

Core Curriculum

2 Foundations of Islam - Theology

2.2 The Usūl al-Dīn: The Fundamental Beliefs of Islam

Question: How many usūl al-dīn are there?

Answer: 5

Question: Do I need to believe in all of the usūl al-dīn in order to be a Muslim?

Answer: No, you need to believe in all so that your understanding of Islam, and your subsequent responsibilities that come thereof, is complete. There are some aspects of the usūl al-dīn that a person does not need to believe in in order to be a Muslim as long as it is done in good faith and out of innocent ignorance of the truth.

Question: What are the usūl al-dīn?

Answer: They are the foundational beliefs of a Muslim. They are: Tawḥīd (Oneness of God), ‘Adāla (Divine Justice), Nubuwwa (Prophethood), Imāma (Divinely Guided Leadership) and Ma‘ād (Resurrection on the Day of Judgment)

Question: If the God of Islam is One and has no partners, then what do angels and prophets do? Aren't they partners that help God manage the world of creation?

Answer: A partner is someone who is your equal and you are in need of them in order to do things. Angels and prophets are servants of Allah who by His choice, enact His will in the world of creation. He does not need them to manage the world or create it, He simply chooses them as His servants to enact His will although He can do this without them.

Question: Will the resurrection on the Day of Judgment be physical or spiritual?

Answer: Physical.