



72 Questions & Answers

on the Biography of

Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه

Introductions by

The Noble Shaykh Sālim ibn Ṣa'd aṭ-Ṭawīl

and

The Noble Shaykh, Dr. Muḥammad Hishām Ṭāhirī

Written by

Aḥmad ibn 'Alī al-Ḥammādī

May Allāh forgive him, his parents, his Mashāyikh and all the Muslims



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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Introduction by the Noble Shaykh Sālim ibn Ṣa'd aṭ-Ṭawīl

All praise is due to Allāh alone. May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of the one whom there is no Prophet after him, and protect him and the message of Islām from any harm in this life or the next.

To Proceed:

The virtuous son **Aḥmad ibn 'Alī al-Ḥammādī** read to me the treatise: *72 Questions & Answers on the Biography of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq* رضي الله عنه and I found it valuable and beneficial. I ask Allāh the Most High to make it benefit the author and the one who reads it. Hopefully, Allāh the Most High will facilitate for him to complete authoring biographies similar to it of the four rightly guided Khalīfahs.

All praise is due to Allāh, the First and the Last, the Highest and the Closest. May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of our Prophet Muḥammad and bless him and protect him, the message of Islām, his family and all his Companions from any harm in this life or the next.

Written by: **Sālim ibn Ṣa'd aṭ-Ṭawīl**

Yawm-ul-Ithnayn (Monday), 6th of Jumādā al-Ūwlā, 1442

Coinciding with 21/12/2020

Introduction by the Noble Shaykh Dr. Muḥammad Hishām Ṭāhirī

All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of all creation. May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of the most noble of Prophets and Messengers, our Prophet Muḥammad, as well as his family, his honorable, blessed Companions and those who follow them in goodness until the Last Day. To proceed:

Our brother, Aḥmad ibn ‘Alī al-Ḥammādī – may Allāh preserve him – has compiled and arranged a fine collection related to the biography of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq – may Allāh be pleased with him and may he be pleased with Allāh. He titled it:

72 Questions & Answers on the Biography of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq

I read it, looked into it and found it to be a comprehensive collection, abridged and beneficial, arranged in a beneficial manner for the general Muslims, especially in this time when the people have taken to the abridged works and have turned away from the extensive ones.

This treatise is made more impressive by the manner in which it is arranged, since he began it in a way that was natural for a collection and verification of this kind and set about showing the days and nights of the life of aṣ-Ṣiddīq as well as verifying what is said and confirming the source and the attribution to the one who said it. May Allāh reward him with good for his good efforts, and bless him in his knowledge and actions, and make that in his scale of good deeds. May Allāh thank him, the one who spreads his work, reads it and benefits from it.

May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of our Prophet Muḥammad – the best of creation, as well as his family and his Companions – the best of mankind. All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of all creation.

Written by: **Muḥammad Hishām Ṭāhirī**
7th of Rabī' ath-Thani, 1442

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Introduction by the Author

All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of all creation. May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of the best of His worshipers - the Messengers - our Prophet Muḥammad, as well as his family, his Companions and those who follow them in goodness until the Last Day.

To proceed:

Indeed, Allāh sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth so that it may be victorious over all other religions even if the polytheists hate it. He placed in the service of His Prophet men whom Allāh ﷻ testified to their truthfulness, their sacrifice and their trustworthiness. He ﷻ said,

﴿مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ رِجَالٌ صَدَقُوا مَا عَاهَدُوا اللَّهَ عَلَيْهِ فَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ قَضَىٰ نَحْبَهُ
وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ يَنْتَظِرُ وَمَا بَدَّلُوا تَبْدِيلًا﴾

which means, ***“Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allāh, some of them have fulfilled their obligations (i.e., have been martyred) and some of them are still waiting but they have never changed in the least.”***¹

¹ Sūrah al-Aḥzāb: 23

Allāh is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. He made following them and traveling in their footsteps a condition of His pleasure. He رضي الله عنه said,

﴿وَالسَّابِقُونَ السَّابِقُونَ مِنَ الْمُهَاجِرِينَ وَالْأَنْصَارِ وَالَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ
رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ
فِيهَا أَبَدًا ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ﴾

which means, *“And the foremost to embrace Islām from the Muhājirīn and the Anṣār and also those who followed them exactly. Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him. He has prepared for them gardens under which rivers flow to dwell therein forever. That is the supreme success.”*¹

Allāh رضي الله عنه threatened those who follow other than their way. He رضي الله عنه said,

﴿وَمَنْ يُشَاقِقِ الرَّسُولَ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُ الْهُدَىٰ وَيَتَّبِعْ غَيْرَ سَبِيلِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ
نُوَلِّهِ مَا تَوَلَّىٰ وَنُصَلِّهِ ۗ جَهَنَّمَ وَسَاءَتْ مَصِيرًا﴾

which means, *“And whoever contradicts and opposes the Messenger after the right path has been shown clearly to him, and follows other than the way of the believers, We shall keep him in the path he has chosen and burn him in Hell – what an evil destination.”*²

These believers are the noble Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم who fought with their wealth and their souls in the way of Allāh. They assisted this tremendous religion and conveyed this divine message without any distortion or denial.

¹ Sūrah at-Tawbah: 100

² Sūrah an-Nisā': 115

It is therefore befitting for us to know their biographies so that we can follow their tracks and travel their path رضي الله عنه, the path of salvation.

This treatise contains abridged questions and answers regarding the biography of the Ṣaḥābī Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

I borrowed the idea for this treatise from a treatise whose benefit has become widespread: **Questions and Answers for the Youth Which are Indispensable to the Elders** by my noble shaykh and teacher, **Sālim ibn Sa'd aṭ-Ṭawīl** – may Allāh the Most High preserve him and bless him in his knowledge, his actions and his lifespan.

It is nice to point out that the method of questions and answers is a Prophetic method which makes memorizing and understanding the information easy.

