



Summary Friday Sermon 2 December 2022 Delivered by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V (aba)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta`awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) said that he would continue highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

Huzur (aba) said that once Hazrat Salman (ra), Hazrat Sohaib (ra) and Hazrat Bilal (ra) were sitting among people when Abu Sufyan arrived, upon which some people expressed their feelings about taking revenge upon Abu Sufyan. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) heard this he said to them, “you people should not speak in this manner about the leaders of the Quraish”. Later on, when Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) went to the Holy Prophet (pbuh), he said to him, “oh Abu Bakr you have probably said something that has angered Salman, Sohaib and Bilal, and in doing so you have also angered your God”. When Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) heard this he went back to these three disciples of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) and asked them whether they were angry with him. To this they replied that it was not so. This event shows us the humility of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), that he was willing to ask for forgiveness from the people he himself had freed from slavery.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Promised Messiah (as) who said that by being selected as the one to accompany the Holy Prophet (sa) during the migration, and being alongside the Holy Prophet (sa) from the beginning of the all the hardships he was made to face shows that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was the best among all people. He always tended to the Holy Prophet’s (sa) matters and it was thus that in a time of difficulty, God chose Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) to be the one who accompanied and comforted the Holy Prophet (sa).

Hazrat MuslehMaoud (ra) says with regards to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), “is it not true that mighty kings of the world took the name of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), Hazrat (ra) Umar and Hazrat Abu Huraira(ra) with utmost respect, and wished to have been able to serve them. Who can then say that these three disciples of the Holy Prophet (pbuh) lost anything by living a simple life. Indeed, by not choosing the worldly life, they were given an eternal spiritual life which would last till the day of Judgement”.

Hazrat Musleh Maoud (ra) says that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) was an ordinary businessman from Mecca and would have remained so if the Holy Prophet (pbuh) had not been born there. So, by following the Holy Prophet (pbuh), Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) excelled to the state that the whole world speaks his name with respect.

His Holiness (aba) further quoted Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad (ra) who said that it is due to the great services and sacrifices made by Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) that he is so highly regarded even today. There is no king or leader today who has the same rank or honour possessed by Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra).

Hazrat Musleh Maoud (ra) says that one of the sons of Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) who accepted Islam much later, once said to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), “once in a battle, while I was hiding behind a stone, you passed twice in front of me. Had I wanted to I could have killed you twice but I did not, because you are my father”. Hazrat Abu Bakr(ra) replied to his son, “I had not seen you then, because had I seen you, I would surely have killed you because you were there as an enemy of Allah”.

His Holiness (aba) quoted the Promised Messiah (as) who said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) possessed the intrinsic qualities required for enlightenment, which is why upon hearing the message of the Holy Prophet (sa), he accepted it immediately without hesitation. Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Abu Jahl were born in the same place, both saw the same signs, and the Holy Prophet (sa) conveyed the message equally to everyone. However, those who were pure natured like Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) obtained guidance, and those who were influenced by Satan like Abu Jahl remained bereft.

The Promised Messiah (as) says that Allah Almighty has made Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra), Hazrat Umar (ra) and Hazrat Usman (ra) the doors of Islam and the leaders of the army of the Holy Prophet (pbuh). I fear for the fate of those people who do not show respect to these three or do not accept their greatness.

His Holiness (aba) continued quoting the Promised Messiah (as) who said that Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Umar (ra) were the followers of the highest rank, who always fulfilled their duties and who always choose righteousness and justice as their ultimate goal. Both Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Umar (ra) are buried in a place where even Moses (as) and Jesus (as) would have longed to be buried. However, this was a mercy bestowed upon Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) and Hazrat Umar (ra) by God.