

L12

## Topic: Nabuwwah (Prophethood)

### The Need for Prophets

Some argue that whatever the prophets might tell us, would be one of two things which either our intellect understands or it does not; in the first case we do not need prophets and in the second, we cannot accept something against our intellect.

In answer we should note some points:

- a. We should recognize the fact that **our knowledge is limited** and is not comparable to what we do not know. **The prophets are not to introduce the irrational** but rather the unknown which is very important.
- b. No one says that we should place ourselves completely at another person's disposal without reason. It is only after proving their relation to God and His knowledge that we wholeheartedly accept their message.

c. «وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ، إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَىٰ» [53-3,4]

- d. “Nor does he say (aught) of (his own) Desire; It is not but a revelation revealed”

There are three reasons for our need to the guidance of the prophets:

#### 1. **The need we have for their teachings;**

The universe is not created uselessly and God had no need for it, rather He created it to have mercy upon us so that we reach our perfection; on the other hand **we cannot reach that perfection without His own errorless knowledge** given to us by revelation to the prophets.

2. **In order to realize and accomplish the goal of creation** we are in need of errorless guidance and, our intellect alone is not capable of treading this path.

#### 3. **The need for a guide in social and moral issues**

We need a perfect teacher and a model to teach us how to control our instincts and build a perfect society; an infallible and pure person is the best choice by which God shows His mercy.