At this occasion, I remember someone who has a great right over me, someone who used to plant in us love for the noble Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم and aspiration for imitating their example and following them. He prompted me to write this brief treatise. He is my shaykh and teacher: Professor, Dr. Falāḥ Ismā'īl Mundakār – may Allāh the Most High have mercy on him and assign him to the highest part of Firdaws in Paradise along with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and the noble Companions رضي الله عنهم. May Allāh reward him the best reward on our behalf.¹

¹ Implementing the statement of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, “**He doesn't thank Allāh, the one who does not thank the people,**” I thank everyone who shared in this work by sharing a benefit, or reviewing it or providing some direction. I would like to single out one of them, my noble brother: ‘Abdur-Raḥmān ibn Māhir as-Sāyir; his efforts in completing this work are great. I ask Allāh the Most High to bless him in his knowledge, his actions, his family and his offspring. Āmīn.

All praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of all creation. May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of His Prophet Muḥammad, as well as his family, his Companions and those who follow them in goodness until the Last Day.

Written by one who hopes for the pardon of his Lord, the Provider of Guidance

Aḥmad ibn 'Alī al-Ḥammādī

May Allāh forgive him, his parents, his Mashāyikh and all the Muslims.

Q1: What is the lofty Companion Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq's رضي الله عنه name?

A: He is 'Abdullāh ibn 'Uthmān¹ ibn 'Āmir ibn 'Amr ibn Ka'b ibn Sa'd ibn Taym ibn Murrah ibn Ka'b ibn Lu'ayy ibn Ghālib al-Qurashī at-Taymī. His lineage meets the Prophet's صلى الله عليه وسلم at Murrah.²

Q2: What is his kunyā and what are his nicknames رضي الله عنه ?

A: His kunyā is: Abū Bakr.

His nicknames are: Aṣ-Ṣiddīq and 'Atīq.

Q3: What is the reason he was given the kunyā "Abū Bakr" رضي الله عنه ?

A: 1. It is said due to his connection with camels; *bakr* is a young camel.

2. It is said that he had a son named Bakr.

3. It is said due to his *bakkara* (early) entrance into Islām.

4. It is said that he is the *bikr* (first born son) of his mother and father.

All the reasons that are given for his kunyā رضي الله عنه are independent deductions mentioned by the Scholars but none of them are authentic or clear.

Q4: What is the reason for Abū Bakr's nickname being "Aṣ-Ṣiddīq" رضي الله عنه ?

A: The Ummah has agreed upon him being nicknamed "Aṣ-Ṣiddīq" and the reason for this nickname stems from a number of reasons, including:

The First: He was given this nickname before Islām due to what was known about him from *ṣidq* (truthfulness).

¹ His nickname is: Abū Quḥāfah.

² *Al-Istiy'āb fī Ma'rifat-il-Aṣḥāb*, 4/1614.

The Second: Due to his quickness in *tasdīq* (believing) in the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and entering Islām.

The Third: The first time he became well-known by it was the morning of al-Isrā when the polytheists belied the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and he *ṣaddaqahu* (believed him).

The Fourth: It is narrated that ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنه used to take an oath that Allāh sent down from the sky ‘Aṣ-Ṣiddīq’ as a name for Abū Bakr.¹

The Fifth: It is said that when the Prophet returned on the night he was taken to Jerusalem and he was in the Valley of Ṭuwā, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “O Jibrīl! Indeed, my people will not believe me.” Jibrīl عليه السلام said, “Abū Bakr will *Yuṣaddiḡuka* (believe you) and he is *aṣ-Ṣiddīq*.”²

All the previous statements are established and authentic except for the fifth which is the ḥadīth concerning Jibrīl عليه السلام.

Q5: What is the reason for Abū Bakr’s nickname being “Atīq” رضي الله عنه?

A: There are number of statements regarding that, including:

Firstly: It is said that is due to the *‘itāqah* (beauty) of his face.

Secondly: It is said that is due to the *‘itāqah* (beauty) of his lineage as there was nothing blameworthy in it.

Thirdly: It is said that his father named him ‘Atīq at first and then named him ‘Abdullāh.

Fourthly: It is said that is due to his *‘atīq* (long standing) quality of doing good.

¹ Ibn Ḥajar said, “Its men are reliable.” *Fatḥh al-Bārī*, 7/9.

² Reported by Ibn Ṣa’d in *aṭ-Ṭabaqāt*, 3/1/120 with a weak chain. Al-Albānī graded it ḍa’īf in *as-Silsilah aṣ-Ṣaḥīḥah*, 1/615.

Fifthly: It is said that is due to him being 'atīq (free) from the fire due to what 'Ā'ishah رضي الله عنها narrated that Abū Bakr entered upon Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and he said, "**You are Allāh's 'atīq** (freed one) **from the fire,**" so that day was named: 'Atīq.¹

Sixthly: Because he used to *yu'tiqu* (free) slaves.

All of the previous statements are established and authentic except the third: that his father named him 'Atīq.

Q6: When was the lofty Companion Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه born?

A: He was born after the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم by two years and six months; and it is said by three years. He is younger than the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم by two and a half years.

Q7: Who is the mother of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه? Did she accept Islām?

A: She is Umm al-Khayr Salmā bint Ṣakhr ibn Mālik ibn 'Āmir ibn 'Amr ibn Ka'b رضي الله عنها. She was the daughter of his father's paternal uncle and she accepted Islām early on and made hijrah.²

Q8: Where did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه grow up?

A: He grew up in Makkah and he did not leave it except for business. He possessed an abundant amount of wealth among his people. He possessed perfect manners, excellence and was preferred among them just as Ibn ad-Dughunnah³ said, "Indeed, you maintain family ties, you speak the truth, you help the needy,

¹ Reported by at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi'*, no. 3679. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan at-Tirmidhī*, no. 3679.

² *Aṭ-Ṭabaqāt al-Kubrā* of Ibn Ṣa'd, 3/169.

³ 'Ibn ad-Daghinah' is also correct. He was one of the noble of Quraysh and one of their leaders.

you carry the burden of the weak, you help the misfortunate and you are generous towards your guests.”

Q9: What was the status of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه among his people?

A: Al-Ḥāfidh an-Nawawī رحمته said, “He was from the heads of Quraysh before Islām, he was one whom they consulted, he was beloved to them and he was the most knowledgeable about their history, landmarks and lineage.”¹

Q10: What was the purity of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه before Islām?

