

The background of the image is a dramatic, fiery landscape. On the left, a dark, rocky path leads from the foreground towards the center. The ground is dark and textured, with some circular indentations. On the right, a bright, glowing area of fire or lava dominates the scene, with colors ranging from deep orange to bright yellow and white. The sky above is filled with dark, swirling clouds, illuminated from below by the fire, creating a dramatic, high-contrast scene. The overall atmosphere is one of intense heat and danger.

The Methods Of Shaytaan In Leading People Astray

Shaykh Aboo Islaam Saalih bin TaHa 'AbdulWaaheed

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أساليبُ الشيطان في إغواءِ الإنسان

THE METHODS OF SHAYTAAN IN LEADING PEOPLE ASTRAY¹

By al-Khateeb,

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TRANSLATOR’S PREFACE

¹ From Shaykh Aboo Islaam, *al-‘Aqeedatu Awwalan, Law Kaanoo Ya’lamoon, Vol.1* (‘Ammaan: Maktabat ul-Ghurabaa’ al-Islamiyyah, Rajab 1424 AH), pp.215-222

This chapter is from the book *al-'Aqeedatu Awwalan, Lau Kaanoo Ya'lamoona* by Shaykh Aboo Islaam. The book is in three volumes and is highly recommended reading as it is based upon 234 *khutab* (sermons) that the Shaykh has conducted in Jordan. Another compilation of Shaykh Aboo Islaam's sermons is *Thamaraat ul-Eemaan – Mawaaqif Eemaaniyyah*, which is forty sermons in one volume. Also there is *Du'a min al-Kitaab wa's-Sunnah*, which is 45 sermons in one volume.² Shaykh Aboo Islaam's *khutab* are attended by many of the scholars in Jordan and he was encouraged to publish them by the *Mubaddith* of the era, Shaykh Muhammad bin Naasirudden al-Albaanee (*raheemahullaah*).

Shaykh Aboo Islaam mentions that: **“I began by putting my trust in Allaah, in delivering sermons on ‘aqeedah, and from the virtue of Allaah upon me and upon the people, is that I found the people warmly receiving the khutab and listening to them and benefiting from them. Shaykh Albaanee (raheemahullaah) kept track of what was being told about me and would thus sometimes attend my khutab and ask me about what the topics of the sermons would be and when I informed him that Allaah has blessed the people to accept and like my sermons he said (raheemahullaah): “All praise is due to Allaah and all virtue is from Him.” The days, months and years passed by and the people were listening to the sermons about ‘aqeedah, increasing day after day. The audio tapes of these sermons**

² Some of the brothers in the West became aware of Shaykh Aboo Islaam's *khutab* after their visits to and studies in Jordan. From the brothers in London at *Masjid ibn Taymeeyah (Brixton Mosque)* who informed of the benefit of Shaykh Aboo Islaam (*hafidhullaah*) was Taalib al-Britaanee, 'Alee Sierra Leonee, Aboo Qays Yahyaa and Ja'far as-Salafi (*hafidhahumullaah*). I borrowed a copy of *al-'Aqeedatu Awwalan, Lau Kaanoo Ya'lamoona* from Ja'far as-Salafi, may Allaah increase him in goodness. [Translator's Note]

were being spread amongst the students of knowledge and the people who give *khutab* in every place (in Jordan). So some of the noble brothers asked me to publish the sermons that I was giving in a book form, so that the students of knowledge and people who give sermons could benefit from it in all places. However, I rejected this profusely at the beginning as I was not a person for that, however after the persistence of the brothers on this issue, I prayed *istikhaarah* and then after went to see my Shaykh, my father, Muhammad Naasiruddeen al-Albaanee (raheemahullaah). I consulted him on the issue of publishing these sermons and he said (raheemahullaah): “This is a good thing, and I advise you to publish these sermons, rather it is obligatory upon you to do this, as the issue of ‘aqeedah is a very important affair and all du’aat must give it importance. In your publication of this book is dissemination of the correct ‘aqeedah and co-operating with you in piety and righteousness...and trust in Allaah.” Then my wife Umm Islaam, may Allaah preserve her from all evil, took the sermons from the tapes, then she transmitted what I had originally written for the sermons and transcribed the evidences from the sermons and strove a great deal, and only Allaah knows, we ask Allaah to make that for her in her scale of good deeds.”³

The first volume deals with many important issues related to belief and the *khutbabs* are articulated in a concise and simple manner ideal for the common Muslim to understand.

