

# SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

## LESSON:52 { IN ENGLISH }



**Assalamu alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu**



**SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD ( SalAllahu alaihi wa sallam)**



LESSON NO: 52



TOPIC:



An offer no ordinary man could refuse.



AN OFFER NO ORDINARY

MAN COULD REFUSE



Once again the Makkan pagans decided it was time to hold talks on the growing strength of Islam. The conversions of Hamzah and Umar had changed things considerably, and the Makkans realized their power base was fast collapsing.



Utbah bin Rabi'a, a member of Banu Abd Shams, was a chieftain of his people and well respected throughout Makkah. He addressed the other notables of Makkah who had gathered to discuss the problem of Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and his followers:



□ "O people of Quraysh, shall I not talk to Muhammad and bargain with him? Perhaps he will accept my offer, in which case we will be rid of him."



The council approved, and Utbah was charged with approaching the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) with an offer no ordinary man could refuse. Utbah found Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) sitting alone at the Ka'bah.



He said:



□ "O my nephew! You know you enjoy a high position in this city. You are the best among us in respect to lineage. Now you have brought something very serious, and you have created a rift among your people by ridiculing them, insulting their gods as well as their religion, declaring their forefathers to be heathens, and rejecting their customs. Now, listen to me. I will make a few suggestions, and you may find one agreeable."



□ "O Abul Waleed," replied the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), "Go on. I am listening."



Utbah continued:



□ "My nephew, if it is wealth you hope to obtain by your preaching, we will collect enough for you so that you will be the richest among us. If it is honor you desire, we will make you our chief and leave every decision to you. If you wish to be king, we will recognize you as our monarch. If you desire beautiful women, choose any woman from the Quraysh—we will give you ten such women in marriage. And if you are possessed by a demon, we will find a skilled physician for you and spend all that it takes to restore your health."



"Is that all you have to say?" the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) asked. "Yes," replied Utbah.



□ "Now listen to me," said the Prophet. "I am listening," he said. The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) then recited the opening ayaah of Surah Fussilat:



"Haa-Meem (A revelation from Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful), A book with ayaah that are explained in detail. A Qur'an in Arabic for people who understand. Giving glad tidings and admonition, yet most of them turn away, and so do not hear. They say: Our hearts are veiled from that which you invite us to accept, our ears are deaf, and between you and


us is a screen. So do your work, and we will do ours."  (41:1-5)



The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) continued to recite, and Utbah listened carefully.

Then the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) came to the following ayah:



□ "And if they turn away, then say: I have warned you of a thunderbolt like the thunderbolt that struck 'Aad and Thamud."  (41:13)



Utbah put his hand on Muhammad's (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) mouth and pleaded with him not to bring about such a terrible punishment. The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) came to an ayah that required him to prostrate, and he did so. Having finished his recitation, he asked Utbah,



□ "O Abul Waleed, have you heard?"



□ "Yes," he replied. "I have heard."



□ "Then it is time for you to decide," Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said.

To Be Continued...