A: 1. It is narrated that ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها said, “I swear by Allāh, Abu Bakr never recited poetry before Islām, nor in Islām and he and ‘Uthmān abstained from alcohol before Islām.”²

2. It is narrated that ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها said, “Abū Bakr prohibited alcohol on himself before Islām.”

Q11: What were the physical attributes of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: 1. He was a white man.

2. He was extremely thin. His izār (waist wrap) used to not stay up and would droop off his hips.

3. He had a sparse beard.

4. His back was slightly curved.

5. He had a lean face, not fleshy.

6. His eyes were sunken.

7. His forehead was prominent.

8. He had boney hands; his knuckles protruded.

¹ *Tahdhīb al-Asmā wal-Lughāt* of an-Nawawī, 2/183.

² Shaykh Aḥmad Shākir graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Tafsīr aṭ-Ṭabarī*, 4/334. Ibn ‘Asākir reported with an authentic chain in *Tārīkh Dimashq*, 30/334.

9. He was a nice height, not tall nor short.
10. He had thin shins/legs.
11. He used to color his beard with hennah and blackish red dye.

Q12: What were the character traits of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه ?

A: His character traits were many, from the most outstanding of them:

1. He was quick to cry, deeply humble and soft-hearted.
2. He was brave.
3. He was generous.
4. He was always first to do good.

Q13: How many wives did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه have and how many children did he have from them?

A: He رضي الله عنه married five women and they are:

The First: Qutaylah bint ‘Abdul-‘Uzzā. He divorced her before Islām. It is not established that she accepted Islām. His children from her are:

1. Asmā Dhat an-Niṭāqayn, possessor of two aprons رضي الله عنها.
2. ‘Abdullāh رضي الله عنه.

The Second: Umm Bakr, as ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها has narrated, “that Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه married a woman from (the tribe of) Kalb, she was called Umm Bakr. When Abū Bakr made hijrah he divorced her.”

The Third: Umm Rūmān bint ‘Āmir ibn ‘Uwaymir رضي الله عنها. His children from her are:

1. Umm al-Mu’minīn ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها.
2. ‘Abdur-Raḥmān رضي الله عنه.

The Fourth: Ḥabībah bint Khārijah al-Anṣāriyyah رضي الله عنها. She was only endowed with Umm Kulthūm who was born after the passing of her father aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

The Fifth: Asmā bint ‘Umays al-Khath’amiyyah رضي الله عنها.¹ She was only endowed with a boy who was Muḥammad رضي الله عنه.

Q14: When did Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه accept Islām?

A: He accepted Islām at the beginning of the (Prophetic) mission. He was the first to accept Islām from the men. The evidence is:

- Abud-Dardā رضي الله عنه narrated, “The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, ‘**Indeed, Allāh sent me to all of you and you said: You are lying and Abū Bakr believed and assisted me with his self and his wealth. Won’t you give up harming my companion?**’ He said that twice.”²
- Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Kathīr رحمه الله said, “This is as if it is a textual evidence that he was the first to accept Islām رضي الله عنه.”³

Q15: What battles did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه witness along with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: He witnessed all the battles along with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

Q16: How long did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه accompany the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه accompanied the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم from the time he accepted Islām until his death and he did not part from him, in traveling or in residence, except for when the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم allowed him for Ḥajj and battles.

¹ She was a lofty Companion. She married Ja’far ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنه. When he was martyred she married Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه. When Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه died she married ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنه.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3661.

³ *As-Sīrat an-Nabawiyyah* of Ibn Kathīr, 1/434.

Q17: How brave was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: He was one of the bravest Companions رضي الله عنه. The evidence is:

- Muḥammad ibn ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib narrated, “‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنه gave us a speech and said, ‘Who is the bravest person?’ So we said, ‘You.’ He said, ‘As for me, then no one challenged me except that I subdued him. But he (i.e., the bravest) is Abū Bakr. Verily, I saw Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم when the Quraysh had taken him. This one was hitting him any and everywhere and this one was waiting for him (to do the same); they were saying: “You made the gods One God.” I swear by Allāh, none of us got close except Abū Bakr who was hitting this one and pushing that one saying, “Woe to you! Will you kill a man for saying: ‘My Lord is Allāh?’” Then ‘Alī cried and said, ‘I ask you by Allāh, is the believer from the house of Fir’awn better or Abū Bakr?’ The people were silent so ‘Alī said, ‘I swear by Allāh! Truly, an hour of Abū Bakr’s life is better than him. That man concealed his īmān and this one announced his īman.’”¹

Q18: Did the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم benefit from the wealth of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Yes, he benefited from him tremendously. The evidence is:

- The ḥadīth of Abū Hurayrah رضي الله عنه who said that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**No wealth ever benefited me like the wealth of Abū Bakr.**” So Abū Bakr cried and said, “Am I and my wealth for anything but you O Allāh’s Messenger?”²

¹ Al-Haythamī brought it in *Majma’ az-Zawā’id*, 9/47. Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Ḥajar graded its chain ṣaḥīḥ in *Fatḥ al-Bārī*, 7/169.

² Reported by at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi’*, no. 3661. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan at-Tirmidhī*, no. 3661.

Q19: How did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه spend his wealth in the way of Allāh?

A: He used to spend all of his wealth in the way of Allāh and he did not fear poverty. The evidence is:

- The statement of ‘Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb رضي الله عنه, “One day Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم ordered us to give charity and it so happened that I had some money at that time. I said, ‘Today is the day I am going to beat Abū Bakr if I am ever to beat him.’ So I came with half of my wealth. Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم asked, ‘**What did you leave for your family?**’ I said, ‘Similar to it.’” He (‘Umar) said, “Then Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه came with all he had. Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said to him, ‘**What did you leave for your family?**’ He said, ‘I left Allāh and His Messenger for them.’ I said, ‘I will never be able to compete with you.’”¹

Q20: Did the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم testify to Abū Bakr spending his wealth and dedicating himself to help him?

