

In the Name of Allāh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

1 - THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Said Ash-Shaikh Al-Imām Al-Hāfiẓ Abu-‘Abdullāh Muḥammad bin Ismā’il bin Ibrāhīm bin Al-Mughīra Al-Bukhārī (May Allāh تعالیٰ be Merciful to him):

(1) CHAPTER. How the Divine Revelation started to be revealed to Allāh’s Messenger ﷺ.

And the Statement of Allāh جَلَّ ذِكْرُهُ: “Verily, We have sent the revelation to you (O Muḥammad ﷺ) as We sent the revelation to Noah and the Prophets after him.” (V.4:163)

1. Narrated ‘Umar bin Al-Khaṭṭāb رضي الله عنه: I heard Allāh’s Messenger ﷺ saying, “The reward of deeds depends upon the intentions and every person will get the reward according to what he has intended. So whoever emigrates for worldly benefits or for a woman to marry, his emigration will be for what he emigrated for.”⁽¹⁾

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1 - كتاب بدء الوحي

قَالَ الشَّيْخُ الْإِمَامُ الْحَافِظُ أَبُو عَبْدِ اللَّهِ مُحَمَّدُ بْنُ إِسْمَاعِيلَ بْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ بْنِ الْمُغِيرَةَ الْبُخَارِيُّ رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى آمِينَ:

(١) بَابٌ: كَيْفَ كَانَ بَدْءَ الْوَحْيِ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ،

وَقَوْلُ اللَّهِ جَلَّ ذِكْرُهُ. ﴿إِنَّا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ كَمَا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَى نُوحٍ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ﴾ [النساء: ١٦٣].

١ - حَدَّثَنَا الْحُمَيْدِيُّ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنَا سُفْيَانُ، عَنْ يَحْيَى بْنِ سَعِيدٍ الْأَنْصَارِيِّ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنِي مُحَمَّدُ بْنُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ التَّمِيمِيُّ أَنَّهُ سَمِعَ عَلْقَمَةَ بْنَ وَقَّاصٍ اللَّيْثِيَّ يَقُولُ: سَمِعْتُ عُمَرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ عَلَى الْمِنْبَرِ قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ يَقُولُ: «إِنَّمَا الْأَعْمَالُ بِالنِّيَّاتِ، وَإِنَّمَا لِ كُلِّ امْرِئٍ مَا نَوَى، فَمَنْ كَانَتْ هِجْرَتُهُ إِلَى دُنْيَا يُصِيبُهَا أَوْ إِلَى امْرَأَةٍ يَنْكِحُهَا فَهِجْرَتُهُ إِلَى مَا هَاجَرَ إِلَيْهِ».

(1) (H.1) The Prophet ﷺ said this on the occasion of someone’s emigration from Makkah to Al-Madīna not for the sake of the Islāmic Cause but to marry a woman who had stipulated that he should emigrate if he wanted to marry her. Anyhow, this *Ḥadīth* implies a general principle, i.e., one is rewarded for his deeds according to his real intentions and not according to his actual deeds which might be good in themselves but were motivated by an ill intention.

(2) CHAPTER.

(٢) بَابٌ:

2. Narrated رضي الله عنها 'Aishah, the Mother of the faithful believers:⁽¹⁾ Al-Hārith bin Hishām رضي الله عنه asked Allāh's Messenger ﷺ "O Allāh's Messenger! How is the Divine Revelation revealed to you?" Allāh's Messenger ﷺ replied, "Sometimes it is (revealed) like the ringing of a bell, this form of Revelation is the hardest of all and then this state passes off after I have grasped what is revealed. Sometimes the angel comes in the form of a man and talks to me and I grasp whatever he says." 'Aishah رضي الله عنها added: Verily I saw the Prophet ﷺ being inspired (Divinely) and (noticed) the sweat dropping from his forehead on a very cold day as the Revelation was over.

٢ - حَدَّثَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ يُوسُفَ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا مَالِكٌ. عَنْ هِشَامِ بْنِ عُرْوَةَ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أُمِّ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا: أَنَّ الْحَارِثَ بْنَ هِشَامٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ سَأَلَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ كَيْفَ يَأْتِيكَ الْوَحْيُ؟ فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «أَحْيَانًا يَأْتِينِي مِثْلَ صَلْصَلَةِ الْجَرَسِ وَهُوَ أَشَدُّ عَلَيَّ فَيَقْصِمُ عَلَيَّ، وَقَدْ وَعَيْتُ عَنْهُ مَا قَالَ، وَأَحْيَانًا يَتَمَثَّلُ لِي الْمَلَكُ رَجُلًا فَيَكَلِّمُنِي فَأَعْبِي مَا يَقُولُ» - قَالَتْ عَائِشَةُ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا: وَلَقَدْ رَأَيْتُهُ يَنْزِلُ عَلَيْهِ الْوَحْيُ فِي الْيَوْمِ الشَّدِيدِ الْبَرْدِ فَيَقْصِمُ عَنْهُ وَإِنَّ جَبِينَهُ لَيَتَفَصَّدُ عَرَقًا.

(3) CHAPTER.

