

FRIDAY SERMON

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I will *incha* Allah share with our friends today more extracts from the *Malfuzaat* (Volume 3) of Hazrat Masih Maood (as). We will continue from where we left off. Hazrat Masih Maood (as) was speaking about the existence of Allah and how stupid were those people who denied His Existence despite the claim of many pious people who could testify to His existence. Then he said:

“Such people are strange indeed. Anyone who gives a view on a certain matter, must have knowledge of the subject under discussion. A person who is uneducated in the subject at hand also does not have the right to advance a view in that regard; and if they did, would people not consider them to be extremely foolish and unwise? Of course, they would. In fact, other intellectuals in the field would put them to shame by saying: ‘You foolish person, when you have no knowledge in this field, how can you put forth a view on this subject?’ Similarly, those who say that God does not exist, what right do they have to give a view on this, when they have no knowledge of matters divine, and they have never made a struggle in this field.

Indeed, they would have the right to make this assertion only if they had first made a positive effort to search for the truth and find God in the method taught by the godly. If after this, they were unable to find God, they would have been justified in saying that God does not exist. But when these people have made no effort or struggle on this path, they do not have the right to reject the existence of God.

In short, God does exist, and the more one increases in his belief in Him, the more strength he receives and the more he is able to behold this immensely hidden Being, until finally, one is able to see Him openly and manifestly. Then, this strength grows day after day. It is this very objective that the world ought to seek, but in today’s world, these powers have become weak.

This strength of faith that was brought by Islam has now become extremely weak. Generally, Muslims have also felt that they have lost strength. If this were not the case,

why are gatherings and events being held so often, and why are new associations being formed so abundantly, which claim that they are working to advocate and support Islam. I am disappointed when I hear these people chanting slogans for the nation and singing songs promoting national progress in their gatherings. Someone ought to tell me, in earlier times, was our nation built by following in the footsteps of Europe? Did our people attain all of their successes by following in the footsteps of Western nations? If it is proven that indeed, this is how progress was attained in the past, then it would undoubtedly be a sin if we did not follow in the footsteps of the Europeans. But if this cannot be proven, and surely, it cannot, then how grave an injustice that the nation should follow a materialistic people, and abandon the principles of Islam and forsake the Quran, which transformed savages into humans, and then humans into godly people. Those who wish to see Islam in a better state, as a living Faith, by making the Western world their ideal, cannot succeed. Only those will succeed who follow the Holy Quran.

Success is impossible and inconceivable if one forsakes the Quran. These people are pursuing an imaginary hope in search of success. Keep the examples of the companions before you. When the companions followed the Prophet of God, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and gave precedence to religion over worldly affairs, all of the promises made to them by Allah Almighty were fulfilled.

Initially, the opponents would mock the companions and say that those who cannot even leave their homes with freedom claim that they shall be given kingdoms.

However, when the companions lost themselves in obedience to the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, they attained all that of which they were long deprived. They loved the Holy Quran and the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and strove to obey and follow him, day and night. They would not even follow the disbelievers in their customs and traditions. As long as Islam remained in this state, it enjoyed an era of prosperity and success. The secret in this was:

Khuda dari cheh gham dari (Persian)

When God is yours, how can you suffer any grief?

The key to the victories and triumphs of the Muslims was faith as well. Salah-ud-Din was confronted by a swarm of attacks, but to the very end, no one was able to defeat him. His intention was to serve Islam. Hence, for a period in time, this era prevailed. However, when Muslim kings began to follow a course of sin and impiety, the wrath of Allah Almighty struck them, and gradually they began to suffer such a decline that now you can see the current state of affairs. In my view, the people's assessment of this

malady is one with which I disagree. Further, the remedy that is proposed to cure this disease will prove even more dangerously harmful. Until Muslims turn to the Holy Quran, they will not develop true faith, they will not become healthy. Honour and success will only be attained on the path from which it was achieved in previous times.

