

# Friday Sermon

## THINKING ILL OF OTHERS

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ -

أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ ه بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ه أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ  
الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ه مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ ه إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ ه إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ه صِرَاطَ  
الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ ۖ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ه  
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا وَلَا يَغْتَبَ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضًا أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَنْ  
يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيهِ مَيْتًا فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ رَّحِيمٌ ه

[49:13] *O ye who believe! Avoid most of suspicions; for suspicion in some cases is a sin. And spy not, nor back-bite one another. Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his brother who is dead? Certainly you would loathe it. And fear Allah, surely, Allah is Oft-Returning with compassion and is Merciful.*

Hadrat Masih Ma'ud<sup>AS</sup> has written in various capacities about backbiting some extracts from his writing is as follows:

The habit of thinking ill of others is a problem which makes a person blind and pushes him into a circle of ruining himself and those around. It is this quality which brought about the worship of a dead human being (Jesus<sup>as</sup>). It is this bad quality which by suspending the operation of the Divine attributes of creation, mercy, providence, etc., reduces God to a useless entity. It would be no exaggeration to state that it is in result of this habit that the greater part, indeed the whole, of hell will be filled. Those who think ill of the special ones of God Almighty, disrespect His bounties and His grace.  
(*Malfoozat, Vol. 1, pp. 95-96*)

Similarly Hazur<sup>AS</sup> mentioned in another place that:

The mischief starts when a person indulges in false suspicions and doubts. If a person thinks well in every situation, he is granted the power to achieve good. A mistake at the very start makes it difficult to reach the goal. Thinking ill of another is a bad habit which deprives a person of many opportunities of doing good and which goes on piling up till a person begins to think ill of God Almighty. (*Malfoozat, Vol. II, p. 107*)

Hadrat Masih Ma'ud<sup>AS</sup> has spoken mostly about the non-ahmadies who were against Hazur<sup>AS</sup> in above three references. In the early history of Ahmadiyyat, most Molvies against Hadrat Masih Ma'ud<sup>AS</sup> had this strong dilemma that no prophet can come and Allah cannot speak to any human anymore now. This is the ill thinking about Allah, which he wanted to remove from Muslims and proved that he can speak to whomever he wants too and show the living sign through his beloved one. Also, Hadrat Masih Ma'ud<sup>AS</sup> has mentioned a benefit of thinking well of everyone, to achieve good which can only be bestowed by Allah who knows what is in our hearts. Thinking ill also has a very strong negative side, even though thinking ill does not seem that big of a deal but it's a start and the end leads to denial of Allah. We should always be very careful of such matters which can lead to these paths.

Hadrat Hafiz Molana Hakim Noorudin<sup>RA</sup> Khalifatul Masih 1 mentioned in Haqiq-ul-Furqan that:

“Ill thinking creates curiosity and curiosity creates backbiting. Since this is the month of Ramadan, and many of you are fasting. Reason why I am mentioning this is because if one person is fasting and is also involved in backbiting and curious and complaining, he is doing the same thing as eating the meat of his dead brother.” In another place he mentioned that, “Remember this that these are not stories, these are facts, people who think ill of others, do not die until they hear the same ill thoughts about themselves, that's why I humbly request all of you that stop backbiting. Completely avoid resentment and stay away from everyone, it is very beneficial..... Remember that Allah is Al-Tawab and Al-Rahim, he forgives. Until someone does not put himself through this effort and pain, they cannot provide happiness to others. Always stay away from bad company. ” (Haqiq-ul-Furqan, Vol.4, Page 7)

Huzur<sup>RA</sup> in Tafseer of this above verse mentioned a lot more about backbiting and some of the bad moral values which can lead to this ill habit. The whole category of ill thinking, backbiting and related problems which could cause and grow this bad habit is mentioned above and how to avoid these problems. Huzur<sup>RA</sup> talked about moving away from everyone does not mean to live outside of town or any of that case. He means that; spend more time in good company of people. Stay away from bad company because they are the root of all moral wrongdoing and do not benefit anyone. Also how would you like it if someone said something horrible about you behind your back, thinking ill of you how would you feel? It is something that you would not like so you should not be doing that to someone else.

May Allah, help us apply these teachings of the Holy Qur'an in our daily life. Ameen!

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنُؤْمِنُ بِهِ وَنَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْهِ - وَتَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا  
 وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا مِنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ - وَ نَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا  
 اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَنَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ - عِبَادَ اللَّهِ - رَحِمَكُمُ اللَّهُ أَنْ اللَّهُ يَا مُر  
 بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَ اِئْتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَ يَتِيهِ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ - يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ  
 تَذَكَّرُونَ - أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَادْعُوهُ يَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ وَ لَذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ -