



The Thinking Muslim

SURAH AL-IKHLAAS EXPLAINED

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INTRODUCTION TO AL-IKHLAAS

- Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) described it as one-third of the Qur'an
 - Because one-third of the Qur'an's meaning is contained within it. The other two being stories and commands
- Name of Allah
 - It is unique and the original name taught to Adam
- This surah was sent down when the Quraysh requested the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) to give the genealogy of Allah



VERSE 1

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

Say, "He is Allah , [who is] One"

Explanation:

- The word قُلْ (say) is being used by itself and is not followed up by any other word which means to tell everyone and not just a specific group of people
- Allah is One in His:
 - Essence
 - Attributes
 - Actions
- There is nothing similar or equal to Him in existence



VERSE 2

اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

Allah—the Sustainer 'needed by all'

Explanation:

- It means the one you turn to when in need and are never disappointed
 - He has everything you need and never less than what you need
- We will always need Him but He needs no one and nothing
 - He is in touch with our deepest feelings and is precisely aware of our situations and circumstances
- This verse is teaching us to depend on Allah
 - We should not build extreme dependency in others where we make ourselves completely dependent on one person and not Allah



VERSE 3

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

He has never had offspring, nor was He born

Explanation:

- First part is a negation of any children
 - Allah not needing children is a perfection on His part but not ours
 - Some people want to build some sort of connection to Allah through family because they feel He is too distant and far away from them
 - Closeness to Allah does not need a family connection
- Second part is a negation of parents or a beginning because Allah is Eternal



VERSE 4

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

Nor is there to Him any equivalent

Explanation:

- Meaning there is no one that has ever existed that can be equivalent to Him in any way or form
 - He is the Creator and everything else in existence is His creation



CONCLUSION OF AL-IKHLAAS

- The surah refutes Christians, Jews, and idol worshipers
 - They all make some sort of human equivalents to Allah
- There are external idols and internal ones. We as Muslims have to conquer and cleanse ourselves from both
- The Arabic word ٱللّٰه
 - Actual word for 'God'
 - Means something that is worshipped but can also mean the following:
 - Someone you turn to when you are desperate and have no one else
 - Someone that makes you wonder and captivates your imagination
 - Meaning you are in awe of it
 - The object of your protection
 - Something that is high and hidden