Shaykh Mashhoor Hasan (*hafidhullaah*) noted in the introduction to the first volume:

³ Ibid.p.7-8

“From the people who give khutbah based on a firm and appropriate foundation, between a solid basis and meanings, utilising much in the way of evidences from the Noble Divine Texts, using good methods, defending the Divine Legislation, without forgetting the feelings of the people, and not transgressing, and working accurately upon sentiments during the storms of tribulation, is our brother, the noble Shaykh, the truthful brother, Aboo Islaam Saalih TaHa (hafidhullaah), Khateeb and Imaam of Masjid Ibraaheem al-Hajj Hasan (raheemahullaah). From the successes that Allaah has given him, along with what has preceded, is his appropriate and excellent choice of topics for khutbahs...”⁴

In the Name of Allaah, *the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful,*

⁴ Ibid. p.2

Indeed, all praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him, we seek His and we ask for His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allaah from the evil of our selves and from the evil consequences of our actions. Whomsoever Allaah guides there is no to misguide and whomsoever Allaah misguides there is none to guide. I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except Allaah, Who has no partner and I testify that Muhammad (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) is His servant and messenger.

To proceed:

O you brothers, Servants of Allaah!

In the last *khutbah* we discussed Shaytaan's enmity to *Bani Aadam* (i.e. human beings) and we noted that: it began from the first moment of the creation of Aadam (*alayhi salaam*), so we said that: the battlefield between us and *Shaytaan* is a vicious battlefield which will not cease until Allaah ends the earth and whoever is upon it. Because when *Shaytaan* was ejected from the Mercy of Allaah, and from paradise, he sought from his Lord to give him some respite till the Day of Resurrection. The wisdom behind this was that Allaah wanted to give Iblees respite until a certain time.

We also said that Iblees is the one who begins the battlefield himself and positioned his throne upon water, then he sends out his allies and asks them if they return, so there are some who are close to him as he is the most vehement in his misguiding of *Bani Aadam*.

A man asked Hasan al-Basree (*raheemahullaah*): **“Does Iblees sleep?”** Hasan replied: **“If Iblees slept there would be a moment of relaxation for Bani Aadam!”** So Iblees vowed himself to do evil, he is not fatigued by his

attacks upon the people at all moments, so there is no leniency upon the battlefield with him and there is no success for you ‘Abdullaah, except if you are a servant of Allaah.

Our topic today is to know the Shaytanic methods that Iblees uses upon the battlefield, in order to be warned of them, so whoever falls into the traps of Iblees after that, has no one to blame except himself.

Ummat ul-Islam! When Allaah expelled Iblees from His paradise and from His Mercy, Iblees made known what his methods upon the battlefield are to be:

1. Leading people astray.
2. Beautification (of evil) in the earth.
3. Obstructing people from the path of Allaah.
4. Misguiding *Bani Aadam* (i.e. human beings).

THE FIRST METHOD: LEADING PEOPLE ASTRAY

Iblees made it clear when he was expelled from the Paradise, Allaah said, Iblees said,

﴿قَالَ فَبِعِزَّتِكَ لَأُغْوِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ*﴾

إِلَّا عِبَادَكَ مِنْهُمُ الْمُخْلِصِينَ

“By Your Might, I will surely mislead them all. Except, among them, Your chosen servants.”

{Saad (38) 82-83}

Iblees said “By Your Might and Your Majesty I will not cease from misleading Bani Aadam as long as their souls are in their bodies.”⁵

⁵ Saheeh ul-Jami’ (1646).

