The Life of Prophet Muhammad

Lesson 75



- The months after Hudaybiyyah were marked by a period of relative peace and prosperity in Medina.
- As wealth enters the city, some of the Prophet's wives begin to ask for more.
- The Quran reminds them of their unique position as the wives of God's Messenger and gives them an ultimatum.

يَنَأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّبِيُّ قُل لِأَرْ وَجِكَ إِن كُنتُنَّ تُرِدْنَ ٱلْحَيَوةَ ٱلدُّنْيَا وَزِينَتَهَا فَتَعَالَيْنَ أُمَتِّعْكُنَّ وَأُسَرِّحْكُنَّ سَرَاحًا جَمِيلًا

O Prophet, say to your wives, "If you should desire the worldly life and its adornment, then come, I will provide for you and give you a gracious release.

وَإِن كُنتُنَّ تُرِدْنَ ٱللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَٱلدَّارَ ٱلْنَاخِرَةَ فَإِنَّ ٱللَّهَ أَعَدَّ لِلْمُحْسِنَاتِ مِنكُنَّ أَجْرًا عَظِيمًا

But if you should desire Allah and His Messenger and the home of the Hereafter - then indeed, Allah has prepared for the doers of good among you a great reward."

 William Montgomery Watt (d. 2006) in his book Muhammad in Medina comments on the differences between the women of Makkah and the women of Medina:

Indeed the women of Medina in general were noted for pride and for jealousy of their honor and position summarized in the word ghayrah. Muhammad is said to have remarked that, because of their ghayrah, he would not marry a woman of the Ansar, since she would not have sufficient patience to endure fellow-wives: and, even if this is not the whole reason for Muhammad's not marrying a Medinan woman, there is doubtless something in it...

"...and the contrast between the social attitudes in Makkah and Medina may explain why there was hardly any inter-marriage between the Emigrants and the Ansar. A saying of the Caliph Umar is recorded: "We of Quraysh used to dominate (our women); but when we came among the Ansar, they proved to be a people whose women dominated them; and our women began to copy the habits of the women of the Ansar,"

- Historical reports mention how Umar ibn Al-Khattab was often tested by his wife Zaynab bint Maz'un. On one occasion he scolds her for her boldness, Zaynab counters that even the wives of the Prophet are free to voice their opinions to the Messenger.
- Narrations mention that Umar confronted Umm Salamah about this and she confirmed that the Prophet was indeed open and receptive to the opinions of his wives.

قال ابن إسحاق : فلما رجع رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إلى المدينة من خيبر ، أقام بها شهري ربيع وجماديين ورجبا وشعبان ورمضان وشوالا ، يبعث فيما بين ذلك من غزوه وسراياه صلى الله عليه وسلم . ثم خرج في ذي القعدة في الشهر الذي صده فيه المشركون معتمرا عمرة القضاء ، مكان عمرته التي صدوه عنها

 One of the clauses in the Treaty of Hudaybiyyah read as follows: We shall give you full access to the House during this month next year for three days so you can perform your rites and leave.

- The Prophet took 60 camels for the sacrifice; he also took 100 horses and put these under the care of Muhammad ibn Maslamah; he also took weapons and armor and put these in the charge of Bashīr ibn Saʿd.
- Some questioned him on this, since one of the conditions of the treaty was that they not bring any more than the conventional sheathed sword with them. The Prophet replied, "We shall not take these weapons into the Haram. But they will be stashed nearby. If we face any trouble from them, our weapons will be near at hand. He left 200 people under the command of Aws ibn Khawlī to guard the weapons

- Why did the Prophet do this?
- To let the Quraysh know that they had better not try anything funny; for this reason, he is not very secretive about the presence of the weapons; 2 spies see them and report, but are then reassured that he is not bringing them into the Haram

قال ابن إسحاق : وخرج معه المسلمون ممن كان صد معه في عمرته تلك ، و هي سنة سبع ، فلما سمع به أهل . مكة خرجوا عنه ، وتحدثت قريش بينها أن محمدا وأصحابه في عسرة وجهد وشدة .

رحم الله امرأ أراهم اليوم من نفسه قوة ، ثم استلم الركن ، وخرج يهرول ويهرول أصحابه معه

- The Quraysh cleared out of the city before the pilgrims' arrival.
- Upon entering the Holy Sanctuary, the Prophet carefully leads his followers in the footsteps of Abraham and Hagar. The pilgrims circle the Ka'bah seven times before walking between the hills of Safa and Marwah another seven times
- There are a few narrations that provide detailed descriptions of the Prophet's Umrah.

