Nisa 4:48, 4:116)
- Ibrahim (peace be upon him) asked Allah to keep him and his children away from worshipping idols. (Surah Ibrahim 14:35)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned his Companions about Riya, showing off in acts of worship. (Ahmad)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against dying while worshipping others besides Allah. (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that meeting Allah without Shirk is a reason to enter Paradise. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Even the prophets asked Allah for protection from Shirk.
2. Riya means showing off in worship.
3. Minor Shirk is also very serious.
4. Do good deeds to please Allah.
5. Keep the meaning of La ilaha illa Allah in the heart and actions.

Chapter 5: The Call to testify that there is nothing deserving of Worship in truth except Allah

Da'wah means inviting people to Islam. We must teach others with knowledge, patience and kindness. Tawheed comes first, then we teach Salah, Zakat and other duties step by step.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells the Prophet ﷺ to call people to Him with clear knowledge. (Surah Yusuf 12:108)
- When the Prophet ﷺ sent Mu'adh to Yemen, he told him to begin by teaching Tawheed, then the five daily prayers, then Zakat. He warned him to treat people fairly and not take their best belongings as Zakat. (Sahih al-Bukhari 1389/1425; Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ told Ali ibn Abi Talib to speak to people with care and invite them to Islam. He taught that helping one person find guidance is better than very valuable camels. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ gave Ali the flag at Khaybar, made Dua for his sore eyes and Allah cured him. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Invite people to Allah, not to yourself.
2. Speak with knowledge and kindness.
3. Teach Tawheed before other duties.
4. Teach one step at a time.
5. Helping one person learn the truth is a great good deed.

Chapter 6: An Explanation of Tauhid and the Testimony: La ilaha illa–Allah

La ilaha illa Allah means that nobody deserves worship except Allah. It is not enough just to say these words. We must reject worship of other things, love Allah above everything and follow His commands.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Those whom people call upon besides Allah are themselves servants who hope for Allah's mercy and fear His punishment. (Surah Al-Isra 17:57)
- Ibrahim (peace be upon him) left the false worship of his people and worshipped only the One who created him. (Surah Az-Zukhruf 43:26–28)
- Allah warns about following religious leaders when they claim that something Allah forbade is allowed or something He allowed is forbidden. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:31)
- Allah teaches that believers love Him more than anyone or anything else. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:165)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that a person must say La ilaha illa Allah and reject the false things worshipped besides Allah. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. La ilaha illa Allah means worship Allah alone.
2. Reject false worship.
3. Allah must be loved above everything.
4. No person can change Allah's rules.
5. Faith includes belief, words and actions.

Chapter 7: To wear a Ring, Twine, or anything similar to them for prevention or lifting of Harm or Affliction, is an act of Shirk

Some people wear a ring, string or charm because they think the object itself protects them from harm. This is wrong. We ask Allah for protection and use real, lawful ways to stay safe or get well.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah asks whether the things worshipped besides Him could remove harm or stop His mercy. Only Allah controls this. (Surah Az-Zumar 39:38)
- The Prophet ﷺ told a man to remove a brass ring worn as a charm for weakness and warned that it would not help him. (Ahmad)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against wearing amulets and shells as charms and said that attaching such a charm is Shirk. (Ahmad)
- Hudhayfah removed a string worn to prevent fever and recited a warning about mixing belief in Allah with Shirk. (Surah Yusuf 12:106; Ibn Abi Hatim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. A charm does not control good or harm.
2. Do not trust strings, rings or shells for hidden protection.
3. Ask Allah for protection.
4. Use lawful medical treatment when needed.
5. Keep Tawheed free from superstitions.

Chapter 8: Ruqa (incantation), Talismans and Amulets

Ruqyah means reciting Qur'an and correct Dua for protection or healing. Ruqyah without Shirk is allowed. An amulet is an object worn as a charm. The early scholars mentioned different views about amulets containing Qur'an and Ibn Mas'ud rejected wearing them. Tiwalah is a type of magic said to make two people love each other; it is forbidden.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ told people to remove charm necklaces placed on camels. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned about forms of charms, unlawful Ruqyah and Tiwalah that contain Shirk. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud)
- The Prophet ﷺ permitted Ruqyah that did not contain Shirk, including recitation for the evil eye or a harmful sting.
- The Prophet ﷺ warned that a person who depends on a charm may be left depending upon it. (Ahmad; At-Tirmidhi)
- The Prophet ﷺ also warned against certain knots used as charms and against cleaning oneself with bones or animal dung. (Ahmad)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Correct Ruqyah is allowed.
2. Magic spells are forbidden.
3. Do not wear charms for hidden protection.
4. People must not use magic to control love.
5. Rely on Allah while taking lawful care of your health.

Chapter 9: Whoever seeks Blessing through a tree, a Stone, or the like

Blessings come from Allah. Trees, stones and other objects do not have special power to give blessings just because people claim they do. The Prophet ﷺ corrected new Muslims who asked for a tree like the one used by people who worshipped idols.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah mentions the false idols Al-Lat, Al-'Uzza and Manat. (Surah An-Najm 53:19–20)
- At Hunayn, some new Muslims asked the Prophet ﷺ for a special tree on which to hang their weapons, like a tree used by people who worshipped idols. He strongly corrected them and compared their words to the wrong request made by some of Musa's people. (At-Tirmidhi; Surah Al-A'raf 7:138)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone gives blessings.
2. Do not copy false worship.
3. A tree or stone is not an object of worship.
4. New Muslims may need careful teaching.
5. The Prophet ﷺ corrected mistakes to protect Tawheed.

Chapter 10: Slaughtering for other than Allah

Animal sacrifice is an act of worship when it is done to please Allah. Sacrifice must never be offered as worship to an idol, spirit, dead person or anything besides Allah. The Prophet ﷺ gave strong warnings about this.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells us that prayer, sacrifice, life and death belong to Him alone. (Surah Al-An'am 6:162–163)
- Allah commands us to pray and sacrifice for Him. (Surah Al-Kawthar 108:2)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against sacrificing to other than Allah, insulting parents, protecting someone who introduces wrongdoing in religion and moving boundary marks to take land. (Sahih Muslim)
- A report tells of two men asked to offer even a fly to an idol; one gave in and the other refused. The lesson is that even a small act of idol worship is serious. (Ahmad)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Offer worship only to Allah.
2. Sacrifice as worship belongs to Allah alone.
3. Even small acts of Shirk are serious.
4. Respect parents and neighbours' rights.
5. Refuse worship of idols.

