

THE PRIME TOKENS OF THE DOOMSDAY

The Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) has also prophesied certain prime tokens of the Doomsday. Hadrat Hudhaifah Bin Asad Ghifari (*RadhiAllahu Anhu*) has narrated that once we were talking among ourselves that the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) came to us. He asked what we were discussing about. We said O Messenger of Allah we were talking about *Qiyamah*. The Prophet (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) then said:

« إِنَّهَا لَنْ تَقُومَ حَتَّى تَرَوْنَ قَبْلَهَا عَشْرَ آيَاتٍ - فَذَكَرَ - الدُّخَانَ، وَالْجَالَ، وَالْدَّابَّةَ، وَطُلُوعَ الشَّمْسِ مِنْ مَغْرِبِهَا، وَنُزُولَ عِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، وَيَأْجُوجَ وَمَاجُوجَ، وَثَلَاثَةَ خُسُوفٍ: خُسُوفٌ بِالْمَشْرِقِ، وَخُسُوفٌ بِالْمَغْرِبِ، وَخُسُوفٌ بِجَزِيرَةِ الْعَرَبِ، وَآخِرُ ذَلِكَ نَارٌ تَخْرُجُ مِنَ الْيَمَنِ، تَطْرُدُ النَّاسَ إِلَى مَحْشَرِهِمْ » (مسلم)

(Translation of meaning) *Qiyamah* [Rising] will be preceded by ten events: (1) The rising of smoke; (2) the coming of Dajjal; (3) the emergence of a quadruped [*dabbah*]; (4) sunrise from the west; (5) the descent of Jesus Christ; (6) the coming of Yagogue and Magogue; (7, 8, 9) the sinking of earth at three points: in the east, in the west and in the peninsula of Arabia; (10) the emergence of a fire from Yemen which will drive the people towards the theatre of Judgment (Muslim).

Dajjal: Rise of the Demagogue

The rise of Dajjal or Demagogue will be an indication of the total disintegration of the order of the world. Coincidentally, Jesus Christ will descend upon earth to overcome and kill the Dajjal and restore order. Similarly, the rise of sun from the west instead of east will signify the overturning of the cosmic order. The Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) said:

« لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ حَتَّى تَطْلُعَ الشَّمْسُ مِنْ مَغْرِبِهَا، فَإِذَا رَأَاهَا النَّاسُ آمَنَ مِنْ عَلَيْهَا، فَذَلِكَ حِينَ » ﴿ لَا يَنْفَعُ نَفْسًا إِيْمَانُهَا لَمْ تَكُنْ ءَامَنَتْ مِنْ قَبْلُ ۖ ﴾ (الأنعام: ١٥٨)

(Translation of meaning) When people will see this all of them will embrace the faith but their belief at that moment will be of no avail (Al-Bukhari & Muslim). It means that at that moment one's belief will be neither trustworthy nor acceptable to Allah nor anybody's repentance will be admissible, excepting those who were already believers. Allah has indicated this very phenomenon in this verse:

﴿يَوْمَ يَأْتِي بَعْضُ آيَاتِ رَبِّكَ لَا يَنْفَعُ نَفْسًا إِيْمَانُهَا لَمْ تَكُنْ ءَامَنَتْ مِنْ قَبْلُ أَوْ كَسَبَتْ فِي إِيمَانِهَا خَيْرًا ۗ﴾
 الأنعام: ١٥٨

(Translation of meaning) *In the day when one of the portents from thy Lord cometh, its belief availeth naught a soul which theretofore believed not, nor in its belief earned good (by works).* (Al-An'am: 158)].

Dabbah: Emergence of a Quadruped

When *Qiyamah* comes close, Allah will send a quadruped [*dabbah*] who will possess the ability of talking to the human beings and it will also be able to discriminate between the believers and disbelievers and thus it will address the believer as a believer and the disbeliever as a disbeliever. Allah pronounces:

﴿وَإِذَا وَقَعَ الْقَوْلُ عَلَيْهِمْ أَخْرَجْنَا لَهُمْ دَابَّةً مِّنَ الْأَرْضِ تُكَلِّمُهُمْ أَنَّ النَّاسَ كَانُوا بِآيَاتِنَا لَا يُوقِنُونَ﴾
 النمل: ٨٢

(Translation of meaning) [“*And when the word is fulfilled concerning them, We shall bring forth a beast of the earth o speak unto them because mankind had not faith in Our revelations*” (An-Naml: 82)].

