

Along with these revelations there are other visions which bear them out. For instance, I saw in a vision that I and Jesus are two pieces of the same essence. This vision too I have published in the *Barāhīn*, from which it is established that all his spiritual qualities are in me, and the excellences which can be attributed to him are found in me as well. Then there is another vision which was published long ago in *Ā'īnah Kamālāt Islām*, pages 564 and 565. I reproduce it exactly below. It is as follows.

Translation: I saw in a vision of mine that I am myself God, and I was sure that I was Him, and that none of my own will, thought or action remained, and that I have become like a sieve, or like a thing which is encapsulated by another, having been completely concealed by the latter within itself till no trace of it was left anymore. In this duration I saw that the Spirit of the Exalted God encompassed me and having taken possession of my body concealed it within itself till not even a particle of mine remained. And I looked at my body, and saw that my limbs had become His limbs, my eye His eye, my ears His ears and my tongue His tongue. My Lord took hold of me and held me so that I was entirely absorbed in Him and I saw that His power and strength were surging in me, and His Divinity was raging in me. The tents of that Dignified Honourable One were pitched all round my heart, and the King of Majesty ground my soul, so that neither I remained me nor did any of my wishes remain at all. My own building fell down and the building of the Lord of the worlds began to appear. Divinity overpowered me most vigorously and I was pulled towards it from the hair of my head to the nails of my toes. Then I became all marrow in which there was no skin and I became an oil which did not contain any dirt, and separation was cast between me and my soul. So I became like an invisible thing or like a drop of water which joins the river and the river conceals it in its mass. In this state I did not know what I was before this and what my entity was. Divinity percolated into my veins and muscles and I became absolutely oblivious of myself. The Exalted God took

control of all my limbs and took me over with a strength that cannot possibly be exceeded. So much so that because of His grip I was entirely annihilated. At that time I firmly believed that my limbs were not mine but were the limbs of the Exalted God. I thought that I had lost all my existence and entirely gone out of my self. Now no associate or preventer remained to cast a barrier. The Exalted God entered my being, and my wrath and gentleness, bitterness and sweetness, motion and stillness, all became His. In this state I was saying thus: *We wish to create a new order and a new heaven and a new earth*. Then I first created the heaven and the earth in an overall form, without arrangement or order. Then, according to God's purpose, I produced its arrangement and order. And I saw that I had the power to create it. Then I created the lower heaven and said: "We have adorned this lower heaven with lights". Then I said: "We shall now create man from the essence of clay". Then my state changed over from that of vision to revelation, and the words appeared upon my tongue: "I intended to make my deputy, so I created Adam. We created man in the best make".

Jesus not proved to be God by his revelations

These are the revelations from the Exalted God about myself which have been disclosed to me. There are many other revelations of this kind which I have been publishing for about twenty-five years, and many of these have been published in my book *Barāhīn Aḥmadiyya* and other books. Now let the respected Christian clergymen think and reflect and compare these revelations with those of Jesus the Messiah, and then let them testify with fairness whether those revelations of Jesus from which they infer his Divinity say anything more than these revelations. Is it not true that if someone's Divinity can be inferred from such revelations and statements then from these revelations of mine my Divinity — I seek refuge with God — will be better established than that of Jesus. And more than that of anyone, the Divinity of our leader and master, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, on whom be peace and the blessings of Allah, can be established. For, his revelation does not only

contain the verse “those who swear allegiance to thee do but swear allegiance to Allah”, and not only that the Exalted God has called the Holy Prophet’s hand as God’s own hand,²⁸ and has declared each of his actions as God’s own action, and by saying “Nor does he speak out of desire, it is naught but revelation that is revealed”²⁹ He has declared all his words to be God’s own words, but at one place He has called all the people his [the Holy Prophet’s] servants, as He has said: “[O Prophet] say [to people]: O my servants”.³⁰ Hence it is obvious that the Divinity of our Prophet, on whom be peace and the blessings of Allah, can be established so plainly and clearly from these sacred words that the Divinity of Jesus cannot possibly be established to the same degree from the statements in the Gospels.

Let alone this chief of the two worlds, the Holy Prophet, on whom be peace and the blessings of Allah, whose status is so great, the Christian clergymen should consider with justice even these revelations of mine, and then be judges themselves and decide whether it is not true that if such statements can establish Divinity then my revelations are a much stronger testimony to my Divinity than those of Jesus are to his Divinity. If the reverend gentlemen cannot decide for themselves, let them appoint three arbiters of some other community and hand over to them my revelations and those words of Jesus from the Gospels from which his Divinity is inferred. Then if the judges give the verdict in favour of the Christian clergymen and declare on oath that the Divinity of Jesus can be established more clearly from his words, then I am prepared to pay *one thousand rupees* as penalty. I want the judges, before giving their ruling, to take the oath that “we swear by the Exalted God that our statement is true and that if it is not true then may the Exalted God send on us, within the year, a chastisement leading to our

28. The Holy Quran, 48:10.

29. The Holy Quran, 53:3–4.

30. The Holy Quran, 39:53.

devastation, disgrace and destruction”.