Chapter 11: Make no Animal Sacrifice for Allah in a place where Sacrifice is made for other than Allah

A sacrifice for Allah should not take place where false worship is being honored. The Prophet ﷺ asked careful questions about a place before allowing a man to fulfil his promise there.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah teaches that a place built on obedience is better than a place linked with wrongdoing. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:108)
- A man promised to sacrifice a camel at Buwanah. The Prophet ﷺ asked whether idols had been worshipped there and whether false religious festivals were held there. When the answer was no, he allowed the promise to be fulfilled. (Abu Dawud)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that a promise to disobey Allah must not be carried out and that a person cannot be made to do what they are unable to do. (Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Choose clean places for worship.
2. Do not copy places used to honour idols.
3. Ask about the place before fulfilling a religious promise.
4. A promise to do wrong must not be fulfilled.
5. Allah must be obeyed in every act of worship.

Chapter 12: To vow to other than Allah is an act of Shirk

A vow is a serious promise to do an act of worship. A vow that is an act of worship must be made to Allah, not to a grave, idol or created being. A person must fulfil a lawful promise to obey Allah.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah praises people who fulfil their vows and fear the Day of Judgement. (Surah Al-Insan 76:7)
- Allah knows what we give and the vows we make. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:270)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that a person who vows to obey Allah should obey Him and a person who vows to disobey Allah must not carry out that wrong promise. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. A vow of worship belongs to Allah.
2. Keep good and lawful promises.
3. Never promise an act of worship to an idol or grave.
4. Do not carry out a promise to sin.
5. Allah knows what is in our hearts.

Chapter 13: To seek Refuge in other than Allah is a part of Shirk

Seeking refuge means asking for protection. We seek Allah's protection from evil, Shaytan and harm. Asking a living person for ordinary help they can give is different from asking hidden beings for protection that belongs to Allah.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah teaches us that people who sought protection from the jinn only increased their fear and troubles. (Surah Al-Jinn 72:6)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught us to say, "I seek refuge in the perfect Words of Allah from the evil of what He has created." A person saying this when stopping at a place receives the protection mentioned in the Hadith. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Seek Allah's protection.
2. Do not ask jinn for hidden protection.
3. Learn the Dua for stopping in a place.
4. Allah's Words are perfect.
5. Ordinary help from people is not the same as worship.

Chapter 14: To seek help in other than Allah (Istighatha) or to invoke other than Him is an act of Shirk

We ask Allah for help that only He can give, such as forgiveness and protection from unseen harm. It is allowed to ask people for ordinary help they can give, such as food, directions or medical care. We must not make Dua as worship to the dead or idols.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about calling upon what can neither help nor harm instead of Him. Only Allah removes harm and sends blessings. (Surah Yunus 10:106–107)
- Allah teaches us to seek our food and provision from Him alone and to thank Him. (Surah Al-'Ankabut 29:17)
- Allah teaches that false gods cannot answer people and that Allah hears the person who calls upon Him in need. (Surah Al-Ahqaf 46:5–6; Surah An-Naml 27:62)
- Some Companions wanted the Prophet ﷺ to help them against a person causing harm. He reminded them that Allah is the One from whom help is truly sought. (At-Tabarani)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Make Dua to Allah alone.
2. Ask Allah for help only He can give.
3. False gods cannot answer prayers.
4. Asking a living person for normal help is allowed.
5. Allah hears people in need.

Chapter 15: (The created one could not be an object of worship)

Everything besides Allah is created. A created being cannot become a god. Even prophets are Allah's servants and they cannot decide who is guided or saved apart from Allah's will.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says that false objects of worship create nothing and cannot help themselves. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:191–192)
- Those called upon besides Allah do not own even the thin skin of a date seed. (Surah Fatir 35:13–14)
- When the Prophet ﷺ was hurt at Uhud, Allah taught him that the final decision belongs to Allah. (Surah Aal Imran 3:128; Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ called his relatives, including Fatimah رضي الله عنها, to obey Allah and warned that he could not replace their own duty before Allah. (Surah Ash-Shu'ara 26:214; Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone is the Creator.
2. Created beings cannot control everything.
3. The Prophet ﷺ is Allah's servant and Messenger.
4. Every person is responsible for obeying Allah.
5. We worship only Allah.

Chapter 16: (What the Lord has said)

Allah speaks and the angels obey His commands. Angels are noble servants of Allah, not objects of worship. Devils may steal a little information and fortune-tellers then add many lies.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah teaches that the angels say their Lord has spoken the truth and that He is the Most High, the Most Great. (Surah Saba 34:23)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that the angels obey Allah when He gives a command, while devils sometimes try to listen and pass words to fortune-tellers who mix them with many lies. (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- The Prophet ﷺ described how the angels bow to Allah when He speaks and how Jibril carries His message. (Reported through An-Nawwas ibn Sam'an)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah speaks the truth.
2. Angels obey Allah.
3. Jibril carries revelation by Allah's command.
4. Fortune-tellers cannot be trusted.
5. We worship the Creator, not the angels.

Chapter 17: The Intercession

Intercession means asking Allah to show mercy to another person. Nobody can intercede with Allah unless Allah allows it. The Prophet ﷺ will intercede by Allah's permission. We must not worship someone in order to receive intercession.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says that all intercession belongs to Him. (Surah Az-Zumar 39:44)
- No one intercedes with Allah without His permission. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:255; Surah An-Najm 53:26; Surah Saba 34:22–23)
- Allah allows intercession only for those with whom He is pleased. (Surah Al-Anbiya 21:28; Surah Al-An'am 6:51)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that he will first praise Allah and then receive permission to intercede. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught Abu Hurayrah that the happiest people with his intercession are those who say La ilaha illa Allah sincerely from the heart. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. All intercession belongs to Allah.
2. Allah decides who may intercede.
3. True intercession is by His permission.
4. The Prophet ﷺ will intercede as Allah allows.
5. Sincere Tawheed is essential.

Chapter 18: (Allah guides whom He wills)

We can explain Islam and be kind to others but Allah alone guides hearts to faith. We should keep inviting people with wisdom and make Dua for them when it is right to do so.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells the Prophet ﷺ that he cannot make everyone he loves accept guidance; Allah guides whom He wills. (Surah Al-Qasas 28:56)
- The Prophet ﷺ asked his uncle Abu Talib to say La ilaha illa Allah near the end of his life but Abu Talib did not accept. This shows that even the Prophet ﷺ could not force faith into a heart. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Allah revealed that believers should not ask forgiveness for people who died upon Shirk after the truth about them became clear. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:113)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone guides hearts.
2. We can teach and advise kindly.
3. People choose whether to listen.
4. Love for a person cannot force faith.
5. Keep your own heart firm upon Tawheed.

