

# MIFTAAH SEMINAR

## FROM THE DREAM TO THE THRONE



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### SESSION 2

#### Part 2

#### Rumors About the Minister's Wife

- Ayah 30 of Surah Yusuf mentions:

وَقَالَ نِسْوَةٌ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ امْرَأَتُ الْعَزِيزِ تُرَاوِدُ فَتَاهَا عَنْ نَفْسِهِ قَدْ شَغَفَهَا حُبًّا إِنَّا لَنَرَاهَا فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

And women in the city said, "The wife of al-'Azeez is seeking to seduce her slave boy; he has impassioned her with love. Indeed, we see her [to be] in clear error."

- When the minister's wife found out that the women of the town were speaking about how she had an infatuation with Yusuf AS, she dealt with their gossip very interestingly.
- Ayah 31 mentions:

فَلَمَّا سَمِعَتْ بِمَكْرِهِنَّ أَرْسَلَتْ إِلَيْهِنَّ وَأَعْتَدَتْ لَهُنَّ مُتَّكَأً وَآتَتْ كُلَّ وَاحِدَةٍ مِنْهُنَّ سِكِّينًا وَقَالَتِ اخْرُجْ عَلَيْهِنَّ فَلَمَّا رَأَيْنَهُ أَكْبَرْنَهُ وَقَطَّعْنَ أَيْدِيَهُنَّ وَقُلْنَ حَاشَ لِلَّهِ مَا هَذَا بَشَرًا إِنْ هَذَا إِلَّا مَلَكٌ كَرِيمٌ

So when she heard of their scheming, she sent for them and prepared for them a banquet and gave each one of them a knife and said [to Joseph], "Come out before them." And when they saw him, they greatly admired him and cut their hands and said, "Perfect is Allah ! This is not a man; this is none but a noble angel."

- Rather than retorting and speaking back to them, she brought them to see Yusuf AS for themselves.
- Prophet SAW stated that half the beauty was distributed to the entire world from the time of Adam AS until the end of time, and the other half was given to Yusuf AS.
- When they saw Yusuf AS, they began to cut their hands rather than their food because they were so mesmerised by his beauty.
- Ayah 32 mentions:

قَالَتْ فَذَلِكُنَّ الَّذِي لُمْتُنِنِي فِيهِ وَلَقَدْ رَاوَدْتُهُ عَنْ نَفْسِهِ فَاسْتَعْصَمَ  
وَلَئِن لَّمْ يَفْعَلْ مَا أَمَرُهُ لَيُسْجَنَنَّ وَلَيَكُونَا مِنَ الصَّاغِرِينَ

She said, "That is the one about whom you blamed me. And I certainly sought to seduce him, but he firmly refused; and if he will not do what I order him, he will surely be imprisoned and will be of those debased."

- When she saw how drastic their reaction was, she ceased the moment and told them that this is the man whom they blamed her for loving.
- Scholars take from this that when disbelievers speak ill about Islam and the Prophet SAW, one can retort and speak back to them, but it's best to bring them in and show them the beauty of Islam and the Prophet SAW.

## Yusuf AS in the Well

- Scholars point out that there was no specific mention of any of the brother's names throughout the entire passage in which they plotted to get rid of Yusuf AS.
  - This teaches us that we should not expose those who do wrongful things once they have repented and regretted their sins.
- Ayah 10 of Surah Yusuf mentions:

قَالَ قَائِلٌ مِنْهُمْ لَا تَقْتُلُوا يُوسُفَ وَأَلْقُوهُ فِي غَيَابَتِ الْجُبِّ يَلْتَقِطُهُ  
بَعْضُ السَّيَّارَةِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ فَاعِلِينَ

Said a speaker among them, "Do not kill Joseph but throw him into the bottom of the well; some travelers will pick him up - if you would do [something]."

- The brothers' motive was to get rid of Yusuf AS but not to kill him.
- This ayah hints that on the journey of travel, an ideal place or route would be a route that has stops for rest and water.
- When the brothers asked Prophet Yacoub AS for permission to take Yusuf AS, he stated that he feared that a wolf would eat Yusuf AS while they were not paying attention to him.
  - Scholars state that the brothers did not previously plan on using this as the story of what happened to Yusuf AS. When Yacoub AS expressed this specific fear, the brothers later used his exact words and made it the story which they told him about Yusuf AS.

- This teaches us not to educate an opponent with an excuse which they can use against us.
  - We do not need to be specific about the excuses for why we don't want someone to do something.
- The brothers mercilessly drop Yusuf AS into the well and at this time Allah SWT sends an inspiration (not necessarily revelation because he was still a child) to him:

...وَأَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْهِ لَتُنَبِّئَهُمْ بِأَمْرِهِمْ هَذَا وَهُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ

...But We inspired to him, "You will surely inform them [someday] about this affair of theirs while they do not perceive [your identity]." (Surah Yusuf, Ayah 15)

- This ayah tells Prophet Yusuf that one day it will be revealed to them what their wicked behavior was and they will not know that he is Yusuf AS at that time.
  - This took decades to come true.
  - When duas are made, we can not be hasty and want them to be answered quickly. They can be answered decades later.
- Someone may ask: Allah is the All Gracious and Kind, so why must He test us?
  - The logical answer is because Allah SWT has told us that we have been created and placed on this earth to be tested.
  - If it was not for a test, how would we distinguish between the noble/committed and those who lag behind?

- Allah's SWT love for us does not mean that He will not test us.
  - When a child is sick and needs medication or an injection, the parents may give it to them because they know that there is a greater good, despite the child not liking it. The parents do this out of love for the child. Similarly, Allah SWT tests us because of His love for us and because He knows what is best.