(٣) بَابٌ:

3. Narrated رضي الله عنها 'Aishah, the Mother of the faithful believers: The commencement of the (Divine) Revelation to Allāh's Messenger ﷺ was in the form of good righteous (true) dreams which came true like bright daylight, and then the love of seclusion was bestowed upon him. He used to go in seclusion in the cave of Hirā' where he used to worship (Allāh Alone) continuously for many nights before returning to (or his desire to see) his family. He used to take with him the journey food for the stay and then come

٣ - حَدَّثَنَا يَحْيَى بْنُ بُكَيْرٍ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنَا اللَّيْثُ، عَنْ عُقَيْلٍ، عَنِ ابْنِ شِهَابٍ، عَنْ عُرْوَةَ ابْنِ الزُّبَيْرِ، عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أُمِّ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَنَّهَا قَالَتْ: أَوَّلُ مَا بُدِيََ بِهِ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ مِنَ الْوَحْيِ الرُّؤْيَا الصَّالِحَةُ فِي النَّوْمِ، فَكَانَ لَا يَرَى رُؤْيَا إِلَّا جَاءَتْ مِثْلَ فَلَقِي الصُّبْحِ، ثُمَّ حُبِّبَ إِلَيْهِ الْخَلَاءُ وَكَانَ يَخْلُو بَغَارٍ جِرَاءٍ فَيَتَحَنَّنُ فِيهِ - وَهُوَ

(1) (H.2) Allāh تعالى calls the wives of the Prophet ﷺ "the Mothers of the faithful" in that the believers should show respect and reverence and none of the believers were permitted to marry any of them after the Prophet's death. [See the Qur'an (V.33:6)].

back to (his wife) **Khadīja** to take his food likewise again till suddenly the Truth descended upon him while he was in the cave of **Hira'**. The angel came to him and asked him to read. The Prophet ﷺ replied, "I do not know how to read."

The Prophet ﷺ added, "Then the angel caught me (forcefully) and pressed me so hard that I could not bear it any more. He then released me and again asked me to read and I replied, 'I do not know how to read.' Thereupon he caught me again and pressed me a second time till I could not bear it any more. He then released me and again asked me to read but again I replied, 'I do not know how to read (or what shall I read?)'. Thereupon he caught me for the third time and pressed me, and then released me and said, 'Read in the Name of your Lord, Who has created (all that exists). Has created man from a clot (a piece of thick coagulated blood). Read! And your Lord is the Most Generous.'" (V.96:1-3) Then Allāh's Messenger ﷺ returned with the Revelation and with his heart beating severely. Then he went to **Khadīja bint Khuwailid** رضي الله عنها and said, "Cover me! Cover me!" They covered him till his fear was over and after that he told **Khadīja** رضي الله عنها everything that had happened (and said), "I fear that something may happen to me." **Khadīja** replied, "Never! By Allāh, Allāh will never disgrace you. You keep good relations with your kith and kin, help the poor and the destitute, serve your guests generously and assist the deserving calamity-afflicted ones."

Khadīja رضي الله عنها then accompanied him to her cousin **Waraqā bin Naufal bin Asad bin 'Abdul 'Uzza**, who, during the Period of Ignorance became a Christian and used to write the writing with Hebrew letters. He would write from the Gospel in Hebrew as

التَّعْبُدُ - اللَّيَالِي ذَوَاتِ الْعَدَدِ قَبْلُ أَنْ
يَنْزِعَ إِلَى أَهْلِهِ وَيَتَزَوَّدَ لِدَلِّكَ، ثُمَّ
يَرْجِعُ إِلَى خَدِيجَةَ فَيَتَزَوَّدَ لِمِثْلِهَا،
حَتَّى جَاءَهُ الْحَقُّ وَهُوَ فِي غَارِ حِرَاءٍ،
فَجَاءَهُ الْمَلَكُ فَقَالَ: اقْرَأْ، قَالَ: مَا
أَنَا بِقَارِئٍ، قَالَ: فَأَخَذَنِي فَعَطَنِي
حَتَّى بَلَغَ مِنِّي الْجَهْدَ ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَنِي
فَقَالَ: اقْرَأْ، قُلْتُ: «مَا أَنَا بِقَارِئٍ،
فَأَخَذَنِي فَعَطَنِي الثَّانِيَةَ حَتَّى بَلَغَ مِنِّي
الْجَهْدَ ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَنِي فَقَالَ: اقْرَأْ،
فَقُلْتُ: مَا أَنَا بِقَارِئٍ، فَأَخَذَنِي فَعَطَنِي
الثَّالِثَةَ ثُمَّ أَرْسَلَنِي فَقَالَ: ﴿اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ
رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ خَلْقَ الْإِنْسَانِ مِنْ عَلَقٍ﴾
[العلق: 1-3] فَرَجَعَ بِهَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ
يَرْجِفُ فَوْادَهُ، فَدَخَلَ عَلَى خَدِيجَةَ
بِنْتِ حُوَيْلِدٍ فَقَالَ: «زَمَلُونِي،
زَمَلُونِي». فَرَمَلُوهُ حَتَّى ذَهَبَ عَنْهُ
الرَّوْعُ، فَقَالَ لَخَدِيجَةَ وَأَخْبَرَهَا
الْحَبْرَ: «لَقَدْ حَشِيتُ عَلَى نَفْسِي»،
فَقَالَتْ لَهُ خَدِيجَةُ: كَلَّا، وَاللَّهِ مَا
يَحْزُنُكَ اللَّهُ أَبَدًا، إِنَّكَ لَتَصِلُ الرَّحِمَ،
وَتَحْمِلُ الْكَلَّ، وَتَكْسِبُ الْمَعْدُومَ،
وَتَقْرِي الضَّيْفَ، وَتُعِينُ عَلَى نَوَائِبِ
الْحَقِّ، فَاَنْطَلَقَتْ بِهِ خَدِيجَةُ حَتَّى أَتَتْ
بِهِ وَرَقَةَ بْنَ نَوْفَلِ بْنِ أَسَدِ بْنِ عَبْدِ
الْعَزَّى - ابْنِ عَمِّ خَدِيجَةَ - وَكَانَ
امْرَأً قَدْ تَنَصَّرَ فِي الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ، وَكَانَ
يَكْتُبُ الْكِتَابَ الْعِبْرَانِيَّ، فَيَكْتُبُ مِنْ

