

FRIDAY SERMON BY KHALIFATUL MASIH V MAY 9, 2003

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُونُوا قَوَامِينَ لِلَّهِ شُهَدَاءَ بِالْقِسْطِ ۚ وَلَا يَجْرِمَنَّكُمْ شَنَاٰنُ قَوْمٍ عَلَىٰ ٱلْأَنفُسِ ۚ وَكُونُوا مَعَ ٱلضَّالِّينَ أَكْثَرًا
تَعَدِلُوا إِعْدِلُوا هُوَ أَقْرَبُ لِلتَّقْوَىٰ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ

(Al Quran 5:9)

Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV had a series of Friday sermons; about attributes of Allah, I will try to continue the same for the present. I will describe the attribute 'Al Khabir' or 'All Aware.' Translation of the verse that I have recited is, "O ye who believe, be a determined witness in the cause of justice for the sake of God. Enmity of a people should not incite you to injustice. Be just as this is closer to righteousness. Fear God as He always knows your actions."

It is sad that like many other commandments Muslims have forgotten this too. They think that God is not aware of their words or actions. They believe only in their own limited interpretations and understandings of Islamic teachings. On the demise of Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih IV, some newspapers in Pakistan have followed a dirty path and we can only leave this in God's hand. This had to happen according to the prophecies. Our Faith is strengthened when we see these happenings right before our own eyes for All Knowing God had informed of this in advance. Holy Prophet^{saw} had foretold the decline of today's Muslims. I will mention one of them briefly in the words of Hadhrat Musleh Maud^{ra}. One of these Hadiths alluded to the fact that the latter days Muslims would think of Zakat as a tax. Most Muslims do not wish to pay Zakat, which is an obligation from God. Where it is collected by the system, they pay it under compulsion, otherwise hardly anyone pays. Even those nations who pay, they make a display of it; in a manner that it seems that as if this is not Zakat but voluntary collection for national works! Whereas, today when Muslims are surrounded by tribulations in all directions, any amount of charity in addition to Zakat is not enough.

Since there is a move in Pakistan for more Islamic Laws, Zakat has been declared compulsory. Now many people don't wish to pay Zakat and they declare themselves Ahmadi before their banks. Some withdraw their money few days before the year is over. Whatever they pay is displayed to make a name for them. There is no blessing in it. News of Zakat distribution are printed in the papers with great fanfare. According to the news in these same papers, the Zakat Committees fight among themselves for a share. When I was in Ghana, many non Ahmadi Muslims would bring their Zakat and give it to Jammāt for proper distribution and use. They said they had trust in Jammāt system. They did not have any faith in their own religious leaders.

This is a blessing of the Gracious God, and we sing His praise that He has made us part of a system where every penny is spent with great thought and care under the leadership of the Khalifa.

Now I will recite some additional verses about the attribute of 'Al Khabir.' Allah says:

إِنَّ رَبَّكَ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَن يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ بِعِبَادِهِ خَبِيرًا بَصِيرًا^ط

“Your Lord multiplies the sustenance for whomever He wants and takes away from whomever He wants. Indeed He knows His servants well and watches over them.” (Al Quran 17:31)

أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَتُصْبِحُ الْأَرْضُ مُخْضَرَّةً إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَطِيفٌ خَبِيرٌ^ط

“Do you not see that God sent down water from heavens and the earth becomes green? Indeed God knows the detail and is always aware.” (Al Quran 22:64)

وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِهِ وَكَفَى بِهِ بُذُوبِ عِبَادِهِ خَبِيرًا^ط

“And depend on the Living One, who will never die. Sing His praise. He is sufficient to keep an eye on His servant’s wrongdoings.” (Al Quran 25:59)

QURANIC PROPHECIES

By the grace of God, Ahmadis are a witness to many a prophecies of Allah. The prophecies mentioned in the Holy Quran are not merely for the believers, but there are many prophecies of such amazing clarity which are enough to shut the mouth of opponents. After a close scrutiny every righteous heart proclaims the truth of this book, that indeed it is from All Knowing God, which was revealed to the Holy Prophet^{saw}. There were some prophecies which the companions could not even imagine at that time. As it says, وَإِذَا السَّمَاءُ كُشِطَتْ And when the skin of the heavens shall be peeled off!” (Al Quran 81:12) Now those who are seeking to unveil the secrets of the heavens are in a way peeling off the skin from it. In old days man could only watch the heavenly bodies with the naked eye as the telescope had not been invented. Then in 1609 Italian scientist Galileo Galilee made the telescope. With this many discoveries were made about heavenly bodies such as sun spots on the moon and discovery of four moons around Jupiter. Galileo and other astronomers described many details about these heavenly bodies.