A: Yes, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم testified to that. The evidence is:

- Ibn ‘Abbās رضي الله عنه said that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**There is no one who has more favor with me than Abū Bakr. He assisted me with his self and his wealth and married me his daughter.**”²

¹ Reported by Abū Dāwūd in his *Sunan*, no. 1678 and at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi’*, no. 3675. Al-Albānī graded it ḥasan in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan Abī Dāwūd*, no. 1678.

² Reported by aṭ-Ṭabarānī in *al-Mu’jam al-Kabīr*, no. 11461. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ due to supporting narrations in *as-Silsilah aṣ-Ṣaḥīḥah*, no. 2214.

Q21: What is the position of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه in knowledge?

A: Ahlus-Sunnah wal-Jamā'ah are in agreement that the most knowledgeable of the Ṣaḥābah is Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه. The evidence is:

- The ḥadīth of Abū Sa'īd al-Khudrī رضي الله عنه who said, "Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم sat on the minbar and said, '**Indeed, Allāh gave a worshiper the choice between Him giving him the splendor and luxury of this life as he pleases or giving him what is with Him. So he chose what is with Him.**' So Abū Bakr cried and said, 'May our fathers and mothers be ransomed for you.' We were amazed at him. The people said, 'Look at this Shaykh. Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم talks about a worshiper whom Allāh gave the choice between giving him the splendor and luxury of this life or what is with Him and he says, "May our fathers and mothers be ransomed for you.'" But the one given the choice was Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and Abū Bakr was the most knowledgeable of us regarding that."¹

Q22: Was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه knowledgeable about dreams?

A: Yes. In fact, he was from the head interpreters of dreams to the point he would interpret dreams in front of Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم. The evidence is:

- The ḥadīth of 'Ā'ishah رضي الله عنها who said, "I saw as if three moons fell in my apartment so I asked Abū Bakr. He said, 'O 'Ā'ishah! If your dream is true the three best people on the earth will be buried in your house.' When Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3904 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2382. The wording is al-Bukhārī's.

passed and was buried Abū Bakr said to me, ‘O ‘Ā’ishah! This is the best of your three moons.’ And he was one of them.”¹

Q23: What was the knowledge of Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه regarding the lineage of Quraysh?

A: He was the most knowledgeable of them regarding lineages. The evidence is:

- ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها narrated, “Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, ‘**Lampoon the Quraysh, for indeed, it is more severe upon them than being struck with arrows.**’ Then he sent to Hassān ibn Thābit...so he said, ‘I swear by the One Who sent you with the truth, I will tear them up with my tongue like an animal skin is torn.’ Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, ‘**Do not be hasty, indeed, Abū Bakr is the most knowledgeable of the Quraysh regarding their lineages and I have a lineage among them, in order that he can summarize for you my lineage.**’”²

Q24: Did Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه give speeches in the time of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: Yes, he was from the most flawless of the speakers among the Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم. Az-Zubayr ibn Bakkār said, “I heard some of the people of knowledge saying, “The most flawless of the speakers of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq and ‘Ālī ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنهما.”

¹ Reported by al-Ḥākim in *al-Mustadrak*, (3/60). He said, “This is a ṣaḥīḥ ḥadīth according to the conditions of the two Shaykhs.” Al-Haythamī said, “Its narrators are narrators of the *Ṣaḥīḥ*” in *Majma’ az-Zawā’id*, (9/41).

² Reported by Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2490.

Q25: How many ḥadīth did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrate?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrated 142 ḥadīth from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Q26: Why did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrate so few ḥadīth from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم while he was the Companion who accompanied the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم the most?

A: Al-Ḥāfidh an-Nawawī رحمته الله said, “The reason for his small amount of narrations while he preceded in his companionship and his accompanying the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم is that his death took place before the spreading of aḥādīth and before the interest of the Tābi’īn for hearing them, acquiring them and memorizing them.”¹

Q27: Mention two ḥadīth which Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrated from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

A: 1- Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrated that he said to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, “Teach me a du’ā that I can supplicate with in my ṣalāh.” He said, “**Say:**

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي ظُلْمًا كَثِيرًا، وَلَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ، فَاعْفِرْ لِي
مَغْفِرَةً مِنْ عِنْدِكَ، وَارْحَمْنِي، إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

¹ *Tahdhīb al-Asmā’l wal-Lughāt*, 2/182.

Benefit: Our Shaykh, Sālim aṭ-Ṭawīl, mentioned, “That could be answered similarly to what is said regarding Abū Hurayrah رضي الله عنه, that he used to narrate aḥādīth from the major Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم and attribute them to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم without mentioning the middle-man. This is called ‘mursal aṣ-Ṣaḥābī’ and it has the ruling of being connected.”

O Allāh! Indeed, I have wronged my soul an abundant wronging and none forgives sins except You. So forgive me a forgiveness from You and have mercy on me. Indeed, You are Oft-Forgiving, the Bestower of Mercy.”¹

2- Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**We do not leave behind inheritance. Whatever we leave is charity.**”²

Q28: Which Companions رضي الله عنهم accepted Islām at the hands of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Al-Ḥāfidh an-Nawawī رحمته الله said, “More than one of the Ṣaḥābah accepted Islām at his hands, including five from the ten (who were promised Paradise).”³

They are:

1. ‘Uthmān ibn ‘Affān رضي الله عنه.
2. Az-Zubair ibn al-‘Awwām رضي الله عنه.
3. ‘Abdur-Raḥmān ibn ‘Awf رضي الله عنه.
4. Sa’d ibn Abī Waqqāṣ رضي الله عنه.
5. Ṭalḥah ibn ‘Ubaidallāh رضي الله عنه.

Q29: Which famous slaves from the Companions رضي الله عنهم did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه purchase and set free?

A: Seven slaves and they are:

1. Bilāl ibn Rabāḥ رضي الله عنه.
2. ‘Ammār ibn Yāsir رضي الله عنه.
3. ‘Āmir ibn Fuhairah رضي الله عنه.

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 834 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2805.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3093 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1759.

³ *Tahdhīb al-Asmā’i wal-Lughāt*, 2/183.

4. Abū Fukaihah رضي الله عنه.
5. Zinnīrah ar-Rūmiyyah رضي الله عنها.
6. Umm ‘Ubais رضي الله عنها.
7. Jāriyah Banī Mu’ammal رضي الله عنها.

Q30: Did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه memorize the Qur’ān?

A: Yes, he was one of those who memorized the Qur’ān. Al-Ḥāfidh an-Nawawī رحمته الله said, “He was one of the major Companions who memorized all of the Qur’ān.”¹

Q31: Was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه one of the scribes of the Revelation?

A: Yes, he was one of the scribes of the Revelation. Al-Imām Ibn Kathīr رحمته الله said, “As for the scribes of the Revelation and other than it at the time of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, from them are the four rightly guided Khalīfahs رضي الله عنهم: Abū Bakr, ‘Umar, ‘Uthmān and ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib.”²

Q32: Who was the first one to gather the Qur’ān?

A: The first one to gather the Qur’ān was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه. The evidence is:

- What is confirmed from ‘Ālī ibn Abī Ṭālib رضي الله عنه that he said, “The person with the greatest reward concerning the muṣḥaf is Abū Bakr. Indeed, Abū Bakr was the first to gather the Qur’ān between two covers.”³

¹ *Tahdhīb al-Asmā wal-Lughāt*, 2/191.

² *Al-Bidāyah wan-Nihāyah* by Ibn Kathīr, 3/361.

³ Reported by Aḥmad in *Faḍā’il aṣ-Ṣaḥābah*, no. 513. Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Hajar said, “Its chain is ḥasan” 9/12.

Q33: What was the important first step of gathering the Qur'ān which Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه ordered?

A: Zayd ibn Thābit رضي الله عنه said, “Abū Bakr said, ‘Indeed, you are a young, wise man and no one suspects badly of you. You used to write the Revelation for Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم, so look for the Qur’ān and gather it.’”¹

Q34: Who is the most virtuous of the Companions رضي الله عنهم and the best of them?

A: The most virtuous people after Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم are Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq, then ‘Umar al-Fārūq, then ‘Uthmān Dhun-Nūrayn, and then ‘Alī Abus-Ṣibtayn رضي الله عنه.

The evidence is:

1- Abud-Dardā’ رضي الله عنه narrated, “Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم saw me walking in front of Abū Bakr so he said, ‘**O Abad-Dardā’! Do you walk in front of one who is better than you in this life and in the Hereafter? The sun has not risen on, nor set on, anyone after the Prophets and Messengers who is more virtuous than Abū Bakr.**’”²

2- Muḥammad ibn ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib, well-known as: Ibn al-Ḥanafiyyah, narrated, “I said to my father, ‘Who is the best of the people after Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم?’ He said, ‘Abū Bakr.’ I said, ‘Then who?’ He said, ‘Umar.’ Then I feared he would say: ‘Uthmān, so I said, ‘Then you?’ He said, ‘Who am I except a man from the Muslims.’”³

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 4679.

² Reported by Aḥmad in *Faḍā’il aṣ-Ṣaḥābah*, no. 135. Al-Ḥāfidh ash-Shawkānī said in *Durr aṣ-Ṣaḥābah*, no. 135, “It has multiple routes and its chain has reliable narrators.”

³ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3671.

Q35: Who was the most beloved of the Companions رضي الله عنه to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه. The evidence is:

- ‘Amr ibn al-‘Āṣ رضي الله عنه narrated that he said, “O Allāh’s Messenger! Who is the most beloved of people to you?” He said, “**Ā’ishah.**” He said, “From the men?” He said, “**Her father.**”¹

Q36: Did the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم testify that Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه would enter into all the gates of Jannah?

A: Yes, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم testified to that. The evidence is:

- Abū Hurayrah رضي الله عنه narrated that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Whoever gives two kinds of charity in the way of Allāh will be called from the gates of Paradise: ‘O worshipers of Allāh! Here is good.’ Whoever is from the people of Ṣalāh will be called from the gate of Ṣalāh. Whoever is from the people of Jihād will be called from the gate of Jihād. Whoever is from the people of fasting will be called from the gate of Rayyān. Whoever is from the people of charity will be called from the gate of charity.**” Abū Bakr said, “May my father and mother be sacrificed for you, O Allāh’s Messenger! Whoever is called from those gates will have no stress. Will anyone be called from all of those gates?” He said, “**Yes, and I hope that you are among them.**”²

¹ Reported by at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi’*, no. 3886. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan at-Tirmidhī*, no. 3886.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1897 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1027. The wording is al-Bukhārī’s.

Benefit: Ibn Ḥajar said, “The Scholars said that when Allāh ‘hopes’ or when His Prophet ‘hopes’ for something it actually takes place. With this being established, the ḥadīth regarding the virtues of Abū Bakr enters into what =

Q37: Mention some of the aḥādīth that have come regarding the virtues of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

A: 1- ‘Abdur-Raḥmān ibn ‘Awf رضي الله عنه narrated that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Abū Bakr is in Paradise. ‘Umar is in Paradise. ‘Uthmān is in Paradise. ‘Alī is in Paradise. Ṭalḥah is in Paradise. Az-Zubayr is in Paradise. ‘Abdur-Raḥmān ibn ‘Awf is in Paradise. Sa’d is in Paradise. Sa’īd is in Paradise. Abū ‘Ubaydah ibn al-Jarrāḥ is in Paradise.**”¹

2- Jābir ibn ‘Abdillāh رضي الله عنه narrated that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Abū Bakr and ‘Umar are to this religion like the position of hearing and seeing are to the head.**”²

3- Abū Sa’īd al-Khudrī رضي الله عنه narrated that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Indeed, the one who has favored me the most in companionship and with his money is Abū Bakr. If I were to take a khalīl (more than a friend, a best friend that a person can only have one of) other than my Lord, I would have taken Abū Bakr as a khalīl.**”³

4- Abū Hurairah رضي الله عنه narrated that Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Who among you woke up this morning fasting?**”

= will actually happen for Abu Bakr. In another wording, “He said, **‘Yes, and you are him, O Abū Bakr!’**” From the benefits of the ḥadīth is that whoever does something abundantly is known by it, and that the actions of righteousness are rarely combined all together in one person, and that the Angels love the righteous from the children of Ādam and are happy with them, and that the more one spends the more virtuous he is, and that hoping for good in this life and the Hereafter is something sought after.” *Fatḥ al-Bārī*, 7/29.