much as Allāh wished him to write. He was an old man and had lost his eyesight. Khadija said to Waraqa, "Listen to (the story of) your nephew, O my cousin!" Waraqa asked, "O my nephew! What have you seen?" Allāh's Messenger ﷺ described whatever he had seen. Waraqa said, "This is the same one [who keeps the secrets i.e., angel Jibrīl (Gabriel)] whom Allāh had sent to Mūsa (Moses). I wish I were young and could live up to the time when your people would turn you out." Allāh's Messenger ﷺ asked, "Will they drive me out?" Waraqa replied in the affirmative and said, "Anyone (man) who came with something similar to what you have brought was treated with hostility; and if I should remain alive till the day (when you will be turned out) then I would support you strongly." But after a few days Waraqa died and the Divine Revelation was also paused for a while.

4. Narrated Jābir bin 'Abdullāh Al-Anṣārī while talking about the period of pause in revelation, reported the speech of the Prophet ﷺ, "While I was walking, all of a sudden I heard a voice from the sky. I looked up and saw the same angel, who had visited me at the cave of Hīrā', sitting on a chair between the sky and the earth. I got scared of him and came back home and said, 'Wrap me (in blankets).' And then Allāh تَعَالَى revealed the following Holy Verses (of the Qur'ān):

'O you (Muḥammad ﷺ) enveloped (in garments)! Arise and warn ... (up to) ... and keep away from *Ar-Rujz* (the idols)!' (V.74:1-5)

After this, the revelation started coming strongly and frequently in succession one after the other."

الإنجيلِ بِالْعِبْرَانِيَّةِ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ أَنْ يَكْتُبَ، وَكَانَ شَيْخًا كَبِيرًا قَدْ عَمِيَ، فَقَالَتْ لَهُ حَدِيثُجَهُ: يَا ابْنَ عَمِّ اسْمَعْ مِنْ ابْنِ أُخِيكَ، فَقَالَ لَهُ وَرَقَةُ: يَا ابْنَ أُخِي مَاذَا تَرَى؟ فَأَخْبَرَهُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ خَبَرَ مَا رَأَى، فَقَالَ لَهُ وَرَقَةُ: هَذَا التَّامُوسُ الَّذِي نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ عَلَى مُوسَى، يَا لَيْتَنِي فِيهَا جَدَعٌ، لَيْتَنِي أَكُونُ حَيًّا إِذْ يُخْرِجُكَ قَوْمُكَ، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «أَوْ مُخْرِجِي هُمْ؟» قَالَ: نَعَمْ، لَمْ يَأْتِ رَجُلٌ قَطُّ بِمِثْلِ مَا جِئْتَ بِهِ إِلَّا عُودِي، وَإِنْ يُدْرِكُنِي يَوْمُكَ أَنْصُرُكَ نَصْرًا مُؤَزَّرًا. ثُمَّ لَمْ يَنْسَبْ وَرَقَةَ أَنْ تُوْفِّي وَفَتَرَ الْوَحْيِ.

٤ - قَالَ ابْنُ شِهَابٍ: وَأَخْبَرَنِي أَبُو سَلَمَةَ بْنُ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ أَنَّ جَابِرَ بْنَ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ الْأَنْصَارِيَّ قَالَ وَهُوَ يُحَدِّثُ عَنْ فِتْرَةِ الْوَحْيِ فَقَالَ فِي حَدِيثِهِ: «بَيْنَا أَنَا أُمْسِي إِذْ سَمِعْتُ صَوْتًا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ فَرَفَعْتُ بَصْرِي فَإِذَا الْمَلِكُ الَّذِي جَاءَنِي بِجِرَاءِ جَالِسٌ عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ بَيْنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ، فَرَعَيْتُ مِنْهُ فَرَجَعْتُ فَقُلْتُ: زَمَلُونِي، زَمَلُونِي، فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ: ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الْمَدِينَةُ قَرِّي فَالَّذِينَ إِلَى قَوْلِهِ: ﴿وَالرَّجَزُ فَاهْجُرِي﴾ [المدثر: ١-٥] فَحَيِّي الْوَحْيِ وَتَوَاتَرَ». تَابَعَهُ عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ يُوسُفَ وَأَبُو صَالِحٍ، وَتَابَعَهُ هِلَالُ بْنُ رَدَادٍ

عَنْ الرَّهْرِيِّ، وَقَالَ يُونُسُ وَمَعْمَرٌ:
«بَوَادِرُهُ».

(4) CHAPTER.

5. Narrated Sa'īd bin Jubair: Ibn 'Abbās in the explanation of the Statement of Allāh in the explanation of the Statement of Allāh in the explanation of the Statement of Allāh: 'Move not your tongue concerning (the Qur'ān, O Muḥammad ﷺ) to make haste therewith' (V.75:16) said, "Allāh's Messenger ﷺ used to bear the revelation with great stress and hardness, and used to move his lips (quickly with the Revelation)."

Ibn 'Abbās moved his lips saying, "I am moving my lips (in front of you) as Allāh's Messenger ﷺ used to move his."

Sa'īd moved his lips saying: "I am moving my lips, as I have seen Ibn 'Abbās moving his."

