

# MIFTAAH SEMINAR

## SIGNS BEFORE THE HOUR



Mufti Sultan Mohammed

### About the Hour

- Benefits of knowing the signs of the Day of Judgement:
  - Through these signs, we see the truthfulness of the Prophet SAW.
    - He SAW said these signs very long ago and there was no way that he SAW would be able to know them if he was not a Prophet.
    - This should increase our Iman.
  - We have a warning and therefore, we are able to better handle the signs and the Day.
    - When we know something is coming, it can make it easier to bear, although the Day of Judgment will be a very difficult day.
- Allah SWT states in Surah Al-A'raaf:

يَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ السَّاعَةِ أَيَّانَ مُرْسَاهَا قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ رَبِّي لَا يُجَلِّيهَا لِوَقْتِهَا إِلَّا هُوَ ثَقُلَتْ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا تَأْتِيكُمُ إِلَّا بَغْتَةً  
يَسْأَلُونَكَ كَأَنَّكَ حَفِيٌّ عَنْهَا قُلْ إِنَّمَا عِلْمُهَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ  
النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

They ask you concerning the Hour, when will its coming be? Say: 'The knowledge of it is with my Lord alone: none but He will disclose it at its time. That will weigh heavily on the heavens and the earth; and it shall not come to you other than all of a sudden.' They ask you - as if you are eagerly inquisitive about it - concerning it. Say to them: 'The knowledge of it is with none except Allah. But most people are unaware of this reality.' (Al-A'raaf 187)

- In this ayah, Allah SWT tells us that no one knows about the Day of Judgement except Himself.
  - Many companions were curious about the Day and they would continuously ask the Prophet SAW about it.
  - Hudaifah bin Yamaan RA would ask about the Day of Judgment a lot. The other companions asked him why he always asked about it, and he said it is so he can prepare for it.
- Hadith of Jibreel AS:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ كَانَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ بَارِزًا يَوْمًا لِلنَّاسِ، فَأَتَاهُ جِبْرِيلُ فَقَالَ مَا الْإِيمَانُ قَالَ " الْإِيمَانُ أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَبِلِقَائِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ، وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْبَعْثِ ". قَالَ مَا الْإِسْلَامُ قَالَ " الْإِسْلَامُ أَنْ تَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكَ بِهِ، وَتُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةَ، وَتُؤَدِّيَ الزَّكَاةَ الْمَفْرُوضَةَ، وَتَصُومَ رَمَضَانَ ". قَالَ مَا الْإِحْسَانُ قَالَ " أَنْ تَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ كَأَنَّكَ تَرَاهُ، فَإِنْ لَمْ تَكُنْ تَرَاهُ فَإِنَّهُ يَرَاكَ ". قَالَ مَتَى السَّاعَةُ قَالَ " مَا الْمَسْئُولُ عَنْهَا بِأَعْلَمَ مِنَ السَّائِلِ

One day while the Prophet (ﷺ) was sitting in the company of some people, (The angel) Gabriel came and asked, "What is faith?" Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) replied, 'Faith is to believe in Allah, His angels, (the) meeting with Him, His Apostles, and to believe in Resurrection.'" Then he further asked, "What is Islam?" Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) replied, "To worship Allah Alone and none else, to offer prayers perfectly to pay the compulsory charity (Zakat) and to observe fasts during the month of Ramadan." Then he further asked, "What is Ihsan (perfection)?" Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) replied, "To worship Allah as if you see Him, and if you cannot achieve this state of devotion then you must consider that He is looking at you." Then he further asked, "When will the Hour be established?" Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) replied, "The answerer has no better knowledge than the questioner."

