

Messengers 6 – proof of prophethood

QUESTION: Is the performance of miracles the only proof that someone is a prophet?

ANSWER: The answer, at first glance, might seem to be obviously yes. How else can a person 'prove' that he has been sent by Allah? ¹

Yet, the answer is no. There are other proofs of prophethood and these include the following:

a) The Qur'an mentions that the prophets, amongst them Nuh (Noah), Ibraaheem (Abraham), Lut (Lot), Musa (Moses), and Muhammad – peace and blessings be upon them all – told their people that they would be helped by Allah and their enemies would be vanquished and forsaken by Allah. And in each case, events turned out exactly as they foretold.

b) That Allah always helps them, and it stands to reason that the Creator would never help and aid a liar in the way that He would help a truthful person. In fact, as can be seen in all times and places, including in our times, Allah exposes the liars; He gives them time for respite – and then He destroys them.

c) That the path of the Prophets must necessarily be one and consistent, in that they call the people to goodness and matters that will bring them happiness and peace in this world, as well in the Hereafter. They call the people to believe in the One True Creator, to act upon His commands, to believe that there will be a Day of Judgement and to believe in His books and his messengers.

So the later prophets attest to the truthfulness of the earlier prophets.

And each prophet gives glad tidings of the prophet to come after him.

So we see for example, that Eesaa (Jesus) and the other preceding prophets gave glad tidings of Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon all of them).

And Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) attested to the truthfulness of all the prophets who came before him.

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NEXT TIME: So how can we then distinguish between the liar and the truthful person who both claim to be prophets?

¹ Refer to *al irshaad ilaa saheeh il i'tiqaad* of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan pp 181 to 182