[Ibn 'Abbās رضي الله عنهما added], "So Allāh revealed 'Move not your tongue concerning (the Qur'ān, O Muḥammad ﷺ) to make haste therewith. It is for Us to collect it and to give you (O Muḥammad ﷺ) the ability to recite it (the Qur'ān) (V.75:16,17), [which means that Allāh will make him (the Prophet ﷺ) remember the portion of the Qur'ān which was revealed at that time by heart and recite it]. The Statement of Allāh: 'And when We have recited it to you [O Muḥammad ﷺ through Jibrīl (Gabriel)] then follow you its (the Qur'ān's) recital' (V.75:18) (means 'listen to it and be silent'). 'Then it is for Us (Allāh) to make it clear to you' (V.75:19) means then it is (for Allāh) to make you recite it (and its meaning will be clear by itself through your tongue). Afterwards, Allāh's Messenger ﷺ used to listen to Jibrīl whenever he came and after his departure he used to recite it as Jibrīl had recited it."

(٤) بَابٌ :

٥ - حَدَّثَنَا مُوسَى بْنُ إِسْمَاعِيلَ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو عَوَانَةَ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنَا مُوسَى بْنُ أَبِي عَائِشَةَ قَالَ: حَدَّثَنَا سَعِيدُ بْنُ جُبَيْرٍ، عَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ فِي قَوْلِهِ تَعَالَى: ﴿لَا تُحَرِّكْ بِهِ لِسَانَكَ لِتَعْجَلَ بِهِ﴾ قَالَ: كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ يُعَالِجُ مِنَ التَّنْزِيلِ شِدَّةً، وَكَانَ مِمَّا يُحَرِّكُ شَفْتَيْهِ - فَقَالَ ابْنُ عَبَّاسٍ: فَأَنَا أُحَرِّكُهُمَا لَكَ كَمَا كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ يُحَرِّكُهُمَا. وَقَالَ سَعِيدٌ: أَنَا أُحَرِّكُهُمَا كَمَا رَأَيْتُ ابْنَ عَبَّاسٍ يُحَرِّكُهُمَا، فَحَرَّكَ شَفْتَيْهِ - فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ: ﴿لَا تُحَرِّكْ بِهِ لِسَانَكَ لِتَعْجَلَ بِهِ إِنَّ عَلَيْنَا جَمْعَهُ وَقُرْآنَهُ﴾ قَالَ: جَمَعَهُ لَكَ صَدْرَكَ وَتَقْرَأَهُ ﴿فَإِذَا قَرَأْتَهُ فَاتَّبِعْ قُرْآنَهُ﴾ قَالَ: فَاسْتَمِعْ لَهُ وَأَنْصِتْ ﴿ثُمَّ إِنَّ عَلَيْنَا بَيَانَهُ﴾ [القيامة: ١٦، ١٧] ثُمَّ إِنَّ عَلَيْنَا أَنْ تَقْرَأَهُ، فَكَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ إِذَا أَتَاهُ جِبْرِيلُ اسْتَمَعَ، فَإِذَا انْطَلَقَ جِبْرِيلُ قَرَأَهُ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ كَمَا كَانَ قَرَأَ.

(5) CHAPTER.

(٥) بَابٌ :

6. Narrated Ibn 'Abbās رضي الله عنهما : Allāh's Messenger ﷺ was the most generous of all the people, and he used to reach the peak in generosity in the month of Ramaḍān when Jibril (Gabriel) met him. Jibril used to meet him every night of Ramaḍān to teach him the Qur'ān.

Allāh's Messenger ﷺ was the most generous person, even more generous than the fair winds [sent (by Allāh) with glad tidings (rain), in readiness and haste to do charitable deeds].

٦ - حَدَّثَنَا عَبْدَانُ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا يُونُسُ، عَنِ الرَّهْرِيِّ قَالَ: وَحَدَّثَنَا بِشْرُ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا يُونُسُ وَمَعْمَرٌ نَحْوَهُ عَنِ الرَّهْرِيِّ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا عُبَيْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ، عَنِ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ قَالَ: كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ أَجْوَدَ النَّاسِ، وَكَانَ أَجْوَدَ مَا يَكُونُ فِي رَمَضَانَ حِينَ يَلْقَاهُ جِبْرِيلُ، وَكَانَ يَلْقَاهُ فِي كُلِّ لَيْلَةٍ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ فَيُدَارِسُهُ الْقُرْآنَ، فَلَرَسُولُ اللَّهِ أَجْوَدُ بِالْخَيْرِ مِنَ الرِّيحِ الْمُرْسَلَةِ. [انظر: ١٩٠٢، ٣٢٢٠،

[٤٩٩٧، ٣٥٥٤

(6) CHAPTER.

(٦) بَابٌ :

7. Narrated Ibn 'Abbās رضي الله عنهما : Abū Sufyān bin Ḥarb informed me that Heraclius had sent a messenger to him while he had been accompanying a caravan from Quraish. They were merchants doing business in Shām (Syria, Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan), at the time when Allāh's Messenger ﷺ had truce with Abū Sufyān and Quraish infidels. So Abū Sufyān and his companions went to Heraclius at Ilyā (Jerusalem). Heraclius called them in the court and he had all the senior Roman dignitaries around him. He called for his translator who, translating Heraclius' question said to them, "Who amongst you is closely related to that man who claims to be a Prophet?" Abū Sufyān replied, "I am the nearest relative to him (amongst the group)."

