

Miracles with Trees

Incident 1

Sayyidina Umar's son tells of the time, he and others accompanied the Prophet ﷺ upon a journey, when a Bedouin came to him, so he asked where he was going. The Bedouin replied that he was going to his family, whereupon the Prophet ﷺ asked, "Do you want something good?" The Bedouin asked, "What is it?" to which the Prophet ﷺ replied, "It is that you bear witness that there is no god except Allah, alone without a partner and that Muhammad ﷺ is His worshiper and Messenger." The Bedouin inquired, "Who will bear witness to what you say?" He replied, "That Mimosa tree" whereupon the tree advanced from the edge of a dried-up water bed ploughing up the ground until it stood before him. The Prophet ﷺ asked it to bear witness three times, and this it did and thereafter returned to its place.¹

Lessons Learnt

1. The Prophet's ﷺ mission was always to bring people towards Allah and bring goodness.
2. The Bedouin wanted to see something that would convince him.
3. The Prophet ﷺ showed a miracle, the tree listened and obeyed.
4. All the creation of Allah recognise the Prophet ﷺ.
5. Allah has created everything for a reason, however, Allah has given His beloved ﷺ the command over them.
6. How fortunate was that tree to be called by the Prophet ﷺ.



¹ Bukhari. Muslim. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P165

Incident 2

Sayyidina Jabir, Sayyidina Abdullah's son says that they were near the edge of a dried-up water bed that had two trees and the Messenger of Allah ﷺ felt the need to relieve himself however there was nothing to screen him. So, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ went to one of the trees and took hold of a branch and said, "Let me lead you by the permission of Allah" and gently proceeded to lead it like a haltered camel. He did the same with the other tree until the trees stood side by side, then he said to them "By the permission of Allah, join together for me" and this they did.²

Lessons Learnt

1. This was to show the Ummah the manners of going to relieve oneself.
2. When the Prophet ﷺ asked the tree to follow, it did. The companion describes the incident as if leading a camel.
3. How fortunate are those trees which the Prophet ﷺ held and spoke to.
4. The trees understood and recognised the Prophet ﷺ.



Incident 3

Sayyidina Jabir said to the tree, "The Messenger of Allah ﷺ requests you to join your companion so he can sit behind you." Whereupon it forged ahead and joined its companion, and he sat between them. Sayyidina Jabir said, "I returned in haste and sat down, talking to myself, and when I turned around I saw the Messenger of Allah ﷺ coming. The trees parted from each other and stood alone as they had done originally and the Messenger of Allah ﷺ stopped for a moment and indicated right and left as he moved his head."³

Lessons Learnt

1. Here a companion is requesting the tree, we find that when someone becomes a beloved of the Prophet ﷺ the creation will listen to you.
2. The trees recognised the Prophet ﷺ and even understood his blessed actions.

² Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P165

³ Muslim. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P166

Incident 4

Sayyidina Usama, Zaid's son reports a similar occasion when they were on an expedition. The Prophet ﷺ felt the need to relieve himself and asked if there was anywhere. Sayyidina Usama told him that the dried-up water bed had no place of concealment, so the Prophet ﷺ asked if any palm trees or stones had been seen. Sayyidina Usama told him that he had seen some scattered palm-trees and some stones, so the Prophet ﷺ said, "Go and tell them that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ commands them to come to his assistance. He also told him to say the same to the stones and this he did. Sayyidina Usama swore to the miracle saying, "By the One who has sent him with the truth, I saw the palm-trees draw near to each other until they joined, and the stones came together until they formed a mound behind the Prophet ﷺ." After he had relieved himself he told Sayyidina Usama to tell them to part, and Sayyidina Usama swore again saying, "By He who sent him with the truth, I saw the palm-trees and stones part and return to their places." ⁴A similar miracle took place at Hunain.

Sayyidina Ya'la, Murra's son reports a miracle he witnessed and tells us that he saw either a palm or mimosa tree come and circle around them, then return to its place. The Messenger of Allah, praise and peace be upon him, told those who were with him, "It asked permission to greet me."

Lessons Learnt

1. The companion did not object the Prophet ﷺ saying trees are not human, they don't talk etc.
2. This was to increase the Iman of the companions that the Prophet ﷺ has been given the control of the entire universe and everything in it.
3. The companion swore, took oath in what he saw.



