

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Class Notes – Lesson 84

وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْفَخْرِ، وَالْخِيَلَاءِ، وَالْبَغْيِ، وَالْاِسْتِطَالَةِ عَلَى الْخَلْقِ بِحَقِّ أَوْ بَغَيْرِ حَقِّ، وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِمَعَالِي الْأَخْلَاقِ، وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ سَفْسَافِهَا.

وَكُلُّ مَا يَقُولُونَهُ أَوْ يَفْعَلُونَهُ مِنْ هَذَا وَغَيْرِهِ، فَإِنَّمَا هُمْ فِيهِ مُتَّبِعُونَ لِلْكِتَابِ وَالسُّنَّةِ، وَطَرِيقَتِهِمْ هِيَ دِينُ الْإِسْلَامِ الَّذِي بَعَثَ اللَّهُ بِهِ مُحَمَّدًا ﷺ.

لَكِنْ لَمَّا أَخْبَرَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ أَنَّ أُمَّتَهُ سَتَفْتَرِقُ عَلَى ثَلَاثٍ وَسَبْعِينَ فِرْقَةً، كُلُّهَا فِي النَّارِ؛ إِلَّا وَاحِدَةً، وَهِيَ الْجَمَاعَةُ. وَفِي حَدِيثٍ عَنْهُ ﷺ أَنَّهُ قَالَ: «هُمْ مَنْ كَانَ عَلَى مِثْلِ مَا أَنَا عَلَيْهِ الْيَوْمَ وَأَصْحَابِي»؛ صَارَ الْمُتَمَسِّكُونَ بِالْإِسْلَامِ الْمَحْضِ الْخَالِصِ عَنِ الشُّوبِ هُمْ أَهْلُ السُّنَّةِ وَالْجَمَاعَةِ.

They prohibit boasting, arrogance, transgression, and showing contempt over people, with due right or without due right. They also command high moral values and prohibit the lowly ones.

In all that they do of this and anything else, they follow therein the Quran and the Sunnah; and their path is the religion of Islam which Allah sent Muhammad ﷺ with.

However, because the Prophet ﷺ informed that his Ummah would split into seventy-three sects, all of them in the Hellfire except one, which is the Jama'ah, and in another hadith he ﷺ said: They are those who follow what I and my Companions are upon today, those who follow Islam in its pristine purity, free of blemishes, are Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah.

وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْفَخْرِ، وَالْخِيَلَاءِ، وَالْبَغْيِ، وَالْاِسْتِطَالَةِ عَلَى الْخَلْقِ بِحَقِّ أَوْ بَغَيْرِ حَقِّ

They prohibit boasting, arrogance, transgression, and showing contempt over people, with due right or without due right.

- (الْفَخْرُ) – ‘**Boasting.**’ It is to show off with words, like when someone tries to act better than others by saying things such as: ‘I am the scholar,’ ‘I am rich,’ ‘I am brave.’ If they add to that by saying: ‘Who are you compared to me?’ then they have also shown disdain (*isti’laah*) to them.
- (وَالْخِيَلَاءُ) – ‘**Arrogance.**’ It is to show off with actions, such as walking arrogantly by raising your head and neck while walking, as if you will reach the sky. Allah says:

﴿وَلَا تَمْشِ فِي الْأَرْضِ مَرَحًا إِنَّكَ لَن تَخْرِقَ الْأَرْضَ وَلَن تَبْلُغَ الْجِبَالَ طُولًا﴾

And do not walk on the earth with pride. You can never tear the earth apart, and you will never reach the mountains in height. [al-Isra': 37]

- Therefore, *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah* forbid this and say: 'Be humble in both your speech and actions.' You can however praise yourself if the situation demands it, such as when Ibn Mas'ud رضي الله عنه said:

لَوْ أَعْلَمُ أَحَدًا هُوَ أَغْلَمُ مِنِّي بِكِتَابِ اللَّهِ تَبْلُغُهُ الْإِبِلُ لَرَكِبْتُ إِلَيْهِ

If I knew of anyone more knowledgeable than me about the Book of Allah, and camels could reach him, I would travel to him. [Muslim]

He said this to encourage people to learn the Book of Allah and to invite them to take knowledge from him.

