

in His oneness, and speaks of loving those who believe in it and hating those who do not believe in it, punishing them (the disbelievers), and condemns polytheism and those who believe in it, comes under the heading of textual evidence; almost the entire Qur'an affirms that. With regard to rational evidence, that may be understood just by thinking, contemplating and pondering, the Qur'an refers to that and points out much of this evidence.

One of the most important principles is acknowledging the Lordship (*ruboobiyah*) of Allah. The one who realises that He is the Creator, Provider and Controller of all things will reach the conclusion that He is the only One Who is to be worshipped, and worship should be directed only to Him. As this is the clearest and most important of matters, Allah (ﷻ) reiterates this evidence frequently in His Book. Another example of rational evidence that Allah is the only One to be worshipped, to the exclusion of all others, is that He alone bestows blessings and wards off harm. The one who realises that blessings, both apparent and hidden, great and small, come from Allah and that there is no harm, hardship or distress but He is the only One Who can ward it off, and that no one in creation has the power to bring benefit to or ward off harm from himself, let alone anyone else, will reach the certain conclusion that worshipping anything other than Allah is the falsest of falsehood and that worship should only be for the only One Who can bring benefits and ward off harm. Hence Allah often highlights this point in His Book. A further example of rational evidence to that effect is what Allah has told us about other deities that were worshipped instead of Him: they have no power to bring benefit or cause harm; they cannot help anyone else or even help themselves; they have no power of hearing and seeing; even if it is assumed that they can hear, it would avail them nothing; and they have other attributes which are indicative of their utter imperfection. What Allah has told us about Himself, of His majestic attributes, sublime actions, might, power and other attributes may be known