

FRIDAY SERMON

03 April 2026

delivered by Imam Zafrullah Domun

Since we are living in really turbulent times these days, I have chosen to remind ourselves of the advices of Hazrat Masih Maood(as) that from time to time he advised the members of the jamaat. If we follow these advices we will incha Allah be able to get through these turbulent times arming ourselves with such noble qualities as patience, tolerance, brotherhood and good fellow feelings and knowing that Allah is watching over us and that He would protect us and provide for as He has always protected us and even more by His grace and by His Help.

We will start with Kishti Nuh (Noa's Ark) which was published in 1902 during the severe plague epidemic in India and is considered one of his most influential works, detailing the essence of his teachings and offering spiritual protection through faith. Hazrat Masih Maood(as) has asked members to read it at least three times in order to absorb what he has said. I hope members will make it their personal duty to read it to incha Allah know how to face hard times in life.

This book was published at a time when the plague was wreaking havoc in India, especially Punjab. In 1896, after a hiatus of a few hundred centuries, the plague awakened, reaching the shores of Mumbai. Soon the death toll reached thousands. The Promised Messiah^{as}, having published his foreknowledge on at least four prior occasions (*Majmu'ah-e-Ishtiharat*, Vol. 3, Announcements 182, 185, 189 & 210) and unable to bear fellow humans in pain, published another tract (*Announcement 237*) urging people to join his fold and save themselves from the wrath of God. His request was met with jest. He further stated that vaccines were a good measure that the then British government was taking to protect the people. However, those who are members of his household will be protected from the plague compared to all others. In 1902 he spoke of plague but today in 2026 we can apply the same teachings to the war that has broken up in the Middle East.

He said:

“Let it be clear that to affirm the covenant of *bai'at* with the tongue alone amounts to nothing unless it is practiced with full, heartfelt resolve. Thus, whosoever **fully acts upon**

my teachings enters that house of mine, concerning which God Almighty has promised in His Word:

إِنِّي أَحَافِظُ كُلَّ مَنْ فِي الدَّارِ

That is, I shall protect everyone who is within the four walls of your home. This should not be taken to mean only such people who dwell in my house made of brick and mortar; rather, this also refers to all those who follow me completely and dwell in my spiritual home.

To follow me, it is necessary for them to believe that they have an Omnipotent, Self-Sustaining God, who is the Creator of all things, and whose attributes are eternal, everlasting and unchangeable. He has no father and no son. He is above suffering, being crucified and killed. He is such that despite being far, He is near; and despite being near, He is far. Despite being One, His manifestations are diverse. For a person who brings about a change in himself, He becomes a new God for him and deals with him by means of a new manifestation. Thus, such a person experiences a change in God according to the change in himself. Yet no change takes place in God, for He is eternally unchangeable and possesses complete perfection, but when a person undergoes a transformation and begins to move towards virtue, God manifests Himself to such a person in a new way. At the time of every improved condition that manifests itself in a person, the manifestation of God Almighty's power also reveals itself to a greater extent. He manifests His might in an extraordinary way only when an extraordinary change takes place in a person. This is the root of all extraordinary happenings and miracles. **The God so described is the fundamental bedrock of my community.** Believe in Him and give precedence to Him over your own souls and comforts and over all your relationships; show sincerity and loyalty in His cause by exhibiting courage in your practice. Worldly people do not prefer Him over their means, and their kith and kin, but you ought to, so that you may be counted in heaven as belonging to His community.

It has been the practice of God since the remotest ages to manifest signs of His mercy, but you can partake of it only when nothing separates you from Him, His will becomes your will, His desire becomes your desire, and you remain prostrate at His threshold at all times and in all conditions—whether of success or failure—so that He may do whatever He wills. If you do so, then God, who has for so long kept His countenance hidden, will manifest Himself in you. Is there anyone from among you who will implement this and seek His pleasure, **without being dissatisfied by His will and decree?** So, when you encounter misfortune, you should step forth even more eagerly, for this is the means of your success. Exert all your power to spread the Oneness of God on earth. Show mercy to His servants and do not wrong them by your tongue or your hand or by any other means, and strive for the welfare of God's creation. Behave not arrogantly towards anyone even if he is your subordinate, **and revile not anyone even if he should revile you.** Become humble,

tolerant, well-intentioned and compassionate towards God's creation so that you may be accepted by God.

