

## SUMMARY OF MAJLIS

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> Holy Ramadhan 1426 AH / 14<sup>th</sup> October 2005

**Occasion:** Holy Ramadhan Weekend Majalis

**Topic:** Al-Isti'adha – Part 2

**"And say: My Lord! I seek Your protection from the promptings of devils; and I seek Your protection, my Lord, from their presence near me". (23:97-98)**

We continue with our discourse on **Al-Isti'adha**, which means 'seeking protection' or 'seeking refuge' from the accursed Shaytan. In the last session on this subject, we were talking about **Shaytan** and we looked at two things: Why should we talk about **Shaytan**? And who is **Shaytan**?

### WHAT HAPPENED BEFORE ADAM (AS)?

**"And when your Lord said to the angels, 'Indeed I am going to set a Khalifa on the earth...'"** The angles said, **"Will You set in it someone who will cause corruption in it and shed blood?" (2:30)**

The question that arises here is: Whom were the Angels referring to? If there were no creation on earth before Prophet Adam (as), what prompted the Angels to ask this question?

[Allah (SWT) had created Jinn prior to creating mankind. And the Jinn had the history of spreading corruption and bloodshed in the earth. The Angels had already witnessed this and that is why they asked this question that: **"Will You set in it someone who will cause corruption in it and shed blood?"** Allah (SWT) responded to them by saying: **"Indeed I know what you do not know". ] (Arrogance & Humility)**

[Once the lifeless body of Adam (as) was created, Allah (SWT) asked **Azazeel** (Shaytan) who was still in the rank of the Angels, as to what he thought? **Azazeel** closely examined the lifeless body of Adam (as). After examining the outside of the body, he asked for permission to examine it from the inside.

Permission was granted, and rare and light as he was, **Azazeel** entered the body of Adam (as) and studied every single part in detail. However, there was one organ, which he could NOT enter so he asked about it when he came out. Allah (SWT) said, **"That is the heart of Adam and the seat of My love (Mahabbah)".] (Arrogance & Humility)**

### SHAYTAN ASKING FOR FACULTY TO ATTACK THE HEART

Now it makes sense why **Shaytan**, when he was banished from the Heavens asked for whatever he asked!! It is narrated that:

[When **Shaytan** was ordered out of the Heaven, he said to Allah (SWT), "O Allah! What has happened to my supplications offered over a long span of 7000 years?"

Allah (SWT) replied, **"We shall reward you what you ask for as a compensation for your prayers".** **Shaytan** said, "O Allah! Give me respite till the Day of Judgement". Allah (SWT) replied, **"You are given the respite!"**

Then the **Shaytan** said, "My second wish is that I am given the faculty to create doubts and fears in the hearts of the human beings". This wish was granted too BUT Allah (SWT) had a strategy in view.

Therefore, when Adam (as) heard this, he (as) said, "O Creator! You have not only provided respite to this formidable enemy of my progeny till the Day of Judgement, You have also given him faculty to cause fears and temptations in the hearts of my progeny! They will be helpless at the mercy of Shaytan!" Allah (SWT) said, "**O Adam! Do not be disturbed! With every Shaytan, there will be an angel created by Us. These angels will help your progeny to guard against the trap set by Shaytan**".] (Al-Isti'adha)

How true is this?! **Shaytan** creates doubts, fears and temptations in our hearts; and the **Angels** inspire virtue in them. Shaytan says, 'Don't go to the Mosque- You are too tired'; The Angel says 'So what? Go for you need to nourish your soul'. Shaytan says 'Don't give Charity otherwise you will go bankrupt'; The Angel says, 'Give, God will give you more'. Shaytan says, 'Commit sins and enjoy – later on you can repent'; The Angel says, 'Don't do that for you may not have time to repent – what if death occurs to you while committing the sins?' When **Shaytan** encourages one to commit sins, the **Angel** discourages it! When **Shaytan** discourages one from good deeds, the **Angel** encourages it! There is always this internal tussle, which man is aware of. Now it is upon man, who has been blessed with intellect to either choose the path of **Shaytan** or tread upon the path of the **Angel**.

#### DOORS OF REPENTANCE & BLESSINGS ARE OPEN

Allah (SWT) has further said, "**If We had imposed Iblees over your progeny and given him respite till the Day of Judgement, We have kept the doors of repentance open for your progeny too**".

If men are caught in the web of **Shaytan**, they can express repentance and seek forgiveness from Allah (SWT). It is mentioned that the Doors of Repentance were also open for the people of previous nations but the conditions of acceptance were severe. The nation of Prophet Muhammad (saww) is known as **Ummat-e-Marhoomah** meaning 'The Blessed Nation'. The conditions imposed on the previous nations for acceptance of Repentance have been lifted from them due to the blessings of Prophet Muhammad (saww), who is also known as **Rahmatun lil-'Aalameen** 'The Blessing for all the Worlds'. The Holy Prophet (saww) has said, "**Every person who repents for his past sins one year before his death, will be pardoned. One year is too long a period – If a person repents for his sins a month before his death, he may be pardoned. One month too is rather a long period – If a person repents a day prior to his death, his sins might be pardoned. A day too is a long time – If a person repents at the moment of his death before the Angel of Death looks into his eyes, the person might be pardoned by Allah**".

This proves that if a person seeks forgiveness even while he is dying, he stands a chance of being pardoned. Therefore, we conclude that although **Shaytan** has been given respite till the Day of Judgement and the faculty to create doubts, fear and temptations in the hearts of people – Allah (SWT) has also kept a strategy to rescue His believers.

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