Many prophecies which are transpiring in the present times and will continue to happen in future are mentioned in the Holy Quran. One of them is the scourge of radiation and atomic warfare. The Holy Quran says:

يَوْمَ تَكُونُ السَّمَاءُ كَالْمُهْلِ^{لا}

لَا
وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ

ج
وَلَا يَسْأَلُ حَمِيمٌ حَمِيمًا

“When the sky will be like molten copper and mountains will be like shredded cotton and a dear friend would not care for his friend. This would transpire upon them with certainty. Transgressors would wish to give their sons to avoid the punishment of that day.” (Al Quran 70: 9-11)

In atomic warfare it is possible for the sky to appear like molten copper. This points towards the scourge of radiation. It is a horrible suffering proven by many experiments. It is so terrible that no one cares for his friends, and children are abandoned by their mothers. Every one is so scared of radiation and atomic warfare that if given a choice they would sacrifice their children to avoid it.

These incidents were witnessed in the Second World War even when those atomic bombs were of low capacity. Now much more powerful bombs have been developed. It is apparent that world is hastily moving towards destruction.

Therefore as always it is the responsibility of Jammāt Ahmadiyya that it should pray and pray fervently to save humanity. The world may recognize God and save itself from destruction as much as possible.

PROPHECIES OF THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD

I will now describe some of those prophecies by the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{ṣaw} which he foretold after hearing from God. Before the battle of Badr, the Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} identified the spots where chiefs of Mecca were to fall after their deaths. Hadhrat Anas^{ṛa} relates, “We were with Hadhrat Umar^{ṛa} somewhere between Mecca and Medina. He talked to us about people in the battle of Badr. He said, a day before the battle of Badr, Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} showed us the spots where the chiefs of Mecca would fall after their slaughter. Hadhrat Umar said, I affirm in the name of He who sent the Prophet^{ṣaw} in truth that they all fell at those spots. Then their bodies were gathered in a ditch. Then Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} arrived, and called upon them twice by name, Oh so and so, son of so and so, did you not find the promise of your Lord to be true? I have found that promise to be absolute truth that God made with me. Upon this Hadhrat Umar said that you are talking to the dead who do not have a soul. Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} replied, you don’t hear me any better than them.”ⁱ

Then there is the prophecy of victory in Yemen, Syria and the East. Hadhrat Salman Farsi^{ṛa} relates that on the occasion of Battle of the Ditch, a hard rock was in my way. The Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} was close by. When he saw me struggle with that hard rock, he took the spade from me and hit the rock. A spark flew from it. He hit the rock again and another spark flew. This happened a third time too. I enquired, what were those sparks? The Holy Prophet^{ṣaw} said, did you see those sparks also? I said, yes. Then he said that upon seeing the first spark, Allah gave me the good news of victory in Yemen, with second spark, Syria

and with the third spark, He has given me the news of victory in the East.ⁱⁱ We have seen this prophecy come true in a grand manner.

Hadhrat Zainab Bint Hajash^{ra} relates, “Once the Holy Prophet^{saw} came to me in a state of concern and said, ‘there is no God but Allah. Vow to the Arabs for the evil that is near. Today this much opening has occurred in the wall around Goj, Majoj.’ He described it by joining his finger with his thumb and made a circle. I implored, ‘Oh Prophet of God, would we be destroyed even when we have some good men among us?’ Holy Prophet^{saw} said, ‘yes, if evil and sin would increase and overcome virtue.’”ⁱⁱⁱ

Writing of a letter by Hatib Bin Abi Balta’a^{ra} to the Meccans has been mentioned in the Holy Quran. In the traditions, this is how it is mentioned. Hatib Bin Abi Balta’a^{ra} was a companion of the Holy Prophet^{saw}. In his simplicity he wrote a letter to the Meccans warning them of an impending attack by the Muslim army. God informed the Prophet^{saw} who dispatched Hadhrat Ali^{ra}, Hadhrat Abu Marsad Ghanvi^{ra} and Hadhrat Zubair Bin Al Awam^{ra} and specified a place where they were to find an idolater woman who would have this letter. Hadhrat Ali^{ra} says, “We found the woman at that exact place. Upon inquiry she denied any knowledge of the letter. They sat down her camel and interrogated her more thoroughly. She then confessed and handed over the letter.”^{iv}

Hadhrat Abu Huraira^{ra} relates that the Holy Prophet^{saw} said, “if a fly falls into your cup, dip it fully before throwing it away, as there is disease in one of its wings and cure in the other.”^v Now it has been proven by research that on one wing of the fly there is disease and the other cure as was told fourteen hundred years ago.

