

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Series of Questions Addressed to Eminent Scholar Ata Bin Khalil Abu Al-Rashtah

Ameer of Hizb ut Tahrir through his Facebook "Fiqh" Page

Answer to Question

End of Times Prophecies and the Descent of the Masih (Peace Be Upon Him)

To: Hamzeh Shihadeh

(Translated)

Question:

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh,

We ask Allah, our Sheikh, that you are in good health and well-being, and that He bestow upon you, upon us, and upon all Muslims a Khilafah (Caliphate) on the method of Prophethood.

We are confused by the stories and accounts of the descent of the Prophet Isa, peace be upon him, at the end of time, the coming of the awaited Mahdi, the one-eyed Dajjal, and the people of Gog and Magog. What is authentic and what is rejected?

Answer:

Wa Alaikum Assalam Wa Rahmatullah Wa Barakatuh,

May Allah bless you for your kind prayers for us, and we pray for you to receive all the good.

First, it must be noted that reports found in Islamic texts, whether concerning past or future events, must be authenticated in order to be accepted; i.e., they must not be weak or fabricated. I will mention some of the authentic evidence related to your question, but I will not list all of it; you can find more in relevant books of Islamic jurisprudence:

A- Regarding Gog and Magog, they are mentioned in the Holy Quran:

In Surah Al-Kahf: **﴿قَالُوا يَا ذَا الْقَرْنَيْنِ إِنَّ يَأْجُوجَ وَمَأْجُوجَ مُفْسِدُونَ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَهَلْ نَجْعَلُ لَكَ خَرْجًا عَلَى أَنْ تَجْعَلَ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُمْ سَدًّا * قَالَ مَا مَكْنِي فِيهِ رَبِّي خَبِّرْ فَأَعْيُنُونِي بِقُوَّةٍ أَجْعَلْ بَيْنَكُمْ وَبَيْنَهُمْ رَدْمًا * آتُونِي زُبَرَ الْحَدِيدِ حَتَّى إِذَا سَاوَى بَيْنَ الصَّدَفَيْنِ قَالَ انْفُخُوا حَتَّى إِذَا جَعَلَهُ نَارًا قَالَ آتُونِي أُفْرِغَ عَلَيْهِ قِطْرًا * فَمَا اسْتَطَاعُوا أَنْ يَظْهَرُوهُ وَمَا اسْتَطَاعُوا لَهُ نَقْبًا * قَالَ هَذَا رَحْمَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّي فَإِذَا جَاءَ وَعْدُ رَبِّي جَعَلَهُ دَكَّاءَ وَكَانَ وَعْدُ رَبِّي حَقًّا * وَتَرَكْنَا بَعْضَهُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ يَمُوجُ فِي بَعْضٍ وَنَفَخْنَا فِي الصُّورِ فَجَمَعْنَاهُمْ جَمْعًا﴾** They pleaded, "O Zul-Qarnain! Surely Gog and Magog are spreading corruption throughout the land. Should we pay you tribute, provided that you build a wall between us and them?" * He responded, "What my Lord has provided for me is far better. But assist me with resources, and I will build a barrier between you and them * Bring me blocks of iron!" Then, when he had filled up 'the gap' between the two mountains, he ordered, "Blow!" When the iron became red hot, he said, "Bring me molten copper to pour over it." * And so the enemies could neither scale nor tunnel through it * He declared, "This is a mercy from my Lord. But when the promise of my Lord comes to pass, He will level it to the ground. And my Lord's promise is ever true." * On that Day, We will let them¹ surge 'like waves' over one another. Later, the Trumpet will be blown,² and We will gather all 'people' together" [Al-Kahf: 94-99].

