

❧ THE KEY TO KNOWLEDGE ❧

How to Understand Islaam Correctly

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Dars 18- `Aqeedah—The Major Signs of the Existence of the Hour

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After praising Allaah and sending salaah and salaam upon His Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam) and those who followed him, our Shaykh and teacher, Muhammad Al-Malki welcomed the students to today's class. We will deal with: **The major signs of the existence of the Hour**

These are ten signs, as comes in the *hadeeth* of Hudhayfah bin `Aseed as it is in Saheeh Muslim. Hudhayfah bin Aseed Al-Ghifari reported: *"Allaah's Messenger (sallAllaahu `alayhi wasallam) came to us all of a sudden as we were (busy in a discussion). He said: 'Concerning what are you discussing?' They (the Companions) said: 'We are discussing about the Last Hour.' Thereupon he said: 'It will not come until you see before it ten signs (in this connection) he made a mention of the smoke, Dajjaal, the beast, the rising of the sun from the west, the descent of Jesus son of Mary (Allaah be pleased with him), the Gog and Magog, and land-slidings in three places, one in the east, one in the west and one in Arabian Peninsula, at the end of which fire would burn forth from the Yemen, and would drive people to the place of their assembly (or resurrection).'"*

These are the ten signs which will approach and exist before the Hour. As for yesterday, we talked about the remote/far sign which have already occurred.

THE REMOTE SIGNS

1. The prophethood of Prophet Muhammad (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam)
2. The fire that occurred in *hijaaz* (i.e. the chain of mountains of *sarawaat* which are between the Red Sea and the desert. These mountains extend from Yemen until Jordan along the coast of the Red Sea.) But the fire that we will speak about today is different, for indeed this fire will only occur in Yemen; it will not light up the necks of the camels in Busraa, rather, it will drive the people until they gather in one place, which is the land of Resurrection of death.

THE MAJOR SIGNS

As for **the coming of the Mahdee**, it is as it has been mentioned in the *hadeeth* collected by Aboo Dawood and At-Tirmidhee, the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said:

"The world shall not come to an end until a man from my family rules over the Arabs. His name will be the same as my name, and his father's name will also be the same as my father's name. He will fill the world with justice and fairness, just as it was filled with tyranny and injustice."

This is **the first of the major signs**; once the first of them occurs, then the remaining signs will occur one after another, very fast like when you cut the thread of the *Subhah*, and see how fast the seeds go out of it.

As for **the second sign**, it is **the emergence of the *Dajjaal*** (Anti-Christ). The *Dajjaal* is a man from the descendants of Aadam (`alayhis-salaam). He will come at the end of time, and he will show the people things that make the people believe that he is Allaah. Allaah Ta`Aalaa will permit him to do and show some things that will be a trial and test to the *Eemaan* of the people, and many who were *kuffaar* and hypocrites will follow him. As it is in Saheeh Muslim on the authority of `Abdullaah bin `Amr bin Al-`Aas, the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“The Dajjaal will appear in my nation and shall stay for forty.”*** The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) or the narrator said, ***“I cannot say whether he meant forty days, forty months or forty years. After that, Allaah will send `Eesaa bin Maryam who will resemble 'Urwa bin Mas'ood (i.e. in image)...”*** He was one of the companions called `Urwa bin Mas`ood Ath-Thaqafee (radhiyallaahu `anhu), and it was said that if the Qur'aan was descended to one of the two noble men who are from two towns, it would be `Urwa bin Mas`ood from Taa`if and Aboo Jahl bin Hishaam from Makkah.

And in Saheeh Bukhaaree and Muslim, the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“I forewarn you about him (i.e. the Dajjaal); there was never a prophet before except that he warned his people of him. Nooh (`alayhis-Salaam) had warned his people of him, however, I shall tell you concerning him something that no prophet has ever told his people about. You should know that he is one-eyed, whereas Allaah is certainly not.”***

