

al-Wasiyyah as-Sughraa
The Concise Legacy/Advice
[For Uprightness of the Religious & Worldly Life]
Shaykhul-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah)

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 1

Introduction:

1. Mention the author's full name, *Laqab* and *Kunya*.

2. Mention the **year** of his *birth* and *death*.

3. Mention *briefly* what has been said about his **father** and **grandfather** (Rahimahumullaah)

4. Mention three (3) of the author's (Rahimahullaah) earliest **scholastic accomplishments** (by the age of twenty-one).

5. Mention four (4) of the author's (Rahimahullaah) most well-known **books**.

6. Mention three (3) of the author's (Rahimahullaah) most well-known **students**.

7. Mention the popular **title** of our book (Arabic/English), the **significance** of this title & the other name that it is known by.

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Taqiyyud-Deen Abu-l-'Abbaas Ahmad ibn 'Abdul-Haleem ibn 'Abdus-Salaam ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah).

[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 3

1. Discuss the **du'aa** made by *Abul-Qasim al-Sibtee* after he mentions Ibn Taymiyyah's advising him with Saheeh al-Bukhaaree.
2. Discuss two (2) of the **Tafseer explanations** of the **Wasiyyah of Allaah** to observe **Taqwaa** of Him.
3. Discuss two (2) matters that *indicate* the **importance** of **Taqwaa**, its **magnificence** and **high station**.
4. Explain the **wisdom** behind *Ibn Taymiyyah's choice* of this *Wasiyyah to Mu'aadh* over many other Hadeeth mentioning **Taqwaa**.
5. Mention the *response* of **Umar Ibn al-Khattaab** (RadyAllaahu anhu) to a man who advised him to observe **Taqwaa** of Allaah.
6. **Memorize** the supplication with which the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) ordered **Mu'aadh** (RadyAllaahu anhu) after telling him that he loves him.
7. Mention the **Haqqullaah** (right of Allaah) over the people and the **Haqqun-Naas** (right of the people) from Allaah.
8. Mention the **virtue of Mu'aadh** in which the word '**Ratwah**' is mentioned, the **meaning** of this word and its **significance**.
9. Mention the five (5) **Sifaat** with which **Mu'aadh** (RadyAllaahu anhu) was described in his mission to **Yemen**.
10. Mention the four (4) **Sifaat** with which **Mu'aadh** (RadyAllaahu anhu) was being described as **resembling** the Prophet Ibrahim (Alaihis-Salaam).

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 4

1. Explain briefly the **first** of the two **notes** made by Ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah) showing the importance of the Prophet's (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) **Wasiyyah** to Mu'aadh (Radiyahullaahu anhu), i.e. its **comprehensiveness**.
2. Discuss the two **ways** mentioned by the author (Rahimahullaah) in which one **falls short** in fulfilling the **duties** upon him/her.
3. Discuss briefly Shaykh Abdur-Razzaq's explanation of the **Muraad** (intended meaning) of '**at-Taqwaa**' and '**al-Wiqaayah**'.
4. **Memorize Talq ibn Habeeb's** (Rahimahullaah) two-line **definition** of the word '**at-Taqwaa**' [enumerating its 6 points].
5. Discuss the significance/importance of the expression '**Noor minAllaah**' in both lines of this definition of '**at-Taqwaa**'.
6. Discuss what is intended by the expression '**Haithu-maa Kunta**' ('Fear Allaah **wherever you are**') & why this is so necessary.
7. Summarize the meaning of the expression: '**And follow up an evil deed with a good deed**'.
8. Discuss the author's (Rahimahullaah) **comparison** between the above **command** and a **doctor's prescription** ('Wasfah').
9. The author (Rahimahullaah) says: **al-Kayyis** (intelligent, wise person) is the one who.....[complete this statement].
10. Explain briefly **why** the word '**as-Sayyi'ah**' (evil deed) is mentioned before '**al-Hasanah**' (good deed) in the above Hadeeth.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 6