Heraclius said, "Bring him (Abū Sufyān) close to me and make his companions stand

٧ - حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو الْيَمَانِ، حَدَّثَنَا الْحَكَمُ بْنُ نَافِعٍ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنَا شُعَيْبٌ عَنِ الرَّهْرِيِّ قَالَ: أَخْبَرَنِي عُبَيْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عُتْبَةَ بْنِ مَسْعُودٍ أَنَّ عَبْدَ اللَّهِ بْنَ عَبَّاسٍ أَخْبَرَهُ أَنَّ أَبَا سُفْيَانَ بْنَ حَرْبٍ أَخْبَرَهُ أَنَّ هِرَقْلَ أَرْسَلَ إِلَيْهِ فِي رَكْبٍ مِنْ قُرَيْشٍ، وَكَانُوا تُجَّارًا بِالشَّامِ فِي الْمُدَّةِ الَّتِي كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ مَادًّا فِيهَا أَبَا سُفْيَانَ وَكُفَّارَ قُرَيْشٍ، فَأَتَوْهُ وَهُوَ بِإِثْلِيَاءَ، فَدَعَاهُمْ فِي مَجْلِسِهِ وَحَوْلَهُ عِظْمَاءَ الرُّومِ، ثُمَّ دَعَاهُمْ وَدَعَا تَرْجُمَانَهُ فَقَالَ: أَيُّكُمْ أَقْرَبُ نَسَبًا بِهَذَا

behind him.” Abū Sufyān added, “Heraclius told his translator to tell my companions that he wanted to put some questions to me regarding that man (the Prophet) and that if I told a lie they (my companions) should contradict me.” Abū Sufyān added, “By Allāh! Had I not been afraid of my companions labelling me a liar, I would not have spoken the truth about the Prophet ﷺ.

The first question he asked me about him was: ‘What is his family status amongst you?’ I replied, ‘He belongs to a noble family amongst us.’ Heraclius further asked, ‘Has anybody else amongst you ever claimed the same (i.e. to be a Prophet) before his (claim)?’ I replied, ‘No.’ He asked, ‘Was anybody amongst his ancestors a king?’ I replied, ‘No.’ Heraclius asked, ‘Do the nobles or the poor follow him?’ I replied, ‘It is the poor who follow him.’ He said, ‘Are his followers increasing or decreasing (day by day)?’ I replied, ‘They are increasing.’ He then asked, ‘Does anybody amongst those who embrace his religion become displeased and renounce the religion afterwards?’ I replied, ‘No.’ Heraclius said, ‘Have you ever accused him of telling lies before his claim (to be a Prophet)?’ I replied, ‘No.’ Heraclius said, ‘Does he ever betray or prove treacherous to his covenants?’ I replied, ‘No.’ We are at truce with him but we do not know what he will do in it.’ I could not find opportunity to say anything against him except that word. Heraclius asked, ‘Have you ever had a fight with him?’ I replied, ‘Yes.’ Then he said, ‘What was the outcome of your battles with him?’ I replied, ‘The fighting between us and him was undecided and victory was shared between us and him by turns.’ Heraclius said, ‘What does he order you to do?’ I said, ‘He tells us to worship Allāh Alone and not to worship anything

الرَّجُلِ الَّذِي يَزْعُمُ أَنَّهُ نَبِيٌّ؟ فَقَالَ أَبُو سُفْيَانَ: قُلْتُ: أَنَا أَقْرَبُهُمْ نَسَبًا.

قَالَ: أَذْنُوهُ مِنِّي، وَقَرَّبُوا أَصْحَابَهُ فَاجْعَلُوهُمْ عِنْدَ ظَهْرِهِ، ثُمَّ قَالَ لِرَجْمَانِهِ:

قُلْ لَهُمْ: إِنِّي سَائِلٌ هَذَا عَنْ هَذَا الرَّجُلِ، فَإِنْ كَذَّبَنِي فَكُذِّبُوهُ قَالَ: فَوَاللَّهِ لَوْلَا الْحَيَاءُ مِنْ أَنْ يَأْثُرُوا عَلَيَّ كَذِبًا لَكَذَّبْتُ عَلَيْهِ.

ثُمَّ كَانَ أَوَّلَ مَا سَأَلَنِي عَنْهُ أَنْ قَالَ: كَيْفَ نَسَبُهُ فِيكُمْ؟ قُلْتُ: هُوَ فِينَا ذُو نَسَبٍ، قَالَ: فَهَلْ قَالَ هَذَا الْقَوْلَ مِنْكُمْ أَحَدٌ قَطُّ قَبْلَهُ؟ قُلْتُ: لَا، قَالَ: فَهَلْ كَانَ مِنْ آبَائِهِ مِنْ مَلِكٍ؟ قُلْتُ: لَا، قَالَ: فَأَشْرَافُ النَّاسِ يَتَّبِعُونَهُ أَمْ ضَعْفَاؤُهُمْ؟ قُلْتُ: بَلْ ضَعْفَاؤُهُمْ، قَالَ: أَزِيدُونَ أَمْ يَنْقُصُونَ؟ قُلْتُ: بَلْ يَزِيدُونَ، قَالَ: فَهَلْ يَرْتَدُّ أَحَدٌ مِنْهُمْ سَحْطَةً لِدِينِهِ بَعْدَ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ فِيهِ؟ قُلْتُ: لَا، قَالَ: فَهَلْ كُنْتُمْ تَتَّهَمُونَهُ بِالْكَذِبِ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَقُولَ مَا قَالَ؟

قُلْتُ: لَا، قَالَ: فَهَلْ يَغْدِرُ؟ قُلْتُ: لَا، وَنَحْنُ مِنْهُ فِي مُدَّةٍ لَا نَدْرِي مَا هُوَ فَاعِلٌ فِيهَا - قَالَ: وَلَمْ تُمَكِّبِي كَلِمَةً أُدْخِلَ فِيهَا شَيْئًا غَيْرَ هَذِهِ الْكَلِمَةِ - قَالَ: فَهَلْ فَاثَلْتُمُوهُ، قُلْتُ: نَعَمْ؟ قَالَ: فَكَيْفَ كَانَ قِتَالُكُمْ إِيَّاهُ؟

along with Him, and to renounce all that our ancestors had said. He orders us to pray, to speak the truth, to be chaste and to keep good relations with our kith and kin.'

