

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

KINGS, PROPHETS, AND FAMILY



Mufti Abdul Wahab Waheed

SESSION 2

فَلَمَّا فَصَلَ طَالُوتُ بِالْجُنُودِ قَالَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مُبْتَلِيكُمْ بِنَهَرٍ فَمَنْ شَرِبَ مِنْهُ فَلَيْسَ مِنِّي وَمَنْ لَمْ يَطْعَمْهُ فَإِنَّهُ مِنِّي إِلَّا مَنْ اغْتَرَفَ غُرْفَةً بِيَدِهِ فَشَرَبُوا مِنْهُ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّنْهُمْ فَلَمَّا جَاوَزَهُ هُوَ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَعَهُ قَالُوا لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا الْيَوْمَ بِجَالُوتَ وَجُنُودِهِ قَالَ الَّذِينَ يَظُنُّونَ أَنَّهُم مُّلاقُوا اللَّهَ كَم مِّن فِئَةٍ قَلِيلَةٍ غَلَبَتْ فِئَةً كَثِيرَةً بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ {٢٤٩}

[2:249] So when Talut departed with the forces, he said: Surely Allah will try you with a river; whoever then drinks from it, he is not of me, and whoever does not taste of it, he is surely of me, except he who takes with his hand as much of it as fills the hand; but with the exception of a few of them they drank from it. So when he had crossed it, he and those who believed with him, they said: We have today no power against Jalut and his forces. Those who were sure that they would meet their Lord said: How often has a small party vanquished a numerous host by Allah's permission, and Allah is with the patient.

- Now Talut leaves from Bait ul Maqdis with his army and he tells them that Allah SWT will test them with a river.
 - Whoever drinks from this river it not a believer
 - Whoever doesn't drink from it except for one scoop in their hands will be allowed to remain in my army.

- When they reached the river, they were so thirsty and exhausted that a majority of them completely indulged in this water although they were told not to.
 - Some narrations stated that when they drank this water, they became sick and passed away while other narrations said that they simply could not move on so they stayed back.
- Imam Ghazali symbolized this river as dunya for us.
 - Allah SWT has made dunya our test just like the river was the test of the army.
 - He SWT told us that we can not completely drown ourselves in the dunya, or we will not be successful.
 - In different moments of our lives, shaytan brings things up which he knows will deviate us at that specific time, similar to how the river came up when the army needed it the most.
 - If we are able slowly step into the water and gauge it's temperature, it will not drown us and we can take from it based on our needs and necessities.
 - We will control the water (dunya) rather than the water (dunya) controlling us.
- At this point, a majority of the people have been left behind.
 - The first group which stayed behind was the group that did not want to take Talut as a leader.
 - The second group was those who indulged from the river
 - The third group stays behind once they pass the river and see the army of Jalut.

- The army of Jalut was much larger than those people who remained with Talut, so when they saw the army, a group of them said, "لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا الْيَوْمَ بِجَالُوتَ وَجُنُودِهِ" ("We have today no power against Jalut and his forces") and they turned back.
 - This moment teaches us that just because we are able to control ourselves in the dunya by not indulging, it does not mean we will be saved from other tests.
 - Even those who did not drink from the river became intimidated by their third challenge and they turned back.
 - Challenges will come in different forms but they must always be used to come closer to Allah SWT.
- After the third group left, there were only 313 people left in the army of Talut.
- The ayah then says that those who believed that they would meet Allah SWT said: How many people who were less in number were able to defeat larger groups?
 - The people who had Iman believed that they could defeat a group of people larger in number.
 - If we are patient during our difficulties, we will always be successful.
- Then Allah SWT says:

وَلَمَّا بَرَزُوا لِجَالُوتَ وَجُنُودِهِ قَالُوا رَبَّنَا أَفْرِغْ عَلَيْنَا صَبْرًا وَثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَنَا وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ {٢٥٠}

[2:250] And when they went forth against Goliath (Jalut) and his forces, they prayed: "Our Lord! Shower us with patience, and set our feet firm, and grant us victory over this unbelieving people."

- While we are doing the good that we do, we can never forget that it is Allah SWT who grants us success.

- These people asked Allah SWT to shower them in patience.
 - Scholars say that this means they asked Allah SWT to make every limb of their body able to endure pain in His path.
- First they made the effort, and then they made the dua.
 - These 2 things are what makes a person successful.
 - Making effort without dua will make a person arrogant
 - Making dua without effort will make a person lazy

- Then Allah SWT says:

فَهَزَمُوهُمْ بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ ۖ وَقَتَلَ دَاوُدُ جَالُوتَ وَآتَاهُ اللَّهُ الْمُلْكَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَعَلَّمَهُ مِمَّا يَشَاءُ ۗ وَلَوْلَا دَفْعُ اللَّهِ النَّاسَ بَعْضَهُم بِبَعْضٍ لَفَسَدَتِ الْأَرْضُ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ ذُو فَضْلٍ عَلَى الْعَالَمِينَ {٢٥١}

[2:251] Thereupon by Allah's leave they put the unbelievers to flight, and David killed Goliath, and Allah granted him dominion and wisdom, and imparted to him the knowledge of whatever He willed. And were it not that Allah repelled some people with another, the earth would surely be overlaid with mischief. But Allah is Bounteous to the people of the world (and thus extirpates mischief).

