

# UNIT

## C

### CHAPTER

#### FIVE

# The Way to Liberating Makkah

## CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

- 1 Learn about Prophet Muhammad's preparations to liberate Makkah.
- 2 Learn about the mistake of Hatib Ibn Abi Balta'ah.
- 3 Learn about the events before Fateh Makkah.
- 4 Learn and memorize Ayaat 1-3 of Surat-ul-Fateh.

## PEOPLE TO REMEMBER

Hatib Ibn Abi Balta'ah حاطب بن أبي بلتعة

Al-Abbas Ibn Abdul-Muttalib العباس بن عبدالمطلب



# سورة الفتح

Surat-ul-Fateh 1-3

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

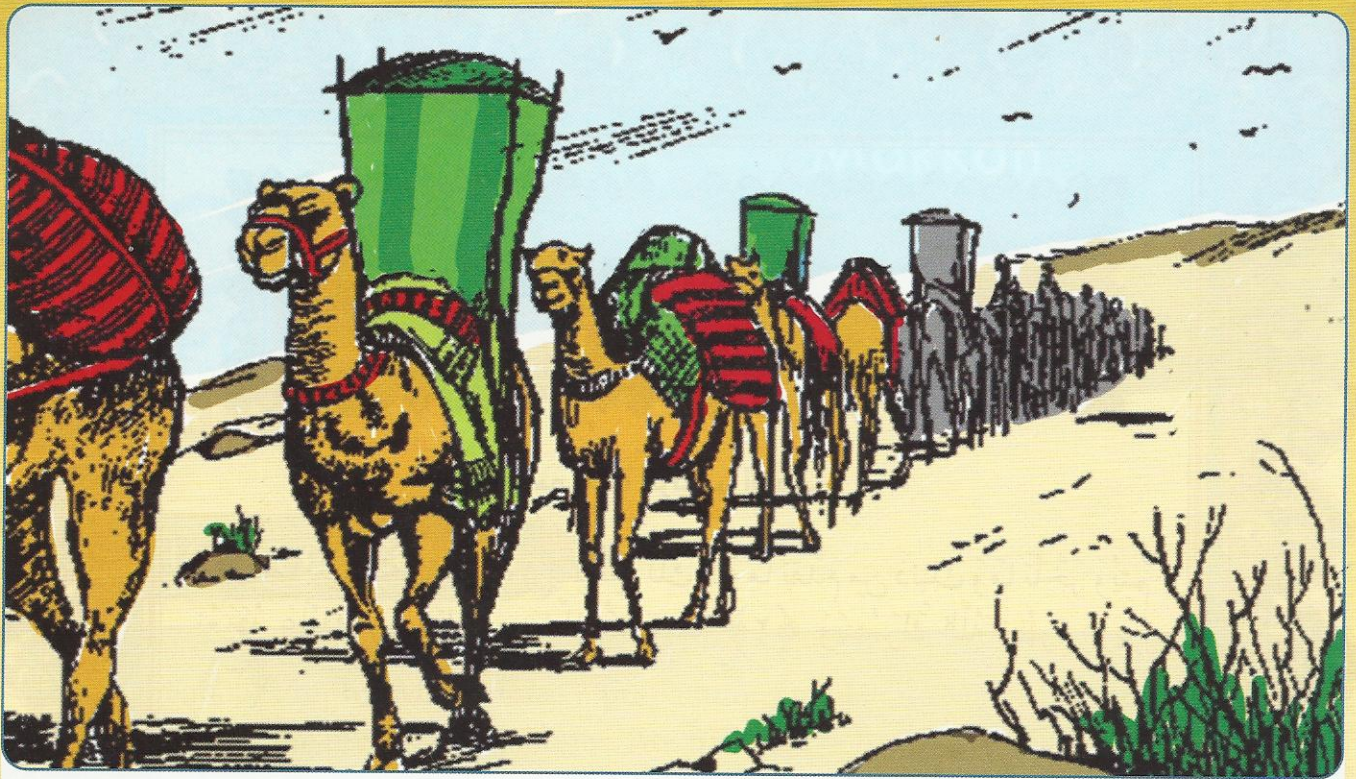
إِنَّا فَتَحْنَا لَكَ فَتْحًا مُّبِينًا ﴿١﴾ لِيَغْفِرَ لَكَ اللَّهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِكَ وَمَا تَأَخَّرَ وَيُتِمَّ  
نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكَ وَيَهْدِيَكَ صِرَاطًا مُسْتَقِيمًا ﴿٢﴾ وَيَنْصُرَكَ اللَّهُ نَصْرًا عَزِيزًا  
﴿٣﴾

