

CHAPTER ONE

In this chapter, we will discuss:

1. Certain terminology pertaining to this subject of studying Islam;
2. The gifts that have been granted by Allah ﷻ to each Prophet ﷺ;
and
3. The four negative actions that all Prophets AS are protected from.

Let us now begin with the definitions of the terminology.

We should realise and be well aware that Allah ﷻ, The Wise Creator, has created everything in different forms and has given them different qualities. Every creation of Allah ﷻ differs from each other in their natures and strengths. In the same way, every human being is different in his personality, and in the manner he looks at and considers something.

The welfare of creation, and in particular, humanity, is specified in the sense that it is directly linked to glad-tidings and warnings. Allah ﷻ, through His infinite Mercy and knowledge, had chosen Prophets and Messengers AS to guide humanity and lead them out from the darkness of 'Kufr' (disbelief) and sin, to the radiance of the Truth, namely Islam. It is through revelation, inspiration and true dreams that Allah ﷻ enlightened His Noble Prophets AS, who He gifted with the highest qualities that anyone was gifted with, and the same qualities that Allah ﷻ gifted His pious and noble angels with.

Regarding the term 'Al-Nubuwwah', it is "A means of communication for a servant of Allah ﷻ to transmit messages from Allah ﷻ Himself, to those who

have understanding from Allah's ﷻ creation. For this reason, it is always described with the Message and the Mission.”¹

The term 'Al-Nabi' refers to one who has been sent with news and information, in other words, he informs people about Allah ﷻ through Divine Revelation. The term 'Al-Rasool' refers to the one who has been sent, in other words, he has been commanded by Allah ﷻ to deliver the message and the revelation. The term 'Al-Wahi' refers to Divine Revelation or Inspiration from Allah ﷻ to a Prophet ﷺ of His, which is delivered quickly and without hesitation.

Furthermore, this 'Nubuwwah' (or Prophethood as we understand it), is not complete except with four special qualities, which Allah ﷻ granted to His Divine Emissaries AS. In the same manner, it is not complete except due to the fact that Allah ﷻ saved His Prophet ﷺ from four negative qualities. Only with both of these two special gifts, can a person be honoured with Nubuwwah.² Regarding the four special qualities that a Prophet AS is gifted with, they are:

1. A special type of virtue: The best and the most praiseworthy aspect in the life history of kings, is that they always sent the best person amongst their servants to deliver their messages. This person is the only one amongst the king's subjects that has the ability to carry the responsibilities of the message on his shoulders. Allah ﷻ, The Most Wise and The One Who has power over all things, did not choose except the most educated and righteous person to deliver His Message to the people. This is what is meant by the verse of the Holy Qur'aan: [*Allah knows best who He gives the right to deliver His message.*]³

Dalaa'ilul An-Nubuwwah, Al-Haafidh Abu Na'eem Al-Asbahaani ﷺ.¹

Same as previous reference.²

Surah Al-An`aam, verse 124.³