

Summary Friday Sermon 29 April 2022
Delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba)

After Tashahhud, Ta'awwuz and Surah al-Fatihah, Huzur (aba) said:

The month of Ramadan came and passed by, spreading its blessings all around for people who tried to obtain them. A true and wise believer does and should remember that our responsibilities and duties do not go away when Ramadan has finished. In fact, Ramadan trains us to best fulfil our responsibilities and duties.

In fact, the purpose for fasting was to guide us toward the right goal.

If we forget how to fulfil our responsibilities and duties towards others after Ramadan, it would mean that we have not passed through Ramadan the way that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) had intended for us. It is written in a Hadith that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) stated that the five prayers become a source of redemption for sins committed between two Jummah's and the period between two Ramadans, with the exception of committing greater sins.

Thus if we don't perform good deeds and fulfil our responsibilities towards Allah and our fellow humans during the rest of the year, it would mean that we have not benefitted from the month of Ramadan. We usually pay special attention to prayers during the month of Ramadan but we must remember that one must offer his prayers on time, every day of the year. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) stated that "When you leave prayers, it pushes you closer towards blasphemy and apostasy" The Holy Prophet (pbuh) further stated that our prayers will be judged first on the day of Judgment. Thus, if one passes this judgment he succeeds. So it is intended for us to pray all the time, as there is no limited or specific time.

The Promised Messiah (as) has also emphasized the importance of prayer and has stated that our prayers should be the kind that results in increasing our love for God. It is not a correct practice to pray only when we face difficulties and forget all about prayer once our problems are solved. Or if we only pray during Ramadan. Such prayers, fasting or Jummah prayers cannot save us from evil.

The Promised Messiah (as) states that Salat is a special way of praying. However, people think of it as a tax to be paid towards the Lord. These unwitting people do not realise that God does not need these small acts of ours. What use would He have of humans constantly praising Him. This is in fact for the benefit of humans who can reach their goals by using this method of praying. Hazrat Masih-e-Moud (as) says I feels sorry that mankind has no love left for righteousness, prayers and honesty. They are unable to see the pleasures of prayer and are in fact ill and they should worry about illness.

Huzur (aba) says that if a man indulges completely in worldly matters, he would not care for attaining the benefits of prayers. However, The Promised Messiah (as) has given a solution for it. He states that: I see people not care for praying because they are unaware of the pleasures that prayers hold within them. Neither have they tasted of its pleasures. We should thus wholeheartedly pray to Allah Almighty that may He give us the opportunity to taste this pleasure of prayer in the same way we have experienced the pleasure of eating fruits and such.

Later on Huzur (aba) presented writings of The Promised Messiah (as) with regards to reading the Holy Quran, always giving preference to religion over worldly matters, always trying to increase brotherhood amongst each other and love for Allah. Huzur (aba) said, our plan of action is to offer prayers beautifully, read the Holy Quran and follow its commandments, give the rights of each other and always be ready for any sacrifice to promote the message of Allah (Tauheed). Thus, we should understand all this otherwise it's pointless to only perform the oath. Later on Huzur (aba) asked to pray for the betterment of the world and also for the Ahmadi prisoners in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Algeria.