⁴ Al-Bayhaqi. Abu Ya'la. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P166

Incident 5

Sayyidina Abdullah, Sayyidina Masood's son tells us, as do numerous other transmitters, of a night when a tree told the Prophet ﷺ that jinn were present and listening to him. Sayyidina Mujahid added that the jinn asked, "Who will be witness for you?" The Prophet ﷺ replied, "This tree, come forward tree!" and the tree came dragging its roots making a clumping sound.⁵

Lessons Learnt

1. The tree informed the Prophet ﷺ about the jinn.
2. The tree was witness. This tree came to the Prophet ﷺ.
3. How fortunate was that tree to be called by the best of creation ﷺ.



Incident 6

During the encounter at Ta'if, Sayyidina Furaq's son tells us that as they travelled through the night, the Prophet ﷺ became a little tired. There was a Lote-tree growing in his path that split into two and thereby enable him to pass through it.⁶

Lessons Learnt

1. The tree recognised the Prophet ﷺ and made way.
2. It could have moved either way, however, this tree showed how much love it had by splitting itself for the Prophet ﷺ.

⁵ Bukhari. Muslim. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P166.

⁶Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P167. At the time Judge Eyad compiled this reference, the tree with its split trunk existed and was well known. Allah willing (inshaAllah), it still remains.



Incident 7

One day, the Prophet ﷺ was somewhat concerned and Sayyidina Anas tells of the time when the Archangel Gabriel came to the Prophet ﷺ and asked, "Shall I show you a sign?" He replied, "Yes". The Messenger of Allah ﷺ glanced towards a tree beyond the dried-up river bed and said, "Call that tree" and it came walking until it stood in front of him, then the Prophet ﷺ said, "Command it to return" and it returned to its place.⁷

Imam Ali mentions a similar account but does not mention Gabriel, and tells us the Prophet ﷺ supplicated saying, "O Allah, show me a sign so that I will never again be concerned about those who envy me."⁸

Lessons Learnt

1. Like the previous hadith, a tree was called upon and the narration reads the same.
2. The concern of the Prophet ﷺ was because of the unbeliever's rejection of the truth he brought.
3. The sign was for them, not for himself.



⁷ Ibn Majah. Ad-Darimi. Al-Bayhaqi. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P167

⁸ Ibid.

Incident 9

Rukana Al Muttalibi, was the strongest amongst the Quraysh; he was an undefeated wrestler. The Prophet ﷺ wrestled with him twice and overcame him on both occasions. Rukana was astonished by his defeat so the Prophet ﷺ offered to show him something more amazing. Sayyidina Isaac's son tells us that the Prophet ﷺ showed Rukana a similar sign and a tree was called, then came and stood before him, thereafter it was told to return, and it returned.⁹

Lessons Learnt

1. To wrestle is a Sunnah.
2. A person who is undefeated and is beaten twice was astonished. Something he could not understand.
3. The Prophet ﷺ showed him something that he has not seen or heard of before.

Incident 10

The grandson of the Prophet ﷺ, Sayyidina Al Hasan, Sayyidina Ali's son, peace be upon them, tells us of the time when the Quraysh were causing the Prophet ﷺ great concern, so he complained to His Lord and asked for a sign with which he would know he had nothing to fear. He was told to go to a certain dried up river bed in which there grew a particular tree and to call one of its branches, and that the branch would come to him. This he did, and the tree ploughed its way through the earth until it stood before him. The Prophet ﷺ let it remain for as long as Allah willed it to remain, then told it to return in the same way it had come. The tree obeyed and returned to its former place whereupon the Prophet ﷺ said, "O Lord, I know now I have nothing to fear."¹⁰

Lessons Learnt

1. The sign the Prophet ﷺ asked for was not for himself but to the people of Quraysh.
2. The tree obeyed the Prophet ﷺ.

⁹ Ibn Ishaq. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P167

¹⁰ Al-Bayhaqi, Mursal Hadith. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P167

Incident 11

Sayyidina Abbas' son tells of the conversation between the Prophet ﷺ and a Bedouin. The Prophet ﷺ asked a Bedouin, "Tell me whether I should call the trunk of this palm-tree to bear witness that I am the Messenger of Allah." The Bedouin replied yes, so he called it and it began to plough a path until it reached them and bore witness. Then he told it to return, thereupon the Bedouin embraced Islam.¹¹

Lessons Learnt

1. This was to show that the tree believes in the Prophet ﷺ and so should you.



¹¹ Al-Bukhari's history. Al-Bayhaqi. Ad-Darimi. At-Tirmidhi says its sound. Ash-Shifa, Part One, Chapter Four, Miracles of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wassallam), section 16. P167-8