

SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

LESSON: 136 {IN ENGLISH}



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 136



TOPICS:



Return to Madinah.



Demolition of the Hypocrites' Mosque.



The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) is welcomed back.



The case of those who stayed behind.



RETURN TO MADINAH



After spending twenty days in Tabuk, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and his men began their journey back to Madinah. Up to now, the Prophet's (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) expedition against the Romans had proceeded without a hitch. The Romans had represented a great threat to the Muslim dominance of Arabia, but the Muslims had camped in their dominion of Tabuk for twenty days in complete safety.



They had even made pacts with local tribes that helped consolidate their hold on the peninsula. Things, however, were about to take an unexpected turn. While returning to Madinah, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and his men passed through a mountain pass. Most of the men took a route through the valley, while the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) took another pass accompanied by only two of his Companions, Ammar and Hudhayfah bin Yaman.



Twelve Hypocrites from among the Muslims saw the Prophet's virtually solitary state as a great opportunity to assassinate him. After masking themselves, they followed him, waiting for the right moment. Suddenly, they rushed toward him on their mounts, but the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) told Hudhayfah to strike the faces of their horses with his shield.



With this action, Allah sent terror into the hearts of the Hypocrites, and they fled. They rode back to mingle with the rest of the squadron, but the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) told Hudhayfah each of their names and their intention. From that day on, Hudhayfah was called the trusted confidant of the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam).



DEMOLITION OF THE

HYPOCRITES' MOSQUE



The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) had promised to perform the inaugural prayers in a newly built mosque in Qubaa, just outside Madinah, on his return from Tabuk. He had been asked to do so when he was in the midst of planning the Tabuk expedition. When the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) reached Dhu Awan, just a day's journey from

Qubaa, Jibra'eel visited him and revealed that the mosque had been built by the Hypocrites.



The mosque was to serve as a meeting place for the Hypocrites where they could plot their various subversive activities to weaken Islam. By having the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) pray there, they hoped to legitimize their gatherings. Thus forewarned of the threat to the Muslim nation from a mosque built on subversion rather than on piety, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) immediately sent men to Qubaa to demolish it.



THE PROPHET IS

WELCOMED BACK



Weary but high spirited, the Muslim army approached Madinah at last. The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) upon seeing the city in the distance, pointed to the familiar landmarks and said:



□ "This is Taba, and that is Uhud, the mountain that loves me and that I in turn love."



When the people of Madinah heard that the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was approaching, the women and children rushed out of their homes in welcome, singing what they had sung nearly ten years ago when he came to them seeking a new home:



□ "The full moon has risen upon us from Thaniyat Al-Wada. We owe thanks as long as the caller continues to call us."



The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) then went to the mosque and prayed two Rak'ah, after which he sat in the mosque and received people. He had been away from Madinah for fifty days, and everyone wanted to welcome him home.



THE CASE OF THOSE



WHO STAYED BEHIND



The Hypocrites who had stayed behind came to the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) to repeat their excuses. He did not criticize them, confident that Allah would deal with them. Three Muslims had also failed to join the Tabuk expedition. They were Ka'b bin Malik, Murra bin Rabi' and Hilaal bin Umayya. Since they were able-bodied men, their decision not to participate in Jihad was a serious matter.



The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) asked them to await Allah's decision on the matter. In the meantime, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) forbade other Muslims from speaking to them. As they awaited Allah's verdict in the solitude of their homes, these three men suffered tremendously.



They felt engulfed by darkness, and their souls were in deep distress. After forty days had passed, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) ordered the three men not to sleep with their wives. Finally, after fifty days, Allah accepted their repentance, and the following ayah was revealed:



"And (Allah has forgiven) those three who did not join (the Tabuk expedition. While they waited for Allah's decision), the world closed in on them and they became dejected. They then realized that refuge lies only

with Allah, and then He forgave them so that they would repent. Indeed,

Allah is Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful."  (9: 118)



This ayah was received with great celebration. The world opened up again for the three men who had been shunned by their fellow Muslims. Everyone congratulated the men, and they gave charity to show their thankfulness.



Other ayaah were revealed concerning the Hypocrites and their show of faith. The ayaah described them and others like them as being diseased in their hearts, and although they were shown signs once or twice yearly, they did not repent, nor did they even contemplate the meaning of the signs.

To Be Continued...

