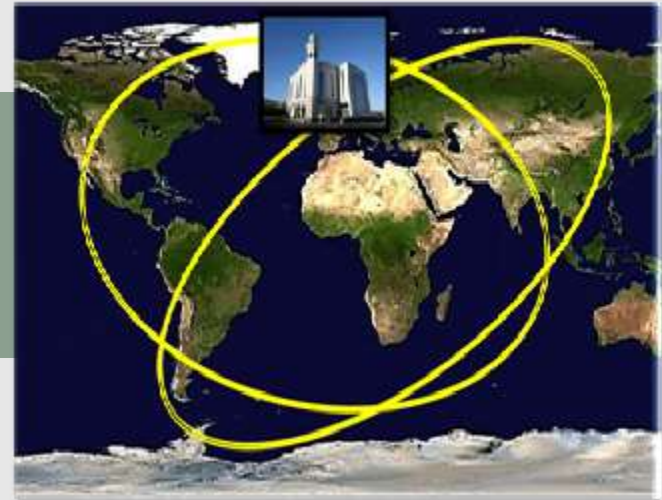


ESSENCE OF RECOGNIZING ALLAH



SERMON DELIVERED BY HADHRAT
MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD (ABA);
HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM
COMMUNITY



RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE
GLOBE

14TH March 2014

NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon

Summary

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has explained that self-reformation is rooted in recognising true God and attaining Divine love.

Today Hazrat Khalifatul Masih presented some extracts from the writings and pronouncements of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) regarding "*Ma'arfat*" (true comprehension of God).

A truth which we cannot deny is that we cannot be saved from sins without knowledge of God and belief in His attributes

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said God is a pearl; those who attain true comprehension of God find material things mundane and unimportant.

May we do everything in light of love and fear of God and may we fulfil the objective of the Promised Messiah's advent.

**Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”**

True
comprehension
of God

“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins

Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of
dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that he has covered the concept of self-reformation in some of his previous sermons.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has explained that self-reformation is rooted in recognising true God and attaining Divine love.

In previous sermons, the great Divine signs granted to the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) were mentioned.

In this day and age, these refined concepts were explained to us by the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace).

Developing a clear understanding of these concepts will enhance our faith and practice.

**Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”**

True
comprehension
of God

“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins

Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of
dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Today Hazrat Khalifatul Masih presented some extracts from the writings and pronouncements of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) regarding “*Ma’arifat*” (true comprehension of God).



The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has extensively written on this topic.



Huzoor said that he will explain the ideal level of understanding an ordinary Muslim should achieve in respect to true comprehension of God.



Huzoor said that he will aim to explain this in easily understandable language.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

In order to reach God, man needs to address two aspects.

Firstly, avoid evil and secondly, do acts of virtue.

Since his creation, man is confronted with two choices; a temptation to sin which can be totally burned away by the power of Divine love.

This power of Divine love depends upon “*Ma’arifat*”; as we cannot fall in love with anything without appreciating its true beauty and qualities.

*The true comprehension of God

**Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”**

**True
comprehension
of God**

**“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins**

**Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”**

Repentance

**The honour of
dialogue**

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Thus, knowledge of the sublime beauty and attributes of God the Most High, the Most Glorious generates the fire of His love and His love burns away sins.



The way of God is that this knowledge is granted to ordinary people through Prophets of God.



It is incumbent upon the followers of the prophets to attain the light of spiritual understanding by following them.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Only Islam can create real knowledge of God in every age.



This is because this is the only religion with a living Prophet and a living teaching.



In the love and subordination of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) one can be the recipient of Word of God and doors of Divine light can be opened to one.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

This ultimately leads to the status where God speaks to one, granting one the ultimate understanding of faith called Islam.



The true appreciation of Islam depends upon knowledge and true comprehension of God.



“Ma’arifat”
The true comprehension of God is initiated through the Divine quality of *Rahmaniyyat* (Graciousness) which is found merely through being obedient.



This improvement in conduct further enhances the true comprehension of God.



Only true comprehension of Greatness, Oneness and attributes of God motivates one to improve one’s conduct by carry out good deeds at the right time.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

One cannot give up sin unless one is granted true comprehension of God through the grace of God.