Heraclius asked the translator to convey to me the following, 'I asked you about his family and your reply was that he belongs to a noble family amongst you. In fact all the Messengers come from noble families amongst their respective peoples. I questioned you whether anybody else amongst you claimed such a thing, your reply was in the negative. If the answer had been in the affirmative, I would have thought that this man was following the previous man's statement. Then I asked you whether anyone of his ancestors was a king. Your reply was in the negative, and if it had been in the affirmative, I would have thought that this man wanted to take back his ancestral kingdom. I further asked whether he was ever accused of telling lies before he said what he said, and your reply was in the negative.'

So I wondered how a person who does not tell a lie about others could ever tell a lie about Allāh. I, then asked you whether the rich people followed him or the poor. You replied that it was the poor who followed him. And in fact these (poor always) are the followers of the Messengers. Then I asked you whether his followers were increasing or decreasing. You replied that they were increasing, and in fact this is the way of true faith, till it is complete in all respects. I further asked you whether there was anybody, who, after embracing his religion, became displeased and discarded his religion. Your reply was in the negative, and in fact this is (the sign of) true faith, when its delight enters the hearts and mixes with them completely. I asked you whether

قُلْتُ: الْحَرْبُ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُ سِجَالٌ يَبَالُ
مِنَّا وَتَبَالُ مِنْهُ، قَالَ: مَاذَا يَأْمُرُكُمْ؟
قُلْتُ: يَقُولُ: اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَحْدَهُ وَلَا
تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا، وَاتْرُكُوا مَا يَقُولُ
آبَاؤُكُمْ، وَيَأْمُرُنَا بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّدَقِ
وَالْعِفَافِ وَالصَّلَةِ. فَقَالَ لِلتَّرْجُمَانِ:
قُلْ لَهُ: سَأَلْتُكَ عَنْ نَسَبِهِ؟

فَذَكَرْتُ أَنَّهُ فِيكُمْ دُو نَسَبٍ،
فَكَذَّبَكَ الرَّسُلُ تَبَعْتُ فِي نَسَبِ
قَوْمِيهَا، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: هَلْ قَالَ أَحَدٌ مِنْكُمْ
هَذَا الْقَوْلَ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنْ لَا، فَقُلْتُ:
لَوْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ قَالَ هَذَا الْقَوْلَ قَبْلَهُ
لَقُلْتُ: رَجُلٌ يَتَأَسَى بِقَوْلِ قَيْلٍ قَبْلَهُ،
وَسَأَلْتُكَ: هَلْ كَانَ مِنْ آبَائِهِ مِنْ
مَلِكٍ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنْ لَا، قُلْتُ: فَلَوْ
كَانَ مِنْ آبَائِهِ مِنْ مَلِكٍ، قُلْتُ: رَجُلٌ
يَظَلُبُ مُلْكَ أَبِيهِ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: هَلْ كُنْتُمْ
تَتَهَمُونَهُ بِالْكَذِبِ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَقُولَ مَا
قَالَ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنْ لَا.

فَقَدْ أَعْرِفُ أَنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ لِيَدْرَ
الْكَذِبَ عَلَى النَّاسِ وَيَكْذِبَ عَلَى
اللَّهِ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: أَشْرَافُ النَّاسِ اتَّبَعُوهُ
أَمْ ضَعْفَاؤُهُمْ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنَّ ضَعْفَاءَهُمْ
اتَّبَعُوهُ، وَهُمْ أَتْبَاعُ الرَّسُلِ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ:
أَيَّرِيدُونَ أَمْ يَنْقُصُونَ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنَّهُمْ
يَزِيدُونَ وَكَذَلِكَ أَمْرُ الْإِيمَانِ حَتَّى
يَتِمَّ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: أَيَّرْتَدُّ أَحَدٌ سَحْطَةَ
لِيَدِيهِ بَعْدَ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ فِيهِ؟ فَذَكَرْتُ أَنْ

he had ever betrayed. You replied in the negative and likewise the Messengers never betray. Then I asked you what he ordered you to do. You replied that he ordered you to worship Allāh (and Allāh Alone) and not to worship anything along with Him and forbade you to worship idols and ordered you to pray, to speak the truth and to be chaste. If what you have said is true, he will very soon occupy this place [which is underneath my feet (now)] and I knew it (from the Scriptures) that he was going to appear but I did not know that he would be from you, and if I am sure⁽¹⁾ to reach him, I would go immediately to meet him and if I were with him, I would certainly wash his feet.'