Chapter 19: Excessive Dogma in the Righteous Persons is the Root Cause of Infidelity of Mankind and its deviation from True Religion

We love the prophets and good Muslims but never worship them. Going too far in praise can lead to Shirk. The people of Nuh (peace be upon him) first honoured good men with statues and later generations began worshipping those statues.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against going beyond the limits in religion. (Surah An-Nisa 4:171)
- Ibn Abbas explained that Wadd, Suwa', Yaghuth, Ya'uq and Nasr were once the names of good men; later people made statues and eventually worshipped them. (Surah Nuh 71:23; Sahih al-Bukhari)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught us not to praise him as people wrongly praised Isa (peace be upon him). He said to call him Allah's servant and Messenger. (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against going too far in religion. (Ahmad; Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Love good people without worshipping them.
2. Statues used to honour people can lead to Shirk.
3. The Prophet ﷺ is Allah's servant and Messenger.
4. Do not go beyond Allah's limits.
5. Follow the Qur'an and Sunnah.

Chapter 20: The condemnation of the One who worships Allah at the Grave of a Righteous Man and how then does this amount to Worship of the Man

We respect the dead and make Dua for them but we do not pray to them or treat their graves as places of worship. The Prophet ﷺ warned against building places of worship over graves and using pictures or statues to honour the dead.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Umm Salamah described a church containing pictures and statues. The Prophet ﷺ warned about people who built places of worship over the graves of good men. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Near the end of his life, the Prophet ﷺ warned against treating the graves of prophets as places of worship. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught Jundub that Allah was his closest beloved Lord and warned again not to make graves into places of worship. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ gave another serious warning about people who make graves into places of worship. (Ahmad; Ibn Hibban)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Do not pray to dead people.
2. Do not make graves into places of worship.
3. Do not use statues or pictures for worship.
4. Make Dua to Allah alone.
5. The Prophet ﷺ protected Tawheed even near the end of his life.

Chapter 21: Exaggeration in the Graves of the Righteous Persons tends them to become Idols worshipped besides Allah

Graves are for remembering death and making the permitted Dua for the deceased. We must not believe a grave has special powers or worship at it as if it were an idol.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ asked Allah not to let his grave become an idol that people worship. (Malik, Al-Muwatta)
- Allah mentions Al-Lat and Al-'Uzza, which were wrongly worshipped. Reports describe people who began treating the grave of a man who served pilgrims as a special holy place. (Surah An-Najm 53:19)
- The Prophet ﷺ gave a strong warning about building places of worship or placing lights over graves. A report from Ibn Abbas also warns about women visiting graves. (Abu Dawud; At-Tirmidhi; Ibn Majah; An-Nasa'i)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Respect the dead without worshipping them.
2. Graves do not control blessings.
3. Do not treat a grave like an idol.
4. The Prophet ﷺ warned against turning graves into special worship places.
5. Make Dua only to Allah.

Chapter 22: The protectiveness of Al-Mustafa (May Allah be pleased with him) of Tauhid and his blockading every path leading to Shirk

The Prophet ﷺ cared deeply about the believers. He taught us how to honour him correctly without treating him as a god. We send Salah upon him wherever we are and do not make his grave a place for special celebrations.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah describes the Prophet ﷺ as caring, kind and concerned for the believers. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:128–129)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught us not to make our homes like graves by leaving them without prayer and not to make his grave a place for repeated celebrations. He taught us that our Salah upon him reaches him wherever we are. (Abu Dawud)
- Ali ibn Al-Husayn stopped a man from making a special practice of Dua at a space beside the Prophet's grave and reminded him of this teaching.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. The Prophet ﷺ loved and guided his Ummah.
2. Send Salah upon him from any place.
3. Pray in our homes too.
4. Do not turn his grave into a celebration place.
5. Honour the Prophet ﷺ by following his Sunnah.

Chapter 23: Some People of this Ummah (Nation) will worship Idols

The Prophet ﷺ warned that some people from his Ummah would copy false religious practices from earlier nations. We must learn Tawheed carefully so that we do not copy idol worship or follow leaders who teach wrong beliefs.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people who believed in Jibt and Taghut, or honoured false gods and false worship. (Surah An-Nisa 4:51; Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:60)
- Allah tells us that some people wanted to build a place of worship over the youths of the cave. (Surah Al-Kahf 18:21)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned that some Muslims would closely follow the wrong ways of earlier people. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ told Thawban about the future of the Ummah, including trials, wrong leaders, groups turning to idols and people falsely claiming to be prophets. He taught that he is the final Prophet. (Sahih Muslim; Al-Barqani)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Some people will return to false worship.
2. Do not blindly copy wrong customs.
3. Be careful of misleading leaders.
4. Muhammad ﷺ is the final Prophet.
5. Hold firmly to Tawheed and the Sunnah.

Chapter 24: On Sorcery (As-Sihr)

Sihr means magic or sorcery. It is forbidden and is one of the seven destructive sins. We must not visit magicians or use magic to hurt or control people. Some reports discuss punishments given by early Muslim rulers; punishments belong to lawful authorities, not private people.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against magic and says it harms people in their religion. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:102)
- Allah warns about Jibt and Taghut, words used here for sorcery and false worship. (Surah An-Nisa 4:51)
- The Prophet ﷺ named magic among the seven destructive sins, together with Shirk, unlawful killing, Riba, taking an orphan's property, leaving an assigned battlefield duty and false accusations. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Reports from Jundub, Umar and Hafsah tell us about legal punishments for sorcery in their time. (At-Tirmidhi; Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Magic is a serious sin.
2. Do not visit magicians.
3. Magic is among the seven destructive sins.
4. Rely upon Allah for protection.
5. Legal punishment is not for individuals to carry out.

