

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

The Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ were more obedient and loyal than the disciples of any other Prophet. They possessed every attribute of faith.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ said: “My Companions are like the stars, whomsoever you follow you will find guidance.” Each one of them is a beacon for us.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ says: Whoever loves them loves me, and whoever hurts them hurts me, and whoever hurts me hurts God.

On 15th December 2017, Ḥaḍrat *Khalīfa-tul-Masīḥ V* ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ delivered the Friday Sermon at Baitul Futūh Mosque, London.

After reciting verse 100 of Sūrah *Al-Taubah*, which is as follows:

وَالسَّابِقُونَ الْأَوَّلُونَ مِنَ الْمُهَاجِرِينَ وَالْأَنْصَارِ وَالَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ
جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ

“And as for the foremost among the believers, the first of the Emigrants from Mecca and the Helpers in Medina, and those who follow them excellently, Allāh is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him; and He has prepared for them Gardens beneath which flow rivers. They will abide therein for ever. That is the supreme triumph.” (9:100)

Ḥūzoor ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: In this verse the Companions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ are set out as an example for people to come. Allāh was pleased with them and they had Allāh’s pleasure as their ultimate objective and were grateful to Him in every condition. Allāh said to the Holy Prophet ﷺ: Your Companions are like the stars of heaven, some are brighter than others, but they are full of light. Whoever follows your Companions will be considered by God as having been guided. The Holy Prophet ﷺ said: My Companions are like the stars; whomsoever you follow you will find guidance. Thus each of them is a beacon for us.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: The Companions showed such sincerity that they were given the tiding, “Allāh is well pleased with them and they are well pleased with Him.” The excellence of this station cannot be described in words. It shows that they had traversed all the levels of insight in divine matters. Cleanse your hearts so that God may be pleased with you and you are pleased with Him. Raise your standards of purity and obedience, as a result Allāh will be pleased with you and bless your bodies and your words. Thus, they are an example for us.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ says: Do not speak ill of my Companions. Whoever loves them, loves me; whoever hurts them hurts me; whoever hurt me hurts

God; and whoever hurts God is in His grip. Do not malign my Companions. God is my witness that even if you spend as much as the mountain of *Uhud*, you will not be rewarded as much as they were rewarded for spending a mere handful.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says: If we look in all fairness at all the sacrifices the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم made for him and how they gave up their homeland, bore oppression, gave up their lives and yet remained steadfast, we wonder what was it that made them so sincerely devoted. It wasn't anything other than true love for God that enlightened their hearts. It was the teaching and pure influence of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم that made his followers shun the world. Nowhere else do we find examples of people who have given up their lives with such valour.

Hūzoor أيده الله تعالى said: Today there is the Jamā'at of the Promised Messiah عليه السلام who are expected to inculcate the spirit of the Companions. The Holy Qur'ān is full of praise for the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. Are we the same as they were? When Allāh says that the people who follow the Promised Messiah عليه السلام will walk along with the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, we should remember that the Companions had sacrificed their land, their wealth and whatever belonged to them.

Describing the means through which the Companions overcame the nonbelievers, the Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that they spent their nights in worship and their days in fasting. Allāh commands the believers to be always vigilant against the enemy and keep horses ready at the borders. This includes both physical enemies as well as one's own self or the ego. Just as horses become useless unless they are kept in training, in the same way the self has to be continuously trained. This will come about when a believer progresses practically and spiritually and keeps reins on his ego.

Hūzoor أيده الله تعالى cited some examples of the great spiritual power that the Companions received as a result of the influence of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. These include humility, fidelity, fortitude, kindness to relatives, hospitality, serving those in need, generosity, forgiveness, obedience, being cut off this world, bearing every hardship for the sake of God, and fulfilment of pledges. These were the people who kept their word and God became pleased with them.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that it is impossible to succeed except through the Holy Qur'ān. Keep the Companions' example before you and see how when they followed the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and gave preference to their faith over the world, and how God gave them everything He had promised. In the beginning the Companions were mocked at that they could not even move freely and yet they claimed that they would become kings. By following the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, they found what they had not for centuries. They spent their day and night in the love of the Holy Qur'ān and the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. They gave up the ways of the nonbelievers and devoted themselves to Islām. And as long as they remained steadfast they remained dominant and Islām continued to progress.

The Promised Messiah عليه السلام says that the Companions of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم were so sincere and devoted that no such example of it is to be found in the disciples of other Prophets. They followed the commandments of God in such a way that the Holy Qur'ān is full of praise for them. It is written that when

they were forbidden to drink, they at once broke all the vessels containing wine and never reverted to this bad habit again. Their love and devotion to the Holy Prophet ﷺ was unparalleled. When we read about the followers of the Prophet Moses, they often were disobedient to him; while the disciples of Jesus were described by himself as weak of faith and they betrayed their master in time of trial. The Companions, on the other hand, were so sincere and devoted that they never hesitated to give up their lives in the way of Allāh and they possessed every attribute of faith.

Ḥūzoor ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: No people have ever had to face the kind of tribulation and hardship as did the Companions in the beginning of Islām. They bore all hardship with fortitude and did not turn their back on Islām. At the climax of these tribulations they had to migrate from their homeland. And when the mischief of the nonbelievers crossed all limits, Allāh ordained the Companions to punish them. Thus these few people who spent their nights in worshipping Allāh and had no weapons for war had to come to the battlefield to stop the enemy's onslaughts. All Islāmic wars were defensive in nature.

Ḥūzoor ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ said: We should strive to cleanse ourselves and follow in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet ﷺ and his Companions so that we become Muslims in the true sense of the word. May Allāh enable us to do so. *Amīn*.

Please convey these guidelines given by Ḥūzoor ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Ch. Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Aḥmadiyya Pakistan.

Dated: 20 December 2017