## Understood Meaning

1. Verily We have granted you a clear victory:
2. So God may forgive your past sins and those that you may do later; and He will guide you on the Straight path;
3. And that God may grant you a great victory [48:1-3].

As you learned in the last chapter, Abu Sufyan came to Madina calling the Muslims

to renew the treaty of Al-Hudaybiyah. In this chapter you will learn what happened next.



## The Prophet Prepares for the Liberation of Makkah

The Prophet refused to renew the treaty of Al-Hudaybiyah because the Quraysh had broken it and may have broken it again in the future. So, he asked his people to prepare for war and sent word to all his allies and followers across Arabia to come ready for war. However, he told them to keep their preparations absolutely secret. Some people guessed that he was going to Makkah, but they were not sure about that. Others thought he might be going to Syria to punish the Romans for killing Zaid Ibn Al-Harithah and other Muslim leaders at Mu'tah.

### The Slip of Hatib Ibn Abi Balta'ah

Hatib Ibn Abu Balta'ah was a known companion of the Prophet. He was a devout Muslim who had embraced Islam early in Makkah. He had migrated in the early days from Makkah but couldn't bring all of his

family with him to Madina. Hatib fought with the Prophet's army at the Battle of Badr.

Hatib was always worried about them and concerned for their safety. When he became aware of the Prophet's plans he guessed that Makkah was the Prophet's target. Therefore, he wrote a letter to the Quraysh informing them of the possible attack on Makkah. He gave the letter to his female slave and sent her off to Makkah.

The Prophet was informed by Allah about this and sent Ali and Az-Zubayr Ibn-ul-Awwam to retrieve the letter from the woman. They caught her and after confronting and threatening her she gave up the letter to them.

The letter was brought to the Prophet and Hatib Ibn Abi Balta'ah رضي الله عنه admitted his guilt. He explained that he was very concerned about his relatives there. He was afraid that the Quraysh would kill his family

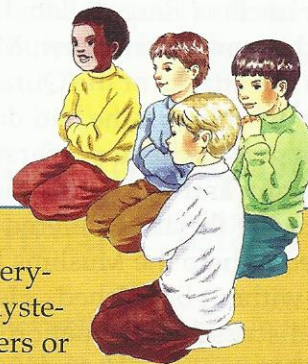
and relatives who lived in Makkah if the Muslims attacked the Quraysh. Few Muslim families had remained in Makkah at that time.

The Muslims were understandably extremely angry with Hatib رضي الله عنه. His actions could have informed the Quraysh about the Prophet's plans he was so secretly guarding. 'Omar رضي الله عنه wanted to execute Hatib because he thought that he had committed treason and acted like a hypocrite. The Prophet however, excused Hatib because he was one of the "Companions of Badr". Later Allah revealed Surat Al-Mumtahinah which addresses the story of Hatib.



### FAITH IN ACTION

- ★ Remember always that Allah knows of everything you and all others do. He may, in mysterious ways, let your parents, teachers, elders or friends know of your bad choices, especially those that might hurt your family or community. Therefore, it is better for you and everyone to avoid such mistakes and always be faithful to your loved ones and your community.



## The Quraysh Taken by Surprise

The Prophet's preparations were so well organized and quick that within a short time he set out with ten thousand, well armed men to liberate Makkah. The Makkans knew nothing about his coming

until he was at Marr-uth-Thahran, a half-day journey from Makkah. The Prophet made the tribes spread out over the desert and asked them to build big campfires.