B- As for the descent of the Prophet Isa, peace be upon him, at the end of time, the coming of the awaited Mahdi, and news of the one-eyed Dajjal, we have addressed these matters in previous answers, and I will quote some of them for you:

*** Answer to a Question on 1/2/2014 CE states:**

[Ahmad narrated in his Musnad on the authority of Abu Saeed al-Khudri, who said: The Messenger of Allah (saw) said: **«أَيَسْرُكُمُ بِالْمَهْدِيِّ يُنْعَثُ فِي أَمْتِي عَلَى اخْتِلَافٍ مِنَ النَّاسِ وَزَلْزَلٍ، فَيَمْلَأُ الْأَرْضَ قِسْطًا وَعَدْلًا، كَمَا مُلِئَتْ جَوْرًا وَظُلْمًا، يَرْضَى عَنْهُ سَاكِنُ السَّمَاءِ وَسَاكِنُ الْأَرْضِ، يَفْسِمُ الْمَالَ صِحَاحًا»** فَقَالَ لَهُ رَجُلٌ: مَا صِحَاحًا؟ قَالَ: «بِالسَّوِيَّةِ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ...» "I give you glad tidings of the Mahdi. He will be sent to my Ummah at a time of discord among the people and turmoil. He will fill the earth with justice and equity, just as it was filled with injustice and oppression. The inhabitants of the heavens and the inhabitants of the earth will be pleased with him. He will distribute wealth "Sihahan." A man said to him: What does "Sihahan" mean? He said: "With equality among people"."]

Answer to a question dated 1/4/2016, it states:

[Regarding the Mahdi, there are Hadiths on the subject that are: authentic (Sahih), good (Hassan), weak (Dha'eef), and fabricated (Mawduhu'). Throughout history, many have claimed to be the Mahdi... It is not difficult for one to distinguish the authentic from the weak in this matter. It suffices, as stated in the authentic Hadiths, that the Mahdi is a just ruler who will come at the end of time, find injustice, and rule with justice, removing the oppression. His name will be the same as the name of the Prophet (saw) and his father, namely, "Muhammad ibn Abdullah." He will be given the pledge of allegiance between the Corner and the Maqam of Abraham... He may be one of the Caliphs of the second Khilafah Rashida (Rightly Guided Caliphate). And Allah knows best:

- Nu'aim Bin Hamad narrated regarding the trials on the authority of Abu Huraira (ra), he said: «يُبَايِعُ الْمَهْدِيُّ بَيْنَ الرُّكْنِ وَالْمَقَامِ، لَا يُوقِظُ نَائِمًا، وَلَا يُهْرِيقُ دَمًا» **“The Mahdi will be given the oath of allegiance between the Rukn and the Maqam, without waking anyone who is asleep, and without shedding blood.”** In another narration from Qatada, he said, The Messenger (saw): «إِنَّهُ يَخْرُجُ مِنَ الْمَدِينَةِ إِلَى مَكَّةَ فَيَسْتَخْرِجُهُ النَّاسُ مِنْ بَيْنِهِمْ، فَيُبَايِعُونَهُ بَيْنَ الرُّكْنِ وَالْمَقَامِ وَهُوَ كَارِهٌ» **“He will leave Medina for Mecca, and the people will bring him out from among them, and they will pledge allegiance to him between the Corner and the Maqam, while he is unwilling.”**

- Ibn Hibban reported in his Sahih on the authority of Asim, on the authority of Zirr, on the authority of Abdullah, who said: The Messenger of Allah (saw), said: «لَا تَقُومُ السَّاعَةُ حَتَّى يَمْلِكَ النَّاسَ رَجُلٌ مِنْ أَهْلِ بَنِي، يُوَاطِئُ اسْمُهُ اسْمِي، وَاسْمُ أَبِيهِ اسْمُ أَبِي، فَيَمْلُؤُهَا قِسْطًا وَعَدْلًا» **“The Hour will not come until a man from my family rules the people, whose name matches my name, and whose father's name matches my father's name, and he will fill it with justice and equity.”**

- Al-Hakim included in Al-Mustadrak 'ala Al-Sahihayn on the authority of Abu Saeed Al-Khudri (ra), that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: «يَخْرُجُ فِي آخِرِ أُمَّتِي الْمَهْدِيُّ يَسْقِيهِ اللَّهُ الْغَيْثَ، وَتَخْرُجُ الْأَرْضُ وَتَنْتَشِرُ الْأَشْيَاءُ وَتَكْثُرُ الْأَمْالُ صِحَاحًا، وَيُعْطَى الْمَالُ صِحَاحًا، وَتَكْثُرُ الْأَمْشِيَّةُ وَتَعْظُمُ الْأُمَمُ، يَعْيشُ سَبْعًا أَوْ ثَمَانِيًا» **“The Mahdi will emerge at the end of my Ummah. Allah will send down rain for him, the earth will bring forth its vegetation, he will give money equitably, livestock will increase, and the Ummah will grow in number. He will live for seven or eight years,”** meaning Hajj years... And there are other Hadiths

When we see a man with these characteristics, we can investigate whether he is the Mahdi or not. But if he is not, we do not investigate whether he is the Mahdi or not; rather, he falls under the category of deception and false claims.] End quote.

