

Points to Ponder

Excerpts from Surahs Anfaal 8 & Taubah 9

Ayah 7: [Remember, O believers], when Allah promised you one of the two groups - that it would be yours - and you wished that the unarmed one would be yours. But Allah intended to establish the truth by His words and to eliminate the disbelievers

This Ayah is in reference to the prologue of the Battle of Badr (which as a matter of fact took place in the month of Ramadhan). Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam left with a group of Sahabah to intercept a caravan carrying a large consignment of weaponry of the Quraish which they had invested in and procured for a full scale war and annihilation of the Muslims. It seemed like an easy task, and thus a group of Sahabah comprising of muhajireen and ansaar left for this purpose. However, the caravan managed to get away and due to the news reaching the Quraish of this intention of ambush, they were infuriated. They prepared an army of one thousand strong, armed to the teeth and marched towards Madinah Munawwarah. Now the Muslims had not prepared for this, neither did they want it pan out this way. They had anticipated a quick interception of a caravan which was relatively easy as compared to face an army of a 1000 strong. Allah Ta'alaah refers to this as :

“and you wished that the unarmed one would be yours.”

But Allah Ta'alaah had something else planned. Allah wanted the seemingly more difficult nay almost impossible to take place, whereas the Muslims wished for the easier “walk in the park” .

In life too, we are sometimes faced with two paths, we choose sometimes an easier path,(which is a Prophetic Sunnah) but Allah has something else , something very much more grand and epic planned and it does not always go according to our plan. In such a situation never lose heart, never complain about Allah, because what is instore for you could be much more virtuous, grand and better than what you had in mind.

Is this true??? Yes, it is ABSOLUTELY true. Look what Allah gave to the Sahabah in return.....

Allah gave them in return: *“[Remember] when your Lord inspired to the angels, **"I am with you**, so strengthen those who have believed”*

Yes HE gave them a declaration that he will send down to help them 3000 angels and in addition **“ HE IS WITH THEM”**

So you get to go on the more difficult path in your journey to Allah because that's the way things worked out, remember that you if you accept what Allah has decreed then **ALLAH IS WITH YOU.**

Ayah 44: “And [remember] when He showed them to you, when you met, as few in your eyes, and He made you [appear] as few in their eyes so that Allah might accomplish a matter already destined. And to Allah are [all] matters returned”

At the battle of Badr although the numbers of the enemy were more than the Muslim army, Allah Ta'ala minimized the army of the Quraish in the sight of the Muslims to boost their confidence. However what is surprising in this verse is that Allah Ta'ala mentions: ***and He made you [appear] as few in their eyes .***

In other word the Muslim army seemed even smaller than what they really were in the sight of the Quraish.?? This seems quite odd. It is mentioned that Abu Jahl regarded the Muslim army so small that he remarked “This is such a small army that all the food of this army would not suffice as fodder for just one camel of mine”. The reason for minimising the Muslim army in the eyes of the Quraish is explained by Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala thus:

so that Allah might accomplish a matter already destined

Allah Ta'ala had a mega plan in place and that was to make the Quraish so over-courageous that they would **all** go headlong into the clutches of Allah Ta'ala's plan. Hence forth we learn that if we are involved in the disobedience of Allah and despite that everything is still seemingly “*going well for me*”, and thus one begins to feel more courageous to be bad, then this could be that deception that makes a person fall headlong towards ones destruction. It could be the moment when “*the rug is going to be pulled from beneath my feet*”

Ayah 72: “Indeed, those who have believed and emigrated and fought with their wealth and lives in the cause of Allah and those who gave shelter and aided - they are allies of one another”

This ayah teaches us that to create a sustainable and formidable alliance between Muslims, or to engender unity between Muslims (Which is just a cliché today) the following conditions must be met.

- Faith , Imaan
- There needs to be a spirit for leaving and sacrificing those things which are beloved to one, whether it is ones town, city, country or even for that matter our own opinions, ideas and wants.
- There needs to be a MUTUAL (*Jaahada = Mufaa'alah*) effort, physical and financial. This effort must be with one's own wealth and one's own participation (**AMWAALIKUM , ANFUSI KUM**). As, if a person sacrifices physically but not with his wealth, greed and expectation will grow. And if wealth only is spent then haughtiness and arrogance is bred. (as a person will not physically get involved and soon that will be regarded as menial.

Without the above, UNITY of HEART and alliances is only a dream and it is just wishful thinking.

Surah TAUBAH

Ayah 79: Those who criticize the contributors among the believers concerning [their] charities and [criticize] the ones who find nothing [to spend] except their effort, so they ridicule them - Allah will ridicule them, and they will have a painful punishment.

Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam once asked the Sahabah to contribute towards a cause giving them the glad tidings of TESTIFYING in favour of them on the Day of Qiyamah. A sahabi heard this and having nothing else to give decided to give a part of his turban. As he undid two wraps of the turban, he had a slight change of heart and he dismissed the idea of giving it. Thereupon he noticed a short , dark complexioned man with No real status or wealth but riding an excellent and fine camel, come to Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam and upon hearing Rasulullah's Sallallahu alaihi wasallam request he gave that same camel. Some people started taunting him about his looks and the camel. Our Nabi Sallallahu alaihi wasallam reprimanded them and gave him the gladtidings of something g much better in Jannah. Abdur Rahman bin Auf presented 4 uqiyahs of pure gold which equals to **1.35 kilograms of gold**. The hypocrites remarked that "he did it for show". Another

Sahabi Abu Aqeel Ansari (RA) kept working in a field the whole night giving water to the camels or irrigating the orchard of a Yahudi and received approx. 3 kg of dates and offered them to the Holy Prophet (saw). Rasulullah Sallallahu alaihi wasallam sprinkled them over all the other sadaqah and said this has brought blessing to all the rest of the contributions. The hypocrites mocked at and taunted him saying “Allah doesn’t need your small contribution”

Allah replies by saying:

“so they ridicule them - Allah will ridicule them, and they will have a painful punishment”

Hence, NEVER take the mick or mock at a person who practices on Islam and deen, as soon ALLAH WILL MOCK AT YOU!!!