¹ Reported by at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi’*, no. 3747. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan at-Tirmidhī*, no. 3747.t

² Reported by aṭ-Ṭabarānī in *Al-Mu’jam al-Awsaṭ*, no. 4999, and by al-Khaṭīb in *Tārīkh Baghdād*, 8/459-460. Al-Albānī graded it ḥasan in *As-Silsilah aṣ-Ṣaḥīḥah*, no. 815.

³ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3654 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2382. The wording is al-Bukhārī’s.

Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said, “I did.” He صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Who among you followed a funeral procession today?**” Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said, “I did.” He صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Who among you fed a poor person today?**” Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said, “I did.” He صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**Who among you visited a sick person today?**” Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said, “I did.” So Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “**These (actions) are not gathered together in one person except that he will enter Paradise.**”¹

Q38: Mention some of what has been narrated regarding the virtues of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه from the speech of the Companions and the righteous predecessors.

A: 1- Jābir ibn ‘Abdillāh رضي الله عنه narrated, “Umar used to say, ‘Abū Bakr is our master.’”²

2- ‘Abdullāh ibn Yūnus رضي الله عنه narrated, “I heard Wakī saying while we were on the way to Makkah, ‘If it were not for Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq, Islām would have vanished.’”³

Q39: What are the special qualities that Allāh ﷻ distinguished Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه with over the rest of the Companions رضي الله عنهم?

A: Allāh ﷻ distinguished him with many special qualities, including:

1- He named him aṣ-Ṣiddīq, and no one besides him was named aṣ-Ṣiddīq.

2- He was a companion of the cave along with Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم.

3- He was the companion of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم during migration.

¹ Reported by Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1028.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3754.

³ Faḍā’il aṣ-Ṣaḥābah by al-Imām Aḥmad, 1/140. It is well-known among the Scholars that this is due to his engaging in the wars against apostasy.

- 4- The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم ordered him to lead the prayer during the sickness which he died from.
- 5- He is next to him in the grave.
- 6- He is the only one from the Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم who both of his parents and all of his children accepted Islām.

Q40: Did the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم testify to the fact that Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه was aṣ-Ṣiddīq?

A: Yes, he testified to that. The evidence is:

- Anas ibn Mālik رضي الله عنه narrated that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, Abū Bakr, ‘Umar and ‘Uthmān ascended Uḥud and it shook them so he said, **“Be firm Uḥud, for upon you is a Prophet, a ṣiddīq and two martyrs.”**¹

Q41: Did the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم choose Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه to accompany him in his migration?

A: Yes. The evidence is:

- Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, **“Indeed, I was given permission to migrate.”** Abū Bakr said, “Companionship, may my father be sacrificed for you, O Allāh’s Messenger?” Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said, **“Yes.”**²

Q42: How many nights did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه stay with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم in the cave of Thawr?

A: He stayed three nights. The evidence is:

- ‘Ā’isha رضي الله عنها narrated, “Then Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and Abū Bakr entered the cave in the mountain of Thawr. They hid in it for three nights.”³

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3675.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3905.

³ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3905.

Q43: Who from the Companions رضي الله عنهم was with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم in the battle of Badr under the hut to protect the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: The one who was with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم under the hut to protect him was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Kathīr رحمته الله said, “This is a unique feature of aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه where he was with Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم in the hut and he was with him in the cave.”¹

Q44: Why did Abū Sufyān رضي الله عنه, before he accepted Islām, ask about the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, Abū Bakr and ‘Umar رضي الله عنهما but he did not ask about other than them after the battle of Uhud ended?

A: Al-Imām Ibn al-Qayyim رحمته الله said, “He only asked about these three due to his knowledge and the knowledge of his people that the strength of Islām was with them (i.e., those three).”²

Q45: Did Abū Quḥāfah, the father of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه, accept Islam? When did he pass away?

A: Yes, Abū Quḥāfah, the father of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه accepted Islām during the conquest of Makkah.³ He passed away after his son, Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه passed away. Abū Quḥāfah died in Muḥarram in the year 14 after the hijrah and he was ninety-seven years old.⁴

¹ *Al-Bidāyah wan-Nihāyah* by Ibn Kathīr, 3/307.

² *Zād al-Ma’ād*, 3/180.

³ *Al-Iṣābah* by Ibn Ḥajar, 4/374.

⁴ *Al-Iṣābah* by Ibn Ḥajar, 4/375.

Q46: What was the condition of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه after he heard the news of the passing of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم? What was the condition of the people?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه remained firm after the news of the Prophet’s death like the firmness of the mountains while the people were engaging in speculation. Some of them affirmed the information and some of them belied it until aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه came with his famous speech. After testifying that there is none worthy of worship except Allāh and praising Him, he said, “To proceed: Whoever among you used to worship Muḥammad صلى الله عليه وسلم then indeed, Muḥammad صلى الله عليه وسلم has died. And whoever used to worship Allāh then indeed, Allah is Ever-Living and never dies. Allāh ﷻ said, **“Muḥammad is no more than a Messenger, and indeed (many) Messengers have passed away before him. If he dies or is killed, will you then turn back on your heels (as disbelievers)? And he who turns back on his heels, not the least harm will he do to Allāh, and Allāh will give reward to those who are grateful”** [Āl ‘Imrān: 144]. So the people sobbed. Ibn ‘Abbās رضي الله عنه said, “I swear by Allāh! It was as if the people did not know that Allāh sent it (i.e., this Āyah) until Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه recited it. So the people learned it from him and no person was heard except that he was reciting it.”¹

Q47: What did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه do when he saw the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم dead, wrapped in his shroud?

A: He uncovered (the face of) Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and kissed him. He said, “May my father and mother be sacrificed for you! You are good in life and in death. I swear by the One Who

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1242.

my soul is in His Hand, Allāh will never make you taste death twice.”¹

Q48: Who was the first khalīfah (successor) of the Prophet ﷺ?

A: The Ummah is unanimous that the first khalīfah of the Prophet ﷺ was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq ﷺ.