Chapter 25: Clarification of types of Sorcery (As-Sihr)

Some people pretend that bird movements, lines drawn on the ground, stars or knots can tell the future or control hidden events. These false practices are forbidden. Spreading lies between people is also a serious wrong.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ warned against using the flight of birds, lines on the earth and bad-luck signs to predict hidden things. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud; An-Nasa'i; Ibn Hibban)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against using astrology to claim hidden knowledge. (Abu Dawud)
- A report warns about blowing on knots as part of magic and about relying on charms. (An-Nasa'i)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against carrying lies between people to start arguments. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that powerful speech can strongly affect people; this is not permission to practise sorcery. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Birds cannot tell us the future.
2. Stars are not fortune-tellers.
3. Magic knots and charms are forbidden.
4. Do not spread lies between people.
5. Use speech truthfully and kindly.

Chapter 26: On Soothsayers and the like

A fortune-teller claims to know things people cannot normally know. An 'Arraf claims to discover secrets or missing things through false hidden powers. A Kahin claims to tell unseen events. We must not visit them or believe these claims.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ gave a serious warning about visiting a fortune-teller and asking about unseen matters, saying the person's prayer is not accepted for forty nights. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against believing a person who claims hidden knowledge through fortune-telling. (Abu Dawud; Al-Hakim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against seeking omens, fortune-telling and magic. (Al-Bazzar; At-Tabarani)
- Ibn Abbas warned against using letters and stars to claim secret knowledge.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Only Allah knows the unseen completely.
2. Do not visit fortune-tellers.
3. Do not believe people who claim magical knowledge.
4. Astrology is not a way to know fate.
5. Pray to Allah and use truthful sources of information.

Chapter 27: Curing through Magical Spells (An-Nushrah)

Nushrah means trying to remove the effects of magic. Using more magic to undo magic is not allowed. Permitted Ruqyah, correct Dua and lawful medicine are allowed ways to seek recovery.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ was asked about treating magic with Nushrah and gave a warning about practices connected to Shaytan. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud)
- Reports from early scholars discuss two kinds of Nushrah: unlawful methods that use magic and lawful treatment using Qur'an, Dua and permitted medicine. (Ibn Al-Qayyim and early scholars)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Do not use magic to undo magic.
2. Correct Ruqyah is allowed.
3. Lawful medicine is allowed.
4. Allah alone gives healing.
5. Stay away from people who offer forbidden spells.

Chapter 28: What is said regarding Belief in Omens (At- Tataiyur)

Tiyarah means believing an animal, sound, day or object will bring bad luck. These things do not control our future. We trust Allah, continue good plans and say the correct Dua when we feel afraid. A kind word and good hope are different from believing in omens.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah rejects the false bad-luck claims made by earlier people. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:131; Surah Ya-Sin 36:19)
- The Prophet ﷺ rejected false beliefs about owls, the month of Safar and bad omens. He liked good words and hopeful speech. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught people to ask Allah for good and seek protection from harm rather than letting omens stop them. (Abu Dawud)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned that Tiyarah is a kind of Shirk and taught a Dua asking Allah for good and protection from harm. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud; At-Tirmidhi)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Bad-luck signs have no special power.
2. Do not stop good plans because of omens.
3. Trust Allah.
4. Hopeful words are allowed.
5. Ask Allah for good and protection.

Chapter 29: What is said regarding Astrology (At- Tanjeem)

Allah created the stars for reasons such as beauty and helping travellers find directions. We can study the stars and their paths. Astrology that claims stars decide fate or tell us hidden things is wrong.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Qatadah taught that Allah made stars as beauty for the sky, protection against devils and signs that travellers can use for direction. (Reported by Al-Bukhari)
- Early scholars discussed learning the moon's phases for dates and navigation. This is different from predicting people's fate. (Reported from Ahmad, Ishaq and Qatadah)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against believing in sorcery, drinking alcohol as a habit and cutting family ties. (Ahmad; Ibn Hibban)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Stars are part of Allah's creation.
2. Stars can help with directions.
3. The moon's phases can help with dates.
4. Stars cannot decide our future.
5. Do not use astrology as fortune-telling.

Chapter 30: Seeking Rain through the Lunar Phases (Constellation)

Rain is a blessing from Allah. Stars and moon phases do not independently send rain. We may learn how weather works but must thank Allah for every blessing.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against refusing to thank Him for the food and rain He gives. (Surah Al-Waqi'ah 56:75–82)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against boasting about family ancestors, insulting people's family lines, believing stars bring rain and forbidden wailing for the dead. (Sahih Muslim)
- After a rainy night, the Prophet ﷺ explained that people who thanked Allah for the rain showed faith, while people who treated a star as the giver of rain were wrong. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah sends rain.
2. Stars do not create rain.
3. Thank Allah for blessings.
4. Do not boast about family names.
5. Avoid forbidden mourning customs.

Chapter 31: (Love for Allah)

We should love Allah more than anything else. We love the Prophet ﷺ and follow him. We also love good people for Allah's sake and stay away from choosing sin to please others.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against loving false gods in the way that Allah alone should be loved. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:165–166)
- Allah teaches that parents, family, money and homes must not become more important to us than obeying Him and His Messenger. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:24)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that true faith includes loving him more than any other person. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that the sweetness of faith includes loving Allah and His Messenger most, loving for Allah's sake and staying firm upon Islam. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Ibn Abbas also taught about loving and making friendships for Allah's sake. (Ibn Jarir)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Love Allah above everything.
2. Follow and love the Prophet ﷺ.
3. Love people for Allah's sake.
4. Do not choose sin to please others.
5. Love of Allah brings sweetness of faith.

Chapter 32: (Fear of Allah Alone)

We should respect people but never disobey Allah just to avoid their criticism. Fearing Allah means remembering that He sees our actions and choosing what is right.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells believers to fear Him rather than the threats of Shaytan and his helpers. (Surah Aal Imran 3:175)
- Allah praises those who worship Him and fear Him alone. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:18)
- Allah warns about people who turn away from faith when others give them trouble. (Surah Al-'Ankabut 29:10)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against seeking people's approval by doing things that displease Allah. (Abu Nu'aym; Ibn Hibban)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Obey Allah even when others disagree.
2. Do not fear false gods.
3. Respect people without following them into sin.
4. Allah controls our provision.
5. Allah's pleasure matters most.

