The Claim that al-Jarḥ wal-Taʿdīl is a Tribulation and is not Knowledge

Shaykh Rabī bin Hādī was asked about the subject of al-Jarḥ wal-Taʿdīl and the issue of the jarḥ mufassar being given preference over the taʿdīl, on 8th January 2003 corresponding to 5th of Dhul-Qaʿdah 1423H, delivered over Paltalk and the lecture is recorded and saved.

He was asked: "What do you say about the one who says that al-Jarh wal-Ta'dīl is a mihnah (tribulation) and is not knowledge?"

The Shaykh answered: "This one is a jāhil. This one is a jāhil. He is a deceiver (khāʾin) and one who deceives (ghashshāsh). He does not desire that sincere advice be given for Islām or for the Muslims. For verily al-Jarḥ wal-Taʿdīl is a great foundation that Islām actually rests upon. Allāh protected Islām by way of it. And Allāh preserved the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allāh by it, and likewise the sayings of the Companions. Likewise the Scholars of Islām, they carried and conveyed [Islām] by way of it. By way of it, Allāh separated the people of misguidance from the people of guidance. We have come to know the Jahmiyyah, the Muʿtazilah, the Rawāfiḍ, the Khawārij by way of this manhaj. So we beware of their misguidance, we hold onto (the truth) by the molar teeth, the pure dīn that results from this manhaj (of al-Jarḥ wal-Taʿdīl).... They say this manhaj is a mihnah (tribulation)?... By Allāh what a blessing of a mihnah (tribulation) it is!"

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