- Dawud AS was a part of the army of Talut as well.
 - He was 15 years old at this time.
- When Jalut stepped up to face off someone from Talut's army, everyone stepped back, but Dawud stepped up.
 - Jalut said that he does not want to fight him because he was too young.
 - Dawud tells Jalut that he wants to fight and they do.
 - Scholars state that Dawud defeated Jalut with a slingshot using pebbles.
 - The army of Abraha was also destroyed with pebbles.
 - Allah SWT shows that we do the actions, but He SWT ensures that the job gets done.

- Now that Dawud defeated Jalut, Allah SWT tells him that he will be a prophet.
 - Dawud and his son Suleiman were the only prophets who were also kings.
 - Other prophets were wealthy but they were not kings.
 - Dawud AS was a king, a prophet, and a judge.

The Lifestyle of Dawud AS

إصْبِرْ عَلَىٰ مَا يَقُولُونَ وَاذْكُرْ عَبْدَنَا دَاوُدَ ذَا الْأَيْدِ إِنَّهُ أَوَّابٌ {١٧}

[38:17] (O Prophet), bear with patience what they say, and call to mind Our servant David, who was endowed with great strength and who constantly turned (to Allah).

- He SWT tells the Prophet SAW to be patient upon what the disbelievers are saying to him.
- Allah SWT refers to Dawud as a slave.
 - The title of slave of Allah is the best title that one can be given.
 - The best fast was the fast of Dawus AS.
 - He would fast one day and eat the next day.
 - The best salah was the salah of Dawud AS.
 - He would sleep the first half of the night and then he would wake up and pray during the last 2/3rds of the night and then he would sleep for the last portion of the night.
- Allah SWT described Dawud AS as ذَا الْأَيْدِ .
 - This means he was strong not only physically, but in his ability to worship.
 - He was able to continue fasting and praying like this for his entire life.
- Allah SWT uses the word أَوَّابٌ to describe both Dawud and Suleiman AS.

- Awaab means to constantly turn back.
- Allah SWT reminds us that even though they were wealthy and powerful, they continued to turn to Allah SWT.
- Dawud AS also had the ability to mold metal.

وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا دَاوُدَ مِنَّا فَضْلًا يُجِبَالٌ أَوْبِيٍّ مَعَهُ وَالطَّيْرِ وَالنَّارُ لَهُ الْحَدِيدُ {١٠}
 أَنْ أَعْمَلَ سِيغَتٍ وَقَدَّرَ فِي السَّرْدِ وَأَعْمَلُوا صَالِحًا إِنِّي بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ {١١}

[34:10] We bestowed Our favour upon David. (We commanded): "O mountains, sing Allah's praises with him"; (and so did We command) the birds. We softened the iron for him, (saying):

[34:11] "Fashion coats of mail and measure their links with care and act righteously. I am watching over whatever you do."

- Scholars discuss the virtue which Allah SWT refers to when He says "وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا دَاوُدَ مِنَّا فَضْلًا".
 - Allah SWT gave him the virtue to never forgot about his responsibility to Allah SWT despite the vastness of his kingdom.
 - Others say that فَضْلًا refers to the balance which Dawud has between being a king and a prophet.
 - As a king, he had access to things which others prophets didn't have.
 - He had access to money which was halal for him to take, but he still had a job.
 - In one narration, Dawud AS was walking around at night and he would ask people what they thought of Dawud as a king because no one could see who was asking them the question.
 - He approached one man who he had never seen before, who was actually an angel, and asked him and the man said that he wished that Dawud would not take from the money of the people.

- Dawud's source of income as a king was from the money of the kingdom which was halal for him.
 - After this incident, Dawud made dua for Allah SWT to give him something he could work with and Allah SWT says in this verse that He made iron like wax in Dawud's hands.
 - Dawud was the first person to use iron to make things because prior to this it was too difficult for people to use.
- وَقَدَّرَ فِي السَّرِّدِ means to make sure that a nail goes through all of the required holes of an object.
 - It requires someone to line up all of the materials and make sure the nail is correctly placed into all of them.
 - Even though Dawud was great at worshipping Allah SWT, Allah still told him to be good at his job.
- Dawud AS would make armor which would cover a person from head to toe.
 - The only person with this armor before this was Jalut.
 - Dawud would make this armor much quicker than anyone else because he could mold the iron.
 - He would give this armor to the poor or he would sell it to those who could afford it and then he would give that money away to the poor.
 - This was how he prepared his army.
- Another tafseer mentions that وَقَدَّرَ فِي السَّرِّدِ means to remain balanced.
 - This is reminding Dawud to remain balanced between his job and his worship.

إِنَّا سَخَّرْنَا الْجِبَالَ مَعَهُ يُسَبِّحْنَ بِالْعَشِيِّ وَالْإِشْرَاقِ {١٨}
وَالطَّيْرَ مَحْشُورَةً كُلٌّ لَهُ أَوَّابٌ {١٩}

[38:18] With him We had subjected the mountains that they join him in celebrating Allah's glory, evening and morning

[38:19] and the birds, too, in their flocks, and turn again and again to celebrating Allah's glory.

- This verse mentions Dawud's form of tasbeeh which was the best form of tasbeeh.
 - He had the best form of fasting, salah, and dhikr.
 - Imam Qurtubi mentions that when the words morning and night are used it shows that the person was involved in this thing for the entire day.
- The birds would come to listen to him while he recited the Quran.