

The Signification of Huwa

بِسْمِهِ سُبْحَانَهُ
وَلِزَيْنِ شَيْءٍ إِلَّا سُبْحَانَكَ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ أَبَدًا دَائِمًا

My very dear and loyal brothers!

My brothers, I testified in a subtle point concerning God's unity, which suddenly became clear while studying the page of the air on a journey of the imagination and mind, that is, in the word (هُوَ) (*Huwa-HE*) in the phrases **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ** *THERE IS NO GOD BUT HE*, and **قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ** *SAY HE IS GOD*, (and that was only in its material aspect) that the way of belief is infinitely easy, easy to the point of being necessary, and that the way of misguidance and associating partners with God is infinitely difficult, so difficult as to have thousands of impossibilities. I shall explain that long and extensive signification with an extremely brief indication.

Yes, if soil, one handful of which can act as a flower-pot for hundreds of plants in turn, is attributed to nature or causes, it becomes necessary either for there to be present in such a handful hundreds of immaterial machines, indeed, machines and factories to the number of the plants, or for each particle of that small amount of soil to know how to make all those different plants together with their different characteristics and living organs; quite simply, each would have to possess infinite knowledge and limitless power like a god.

Just the same, the air which is a throne of the Divine will and command; either there would have to be present on a minute scale in each of its molecules, in each waft of wind, and in the air in the word (هُوَ) tiny as a breath and nail, the innumerable different exchanges, centres, receivers and transmitters of all the telephones, telegraphs and radios in the world so that each could perform those innumerable acts at the same time; or else, each particle of each molecule of air exhaled with (هُوَ) and indeed of the element air, would have to possess immaterial personalities and abilities to the number of all the different telephone users, telegraphers, and those who speak on the radio, and know all their different languages, and broadcast them to the other particles at the same time. For such a situation is actually, partially apparent, and every bit of air possesses that ability. Thus, in the ways of the unbelievers, Naturalists, and Materialists not one impossibility, but impossibilities and difficulties are clearly apparent to the number of molecules.

If attributed to **Sâni-i Zulcalâl** (the All-Glorious Artist), however, the air together with all its particles becomes a soldier under His command. With its Creator's permission and through His power, and through being connected to its Creator and relying on Him, and through the manifestation of its Artist's Power, in an instant with the speed of lightning, and with the ease of uttering the word (هُوَ) and the movement of the air in waves, its innumerable universal duties are performed as easily as an orderly,

single duty of a single particle. That is to say, the air becomes a page for the endless, wonderful, and orderly writings of the pen of Power, and its particles become the nibs of the pen, and their duties become points of the pen of Determinism. The air functions as easily as the movement of a single particle.

Thus, while on my journey of contemplation prompted by the phrases **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ** and **قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ** and while observing the world of the air and studying the page of that element, I witnessed this brief truth with utter certainty and clarity, and in detail. And I testified with 'knowledge of certainty' that it was because there is in the word **(هُوَ)** in the air of its utterance, such a brilliant proof and flash of Divine unity, and also in its meaning and allusions such a luminous manifestation of Divine Oneness and powerful proof of Divine unity, and in that proof an indication that since the pronoun **(هُوَ)** is unconditional and indefinite, it suggests the question, "Who does it refer to?" that both the Qur'an of Miraculous Exposition and those who constantly recite the Divine Names frequently repeat this sacred word in the station of unity.

If, for example, there is one point on a piece of white paper and two or three other points are jumbled around with it and then someone who already has numerous jobs tries to distinguish them, he will be confused; and if many burdens are loaded on a small creature, it will be crushed; and if numerous words issue from one tongue and enter one ear altogether at the same time, their order will be broken and they will be a muddle.

Despite this being the case, I saw with complete certainty that with the key and compass of **(هُوَ)**, although thousands of different points, letters and words had been put in each molecule –and even in each particle– of the element air, through which I journeyed in my mind, neither did they become mixed up nor did they spoil their order; and although they performed a great many different duties, these were carried out without being confused in any way; and although very heavy loads were laid on each molecule and particle, they bore them in order without lagging or displaying any weakness at all. And I saw that thousands of different words of all different sorts enter and issue with perfect order from what is in effect those minute ears and tongues without being mixed up and spoilt in any way, they enter those minute ears and issue from those tiny tongues, and by performing these extraordinary duties, each particle and each molecule declares through the enraptured tongue of its being and its perfect freedom, and through the testimony and tongue of the above truth: **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ** and **قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ** and travels among air-clashing waves like storms and lightning and thunder without in any way spoiling their order or confusing their duties. One duty is not an obstacle to another duty. I observed this and was utterly certain.

That is to say, either every particle and piece of the air has to possess infinite wisdom, knowledge, will, and power, and the qualities for being absolutely dominant over all the other particles so that it can be the means of those functions being carried out, which is absurd and impossible to the number of particles, and no devil even could imagine it, or else, and it is self-evident to the degree of 'knowledge of certainty,' 'vision of certainty,' and 'absolute certainty' that the page of the air functions through the boundless, infinite knowledge and wisdom of the All-Glorious One, and is the changing page for the pen of Divine Power and Determining, and like a signboard for writing and erasing, known as a *Tablet of Appearance and Dissolution (Lawh mahw-ispāt)*, which has the function of the *Preserved Tablet (Lawh mahfuz)* in the world of transformation and change.

Thus, just as the element of air demonstrates the above-mentioned wonders and manifestation of Divine unity in only the duty of transmitting sound and shows the impossibilities of misguidance, so does it perform other important duties with order and without confusing them, such as transmitting subtle forces and energy, like electricity, light, and the forces of attraction and repulsion. At the same time as conveying these, with perfect order, it carries out duties essential for the lives of plants and animals, such as respiration and pollination. It proves in decisive fashion that it is a throne of the Divine will and command. I came to the firm conclusion that it proves that in no way is there any possibility of vagrant chance, blind force, deaf nature, confused and aimless causes, and powerless, lifeless, unknowing matter interfering in the writing and duties of the page of the air. And I understood that every particle and part of it says with the tongue of its being: **قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ** and **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ**. Just as with the key of (هُوَ), I saw these wonders in the material aspect of the air, so also, as a (هُوَ) did the element of air become a key to the *World of Similitudes* and the *World of Meaning*.

I saw that the *World of Similitudes* is all the time taking innumerable photographs without confusing them, and that each photograph contains innumerable events occurring in this world. I understood that it was a gigantic camera, and a vast cinema of the hereafter thousands of times larger than the world for showing in eternal theatres the fruits of the transitory and impermanent states and lives of ephemeral beings, for showing to those enjoying everlasting bliss in Paradise scenes from their old memories and adventures in this world.

While the faculties of **memory and imagination**, which are two proofs, two small examples, and two points of both the *Preserved Tablet* and the *World of Similitudes* situated in man's head, are as tiny as lentils, within them are written in perfect order and without being mixed up as much information as may be contained in a large library. This proves decisively that large examples of those faculties are the *World of Similitudes* and the *Preserved Tablet*.

It is definite and certain with 'knowledge of certainty' that the elements of air and water, and the element air and water like seminal fluid in particular, are far superior to the element of earth, and are written with more wisdom and will, and with the pen of Divine Determining and Power, and that it is completely impossible for chance, blind force, deaf nature, and lifeless and aimless causes to interfere in them, and that they are a page of the pen of Power and the wisdom of **Hakîm-i Zulcalâl** (the All-Wise One of Glory). The rest has not been inscribed for now.

سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ

Your Brother
Said Nursi

from the 13th Word, The Words