## The Brothers Return to Prophet Yacoub AS

- Ayah 16 of Surah Yusuf states:

وَجَاءُوا آبَاءَهُمْ عِشَاءً يَبْكُونَ

And they came to their father at night, weeping.

- Scholars say that they came at night so that they could hide their guilty faces from their father in the night.
- When they presented the shirt of Yusuf AS with the blood stains of a sheep, Yacoub AS knew that this was not Yusuf's blood.
- Ayah 18 of Surah Yusuf mentions:

وَجَاءُوا عَلَىٰ قَمِيصِهِ بِدَمٍ كَذِبٍ ۗ قَالَ بَلْ سَوَّلَتْ لَكُمُ أَنفُسُكُمْ أَمْرًا ۗ فَصَبْرٌ جَمِيلٌ ۗ وَاللَّهُ الْمُسْتَعَانُ عَلَىٰ مَا تَصِفُونَ

And they brought upon his shirt false blood. [Jacob] said, "Rather, your souls have enticed you to something, so patience is most fitting. And Allah is the one sought for help against that which you describe."

- Yacoub AS said: What a wise wolf that it unbuttoned the shirt of Yusuf AS and it ate him without ripping his clothes.

- Yacoub AS knew that they were lying because:
  - He had known that Yusuf AS had a dream and that dream would come true one day.
  - The shirt was intact and it would not be possible for it to be intact if a wolf had attacked Yusuf AS.
  - In Ayah 17 the brothers stated:

...وَمَا أَنْتَ بِمُؤْمِنٍ لَنَا وَلَوْ كُنَّا صَادِقِينَ

...But you would not believe us, even if we were truthful."

- This statement alone proves that they were lying.
- The word قميس, generally translated as shirt, is used six times in the Quran and all six times are in Surah Yusuf.
  - The same shirt that made Yacoub AS cry later becomes the garment that is placed on his eyes to restore his vision.
  - The shirt of Yusuf AS is also mentioned in the story of the minister's wife. This shirt helped to prove Yusuf's AS innocence.
- Yacoub AS did not blame himself for sending Yusuf AS with his brothers, but he simply stated that "patience is the most fitting" meaning this is the time to be patient.
  - We can extract a lesson from this that when we feel regret for our actions, we should not blame ourselves, but we should learn to be patient with the circumstances.

## The Challenge of the Minister's Wife

- Ayah 23 mentions:

وَرَاوَدَتْهُ الَّتِي هُوَ فِي بَيْتِهَا عَن نَّفْسِهِ وَغَلَّقَتِ الْأَبْوَابَ وَقَالَتْ هَيْتَ لَكَ قَالَ مَعَاذَ اللَّهِ إِنَّهُ رَبِّي أَحْسَنَ مَثْوَايَ إِنَّهُ لَا يُفْلِحُ الظَّالِمُونَ

And she, in whose house he was, sought to seduce him. She closed the doors and said, "Come, you." He said, "[I seek] the refuge of Allah . Indeed, he is my master, who has made good my residence. Indeed, wrongdoers will not succeed."

- Allah SWT speaks about the morality and integrity of Yusuf AS several times.
- There are several factors within this one challenge that were against Yusuf AS.
  - He was a young man, so his level of desire was at an all time high.
  - He was single.
  - He was in a foreign land and no one knew him.
  - He was in the position of a helper/servant in the house.
  - The woman was a woman of status and beauty.
  - She made the advancement and she was in her own space so she knew how to operate everything around her.
- Ayah 24 mentions:

وَلَقَدْ هَمَّتْ بِهِ وَهَمَّ بِهَا لَوْلَا أَنْ رَأَى بُرْهَانَ رَبِّهِ كَذَلِكَ لِنَصْرِفَ عَنْهُ السُّوءَ وَالْفَحْشَاءَ إِنَّهُ مِن عِبَادِنَا الْمُخْلَصِينَ



And she certainly determined [to seduce] him, and he would have inclined to her had he not seen the proof of his Lord. And thus [it was] that We should avert from him evil and immorality. Indeed, he was of Our chosen servants.

- When she advanced towards Yusuf AS, he had a passing thought, similar to a fasting person on a hot day who has a passing thought of drinking cold water.
  - Although one may have a passing thought, it does not mean they are a bad person.
  - With a passing thought, a person will quickly realize that it is something bad, and they will seek refuge in Allah SWT and avoid the action.
  - There are 2 types of thoughts which the scholars mention:
    - The first type is the passing thought, which is what Yusuf AS had.
      - This has no implications.
      - It actually enhances the beauty of Yusuf AS because he had the thought and diverted from it without letting it overcome him.
    - The second type is the persisting thought.
- This part of the story shows us that one of the greatest challenge for a man and a woman is the temptation of the opposite gender.
- Yusuf AS was so modest that the woman who seduced him eventually confessed and exonerated him.



- Abu Hurayrah RA narrated over 5,300 ahadeeth, yet every day he would make the dua: Oh Allah save me from fornication. Someone once came to him and said: You are the companion of the Prophet SAW. Why are you making this dua? He RA stated: How can I sigh with relief while the devil is alive?
- Saeed ibn Al-Musayyab, a tabi'i, stated that whenever the devil could not mislead someone, he would come with the net of fornication, and this was his last bait which no one would be able to resist.
- The story of Yusuf AS teaches us that no one is safe from the tricks of Shaytan. Therefore, we must all continuously make dua for guidance and steadfastness in order to overcome these tricks.