1. What has the author listed as **The Third**: ...[thing which removes consequences of sins]? Also, mention the first two.
2. Explain what is meant by '**Kaffaraat**' - with mention of its two (2) **divisions** (Aqsaam).
3. Mention the four (4) **types** (Ajnaas) of **Kaffaraat** which are legislated as '**Muqaddarah**'.
4. Discuss the Hadeeth of **Hudhaifah** (Radiyahullaah an-hu) related to the **Kaffaraat** which are **Mutlaqah**.
5. **Memorize** one of the Hadeeths which shows the excellence & great reward of **Da'wah** and **teaching al-Khair**.
6. **Memorize** one of the Hadeeths which proves that **as-Salawaat al-Khams**, **Siyaam Ramadaan** and **Hajj** all expiate sins.
7. What is the author referring to when he says 'From among the **most important needs** of a person is to **give care** to *this*' ?
8. Mention the precious, priceless advice of **al-Fudail ibn 'Iyaadh** (Rahimahullaah) to a man who had wasted 60 years of his life.
9. Discuss the **example** (in Hadeeth) of *how closely* Muslims would **follow** the Christians & Jews *even* into the **hole of a lizard**.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 7

1. Explain the **reason** for the author **separating** the mention of the fourth of the **Mumahhisaat** from the first three.
2. Explain *how/when* a person will come to know that he has fallen into actions of *Jaahiliyyah* or the ways of *Yahood & Nasaaraa*?
3. Briefly **summarize** the story mentioned by Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq which **illustrates** the above point.
4. How has the author (Ibn Taymiyyah) described/defined '**al-Hasanaat**' (the good deeds) which remove evil deeds?
5. Mention Shaykh al-Islam's (Rahimahullaah) **description** of what is meant by **al-Masaa'ib al-Mukaffirah** (misfortunes).
6. List the three (3) **Mumahhisaat** which Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq mentions will take place in **al-Qabr** (the grave).
7. List the three (3) **Mumahhisaat** which Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq mentions will take place on **Yawm al-Qiyaamah**.
8. **Summarize** the **story** behind the precious, priceless advice of **al-Fudail ibn 'Iyaadh** (Rahimahullaah) to a man who had wasted sixty (60) years of his life.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 8

1. Discuss the **two sides/angles** of the Haqq (right) of Allaah - mentioned in the Hadeeth of Mu'aadh (RadiyahAllaahu anhu).
2. Discuss the **three areas** mentioned by the author as Jimaa'u-l-Khuluq al-Hasan (The Sum Total of Good Character).
3. Mention an **example** from the life of Ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah) which **illustrates** this exemplary character.
4. Mention **two steps necessary** to attain this lofty level of character explained here, and a supporting **Daleel** from the **Sunnah**.
5. **Memorize** an Aayah from the Qur'aan [31:15] showing the **obligation to be kind to parents, even if they are Mushrikoon** .
6. Mention **Mujaahid's** explanation of *al-Khuluq al-'Adheem* with which the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) is described. [68:4]
7. **Memorize** Aa'ishah's (RadiyahAllaahu 'anhaa) description of the noble character of the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam).
8. How has Ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah) described the Haqeeqah (reality) of this lofty character with which we have been commanded to treat other people?
9. Discuss the **rule** concerning the related meanings of **at-Taqwaa** & Husnul-Khuluq when mentioned **together** or **separately**.

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Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 9

1. Clarify *how* the *comprehensive* meaning contained in the Hadeeth of Mu'aadh (RadiyahAllaahu anhu) is contained in the **Wasiyyah of Allaah** [Qur'aan, 4:131]?
2. Discuss the Hadeeth of **Abu Hurairah** which supports the same meaning as the Hadeeth of Mu'aadh (RadiyahAllaahu anhuma).
3. Explain what is **intended** here when the author says: And in the **Saheeh** on the authority of ibn 'Umar (RadiyahAllaahu anhuma).
4. **Memorize** the Hadeeth of 'Abdullaah Ibn 'Umar (RadiyahAllaahu anhuma) concerning **Emaan** and **Husnul-Khuluq**.
5. Discuss the **erroneous understanding** of some people concerning the above **Hadeeth of Ibn 'Umar** (RadiyahAllaahu anhuma).
6. Discuss the author's (Rahimahullaah) statement which **illustrates** the **relationship** between **Khair** (goodness) & **Ikhlaas**.
7. Mention the **two essential components** of **Ikhlaas** referred to here by the author - with one **Daleel** from the **Qur'aan**.
8. What must one do with the **heart**, if one is to achieve the **Ikhlaas** (with its two essential components) as mentioned above?
9. Mention the author's closing statement about **Ikhlaas** - confirming the utter importance of **understanding & implementing** it.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 10