I know full well that the Christian clergymen will never accept this method for a decision. However, if they say that whatever came from the mouth of Jesus was in fact the Word of God, hence it can be accepted as an authority, but whatever came out of my mouth is not the Word of God, the reply is that as regards what came out of the mouth of Jesus, the Christians have no personal knowledge as to it being the Word of God. God did not talk to them directly. No angel came and whispered in their ears that Jesus was God or son of God. They did not see that, after being born in this world, Jesus created even a fly. They possess only a few sayings which have been attributed to Jesus, which they turn and twist and believe that from these his Divinity is established. The words and visions that I have presented go hundreds of times further than those. Moreover, if those words [of Jesus] are preferred because they have been confirmed by miracles, then I say that for the present age the miracles of Jesus are only fables and stories. Nobody can say that he has actually seen something of them. But the miracles and signs which have proceeded from me, due to the bounty of the Exalted God, have been witnessed by thousands of people with their eyes. Then what comparison have the miracles of Jesus, which are related only in the form of fables and stories, with these eye-witnessed signs? Hence, when stories of the past, which might even be tinged with falsehood, have been accepted to raise someone to Divinity, the present signs are better worthy of acceptance. If any Christian in the world has justice in his heart, he will consider this statement of mine to be highly equitable.

I repeat that the gist of my statement is that it is entirely a misconception on the part of the Christians to make Jesus, on whom be peace, as God. The words from which they wish to arrive at the conclusion that Jesus is God or son of God, the words of my revelations go further than those. Let the Christian clergymen think, and ponder deeply, and reflect over and over

again, as to what [evidence] they possess in order to prove Jesus to be God except a few words. So what I expect from them is that they compare the words of my revelations with those words and then bear witness with justice that, if one relies on the apparent meanings of words, then the strength of testimony found in my revealed words, for the purpose of proving the Divinity of a person, is certainly not found in the revealed words of Jesus. Then what is the reason that, on account of those words, Jesus is taken as God and when the same words, rather those which go further, are in favour of someone else then different meanings are assigned to them? If you say that the earlier scriptures had foretold the advent of the Messiah, then I reply that in the same books and, in fact, in the sayings of the Messiah himself as well, the second advent of the Messiah had been foretold, and *I am that man*. Accordingly, as was written in the Gospels, earthquakes came, nation fought with nation, deadly pestilences broke out, and signs appeared in the heavens also. In short, I also have come in accordance with prophecies. This objection was also raised at the time of the Messiah, that until Elijah descends from heaven the true Messiah cannot appear. Against me also it was contended that the Promised Messiah would descend from *heaven*.

Jesus was not God

I have written regarding the signs shown by Jesus that they were not meant as signs for the present age, rather they should be called stories or fables. You people cannot deny that you saw my powerful prophecies and signs. I do not even stop at this. In fact, I say forcefully that if any Christian stays with me he will see many signs before a year passes. God's signs are pouring down here like rain. *The God Whom people forgot* and Whose place they gave to the creatures, *He is now manifesting Himself on the heart of this humble servant*. He wants to show; is anyone willing to see? O dear ones, do not remain entangled in errors. Jesus, son of Mary, is not God. These words that he spoke ever come out of the mouths of Godly persons, but no one can become God on account of these. Rise and repent, that

the time has arrived! Worship the God on whom the Torah and the Quran agree. Jesus, son of Mary, was a humble servant. Take him as a prophet sent by God. If there is a Christian who does not agree even now, let him remember that God's argument upon him has been completed.

Why this case was brought

To sum up, the real reason for the annoyance of the Christian clergymen is just this that the Exalted God has put them to shame in every way through me. All that they had built up has been demolished by my writings. On my behalf my God has shown, and is showing, heavenly signs. As against this, there is nothing in the hands of the Christian clergymen except old tales. They were again and again challenged for contest in heavenly signs. But they hardly possessed anything to enable them to accept the challenge. At last, after being frustrated in every way, all that they could think of was to institute a murder case against me. Hence the *real reason* behind the bringing of this suit was exactly that, on being cornered by my scholarly writings and heavenly signs, they feared that they would very soon be exposed. But the plan they hatched resulted in their exposure still further. Their hidden state of affairs came to light and *their moral condition also became known to the people*.

