

FRIDAY SERMON

6th December 2024

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Last week we ended on a note where Hazrat Masih Maood(as) was speaking about the deplorable state of Muslims at the time when he made his claim that Allah has sent him for the reformation of Muslims. Continuing on the same line of thought he said:

“Is it not obvious that the Faith has died? One is grieved and saddened when his beloved friend dies, or even if his pet dog or cat dies. Why is it then that no one is grieved by the death of the Faith and no mourning is seen in any heart?

I am also charged with having laid claim to prophethood and that I have made a new religion or that I am contemplating some different *qibla*. It is said that I have instituted a new *Salat* or that I have made a new Quran, having abrogated the Quran. So, what can I say in response to these allegations except لَعْنَتُ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْكَذِبِينَ “The curse of Allah be upon those who lie”?

My claim is only that God has sent me due to the evils of the present day. And I cannot conceal the fact that I have been conferred the honour of communion and converse, and God converses with me and does so abundantly. This is indeed what is called ‘prophethood’ but not actual prophethood. نَبَأ is an Arabic word meaning *news*. Now, anyone who reveals to people the news received from God, would be called a نَبِيّ [Prophet] in Arabic. I do not separate myself from the Holy Prophet (saw) and make any claim. This is merely a dispute in semantics. Plentiful communion and conversation [with God] is alternatively called *prophethood*.

Look, the quote from Hazrat Aishah, may Allah be pleased with her, provides clarity on this issue: ‘Say, he (the Holy Prophet) is *Khatamun-Nabiyyin*—the Seal of the Prophets—but do not say that there is no Prophet after him’. If prophethood has been discontinued in Islam, then rest assured that Islam, too, has died and there is no distinctive Sign in it either. If a garden is abandoned and forgotten by its caretaker and gardener, and he remains unconcerned about watering it, then the result is obvious: it would dry up and become fruitless in a few years, and ultimately its wood would be used for fire.

In reality, the dispute between them and us is about terminology. They, too, acknowledge communion and converse [with God]. Mujaddid *alfe Sani* Sahib also acknowledges this. He writes that those holy men who have communication and converse with God in abundance are called *Muhaddath* and Prophets.

In any case, I ask if one receives news from God and conveys it to the world, what do you propose to call him in the Arabic language other than a Prophet? It is strange that if the purport of this word is explained in Urdu or Punjabi, they accept it, but if the same is presented in the Arabic language, they hate and reject it. Is this anything but prejudice?

There is one last thing and I deem it necessary to explain. These people might have deceived even the educated and civilized people in this matter, and might have tried to alienate them against me. Therefore, I consider it advisable to make it clear to you that God has sent me for the renewal of the Faith with His support and help by giving me fresh Signs. You should know for sure that if God had not sent me, this religion would also have become caged within ancient stories and anecdotes like other religions. One who comes from God is not allowed to perish. Ultimately, God makes his success manifest to the world.

These people have made use of lies, fabrications, false accusations, and many other machinations to slander me. They have tried very hard to make people entertain doubts about me and to halt my progress. Nonetheless, with the power of Allah I continued to make progress despite all this, and this is continuing so much so that there are now more than 400,000 members of my Jamaat present in different countries. The fact is that, when sensible people understand that this is the only way to prevail against the enemy, they firmly embrace it with a sincere heart. Now, those who believe that Jesus (as) did not die and is alive, while the Holy Prophet (saw) is dead and buried in Madinah—have they not mounted a grievous attack on the honour of the Holy Prophet (saw)?

And then they say that the same Israelite Prophet would come back to the world and reform the ummah of Muhammad (saw) and revive the Faith. Now, tell me how the Holy Prophet (saw) would continue to be *Khatamun-Nabiyyin* [the Seal of the Prophets] after an Israelite Prophet comes after the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him? By virtue of this doctrine, Jesus as would be *Khatamun-Nabiyyin* and not the Holy Prophet (saw). Most certainly not! Jesus as was himself a Prophet of God in his own right. Would his earlier shariah and prophethood become abrogated?

When we have received the promise in clear words in *Surah an-Nur* that the one to come would only come from within you—there is now no room for anyone to come from the outside. *Sahih al-Bukhari*, which is the most authentic book after the Book of Allah, also says إِمَامُكُمْ مِنْكُمْ 1 “Your Imam from among you”. And when his death [that of Jesus] is clearly proven from the Holy Quran and the Hadith, then why is such a doctrine maintained that is a belief that is totally against the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet (saw)? The Holy Prophet (saw) himself saw him [Jesus] among the Prophets who are deceased on the night of *Mi'raj* [Spiritual Ascension]. If he was alive, there should have been some other place designated for him rather than being with the deceased. The living and the dead have nothing in common.

In short, God through His Word and the Holy Prophet (saw) through his action have proven that he [Jesus] has already died.