A Muslim has to believe what the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) has disclosed about the Dajjal. Our Prophet (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) has advised us to keep away from the *fitnah* of Dajjal as has been done by every other prophet preceding him. Once the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) rose among the people and after praising and glorifying Allah said: I emphasize upon you the necessity of avoiding the Dajjal. Like me every other Prophet has advised in favour of this avoidance. But I tell you what nobody else before me has told you, that is, Dajjal will be one-eyed while Allah is not so (Al-Bukhari & Muslim).

The Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) has forewarned of certain supernatural qualities of Dajjal which he has been endowed with by Allah with the objective of putting his slaves on trial. Thus the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) further declared that I know very well what will be in his possession. He will have two running channels: One of crystal clear white running water and the other of flaming fire. Any one of you who may be present at that time should select the channel of fire, bow his head over it and drink from it because it will be actually cool drinking water.

There is no doubt that Dajjal will be one-eyed, a thick membrane covering his eye. In between his two eyes will be inscribed “*Kafir*” [Disbeliever] which would easily be understood by both literate and illiterate believers (Muslim). Every Muslim knows how to avoid the *fitnah* of Dajjal because the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) has taught us this too. He said:

فَمَنْ أَدْرَكَهُ مِنْكُمْ، فَلْيَقْرَأْ عَلَيْهِ فَوَاتِحَ سُورَةِ الْكَهْفِ (مسلم)

(Translation of meaning) “Those of you who ever encounter him must recite early verses of Surah al-Kahf to be safe from his evil” (Muslim).

When asked about the tenure of Dajjal, the Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) said he will stay for forty years of which one day will be equal to one year, another day will be equal to one month; and another day will be equal to one week; and the rest of days will be equal to ordinary days (Muslim). Dajjal will also claim that he is the God. He will invite the people to worship him. Those who obey his call will become prosperous and those who reject him will become paupers. He will command the barren earth to unravel its treasures and it will unravel them. Rains will come by his command and the earth will become green. All this will be meant just for testing and trying the God’s slaves. When the Doomsday comes near Jesus Christ will appear on earth. He will slay the Dajjal and establish the Kingdom of God.

Gog and Magog

The Messenger of Allah (*sallAllahu ‘alayhi wa sallam*) has also warned about the emergence of Gog and Magog. A Muslim believes this too. Allah has pronounced in the holy Quran:

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا فُتِحَتْ يَأْجُوجُ وَمَأْجُوجُ وَهُمْ مِّن كُلِّ حَدَبٍ يَنْسِلُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾ وَأَقْتَرَبَ الْوَعْدُ الْحَقُّ فَإِذَا هِيَ شَخِصَةٌ أَبْصَرُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يَتَوَلَّوْنَآ قَدْ كُنَّا فِي غَفْلَةٍ مِّنْ هَذَا بَلْ كُنَّا ظَالِمِينَ ﴿٩٧﴾
الأنبياء: ٩٦ - ٩٧

(Translation of meaning) [“Until, when Gog and Magog are let loose, and they hasten out of every mound. And the True Promise draweth nigh; then behold them, staring wide [in terror], the eyes of those who disbelieve! [They say]: Alas for us! We [lived] in forgetfulness of this. Ah, but we were wrong-doers!” (Al-Anbiya: 96-97).

Allah had granted Dhul Qarnain the power to rule. He was moving about in territories till he came across a folk who did not understand his words. But those

folk sensed righteousness and good in Dhul Qarnain. They also felt that he was a mighty person. They requested him to make arrangements to protect them from the tyranny of the evil-doing Gog and Magog. Dhul Qarnain was well aware that whatever power or prowess he had was a gift from the Almighty. He agreed to protect them from the oppression of Gog and Magog. He then filled up the pass between the two mounts with melted iron and copper and thus made it impossible for them to cross over this side nor could they smash it. However, when doomsday comes near they will be able to smash this block and coming to this side will pass through Palestine and will drink up the entire water of Tiberius. They will be so many in numbers that no water will be left in Tiberius. The last one of them will say was there any water in this place once. The tradition of the Prophet (*sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam*) has it that

وَيَبْعَثُ اللَّهُ يَأْجُوجَ وَمَأْجُوجَ، وَهُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ حَدَبٍ يَنْسِلُونَ، فَيَمُرُّ أَوَائِلُهُمْ عَلَى بُحَيْرَةِ طَبْرِيَّةَ
فَيَشْرَبُونَ مَا فِيهَا، وَيَمُرُّ آخِرُهُمْ فَيَقُولُونَ: لَقَدْ كَانَ بِهَذِهِ مَرَّةً مَاءٌ (مسلم)

(Translation of meaning) Allah will raise up the horde of Gog and Magog who will spring from all mounts and their front ranks passing through the Tiberius Lake will drink up its entire water and when their rear ranks pass through it they will say was there any water in this place once (Muslim).

* * *