1. What was the **second question** *addressed* here by the author Ibn Taymiyyah from Abul-Qaasim as-Sibtee (RahimahumAllaah)?
2. What can we understand (from the wording of this question) about *how the early generations viewed al-Waajibaa*t in Islaam?
3. Mention the saying of the scholars concerning one who occupies himself with *voluntary deeds* at the expense of *al-Waajibaa*t.
4. **Summarize** the Hadeeth known as '**Hadeeth al-Walee**'; and discuss **why** it is known by this description?
5. Discuss the **First Level** of the **Awliyaa'** of **Allaah** *in this Hadeeth*, including *why* it is known as '**Darajatul-Muqtasideen**'?
6. Discuss the **Second Level** of the **Awliyaa'** of **Allaah** *in this Hadeeth*, including *why* it is known as '**Darajatul-Muqarrabeen**'?
7. **Memorize** the **Aayah** of Qur'aan which mentions these two levels of the true **Awliyaa'** of **Allaah** (Qur'aan 35:32).
8. Mention the **first evil** of those who *falsely claim* to be among the **Awliyaa'** of **Allaah** & their *false supporting argument*.
9. Discuss the *utterly outrageous* claim that the **station** of these *so-called* '**Awliyaa'** is too high to go to Makkah for **Tawaaf**...

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Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 11

1. Briefly explain the *two reasons why* the author says there is no comprehensive answer to this question for every individual?
2. Summarize the story narrated by Imaam adh-Dhahabee about one of the *'Ubbaad* advising **Imaam Maalik** to give up *teaching*.
3. **Memorize** the Hadeeth mentioned by Shaykh Abdur-Razzaaq which shows the superiority of the **'Aalim** over the **'Aabid**.
4. Mention the **Qaa'idah** alluded to by the author and detailed by his student Ibn al-Qayyim concerning **which deeds are best** - in consideration of the **'times'** (when an action is done). [Give an example]
5. Explain what is meant by the author Ibn Taymiyyah (Rahimahullaah) when he says: "**al-'Ulamaa' Bi-Ilaahi wa Amri-hi**" - with mention of the **three (3) types of scholars** according to the classification of **Abu Hayaan at-Taymee** (Rahimahullaah).
6. **Memorize** the Hadeeth of **Abu Hurairah** reported by Muslim, showing the superiority of **Dhikrullaah** over other good deeds.
7. Mention the **five points** of superiority of **Dhikrullaah** outlined in the Hadeeth of **Abu ad-Dardaa'** reported by Abu Daawood.
8. Mention the **Qaa'idah** related to 'the best one among every group of people known for a particular type of worship...'.
9. Discuss the intended meaning of the author's (Rahimahullaah) expression: **'ad-Dalaa'il al-Qur'aaniyyah wal-Emaaniyyah'**.

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Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 12

1. What is the *least amount* of **Dhikr** a person must perform to be considered among '**those who remember Allaah much**'?
2. Explain what is meant by '**al-Adhkaar al-Mu'qqatah**' with examples.
3. Explain what is meant by '**al-Adhkaar al-Muqayyadah**' with examples.
4. Explain what is meant by '**al-Adhkaar al-Mutlaqah**' with examples, mentioning *the best of them*.
5. Give an example of when a word of '**Dhikr**' of *lesser importance* than '**Laa ilaaha illAllaah**' can be considered *superior* to it.
6. **Memorize** the Hadeeth: "The most beloved speech (expressions) to Allaah are four (4)....." [Reported by Muslim]
7. Discuss the **Mithaal** (example) given by the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) of how *these four words expiate sins*.
8. **Memorize** the *supplication* said when **leaving one's home** which contains the words: '**Laa Hawla wa laa Qoowata illa Billaah**'.
9. Mention three (3) **magnificent benefits** of reciting this supplication **sincerely** from the heart, while **knowing** its meaning.
10. Discuss the author's *closing statement* concerning the **comprehensive definition** of **Dhikrullaah**, which includes more than what has been mentioned under the three previously mentioned categories of *Adhkaar*.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 13