As for the **third major sign**, it is **the descending of `Eesaa bin Maryam** who is going to kill the *Dajjaal*. `Eesaa bin Maryam is going to descend from the heavens directly on a white minaret in the east of Damascus. He shall descend to the earth as a fair ruler. He will break the cross, kill the pigs, and slay the *Dajjaal*, as many ahaadeeth have proved. As in Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim on the authority of Aboo Hurayrah, who said that the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“By Him in Whose Hand my soul is, `Eesaa bin Maryam will shortly descend among you as a just ruler, and he shall destroy the cross, kill the pig, and abolish the jizyah (i.e. Tax which is paid to the Muslims for providing protection and other services to those non-Muslims who want to remain on their religion and not accept Islaam while living in the Muslim lands.) Then there will be abundance of wealth and nobody will accept charitable gifts (as sadaqah, zakaah or even a gift). And a single sajdah will be more rewarding than the whole world and whatever is therein.”***

This is because people will be so busy with taking care of *dunyaa* and not having any time to look into the *Aakhirah*.

The **fourth major sign** is **the emergence of the Gog and Magog**. They are a creation which Allaah Ta`Aalaa has created, and it is said that they are from the children of Yaafith, the son of Nooh (`alayhis-salaam), and Allaah knows best. They are so many in number, to the point that no one is able to fight them. The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) informed us that they passed by the lake of

Tabariyyah in Jordan, and they drank it all, leaving only dry land. Allaah Ta`Aalaa informed us about them as in Soorah Al-Anbiyaa:

﴿ حَقٌّ إِذَا فُتِحَتْ يَأْجُوجُ وَمَأْجُوجُ وَهُمْ مِّن كُلِّ حَدَبٍ يَنْسِلُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾ وَأَقْتَرَبَ
 الْوَعْدُ الْحَقُّ فَإِذَا هِيَ شَاخِصَةٌ أَبْصَرُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُواِ يُؤَلِّينَا قَدَكُنَّا فِي غَفْلَةٍ مِّنْ
 هَذَا بَلَّ كُنَّا ظَالِمِينَ ﴾

Until, when Ya'juj and Ma'juj (Gog and Magog) are let loose (from their barrier), and they swiftly swarm from every mound. And the true promise (Day of Resurrection) shall draw near (of fulfillment). Then (when mankind is resurrected from their graves), you shall see the eyes of the disbelievers fixedly stare in horror. (They will say): "Woe to us! We were indeed heedless of this; nay, but we were *Zalimoon* (polytheists and wrong-doers, etc.)." (Al-Anbiyaa` 21:96-97)

The Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) has informed us much about their news. He (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said that their faces are like the plate of metal which was levelled by the hammer. This means that they have straight faces, and that is why many people think that they are the people of China; that is incorrect because Gog and Magog are behind the dam which Dhul-Qarnayn built. They try to break that dam/wall daily, but it will not be broken until the time when Allaah Ta`Aalaa determined and decreed for it to be destroyed and they come out of it. This is only known by Allaah.

As for the **fifth major sign**, it is **the demolition of the Ka`bah**. As it is collected by Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim on the authority of Aboo Hurayrah (radhiyallaahu `anhu), the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, "*Dhus-Suwayqa-tain (literally: One with two lean legs) from Ethiopia will demolish the Ka`bah.*"

And it is collected in the Musnad of Imaam Ahmad on the authority of `Abdullaah bin `Amr bin Al-`Aas, that he heard the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) saying, "*Dhus-Suwayqatayn from Al-Habasha (Abyssinia or Ethiopia) will destroy the Ka`bah and steal its treasure and Kiswah (cover). It is as if I could see him now: he is bald-headed and has a distortion in his wrists. He will strike the Ka`bah with his spade and pick-axe.*" This hadeeth is authentic.

As for the **sixth major sign**, it is **the smoke**. It is a huge amount of heavy smoke that comes from the sky, and it will cover all of the people. It will cause them worry and sadness, and it will be a kind of dissembling to them. And it is also mentioned in the hadeeth of the ten major signs of the Hour which was narrated by Hudhayfah bin Aseed (radhiyallaahu `anhu) and collected in Saheeh Muslim. And Allaah Ta`Aalaa mentioned it in Soorah Ad-Dukhaan:

﴿ فَارْتَقِبْ يَوْمَ تَأْتِي السَّمَاءُ بِدُخَانٍ مُّبِينٍ ﴿١٠﴾ يَغْشَى النَّاسَ هَذَا عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ﴾

Then wait you for the Day when the sky will bring forth a visible smoke. (10) Covering the people, this is a painful torment. (Ad-Dukhaan 44:10-11)

And the **seventh major sign** of the hour is that **the Qur`aan shall be lifted and retrieved from the earth back to the heavens**. It will be to the extent that no single ayah, whether it had been written down in a book or committed to memory, all of it shall be taken away.