Heraclius then asked for the letter addressed by Allāh's Messenger ﷺ which was delivered by Dihya to the governor of Buṣra, who forwarded it to Heraclius to read. The contents of the letter were as follows:

In the Name of Allāh the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

(This letter is) from Muḥammad, the slave of Allāh and His Messenger (ﷺ), to Heraclius the ruler of Byzantines. Peace be upon him who follows the right path. Then after: I invite you to Islām, and if you become a Muslim you will be safe, and Allāh will double your reward, and if you reject this invitation of Islām you will be committing a sin by misguiding your *Arīsiyin* (peasants). And (I recite to you Allāh's Statement:)

'O people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians)! Come to a word that is just between us and you, that we worship none but Allāh تعالى and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us shall

لا، وكذلك الإيمان حين يُخَالِطُ
بِشَاشَةِ الْقُلُوبِ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: هَلْ يَغْدِرُ؟
فَذَكَرْتَ أَنْ لَا، وَكَذَلِكَ الرَّسُولُ لَا
تَغْدِرُ، وَسَأَلْتُكَ: بِمَا يَا مُرُكُّمُ؟
فَذَكَرْتَ أَنَّهُ يَا مُرُكُّمُ أَنْ تَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا
تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا، وَبَيْنَهُمْ عَنْ عِبَادَةِ
الْأَوْثَانِ، وَيَا مُرُكُّمُ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّدَقِ
وَالْعِفَافِ، فَإِنْ كَانَ مَا تَقُولُ حَقًّا
فَسَمِّمُكَ مَوْضِعَ قَدَمَيَّ هَاتَيْنِ، وَقَدْ
كُنْتُ أَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ خَارِجٌ، لَمْ أَكُنْ أَظُنُّ
أَنَّهُ مِنْكُمْ، فَلَوْ أَنِّي أَعْلَمُ أَنِّي أَخْلَصُ
إِلَيْهِ لَتَجَشَّمْتُ لِقَاءَهُ، وَلَوْ كُنْتُ عِنْدَهُ
لَعَسَلْتُ عَنْ قَدَمَيْهِ.

ثُمَّ دَعَا بِكِتَابِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ
الَّذِي بَعَثَ بِهِ دِحْيَةَ إِلَى عَظِيمِ بَصْرَى
فَدَفَعَهُ إِلَى هِرَقْلَ فَقَرَأَهُ فَإِذَا فِيهِ:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ مِنْ
مُحَمَّدِ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ إِلَى هِرَقْلَ
عَظِيمِ الرُّومِ، سَلَامٌ عَلَى مَنْ اتَّبَعَ
الْهُدَى، أَمَّا بَعْدُ: فَإِنِّي أَذْعُوكُ بِدَعَايَةِ
الْإِسْلَامِ، أَسْلِمْتَ تَسَلَّمَ يُؤْتِيكَ اللَّهُ
أَجْرَكَ مَرَّتَيْنِ، فَإِنْ تَوَلَّيْتَ فَإِنَّ عَلَيْكَ
إِثْمَ الْأَرِيسِيِّينَ، وَ: ﴿يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ
تَمَازُوا لِكَلِمَةٍ سَوَامٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ أَلَّا
نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَلَا نُشْرِكَ بِهِ شَيْئًا وَلَا
يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَإِنْ
تَوَلَّوْا فَقُولُوا اشْهَدُوا بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ﴾

(1) (H.7) Means that he (Heraclius) was afraid of his people to meet him ﷺ.

take others as lords beside Allāh. Then, if they turn away, say: Bear witness that we are Muslims.” (V.3:64).

Abū Sufyān then added, “When Heraclius had finished his speech and had read the letter, there was a great hue and cry in the royal court. So we were turned out of the court. I told my companions that the question of Ibn Abī Kabsha⁽¹⁾ (Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ) has become so prominent that even the king of Banī Al-Aṣfar (Byzantines) is afraid of him. Thenceforth I became sure that he (the Prophet ﷺ) would be the conqueror in the near future till I embraced Islām (i.e. Allāh جَل جَلَّاه guided me to it).” (The sub-narrator adds), Ibn An-Nāṭūr was the governor of Ilyā’ (Jerusalem), and Heraclius was the head of the Christians of Shām.

Ibn An-Nāṭūr narrates that once while Heraclius was visiting ‘Ilyā’ (Jerusalem), he got up in the morning with a sad mood. Some of his priests asked him why he was in that mood? Heraclius was a foreteller and an astrologer.

He replied, “At night when I looked at the stars, I saw that the leader of those who practice circumcision had appeared (become the conqueror), (and asked) who are they who practice circumcision?”

The people replied, “Except the Jews nobody practices circumcision, so you should not be afraid of them (Jews). Just issue orders to kill every Jew present in the country.”

While they were discussing it, a messenger sent by the king of Ghassān to convey the news of Allāh’s Messenger ﷺ to Heraclius was brought in.

Having heard the news, he (Heraclius)

[آل عمران: 64].

قَالَ أَبُو سُفْيَانَ: فَلَمَّا قَالَ مَا قَالَ
وَفَرَعَ مِنْ قِرَاءَةِ الْكِتَابِ، كَثُرَ عِنْدَهُ
الصَّخَبُ وَارْتَفَعَتِ الْأَصْوَاتُ،
وَأُخْرِجْنَا فَقُلْتُ لِأَصْحَابِي حِينَ
أُخْرِجْنَا: لَقَدْ أَمَرَ ابْنُ أَبِي كَبْشَةَ
إِنَّهُ يَخَافُهُ مَلِكُ بَنِي الْأَصْفَرِ، فَمَا
زِلْتُ مُوقِنًا أَنَّهُ سَيَظْهَرُ حَتَّى أَدْخَلَ اللَّهُ
عَلَيَّ الْإِسْلَامَ، وَكَانَ ابْنُ النَّاطُورِ
صَاحِبُ إِيلْيَاءَ وَهَرَقْلُ أَسْقَفَ عَلَى
نِصَارَى الشَّامِ يُحَدِّثُ أَنَّ هِرَقْلَ حِينَ
قَدِمَ إِيلْيَاءَ أَصْبَحَ حَبِيثَ النَّفْسِ، فَقَالَ
بَعْضُ بَطَارِقِيهِ: قَدْ اسْتَنْكَرْنَا هَيْئَتَكَ،
قَالَ ابْنُ النَّاطُورِ: وَكَانَ هِرَقْلُ حَرَاءً
يَنْظُرُ فِي النُّجُومِ،

