

In the name of Allah Most Gracious most Merciful

The Imam started talking about the trip from this worldly life to the life after. About two weeks ago he talked about the time of death. Last Friday he talked about the life in the grave. Before talking about the resurrection he wanted to talk about the conditions and signs of the end of this worldly life. The purpose of talking about the end of life is to be taken as a lesson and a preachment. And to avoid doing what would generate Allah's anger. Today the talk will include some of the signs of the hour of the end of life known as the smaller or minor signs.

One of the sign mentioned is: the abundance of wealth and the lack of need for charity. Abo-Hurairah reported that the prophet (May peace be upon him) said {The hour of resurrection shall not occur until there will be so much wealth amongst you to the point that a man with the wealth seeking who would accept his charity. With who ever he approaches saying: "I have no desire nor need for it"}

Ibn Auday (ابن عدي) said: while I was with the prophet, may peace and prayers be upon him, a man came up and complained to him about poverty. Then another man came to him and complained about the robbers robbing travelers. The prophet said {Auday (عدي), have you seen the land of Heerah? Auday said: Never been to it but I have heard of it. He said: If you were given a long life you shall see a violence free Heerah, to the point that one would leave Heerah all the way to Kaaba (in Mekkah) fearing nothing but Allah.}. Auday said "I said to my self where are all the gangsters of Taie (طيء) who made the land unbearable. The prophet said: "and if your life gets even longer you shall win the treasures of Kisra" meaning the king of Persia. I said "You mean Kisra the son of Hormuz?" He said "Kisra the son of Hormuz. And if your life would still be longer you shall see a man takes out as donation; a handful of gold or silver seeking some one to accept it, and he shall find not someone to take it off him". Later on in his life Auday said:"Well, I lived and saw a violence free Heerah, where people travel from Heerah to Mekka with no fear except from Allah. And I was amongst the Muslim army who won the treasures of Kisra son of Hurmuz. And if your life will extend you shall see the rest of what the prophet had said."

Well, much of the prophet had told us has indeed materialized. There was an abundance of wealth after the prophet and during the life time of his companions; due to treasures taken after winning wars against the Persian and the Roman empires. There was so much abundance of wealth in the life of the Khalifa Omar ben Abdul-Azeez. Then, a man offering a charity could find no takers. Also towards the end of this worldly life; there will be an abundance of wealth that one shall not find takers to offered money.

Another sign or condition of the end of this life is the spread of temptations. And a temptation meaning testing and the term was used to describe everything bad or the consequence of anything bad like sin, disbelieve in God, murder and other undesirable things. The prophet peace be upon him told us about the great temptations of the end of life. In them truth is covered by falsehood. Temptations that shake belief such; a man be a believer in the morning and becomes an unbeliever by the evening. Every time a temptation appears, a believer says is this going to be my demise? But it gets cleared and another will come and he says: is it this one, or this one. And so on, temptation shall continue appearing amongst people until the final hours.

The prophet peace be upon him said: "At the end of life there will be temptations like the chunks of the dark night, a man can be a believer in the morning and becomes a unbeliever at night, selling his belief with some of what this worldly life offers"

He was also reported saying: "It was only right for each prophet before me to guide his nation to what he knew; and warns them from the bad he knew. This nation of yours; it was made at its best in its early part. Towards the end it shall be infected with temptations and undesirable situations. Each temptation will belittle other temptations before it. A temptation strikes and the believer will say: is it this one or this one. This who wishes to be dislodged off the hell fire and be entered into paradise let his time of death comes to him/her when he/she believes in Allah and in the day after."

The prophet told us to fortify our selves with Allah from the temptations and the tests; the clear to see ones and the hidden ones".

Nowadays, we see the temptations and calamities occurring to the nation one after the next. And also, one temptation is worst than the one before.

One of the greatest temptations the prophet may peace be upon him warned us about was the imitation of the previous nations like the Jews and the Christians. Some of us now days have imitated the unbelievers in looks and in behaviour. They are so impressed by them. The prophet said: {The hour shall not come until my nation shall take after the older nations before it bit by bit. They said: "Like the Persians and the Romans?" He said: "And are there others?"} and another narration : They said: "Like the Jews and the Christians? And he said "Who else."

One of the other minor signs of the ending hour; is the appearance of those who falsely claim to be prophets. There will be round thirty of them. Some have already made this false claim at the time of the prophet; and at the time of the companions; and some are still appearing. The prophet said "The hour will not occur until nearly thirty false liars shall appear; all claiming to be messengers of Allah." In recent times one of those claiming to be a prophet in India his name was: "Mizra Ahmad Gadiani" He falsely claimed to be the awaited Messiah. The scholars proved he was a liar and a falsifier. Those liars will continue to appear one after the other until the very last. The prophet said "The hour will not occur until nearly thirty false liars shall appear; the last of them shall have one bad eye or the One-eye liar."

One of the signs of the time of the hour is the loss of honesty or trustworthiness. The prophet said: "If honesty is lost then expect the hour to occur. Some one asked: "and how is it that honesty gets lost?" the prophet said: "If things to be done are given to the wrong individuals then expect the hour"

Hodaifa said the prophet peace be upon him; told us two things. I saw one and I am still waiting for the other. He told us that honesty was brought down in the root of men's hearts. They learned from the Quran and knew from the Sunnah. Then he told us about how it shall be lifted up again, he said: "The man shall go into some sleep, the honesty is gripped from his heart. Only a sign of trace will remain.

Then he will go into another sleep and it will be gripped yet again. and the trace will leave a rough blister, Like the mark left by a burning stone, which can be seen inflamed. With nothing in the heart, people will enter into deals; and no one will honor his commitments. It shall be said: that in such and such people; there is an honest man. And it shall be said about a man: "How wise he is, and how cool and how wonderful he is, and yet there is not as much as a tiny grain of belief in his heart. Time came upon me that I didn't mind from whom I took a promise or a pledge. If one were a Muslim; then Islam will hold him at his promise and if he were a Christian then his interest will keep it. But in such a day (in the future) I would only take a promise or a pledge from such a person and such a person only."

This shows that time shall come that once a man was honest he shall become a traitor. This only occurs to those who no longer fear Allah. And whose belief has gone weak, and those who integrate with the traitors so they become so.

Unfortunately, much cheating and dishonesty has spread amongst some of the Muslims; may Allah guides them. Cheating and dishonesty in business, industry, agriculture and in general dealings with people except for the few whom Allah has blessed. We pray to Allah to fix our ways, and improve our actions.