

Prophet YAHYA (AS) **AND SHAYTAN**

In Majalis Ibn Sheikh Imam Ridha is recorded as quoting his ancestors by saying,

- Satan used to approach the Prophets after Adam till God ordained Hazrat Isa.
- He used to talk to and question them.
- He liked Hazrat Yahya bin Zakaria the most who asked him, O Satan I need you for something.
- Satan replied, Your station is so prominent that you are oblivious of needs. You may ask whatever you want because I will never oppose your wish.
- Hazrat Yahya said, O Satan you tell me how you trap Adam's progeny
- Satan answered, Through love and friendship.
- He then promised to return the next day.
- The next day Hazrat Yahya waited for him after securing the doors tightly.
- *When Satan arrived his face was like that of a monkey, his body was that of a pig and his eyes were vertical in structure. His teeth and mouth were joined together; he had no chin and no beard. He had four hands two on the chest and two on the shoulders and his fingers were reversed. He was wearing a robe and his loin was tightly girdled with a cloth that was multi colored. He had a large bell in his hands and an egg on his head crowned with a metal dog.*
- Hazrat Yahya hesitated but asked him, *What is this that is tied to your midriff?* Satan replied: *This is sorcery that I have beautified for them.*
- Hazrat Yahya asked him about the multi colored threads and he said, *These are the fashion of women that will always be popularized among them, though ultimately it will put them to trial.*
- Hazrat Yahya asked him about the bell and he said, *This contains all kinds of musical instruments, which impassion men drink and make merry. I use them. Hearing these sounds, some refrain from dancing while others dance wildly and tear their clothes.*
- Hazrat Yahya asked him, *What soothes your eyes?* He answered, *Women are my instruments in trapping men, for they gather in the assemblies of righteous people and I approach them, for they gladden my heart.*
- Hazrat Yahya asked him about the egg on his head and he said, *I refrain from going to the assemblies of the righteous because of it.*
- Hazrat Yahya asked him, *Why this iron inside the egg?* He answered, *I perturb the believers' hearts through it.*
- Yahya asked him if he ever was successful against him and Satan answered, *No, but you have a virtue, and that is you eat healthily after a day's fasting and this prevents you from saying your prayer immediately after eating.*

Hazrat Yahya then swore that he would never satiate himself till he meets God.
Satan left him and never returned.