At this stage a matter of greater regret is this, that the unfortunate Shaikh Muhammad Husain Batalvi, who had always been on the look out for an opportunity, also suffered much disgrace because of relying on the Christian clergymen. The reason why Muhammad Husain involved himself in this case without rhyme or reason was also that he, too, had become entirely frustrated in opposing me. When, in the beginning, he debated with me in Ludhiana, in that debate he could not prove from the Holy Quran or the Hadith that the Messiah, on whom be peace, did not die but ascended to heaven with his mortal body and is still there upon the second heaven. On the contrary, the argument was established for him on the basis of the Quran and the Hadith that, in fact, Jesus is dead. On top of this, he had

to face another cause for humiliation, namely, that although he had declared me uneducated and himself claimed to be a learned scholar, he could not write even a line in competition with my Arabic books which I had written to test his scholarship. Then the heavenly signs of God so pounded him as almost to destroy him. First of all, in Ludhiana an old man named Karim Bakhsh, who was a *Mauhid*,³¹ published a prophecy of his spiritual mentor concerning me, which he had heard thirty years before my claim. He stated on oath that his spiritual mentor used to tell him most emphatically that: “The Promised Messiah will be born in this *Umma* and his name will be *Ghulam Ahmad*. The name of his village will be Qadian. He shall come to Ludhiana and the Maulvis will oppose him bitterly and will declare him a *kāfir*. You will see how they oppose him, and yet he will be following the truth”. The community of this old man, because of misleading by the Maulvis, put great pressure on him to conceal this evidence. But he always manifested this testimony, shedding tears, till he passed from this world, but through his writings he informed hundreds of thousands of people about this prophecy. This was *the first sign* that appeared in my support.

Other signs in support

Then *the second sign* was that of lunar and solar eclipses which occurred in the month of Ramadan. None could prove that solar and lunar eclipses ever occurred in the month of Ramadan at the time of any claimant to the office of Mahdi before me. Hence this sign also was an argument of the Exalted God which was established against the Maulvis. *The third sign* was the appearance of the star *Dhu-l-sanain*. This was the star that appeared during the time of Jesus, and it had been foretold that it would appear again during the time of the Promised Messiah. *The fourth sign* was the survival of Atham according to the condition [in the prophecy], and then his death according to the second prophecy. *The fifth sign* was the death of Mirza Ahmad

31. *Publisher's Note:* This term, meaning ‘unitarian’, referred to a type of sect in Islam, to which Muhammad Husain Batalvi also belonged.

Beg of Hoshiarpur according to prophecy. *The sixth sign* was the murder of Lekhram according to prophecy. *The seventh sign* was that prophecy which I had made about the superiority of my article shortly before the Great Conference of Religions. *The eighth sign* was about Clarke's case, regarding which several hundred persons had been told beforehand that there would be a trial and then there would be exoneration. *The ninth sign* was that of the disgrace of Muhammad Husain himself. This was announced to him in accordance with the prophecy: "I shall disgrace him who intends your disgrace". Similarly there were several other signs which Muhammad Husain had seen with his own eyes. If he had within him the seed of spiritual good fortune, God had given him a good opportunity to accept this heavenly truth. However, he preferred *the world* to the hereafter and went from bad to worse. Had he been a seeker of truth and had come to me in humbleness, I was sure that the Exalted God would have given him a share of auspiciousness and shown him so many signs that he would have been completely satisfied. However, he did not like to enter through the door of guidance.

At the end I admonish my followers: You are witnessing God's signs with your own eyes. You have seen just now how God informed me about the beginning and the end of the whole case which had been instituted by the Christian clergymen. Look! is it the power of God or of someone else which gave information beforehand about the impending calamity, saying, "Certainly the believers were tried", and revealed in a vision the grip of the authorities, and then referred to the armies of spiritual help in the revelation, "I shall come with the armies all of a sudden", and then gave the tidings of my safety and exoneration? You saw that the Exalted God did exactly as I had published in a notification on receiving a revelation from Him before the Great Conference of Religions, that my exposition would prevail, and He granted it extraordinary popularity. Accordingly, up till now, thousands of persons are bearing witness that that was the outstanding exposition out of all.

Now think, who did this? God or someone else? This was a miracle of the Exalted God in words. Then He showed the miracle in deed that Lekhram was killed according to my prophecy. Look what a wonderful sign it is, that after becoming well-known among tens of millions of people, it was manifested in a terrible manner in a capital city like Lahore. The sign of Atham is also very clear before your eyes, as to how at first, according to the condition [in the prophecy], he reaped the advantage by fearing and trembling, and then how, according to the revelation, he was caught quickly because of concealing testimony and died.