

SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

LESSON:28 { IN ENGLISH }



Assalamu alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD (SalAllahu alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON NO : 28



TOPIC:



Argument and Quibbling (continued).



ARGUMENT AND QUIBBLING

(CONTINUED)



Unable to question Allah's right to bless whomever He wished with prophethood, the polytheists now developed a different argument to discredit Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam). Kings, they pointed out, are surrounded by splendor and vast wealth, and only the most honorable dignitaries are allowed in their presence. Such kings are aided by the wisest advisors, and have hundreds of servants, bodyguards, and wives.



How was it, they asked, that Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) the emissary of Allah, was forced to wander about in the market place in order to earn his bread?



"They say: ' ...Why doesn't an angel descend from the heavens to accompany him while he admonishes us? Or, why hasn't a great treasure been bestowed upon him, or a garden that he can eat from?' The unjust among them say, 'You follow none but a man

who is possessed!' "



(25: 7,8)



The polytheists argued that Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), if he were indeed a prophet sent by Allah, he should resemble a royal dignitary. Where were his palaces? His wealth? His royal entourage? He did not have even the companionship of a single angel to help him with his preaching!



The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) however, saw his mission in quite different terms. He was sent to deliver Allah's message to all people—rich and poor, strong and weak, free and enslaved. If he put on the airs of a king, he would not be able to reach the majority of his audience. The objectives of his mission required him to live as an ordinary human being, to show people that Islam was compatible with everyday life, and that it was not merely a tool to entertain kings, theologians and philosophers.



The Qur'an refuted the expectations of the polytheists by using one word to describe his status that Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was a Messenger.



It might seem a little strange to us that the Quraysh would turn so viciously on one of their own. What was so unacceptable about what Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) preached? At the root of all the conflicts between Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and the polytheists was the concept of monotheism (Tawheed), which the polytheists had corrupted into its antithesis, idolatry. At the same time, they accepted some of the components of monotheism.



For example, they accepted the fact that Allah is one in His personal self, attributes and actions. The polytheists also agreed with the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) on the following points:

- Allah is the sole Creator of the universe,
- He is the Lord and Provider of all living beings,
- He alone gives and takes life, and
- It is He Who makes independent decisions which no one can challenge.



However, hand in hand with their belief in Allah's supremacy was their belief that certain individuals held special powers granted by Allah. These individuals, the polytheists claimed, could perform many miraculous feats, such as healing the sick and causing barren women to conceive. Some were believed to act as intermediaries—when people prayed to them, these beings supposedly relayed the prayers to Allah!

To Be Continued...