* Answer to a Question on 17/4/2014, stated:

[Regarding the subject of Isa, peace be upon him, his descent to Earth, and the killing of the Dajjal... there are authentic (Sahih) Hadiths on this subject indicating that the Dajjal is a misguided and misleading man who will come at the end of time, sometimes claiming to be God, and sometimes claiming to be the Masih (Prophet Isa), falsely and slanderously. He will show people something resembling Paradise and something resembling Hell. What people see as Paradise is in reality fire, and what people see as Hell is in reality cool, fresh water... He will severely punish those who disobey him and grant those who obey him worldly pleasures such as food, meat, and water... and withhold them from those who disobey. **However, withholding these pleasures from the believer does not harm him, for the Dajjal is too insignificant in Allah's eyes to be able to tempt the believer...** In any case, he is a trial and tribulation for people. The believer knows that he is a lying deceiver, so he remains steadfast in his belief no matter how severe the Dajjal's actions may be... **During this Dajjal's infliction of people and his claim to be the Masih, Isa (peace be upon him) will descend and kill the Dajjal.**

- Muslim narrated on the authority of Uqbah ibn Amr Abu Mas'ud al-Ansari, who said: I went with him to Hudhayfah ibn al-Yaman, and Uqbah said to him: Tell me what you heard from the Messenger of Allah (saw) concerning the Dajjal. He said: «إِنَّ الدَّجَالَ يَخْرُجُ، وَإِنَّ مَعَهُ مَاءً وَنَارًا، فَأَمَّا الَّذِي يَرَاهُ النَّاسُ مَاءً، فَنَارٌ تَحْرَقُ، وَأَمَّا الَّذِي يَرَاهُ النَّاسُ نَارًا، فَمَاءٌ بَارِدٌ عَذْبٌ، فَمَنْ أَدْرَكَ ذَلِكَ مِنْكُمْ، فَلْيَقْعْ فِي الَّذِي يَرَاهُ نَارًا، فَإِنَّهُ مَاءٌ عَذْبٌ طَيِّبٌ» **“The Dajjal will emerge, and with him will be water and fire. What people see as water will be a scorching fire, and what people see as fire will be cool, sweet water. So, whoever witnesses that, then let him fall into what he sees as fire, for it is sweet, pure water.”** Then Uqbah said: “And I heard it, confirming what Hudhayfah said.”

- Muslim reported that Anas ibn Malik said: The Messenger of Allah (saw) said: «مَا مِنْ نَبِيٍّ إِلَّا» **“There is no prophet who did not warn his nation about the one-eyed liar. Indeed, he is one-eyed, and your Lord is not one-eyed. And written between his eyes is K-F-R.”** In another narration by Muslim: «مَكْتُوبٌ بَيْنَ عَيْنَيْهِ كَافِرٌ، يَقْرَؤُهُ كُلُّ مُؤْمِنٍ، كَاتِبٍ وَغَيْرِ كَاتِبٍ.» **“Written between his eyes is Kafir (disbeliever), which every believer, literate or illiterate, can read.”**

