

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

The Amīr/National President
Jamā‘at Ahmadiyya,

.....

Dear Brother,

السلام علیکم ورحمة اللہ وبرکاتہ

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) gave an insightful discourse on the need and importance of religion and illustrated its relationship with spirituality, moral conduct, and material progress.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: God made moral reformation and worldly progress dependent upon religion, so that man may acquire all these bounties by following just one basic principle. By adopting the true religion, man can acquire all worldly blessings, provided one has faith capable of absorbing Allāh’s grace.

On 24 April 2015, Hazrat Khalīfatul-Masīh V (May Allāh be his Helper) delivered the Friday Sermon at the Baitul Futūh Mosque, Morden, London.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: A question keeps nagging the minds of the youth in particular and the public at large: ‘If someone has good morals, and if the worldly education leads a person to good moral attitude, why is there any need for following a religion, since the purpose of religion itself is to teach good morals?’

In answer to the question, Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) quoted references from a Friday Sermon delivered by Hazrat Musleh Mau‘ūd رضی اللہ عنہ and said: Shedding light on the relationship that religion has with morality and material progress, Hazrat Musleh Mau‘ūd رضی اللہ عنہ said: It is hard to separate religion from morality and fulfilment of man’s physical needs since they all are well-related to each other. One who believes in religion cannot separate it from morality. Nor can such a person say that religion has made him independent of the world or that he is no longer in need of worldly objects. To believe oneself not to be in need of any worldly object would hinder the path of human and material progress.

In other words, religion, morality and material progress are all well-related to each other. However, they are distinguishable as well. Reflecting upon these matters, one finds that material progress, morality and religion are so related to each other that for

an ordinary man it is hard to decide their boundaries. Therefore, to understand these matters, we will have to study the blessed life of the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: The Holy Prophet ﷺ has expounded all the necessary details regarding the correlation between spirituality, morality and man's material progress. However, he never declared every matter to be an essential part of religion. Unfortunately, by declaring their personal ideas to be part of religion, people these days spread ignorance in the world. Being Ahmadīs, however, we are fortunate that the Promised Messiah عليه السلام protected us from ignorance and guided us towards studying the blessed life of the Holy Prophet ﷺ so as to know the truth.

The Holy Prophet ﷺ said that true faith is to adopt moderation in all matters giving due consideration to each one of them. Also, the Holy Prophet ﷺ said that while the worship of God is extremely important an act, one also has to fulfil the rights of one's own self as well as those of one's wife and neighbours. When everyone in society will be acting upon this principle, the society will become a role model of spiritual, moral and material progress.

Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) said: To reform the world in this age, God has sent the Promised Messiah عليه السلام. In fact, it is at such times that God sends His messengers to the world, so that by imparting proper guidance to mankind they may put things, such as religion, morality and material progress, in perspective. Although, their message is apparently concerned with spirituality, the other two matters are also related to it. Spiritual excellence results in moral rectification and moral rectification helps one obtain material progress. However, it will be wrong to suggest that all those who are making material progress are morally upright. Again, it is not necessary that one who has good morals must also be following the true religion.

God wants man to turn to Him and this is what the purpose of man's creation is. This is why God made moral rectification and material progress dependent upon religion, so that one who turns to religion should be able to find everything by following one basic principle.

God says that a perfect believer is blessed with all kinds of progress. But, those who are lost in worldly pursuits exhaust all their energies in this path and thus fail to make spiritual progress. This tells us that the means of obtaining the three objectives are quite different from each other. However, there is one mutual way as well and that is to establish a perfect relationship with Allāh. Moral rectification shall result in moral progress, and pursuit of worldly advancement shall result in material progress, and the efforts made for these things will only result in benefits peculiar to these fields. However, those who strive for spiritual advancement are granted all kinds of bounties.

In short, by adopting the true religion, one can acquire all worldly blessings, provided one has faith capable of absorbing Allāh's grace. How can the one who is blessed with perfect faith abandon high morals? If man should observe all the various aspects of a good moral conduct, he will be granted the ability to speak the truth, become honest and fair in his dealings, and adopt Taqwa and purity. This will also enable him to obtain worldly progress. It is for this reason that a believer should focus his attention upon improving his spirituality and relationship with Allāh.

Please convey these guidelines given by Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) to members of your Jamā'at.

Jazākumullāh.

Wassalām,

(Hameedullah)

Wakīl A'lā,

Tahrīk Jadīd Anjuman Ahmadiyya Pakistan

Dated: 30 April 2015