«All the angels prostrated themselves, except Iblis.» [1]

It is a separate seclusion, as one may say: "Everyone came except for a donkey." There are some people of knowledge who say Iblis, may Allāh curse him, is an angel, except that he disobeyed Allāh, the Exalted, and insisted on being disobedient. Iblis deserved the curse of Allāh till the Day of Requital.

The Permanent Committee

## Asking the Soothsayers and Sorcerers is Unlawful

My father was mentally ill, and the period of his sickness lengthened, which included going back and forth from the hospital. Some of my relatives told me to go to a woman who knew a cure for mental illnesses. They also said: "Give your name only, and she will tell you what his sickness is and what the appropriate medicine is." Is it lawful for us to go to this woman?

This woman and her like, are unlawful to go to, ask, and believe in, because she is of the soothsayers, and sorcerers, who claim the knowledge of the unseen, and use the Jinn to help them in the cures and their claims. It is authentically reported that the Prophet said:

١٩٧٧ \* \* مَنْ أَتَى عَرَّافًا فَسَأَلَهُ عَنْ شَيْءٍ لَمْ تُقْبَلُ لَهُ صَلَاةً أَرْبَعِينَ لَيْلَةً

"He who visits a fortuneteller and consults him, no prayer of his would be accepted for forty days." [2]

It is also authentically reported that the Prophet 🛎 said:

كَاعِهِ Ahm سَمَنْ أَتَى عَرَّافًا أَوْ كَاهِنَا فَصَدَّقَهُ بِمَا يَقُولُ، فَقَدُ كَفَرَ بِمَا أُنْزِلَ عَلَى 9171 مُحَمَّدٍ ﷺ

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<sup>[1]</sup> Sad 38:73-74.

<sup>[2]</sup> Muslim no. 2230, Ahmad 4:68 and 5:380.

\*He who visits a fortuneteller or a seer and believes him, has certainly denied what was revealed to Muhammad (ﷺ).\*[1]

The traditions in this meaning are many. Your duty is to warn those people who go to them, and not to ask them nor to believe in what they say, and to report them to the authorities, so that they can be punished with what they deserve. For if you do not report them to the authorities, much destruction shall be made, and some weak people may fall to them, by asking and believing them.

The Prophet 鑑 said:

"مَنْ رَأَى مِنْكُمْ مُنْكَرًا فَلْيُغَيِّرُهُ بِيَدِهِ فَإِنْ لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ فَبِلِسَانِهِ، فَإِنْ لَمْ يَسْتَطِعْ فَبِقَلْيِهِ، وَذَلِكَ أَضْعَفُ الْإِيمَانِ»

"If anyone of you sees something evil, he should change it by his hand; if he is not able to do so, then with his tongue; and if he is not able to do this, then with his heart, and this is the weakest of faith." [2]

Indeed reporting them to the authorities is of the means to stop an evil by your hand, and is working together on good deeds.

Ibn Baz

## The Ruling on Swearing by the Prophet

It is the habit of some people to swear by the Prophet or other created beings and it has become commonplace and they do not think anything of it. What is the ruling in this regard?

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<sup>7&</sup>lt;sup>[1]</sup> Abu Dawud no. 3904, At-Tirmithi no. 135, Ibn Majah no. 639 and Ahmad 2:408, 476.

Muslim no. 49, At-Tirmithi no. 2172, Ahmad 3:49, 52-54 and An-Nasa'i no. 5011.