Sharh Aqeedat ul-Waasitiyyah
Shaykh Salih al-Fawzaan
Trans. Abu ‘Iyaad Amjad Rafiq

Part 1: The Basmalah

Text:

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the Name of Allaah, the One Full of Mercy, Ever Merciful (to His creation)

Explanation:

"The author (rahimahullaah) began his book with the basmalah in imitation of the Mighty Book (the Qur’aan) in which the basmalah occurs at the beginning of every surah with the exception of Soorah Baraa’ah and also in imitation of the Prophet (sallallaahu alaihi wasallam) in that he used to begin his letters with the basmalah.

His saying (In the Name of Allaah...): The baa is for seeking help and ism in the language is something which denotes a sense or a meaning. The grammarians (of the Arabic language) say: That which designates a meaning in itself and is not linked to any time period.

And (Allaah) is a proper name for the Sanctified Self (Adh-Dhaat al-Muqaddasah) and its meaning is: The One Who has Uloohiyyah and Uboodiyyah over all His creation. It (Allaah) is derived from allaha, yu’allihu, alooha (He was deified, He is deified, deification) with the meaning: He was worshipped, He is worshipped, and Worship (ubida, yu’badu, Ibaadah). So (Allaah) is a deity with the meaning: One who is worshipped.

And (Ar-Rahmaan ar-Raheem) are two great names from among His Beautiful Names which give evidence to his possessing Rahmah (mercy) as a characteristic and attribute in a manner which befits His Majesty. (Ar-Rahmaan) is the possessor of (that) mercy which is general (and operational) for the whole of creation. And (Ar-Raheem) is the possessor of that (mercy) which is specific for the Believers as occurs in His saying: And He is Ever-Merciful to the Believers” [Ahzaab 33:43]