

Those who feign knowledge

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: mtws.posthaven.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: What is at-Ta'aalum (feigning knowledge); and what is your advice to the youth who are put to trial by those who feign knowledge?

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (حفظه الله)¹: At-Ta'aalum is to claim knowledge; it is to claim knowledge. When a person claims knowledge while he, in fact, is not a person of knowledge. He has not taken knowledge from the scholars. He has only taken knowledge from the books and by reviewing (a few books). He does not have knowledge based principles upon which he builds. He only reviews some books and proceeds upon his (own) understanding; and perhaps he errs more than he is correct. This is the one who feigns knowledge. He is a danger to himself and he is a danger to the people; because he plays with the religion of Allaah (عزوجل)².

If someone were to come out to the people and say: "I am a physician; I am a doctor; I can perform surgery." Yet, he has no clinical certifications; he has no clinical certifications. Will he be allowed to perform surgery? Will he be allowed to operate on the stomachs of the people, and perform surgical operations upon the heart? He will not be allowed to do this, because this is dangerous. So how can this feigner of knowledge be allowed to play with the religion? Playing with the religion is more severe than playing with the bodies. It is obligatory upon these people to have Taqwaa of Allaah, and not to speak concerning Allaah without knowledge. For Allaah has placed speaking about Him without knowledge above Shirk.

قُلْ إِنَّمَا حَرَّمَ رَبِّي الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَّنَ وَالْإِثْمَ وَالْبَغْيَ بِغَيْرِ الْحَقِّ وَأَنْ تُشْرِكُوا بِاللَّهِ مَا لَمْ يُنَزَّلْ بِهِ سُلْطَانًا وَأَنْ تَقُولُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

[Say (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)³): "(But) the things that my Lord has indeed forbidden are al-Fawaahish (great evil sins, every kind of unlawful sexual intercourse, etc.) whether committed openly or secretly, sins (of all kinds), unrighteous oppression, joining partners

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him

² (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

³ (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

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(in worship) with Allaah for which He has given no authority, and saying things about Allaah of which you have no knowledge.”]⁴

It is obligatory upon these people to have Taqwaa of Allaah and to learn first; learn before they speak.

⁴ سورة الأعراف - Soorah al-A'raaf [7:33]