1. Allaah, the Most High, honored **Ummatu-l-Islam** by legislating **Istikhaarah** *in place of which* practices of **Jaahiliyyah**?
2. Explain the **situation or circumstance** in which **Istikhaarah** is legislated, with mention of *when it is not legislated*.
3. Mention the **second affair** that should accompany **Istikhaarah**, *defining* each of them & *how they differ* from one another.
4. **Memorize** the **du'aa** of **Istikhaarah** as reported by al-Imaam al-Bukhaaree (Rahimahullaah).
5. Discuss the statement of **Mutarriif ash-Shakheer** (Rahimahullah) which *makes clear why Du'aa is the Key to all Khair!*
6. **Memorize** the **Hadeeth**: "Whoever does not ask Allaah (i.e. for their needs), Allaah will be.....with him." [at-Tirmidhee]
7. **Memorize** the **Aayah**: "And your Rabb said: Call upon Me, I will....." [Ghaafir, 40:60]
8. Allaah will (definitely) respond to one who calls upon Him, *as long as one is not 'hasty'*. What is intended here by **'hasty'**?
9. Which is the **best of all times** for **supplicating to Allaah**? Mention a **Daleel** (proof) indicating this time.
10. Mention some of the **other times or circumstances** which are best for **supplicating to Allaah**.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 14

1. Mention the **third question** addressed by the author from Abul-Qasim as-Sibtee along with the author's *initial* response.
2. Briefly discuss **what** is meant by the expression: '**at-Tawakkul 'ala-llaah**' and **when** is a worshiper in need of it?
3. How can we **correct** those who claim that everyone needs to have **ath-Thiqah bin-nafs** (self-reliance)?
4. **Memorize** the **du'aa** which the Prophet (SallAllahu Alaihi wa Sallam) used to recite every morning after **Salaatus-Subh**.
5. What must **follow** a person's **Du'aa** to Allaah & **request** for one's needs to be fulfilled?
6. Complete the **Hadeeth Qudsee**: "O my servants! All of you are hungry except....." [Muslim from Abu Dharr]
7. **Memorize** the **Du'aa**: 'O Allaah! There is nothing easy except that which You have made easy and You are the One Who.....'
8. Mention the **Aayah** which is a proof that **after praying** one must go out and **seek** the bounty of Allaah [Jumu'ah, 62:10]
9. Discuss the **example** given by the Prophet (SallAllahu Alaihi wa Sallam) which illustrates this point.
10. Explain the **Qaa'idah**: 'al-Amru Yaq-ta-dee al-Ejaab [al-Wujoob]' - in light of: 'Then, seek provisions from Allaah...' [29:17]

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 15

1. Discuss briefly **al-Muqaddimah al-Oolaa** (First Introductory Statement) offered by the author for the question at hand.
2. Discuss briefly **al-Muqaddimah ath-Thaaniyah** (Second Introductory Statement) related to the question at hand.
3. Discuss the author's **example** of how one should view **wealth**, as something which *fulfills a need*, but has *no place in the heart*.
4. Mention the three (3) things of a **person's wealth** that are actually **for him/her**, from the Hadeeth reported by Muslim...
5. Mention three (3) **magnificent benefits** given to the one who starts his day with the **Aakhirah** as his **greatest concern**.
6. **Memorize** the du'aa: '*..O Allaah! do not make the **Dunyaa** my *greatest concern*, nor the *extent of my knowledge*...*' at-Tirmidhi
7. Discuss the **meaning** of the saying: '*You are *in need* of your portion of *ad-Dunyaa*, but you are *more in need* of your portion...*'
8. **Memorize** the **Aayah** which clearly points out the **ultimate purpose** for which the human being has been **created**. [51:56]
9. Summarize the author (Ibn Taymiyyah's) view concerning *which* of the various **means of livelihood** is the best one...?

