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درس الإحياء

Revival Circle
Ghazali's Ihya' Explained
Book Two: Beliefs
Lesson Four: Issues of Faith

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Purpose of This Course

Revival of the Religious Sciences
A 'revival' of the religion
Religion as forms—in beliefs and practice
—and reality
Reality of religion: (a) acting soundly, upon
the Sunna, with excellence; (b) with inward
sincerity and presence

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Book Two: Beliefs

What we've seen so far
One. Belief in Allah Himself
Two. Belief in Allah's Attributes
Three. Belief in the Prophets
Four. Belief in the Matters of the Hereafter

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Today: Issues of Faith

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One. The relationship between faith (iman) and submission (islam)

Two. Faith increasing and decreasing

Three. Sincere faith vs hypocrisy



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REVIVAL CIRCLE: BELIEFS

LESSON FOUR: PART ONE

Relationship Between Faith (iman) & Submission (islam)



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Faith and Submission

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One. What is faith (iman)?

Confirming as true what the Messenger of Allah (peace & blessings be upon him) has come with

Essence: Confirmation (tasdiq): knowing Truth and accepting it

Two. What is submission (islam)

Surrender and leaving refusal

Three. Relationship



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Faith (iman) and Submission (islam)

Mere Faith

Mere Submission

Fruitful Faith

Fruitful Submission

Perfected Faith

Perfected Submission

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Faith and Submission

One. Mere faith and submission: essentially one
Confirming and accepting Truth entails submission and surrender—inwardly

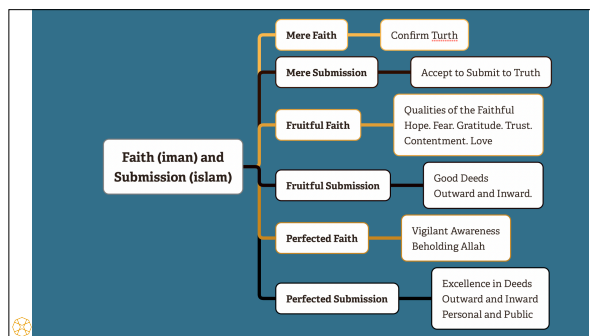
Two. Fruitful faith: manifesting its qualities
Hope. Fear. Gratitude. Reliance. Trust. Contentment. Love.

Three. Fruitful submission: manifesting qualities
Righeous deeds: devotion; conduct; inward

Four. Perfection of Faith
Vigilant Awareness of Allah. Beholding Allah

Five. Perfection of Submission
Excellence in actions: inward and outward

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REVIVAL CIRCLE: BELIEFS

LESSON FOUR: PART TWO

Does Faith Increase and Decrease?

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Faith Itself and Its Strength

One. The Theoretical Issue

Faith itself

Strength of Faith

Two. Considered Together

Increases and decreases

Three. Difference: not substantial

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The Strengthening of Faith

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- One. Allah is known by His Attributes
- Two. His Names
- Knowing. Understanding.
- Supplication.
- Turning. Characterizing
- Three. Faithful devotion
- Four. Intentional, faithful, life actions



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Levels of Faith

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- One. Merely Affirming
- Two. Understanding
- Three. Consciousness of Faith
- Four. Vigilance of Allah
- Five. Beholding Allah Most High



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REVIVAL CIRCLE: BELIEFS
LESSON FOUR: PART THREE
Faith and Hypocrisy



The Purpose of Warnings

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Importance: purpose of warnings isn't worry and misgivings
Rather: renewing hope with urgency



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Four Signs of Hypocrisy

The Messenger of Allah (peace & blessings be upon him) said, “Whoever has four qualities is a pure hypocrite—even if they fast, pray, and imagine that they’re a true believer: Those (1) who lie when they speak; (2) if they promise, they break their promise; (3) if they are trusted, they betray their trust; and (4) if they dispute, they act dispicably.” [Bukhari and Muslim]

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Two Types of Hypocrisy

One. Weakness of Faith
Faith, lacking sound fruits of faith—or lacking
sound fruits of submission
Two. Non-Faith: secret disbeliever

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Sincerity Entails Caution

The sincere are cautious
Wariness of the signs of hypocrisy
Between fear and hope
Seek good
Trust in God
Take the means

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REVIVAL CIRCLE: BELIEFS
LESSON FOUR: PART FOUR
Cultivating Faith Daily

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Cultivating Faith Daily

One. Our prayers are acts of faith

Two. Faithful recitation

Three. Faithful remembrance and supplication

Four. Routines of faith: having *awrad*

Five. Intentions in acts of worship—and all actions

Seeking Allah increases faith

Six. Seeking knowledge

Means of seeking Allah's Pleasure

Seven. Striving (mujahada) Against One's Lower Self

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Next: Lesson Three: The Prophets & Transmitted Beliefs

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