On the authority of Hudhayfah bin Al-Yamaan (radhiyallaahu `anhu) that the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, *“Islam will become worn out like clothes are, until there will be no-one who knows what fasting, prayer, charity and rituals are. The Qur`aan will disappear in one night, and no ayah will be left on earth.”* [Ibn Maajah]

As for the **eighth major sign** of the hour, it is **the rising of the sun from the west**. As Allaah Ta`Aalaa said,

﴿يَوْمَ يَأْتِي بَعْضُ آيَاتِ رَبِّكَ لَا يَنْفَعُ نَفْسًا إِيْمَانُهَا لَمْ تَكُنْ ءَامَنَتْ مِن قَبْلُ أَوْ كَسَبَتْ فِي إِيمَانِهَا خَيْرًا قُلِ﴾

“...The Day that some of the signs of your Lord will come no soul will benefit from its faith as long as it had not believed before or had earned through its faith some good...” (Al-An`aam 6:158)

It has been collected in Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree and Muslim on the authority of Aboo Hurayrah that the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, *“The Hour will not be established till the sun rises from the West; and when it rises (from the West) and the people see it, they all will believe. And that is (the time) when no good will it do to a soul to believe then if it had neither believed, nor earned some good from its faith before.”*

That is why everyone needs to prepare themselves for such times by performing a lot of obedience, good deeds and seeking knowledge. This is because knowledge strengthens the *Eemaan*, and the person who has strong *Eemaan* during those days will benefit from his *Eemaan*.

As for the **ninth major sign** of the hour, it is **the emergence of the beast**. It is a prodigious, hairy and legged creature whose length is believed to be sixth cubits. It is also assumed that it is a different creature bearing resemblance to many of the animals we know. Allaah Ta`Aalaa informed us about this, as in Soorah An-Naml,

﴿وَإِذَا وَقَعَ الْقَوْلُ عَلَيْهِمْ أَخْرَجْنَا لَهُمْ دَابَّةً مِّنَ الْأَرْضِ تُكَلِّمُهُمْ أَنَّ النَّاسَ كَانُوا بِآيَاتِنَا لَا يُوقِنُونَ﴾

And when the Word (of torment) is fulfilled against them, We shall bring out from the earth a beast to them, which will speak to them because mankind believed not with certainty in Our Aayaat (Verses of the Qur`aan and Prophet Muhammad [sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam]). (Al-Naml 27:82)

So the beast will speak to the people at its time and tell them that the people before them did not believe in the signs of Allaah. And the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) informed us, as it comes in Saheeh Muslim that He (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“There are three events that if they occur, the faith of a person will not benefit him if he did not previously believe or if he did not earn good by his faith: the rising of the sun from the west, the coming of the Dajjaal, and the appearance of the Beast from the earth.”***

It was narrated from Aboo Umaamah (radhiyallaahu `anhu) that the Prophet (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said: ***“The Beast will emerge and mark the people on their noses, then their numbers [i.e., those who have been marked on the nose] will increase among you until a man will buy a camel, and they will say, ‘Who did you buy it from?’ and he will say, ‘I bought it from one of those with a mark on their noses.’”*** [Ahmad]

As for **the tenth major sign** of the Hour, it is **the outbreak of a raging fire which will drive to people until it brings them all to one land**, and that will be the land of their judgment, as in the *hadeeth* of Hudhayfah bin Aseed, the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“...at the end of which fire would burn forth from the Yemen (Aden), and would drive people to the place of their assembly (or land of resurrection).”***

And also, it is narrated by Aboo Hurayrah (radhiyallaahu `anhu) and collected by At-Tabaraanee, the Messenger (sallallaahu `alayhi wasallam) said, ***“The signs will come one after the other, like beads falling from a string.”***

For that reason, it is imperative that we do our best today to please Allaah Ta`Aalaa while we are still in the times where we can do something, before it is all over, and one can do nothing but watch what he has earned in his book of deeds whether good or bad.

We now end by praising Allaah and sending salaah and salaam upon the Messenger of Allaah.

❧END OF DARS EIGHTEEN❧