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Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 16

1. Mention the **final request** addressed by the author (Ibn Taymiyyah, Rahimahullaah) from Abul-Qasim as-Sibtee.
2. Discuss what is **intended** by the **Shaarih** (Explainer of this book) when he says: '*Uloom ash-Sharee'ah* is a **Baab Waasi'**.
3. Discuss the **2 divisions** of Sharee'ah Knowledge: '**Uloom al-Aalah** (علوم الآلة) & '**Uloom al-Ghaayah** (علوم الغاية) with examples.
4. Mention the author's second reason for not being able to specify the books that **everyone** could rely upon in Islamic sciences.
5. Mention two (2) factors which make **our era** different from **the era of Ibn Taymiyyah** - as it relates to the above ques./ans.
6. Summarize the **story** mentioned by the Shaarih (Explainer) which highlights the **difference** between our era & earlier times.
7. What is the **important principle** referred to here by the author (Ibn Taymiyyah, Rahimahullaah) as '**Jimaa' al-Khair**'?
8. **Memorize** the **supplication** with which Allaah commanded the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) to seek '**Ilm**'. [20:114]
9. **Memorize** the Aayah [47:19] and mention the **principle** that it points to in reference to **knowledge** and **speech** and **action**.
10. Discuss *why* **al-Wahy** (revelation) is called **Noor** in the Qur'aan. [42:52]

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 17

1. Mention the **three** (3) possible **classifications of knowledge** - outside of the knowledge derived from the **Prophet** (ﷺ).
2. Give **examples** mentioned by the *Shaarih* (Explainer of this book) for the above mentioned *three classifications of knowledge*.
3. Mention the statement - transmitted by the *Shaarih* (Explainer) - from the **Salaf** in **dispraise** of '**Ilm al-Kalaam**'.
4. Discuss the **second advice** offered by the **author** for the **Taalibul-'Ilm** - concerning **Fahm Maqaasid ar-Rasool** (ﷺ).
5. Discuss the **Du'aa** of the **Prophet** (ﷺ) for those who **preserve** and **transmit** knowledge of the **Sunnah**.
6. What is **incumbent** upon a Muslim once one's heart is assured that he has understood the **intended meaning** of a **Hadeeth**?
7. Discuss the **third advice** offered by the **author** concerning holding fast to **Asl Ma'thoor** transmitted from the **Prophet** (ﷺ).
8. Discuss the **forth advice** offered by the **author** in the case where **scholars differ** in a matter & the correct view is *not clear*.
9. **Memorize** the **supplication** reported by Imaam Muslim, from Aa'ishah (Radiyah an-haa) seeking guidance in **Ikhtilaaf**.
10. **Memorize** the statement of **Allaah**, the Most High, declaring all people to be **astray** except those whom He has **guided**.

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[661-728AH]

Questionnaire-Study Guide: Lecture No. 18

1. Discuss the author (Ibn Taymiyyah's) **description & praise** of **Saheeh al-Bukhaaree** and *what is meant* by this description?
2. Mention a further **description and praise** of **Saheeh al-Bukhaaree** from the *Shaarih* (Explainer of this book).
3. Discuss Abul-Qaasim as-Sibtee's statement: "**Sadaqa Ibn Taymiyyah**" (in what he said concerning **Saheeh al-Bukhaaree**).
4. Discuss *why* Saheeh al-Bukhaaree, alone, is *not sufficient* for **al-Mutabahir** into the **Branches** of **Sharee'ah Knowledge**?
5. Complete & *explain* the author (Ibn Taymiyyah's) statement: '**He whose heart Allaah enlightens...**
6. Complete & *explain* the author (Ibn Taymiyyah's) statement: **He whose heart Allaah blinds...**
7. What did the **Prophet** (ﷺ) say to Ibn Labeed al-Ansaaree (RadyAllaahu 'an-hu) proving that **knowledge** *in and of itself* is not sufficient?
8. **Memorize** the **Mathal** in **Qur'aan** [62:5] which shows that **knowledge** is not just to be **memorized**, but must be **acted upon**.
9. **Memorize** the **Aayah** of **Qur'aan** [3:8] from which the author (Ibn Taymiyyah) derived the end of his **closing supplication**.