- And in a narration by Muslim about the place where Isa (peace be upon him) will descend, and about the place where he will kill the Dajjal: «فَبَيْنَمَا هُوَ كَذَلِكَ إِذْ بَعَثَ اللَّهُ الْمَسِيحَ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ، فَيَنْزِلُ عِنْدَ الْمِنَارَةِ: وَإِذَا رَفَعَهُ تَحَدَّرَ مِنْهُ جُمَانٌ كَالْوَلْوَلِ، فَلَا الْبَيْضَاءِ شَرْقِيَّ دِمَشْقَ، بَيْنَ مَهْرُودَتَيْنِ، وَاضْعًا كَفَيْهِ عَلَى أَجْنَحَةِ مَلَكََيْنِ، إِذَا طَاطَأَ رَأْسَهُ قَطْرٌ، وَإِذَا رَفَعَهُ تَحَدَّرَ مِنْهُ جُمَانٌ كَالْوَلْوَلِ، فَلَا يَحِلُّ لِكَافِرٍ يَجِدُ رِيحَ نَفْسِهِ إِلَّا مَاتَ، وَنَفْسُهُ يَنْتَهِي حَيْثُ يَنْتَهِي طَرْفُهُ، فَيُطْلَبُهُ حَتَّى يُدْرِكَهُ بَبَابٍ لَدَى، فَيَقْتُلُهُ...» **“While he is in that state, Allah will send the Masih, son of Mary, and he will descend at the White Minaret east of Damascus, wearing two dyed pieces of cloth, placing his hands on the wings of two angels. When he lowers his head, it drips, and when he raises it, pearls like gems will descend from it. The disbeliever who smells his breath will die.”** His breath ends where his gaze ends, so he pursues him until he catches him at the gate of Lod, and kills him...”] End quote.

C. As for the influence of the Masih ad-Dajjal on our actions when he appears at the end of time, it will not affect the believer, for the following reasons:

- Because his falsehood is clear to every person of sight and insight. His claim to be God is a false claim that no rational person would believe. He is a person of limited physical form, deficient, indeed severely deficient. He is one-eyed, and therefore he is a created being, and this is clear to every rational person.

- His claim to be Isa, son of Mary, is likewise false, for he is one-eyed, and what has been narrated about the attributes of Isa, peace be upon him, is that he was in a perfect form and of good character... Al-Bukhari narrated in his Sahih on the authority of Abdullah ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with them both, that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: «أَرَانِي اللَّيْلَةَ عِنْدَ الْكَعْبَةِ، فَرَأَيْتُ رَجُلًا أَدَمَ، كَأَحْسَنَ مَا أَنْتَ رَأَى مِنْ أَدَمِ الرِّجَالِ، لَهُ لَمَّةٌ كَأَحْسَنَ مَا أَنْتَ رَأَى مِنَ اللَّيْلِ قَدْ رَجَلَهَا، فِيهِ تَفْطُرُ مَاءٌ، مُتَكِنًا عَلَى رَجُلَيْنِ، أَوْ عَلَى عَوَاتِقِ رَجُلَيْنِ، يَطُوفُ بِالْبَيْتِ، فَسَأَلْتُ: مَنْ هَذَا؟ فَقِيلَ: الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ.. وَإِذَا أَنَا بِرَجُلٍ جَعْدٍ قَطَطٍ، أَعُورَ الْعَيْنِ الْيُمْنَى، كَأَنَّهَا عَنَبَةٌ «I dreamt at night that I was at the Kaba, and I saw a dark man like the most handsome of dark men you have ever seen. He had hair reaching to between his ears and his shoulders like the most excellent of such hair that you have seen. He had combed his hair, and water was dripping from it. He was leaning on two men or on the shoulders of two men doing tawaf around Kaba. I asked, 'Who is this?' It was said, 'al- Masih ibn Maryam.' Then we were with a man with wiry hair and blind in his right eye, as if it was a floating grape (or dim from light). I asked 'Who is this?' It was said to me, 'This is al-Masih ad-Dajjal.'”

- Likewise, the Masih ad-Dajjal has the word "kafir" written between his eyes, as mentioned in the Hadith, both the illiterate and the learned believer can read it. Therefore, he carries his own denial with him. The Prophet (saw) informed us in his Hadiths about the Masih ad-Dajjal, stating that he will not affect the believers. He clarified his reality and true nature, explaining that he is a trial and tribulation from which the believers will be saved by Allah's permission.

This is what I believe to be the most likely interpretation, and Allah Knows Best and Most Wise.

There is no need to delve further into the subject of the Masih ad-Dajjal, as what we have mentioned is sufficient, Allah willing.

Your Brother,

Ata Bin Khalil Abu Al-Rashtah

18 Sha'ban 1447 AH

6/2/2026 CE

The Link to the Answer from the Ameer's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AtaAboAlrashtah/posts/122122028553129051>