Chapter 33: (Put your Trust in Allah)

Tawakkul means trusting Allah and depending on Him. We make sensible efforts, do what we can and leave the results to Allah.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah commands believers to trust Him. (Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:23)
- Allah describes believers as people whose faith grows when they hear His verses and who trust Him. (Surah Al-Anfal 8:2)
- Allah says that He is enough for those who trust Him. (Surah Al-Anfal 8:64; Surah At-Talaq 65:3)
- Ibrahim (peace be upon him) said that Allah was enough for him when he faced the fire. The Prophet ﷺ and his Companions also placed their trust in Allah when they faced threats. (Sahih al-Bukhari; Surah Aal Imran 3:173)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Trust Allah.
2. Make good efforts.
3. Allah is enough for those who rely on Him.
4. Remember Allah when afraid.
5. True trust is part of faith.

Chapter 34: (To feel secure against the Plan of Allah contradicts Tauhid)

A believer hopes for Allah's mercy and fears doing wrong. We must not keep sinning because we think Allah will never hold us responsible. We must also never lose hope in His forgiveness.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against people who feel completely safe from His plan and punishment. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:99)
- Allah warns us not to give up hope in His mercy. (Surah Al-Hijr 15:56)
- The Prophet ﷺ and Ibn Mas'ud gave warnings about Shirk, losing hope in Allah and feeling completely safe from His punishment. (Reports from Ibn Abbas and Ibn Mas'ud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Fear doing wrong.
2. Hope for Allah's mercy.
3. Do not keep sinning carelessly.
4. Never give up hope in forgiveness.
5. Ask Allah for help in staying obedient.

Chapter 35: A part of Iman (Belief) in Allah is the forbearance with what Allah has decreed

Sabr means patience. When something hard happens, we remember that Allah knows and controls what happens. We may feel sad and cry but we must not blame Allah or use forbidden ways of showing sadness.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says He guides the heart of the believer during hardship. (Surah At-Taghabun 64:11)
- Alqamah explained that a believer accepts hardship while knowing it happened by Allah's decree.
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against insulting people's families and forbidden wailing for the dead. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against tearing clothes and striking oneself during forbidden mourning. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that great rewards may come with great tests and patience during them pleases Allah. (At-Tirmidhi)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah knows what happens to us.
2. Patience is part of faith.
3. Being sad is not wrong.
4. Avoid harmful mourning practices.
5. Hardship can bring reward when met with patience.

Chapter 36: Forbiddance of Showing Off

Riya means showing off in worship. If we pray, recite Qur'an or give charity just to receive praise, our intention is wrong. We should do good deeds because we love Allah and want His reward.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah teaches us to do good deeds and not mix His worship with partners. (Surah Al-Kahf 18:110)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that Allah does not need anyone to share worship with Him and that deeds done as worship for Allah and other people are not accepted in the intended way. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned about hidden Shirk: making prayer look better because someone is watching. (Ahmad)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Do good deeds for Allah.
2. Riya is showing off.
3. Allah knows intentions.
4. Do not change your prayer just to impress people.
5. Sincere worship protects Tawheed.

Chapter 37: It is of Shirk to perform a (righteous) deed for worldly reasons

Worship is for Allah, not a way to become famous or rich. Working to earn a living is allowed but turning acts of worship into deeds done only for worldly reward is wrong.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people whose only goal is the life of this world and its rewards. (Surah Hud 11:15–16)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned about a person who loves money and fine clothes so much that he is happy only when he receives them. He praised a humble believer who serves Allah faithfully without seeking honor. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Worship Allah to please Him.
2. Money is not our greatest goal.
3. Working for a lawful living is different from showing off in worship.
4. Be happy to do good even when nobody praises you.
5. Sincere deeds matter most.

Chapter 38: Whoever obeys the Scholars and the Rulers, forbidding what Allah has made permissible and permitting what He has made forbidden, has certainly taken them as Lords (besides Allah)

We respect scholars and leaders and learn from people with knowledge. But no person has the right to make Allah's forbidden things allowed or His allowed things forbidden. The Qur'an and authentic Sunnah come first.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns against people who oppose the Messenger's commands. (Surah An-Nur 24:63)
- Allah describes people who wrongly treated religious leaders as lords by following them when they changed Allah's rules. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:31)
- The Prophet ﷺ explained to 'Adi ibn Hatim that following leaders who change halal and haram in this way is a kind of giving them religious authority that belongs to Allah. (Ahmad; At-Tirmidhi)
- Ibn Abbas and Imam Ahmad warned against choosing people's opinions over a known teaching of the Prophet ﷺ.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Respect scholars and learn from them.
2. Allah alone decides what is halal and haram.
3. The Prophet's Sunnah must be followed.
4. Do not turn a person into a source of worship.
5. Ask for evidence when learning Islam.

Chapter 39: (Seeking judgement from other than Allah and His Messenger is hypocrisy)

Allah's rules are just. We must not claim to follow Islam but knowingly reject Allah's commands because we prefer unfair rules. We should seek truth and fairness when people disagree.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people who claim faith but choose false judgement while turning away from His revelation. (Surah An-Nisa 4:60–62)
- Allah warns about people who cause trouble but call themselves peacemakers. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:11)
- Allah commands people not to spread harm and trouble. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:56)
- Allah asks who could judge better than Him. (Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:50)
- A report teaches that a believer's wishes should agree with what the Prophet ﷺ brought. Some people sought unfair judges because they hoped to receive special favours. (Reported through Abdullah ibn 'Amr and Ash-Sha'bi)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's guidance is best.
2. Do not seek unfair decisions.
3. Bribery and lying harm justice.
4. Follow the Qur'an and Sunnah.
5. Speak truth when there is a disagreement.

Chapter 40: (**Whosoever denies any of the Names and Attributes of Allah**)

Allah has beautiful Names and perfect Attributes. We believe what He told us about Himself in the Qur'an and authentic Sunnah. We do not deny His Names or make Allah like His creation.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says that He is Ar-Rahman, the Most Merciful and warns about those who deny this Name. (Surah Ar-Ra'd 13:30)
- Ali رضي الله عنه taught people to explain Islamic knowledge in words that others can understand. (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- Ibn Abbas corrected people who rejected a teaching about Allah's Attributes because they found it difficult. (Abd Ar-Razzaq)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah has beautiful Names.
2. His Attributes are perfect.
3. Believe what Allah and His Messenger taught.
4. Allah is not like His creation.
5. Teach difficult matters clearly.