PROPHECIES OF THE PROMISED MESSIAH

Now I will present a few samples of the events that were to occur in future as described by the Promised Messiah^{as}. He writes about the demise of his father, “Allah had foretold me about the death of my father (may Allah bless his soul). My father had been ill and on the day that his death was destined I had a revelation at noon time. وَالسَّمَاءِ وَالطَّارِقِ With this revelation it was put in my heart that this is a hint to his death. The meaning of this Arabic revelation is, “We cite as witness the heaven and by the tragedy that will strike after sun set.” ... I affirm in the name of Allah in whose hands is my life and forging a lie in Whose name is a satanic and cursed act, that this is exactly what happened.”

أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِكَافٍ عَبْدَهُ

“Is not Allah sufficient for His servant?” (Al Quran 39:37)

Pertaining to this revelation the Promised Messiah^{as} writes:

“When I was informed that my father was to die after sunset, the news caused me the pang of grief instinctive to humanity and since some of the important sources of our family incomes were bound up with his life, e.g., the pension and the good service annuity he received from the British Government, the thought passed through my mind as to what was to happen after his death, and there came a flutter in my heart that perhaps there would now come days of poverty and pain. All these thoughts passed

through my mind in a moment, like a flash of lightning. Immediately there came over me a trance and the second revelation came "Is not God all-sufficient for His servant?" The Divine revelation was immediately followed by a feeling of mental relief, as though some painful wound had been suddenly healed by a potent ointment—when the revelation came, I understood that God would not allow me to perish. I then wrote down the revelation and made it over to a certain Hindu Khatri, Malawa Mal by name, who is a resident of Qadian and is still living. I also told him the whole story and sent him to Amritsar so that with the help of Hakim Maulawi Muhammad Sharif of Kalanaur he might get the revelation inscribed on a stone and have a seal made of it. I selected the Hindu for the work simply to make him as well as Maulawi Muhammad Sharif witnesses of this grand prophecy. In due time Maulawi Muhammad Sharif got the signet made for only Rupees 5, and forwarded it to me, and it remains with me still. The sign in this is that it was revealed to me at a time when my livelihood completely depended on a limited income of my father and when I lived in a state of complete obscurity and nobody knew me. I was an unknown person living in a distant village of Qadian in utter obscurity. And then in keeping with His prophecy Allah so directed a multitude towards me and inspired those towards financial help that I do not find words to express gratitude to Him. Looking at my state I could not even think that even paltry amount of Rupees 10, will be donated on a monthly basis. But God Almighty who raises the meek from the dust and buries the arrogant into dust, helped me in such a fashion that I can say with certainty that the donations for the cause are more than 300 thousand and may be even more."

Now if you look at the present figures they have risen to millions. All praise belongs to Allah. Promised Messiah^{as} continues:

"Another way to judge these donations is to imagine that for years there has been the monthly expense of Rupees 1500 for the Community Kitchen."

The Rupees 1500 of that time will be worth several hundred thousand today. Promised Messiah^{as} further says:

"Only in Community Kitchen the expense is average of Rupees 1500 a month. The other lines of expenses like the school etc. and the publishing of books are separate from this. So one should ponder over the prophecy **أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِكَافٍ عَبْدَهُ**

How clearly, beautifully and what grandeur this has been fulfilled. Is this the work of a false claimant or one who is lost in his wishful thoughts? No, never! This is the work of the God in Whose hand is the control of honor, notoriety, prestige and reverence."^{vi}

This ring after the demise of the Promised Messiah^{as} was passed onto Musleh Maoud^{ra}. He in turn made a will that after me this should be given to the next Khalifa and it should continue to be an inheritance of Khilafat and not my personal inheritance. After him the ring passed onto Khalifatul Masih III, then to Khalifatul Masih IV and then you would have noted that when I became Khalifa the ring was put on my hand. All Praise belongs to Allah! May Allah continue this blessing also forever.

There is a tradition narrated by Hadhrat Sheikh Fazal Ilahi that once he was carrying the mail to Promised Messiah^{as}. I passed by the house of Deputy Shankar Das. He was sitting on the terrace in

front of his house on his cot. When he saw me he called me ‘Oh Sheikh, tell Ghulam Ahmad that when boys come to the mosque they create a lot of disturbance and their chatter is also noisy. This bothers us he should admonish them that they should pass quietly. I passed this message to the Promised Messiah^{as}. On hearing this he said that this house is going to come under our control as Allah has promised me this house.’^{vii}

THE DESTRUCTION OF JOHN ALEXANDER DOWIE AND PERTAINING TO KOREA

Then there is the prophecy about the destruction of John Alexander Dowie. There is plenty of mention about this in the community literature. This person had migrated from Australia and settled in USA. He developed a city named Zion (north of Chicago). In 1901 he proclaimed that God has sent him in the ‘Spirit and Power of Elijah’ to make preparation for the second coming of Jesus Christ. In 1902 he published that if Muslims do not accept Christianity then they will be destroyed. In August of 1902 he declared that Islam is a disgusting stain on the face of humanity and Zion will destroy Islam.