Q49: What are the evidences from the Sunnah which point to the succession of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq ﷺ?

A: The evidences are abundant, authentic and clear in their reference. Some of them are:

1- ‘Ā’ishah ﷺ narrated, “Allāh’s Messenger ﷺ said to me during his sickness, **‘Call Abū Bakr - your father - and your brother for me so that I may write a document. Indeed, I fear that someone might wish (for succession) and say, “I am more deserving,” while Allāh and the believers reject anyone except Abū Bakr.’**”²

2- Ibn Mas’ūd ﷺ narrated that Allāh’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Follow the two after me from my companions: Abū Bakr and ‘Umar.”³

3- Jubayr ibn Muṭ’im narrated from his father, “A woman came to the Prophet ﷺ and he ordered her to come back later. She said, ‘What do you say, if I come and don’t find you?’ As if she was saying: that you have died. He said ﷺ, **‘If you don’t find me then go to Abū Bakr.’**”⁴

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3667.

² Reported by Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2387.

³ Reported by at-Tirmidhī in his *Jāmi’*, no. 3805. Al-Albānī graded it ṣaḥīḥ in *Ṣaḥīḥ Sunan at-Tirmidhī*, no. 3805.

⁴ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3659 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2386.

4- Anas ibn Malik رضي الله عنه narrated, “Banū Muṣṭaliq sent me to Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم. They said, ‘Ask Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم for us who should we pay zakāh to after him?’” He said, “So I went to him and asked him and he said, **‘To Abū Bakr.’**”¹

Q50: Is there a consensus in the Ummah regarding the succession of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Yes, the Ummah agreed to him being the Khalīfah (to the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم).

Al-Ḥāfidh an-Nawawī رحمته said, “The Ummah agreed to the correctness of him رضي الله عنه being the Khalīfah and the Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم put him forward due to him being the best of them and the most deserving of that.”²

Q51: Was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه covetous of becoming the Khalīfah?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه was not covetous of becoming the Khalīfah; It was only when he feared the splitting (of the Ummah) that he accepted it.

Q52: What year was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه entrusted with being the Khalīfah?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه was appointed as Khalīfah in the month of Rabī’ al-Awwal in the year 11 after the hijrah.

¹ Reported by al-Ḥākim in *Al-Mustadrak*, no. 3/82. He said, “Its chain is ṣaḥīḥ,” and adh-Dhahabī agreed.

² *Tahdhīb al-Asmā’ wal-Lughāt* by an-Nawawī, 2/407.

Q53: Did ‘Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib and az-Zubayr ibn al-‘Awwām رضي الله عنهما pledge allegiance to Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Yes, they pledged allegiance to Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه on the first or second day after the death of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم. The evidence is:

- Abū Sa’īd رضي الله عنه narrated, “When Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم passed away... Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه sat on the minbar looking at the faces of the people. He did not see ‘Alī رضي الله عنه so he asked about him. A person from the Ansār went and brought him. Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said to him, ‘O cousin of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and his son-in-law! Do you want to cause division among the Muslims?’ He said, ‘Do not blame me, O Khalīfah of Allāh’s Messenger,’ and he pledged allegiance. Then he (Abū Bakr) did not see az-Zubayr ibn al-‘Awwām رضي الله عنه so he asked about him until they brought him. He said, ‘O cousin of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم and his helper! Do you want to cause division among the Muslims?’ He said, ‘Do not blame me, O Khalīfah of Allāh’s Messenger,’ and he pledged allegiance.”¹

Q54: How long was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه the Khalīfah?

A: He was Khalīfah for two years, three months and twenty day; and it is said: ten days.

Q55: What are the most prominent events that took place during the time of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Some of the most important affairs which took place during his days were:

1- Dispatching the army of Usāmah ibn Zayd رضي الله عنه.

¹ *As-Sunan al-Kubrā* by al-Bayhaqī, 8/143. Ibn Kathīr graded its chain ṣaḥīḥ in *Al-Bidāyah wan-Nihāyah*, 5/218. Shaykh, al-‘Allāmah ‘Abdul-Muḥsin al-‘Abbād said, “Its chain is ṣaḥīḥ. Its narrators are the narrators of Muslim,” in *Al-Intiṣār li-Ahlis-Sunnah wal-Ḥadīth*, 66.

- 2- Fighting the apostates and those who refused to pay zakāh.
- 3- Fighting Musaylamah the Liar and his extermination of those who claimed Prophethood.
- 4- Gathering the Qur'ān.

Q56: What were the categories of renegades during the time of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: The renegades during the time of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq were of four categories:

- 1- Those who apostated from Islām completely and returned to shirk.
- 2- Those who believed in the alleged Prophethood of Musaylamah the Liar and his followers.
- 3- Those who rejected the pillar of zakāh.
- 4- Those who believed in all of the pillars, including zakāh, but they refused to give it to the Khalīfah.

Q57: How was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq's رضي الله عنه adherence to the way of the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: He رضي الله عنه was very observant to the way of the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم. The evidence is:

- 'Ā'ishah رضي الله عنها narrated, "Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه said, 'I did not leave anything that Allāh's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم did except that I did it for indeed, I fear that if I left anything from his affair I would deviate.'"¹

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3093 and Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 1759. The wording is al-Bukhārī's.

And in another narration, “I swear by Allāh! I did not leave a matter that I saw Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم doing except that I did it.”¹

Q58: Did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه use to maintain relations with the household of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم after his death?

A: Yes. He used to maintain relations with them and loved doing so. The evidence is:

- Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه said: “I swear by the One Who my soul is in His Hand, the relatives of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم are more beloved to me than maintaining relations with my own relatives.”²

Q59: Did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه use to look after for the household of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم after his death?

A: Yes, he used to look after them and advised others to look after them. The evidence is:

- Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Ḥajar رحمته الله said, “Abū Bakr said, ‘Be mindful of Muḥammad in regards to his family.’ He is addressing the people with that and advising them with it. Being mindful of something means to maintain it. He is saying: Guard them and do not harm them and do not be evil towards them.”³

Q60: Did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه visit Fāṭimah رضي الله عنها during her illness from which she died?

