Has the verse of بقية الله خير لكم ان كنتم مومنين been revealed about the Imam of the Time (AS)?

The group of Mahdavism

The inquirer: Mishkat

Response:

There are numerous verses in the Holy Qur'an which are mainly about the events taken place during the early prophets' lifetimes. But some of them might also apply to the happenings during the Holy Prophet Mohammad's (Peace Be Upon Him) time. The events which date back to the prophets' time have been recounted only because they were in one way or another connected to the time when the Prophet of Islam PBUH) lived. The following verse is one of those events.

رَحمَةُ اللهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ عَلَيكُم أهلَ البَيتِ

May the mercy of Allah and His blessings be upon you, people of the house. (Hud: 73)

This verse was originally revealed about Hazrat Abraham (AS) and his family. But the Holy Prophet (PBUH) asked God to apply it to his family as well.

قوله : كما صليت على آل إبراهيم هم إسماعيل وإسحاق وأولادهما ، وقد جمع الله لهم الرحمة والبركة بقوله : رحمة الله وبركاته عليكم أهل البيت إنه حميد مجيد ولم يجمعا لغيرهم ، فسأل النبي صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم إعطاء ما تضمنته الآية

Nil al-Awtar, al-Showkani, vol. 2, p. 325.

The Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) asked God to send upon his household the same blessings He did send upon Abraham and his family including Ishmael and Isaac as well as their descendants. That came after a

verse was revealed saying "**May the mercy of Allah and His blessings be upon you, people of the house. Indeed, He is Praiseworthy and Honorable.**"

قال تعالى : (رحمة الله وبركاته عليكم أهل البيت إنه حميد مجيد) فسأل (ص) إعطاء ما تضمنته هذه الآية مما سبق إعطاؤه لإبراهيم

Mughni al-Muhtaj, Mohammad Ibn Ahmad al-Shirbini, vol. 1, p. 176.

God stated, ""**May the mercy of Allah and His blessings be upon you, people of the house. Indeed, He is Praiseworthy and Honorable".** Accordingly, the Holy Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) asked God to send upon him and his household whatsoever blessings that He had promised to Abraham in this verse.

ثم نهض اليماني وهو يقول رحمة الله وبركاته عليكم أهل البيت

Al-Kafi, al-Sheikh al-Kulayni, vol. 1, p. 347.

A man from Yemen stood up and said, "May the mercy of Allah and His blessings be upon you, people of this house!

The verse which is under discussion looks very much like this verse.

بقية الله (Baqiyyat Allah) refers to someone or something which God has left for people.

(بقية الله خير لكم) أي ما يبقيه الله لكم بعد إيفاء الحقوق

Tafsir al-Qurtabi, al-Qurtabi, vol. 9, p. 86.

Baqiyyat Allah is the best for you. It implies what God has left for you after giving other people's rights.

Thus, Baqiyyat Allah has a general sense. It includes whatever God leaves for people. One of His most precious legacies is the man who will arrive some day to fill the society with peace and justice. It is written in some Sunni books that it has been Hazrat Mahdi (AS) who named himself

Baqiyyat Allah. And in some other books, he is being called as Baqiyyat Allah when Hazrat Wali Asr (AS) is the topic of discussion.

وعن أبي جعفر أيضا قال : المهدي منا منصور بالرعب ...وصاح صايح من السماء بأن الحق معه ومع أتباعه فعند ذلك خروج قائمنا ، فإذا خرج أسند ظهره إلى الكعبة واجتمع إليه ثلاث مائة وثلاثة عشر رجلا من أتباعه ، فأول ما ينطق هذه الآية : (بقية الله خير لكم إن كنتم مؤمنين) ثم يقول : أنا بقية الله وخليفته وحجته عليكم ، فلا يسلم مسلم عليه إلا قال : السلام عليك يا بقية الله في الأرض ...

Al-Fusul al-Muhimma fi Ma'rifat al-Aimma, Ibn al-Sabbagh Maliki, vol. 2, pp. 1133, 1135; published by Dar al-Hadith.

Aba Ja'far or Imam Baqir (AS) has been quoted as stating that Mahdi is from our household. God keeps giving him assistance by forcing fear into the hearts of his enemies. A voice from the sky would shout out saying that he and his followers are telling the truth. Then it would be the time for our upriser to rise up. As soon as he appeared, he would lean against the Ka'ba [in Mecca]. His three hundred and thirteen companions would be quick to gather around him. The very first thing he would say is the verse of **بقية الله خير لكم إن كنتم مؤمنين.** Then he would yell out saying, "O people! I am Baqiyyat Allah on the earth and I am your caliph appointed by God. Anyone who came to salute him, he would address him as Baqiyyat Allah.

In his Sharh Ihqaq al-Haq, Ayatollah Mar'ashi, has cited more quotations from Sunni books in this regard.

منهم العلامة الشيخ عبد الهادي الأبياري في " العرائس الواضحة " (ص 209 ط القاهرة) قال : وعن أبي جعفر من خبر طويل : أنه إذا خرج أسند ظهره إلى الكعبة واجتمع إليه ثلاثمائة وثلاثة عشر رجلا من أتباعه ، فأول ما ينطق بهذه الآية : (بقية الله خير لكم إن كنتم مؤمنين) ثم يقول : أنا بقية الله وخليفته وحجته عليكم فلا يسلم عليه أحد إلا قال : السلام عليك يا بقية الله في الأرض...

ومنهم العلامة المذكور في " جالية الكدر " (ص 209 ط مصر) . روى الحديث عن أبي جعفر بعين ما تقدم عن " العرائس الواضحة

Sharh Ihqaq al-Haq, al-Sayyid al-Mar’ashi, vol. 13, p. 332.

Allame Sheikh ‘Abd al-Hadi Abyari is one of the individuals who have quoted this narrative from Sunni scholars. He has quoted a lengthy narrative from Aba Ja’fa or Imam Baqir (AS) about Imam Mahdi’s appearance in his Litab al-‘Arais al-Wadiha, p. 209; published in Egypt. “Once he appeared, he would lean against the Ka’ba [in Mecca]. His three hundred and thirteen companions would be quick to gather around him. The very first thing he would say is the verse of **بقية الله خير لكم إن كنتم مؤمنين .** Then he would yell out saying, “O people! I am Baqiyyat Allah on the earth and your caliph appointed by God. Anyone who came to salute him, he would address him as Baqiyyat Allah.” The same Allame has also cited it in his Jaliyat al-Kidir.

Good Luck

The Group Responsible for Answers to Doubts

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