- The Prophet SAW answered all of Jibreel's questions until he got to the question about the Day of Judgement because only Allah SWT knows about it.
- In another hadith, Abu Zaid RA said that the Prophet SAW came to the masjid and led fajr. Then he SAW went up to the pulpit and began to give a khutbah. This was not the typical routine of the Prophet SAW, so the companions were all alerted. The Prophet SAW started to speak about the signs of the Day of Judgement. This khutbah went on through dhuhr and asr up until maghrib.
  - Whoever was able to remember what was said on this day was able to relay it to the best of their ability.
- The signs are not in any specific order because several companions remembered different signs in different orders.

- This is because more people were not able to record or take notes at that time, so different people remember different things.
- The main signs are recorded, but for a lot of the other signs, we know they will happen but we do not know the exact order.

## Minor Signs of The Day of Judgment

### 1. The disappearance of knowledge and the appearance of ignorance

- This does not necessarily refer to having an abundant amount of information.
- Today we have access to a lot of information, but this is not real knowledge.
- Knowledge is something that Allah SWT blesses a person with.
  - This person will be able to use that knowledge to benefit others and get closer to Allah SWT.
- In another hadith, the Prophet SAW clarified what this means. He SAW said: "Knowledge will be uplifted by the death of scholars".
- The abundance of ignorance that is apparent today is what leads to a lot of the problems that we see in society, including racism and islamophobia.

## 2. Increase of adultery and fornication

- This would occur during the life of the Prophet SAW as well, but at that time it was somewhat despicable.
  - People would feel some shame when they did it, and it was not as easy to do as it is today.
- The Prophet SAW said that the eyes, hands, and ears fornicate.
  - Today, there are several impermissible things that are easily accessible for people to engage in.
- Adultery: someone is married and cheats on their spouse
- Fornication: someone who is unmarried commits zinah
- These kinds of sins are very normalized in society today.
  - We should not judge those who fall into it, but we should protect ourselves from anything that can lead to it.
- Allah SWT tells us in Surah Al-Isra:

وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزَّانِيَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَاحِشَةً ۖ وَسَاءَ سَبِيلًا

Do not even come near fornication for it is an outrageous act, and an evil way (Al-Isra 32)

- Allah SWT does not tell us not to do it, but He says do not come near it.
- This is because Shaytan slowly leads us down steps that eventually lead us to adultery/fornication.

- It may start as a casual conversation with someone and slowly lead to something much worse.
  - Allah SWT has placed restrictions on us in terms of how we interact with the opposite gender. When we do not abide by these restrictions, we fall into the sins of adultery and fornication.
3. Intoxication
- This refers to alcohol, drugs, etc.
4. Decrease of men and increase of women
- Today there are a lot more women than there are men.
5. Haraj will increase
- Haraj means mass murder.
  - The Prophet SAW said: “The killer will not know why he/she is killing and the one who is being killed will not know why he/she is being killed”.
6. Wealth will be shared amongst the rich people, with no benefit to the poor.
- This is what happens with interest.
  - Interest is designed to make the rich people richer and the poor people poorer.
7. Amaanah will become a means of making profit.
- An amaanah is a trust.
    - It is when you trust a person with information or something physical.
  - People will use an amaanah against someone to make money off of them.

- This is very common today.
  - When someone tells someone a secret, many times that person goes and tells other people that information.
  - People use information to blackmail others.
- To prevent this from happening to ourselves, we must be very trustworthy.

#### 8. Paying zakah becomes a burden

- People start to think of loopholes so that they do not have to pay zakah.
- Zakah becoming a burden does not mean that when a person gives zakah they will become poorer. This means that people will become so attached to their money that when it is time to give zakah they feel like it is a burden to give up some money.
- This is the reason that we have so much poverty in our community.

#### 9. Disobedience to parents

- This is extremely prevalent today.
- People speak to their parents disrespectfully on a daily basis.
- Even if we disagree with our parents we must be respectful about it.
- In the Quran, Allah SWT tells us that the only time that we are allowed to say 'no' to our parents is if they tell us to do something haram. Even then we must speak to them respectfully.



