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The Faqeeh of the Era

If you're not with us you're against us

Translated by Ahmed Abu Turaab

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

'If you're not with us you're against us?' 'So and so is misguided. So and so is an innovator, so and so is a sinner' are you claiming Prophethood? Messengership? Are you infallible?

Your opinion is not binding on anyone

Shaykh Ibn Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ الله) said, "We hold that when permissible disagreement occurs between the Muslims, and that is the type of disagreement in which ijtihaad has a place, then it is not allowed for the one who disagrees to call the person who opposes him misguided, or to declare him to be a faasiq, or to call him an innovator—for as long as it is an issue in which ijtihaad has a place, where the texts may imply this or that, then the opinion of either one of them which is based on his ijtihaad is not binding on the other.

And whoever wants his opinion to be binding on others—then he has assumed for himself the station of Prophethood and Messengership, and claimed infallibility for himself.

And that is why a person should repeatedly say:

اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّ جِبْرَائِيلَ وَمِيكَائِيلَ وَإِسْرَافِيلَ فَاطِرَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالأَرْضِ عَالِمَ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ

أَنْتَ تَحْكُمُ بَيْنَ عِبَادِكَ فِيمَا كَانُوا فِيهِ يَخْتَلِفُونَ

الْحُقِّ بِإِذْنِكَ

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اِنَّكَ تَهْدِي مَنْ تَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ

'O Allaah! Lord of Jibraa'eel, Mika'eel, and Israafeel, Originator of the heavens and the earth, Knower of the unseen and the seen! You judge between Your slaves concerning that wherein they differ. Guide me concerning that wherein they differ of the Truth by Your Leave, for You guide whomsoever You will to the Straight Path.'"²

^{1 (}رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

Saheeh Muslin

³ Majmoo' Fataawaa wa Rasaa'il Fadilatish-Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al-'Uthaymeen, vol. 27, p. 238.