Chapter 41: (**Recognizing the Grace of Allah, yet denying it is disbelief**)

Our health, family, food and money are blessings from Allah. People may help us but Allah is the One who made those good things possible. We should thank Him instead of giving all the credit to a person or object.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people who know His blessings but do not thank or acknowledge Him. (Surah An-Nahl 16:83)
- Mujahid, 'Awn ibn Abdullah and other early scholars gave examples of people claiming that money, luck, a false god or another person alone gave them their blessings.
- The Prophet ﷺ also taught us to thank Allah for rain rather than saying a star gave it. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Every blessing comes from Allah.
2. Thank Allah for food, safety and health.
3. Thank people for their help too.
4. Do not give objects hidden powers.
5. Be grateful rather than proud.

Chapter 42: ("**Do not set up rivals unto Allah**...")

A rival is someone treated as equal to another. Nobody is equal to Allah in worship or power. We must speak carefully so that our words do not make people sound equal to Allah.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says not to set up rivals with Him. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:22)
- Ibn Abbas warned about hidden forms of Shirk, including wrong kinds of oaths and saying "Allah and so-and-so" in a way that makes them equal. (Ibn Abi Hatim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned against swearing by anyone besides Allah. (At-Tirmidhi; Al-Hakim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught us to say "what Allah wills and then what you will," not to join a person's will equally with Allah's will. (Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah has no equal.
2. Swear by Allah alone.
3. Do not make people equal to Allah in speech.
4. Use "then" when speaking about a person's will after Allah's.
5. Small wrong phrases should be corrected.

Chapter 43: **What is said about the One who is not satisfied with an Oath taken by Allah's Name**

When someone makes a truthful oath by Allah, the Name of Allah must be respected. The person who swears must tell the truth. We must not swear by our parents or other created things.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught us not to swear by our fathers, to be truthful when swearing by Allah and to respect an oath made by Allah's Name. (Ibn Majah)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's Name is holy.
2. Do not swear by created people.
3. Never use an oath to lie.
4. Respect a truthful oath by Allah.
5. Speak honestly without needing many oaths.

Chapter 44: How it is to say "What Allah may will and you (May the peace and blessing of Allah be upon him) may will"

Allah's will is not equal to any person's will. We should say "What Allah wills and then what you will" when a person's choice is involved. It is also correct to say "What Allah alone wills."

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ corrected people who said "By the Ka'bah" and told them to swear by the Lord of the Ka'bah. He also corrected the phrase "Allah and your will." (An-Nasa'i)
- When a man said "What Allah wills and you will," the Prophet ﷺ corrected him because Allah has no partner. (An-Nasa'i)
- Tufayl told the Prophet ﷺ about a dream that led to correcting the way people spoke about Allah's will. The Prophet ﷺ taught them to say "What Allah alone wills." (Ibn Majah)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's will is above every person's.
2. Do not make Allah and a person equal.
3. Use careful words.
4. Swear by Allah, not by the Ka'bah.
5. The Prophet ﷺ corrected wrong phrases to protect Tawheed.

Chapter 45: Whoever curses Time has wronged Allah

Do not blame or curse a day, month or time because something bad happened. Allah controls day and night. We can say a day was hard or that the weather was unpleasant without cursing time.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells us about people who wrongly claimed that time alone gives life and death. (Surah Al-Jathiyah 45:24)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that Allah controls the passing of night and day and warned people not to curse time. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah controls time.
2. Do not curse days or years.
3. Hard things happen by Allah's decree.
4. Describe a problem without insulting time.
5. Speak with patience.

Chapter 46: To be named "Judge of Judges" and the like

Only Allah is the greatest King. People may have positions such as king or judge but a title that claims the highest power belonging to Allah is not right.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ warned against a person calling himself Malik al-Amlak, meaning "King of Kings." He taught that true kingship belongs to Allah. (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- Shahanshah is another title meaning "King of Kings"; this title also claims greatness belonging only to Allah.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah is the greatest King.
2. People cannot share His perfect power.
3. Titles should be respectful and truthful.
4. Do not boast about power.
5. Remember that everyone is Allah's servant.

Chapter 47: Respect for the Names of Allah and changing one's name for the sake of that

Allah's Names are special. We should not use them carelessly or take a title that wrongly claims an Attribute belonging to Him alone. The Prophet ﷺ kindly changed a man's nickname to protect the honor of Allah's Name.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- A man was called Abu al-Hakam. The Prophet ﷺ taught him that Allah is Al-Hakam, the true Judge. When he learned the man's eldest son was Shurayh, he called him Abu Shurayh instead. (Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's Names deserve respect.
2. Al-Hakam means the true Judge.
3. The Prophet ﷺ corrected names kindly.
4. A good nickname does not claim Allah's special powers.
5. Careful words protect Tawheed.

Chapter 48: Who makes fun of anything where mention is made of Allah or the Qur'an or the Messenger (May the peace and blessing of Allah be upon him) Commits disbelief

We must never make jokes that insult Allah, His verses or His Messenger ﷺ. We should speak respectfully about Islam and not use hurtful words as entertainment.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people who mocked His verses and His Messenger and then said they were only joking. (Surah At-Tawbah 9:65–66)
- During the journey of Tabuk, a man spoke badly about the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions and tried to excuse it as a joke. Allah revealed a warning about this behaviour. (Reported from Ibn Umar and others)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Respect Allah's Name.
2. Respect the Qur'an.
3. Respect the Prophet ﷺ.
4. A joke is not an excuse to mock Islam.
5. Use words that are kind and true.

Chapter 49: (To say "This wealth is the result of my labour and knowledge" is against Tauhid)

We may work hard, study and save money but wealth is still a blessing from Allah. We must not be proud and act as if we earned everything without Allah's help. The Prophet ﷺ told a story of three men who were tested with health and money.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about a person who receives blessings and proudly claims they belong to him because he deserves them. (Surah Fussilat 41:50)
- Qarun claimed that his wealth came only from his own knowledge. (Surah Al-Qasas 28:78)
- The Prophet ﷺ told of three men: one had a skin illness, one had lost his hair and one could not see. Allah healed them and gave them animals and wealth. Later, an angel tested their gratitude. The first two denied Allah's gift, while the third thanked Allah and offered help to a traveller. Allah was pleased with the grateful man. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah gives every blessing.
2. Working hard does not remove the duty to thank Allah.
3. Help people in need.
4. Do not deny how Allah helped you.
5. Gratitude is more important than pride.

