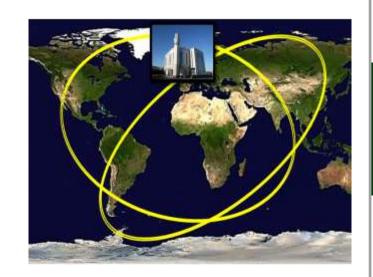
Good and Evil



Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba); Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



relayed live all across the globe

'O ye who believe! follow not the footsteps of Satan, and whoso follows the footsteps of Satan should know that he surely enjoins immorality and manifest evil. And but for the grace of Allah and His mercy upon you, not one of you would ever be pure, but Allah purifies whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.' (24:22)

Satan has been an enemy of man from the beginning and will remain so. Upon the creation of human beings God gave Satan the capacity to be free for God knew His sincere servants would remain safe from his attacks.

Satan is man's open enemy and attacks under the guise of sympathy leading man to evil and harmful ways.

If man resolutely calls on God and turns to Him and supplicates, God sees that man is sincere and He generates strength of belief in that person which safeguards him from satanic attacks.

Man must protect himself from evil with resolve and consistency and once in God's refuge, again resolve and consistency are needed to stay firm on piety.

Why God created Satan?
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) explained that everyone acknowledges that there are two pulls; the pull of good and the pull of evil.

When attracted by evil thoughts man turns to evil and when attracted by good thoughts man turns to good.

God has named the inspiration to good as angels or the Holy Spirit and the inspiration to evil as Satan.

If man was created with only the capacity to do good, piety would not have been anything unique for him.

Why God does not punish Satan? The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said the Holy Qur'an tells us that God has appointed a time to punish Satan.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said Satan incites towards falsehood, cruelty, injustice, passion, killing, hypocrisy and arrogance. Whereas God invites towards patience, devotion to God, sincerity, faith and spiritual prosperity.

The correlation between arrogance and Satan is that Adam and Satan both sinned. Adam was not arrogant and confessed his sin and this is why hope springs eternal for man to be forgiven by God. Satan, on the other hand was arrogant and was thus accursed.

Arrogance affects man imperceptibly therefore one should self-reflect minutely.

Satan's authority cannot work on a heart which has fear of God. This leads to ultimate despair of Satan and having failed he has to leave.

At times Satan makes people follow him via implanting pious thoughts.

What is from God is pleasurable and grand and hits the heart hard like iron. As it is stated: 'Verily, We are charging thee with a weighty Word.' (73:6)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that 'Say, 'I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind,' (114:2) indicates to satanic incitements that he is spreading among humankind.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) says we should pray to come in the refuge of the True Lord of mankind. There are indeed those who consider influential and wealthy people everything, that is why it is taught: 'The King of mankind; (114:3). As a result of satanic incitements people make equals to God, therefore it is taught: 'The God of mankind' (114:4).

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The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that there are two kinds of people.

Those who accept Islam but become embroiled in worldly matters and trade. Satan gets hold of these people. Those who become this world's and are only inclined to worldly matters are influenced and controlled by Satan.



While the other kind are ever concerned for the triumph of faith and overcome the host of Satan.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said man experiences difficulties due to his own faults and not because of God. Some people appear very pious and people are amazed to see them in difficulties.

In actual fact their difficulties are borne of their covert or hidden sins. It is God's compassion that others do not know man's hidden sins.

Everyone has some element or the other of evil in them and unless it is eradicated, Satan continues to attack.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said that

True Muslim is one who aspires to be a manifestation of Prophets of God.

It should be remembered that until such time that God descends on one's heart and His Signs are apparent in one, Satan's interference will continue.

May our sight always be on God and may He be our Lord and may we be protected from walking in the footsteps of Satan!