

`Amr ibn Hisham: Abu Jahl (part #6)
“The Pharaoh of this Ummah”

An Example to Learn From on How Not to Be

Ibn Abbas (radhiallahu anhu) says that 84 verses of the Quran were revealed regarding Abu Jahl! All of these verses warned him about the consequences of his evil deeds. Each one of the verses is a lesson for us on how not to be.

An example of some of these verses is from Surah al-`Alaq verses 9-19:

- 9. Do you not see the one who forbids-**
- 10. A slave when he (turns to Allah) to pray?**
- 11. Don't you see if he is on (the road of) Guidance?-**
- 12. Or enjoins Righteousness?**
- 13. Don't you see if he denies (Truth) and turns away?**
- 14. Does he not know that Allah sees him?**
- 15. Let him beware! If he does not stop, We will drag him by the forelock,-**
- 16. A lying, sinful forelock!**
- 17. Then, let him call (for help) to his council (of comrades):**
- 18. We will call on the angels of punishment (to deal with him)!**

19. Nay, heed him not: But bow down in adoration, and bring yourself the closer (to Allah)!

It has been narrated by Ibn Abbas (radhiallahu anhu) that these verses were actually revealed about Abu Jahl. The story behind it goes like this: once the Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) was praying in the Haram and Abu Jahl came up to him saying, "Should I not stop you from this?!" So the Messenger (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) rebuked him and warned him to stop harassing him.

Abu Jahl then told the Prophet, "Do you threaten me when you know very well that I have the most backing and support than anyone in this valley of Makkah?" Allah Ta`ala then revealed the above-mentioned verses due to which he backed off from harming the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam).

Ibn Abbas (radhiallahu anhu) says that if he would have called his gang to hurt the Messenger (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) then Allah Ta`ala would have sent upon him the angels of punishment to deal with him, as is mentioned in the above verses.

The End of the Tyrant

In the Battle of Badr, Allah Ta`ala made the Muslims victorious over the idolaters and it was here that Abu Jahl finally came to an end. He died in this battle and an end finally came to the tyrant known as Abu Jahl. For the details of that story please refer to the story regarding the Battle of Badr.

When the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) saw his lifeless body on the battlefield he said, **"This is the Pharaoh of this Ummah."**

The Doomed Spirit of Abu Jahl

It has been narrated by Sha`bi that a man was passing by the field of Badr when he saw the body of a man coming out of the earth and another person following behind him with a mace. The man with the mace hit him with it and dragged him down into the earth. This happened a number of times. The man who saw this terrifying sight reported this to the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) who said, **“That was Abu Jahl Ibn Hisham. He will be punished like this till the Day of Judgment.”**

Conclusion

The reward of good is always good and the recompense of evil is evil. Abu Jahl lived a life of hurting and hating and his end was that he was made to be hurt and he will always be hated. We learn from his story many lessons of how not be. Ponder over these lessons and write them down.

May Allah make us of those who listen to the truth and follow the best of it. Ameen.