## Fast Facts



The Prophet's allies were the tribes of Aslam, Ghifar, Ashja', Muzaynah, Juhaynah, Sulaym. They all joined the Prophet in his campaign to liberate Makkah.

### Al-Abbas Mediates with the Quraysh

Al-Abbas Ibn Abdul-Muttalib, the Prophet's uncle, left Makkah and met the Prophet ﷺ on the outskirts of the city. He had embraced Islam secretly almost one year before the campaign on Makkah. He was previously a pagan but had always been friends with Prophet Muhammad (P) like Abu Talib, the other uncle of Rasoolullah. He had in the past tried to save his nephew, Muhammad (P), from the attacks of the Quraysh by giving him early warnings as he had done in Uhud. Al-Abbas saw the huge preparation of the Muslim army and was afraid that a massacre might occur if the army entered Makkah. So, he wanted to help the Muslims liberate Makkah without bloodshed. He and the Prophet discussed the situation and Rasoolullah prayed that Al-Abbas might help him to enter Makkah peacefully.

Al-Abbas, therefore, set out on his journey of peace. He borrowed the Prophet's white stallion and rode toward Makkah. His objective was to tell the people of Makkah that resistance to the Prophet was impossible.

### Abu Sufyan Captured

At the same time that Al-Abbas headed toward Makkah, Abu Sufyan Ibn Harb, Hakeem Ibn Hizam, and Budayl Ibn Warqaa' set off to the outskirts of Makkah hoping to hear some news.

By Allah's wise plans, Al-Abbas saw Abu Sufyan and his companions and recognized them. He heard Abu Sufyan Ibn Harb and Budayl Ibn Warqa' having this conversation during the night on the outskirts of Makkah:

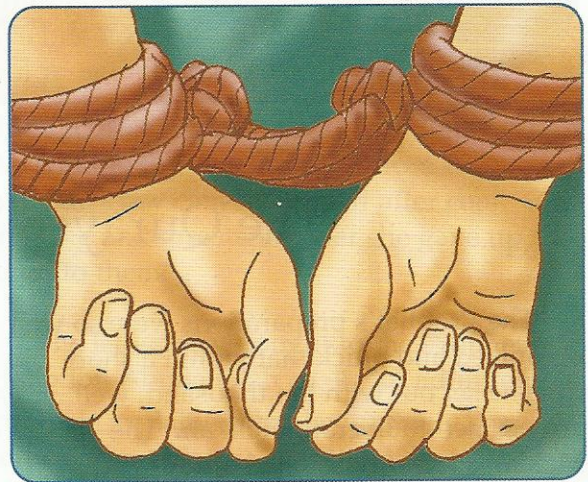
Abu Sufyan: "I have never seen such fires and such an army."