- If you possess praiseworthy attributes, do not think that they are ever hidden from people. However, if you begin to mention them in front of people, they will only think less of you, so beware of this blameworthy practice.
- (وَالْبَغْيُ) – '**Transgression.**' Meaning, transgression against the rights of others. It can occur in three matters which the Prophet ﷺ explained:

«إِنَّ دِمَاءَكُمْ وَأَمْوَالَكُمْ وَأَعْرَاضَكُمْ عَلَيْكُمْ حَرَامٌ»

Indeed, your blood, your wealth, and your honor are sacred (forbidden to violate) among you.

[Bukhari, Muslim]

- Transgression in wealth includes claiming what does not belong to you, or denying what is due from you, or to take what does not belong to you. Transgression in blood includes killing and what is less than that from injuries. Transgression in honour includes tarnishing the reputation of others through backbiting or slander. It may also include *zina* (adultery) or what is less than that.
- Therefore, *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah* forbid transgression against other people's wealth, blood and honour.
- (وَالْاِسْتِطَالَةُ عَلَى الْخَلْقِ) – '**And showing contempt over people.**' Meaning, behaving as if you are more superior to others, rightfully or wrongfully. If Allah has favoured you over others with wealth, position, rank, knowledge or other than that, then this should only make you humbler, thereby adding goodness to goodness. The one who humbles themselves from a position of favour, then they are the true *mutawadi'oon* (truly humble).
- (بِحَقٍّ أَوْ بِغَيْرِ حَقٍّ) – '**With due right or without due right.**' Meaning, even if they have the right to show that they are important and what they say is true. In this case it is *fakhr* (boasting). If what they say is not true and they have no right to claim it, then this is transgression.
- Therefore, *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah* prohibit contempt over people, and behaving as if you are superior to them, whether this is done rightfully or wrongfully.

وَيَأْمُرُونَ بِمَعَالِي الْأَخْلَاقِ، وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ سَفْسَافِهَا

They also command high moral values and prohibit the lowly ones.

- (مَعَالِي الْأَخْلَاقِ) – '**High moral values.**' This refers to the lofty characteristics, such as being truthful, righteousness and fulfilling trusts and other such high morals. *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah* command these high morals.

- (سَفْسَافِيهَا) – **‘The lowly ones.’** Meaning, the appalling morals, such as lying, deception, lewd behaviour and the like. *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama’ah* forbid these lowly morals.

وَكُلُّ مَا يَقُولُونَهُ أَوْ يَفْعَلُونَهُ مِنْ هَذَا وَغَيْرِهِ، فَإِنَّمَا هُمْ فِيهِ مُتَّبِعُونَ لِلْكِتَابِ وَالسُّنَّةِ، وَطَرِيقَتُهُمْ هِيَ دِينُ الْإِسْلَامِ الَّذِي بَعَثَ اللَّهُ بِهِ مُحَمَّدًا ﷺ

In all that they do of this and anything else, they follow therein the Book and the Sunnah; and their path is the religion of Islam which Allah sent Muhammad ﷺ with.

- Meaning, everything that *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama’ah* say and do, and what they command and forbid, whether it was mentioned earlier in the treatise or not mentioned, they have taken it from the Book of Allah and the *Sunnah* of their Prophet ﷺ.
- They did not invent it from themselves, nor did they blindly follow others in it. Their way is the religion of Islam which Allah sent Muhammad ﷺ with. Islam is their belief and their path to Allah. It is the pure Islam, free from distortions or impurities.