There are many who show meekness, but they are wolves from within. There are many who outwardly appear clean, but from within they are serpents. **You, therefore, cannot be accepted by God unless you are the same inside and out.** If you are above others, have mercy on the lowly and do not look down upon them. If you are learned, counsel the ignorant and do not degrade them with disdain. If you are wealthy, serve the poor, and do not treat them with arrogance and self-conceit. **Dread the ways of ruin and always be fearful of God.** Adopt righteousness and worship not His creation. Cut asunder from everything to turn to your Master. Turn your hearts away from the world and become wholly His; live for Him alone and, for His sake, hate every impiety and sin, for He is Holy. **Let every morning bear witness that you have spent the night in righteousness, and let every evening bear witness that you have spent the day with the fear of God.**

Be not afraid of the curses of the world, for they shall vanish before your eyes like smoke and cannot turn day into night. Fear instead the curse of God which descends from heaven and uproots its victims in both worlds. You cannot save yourselves with hypocrisy, for your God is He who sees the innermost depth of man.

Can you then deceive Him? So become straightforward, clean, pure and truthful. If even a particle of darkness is left within you, it will dispel all your light. And if you possess even the slightest arrogance, hypocrisy, self-conceit or sloth, **you are not worthy of being accepted.** Be careful lest a few accomplishments delude you to think that you have sufficiently fulfilled your purpose. **For God desires a complete transformation in your being and He demands from you a death whereafter He should revive you.** Hasten to make peace with one another and forgive your brethren their sins. For he who is not inclined to make peace with his brother is wicked and will be cut off, because he is the cause of dissension. **Part with your ego in every way and do away with mutual grievances.** Be humble like the guilty, though truth be on your side, so that you may be forgiven. Do not feed your vanity, for those who are bloated cannot enter the gate to which you have been called.

How unfortunate is the one who does not believe in that which has come from the mouth of God and which I have set forth? If you desire that God should be pleased with you in heaven, unite with one another as though you were brothers from the same womb. **The one who most forgives the transgressions of his brother is the more honourable among you.** Unfortunate is the one who is obstinate and does not forgive. Such a person has no part in me.

Be very fearful of God's curse, for He is **Holy and Jealous.** An evildoer cannot attain nearness to God. One who is arrogant cannot attain nearness to God. A wrongdoer cannot

attain nearness to God. He who is unfaithful cannot attain nearness to God. Every such person who is not jealously protective for the sake of God's name cannot attain His nearness. Those who fall upon the world like dogs, ants and vultures, and find their comfort in the world, cannot attain nearness to God. Every impure eye is far from Him; every impure heart is unaware of Him. He who burns for His sake will be delivered from the fire; he who weeps for His sake will laugh; and he who cuts asunder from the world for His sake will find Him. Befriend God with a true heart, full sincerity and complete eagerness, so that He too may befriend you. Have mercy on your subordinates and your wives and your less fortunate brethren so that you too may be shown mercy in heaven. Become truly His, so that He too may become yours.

The world is home to a thousand evils, one of which is also the plague. So, hold fast to God with sincerity so that He should safeguard you against all calamities. No calamity visits the earth until there is a command from heaven, and no affliction is alleviated until mercy descends from heaven. So, you would be wise to take hold of the root rather than the branch. You are not prohibited from having recourse to the necessary means and appropriate remedies, but you are forbidden to rely upon them. Ultimately, the will of God will prevail. **Complete trust in God, if one has the strength for it, is greater than all else.**" (P6)

Since we are facing really hard times, we should make it a habit to reinvigorate ourselves with these words from Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (as) who we have recognized as the Promised Messiah and Mahdi(as) as promised by Hazrat Muhammad Mustapha (saw). The teachings are clear we should bold enough to do as he expected of us. Allah has full sway over the world whether you like the thought or not. But it will be in our advantage to believe so and to act accordingly. May Allah help us all. Ameen!