- The Prophet performed tawaf from atop his camel and touched the corners of the Ka'bah with his staff and then kissed the staff. He did this so that all could see him and learn the rites from him.
  - قال ابن إسحاق : وحدثني عبد الله بن أبي بكر : أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم حين دخل مكة في تلك العمرة دخلها وعبد الله بن رواحة آخذ بخطام ناقته يقول :
  - Abd Allah ibn Rawaḥah held the reins of the Prophet's camel and recited a poem

خلوا بني الكفار عن سبيله خلوا فكل الخير في رسوله يا رب إني مؤمن بقيله أعرف حق الله في قبوله نحن قتلناكم على تأويله كما قتلناكم على تنزيله ضربا يزيل الهام عن مقيله ويذهل الخليل عن خليله

Get out of his way, you unbelievers, make way. For all goodness is in [God's] Messenger. O Lord, I am a believer in his words and I know God's right through his (the Prophet's) acceptance. We fought you over its interpretation as we fought you over its revelation with a striking on the top of the heads causing the intimate friend to abandon his intimate friend.

فَقَالَ لَهُ عُمَرُ يَا ابْنَ رَوَاحَةَ بَيْنَ يَدَىْ رَسُولِ اللهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم وَفِي حَرَمِ اللهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ تَقُولُ الشِّعْرَ قَالَ النَّبِيُّ صلى الله عليه وسلم " خَلِّ عَنْهُ فَلَهُوَ أَسْرَعُ فِيهِمْ مِنْ نَصْحِ النَّبْلِ

Umar said to him: "O Ibn Rawahah! In front of the Messenger of Allah and in the Sancturary of Allah, the Might and Sublime, you recite poetry?" The Prophet said: "Let him do so, for what he is saying is more effective than shooting arrows at them."

- After tawaf, the Prophet dismounted and prayed behind Maqām Ibrahim. He then remounted and proceeded to the area of Safa and Marwah performed the sa'y. After sa'y, he sacrificed his camels at Marwah, then had his head shaved.
- He sent 200 to relieve those guarding the weapons, so the guards could come and perform their umrah

- The Prophet asked for permission to enter the Ka'bah, but it was denied.
  Then he told Bilal to go atop the Ka'bah and proclaim the adhan.
- Watching from a distance, the locals are outraged when they see Umayyah's former Abyssinian slave, Bilal, climb atop the Ka'bah to make the call for prayer.
- Khalid ibn Usayd said, "Thank God that my father died before witnessing this day, when Bilal, the son of a slave, heehaws like a donkey atop the Kaʿbah"

- 'Ikrimah ibn Abi Jahl said, "God honored Abu al-Hakam by preventing him from hearing this slave say what he is saying."
- What was significant about Bilal's call to prayer?
- Adil Salahi in his book, *Muhammad: Man and Prophet,* explains:

"What made Bilal's action even more offensive to the people of Makkah was the fact that he used to be a slave owned by Umayyah ibn Khalaf, who was later killed at the Battle of Badr. In the Makkan idolatrous society, which was extremely class-conscious, the fact that a former slave could rise on top of the Ka'bah, where the Quraysh put their idols, was something they could not accept..."

- The Prophet's uncle Abbas had remained in Makkah all these years. During the Umrah pilgrimage, Abbas joins his nephew and helps him take care of family affairs.
- He arranges the Prophet's marriage to Abbas' widowed sister-in-law, Maymunah (Umm al-Fadhl's full sister). Maymunah was also a maternal half-sister to Asma' bint al-Harith, the mother of Khalid ibn Al-Walid.
- It is likely that the Prophet married her to establish a kinship relationship with his fierce opponents, the Makhzum.

- At the end of three days, Suhayl ibn 'Amr comes to tell the Prophet that his time is up, and he must leave. The Prophet offers to prepare a wedding feast to share with the pagans, but they refuse the invitation.
- The pagans brought their idols back, but one straggler hadn't done his sa'y yet. The question arose whether it was permitted for him to do sa'y with the idols present.
- God reveals the following verse as a response:

إِنَّ ٱلصَّفَا وَٱلْمَرْوَةَ مِن شَعَآئِرِ ٱللَّهِ فَمَنْ حَجَّ ٱلْبَيْتَ أَوِ ٱعْتَمَرَ فَلَا جُنَاحَ عَلَيْهِ أَن يَظَّوَّفَ بِهِمَا وَمَن تَطَوَّعَ خَيْرًا فَإِنَّ ٱللَّهَ شَاكِرٌ عَلِيمٌ

Indeed, as-Safa and al-Marwah are among the symbols of Allah. So whoever makes Hajj to the House or performs 'umrah - there is no blame upon him for walking between them. And whoever volunteers good - then indeed, Allah is appreciative and Knowing.

Quran 2:158

- According to reports, there was no condition in the Treaty of Hudaybiyyah that the idols be removed; but when the Prophet asked them, they removed them. Yet, when he asked to enter the Ka<sup>°</sup>bah or to stay to celebrate his wedding, they refused.
- Why would they refuse these but accept that?
- The pagans were wary that the Muslims may desecrate their idols, so they either took them away or hid them in the Ka<sup>°</sup>bah. For this reason, they refused to let the Prophet enter.
- Finally, they return to Medina by Dhul Ḥijjah