

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

We will *insha* Allah continue to read more extracts from the book of Hazrat Masih Maood (as), *Kishti Nuh*. This title means “Noah’s ark” as we all know. It means that just as Allah had asked Hazrat Nuh (as) to build an ark which would save the people prior to the arrival of severe destruction, similarly the teachings that are explained in this book will save the people from a severe destruction which will ensue if such teachings are ignored. The idea is that if we want to be saved, we should adopt these teachings and give it to our children as a precious legacy.

These days, we are living in a period of great disturbance. There are disturbances in the world and there are disturbances in mainstream Ahmadiyya here. Many Ahmadis are expressing their frustration on social media explaining their deception with what mainstream Ahmadiyya Jamaat was expected to bring about in the world and what is actually happening on the inside, especially with its leadership. Meanwhile, the caliph wants to give the impression that all is smooth sailing and silence is the best policy and that people should not worry and Allah will vindicate him.

Throughout the Jamaat’s hundred plus years of history, every type of intellectual gymnastics has been made to justify the status that the jamaat wants to give to the caliph. No position of leadership can give anyone spiritual merits. Allah knows everyone’s heart and he knows where to place His Message. Allah tells us that honor (izzat) is in His Hands. He grants it to whomsoever He pleases. And according to Hazrat Masih Maood (as), Allah will continue to raise within his Jamaat many people until the last day. But how can an institution which runs the Jamaat accept such people. They have to reject them in order to defend their institution which they want the people to believe is a divine institution and we get the mess-up that we are witnessing these days. For those who are well aware of the jamaat’s history, they know that there have been many instances where the khilafat has not been able to deal justly with the challenges that presented themselves to it.

Hazrat Masih Maood (as) taught us that if we did our best to obey Allah, we would be so bold that nothing and no one in this world could frighten us. This is the liberating teachings that he bequeathed us. We should value his words and not just pay lip service to them. So, let us continue with his words full of wisdom. We continue from where we left off last time. He says:

“You who are in search of God! Pay heed to me and listen. There is nothing like certainty. It is certainty which delivers one from sin. It is certainty which gives you the strength to do good deeds. It is certainty which imbues you with the true love of God.

Can you cease from sin without certainty? Can you cease pursuing your selfish desires without witnessing a truly certain manifestation of God? Can you discover peace without certainty? Can you bring about a sincere change without certainty? Can you achieve true prosperity without certainty? Is there beneath the heaven any atonement or expiation which can deliver you from sin? Will the so-called atonement of Jesus son of Mary grant deliverance from sin? Followers of Christ! Utter not such falsehood which brings about utter ruin on earth. Even the salvation of Christ himself was dependent on certainty. He believed with certainty and was, therefore, granted salvation. Pity the Christians who deceive others by claiming that they have received salvation through the blood of the Messiah, yet they are themselves immersed in sin from head to toe. They know not who their God truly is, and their life is spent in heedlessness. They are lost in the intoxication of alcohol but are completely unaware of the holy inebriation which comes from heaven. They are deprived of a life of companionship with God and of the fruits borne of a holy life. Remember, without certainty you cannot emerge from a life of darkness, nor can you find the Holy Spirit. Blessed are those who possess certainty for it is they who will come to see God. Blessed are those who rid themselves of doubt and uncertainty for it is they who shall be delivered of sin. Blessed shall you be when the treasure of certainty is bestowed upon you, for only then will your sin be effaced. Sin and certainty cannot coexist. Would you ever thrust your hand into a pit wherein you see an extremely venomous snake? Would you remain standing near a volcano which rains down stones? Or where lightning strikes? Or where a ferocious lion attacks? Or where a deadly plague goes on ravaging human life? If you are as certain of God as you are of the snake, lightning, lion or plague, then it would be impossible for you to disobey God and follow a course that leads to His chastisement, nor would you sever from Him your ties of sincerity and faithfulness. You who have been called to righteousness and piety, know that you will be drawn to God and be cleansed of the vile blemish of sin only when your hearts become replete with certainty. Perhaps, some among you may say that you already enjoy certainty, but remember that you only deceive yourselves. You do not possess certainty at all because you do not possess its essentials. This is because you are still to estrange yourself from sin. Neither do you progress as you ought to, nor do you fear God in the way you ought to. Reflect for yourselves. How can a person who is certain that a serpent lies in a hole, plunge their hand therein? Similarly, he who is certain that his food is poisoned will not partake thereof. In the same manner, a person would never carelessly and heedlessly enter a jungle, if he observes with certainty that thousands of bloodthirsty lions prowl within. How can your hands and your feet and your ears and your eyes be daring enough to indulge in sin if you truly believe in God and His reward and punishment? Sin cannot overcome certainty. While you perceive a blazing and consuming fire, you would never thrust yourselves into it. The walls of certainty stretch to heaven. They cannot be scaled by Satan. It is only certainty that has ever purified anyone. Certainty strengthens one against suffering, to the extent that even kings are able to relinquish their thrones and endure the hardships of poverty. Certainty eases every type

