

SEERAH(BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUAHAMMAD(PBUH)

LESSON:11 {IN ENGLISH}

SEERAH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (sal'Allahu alaihi wa sallam)



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 11



TOPICS:



Muhammad's (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) character before Prophethood.



Portents of Prophethood.



MUHAMMED'S CHARACTER BEFORE PROPHETHOOD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



From childhood, Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was exceptionally intelligent and chaste and was highly regarded for his honesty, valor, justice, piety, patience, modesty, loyalty and hospitality. Abu Talib described his beloved nephew in the following words:



□ He is fair and handsome. From his visage, mercy falls like rain. He is a shelter for the orphan and a protector of widows.



Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) maintained good relations with his family, bore others' burdens, and guided the destitute towards self-sufficiency. In keeping with his future role as Allah's Messenger, one who was to outlaw all aspects of idolatry and polytheism, Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) had an inherent hatred for the prevailing paganism of his time.



Thus, although he was an integral part of his society, Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) never attended any of the important local festivals and fairs that revolved around idol worship and drinking. He was also careful not to eat the flesh of any animal slaughtered in the name of someone other than Allah, and avoided touching or even coming close to idols. He especially detested hearing oaths sworn upon the pagans' two most famous idols, Laat and Uzzah.



Ibn Al-Atheer reported Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) as saying: "I have never tried to do what my people do except for two times. Every time Allah intervened and checked me from doing so and I never did that again. Once I told my fellow-shepherd to take care of my sheep when we were in the upper part of Makkah. I wanted to go down to Makkah and entertain myself as the young men did.



I went down to the first house of Makkah where I heard music. I entered and asked: 'What is this?' Someone answered: 'It is a wedding party.' I sat down and listened but soon went into deep sleep. I was awakened by the heat of the sun. I went back to my fellow-shepherd and told him of what had happened to me. I have never tried it again."



Al-Bukhari reported on the authority of Jabir bin 'Abdullah that he said: "While the people were rebuilding Al-Ka'bah, the Prophet Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) went with 'Abbas to carry some stones. 'Abbas said: 'Put your loincloth round your neck to protect you

from the stones.’ (As he did that) the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) fell to the ground and his eyes turned skyward. Later on he woke up and shouted: ‘My loincloth... my loincloth.’ He wrapped himself in his loincloth.” In another report: “His loins were never seen afterwards.”



PORTENTS OF



PROPHETHOOD



With his aversion to some of the most cohesive social ties in Makkan society, it was inevitable that Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) would grow apart from his fellow Makkans and their depraved way of life that included public drunkenness and female infanticide. He began to long for solitude, and preferred to spend his time alone, away from the noisy festivals and crowded markets.



At the same time, he felt the need to save his people from the destruction he felt was imminent. His discontent grew, and he began to seek refuge in the cave of Hira. Here he would spend long periods alone, and it was here that he worshipped not idols or imagined gods, but the one true God—Allah.



Following the monotheistic practice of his forefather, Ibraheem ('alaihi salaam), every year, for three consecutive years, he spent the month of Ramadan in the cave. He would then return to Makkah, circumambulate the Ka'bah, and then go back home.



When Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) reached forty years of age, he began to experience what could be called portents of prophethood. He would have visions, and whatever appeared to him in these visions and dreams would come true.

To Be Continued...