O brothers in Islaam! Iblees comes with stages of enticement and deception.

FIRST STAGE - CALLING YOU TO KUFR AND SHIRK:

Allaah says,

كَمَثَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِذْ قَالَ لِلنَّاسِ اكْفُرْ فَلَمَّا كَفَرَ قَالَ إِنِّي
بَرِيءٌ مِّنْكَ إِنِّي أَخَافُ اللَّهَ رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ*
فَكَانَ عَاقِبَتُهُمَا أَنَّهُمَا فِي النَّارِ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا وَذَلِكَ جَزَاءُ
الظَّالِمِينَ<

“(The hypocrites are) like the example of Shaytaan when he says to man, “Disbelieve.” But when he disbelieves, he says, “Indeed, I am disassociated from you. Indeed, I fear Allaah, Lord of the worlds. So the outcome for both of them is that they will be in the Fire, abiding eternally therein. And that is the recompense of the wrongdoers.”

{*al-Hashr* (59): 16-17}

So if man disbelieves and associated partners with Allaah and apostates from his religion (i.e. Islaam) and answers Shaytaan, Iblees is relaxed and finds rest, as he has succeeded in recruiting such a person as a new soldier to his camp and thus such a person has become a soldier from the soldiers of Iblees. Because from the people are *Shayaateen* and from the *jinn* there are also *Shayaateen*. But if Shaytaan is not able to call a person to disbelief, he will utilise the second stage which is:

SECOND STAGE - INNOVATION INTO THE DEEN:

Innovation is the most beloved sin of Iblees, the most beloved thing to Iblees is for innovation to be made into the religion of Allaah. As an

innovator does not repent for his innovation, rather believes that it is the truth and thus defends it and calls the people to it! On the Day of Judgement you will see those who innovated into the religion of Allaah will have gloomy darkened faces, as Shaytaan guards that innovation is made into the *deen*.

THIRD STAGE - CALLING TO MAJOR SINS:

Such as illegal sexual intercourse, interest and usury, alcohol consumption, disrespecting parents and bribery, in order that one falls into them and then becomes destroyed in the Hereafter. If he fails to reach this stage, Iblees will try the fourth stage which is:

FOURTH STAGE - CALLING TO MINOR SINS:

Be wary of saying about them, “**this is sunnah**”, “**this is permissible**”, “**there is no problem with it**”, “**this is disliked**”, as you will commit minor sins and they will gather up on you on the Day of Judgement, thus destroying you! If you look at great mountains, what are they formed from? From something minor! If you look at great fires, how did they start? From a minor spark! So if Iblees fails to reach this stage, he will move to the next stage, stage five:

FIFTH STAGE - CALLING TO THE PERMISSIBLE THINGS:

Which have no reward within them and no punishment for them, as you will regret having done these on the Day of Judgement, as you wasted your time with the permissible things saying: “**O woe to me, would that I spent my time in obedience to Allaah**”, so be warned of Shaytaan’s methods of enticing the people!

SECOND METHOD - BEAUTIFICATION (OF EVIL) ON THE EARTH:

Shaytaan declared, when he was expelled from the Mercy of Allaah and from His Paradise, that he would beautify the earth for the people. Allaah mentioned,

قَالَ رَبِّ بِمَا أَغْوَيْتَنِي لَأُزَيِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَأُغْوِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْمَعِينَ

“(Iblees) said, “My Lord, because You have put me in error, I will surely make (disobedience) attractive to them (i.e. mankind) on earth, and I will mislead them all...”

{*al-Hijr (15): 39*}

Allaah also said,

تَاللَّهِ لَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا إِلَىٰ أُمَمٍ مِّن قَبْلِكَ فَزَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَعْمَالَهُمْ فَهُوَ وَلِيُّهُمُ الْيَوْمَ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ

“By Allaah, We did certainly send (messengers) to nations before you, but Shaytaan made their deeds attractive to them. And he is their (i.e. disbelievers) all today (aswell), and they will have a painful punishment.”

