



Q3: A dispute arose between a person and me. This person has memorized the Qur'an and has already performed Hajj to the Sacred House in Mecca. The debate went as follows: I said: Seeking help by the status of the Prophet and pious people is permissible as I have read in "Al-Fawz wa Al-Najah fi Al-Hijrah ila Allah" Book. He replied: It is impermissible to seek help from any creature because Allah says: ﴿ And when My slaves ask you (O Muhammad peace be upon him) concerning Me, then (answer them), I am indeed near (to them by My Knowledge). ﴾ Allah doesn't need a mediator of any kind. Whoever seeks help from Prophets or pious people is considered a polytheist. He also repeated, "God forbid!", many times in Moroccan dialect "what can Muhammad give you; we are the ones who help him by invoking blessings upon him." Is it apostasy to utter such words or not? What about the formula of beseeching Allah's help by means of the Messenger or the Prophet as I have mentioned, is it lawful?

A3: The case of the man you mentioned who rebukes people who seek help from the Prophet (peace be upon him) after his death or seek help by his status saying: "what can Muhammad give you; we are the ones who help him by invoking blessings on him", is extremely indecent and improper

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for a Muslim to say. He repels and hinders people from listening to his advice or benefiting from his knowledge but he didn't commit apostasy because he did not mean to insult the Prophet (peace be upon him) or underestimate him. He only meant to make those who seek help with the Messenger (peace be upon him) to understand that after the Prophet's death, he (peace be upon him) has no power to bring good or prevent harm. But he did not use the proper wording. Of course, he did not mean to count favors over the Prophet (peace be upon him) by invoking blessings on him. He only wanted to explain that he is just a servant of Allah and His Messenger. We should admit his Message and his high status without elevating him to the status of lordship or godhood through supplicating him and seeking his help. This is one of the powers of Allah Alone but he failed to express, invite, or guide to the way of Allah in wisdom and good discourse. Taking into account that supplicating the Prophet and seeking his help or any help from any Prophets or pious people are acts of major sins. As for seeking help by his status or his rights, it is not an act of polytheism but an innovation and one of the means which leads to polytheism that a person should abandon it. What is permissible for a Muslim is to seek help by Allah's Names, Attributes, Oneness, Belief in Him and by good deed which draw them closer to their Lord.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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