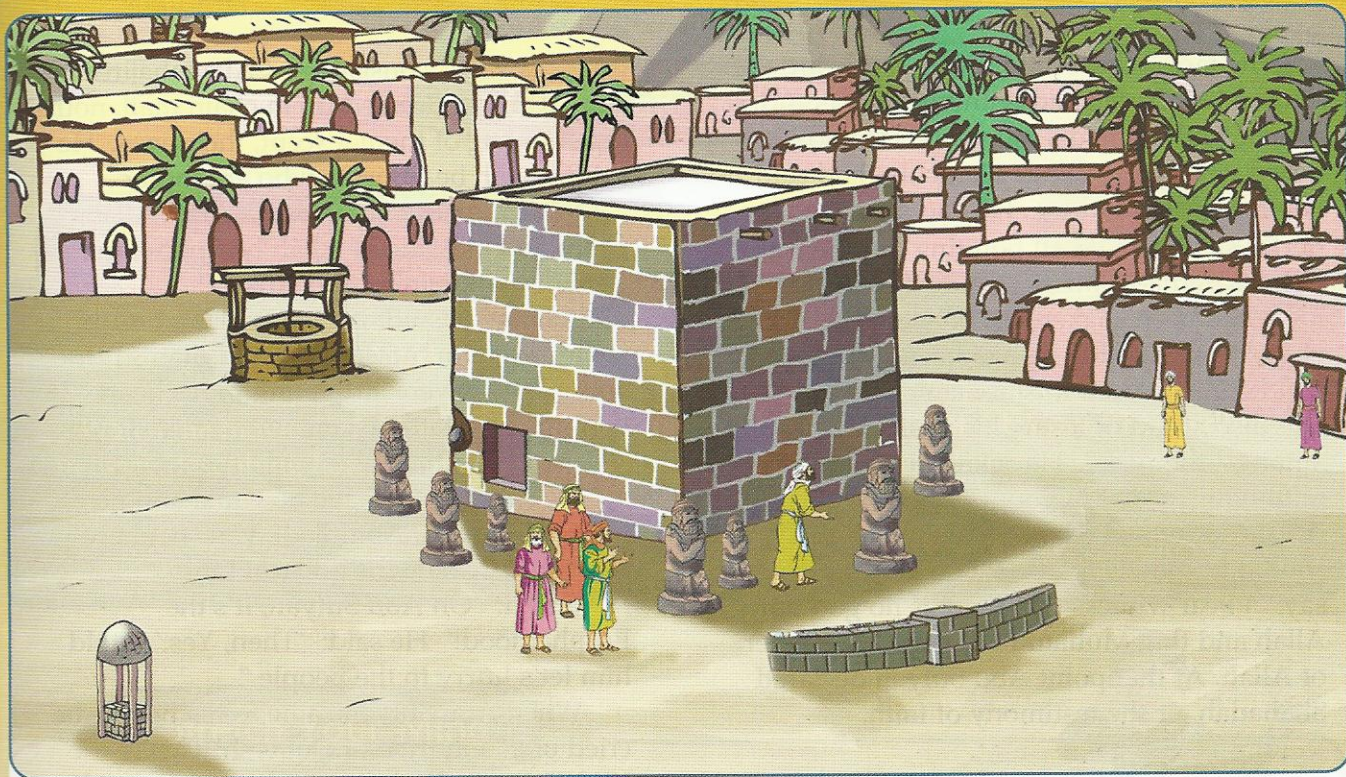
Budayl: "By God, these are Khuza'ah bent on war [against Banu Bakr and the Quraysh]."

Abu Sufyan: "Khuza'ah are few in number and too weak in strength for fires like these and for an army of this size."

Al-Abbas recognized Abu Sufyan's voice and interrupted him: "Woe unto you, Abu Sufyan"

Abu Sufyan: "Abul-Fadl?" (The nickname for Al-Abbas.)





Al-Abbas: "Woe unto you Abu Sufyan! Here is Muhammad and he is going to enter Makkah by force; and woe unto the Quraysh when he does that!"

The two Makkkan leaders recognized the Prophet's stallion.

"What can be done?" asked Abu Sufyan.

Al-Abbas told the leaders of the Quraysh that the Muslims had an army that could not be defeated. He suggested that the best course of action was for him and Abu Sufyan to meet with Prophet Muhammad. He promised that Abu Sufyan would be under his "Jiwar," or protection.

The two men headed toward the camp of Prophet Muhammad. Suddenly, they were captured by a group of Muslim soldiers under the leadership of 'Omar Ibn-ul-Khattab. Here, Al-Abbas wished to save the life of Abu Sufyan, but 'Omar rushed them to the Prophet's tent and asked Rasoolullah's permission to strike off Abu Sufyan's head. Al-Abbas also rushed in and said that Abu Sufyan was under his protection. A hot discussion took place between Al-Abbas and

'Omar. Finally the Prophet ordered Al-Abbas to bring Abu Sufyan to him the next morning.

