

THE LAST SERMON

(The following article is the transcript of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad's, may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon Him, 1974 Saviour's Day Address: The Last Sermon.)

By Elijah Muhammad
Messenger of Allah

MY BELOVED BROTHERS and sisters, we have here today a very beautiful day from Allah. We are a people that do not think that we are big 'I's; we think that we are little 'I's, and not big 'I's.

We're so greatly blessed by Allah, and by you visiting us that we cannot help but to be happy and proud of your presence.

WE WANT YOU to know that you have seen the setting of the Sun, but that Sun is rising again. It set, but she is rising again, bringing us a new day.

The coming of God, the coming of our Saviour. He's not a spook. I want you to know that we are trying our best—since we have met face to face with God—in trying to remove from you that old idea that God is some spirit that is formless. We want you to get out of that old slavery idea.

This is all-wise use of a pronoun, calling Him, 'He.' You feel pretty cheap calling Him 'she'; you feel pretty cheap just to say, 'spirit.' You've got to say, 'He.' I am here to tell you that He's not a she nor is He some formless spirit.

The Bible says of the DAY OF JUDGMENT you will see God as He is. This is the day that I can gladly say that He is a 'He.' There are many people that have not known God, and there are many people that know Him. The white race knows Him. The white race knows God, but they cannot represent God, as you and me know—they'd be giving away the power to rule.

THEY WERE NOT to rule under the teachings of reality of God; they were made to hide the reality of God in order that they themselves can be worshiped. I don't get angry with them the way that they rule and what they teach.

How in the world can they teach and turn us away from the God of reality? If they get the rule they've got to take us away because we've got the reality. Every time you look at the Black man you're lookin' at God.

Some of you say 'No, I'm no god and you're no god.' Okay, get your god and show him to me. You can't do that; you say that god is a spirit, show him to me. You cannot show me your spirit god!

Then you say he's not to be seen—well then, I don't want to see him if he doesn't want to see me. We worship that which we know; you worship that which you want. We're not going to hold your attention to this kind of subject—we've got lots of work to do.

FOR 43 YEARS, I have been teaching that God is man. For 43 years I have been teaching you that one day you'll wake up and know; you'll wake up and agree with me. From the looks of your numbers here today, it seems that you're waking up.

The professors and scholars over at the colleges and universities would look and laugh if you would tell them to go and worship something that they don't know anything about, and I don't blame them.

We're very happy we have with us two great scientists sitting over here to my right. They are great scientists visiting us.

If we had been worshipping the space, the atmosphere for God, they would not have taken a seat over there. We are truly happy to be honored by them. We are glad that they are visiting us to know that the spiritual Sun is vice versa itself—rising from the west.

ALLAH HAS COME to raise us up to give us kingdoms. The Bible says it's His own good will to do so. He takes the kingdom from whom He pleases and gives it to whom He pleases. So we have to take what He's now giving to us to take.

Get up, brothers and sisters, and recognize your brother who was lost and is now found. Get up, give him a place at home. Come on in brothers! Praise be to Allah; he was lost, now he's found. He was dead, now he's alive. Come on in brothers; have a seat brothers—put him on top!

SINCE THE COMING of God, in the Person of Master Fard Muhammad, and Him teaching you and me that He has searched the earth for us, we cannot sit down, we must not lie down; we must get up and go to work.

We want to thank the Chicago white people for making it possible for us to obtain

the (South Shore) country club. For it was impossible for us to get in such position where we can prove ourselves worthy of freedom. They have done us a great favor. I don't think that we should have anything to do but honor and thank them for putting us in such a position. This is their army and we're here teaching the truth.

(Editor's note: The above references to the South Shore Country Club were made at a time when the Honorable Elijah Muhammad had been assured of its availability for the use of the Nation of Islam.)

They're not objecting to me teaching the truth, as there are white Muslims in America, and lots of them. We have them all over the world and they recognize and respect you. You must recognize and respect them. You don't disrespect people who are trying to respect you.



THE HONORABLE ELIJAH MUHAMMAD
Messenger of Allah

I REMEMBER the last time that I was out at the airport; they let me and my followers get on first. Now remember, their flag is still flying over America; honor and respect the man—because He still has this land.

There is much that can be interchanged between them and us in that way of respect. We don't have to get up to try to take from them just because you have learned yourself, and now you have learned them. Just remember that they show you respect after you have learned yourself—show them respect too, because when you didn't know yourself you didn't respect self or anyone else. We were a disgrace to ourselves and them too because we didn't know ourselves and them. But now we respect ourselves and we respect them. Praise be to Allah.

We don't go out and disrespect the owners of this land as long as they are in power. I think that you would be showing disrespect for high honor that has been conferred on you and me by God.

RESPECT EVERYBODY—everybody will respect you. This I mean from my heart; everywhere we go respect people and people will respect you. Don't think that you're so great now just because God promised you the Kingdom; wait until you get in.

Again you must remember that by the ruler being dishonorable and dishonoring people; he's dishonoring himself. My beloved brothers and sisters, He does not mean for us to waste our time looking to see who can we make mockery of, looking and trying to show people up.

WE MUST show the world that we are a righteous people trying to set up the characteristics of people of righteousness. We don't want our people acting unrighteous regardless to who acts unrighteous to us. We must not do so ourselves since we represent ourselves as being righteous people.

If we say there goes the devil, then don't try to fashion after him if you say you're righteous. Show the devil that you're righteous because he's watching you.

Let us remember these words, that there is much you must learn to do to show forth to the world who we are. We were not raised up to sit around and make mockery of people; we were raised to show the world what righteousness looks like and what it feels like to be righteous.

EVERY MAN looks for the one who will lift him and put him on the right road; this is a wonderful Man. In the Bible He said to Israel, I am you God.

Now He says to you and I, 'Remember my faith that I bestowed upon you. Take a lesson from Me that if I bestow upon Israel those great blessings, what do you think I'm going to do for you? If I blessed Israel to bring her from out of the bondage of Pharaoh, what you think I'm going to do for you?'

'I found Israel in the wasteland and I found you in the wasteland and you are my own.' So if God says, and He has said, that we belong to Him, all Praise is due to Allah.

'I only wanted to show to Israel that I am God.' So, this same thing, brothers and sisters, has come to us. I want to show you, O my lost-found, that He that found you and me is God. He owns us and He wants to do for you that which will stand forever.

THE EARTH belongs to you; it didn't belong to you but now you are the true owner. It was taken away from you; come on, I want to give it back. The lost and found has been lost from his brethren for a long time.

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