When one gains the true knowledge of God, it motivates one to seek the truth even more.

This paves the way for further progress of knowledge.

God’s grace makes this knowledge purer and brighter, deepening the comprehension of the Power of God which removes the temptations that incites to evil.

It grants strength and life to the soul and releases the self from the prison of evil, bad wishes and selfish desires.

At that point, a change comes about in man that naturally disinclines him to evil.

Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”

True
comprehension
of God

“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins

Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of
dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

The audacity
to commit sin
stems from
lack of fear of
God.

- How can fear of God be generated?
- For this Divine knowledge is required, the greater one’s comprehension of the Divine, the more one fears God.

When man develops the understanding about the harm certain things can bring, he learns to avoid these, even if these are tiny insects like the flea and mosquito etc.

Then what is the reason that man is so audacious to go against the commandment of God, Who is All-Powerful, All-Knowing and All-Seeing and Master of the heaven and the earth!

This is because man does not have “*Ma’arifat*”, the true comprehension of God. When engaged in worldly matters, man completely forgets God’s greatness and His wrath.

This is why it is very important that you should seek knowledge from God through prayer.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Without prayer one cannot attain perfect belief.

One needs to understand severing connections with God (i.e. going against the commandment of God) is like a form of death.

Along with prayers, practical steps should be taken to protect oneself against sin.

One should give up all gatherings and assemblies which incline one to sin.

Huzoor remarked that there are few assemblies these days which do not incline towards sin, be it TV or the internet or Facebook.

**Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”**

**True
comprehension
of God**

**“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins**

**Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”**


Repentance

**The honour of
dialogue**


Prayers

14TH March 2014


Remember, deliverance to sin is only possible when man attains
“Ma’arifat” ..



An adult, who truly comprehends the truth about a deadly snake
will never be tempted to touch this, ...



... while a child may get fascinated by the appearance of the
snake and may try to catch it.



In the same manner, one cannot avoid sin unless one believes
it to be a deadly poison.

Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”

True
comprehension
of God

“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins

Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of
dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Why then does man commit sin with audacity, despite having faith in God and considering sin a sin.



The only possible explanation is that he does not possess the “*Ma’arifat*”, and perception which annihilates the disposition to sin.



The only way to “*Ma’arifat*”, is through converse and communion with God, for this creates complete faith in the Creator.

Self-reformation is rooted in "Ma'arifat"

True comprehension of God

"Ma'arifat" is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain "Ma'arifat"

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said about the significance of knowledge in respect of avoiding sin.

Just as a man who knows that arsenic kills snakes and lions, does not go near it.

Similarly, if man has knowledge of God, he does not go near sin.

This is why it is important to enhance/develop knowledge and this happens with prayer; Salat is Prayer.

More one offers Salat with commitment, dedication and true spirit, freer one gets from sin.

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Regarding true repentance, the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said one who is resolute in his search of God finds Him.

Time, effort and energy are needed to acquire worldly knowledge and the same is true when seeking the knowledge of God.

The way for a beginner of spirituality is to first gain awareness of God and then understand His attributes.

This is what repentance is!

This belief generates a repulsion to sin and one avoids sin and detests it.

This awareness then reaches the stage of belief.

Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”

True
comprehension
of God

“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins

Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of
dialogue

Prayers

Elucidating the verses ‘**Guide us in the right path - the path of those on whom Thy hast bestowed Thy blessings...**’ (1: 6-7) the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) wrote,

Obviously the blessing granted to Prophets (peace be on them) was the privilege of Divine dialogue and Divine Word through which they perfected their belief in God.

So, this prayer purports to say that ... O God, bestow on us too the honour of dialogue.

It is the honour of dialogue which enhances the comprehension of God, strengthens the faith and enables one to do good deeds.

Fear and love of God is instilled in hearts with “*Ma’arifat*”, just as one sees in this world that love and fear of anything stems from its knowledge!

Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

One would do one’s best to run away from a vicious lion, avoid even a sip of a deadly poison and would try everything to hang on to a precious diamond and treasure.

True comprehension of God

This shows that knowledge is the key for all fear and all love.

