Abstract

Praise be to Allah, and peace and blessings on the good God created wholes, Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him and his family and his companions much peace and recognition.

After that,

The thesis is entitled "**Status of reason between Christian theology and kalam , Augustine and Al- Ghazali as model**". The study tries to highlight the role of mental evidence in proving issues of Creed (God, universe, human beings) at the hands of two prominent thinkers who are considered authorities in religious thought, the first St. Augustine in the Christian theological thought, and secondly, Imam Ghazali in Islamic kalam thought.

There is no doubt that reliance on the mental approach in the study of Creed has common denominator between Christian theology and Islamic kalam. Nevertheless, the former and the latter have different origins. In Christian theology, the mental source is Greek philosophy; however, in Islamic kalam the source is derived from the mental proofs in the Holy Quran in addition to some proofs taken from the philosophers. This fact does not negate the innovative mental proofs on both sides.

To illustrate the above statements, this study included an introduction, a preface, four chapters, a conclusion, and a list of sources and references.

The introduction discusses the importance of the topic, the reasons for its choice, previous studies, and the approach taken in the study.

The preface gives autobiography about St. Augustine and Imam Ghazali. Then, the thesis deals with the status of reason in the Bible and the Quran. Finally the preface defines the Christian theology and Islamic kalam, the similarities and differences between them.

The first chapter "Reason and knowledge between Augustine and Al -Ghazali" It includes two sections:

The first topic - reason and knowledge according to Augustine

The second topic - reason and knowledge according to Al-Ghazali

The first topic introduces a synopsis about the stance of Christian theologians before Augustine. It also discusses the role of the mind and knowledge according to Islamic theologians before Ghazali. Moreover, the status of the mind and its role in the acquisition of knowledge according to these two thinkers are handled. Further, the thesis illustrates their perspective of the relationship between reason and tradition. Then, the thesis mentions some of the techniques and mental methods that are adopted by the two thinkers in relation to issues of Creed.

The second chapter, entitled "Reason and divinity between Augustine and Al-Ghazali" has consisted of two sections:

The first topic - reason and divinity according to Augustine

The second topic - reason and divinity according to Al-Ghazali

At the beginning of each study the role of mental evidence to prove the issues of theology according to the Islamic and Christian theologians is tackled. Then, the study addresses the status of mental proofs in theology in the thought of Augustine and Ghazali such as, the existence of God, monotheism and the divine attributes.

Chapter three: "Reason and universe between Augustine and Al-Ghazali", has two sections:

The first topic - reason and universe according to Augustine

The second topic - reason and universe according to Al-Ghazali

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The beginning of the two studies showcases the role of the mind in discussing issues related to the world in accordance with the Christian theologians and Islamic theologians. The most significant issue is the being of the world. Then, the thesis explains the status of the mind and its role in studying the most important issues of the world in the thought of Augustine and Al-Ghazali such as, the being of the world, time and causality.

The fourth chapter is entitled "Reason and human soul between Augustine and Al-Ghazali" and it covers to two topics:

The first topic - reason and human soul according to Augustine

The second topic - reason and human soul according to Al-Ghazali

This chapter is initiated by a statement on the status of mental proof in the study of issues related to the human soul in the thought of the Christian theologians and Islamic theologians. Then, the study illuminates the status of mental proof in verifying the spirituality of the soul, its immortality, its free will and resurrection, depending on the thought of Augustine and Al-Ghazali.

The conclusion covers the most important findings of the researcher, including:

Augustine and Al-Ghazali are characterized by an interest in seeking truth and locating it wherever it exists. They also enjoy high critical abilities which require a critical mind and discerning insight.

They have tried to conciliate between reason and faith, and they stressed that there is no opposition between them.

Both thinkers are influenced by the philosophy that highlights the soul. So, they introduce the philosophers' proofs, especially Plato's evidence for the spirituality and immortality of the soul.

The two thinkers have many mental proofs that are distinguished by innovation, originality.