10. Voices are raised in the masjid
  - The Prophet SAW said: When the voices are raised in the masjid then expect red winds to start blowing and the earth to start quaking and the Day of Judgement to be right around the corner.
  - This does not mean that people should not speak in the masjid at all. It means that during the time of worship, people should not speak.
  - While people were praying, the Prophet SAW would tell others not to read the Quran out loud because it might distract those who are praying.
11. The leader of the people is the worst of them
  - The Prophet SAW said: When the affairs of people are handed over to the wrong authority, then wait for the Day of Judgment”.
  - If the leaders of the world today were sincere about their actions and if they were good people, we would not have many of the problems that we have in society today.
12. Respect out of fear
  - This did not apply during the time of the Prophet SAW.
    - People respected the Prophet SAW out of love.
  - Today, people respect others because they want something from them or they fear that they will be harmed if they don't respect them.
  - In order to gain respect, a person must give respect to others.



13. Men wearing silk

14. Female singers will become very widespread

- This does not only refer to females singing, but it refers to everything that comes with female singers as well.
  - Today, singers sing about provocative and immoral things. Female singers dress immodestly while they are singing as they sing in front of males and females.
- It is acceptable for a female to sing in front of other females during happy occasions, such as eid. However, the content of the song and the overall message that is spread must be appropriate and acceptable in Islam.
  - The Prophet SAW saw Aisha RA and some girls singing on eid and allowed them to continue.

15. The last of the ummah cursing the first of the ummah

- People will speak negatively about those who have passed away.

16. Tall buildings

- The Prophet SAW said: Right before the Day of Judgment you will see people who barely had clothes on their back, and who were shepherds in the desert, competing in building taller buildings.
- Today, we see several countries competing to build the tallest buildings.
- This stems from the idea that one person thinks that they are better than the other and they want to show it.

17. People will acquire knowledge of jurisprudence for something other than religion.
- People will aim to gain religious knowledge for reasons other than religion.
  - Today, people gain very little Islamic knowledge and use that knowledge incorrectly for their own desires.
18. Penalties will be trivialized and will be easily dismissed (for those who actually did wrong)
- Those who did something wrong will not be held accountable for it in the justice system.
  - We see this today with the false accusations and incarcerations that occur daily.
19. Imitation of men with women and vice versa
- This is very prevalent in society today.
  - As Muslims, we believe that Allah SWT does not make mistakes. He SWT chose to make each person the way that they are so we can not change our identity.
  - We also must acknowledge that every human is a sinner, so we can not judge others for their sins and we must be kind to everyone. However, we should not be supportive of these behaviors.
20. Encouraging to do good and discouraging from evil will be frowned upon.
- When people speak the truth, others will be mad at them for it.

- Today, people who stand up for what is right are condemned and told by others that they are being judgemental.
- Encouraging and advising someone to do good is not an indication that someone is being judgmental.
  - One must advise/encourage others to do good in a caring and respectful way. No one should feel humiliated or judged when being given advice.
- 21. Earthquakes and natural disasters will increase.
- 22. Graves will be turned into places of worship.
  - This may not be very common in America, but it is prevalent in other countries.
- 23. People will be wearing clothes despite not being covered.
  - Scholars give three explanations for this:
    - A person's clothing will be so small that it will be as if they are not wearing clothes.
    - People will be wearing see through clothing.
    - Clothing will be so tight that it will be as if they are not wearing clothes
- 24. A person will be talking to their thigh.
  - The hadith continues and states that a person's thigh will tell them what is happening in their house.
  - This is something that the sahabah were not able to understand.
  - Today, people place their phones in their pockets (right on their thigh) and these phones speak to us and tell us what is happening in other places.

## What To Do After Learning These Signs

- The Prophet SAW said: Even if the trumpet is being blown, if you have a seed in your hand, plant it.
- We should not be saddened after learning about the signs of the Day.
- We should continue striving to be better Muslims until that time comes.
- We see many of these signs today and this should motivate us to improve ourselves as Muslims.