{*an-Nabl (16): 63*}

From Shaytaan’s beautification of the earth to human beings is: that he beautifies to *Bani Adam* the worldly life and its adornments right in front of them, so that they turn towards it and become preoccupied in trying to gather it and they thus hasten towards it. So for the worldly life they travel, gather, give, hold back and learn, thinking that they are within it for ever, forgetting that they will return to Allaah. Allaah said about the worldly life:

﴿اعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا لَعِبٌ وَلَهُمْ زِينَةٌ وَتَفَاخُرٌ بَيْنَكُمْ وَتَكَاثُرٌ فِي الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَوْلَادِ كَمَثَلِ غَيْثٍ أَعْجَبَ الْكُفَّارَ نَبَاتُهُ ثُمَّ يَهِيجُ فَتَرَاهُ مُصْفَرًّا ثُمَّ يَكُونُ حُطَامًا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ وَمَغْفِرَةٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرِضْوَانٌ وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْعُرُورِ﴾

“Know that the life of this world is but amusement and diversion and adornment and boasting to one another and competition in increase of wealth and children – like the example of a rain whose (resulting) plant growth pleases the tillers; then it dries and you see it turned yellow; then it becomes (scattered) debris. And in the Hereafter is severe punishment and forgiveness from Allaah and approval. And what is the worldly life except the enjoyment of delusion.”

{*al-Hadeed (57): 20*}

How many Muslims lose their *salah* due to the worldly life? Many! Allaah says,

﴿فَخَلَفَ مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ خَلْفٌ أَضَاعُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَاتَّبَعُوا الشَّهَوَاتِ فَسَوْفَ يَلْقَوْنَ غَيًّا﴾

“But there came after them successors (i.e. later generations) who neglected prayer and pursued desires; so they are going to meet evil...”

{*Maryam (19): 59*}

They accepted the temporal desires of the worldly life, how many of you have missed out on the lessons of knowledge? How many of you have been prevented from memorising chapters of the Qur’aan due to the worldly life? The reason, Shaytaan’s beautification to you.

Also from Shaytaan's beautification of the earth is that he names impermissible things with beloved names and things so that we implement them and fall into it, some examples will be made clear:

EXAMPLE NO.1:

The tree of eternity is a tree in Paradise which Allaah prohibited to Aadam saying **"O Aadam eat from whatever you want except from this tree."** Did Iblees come to Aadam whispering, **"O Aadam eat from this tree which Allaah has prohibited to you as it will destroy you"?** no. rather he came to Aadam whispering **"Shall I show you the tree of eternity?"** so he named the prohibited tree, the **"tree of eternity"** and Aadam accepted this and thus ate from it, disobeying his Lord and was expelled from Paradise after repenting, this was from the wisdom that Allaah wanted.

EXAMPLE NO.2 - BRIBERY:

Which is prohibited, the messenger of Allaah (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) the one who is bribed and the one who bribes, so Shaytaan even when he plunges people into bribery, gives it another name such as **"a gift."** The one who is being bribed says to you: **"this is a gift"** and the briber says **"this is a gift"** and accepts it, as it has been named other than its true name. who is the one who calls it **"a gift"?** Shaytaan, who inspires to his allies that it is **"a gift"** and spreads it amongst the people that it is but **"a mere gift."**

EXAMPLE NO.3 - INTEREST:

Allaah declared war against the one who takes interest and the messenger of Allaah (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) cursed benefiting from interest, agreeing to it, writing it and witnessing it. Shaytaan comes and names interest as **"benefit"** and **"mere profit."** Where did they get these words from? Look

in the Arabic language, do you find that interest is referred to as a “benefit”?

EXAMPLE NO.4 – DISPLAYING AND FLAUNTING (OF BEAUTY)

Which is impermissible and ignorant, Allaah says,

وَلَا تَبْرَجْنَ تَبَرُّجَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ الْأُولَى

“...and do not display yourselves as was the display of the former times of ignorance.”