Give Precedence to Religion over Worldly Affairs

My purpose is not to suggest that Muslims ought to become indolent. Islam does not make anyone slothful. You ought to engage in business and employment as well, but I do not approve that you should have no time at all for God. When it is time to engage in business, engage in business; but even then, keep the fear and awe of Allah Almighty in view so that even your businesses become a form of worship. When it is time for the Prayer, do not miss your Prayer. In every situation, whatever it may be, give precedence to religion. Let not the world itself become your objective; instead, religion ought to be the actual objective that you seek. When this becomes your way, even your worldly engagements will be deemed religious. Look at the companions—even in the most trying times, they did not forsake God. At a time of war, when the sword is drawn, one is faced with such danger that even the mere thought of this makes one anxious. This is a time of passion and anger, but even in this state, the companions never turned away from God; they did not miss their Prayers. In fact, they remained engaged in supplication.

The unfortunate thing now is that Muslims exert efforts in every other way; they deliver eloquent speeches, they hold conventions in order to further the progress of the Muslims, but they are so negligent of God that they do not turn to Him even by mistake. When this is the state of the Muslims, how can they hope that their efforts will bear fruit, when all of them are so materialistic?

Remember! Until the words *Laa ilaha illallah muhammadur rasoulullah* (there is none worthy of worship except Allah) saturate our heart and soul, and until every particle of our being is not illuminated and ruled by Islam, progress can never be attained. If you present the example of the Western nations and say that they are advancing, then remember that they are a different case. You have been given a Book and the truth has been conveyed and clarified to you completely. As I have said, they are a different case and shall be called to account on another day. If you, however, abandon the Book of Allah, your hell will be waiting for you here on earth.

In the current climate, there are associations and conferences held in order to improve the state of the Muslims in almost every city. But none of Islam's advocates say that Muslims should make the Quran their guiding star. Follow the Quran. All that these

people say is that you should study English, establish colleges and become barristers. This demonstrates that these people do not have faith in God.

If an experienced physician sees that his medicine is not proving effective after ten days or so, he stops administering that particular medicine. Here, Muslims are met with failure upon failure, but they do not give up their methods. If there is no God, then Muslims can abandon Him and surely succeed, but when God most definitely exists, Muslims will never be able to attain success if they forsake Him. They dishonour God, they disrespect His Book, and then they wish to be successful and create a nation? Never will they succeed.

My view is nothing but the obvious. There is only one path to success and it is to recognise God and to develop a living faith in Him. If I were to say these things in a gathering of these materialists, they would mock me, but I pity them. It is unfortunate that such people cannot see what I can see. God Almighty has given you an opportunity to have made such a long journey to come here and you have suffered the difficulties that any journey entails. I believe that if you had not been moved by the power of faith, you would not have subjected yourself to such travails. May Allah the Exalted reward you and further strengthen this power of yours, so that you are blessed with eyes that are able to behold this radiance and spiritual light, and what Allah Almighty has sent down to the world in this age through His grace.

On certain occasions, it so happens that a person will go somewhere, but then return quickly. But after the individual has returned, their soul feels restless over why they returned. Our friends come to visit us and then they return to their homes due to various compelling circumstances, but then, they feel a sense of regret for leaving so quickly.”

On this, Maulvi Syed Mahdi Husain Sahib said: “I am sure that I will also feel the same way. If I had not already sent a telegram to Nawab Muhsin-ul-Mulk Sahib and others, I would have stayed for longer.”

The Promised Messiah (as) responded by saying: “In any case, I do not wish to hold you back from your promise. As you have informed them already, you must go, but I am hopeful that you will return here again. I advise, merely for the sake of Allah, that if on another occasion, you come here and stay for a week or two at least, this will prove extremely beneficial for you. You will be able to hear those words which God has sent me to convey. At the time of the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, the disbelievers had the following view about him:

This is indeed a strange thing.

The disbelievers would allege that this was a worldly enterprise. Those opponents who do not receive the opportunity to remain in the company of one sent by God are unable to form a proper opinion. It is not right for one to form a view from afar, because until a person comes closer and gains first-hand knowledge of the matter at hand, how can they form a proper opinion?"(Malfuzaat Vol3 P49-54)

We will stop here for today. This is the advice of Hazrat Masih Maood (as). They are as relevant today as they were more than hundred years ago. It is unfortunate that these days, we are hearing from diehard Ahmadis that some young Ahmadis have gone so far as to deny the existence of Allah. If people read the writings of the Promised Messiah (as), they would be inspired to walk the same path that he walked. But since they are oblivious of these teachings, they follow the theories of non-Muslims and they allow themselves to be influenced. May Allah help Muslims around the world to become even more convinced of the existence of Allah and may it be the most precious legacy for their children. Ameen.