To refute this Promised Messiah^{as} published an advertisement in 1903 with the title “Prophecies about Piaget and Dowie.” He wrote in it, “God has given me a sign for America, that if Dowie comes in a prayer duel against me explicitly or implicitly, the world shall soon see the end of this contest and Dowie will leave this world in utter grief, misery and helplessness.”

When Dowie was told of this challenge, he boasted, "Can you imagine me answering to these gnats, and flies? If I were to put my foot on them, I could crush them to Death."^{viii}

Eventually Dowie was punished by God. He had a stroke (on December 19th, 1905 while giving a speech). His wife and his son turned against him and exposed his character. His followers were disillusioned and deserted him. On 8th March 1907 he died in utter grief, misery and helplessness.

After his death several USA newspapers published that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad won (the prayer duel); and Dowie lost.

Then there is the prophecy about Korea. In 1904 when a war started between Russia and Japan, it was revealed to Promised Messiah^{as}, “An Eastern power and the delicate state of Korea.” In keeping with this revelation, ultimately Japan had a victory and Russia had to evacuate from Korea. (*Zikr Habib* page 123) And till date the situation in Korea is not stable.

PROPHECIES ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY

The prophecies about the establishment and progress of Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam reinvigorate our beliefs. In one of such prophecies Promised Messiah^{as} states:

“There is a prophecy in Brahmin-e-Ahmadiyya that Allah will show His glory and light. He will elevate my status! A Warner came unto this world; the world accepted him not; but Allah will accept him and establish his truth by mighty signs. Twenty five years have passed since this prophecy. This was revealed at a time when I lived in a state of obscurity. The essence of this prophecy is that at a time of external adversity and internal turmoil there would be no apparent reason for Ahmadiyya Movement in

Islam to be established. But God will attract men towards this Movement by His illuminating guidance and will testify my truth by His mighty signs. Among these mighty signs was the sign of plague which had been prophesied a long time ago. And among these signs are the earthquakes that are happening. Allah knows what other trials are in store. But there is no doubt in the fact that God has established this community to demonstrate His signs and power otherwise in the presence of such severe opposition there was no possibility that in such a short period of time several hundred thousand followers should join me. Opponents tried tooth and nail but in face of Allah's will their efforts were of no avail."^{ix}

In 1908 Promised Messiah^{as} had a revelation that is recorded in his book, *the message of peace*:

"The Divine revelations which God has conveyed to me further confirm that if people do not mend their evil ways and practices and do not repent their sins, the world will be further visited by other severe calamities. One misery will not end before another follows. Eventually people will reach the end of their tether and will wonder what is happening to them and what next is in store for them. They will be pushed to the edge of their senses by calamity upon calamity."^x

Promised Messiah^{as} prays to his Lord:

"Oh my dear Lord! I have adopted You so You also adopt me and look at my heart and grant me nearness. Oh Allah! You are the knower of secrets and are fully aware of all the secrets that are kept safe from the strangers. Oh my Provident! If You know that my opponents are true and sincere then destroy me like the liars are exterminated. But if You know that I am from You and have been sent by You then help me and grant me Your fullest support as I am helpless without Your succor!"^{xi}

...

Translated by Dr Lutf Ur Rehman

ⁱ Sunin Nisae. Book of Funerals, chapter of souls of believers.

ⁱⁱ Biography by Ibn Hisham in description of Battle of Ditch.

ⁱⁱⁱ Sahih Bukhari, book of the Trials, chapter Goj, Majoj.

^{iv} Sahih Bukhari. Please see the actual sermon in Urdu for exact details.

^v Sahih Bukhari, chapter about creation.

^{vi} Haqiqat-ul-Wahi, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 22, pp. 219-221.

^{vii} Al Hakam. Volume 38:9. Dated 14th March, 1935. Page 4.

^{viii} Leaves of Healing, December 27th, 1903.

^{ix} Haqiqat-ul-Wahi, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 22, pp. 278, Sign 111.

^x <http://www.alislam.org/library/books/Message-of-Peace.pdf>

^{xi} Ijaz ul Masih. Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 18, pp. 203-204.