{*al-Abzaab* (33): 33}

The woman who does it is cursed, Shaytaan comes and names such displaying an flaunting as “civilised” and “progressive” saying to the woman: “You are a beautiful woman, so it is necessary for you to be a supermodel and show off your beauty and your testing charms” and she thus becomes satisfied with backbiting due to this Shaytanic ruling!! So she displays everything and if you were to say to her: “This is displaying and unveiling and you are cursed because of this” she will respond with “No, this is my personal freedom and look at the women who cover, they are all backward!”

EXAMPLE NO.5 – ALCOHOL:

This is impermissible in the Qur’aan and *sunnah*, so Shaytaan comes and says: “Alcohol are mere drinks for increasing good spirits” and many people fall into it. Are you surprised that a man may pray with us and then after go home and drink in order to forget the importance of life, Shaytaan has named that for him and he thus forgets the remembrance of Allaah. Allaah says,

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنَّمَا الْخَمْرُ وَالْمَيْسِرُ وَالْأَنْصَابُ
وَالْأَزْلَامُ رَجْسٌ مِّنْ عَمَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَاجْتَنِبُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ﴾*

إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُوقِعَ بَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةَ وَالْبَغْضَاءَ فِي
الْخَمْرِ وَالْمَيْسِرِ وَيَصُدَّكُمْ عَن ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَعَنِ الصَّلَاةِ فَهَلْ
أَنْتُمْ مُنْتَهُونَ <

“O you who have believed, indeed, intoxicants, gambling, (sacrificing on) stone alters (to other than Allaah), and divining arrows are but defilement from the work of Shaytaan, so avoid it that you may be successful. Shaytaan only wants for to cause between you animosity and hatred through intoxicants and gambling and to avert you from the remembrance of Allaah and from prayer. So will you not desist?”

{*al-Maa'idah* (5): 90-91}

So Shaytaan comes and names alcohol “drinks of the spirit” (i.e. spirits)⁶ and named gambling “a good lottery”, but what is the good in it?

FROM SHAYTAAN’S BEAUTIFICATION IN THE EARTH (NAMING OBEDIENCE TO ALLAAH AS BEING REPULSIVE):

Wearing the *jilbaab* is: “backward”, leaving the beard and shortening the *thobe* is also made out to be “backward”, seeking to rule by the Divine Legislation of Allaah is “extreme”, but where does this naming come from? From Iblees, who gives these names to obedience to Allaah in order to make people flee from them and to block the people from the path of Allaah.

⁶ As Shaytaan also named it for those in the West, derived from exactly the same concept, “to increase the spirits.” [Translator’s Note]

THIRD METHOD – OBSTRUCTING PEOPLE FROM THE PATH OF ALLAAH:

Allaah mentioned that,

قَالَ فِيمَا أُغْوَيْتَنِي لِأَقْعُدَنَّ لَهُمْ صِرَاطَكَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ

“(Shaytaan) said, “Because You have put me in error, I will surely sit in wait for them (i.e. mankind) on Your straight path.”

{*al-A'raaf* (7): 16}

Shaytaan comes in the figure of an honest advisor in order to obstruct people from the path of Allaah. Allaah says,

وَقَاسَمَهُمَا إِنِّي لَكُمَا لَمِنَ النَّاصِحِينَ

“And he swore (by Allaah) to them, “Indeed, I am to you from among the sincere advisors.”