Chapter 50: (**Every name which leads to the service of other than Allah is prohibited**)

Names should have good meanings. A name meaning "servant of" someone as an act of worship must be for Allah alone, such as Abdullah and Abd Ar-Rahman. Names that mean being a worshipper or servant of an idol are wrong.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about giving others a share in what belongs to Him, including in the way children are named. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:189–190)
- Ibn Hazm reported the scholars' agreement against names that mean religious service to someone other than Allah.
- A report claims that Adam and Hawwa gave a child a wrong name after Shaytan tried to frighten them. This report is weak, so we do not treat the story as a proven event. (Ibn Abi Hatim; judged weak by Ibn Kathir and Al-Albani)
- Other reports from Qatadah and Mujahid speak about obeying what is wrong and being worried about having a child. (Ibn Abi Hatim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Choose good names.
2. Abdullah means servant of Allah.
3. Do not give worshipful names to false gods.
4. Allah deserves our worship alone.
5. Do not treat the weak story about Adam and Hawwa as certain.

Chapter 51: (**The Most Beautiful Names belong to Allah**)

Allah has the Most Beautiful Names, such as Ar-Rahman and Al-'Aziz. We call upon Him using His Names and believe in them correctly. We must not change His Names into names for idols.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah tells us that the Most Beautiful Names belong to Him and that we should call upon Him by them. (Surah Al-A'raf 7:180)
- Ibn Abbas warned about changing Allah's Names for idol worship. He explained how the false names Al-Lat and Al-'Uzza were linked to words from Allah's Names. (Ibn Abi Hatim)
- Al-A'mash warned against adding names that do not belong to Allah.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's Names are beautiful.
2. Call upon Allah using His Names.
3. Learn their meanings.
4. Do not make idols from Allah's Names.
5. Do not invent Names for Allah.

Chapter 52: Do not say As-Salam (Peace and Security) upon Allah

Allah is As-Salam, the One free from every fault and the source of peace. He does not need peace or safety from anyone. We ask Allah to give peace to His servants instead.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Companions once said "Peace be upon Allah" during their sitting in Salah. The Prophet ﷺ corrected them and taught that Allah Himself is As-Salam. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah is As-Salam.
2. Allah needs no protection.
3. Use the correct words in Tashahhud.
4. We ask Allah for peace.
5. The Prophet ﷺ taught prayer words carefully.

Chapter 53: Saying: "O Allah, forgive me if You wish"

When making Dua, ask Allah clearly and with trust. We should not say, "O Allah, forgive me if You wish," in a way that sounds unsure or careless. Allah has power over everything and nobody can force Him to do anything.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ told us to ask Allah firmly for forgiveness and mercy rather than saying "if You wish." (Sahih al-Bukhari)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that no request is too great for Allah. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Make Dua with hope.
2. Ask Allah clearly.
3. Allah has power over everything.
4. Nobody can force Allah.
5. Believe that Allah hears you.

Chapter 54: One should not say "My Slave (Male or Female)"

We should speak respectfully to people who work for others or are in their care. In earlier times, slavery existed. The Prophet ﷺ taught people to avoid proud or hurtful words for people under their care.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught people not to call a human master "Rabb," a word used for Lord and not to call a person "my slave" in proud or disrespectful speech. He gave gentler words such as "my boy" or "my young helper." (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Only Allah is our Lord.
2. Speak kindly to people.
3. Do not use words that humiliate others.
4. Every person deserves respect.
5. Learn to choose good words.

Chapter 55: Whoever asks with the Name of Allah, is not to be rejected

Allah's Name must be treated with respect. If someone asks for a good and lawful thing in Allah's Name, help if you can. When someone does you a favour, thank them or make Dua for them.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught us to help someone who makes a rightful request using Allah's Name, to protect someone who asks for lawful protection, to accept invitations, to return kindness and to make Dua when we cannot return a favour. (Abu Dawud; An-Nasa'i)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Respect Allah's Name.
2. Help others with lawful needs.
3. Protect people when you can.
4. Thank people who help you.
5. Make Dua for someone who is kind to you.

Chapter 56: Nothing but Paradise should be asked for by Allah's Face

Allah's Face is one of His Attributes and we believe in it as He has taught without comparing Him to His creation. The Prophet ﷺ taught us not to use such a great request for small worldly things.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

• The Prophet ﷺ taught that nothing should be asked for by Allah's Face except Paradise. (Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah's Attributes are perfect.
2. Do not treat sacred words carelessly.
3. Paradise is the greatest reward.
4. Ask Allah respectfully.
5. Use words that honour Allah.

Chapter 57: On saying: "If only such and such..."

It is normal to wish things had been different but we should not keep blaming Allah's decree. We make good choices, ask Allah for help and accept that what has happened is part of His plan.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

• Allah warns about people who said their losses would not have happened if they had stayed away from a battle. (Surah Aal Imran 3:154, 3:168)

• The Prophet ﷺ taught us to work toward what benefits us, ask Allah for help, not give up and say "Allah has decided and He does what He wills" when hardship occurs. He warned that the blaming words "if only" can lead to wrong thoughts. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Do what is good and useful.
2. Ask Allah for help.
3. Do not blame Allah for hardship.
4. Accept what has already happened.
5. Learn from mistakes without losing hope.

Chapter 58: Prohibition of cursing the Wind

Wind is something Allah created. It may bring cool air, rain or difficult weather. We must not curse it. Instead, we ask Allah for what is good and seek His protection from harm.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught us not to curse the wind. When strong wind worries us, we ask Allah for its good and seek His protection from its harm. (At-Tirmidhi)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Wind belongs to Allah's creation.
2. Do not curse the wind.
3. Ask Allah for safety.
4. Strong weather does not control Allah.
5. Make Dua when afraid.

Chapter 59: (Prohibition of evil thoughts regarding Allah)

We must not think Allah is unfair, weak or unable to keep His promises. Everything He decides comes with knowledge and wisdom. We trust Him even when we do not understand why something happened.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah warns about people who had wrong thoughts about Him during a difficult time. (Surah Aal Imran 3:154)
- Allah warns against evil thoughts about Him. (Surah Al-Fath 48:6)
- Ibn Al-Qayyim explained that wrong thoughts include believing Allah will not support the truth, that hardships happen without His knowledge or that His promise will fail. (Ibn Al-Qayyim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah is always just.
2. Allah keeps His promises.
3. Hardship does not mean Allah is weak.
4. Believe in Allah's wisdom.
5. Trust Allah during difficult times.