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Therefore, man can only completely love or fear God Almighty when he has “*Ma’arifat*”*.

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

“*Ma’arifat*”, entails a firm belief in the existence of God and true appreciation of His attributes.

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

This kind of knowledge is gained only by having the honour of dialogue with God and the belief that God is the Knower of the unseen and can make anything happen!

Prayers

This is achieved by following the prophets of God.

14TH March 2014

*the true knowledge of God.



Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

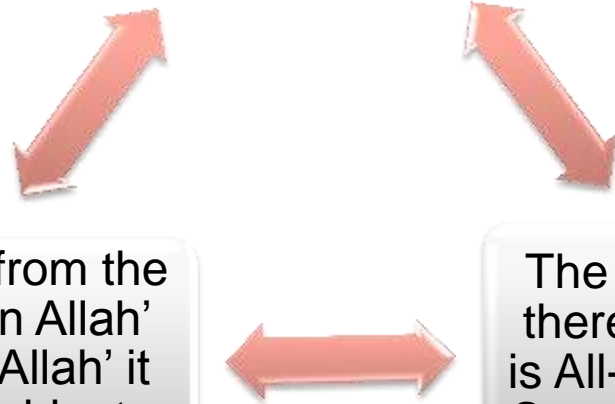
The honour of dialogue

Prayers

What stops one from committing sins, stops selfish passions and satanic actions is perfect knowledge of God.

Until man moves from the stages of ‘belief in Allah’ to ‘knowledge of Allah’ it is not possible for him to avoid sin.

The realisation that there is a God Who is All-Powerful and is Severe in reckoning.



A truth which we cannot deny is that we cannot be saved from sins without knowledge of God and belief in His attributes....

... that yes, there is a God and His force befalls each disobedient person like lightning..



Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

It is thus absolutely necessary to make a concerted and timely effort to move towards God.

If you move a little towards God Almighty, He will move more towards you ...

... but it is essential that you make the first move.

It is always the way of Allah that first man takes an action and then God Almighty responds.

If a man shuts all the doors of his house, This will be his action. The response of God Almighty will be that the man’s house will be filled with darkness...



Self-reformation is rooted in "Ma'arifat"

True comprehension of God

"Ma'arifat" is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain "Ma'arifat"

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Faith



Its flowers are high morals

Its branches are good works

Its root is recognition of God and knowledge of Divine blessings

Faith



While its fruits are spiritual blessings and most exquisite love which develops between God and His servant





Self-reformation is rooted in “Ma’arifat”

True comprehension of God

“Ma’arifat” is needed to give up sins

Prayer to attain “Ma’arifat”

Repentance

The honour of dialogue

Prayers

After attaining “Ma’arifat”, man looks at material things with disdain and disregard as if mere distractions.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said God is a pearl; those who attain true comprehension of God find material things mundane and unimportant.

Thus seek true comprehension of God Almighty, move onwards towards Him alone for therein is success.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: Because sin and wickedness has vastly increased in the world in the current times ..., Allah the Exalted established this movement and sent me with His grace and favour alone so that I may inform the negligent and the unaware about Allah the Exalted. ..I may also show God Almighty to those who come to this way with honesty, patience and sincerity. This is why God Almighty addressed me and said: **‘You are from Me and I am from you.’**



**Self-
reformation is
rooted in
“Ma’arifat”**

**True
comprehension
of God**

**“Ma’arifat” is
needed to give
up sins**

**Prayer to attain
“Ma’arifat”**

Repentance

**The honour of
dialogue**

Prayers

14TH March 2014

Huzoor said this was the objective for which the advent of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) took place; to instil knowledge of God in us in a manner as if we are seeing God.

May we do everything in light of love and fear of God and may we fulfil the objective of the Promised Messiah’s advent.

May God enable us to put all this in practice and understand its spirit!

Next Huzoor announced that he would lead a funeral Prayer after Jummah. Abdul Subhan Mannan Din Sahib passed away yesterday at the age of 72. He was one of the early Ahmadis in the UK and came here in 1945. He served in the Amanat department at Jalsa Salana for thirty years. He was a cousin of Naseer Din Sahib.