فَقَالَ لَهُمْ حِينَ سَأَلُوهُ: إِنِّي رَأَيْتُ
اللَّيْلَةَ حِينَ نَظَرْتُ فِي النُّجُومِ مَلِكَ
الْخِتَانِ قَدْ ظَهَرَ، فَمَنْ يَحْتَتِنُ مِنْ هَذِهِ
الْأُمَّةِ؟ قَالُوا: لَيْسَ يَحْتَتِنُ إِلَّا الْيَهُودُ
فَلَا يَهْمَنَّكَ شَأْنُهُمْ، وَاكْتَبَ إِلَى
مَدَائِنِ مُلْكِكَ فَيَقْتُلُوا مَنْ فِيهِمْ مِنَ
الْيَهُودِ - فَيَبِيئَا هُمْ عَلَى أَمْرِهِمْ أُتِيَ
هَرَقْلُ بِرَجُلٍ أَرْسَلَ بِهِ مَلِكُ عَسَانَ
يُخْبِرُ عَنْ خَبَرِ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ، فَلَمَّا
اسْتَحْبَرَهُ هِرَقْلُ قَالَ: اذْهَبُوا فَانظُرُوا
أَمْحَتَتِنُ هُوَ أَمْ لَا؟ فَتَنْظُرُوا إِلَيْهِ
فَحَدِّثُوهُ أَنَّهُ مُحْتَتِنٌ وَسَأَلَهُ عَنِ الْعَرَبِ

(1) (H.7) Abī Kabsha was not the father of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ but it was a mockery done by Abū Sufyān out of hostility against the Prophet ﷺ.

ordered the people to go and see whether the messenger of Ghassān was circumcised. The people, after seeing him, told Heraclius that he was circumcised. Heraclius then asked him about the Arabs. The messenger replied, "Arabs also practice circumcision."

(After hearing that) Heraclius remarked that sovereignty of this nation (Arabs) had appeared. Heraclius then wrote a letter to his friend in Rome who was as good as Heraclius in knowledge. Heraclius then left for Homs (a town in Syria) and stayed there till he received the reply of his letter from his friend who agreed with him in his opinion about the emergence of the Prophet ﷺ and the fact that he is indeed a Prophet. On that Heraclius invited all the heads of the Byzantines to assemble in his palace at Homs. When they assembled, he ordered that all the doors of his palace be closed. Then he came out and said,

"O Byzantines! If success is your desire and if you seek right guidance and want your empire to remain, then give the *Bai'ah* (pledge) to this Prophet ﷺ (i.e. embrace Islām)."

(On hearing the views of Heraclius) the people ran towards the gates of the palace like onagers but found the doors closed. Heraclius realised their hatred towards Islām and when he lost the hope of their embracing Islām, (he ordered): "Bring them back to me." (When they returned) he said, "What I already said was just to test the strength of your conviction and I have seen it." The people prostrated before him and became pleased with him, and this was the end of Heraclius' story (in connection with his faith).

فَقَالَ: هُمْ يَحْتَسِبُونَ، فَقَالَ هِرَقْلُ: هَذَا مُلْكُ هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ قَدْ ظَهَرَ، ثُمَّ كَتَبَ هِرَقْلُ إِلَى صَاحِبِ لَهُ بِرُومِيَّةَ وَكَانَ نَظِيرَهُ فِي الْعِلْمِ، وَسَارَ هِرَقْلُ إِلَى حِمَصَ فَلَمَّ يَرِمُ حِمَصَ حَتَّى أَتَاهُ كِتَابٌ مِنْ صَاحِبِهِ يُوَفِّقُ رَأْيَ هِرَقْلَ عَلَى خُرُوجِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ وَأَنَّهُ نَبِيٌّ، فَأَذِنَ هِرَقْلُ لِعُظَمَاءِ الرُّومِ فِي دَسْكَرَةِ لَهُ بِحِمَصَ، ثُمَّ أَمَرَ بِأَبْوَابِهَا فَعُلِّقَتْ ثُمَّ أَطْلَعَ فَقَالَ:

يَا مَعْشَرَ الرُّومِ هَلْ لَكُمْ فِي الْفَلَاحِ وَالرُّشْدِ وَأَنْ يَثْبُتَ مُلْكُكُمْ فُتَبَايَعُوا لِهَذَا النَّبِيِّ؟ فَحَاصُوا حَيْصَةَ حُمْرِ الْوَحْشِ إِلَى الْأَبْوَابِ فَوَجَدُوهَا قَدْ عُقِّقَتْ، فَلَمَّا رَأَى هِرَقْلُ نَفَرَتَهُمْ وَأَيْسَ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ قَالَ: رُدُّوهُمْ عَلَيَّ، وَقَالَ: إِنِّي قُلْتُ مَقَالَتِي أَنْفَاءً أُخْتَبِرُ بِهَا شِدَّتَكُمْ عَلَى دِينِكُمْ فَقَدْ رَأَيْتُمْ، فَسَجَدُوا لَهُ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ، فَكَانَ ذَلِكَ آخِرَ شَأْنِ هِرَقْلِ.

رَوَاهُ صَالِحُ بْنُ كَيْسَانَ وَيُونُسُ وَمَعْمَرٌ عَنِ الزُّهْرِيِّ. [انظر: ٥١،

٣١٧٤، ٢٩٧٨، ٢٩٤١، ٢٨٠٤، ٢٦٨١

[٧٥٤١، ٧١٩٦، ٦٢٦٠، ٥٩٨٠، ٤٥٥٣