## Abu Sufyan and others embrace Islam

The Prophet held a meeting in his tent the next morning when Abu Sufyan was brought to him. He said: "Abu-Sufyan! Woe unto you; isn't it time that you knew 'la-illaha ill-allah (there is no god but Allah?)"

Abu Sufyan said: "By my father and mother, how kind and generous you are, surely if I was sure there was a god beside Allah, they would have helped me by now."

The Prophet then said: "woe unto you, Oh Abu Sufyan! Isn't it time you knew that I am the Messenger of Allah?"

Abu Sufyan: "But this, I still have something inside me against it. Al-Abbas then shouted at Abu Sufyan and told him to quit his arrogance and declare Shahadah. And he did.

The fact is that Abu Sufyan had heard the Qur'an before. He had witnessed the enthusiasm of Muhammad's followers. He had also heard what good things Heracles had said about Muhammad ﷺ. He had seen the wonderful signs of God all pointing out the truth of Muhammad's mission. Now his faith in idols had been shaken but he was reluctant to abandon something he had been raised with and had been used to since childhood. He was also afraid of losing his position of honor amongst the Arabs. He acknowledged the faith now but not in very clear terms. Al-Abbas addressed Abu Sufyan and said: "You should acknowledge your new faith and say: 'I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. At that point Abu Sufyan declared Shahadah, or the testimony of faith.

## Prophet Muhammad Honors Abu Sufyan

After Abu Sufyan embraced Islam, Al-Abbas addressed Prophet Muhammad privately and said: "Oh Prophet of Allah, Abu Sufyan is a man of pride. Do him some favor."

The Prophet said: "Who enters the house of Abu Sufyan shall be safe. He who shuts himself up in his own house and locks his door shall be safe and he who enters the mosque in Makkah shall be safe."

When Al-Abbas was about to leave the Prophet said: "Oh Abbas! Keep him at the passage of the valley at the top of the mountain so he will see the soldiers of Allah as they pass by him."

Al-Abbas said: "I took him and kept him at the top of the mountain as the Prophet ordered me. When each tribe passed by with their banners, Abu Sufyan asked: 'Who are these Abbas?'"

"I say Sulaim. Then other brigades passed, one after the other. Until the Prophet ﷺ passed with his column carrying the

green banners, consisting of Al-Muhajireen and Al-Ansar dressed up in chain mail, nothing showing of them, except, their eyes. He said: "Allah be praised, who are these?"

I said: "This is the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessing of Allah be upon him, with the Muhajireen and Ansar."

As they passed, Abu Sufyan had mixed feelings within himself. The old man's pride and jealousy were struggling in his heart with his new faith: Islam.

He said: 'These have no equal and no match. By Allah, Abul-Fadl, your nephew tomorrow will be the greatest king.'

'I said: 'Oh Abu Sufyan, it's the Prophethood!' He said: 'Then, Yes.' I told him let's hurry to the people."

When Abu Sufyan came to his people he cried out: "Oh tribe of Quraysh! This is Muhammad. He is coming upon you with an army that has no match. But, whoever enters the house of Abu Sufyan will be safe, and whoever shuts himself up in his own house and locks the door shall be safe and so will he who enters the Holy Mosque."

Some rejected what Abu Sufyan called them for and prepared to fight. However, the vast majority of the Quraysh people submitted to what Abu Sufyan said and followed through.

Meanwhile, another Abu Sufyan whose name was Abu Sufyan Ibn-ul-Harith Ibn Abdul-Muttalib, the cousin of the Prophet, came to visit the Prophet. He was accompanied by Abdullah Ibn Abi 'Ummayyah Ibn-ul-Mugheerah, the brother of Ummu Salamah, the wife of the Prophet ﷺ. The Prophet hesitated to meet with them because they had treated him and the Muslims very badly in the past. Then Ummu Salamah interfered and told the Prophet: "Oh Prophet of Allah! Your cousin and your brother-in-law wish to meet with you." She urged the Prophet to forgive and pardon them. Eventually, the Prophet pardoned them and they accepted Islam.