



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 91



TOPICS:



Fighting begins.



The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) is rumored dead.



FIGHTING BEGINS



When both armies drew near, the standard bearer of the pagans, the most valiant man of the Quraysh, Talha bin Abi Talha Abdari, came forward on his camel and issued a challenge. He was answered by Zubayr bin Awwam (radhiAllahu 'anhu). Zubayr jumped on to Talha's camel, threw him down to the ground and slew him. "Allahu Akbar" cried the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and all his men echoed the cry. After the first ritual encounter, the two armies set upon each other.



Khalid bin Waleed, who was then head of the pagan cavalry, attempted three times to reach the rear. Each time he was pushed back by the shower of arrows launched by the Muslim rearguards. The Muslim soldiers concentrated their attack on the eleven standard bearers of the pagans until they were all wiped out. As the enemy standard sank to the ground, the Muslim soldiers hurled themselves against the enemy.



They charged into the ranks of the enemy forces and slew them in large numbers. Two Muslims, Abu Dujana and Hamzah, fought with great prowess, and their heroic feats on the battlefield were to become legendary in Muslim military history. Tragically, Hamzah bin Abdul Muttalib (radhiAllahu 'anhu), the Lion of Allah, was martyred in the same battle he had dominated. He was killed by the javelin of Wahshi bin Harb, an Abyssinian slave, who with that successful throw earned his freedom from his master, Jubayr bin Mutim.



Hamzah had killed Jubayr's uncle, Tu'ayma bin Adiy, in the Battle of Badr, and the grieving Jubayr promised Wahshi his freedom in return for Hamzah's head. With his freedom in sight, Wahshi sat behind a rock awaiting his chance to strike. As Hamzah stood deftly beheading Saba bin Arfat, Wahshi launched his javelin. It pierced Hamzah's abdomen and came out from between his legs. The Lion of Allah had fallen.



Despite the loss of Hamzah, the Muslims managed to overcome the unbelievers who, faced with yet another defeat, began to flee. The pagan women also scattered as some of the Muslim soldiers gave chase. Some of the Muslim troops set about putting the fallen enemy to the sword and looting the enemy camp. It was at this point of perceived victory that events began unraveling.



The archers who had been entrusted with the safety of their brothers in faith, disobeyed the Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) explicit orders and deserted their stations to join in the looting. Forty of the rearguards descended the mountain and left the Muslims vulnerable to a comeback attack by the enemy. When Khalid bin Waleed saw the sudden vacuum created by the disappearance of the Muslim rearguards, he decided it was time to strike again.



He and his men wiped out the ten archers guarding the rear. They then went around the mountain and surprised the Muslims from behind. Now that the Muslims were surrounded, Khalid's cavalymen raised a war cry and rushed back to retrieve their lost honor.



THE PROPHET IS RUMORED DEAD

(salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



Standing at the rear along with seven of the Ansaar and two men from the Muhaajireen, the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) clearly saw Khalid's cavalymen appear from behind the mountain, and he called out at the top of his voice, "O servants of Allah, come to me!" The pagans, who were positioned closer to him, heard him call out. One of their squadrons followed his voice and charged his way in a bid to finish him off before help could arrive.



As the enemy approached, the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:



□ "Whoever protects me from them, deserves Paradise and will be my Companion in Paradise." A man from the Ansaar heard the Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) call for help and rushed to shield him at the expense of his own life. The enemy surged toward the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and drew even closer. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)

repeated his call, and another of his Companions advanced on the enemies and made them retreat at the cost of his life.



One by one, all seven Ansaar fell trying to save the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam). When the seventh Ansaari was slain, only two of the Muhaajireen, Talha bin Ubaydullah and Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas remained with the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam). Now the pagans directed their main attack at the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam).



A rock flew at him, and he fell on his side. One of his lower right teeth was broken, his lower lip was cut, and his helmet was broken, exposing his head and forehead. As an enemy soldier thrust his sword at the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), he caught his bone below the eye, and two rings from the Prophet's helmet pierced his face.



Someone else struck the Prophet's (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) shoulder with a blow so powerful that it left him in severe pain for about a month. Luckily, he escaped severe injury because of his double coat of mail. Even as the Anasar and Muhaajireen were risking their own lives to keep the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) safe, he had incurred injury.



Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas unleashed a volley of arrows at the pagans, and the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) kept supplying him with more arrows from his own quiver, saying encouragingly, "Keep shooting. May my mother and father be sacrificed for you." There was Talha bin Ubaydullah fighting against the whole band of enemies, as if he were the only one on the field. By the end of the battle, he had 35 or 39 injuries.



Talha shielded the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) from the enemies' arrows and swords with his hands until his fingers bled profusely and were palsied. As the arrows pierced his fingers, he gasped involuntarily. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) comforted him: "If you had said Bismillah, you would have been lifted by the angels before the very eyes of the people."

To Be Continued...