{*al-A'raaf* (7): 21}

So Iblees comes in the figure of an advisor in order to obstruct you from the lessons of knowledge and to obstruct you from leaving the beard and to obstruct women from the *hijaab*. The messenger of Allaah (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*) made clear to us and showed us Shaytaan sits in waiting for us in every path of good. He said (*sallallaahu alayhi wassallam*): “Verily, Shaytaan sits in wait for Bani Aadam in every path (to goodness). He sits in wait for him at the path of Islaam saying “Will you become Muslim and leave off your religion and the religion of your mother and father?” but (Bani Aadam) disobeys him and becomes Muslim. So then Shaytaan sits in wait for him on the path to hijra saying “Are you making hijra and leaving behind your honour and reputation? A mubaajir is nothing but like horse!” yet (Bani Aadam) disobeys him and makes hijra, so then Iblees sits in wait for him on the path to jibaad saying “Will you strive in the way of Allaah with your own self and money

and fight, be killed, have your wife marry (someone else) and have your money divided up (for someone else)?” Yet man disobeys him and strives. So whoever does this will rightly be entered into Paradise by Allaah, whoever dies on the path then Allaah will rightly enter him into Paradise. Whoever drowns then Allaah will rightly enter him into Paradise. Whoever has a riding beast that is killed will rightly be entered into Paradise by Allaah.”⁷

FROM THE METHODS OF SHAYTAAN IN OBSTRUCTING FROM THE PATH OF ALLAAH IS THAT HE COMES TO YOU CAUSING YOU TO FORGET OBEDIENCE TO ALLAAH:

Forgetfulness is from Shaytaan, the proof, Shaytaan is the one who causes *Bani Aadam* to forget, to the extent that he ate from the tree, Allaah says,

وَلَقَدْ عَهِدْنَا إِلَىٰ آدَمَ مِن قَبْلُ فَنَسِيَ وَلَمْ نَجِدْ لَهُ عَزْمًا

“And We had already taken a promise from Adam before, but he forgot; and We found not in him determination.”

{*TaaHaa* (20): 115}

So when he forgot, and the one who caused him to forget was Shaytaan, he ate from the tree. Shaytaan is the one who caused the companion of Moosaa (*alayhi salaam*) to forget, Allaah says,

قَالَ أَرَأَيْتَ إِذْ أُوِينَا إِلَى الصَّخْرَةِ فَإِنِّي نَسِيتُ الْحُوتَ وَمَا أَنسَانِيهِ إِلَّا الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ أَذْكُرَهُ وَاتَّخَذَ سَبِيلَهُ فِي الْبَحْرِ عَجَبًا

“He said, “Did you see when we retired to the rock? Indeed, I forgot (there) the fish. And none made me forget it except Shaytaan – that I should mention it. And it took its course into the sea amazingly.”

{*al-Kahf* (18): 63}

⁷ Saheeh ul-Jami’ (1648).

Shaytaan was the one who caused him to forget the fish; Shaytaan is also the one who caused the companion of Yoosuf (*alayhi salaam*) to forget to mention Yoosuf to the king, so Yoosuf stayed in prison for several years as a result. Allaah says,

وَقَالَ لِلَّذِي ظَنَّ أَنَّهُ نَاجٍ مِّنْهُمَا اذْكُرْنِي عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ فَأَنَسَاهُ الشَّيْطَانُ ذِكْرَ رَبِّهِ فَلَبِثَ فِي السِّجْنِ بِضْعَ سِنِينَ

“And he said to the one whom he knew would go free, “Mention me before your master.” But Shaytaan made him forget the mention (to) his master, and he (i.e. Joseph) remained in prison several years.”

{*Yoosuf (12): 42*}

Shaytaan safeguards his control over you by attacking from all angles so that you forget the remembrance of Allaah. So if he causes you to forget the remembrance of Allaah, you have thus become from the party of Shaytaan. Allaah says,

﴿اسْتَحْوَذَ عَلَيْهِمُ الشَّيْطَانُ فَأَنسَاهُمْ ذِكْرَ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ حِزْبُ الشَّيْطَانِ أَلَا إِنَّ حِزْبَ الشَّيْطَانِ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ﴾

“Shaytaan has overcome them and made them forget the remembrance of Allaah. Those are the party of Shaytaan.

Unquestionably, the party of Shaytaan – they will be the losers.”

{*al-Mujaadilab (58): 19*}

Shaytaan gathers people around football matches, devoted to them and you will not see any of them say “There is no god worthy of worship except Allaah”, so he gathers the people with intensity, playing, and you will not see them remembering Allaah.