فَمَاذَا بَعْدَ الْحَقِّ إِلَّا الضَّلَالُ

“So, what is left after truth but manifest error?” (10:33)

Now, being Muslims, if they do not accept the Quran and the word of the Messenger (saw), it is a choice that they make. They do not reject me but they reject the One from whom I have been sent and the one to whom I am enslaved. Set me and my rejection aside—they dare to reject the Holy Prophet (saw)! This is one and same thing—the Quran has set forth the promise of the coming of a Khalifah [Successor], and in the Hadith, the Khalifah to come in the Latter Days has been named *Messiah*. Where is there conflict in this? Allegations other than these are also likewise baseless and born out of obstinacy and prejudice. I have refuted them all in detail within my books. Some of their beliefs are such that they cause the heart of a true Muslim to tremble.

For example, they hold the belief that no one is free from the touch of Satan except Jesus, peace be upon him. What a shameful doctrine this is that they adhere to! Our Noble Prophet, the Best of all Prophets, the Leader of all holy men is not free from the touch of Satan (God forbid) but Jesus as is! How pitiable a scenario this is! God only knows what has become of them despite the fact that they are called Muslims.

Just look, this is what they think even about the Holy Prophet (saw); the Muslims themselves say with their own tongues what the Aryas and the Christians are saying. If our most beloved Prophet (saw) has passed away, following whom is a source of pride and honour for us and who is the cause of our salvation, then what do we care about Jesus as?

So, these are the issues for which I am denounced as a *kafir* [disbeliever] and a *dajjal* [deceiver]; and it is said that I am outside the pale of Islam; and that anyone who exchanges the greetings of peace with me, or shakes hands with me, or gives me audience becomes a *kafir* [disbeliever] as well. This apostasy is contagious and the entire Community is a body of apostates.

It is a pity that the one who is ever ready to rejuvenate and serve the exemplary life of the Holy Prophet (saw) and his religion, is abused with filthy language, and is given most foul names. I have chests full of their filthy abusive writings. At times I have received an unstamped letter, for which I had to pay postage, only to find that it has nothing but curses and abuses from beginning to end. They are known as *maulawis* [Muslim clergy] but hurl such filthy and obscene curses like the low class and crude, that one feels ashamed even reading them. And yet they claim that Islam is in need of no one because the Quran is there and the *maulawis* are there [to defend it]. Little do they know that their *maulawis*—who are the shepherds of these sheep—are themselves the wolves! What a perilous situation the flock is in, which does not have a shepherd.

Islam is being attacked from within and without and is being thrashed. Indeed, there was an urgent need for someone to clear the path by removing misunderstandings and enigmas, and by solving complex issues, and to present the original light and genuine brilliance of Islam to other nations. There was a time when Christians boasted that the Holy Prophet (saw) had no prophecy or miracles to his credit, and now no one dares to come face me even when I have been challenging them. This, indeed, was the will of God Almighty. He attended to and provided help to His Religion in a timely manner in accordance with His promise:

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

Verily, We Ourselves have sent down this Exhortation, and most surely, we will be its Guardian. (15:10)

Islam was established in the world by God. He disseminated the teachings of the Quran and it is He Himself who is responsible for its safeguarding as well. When even a human being waters the sapling he has planted assiduously to prevent it from drying up, then would God prove any more inept and careless than even a mere mortal? Remember it well that Islam will make progress today through the very same pathways that it made progress by following before. Dry logic is a bewitching ogress; it causes the faith of an ignorant person to falter, and worldly philosophies are totally opposed to spiritual philosophies.

Gentlemen! These are the matters for whose reformation I have been sent. I am also aware that some individuals will arise from this gathering without having effected any change whatsoever, and my address will not have had so much as the slightest impact on their viewpoints. Nonetheless, remember it well that anyone who opposes me, does not, in fact, oppose me, but comes into opposition with Him who sent me.

Even if a lowly peon is disrespected and his directive is not accepted, the one who is in contempt of the government or the one who is disobedient in this way is held accountable and punished. Then, how is it possible that disrespecting a person who comes from God and showing no regard to what he says would go unnoticed?

I assure you most certainly that if my Movement is not from God, it will fall into disarray by itself whether anyone opposes it or not, because God Almighty Himself says that:

وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ افْتَرَىٰ

Surely, he who forges a lie shall perish (20:62).

And

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ افْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا

And who is more unjust than he who forges a lie against Allah (6:22)

So one who fabricates a lie at night and tells the people during the day that God has told me so, how can such a one succeed and prosper? Allah the Exalted said to the Holy Prophet (saw):

وَلَوْ تَقَوَّلَ عَلَيْنَا بَعْضَ الْأَقَاوِيلِ

لَأَخَذْنَا مِنْهُ بِالْيَمِينِ

ثُمَّ لَفَطْنَا مِنْهُ الْوَتِينَ

And if he had falsely attributed even a trivial statement to Us, We would surely have seized him by the right hand, And then surely We would have severed his jugular vein (Surah al-Haqqah, 69:45–47).

If this is being said regarding such a glorious person, then for an ordinary human being, all that was needed was simply a small knife and the affair would have been settled long ago.

Here ends this long speech of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) which he delivered on 17th May 1908. Let us hope and pray that we keep in mind what he has said and we act accordingly incha Allah. Ameen !