

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President

Jamā'at Aḥmadiyya,

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Dear Brother,

السَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

Satan has always been and shall ever remain man's enemy, but he cannot gain ascendancy over God's true servants.

Hidden sins are in fact more dangerous than apparent sins because they slowly lead a person to destruction.

Satan invites towards falsehood, cruelty, shamelessness, ostentation and arrogance, whereas God beckons towards patience, sincerity, faith and success.

On 11th March 2016, Ḥazrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūḥ Mosque, London.

After reciting verse 22 of Sūrah Al-Nūr, which is translated as follows:

“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 Allāh and His mercy upon you, not one of you would ever be pure, but Allāh purifies whom He pleases. And Allāh is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.” (24:22)

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that Satan has always been and will ever remain man's enemy. Satan hinders us from virtue and invites us towards evil. Satan said to God that he would lead mankind astray and would attack them from every path, except for God's true servants, for he would have no power over them. God gave him leave to do so but said that those who follow him would be cast in hell. But God also taught mankind through His Prophets the path to righteousness and the path to the good of this world and the hereafter. He also warned that Satan is man's manifest enemy. In this verse Allāh reassures the believers that God listens to them and that if they knock at His door and pray to Him with perseverance, then God, Who knows everything, on seeing His servants beseeching Him with such sincerity, grants them such power of faith that it protects them against the onslaughts of Satan and they are granted the power to grow in virtue and avoid evil.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that in this verse God has outlined for us the way through which we can become His true servants. He says that we should avoid sin and transgression, or, in other words, keep away from everything that displeases Him. When we avoid sin and transgression, God's mercy will purify us and Satan will not be able to prevail over us. Satan does not attack all at once but comes at us little by little. He plants a minor evil thought in our minds and deceives us that there is no harm in committing such a small sin. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said it is these small evils that open the way to greater sins. Any evil that destroys the peace of society becomes a great evil.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that man has the potential for good as well as for evil, and the reason for the creation of these potentials is that man may be rewarded for his good deeds. Satan invites us towards falsehood, cruelty, shamelessness and

arrogance; whereas God beckons us towards higher morals, penitence, love, fidelity, sincerity, faith and success. Man is pulled by both sides. Whoever is righteous and fortunate will, despite Satan's numerous inducements and attractions, and on account of their pure nature and harmonious disposition, hasten towards God and find all their comfort and solace in Him.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that everything has some signs and indications without which it cannot be confirmed, and so are there certain signs for faith. It is true that when faith enters a person, there also enters God's grandeur, holiness, greatness, power, and, most of all, the true cognition of God's Oneness, so much so that God resides within him and a death comes over his satanic life and his sinful nature is vanquished. Then there starts a new life, which is the spiritual life. And this is the time when man once again becomes God's. Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said that if we do not show arrogance and confess our sins and seek forgiveness from God, then we are forgiven. But Satan showed arrogance and therefore was accursed. So shun arrogance and keep the fear of God in your heart, this will save you from every evil.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that Satan gains control and sovereignty over those who become the slaves of the world and are infatuated by it. The other kind are those whose thoughts are devoted to the progress of their faith, they are called the Party of Allāh who overcome the satanic hordes. The Promised Messiah عليه السلام then says that hidden sins are more dangerous than apparent ones and slowly lead a person to destruction. The Holy Qur'ān says that one who purifies himself is successful. Until one rids of all the evil traits one cannot achieve self-purification. And a true believer and follower is one who strives to become a reflection of the Messengers. So remember that even in this age it is wrong to claim to be a believer or follower unless there is the same level of love and obedience.

Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) prayed that Allāh may enable us to strive to become his sincere servants and to shun sin and transgression and pride and treading in the footsteps of Satan. May Allāh enable us to do so. *Amīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Ḥuzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan,

Dated: 17 March 2016