FOURTH METHOD – MISGUIDANCE

Allaah says,

إِنْ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ إِلَّا إِنَانَا وَإِنْ يَدْعُونَ إِلَّا شَيْطَانًا مَرِيدًا*

لَعَنَهُ اللَّهُ وَقَالَ لَأَتَّخِذَنَّ مِنْ عِبَادِكَ نَصِيبًا مَفْرُوضًا*

وَلَأُضِلَّنَّهُمْ وَلَأُمَنِّيَنَّهُمْ وَلَأَمُرَّنَّهُمْ فَلْيُبَيِّتَنَّ آذَانَ الْأَنْعَامِ وَلَأَمُرَّنَّهُمْ
فَلْيُغَيِّرَنَّ خَلْقَ اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَتَّخِذِ الشَّيْطَانَ وَلِيًّا مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَقَدْ خَسِرَ
خُسْرَانًا مُّبِينًا*

يَعِدُّهُمْ وَيُمَنِّيهِمْ وَمَا يَعِدُّهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ إِلَّا غُرُورًا

“They call upon instead of Him none but female (deities), and they (actually) call upon none but a rebellious Shaytaan. Whom Allaah has cursed. For he had said, “I will surely take from among Your servants a specific portion. And I will mislead them, and I will arouse in them (sinful) desires, and I will command them so they will slit the ears of cattle, and I will command them so they will change the creation of Allaah.” And whoever takes Shaytaan as an ally instead of Allaah has certainly sustained a clear loss. He (i.e. Shaytaan) promises them and arouses desire in them. But Shaytaan does not promise them except delusion.”

{Nisaa (4): 117 – 120}

Shaytaan does not merely come to people attempting to misguide them from Islaam, rather he does it in stages, by degrees. So as for the youth who grows his beard and observes the prayer in congregation and attends the lessons of knowledge, Shaytaan will come to him saying “**Trim your beard a bit**” so the youth answers him and trims it. Then Shaytaan comes saying to him, “**Have you forgot that the beard is only sunnah, you are rewarded if you do it but you are not punished if you do not do it and**

you leave it?” so the youth shaves it off, and it is correct that the beard is compulsory and that shaving it off is a sin. All of the four Imaams have agreed that shaving the beard is a sin and disobedience to Allaah and His messenger. So Shaytaan comes calling such a youth with such methods.

Then Shaytaan says to the youth: **“Have you forgot that praying the sunnah is better at home than in the masjid?”** so the youth leaves off prayer in congregation whilst knowing that it is obligatory and leaving off it is a major sin, so Shaytaan comes to him with this method until the youth leaves of the prayer completely and thus becomes a soldier, from the soldiers of Iblees. Likewise, Shaytaan comes to a young woman that is covered saying to her: **“What is this that you have done to yourself? This khimaar and this veil on your face is for the summertime! So do not worry about it at all, take off the veil and the khimaar and just wear the hijaab without the nikaab.”** So she responds to Shaytaan and then after that he says to her: **“If you left this jilbaab and wore a small one you will look better and beautiful”**, then after that he says to her: **“If you reveal a little bit of your hair and your head, until you get married, then after that wear the hijaab”** so Shaytaan beautifies this to her; so be warned of Shaytaan!

These are the methods of Shaytaan upon the battlefield; he comes in various figures and you will not be successful unless you know and understand the *deen* of Allaah and become servants of Allaah, so seek refuge in Allaah from the accursed Shaytaan, and seek protection with Allaah so that he preserves you.

O brothers in Islaam! Does Shaytaan transgress on the bodies of people with touching and fits? Can Shaytaan cause fires in people’s houses? Can

Shaytaan transgress against people's wives? We will find out in the next *jumu'ab*, *inshaa'Allaab*, if we are granted the time.

*O Allaah make us understand our deen,
O Allaah, we ask You for beneficial knowledge!*