لَكِنْ لَمَّا أَخْبَرَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ أَنَّ أُمَّتَهُ سَتَفْتَرِقُ عَلَى ثَلَاثٍ وَسَبْعِينَ فِرْقَةً، كُلُّهَا فِي النَّارِ؛ إِلَّا وَاحِدَةً، وَهِيَ الْجَمَاعَةُ.

However, because the Prophet ﷺ informed us that his Ummah would split into seventy-three sects, all of them in the Hellfire except one, which is the Jama'ah.

- When the *Ummah* falls into division, which the Prophet ﷺ informed would happen, *Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama’ah* remain firm upon the true Islam, and thus became the saved sect.
- (أَنَّ أُمَّتَهُ) – **‘That his Ummah.’** Meaning, the *Ummah* of response (*ijaabah*), not the *Ummah* of calling (*da’wah*). This is because his *Ummah* of calling includes the Jews and the Christians who themselves split and divided into seventy-one and seventy-two sects respectively. However, this *Ummah* will divide into seventy-three sects, all of them will identify and ascribe themselves to Islam.
- (كُلُّهَا فِي النَّارِ إِلَّا وَاحِدَةً) – **‘All of them in the Hellfire except one.’** This does not mean that they will permanently reside in the Hellfire, rather it means that the actions of these deviant sects deserve that they be entered into the Hellfire as an atonement for these actions.
- It is not important whether these seventy-three groups existed before, exist now, or will exist in the future. Rather, what we affirm without doubt is that they have left the straight path. Some strayed far away, some were moderate, and some only strayed inches from the straight path. Whatever the case, the Prophet ﷺ has told us that his *Ummah* (of response) will be divided into seventy-three sects, all of them astray and in the Hellfire except one.
- (وَهِيَ الْجَمَاعَةُ) – **‘Which is the Jama’ah.’** Meaning, the ones who gather (*ijtam’at*) upon the truth and do not separate (*tatafaraq*) concerning it.

وَفِي حَدِيثٍ عَنْهُ ﷺ أَنَّهُ قَالَ: «هُمْ مَنْ كَانَ عَلَى مِثْلِ مَا أَنَا عَلَيْهِ الْيَوْمَ وَأَصْحَابِي»

And in another hadith he ﷺ said: They are those who follow what I and my Companions are upon today

- Those who were upon what the Messenger ﷺ and his companions were upon are the *Jama’ah* who unite and gather upon the *Shari’ah*. They obey what Allah instructs them with:

﴿أَنْ أَقِيمُوا الدِّينَ وَلَا تَتَفَرَّقُوا فِيهِ﴾

To establish the religion and not divide in it. [al-Shura: 13]

صَارَ الْمُتَمَسِّكُونَ بِالْإِسْلَامِ الْمَخْصِصِ الْخَالِصِ عَنِ الشُّبُوبِ هُمْ أَهْلُ السُّنَّةِ وَالْجَمَاعَةِ

Those who follow Islam in its pristine purity, free of blemishes, are Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah.

- This is the response to what was stipulated (*shart*) in the Sheikh's prior statement (لَكِنْ) - 'However.' Therefore, if you are asked: 'Who are Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah?' then respond by saying: 'They are the saved sect who cling to the pure Islam which is free from any impurities or distortions.'
- As for the other deviant sects, they are not from Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah (even if they claim to be), because they cling to distortions and impurities which they have entered by way of innovations in Islam. How can they be from Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah when they oppose them?!
- When the truth is in the *madhab* (methodology) of Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah, and these deviant groups oppose them, it means that their *madhab* is false and does not contain the truth.

Review questions

1. What are *al-fakhr* and *al-khuyalaa'* and what is the difference between them?
2. In what three matters can transgression (*al-baghy*) occur? What are some examples that can occur in each matter?
3. Who are the true *mutawadi'oon*?
4. When the Prophet ﷺ informed that his *Ummah* would divide into seventy-three sects, which *Ummah* was he referring to and why?
5. If you are asked who are Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jama'ah then how should you respond?