Chapter 60: The One who denies Qadar (Divine Decree)

Qadar means that Allah knew and wrote what would happen and nothing occurs outside His knowledge and will. We still choose our actions and must try to do what is right. Believing in Qadar is part of Iman.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught the six parts of Iman: belief in Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Last Day and Qadar, its good and difficult parts. (Sahih Muslim)
- Ibn Umar warned that a person must believe in Qadar. (Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that Allah commanded the Pen to write what would happen. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud)
- Ubadah ibn As-Samit taught his son that what reached him could not have missed him and what missed him could not have reached him. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud)
- Several Companions, including Ubayy ibn Ka'b, Abdullah ibn Mas'ud, Hudhayfah and Zayd ibn Thabit, gave the same teaching about Qadar. (Ahmad; Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Belief in Qadar is part of Iman.
2. Allah knows everything.
3. Allah wrote what would happen.
4. We are responsible for our choices.
5. Accept hardship while doing what is right.

Chapter 61: (What is the punishment) for the Picture-makers

The Prophet ﷺ gave serious warnings about making forbidden images of living beings, especially when people try to copy Allah's creation or make images for worship. Children should understand that people cannot create life as Allah does. These warnings teach that no human can create life the way Allah does.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ taught that nobody can create life like Allah can and warned image-makers against trying to copy His creation. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned about the seriousness of making prohibited images. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ said such image-makers cannot give life to what they made. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- Ali رضي الله عنه reported a command to remove forbidden images and the raising of graves for honouring the dead. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone creates life.
2. Do not make images for worship.
3. The Hadith contain serious warnings.
4. Treat the rules about images carefully.
5. Do not claim that a drawing or statue has Allah's power.

Chapter 62: The forbiddance of taking Oaths frequently

An oath is a serious promise made by Allah's Name. Do not swear all the time, especially when selling things or trying to make people believe you. Tell the truth even without an oath.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah commands us to guard our oaths. (Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:89)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught that swearing to sell goods may help a sale but takes away blessing. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ warned about a seller who uses Allah's Name in every deal. (At-Tabarani)
- The Prophet ﷺ praised his Companions' generation and warned about later people who give false testimony and break promises. (Sahih Muslim; Sahih al-Bukhari)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Use Allah's Name with respect.
2. Do not swear needlessly.
3. Never swear to sell something dishonestly.
4. Keep promises.
5. Be truthful without an oath.

Chapter 63: The Protection of Allah's Covenant and the Protection of His Prophet's Covenant

A covenant is a serious agreement. When we give our word, we must keep it. The Prophet ﷺ warned leaders not to break treaties, harm those who must be protected or claim that their own decisions are certainly Allah's decisions.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah commands us to keep our promises and not break oaths after confirming them. (Surah An-Nahl 16:91)
- The Prophet ﷺ taught leaders to fear Allah, treat people under their care well, not steal shared property, not break treaties and not harm children. (Sahih Muslim)
- He taught leaders to explain Islam and, in the historical rules of conflict, to offer peaceful terms before fighting. He told them not to promise safety in Allah's Name when they could only give their own promise. (Sahih Muslim)
- He also warned against claiming to know Allah's exact judgement in a matter when a leader could be mistaken. (Sahih Muslim)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Keep your word.
2. Do not break agreements.
3. Protect innocent people.
4. Do not claim your decision is Allah's decision.
5. Leaders must act with care and honesty.

Chapter 64: To swear and to take Oath (binding) upon Allah

We do not know what is in another person's heart or how their life will end. We must not say with certainty that Allah will never forgive someone. Allah is the One who judges and forgives.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- The Prophet ﷺ told of a man who swore that Allah would never forgive another person. Allah forgave that person and warned the man who spoke as if he could decide Allah's mercy. (Sahih Muslim)
- Abu Hurayrah explained that the man who made this statement was known for worship, yet his prideful words brought him great loss.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone decides whom He forgives.
2. Do not speak proudly about His judgement.
3. A person may repent.
4. Never give up hope in Allah's mercy.
5. Speak with humility.

Chapter 65: None asks Intercession of Allah before His creation

Allah is greater than every person and every part of creation. We do not talk as if Allah must ask people for help. We ask Allah directly and ask living people for ordinary help only in the ways Islam allows.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- A man asked the Prophet ﷺ to request rain and wrongly described Allah as seeking the Prophet's intercession. The Prophet ﷺ said Subhan Allah and corrected him, teaching that Allah's greatness is above this. (Abu Dawud)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah needs nobody's help.
2. Allah's greatness is beyond creation.
3. Ask Allah for rain and other blessings.
4. Do not speak as if Allah depends on people.
5. Use respectful words about Allah.

Chapter 66: The Prophet's safeguarding of Tauhid and his closing of the paths to Shirk

The Prophet ﷺ was the best person but he never asked people to worship him. He was Allah's servant and Messenger. He stopped people from praising him in ways that went beyond what Allah had taught.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- A group called the Prophet ﷺ their lord. He corrected them and said that the Lord is Allah. He told them not to let Shaytan lead them into going too far. (Abu Dawud)
- Other people praised him with great titles. He answered that he was Muhammad, Allah's servant and Messenger and did not want them to raise him beyond the position Allah gave him. (An-Nasa'i)

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah alone is the Lord.
2. The Prophet ﷺ is Allah's servant.
3. The Prophet ﷺ is Allah's Messenger.
4. Do not go too far in praise.
5. Follow his Sunnah to show love and respect.

Chapter 67: ("They made not a just estimate of Allah...")

Allah is greater than everything He created. He made the heavens and earth and all creation belongs to Him. We believe what Allah tells us about His Hand, Throne and other Attributes without comparing Him to anything He created.

Proofs from the Qur'an, Sunnah and Early Muslims

- Allah says that people have not understood His greatness as they should and that the earth and heavens will be in His grasp on the Day of Judgement. (Surah Az-Zumar 39:67)
- The Prophet ﷺ heard a rabbi describe how small the heavens, earth and other parts of creation are compared with Allah's power. He smiled and recited the verse about Allah's greatness. (Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim)
- The Prophet ﷺ described Allah's power on the Day of Judgement and His judgement over proud rulers. (Sahih Muslim)
- Reports from Ibn Abbas, Ibn Mas'ud and Abu Dharr explain about the great size of the heavens, Kursi and Throne compared with creation.
- These descriptions teach Allah's greatness; they do not mean Allah is like people or objects.

Five Important Issues of the Chapter

1. Allah made the heavens and earth.
2. All creation belongs to Him.
3. Allah's power is beyond ours.
4. Believe His Names and Attributes without comparing Him to creation.
5. Worship Allah with love and respect.