

them in their disbelief and misguidance. They are the ones who chose that for themselves, otherwise if they were really seeking the truth and guidance, He would have guided them to it and made it easy for them to reach it. This verse offers definitive proof that Allah is the only One Who can create and control, therefore He is the only One Whom people should worship, turn to, and put their trust in, in all situations. Ibn al-Qayyim (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

In this debate there is a very subtle point, which is that the foundation of polytheism in all people goes back to worship of heavenly bodies and graves; then idols were made to represent them. Thus the two points of evidence produced by Ibrâheem to highlight the falseness of other gods is summed up in one sentence, which states that Allah alone is the one who gives life and death, and that the living being that will die cannot be regarded as divine, either during life or after death. That living being has an all-powerful Lord Who subdues and controls all, and Who gives life and death. How can one who is like that be a god in whose image idols are made and who is worshipped instead of Allah? By the same token, the heavenly bodies, the brightest and biggest of which is the sun, also have a Lord and are controlled by and subjugated to Him. They have no control over themselves at all; rather their Lord and Creator brings them from the east, so they yield to His command and will, and are subjugated and are under control. There is no God to be worshipped except Allah.²⁰



﴿أَوَكَلَّيْ مَرَّ عَلَى قَرْيَةٍ وَهِيَ خَاوِيَةٌ عَلَى عُرُوشِهَا قَالَ أَنَّى يُعْجِبُ هَٰذَا اللَّهُ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا
فَأَمَاتَهُ اللَّهُ مِائَةَ عَامٍ ثُمَّ بَعَثَهُ قَالَ كَمْ لَيْتَ قَالَ لَيْتُ يَوْمًا أَوْ بَعْضَ يَوْمٍ قَالَ

²⁰ Ibn al-Qayyim, *Miftâh Dâr as-Sa'âdah*.