

Summary Friday Sermon 31 December 2021

Delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Al-Khamis (a.b.a.)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) recited:

“If you help him not, then know that Allah helped him even when the disbelievers drove him forth while he was one of the two when they were both in the cave, when he said to his companion, ‘Grieve not, for Allah is with us.’ Then Allah sent down His peace on him, and strengthened him with hosts which you did not see, and humbled the word of those who disbelieved, and it is the word of Allah alone which is supreme. And Allah is Mighty, Wise.” (9:40)

His Holiness (aba) said that he would continue relating incidents regarding Hazrat Abu Bakr’s (ra) journey to the Cave of Thaur. The above verses were revealed by God Almighty in relation to this very incident.

His Holiness (aba) said that as the disbelievers stood by the cave, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) grew worried that they would find the Holy Prophet (sa). When the Holy Prophet (sa) saw his worry, he reassured him “Grieve not, for Allah is with us”.

His Holiness (aba) said that according to another narration, when Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) expressed his worry to the Holy Prophet (sa), he replied saying, ‘We are not alone, for the third among us is God?’. His Holiness (aba) quoted Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (ra), who said that even in a situation where the enemy was right outside, and if they glanced inside they would have found them, the Holy Prophet (sa) was resolute in trusting God. In fact his trust in God was so firm that it removed Hazrat Abu Bakr’s (ra) state of worry as well.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Promised Messiah (as) who said that it was during this trying time that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) truly exhibited his loyalty and trust. The disbelievers were bent on killing the Holy Prophet (sa), yet without any regard for what may come, he remained steadfast at the side of the Holy Prophet (sa). Furthermore, from among the companions at that time, the Holy Prophet (sa) chose Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) to accompany him during this trying time. This was done through divine knowledge bestowed upon the Holy Prophet (sa) by

God Almighty, informing him that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was the best person to accompany him.

Hazrat Asma (ra), the daughter of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) states that When her father migrated, he took most of his property with him which was worth between 5 to 6 thousand Darham. She says that when her grandfather, who was blind, heard about this, he said that this might put them in a crisis. Hazrat Asma (ra) assured her grandfather that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) had left enough wealth behind for them. She then made him touch a pile of stones as proof, which gave him peace of mind.

His Holiness (aba) said that after three days, as planned, Abdullah bin Uraiqit brought three camels to the cave, and they set out towards Madinah at night. His Holiness (aba) narrated various opinions of scholars regarding the date on which they set out from the cave towards Madinah.

His Holiness (aba) said that the Holy Prophet (sa) rode on a camel named al-Qaswa. As they left, the Holy Prophet (sa) looked in the direction of Makkah and said, ‘O Makkah, you are most dear to me, but your people do not allow me to stay here’. Then Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) said, ‘These people will surely perish for having driven out their prophet.’

His Holiness (aba) said that when they reached a place called Juhfa, God revealed the following verse:

“Most surely, He Who has made *the teaching of the Quran binding on thee will bring thee back to thy place of return. Say, ‘My Lord knows best who has brought the guidance, and who is in manifest error.’” (28:86)*

His Holiness said that the new year is beginning tomorrow. He prayed that may Allah make this new year blessed for the Community and its members. May the Community be kept safe from all evils, and may all the plots against this Community be foiled. May we be among those who witness the fulfillment of the promise made by God to the Promised Messiah (as). His Holiness (aba) said that we should enter into the new year with prayers. *Tahajjud* [pre-dawn voluntary prayers] should be offered, and many mosques are arranging for this. Those who have not yet made plans should do so. If it is not possible in congregation, then people should offer *Tahajjud* individually in their homes.

His Holiness (aba) said that along with *Durood Sharif* [salutations upon the Holy Prophet (sa)] and *Istighfar* [seeking forgiveness], the following prayers should be recited:

“Our Lord, let not our hearts become perverse after Thou hast guided us; and bestow on us mercy from Thyself; surely, Thou alone art the Bestower.” (3:9)

“Our Lord, forgive us our errors and our excesses in our conduct, and make firm our steps and help us against the disbelieving people.” (3:148)