
The Companions who walked upon water

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

The following is a summary translation of a Friday Sermon delivered by **Shaykh Muhammad Saalih bin al-Uthaymeen** (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹.

آيات النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم - أقسام الأمور الخارقة

Signs of the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)² – Categories of miraculous events

In the second portion of the sermon the Shaykh (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) said...

All praises belong to Allaah, all praises belong to Allaah, I praise Him, I thank Him, I repent to Him and I seek His forgiveness. And I bear witness that nothing has the right to be worshipped except for Allaah alone without partners. And I bear witness that Muhammad is his slave and His Messenger. Allaah sent him with the guidance and the true religion. Thus he conveyed the message, fulfilled the trust, and advised the Ummah. And he left it upon clarity; its night is like its day. Allaah protected His religion and His legislation such that the distorters are unable to distort it. So when they deviated Allaah exposed their secrets. So may the prayers and peace of Allaah be upon him and upon his Family and his Companions and those that follow them in goodness until the Day of Judgment. As to what follows...

O people, verily the abnormal or miraculous affairs that occur outside the realm of what the people are used to as it relates to the affairs of the universe, can be categorised into three categories.

The first category is the miracles given to the Prophets. And it is known that these types of signs will not be given to anyone after the Messenger of Allaah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), because anyone who claims to be a prophet after Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), then he is a liar, and a disbeliever and whoever believes that this person is a prophet then he also is a disbeliever; and this is based on the statement of Allaah (سُبْحَانَهُ)³, [**“And Muhammad is not the father of**

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

³ (سُبْحَانَهُ) (Subhanahu) The Exalted

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any of you men but rather he is the Messenger of Allaah and the seal of the prophets and Allaah is the Knower of all things”.]⁴

These signs, meaning the signs of the Prophets have been cut off from the people, thus it is not possible for anyone to come with these signs after Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

As for the Second category then it is the Karaamaat (honour) of the friends of Allaah; meaning the Karaamaat that Allaah (تبارك وتعالى)⁵ brings about for some of His friends as an honour for them and to assist them in what they are upon. And in reality this is from the miracles of the Prophet that this Walee is following.

And the Karaamaat are many. They were present in those who came before us and they are present in this Ummah. And they will continue to be present until the Day of Judgment.

And from the signs which were given to those who came before us is that which was given to Mary bint Imraan, (رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا)⁶. When she became pregnant and the labour pains came to her she went to the trunk of the date palm tree. When the labour pains came she went to the trunk of the date palm tree to give birth, as Allaah has mentioned. She went to the trunk of the date palm tree and she began to shake the trunk of the tree by the command of Allaah and a crop of fresh dates fell upon her. As for the trunk of the date palm tree, then it is known that it is not possible for one person especially a woman during childbirth to shake it, but she shook it. As for the fresh dates, then if they fall from the top of the tree the dates will be bad when they hit the ground. But these dates fell, but it was as though they were gently picked from the tree. And Allaah placed a river with her. So she would eat from the dates and she drank from the river. And she went to her people carrying her baby that she delivered. This is from the signs of Allaah.

Likewise there is the story of the people of the cave. And from the signs of Allaah is the story of the man who passed by a town and it had tumbled over its roofs. He said: "Oh! How will Allaah ever bring it to life after its death?"

As for this nation, then miraculous signs have occurred, that which is known and has been documented in the books of the people of knowledge; especially the book entitled "The Criterion between the friends of the Most Merciful and the friends of the Devil" written by the Shaykh of Islaam Ibn Taymeeyah, may Allaah have mercy upon him and reward him on behalf of the Ummah of Muhammad, with good.

From this is the narration when the Muslims battled the Persians behind the leadership of Sad bin Abee Waqaas. When they reached the Tigris River they found the river running with foam and Persians had crossed the river headed to their homeland, and the Persians had

⁴ سورة الأحزاب – Soorah al-Ahzaab [33:40]

⁵ (تبارك وتعالى) (Tabaraka wa Ta'ala) The Blessed and the Most High

⁶ (رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا) (rad iyallaahu `anhaa) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with her

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destroyed the bridge and sunk all the ships so there did not remain any way for the Muslims to cross the river.

So the army came to Sad Abee Waqaas, and he was their leader. They said to him: 'We do not have the ability (to pursue them). Now they are protected by the sea, and they have destroyed the bridges and sunken the ships.' 'We do not have the ability to pursue them.'

So Sad Abee Waqaas, (رضي الله عنه)⁷, summoned for Salmaan al-Farsee. And Salmaan al-Farsee was from Persia thus he knew the strategies of the Persians.

So he said to Salmaan, O Salmaan inform us of something that we can use as a plan against these enemies of ours. Salmaan replied by saying: I do not have anything by which I can plot against them except for one thing and that is for the army to be upright upon the religion of Allaah.

If they are upright upon the command of Allaah and following His messenger, (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), then give them the glad tidings that Allaah will make it easy for us to cross this river. Because the One who has made it easy for the people who live here to cross this river (with ships and a bridge) has the ability to make it easy for us to cross it also.

So Salmaan went and he started to circle around the army; and he found them bowing and prostrating in prayer during the night and preparing for the war during the day. So after three nights he went to Sad and informed him that the army was upon good and well.

Therefore Sad summoned the army and said to them, "I am going to stand upon this river and make three takbeers. So when I have made three takbeers mention the Name of Allaah and cross the river because verily Allaah will make this easy for us."

So when they stood upon the river and Sad made three takbeers and then they said in the Name of Allaah and they began to cross the river with their horses and the men walking on top of the water while it was flowing. They were held up by the One who holds up the sky and prevents it from falling down upon the earth by His permission.

And the historians have said that if the stallions became tired, Allaah would make for them an Island on the river so they could rest on it until their strength returned to them and then they would continue to cross the river.

So when they crossed the river the Persians were stunned and frighten, and they said verily you are not fighting men rather you are fighting the jinn because no man is able to cross the river without a tangible means.

⁷ (رضي الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

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Therefore Allaah made a way for the Muslims to conquer the capital of Persia and they seized the crown of Khosrau. And it was a tremendous crown, the likeness of a large tent; it had in it gold and pearls and jewels; that which Allaah knows best about it.

And one camel was not able to carry it, so they used two camels and fasten it between the two of them all the way until they reached the city of Madeenah giving it to the rightly guided leader Umar bin Khattaab, (رضي الله عنه). They placed the crown in front of him and they did not lose even one pearl from the crown.

And they were able to deliver the crown intact despite the long journey they travelled, enduring wind and rain, and enduring the heat of the sun when it was not raining.

When they placed the crown in front of Umar he was impressed and he said, "Verily the people who were able to perform this task are trustworthy". They replied by saying, "O leader of the faithful, you were trustworthy therefore we were trustworthy. And if you would have consumed then we would have consumed.

Thus ponder my brother, ponder this great honour which is from the miracles of the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), because those that crossed the river, only crossed the river to elevate the religion of the Messenger of Allaah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ). And this is a testimony from Allaah for the truthfulness of this noble Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

O Allaah make us from those who ponder upon Your signs, those that increase us in faith, certainty and love for You, O Lord of all that exist. Verily You have power over all things.

O Allaah send the prayers and peace upon Your slave and Your Messenger Muhammad, and upon his Family and his Companions.