

Sending salaah upon the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

With regards to the sending of salaah upon the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)¹, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al ‘Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)² states:

With regards to the meaning of “sall Allaahu ‘alaihi”:

The best of what is said about it is that which Abul ‘Aaliyah (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) stated. He said:

The salaah of Allaah upon His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) – is praise of him in the highest company.

As for explaining the salaah of Allaah upon him with (the explanation of) “rahmah” (mercy), then this is a weak saying because rahmah (mercy) is for everything.

And for this reason, the scholars have agreed in consensus that it is permissible for you to say: such and such a person (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) rahimahullaah (may Allaah have mercy upon him).

And they have differed about whether it is permissible for you to say: such and such a person sall Allaahu ‘alaihi.

And this proves that salaah is not the same as rahmah.

And in addition, Allaah, the Most High, has stated:

They are those upon whom are the salawaat from their Lord, and rahmah.

[Soorah al Baqarah (the 2nd chapter) aayah 157]

And the attachment (of salaah here together with rahmah) necessitates that (that these two things) are different (from each other).

Therefore, salaah is more specific than rahmah and the salaah of Allaah upon His Messenger is praise of him amongst the highest company.

(“Sharh of Waasitiyyah ” of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al ‘Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) , quoted in Mu’jam at Ta’reefaat p269)

¹ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

² (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him