of distress. It is certainty which enables one to behold God. All 'atonement' is false and all 'redemption' vain. All purity proceeds from the path of certainty. It is certainty alone that delivers from sin, leads to God, and puts a person ahead of even the angels in sincerity and steadfastness. Any religion that does not provide the means for attaining certainty is false. Any religion that cannot exhibit God through certain means is false. Any religion that has nothing to offer except ancient tales is false.

God is as He ever was, His powers are as they always were and He has the ability to show signs as He always had. Why then are you assuaged with mere tales? A religion whose miracles and prophecies are consigned to mere fables is dead. Ruined is the community upon which God has not descended and which has not been purified by the hand of God through certainty. Just as human beings are attracted to those delights for which their inner self yearns, so too when people experience spiritual pleasures on account of their certainty they are pulled towards God, and His beauty enchants them to such extent that everything else appears utterly meaningless. Man can only find sanctuary from sin when he comes to know with certainty of His Might, Punishment and Reward. The root cause of all insolence is ignorance. Anyone who partakes of insight that is certain in nature cannot remain insolent. If a homeowner comes to know that a terrible flood is surging towards him, or if his property is encircled by a fire and only a small opening remains, then such a person would never remain there. How then can you claim to possess certainty in the punishment and reward of God and yet continue to remain in your terrible state? So, open your eyes and look upon the Law of God that governs the entire world. Do not behave like rats who are attracted to the depths of darkness, rather, become soaring pigeons who are drawn to the sky. Do not make a pledge of repentance whilst remaining adamant on sin. Be not like the snake that sheds its skin, yet still remains a snake. Be mindful of death, for it lurks nearby though you are unmindful of it. Endeavour to purify yourselves, for only those who purify themselves can reach the Pure.

But how are you to attain this blessing? God has Himself provided the answer to this, where He states in the Quran:

وَاسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ

Meaning that, seek the help of God with patience and prayer.

What is meant by prayer? It is a supplication that is humbly entreated by extolling His holiness, praise and sanctity, and seeking his forgiveness, and by invoking salutations upon the Holy Prophet. So, when you observe prayer do not recite Arabic phrases alone like those who are unmindful—for the prayer and forgiveness sought by such persons is nothing more than a superficial demonstration, which is devoid of essence; their prayers are not sustained by any foundations. When you offer your prayer, besides the verses of the Quran which are the Word of God, and besides the various prayers taught by the Holy Prophet, which are the words of the Messenger, make all your other entreaties in your

native tongue so that the humility and meekness that they are born of may touch your heart...Prayer is the cure for all future tribulations. You know not what divine decree the new day will usher in for you. So, before the new day dawns, humble yourselves before your Lord, so that the new day brings for you goodness and blessing.

O you the affluent, and O Kings! O you who are wealthy! There are but few among you who fear God and are pious in the ways prescribed by Him. Most of you are devoted to the possessions and territories of this world, and spend your entire lives occupied to this end and give not thought to your death. All those wealthy persons who do not observe their prayers and are unmindful of God carry the sins of all their servants and attendants around their necks. All those wealthy persons who consume alcohol also carry the sins of the people who intoxicate themselves under their influence.

You who claim to possess understanding! Know that this world is not eternal, so take hold of yourselves. Eschew all immoderation and abstain from every type of intoxicant. It is not alcohol alone that ruins a person. Opium, ganja, *charas*, *bhang*, hemp, and all other addictions are similarly destructive. They ruin the mind and destroy lives. So, shun all such substances. I cannot understand why one would choose to indulge in these intoxicants when, year on year, they claim the lives of thousands of addicts—not to mention the torment of the hereafter.” (p. 27-32)

As we all may see, these words are very powerful. We should try to reflect upon them and do our best to live them in our daily life. Its not easy but if we are true in our search for Allah, He will make this path easy for us and eventually we will understand that Allah is the greatest treasure and not our wealth or other matters to which we devote ourselves in this world. May Allah open our heart so that we might understand and we take the path that will lead us to Him. Incha Allah. Ameen.