A: Yes. The evidence is:

- Ash-Sha’bī narrated, “When Fāṭimah became ill, Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq came to her and sought permission to enter upon her. ‘Alī said, ‘O Fāṭimah! This is Abū Bakr seeking

¹ Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 6727.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3712.

³ *Faṭḥ al-Bārī*, 7/79.

permission to enter upon you.’ She said, ‘Do you like that I allow him?’ He said, ‘Yes.’ So she allowed him. He entered upon her seeking to please her. He said, ‘I swear by Allāh! I never left a house, or money, or a family, or relatives except for the pleasure of Allāh, the pleasure of His Messenger and your pleasure - the family of the Prophet.’ He kept seeking to satisfy her until she was pleased.”¹

Q61: Was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه affectionate with the grandsons of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم?

A: Yes, he was affectionate with them and used to play with them. The evidence is:

- ‘Uqbah ibn al-Ḥārith narrated, “Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه prayed ‘Aṣr then left out walking. He saw al-Ḥasan playing with children so he carried him on his shoulder and said, ‘May my father be ransomed for you, a resemblance of the Prophet and not a resemblance of ‘Alī,’ and ‘Alī was laughing.”²

Q62: Did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه keep ties with those whom Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم kept ties with after his death?

A: Yes, he used to keep ties with them. The evidence is:

- Abū Bakr رضي الله عنه said to ‘Umar after the passing of Allāh’s Messenger, “Let’s go to Umm Ayman³ and visit her just as Allāh’s Messenger used to visit her.”¹

¹ *Dalā’il an-Nabuwwah* by al-Bayhaqī, 7/281. Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Kathīr said regarding it, “This chain is good, strong” *Al-Biḍāyah wan-Nihāyah*, 5/310.

² Reported by al-Bukhārī in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 3542.

³ She is Barakah al-Ḥabashiyyah رضي الله عنها. She is from those who accepted Islām early and she is the freed-slave of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. He inherited her from his father and she was the caretaker of the Prophet after the death of his mother. The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم married her to Zayd ibn Ḥārith رضي الله عنه and she

Q63: What is the reason for the illness of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه which he died from?

A: There are many narrations reported regarding the reason for the illness of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه which he died from. None of them are authentic, including:

- What is narrated from ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها that he bathed on a cold day and became sick.
- What is narrated that he died from poison.

Q64: What was the last will and testament of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه and his bequest?

A: He transferred whatever he left behind to the Khalīfah after him. The evidence is:

- ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها narrated, “When Abū Bakr became ill with the sickness that he died from he said, ‘Look at what has increased in my wealth from the time I became the Amīr and send it to the Khalīfah after me.’” ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها said, “So when he died, we looked and it was a Nubian slave who used to carry his children and a camel for watering which used to make things easy for him.” ‘Abdullāh ibn Numair said, “The camel used to water a garden of his.’ She said, “So we sent the two of them to ‘Umar.” She said, “My grandfather informed me that ‘Umar cried and said, “May the mercy of Allāh be upon Abū Bakr. Indeed, he has exhausted the one after him a severe exhaustion.”²

gave birth to Usāmah ibn Zayd رضي الله عنه. She passed away fifty days after the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم passed away.

¹ Reported by Muslim in his *Ṣaḥīḥ*, no. 2454.

² *Aṭ-Ṭabaqāt al-Kubrā* by Ibn Sa’d, no. 3469. Al-Ḥāfidh Ibn Hajar graded its chain ṣaḥīḥ in *Fatḥ al-Bārī*, 4/304.

Q65: When did Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه pass away?

A: He passed away on Yawm-ul-Ithnayn (Monday) in Jumādā al-Ākhirah in the year 13 after the hijrah.

Q66: Who washed the body of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه when he passed away?

A: His wife, Asmā bint ‘Umays رضي الله عنها, washed him.¹

Q67: How many pieces of cloth was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه shrouded in?

A: He was shrouded in three pieces of cloth following the example of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Q68: Who were those who lowered Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه into his grave?

A: Those who lowered him into his grave were four of the Ṣaḥābah رضي الله عنهم:

- 1- ‘Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb رضي الله عنه.
- 2- ‘Uthmān ibn ‘Affān رضي الله عنه.
- 3- Ṭalḥah ibn ‘Ubaidallāh رضي الله عنه.
- 4- ‘Abdur-Raḥmān ibn Abī Bakr رضي الله عنه.

Q69: What time was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه buried?

A: He was buried at night.

Q70: Where was Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه buried?

A: He was buried in the house of ‘Ā’ishah رضي الله عنها next to the grave of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم. His head was placed at the shoulders of Allāh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم.

¹ Reported by al-Bayhaqī in *Aṣ-Ṣuḡhrā*, no. 1076.

Q71: What are the Āyāt that were revealed regrading Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: The first Āyah:

﴿إِلَّا تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَيَّدَهُ بِجُنُودٍ لَمْ تَرَوْهَا وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَىٰ وَكَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ﴾

which means: ***“If you do not help him (i.e., Muḥammad), indeed Allah helped him when the disbelievers drove him out; the second of the two, when they were in the cave, and he (i.e., the Prophet) said to his companion (i.e., Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq): ‘Don’t be sad, surely Allāh is with us.’ Then Allāh sent down tranquility upon him and strengthened him with forces which you did not see, and made the word of those who disbelieved the lowermost, while the Word of Allāh became the uppermost. And Allāh is All-Mighty, All-Wise.”***¹

The Second Āyah:

﴿وَسَيُجَنَّبُهَا الْأَتْقَى ۝ الَّذِي يُؤْتِي مَالَهُ يَتَزَكَّىٰ ۝ وَمَا لِأَحَدٍ عِنْدَهُ مِن نِّعْمَةٍ تُجْزَىٰ ۝ إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ رَبِّهِ الْأَعْلَىٰ ۝ وَلَسَوْفَ يَرْضَىٰ﴾

which means: ***“And the righteous will be far removed from it (i.e., Hell). He who spends his wealth for increase in self-purification, and who has no favor from anyone, except to seek***

¹ Sūrah at-Tawbah: 40.

the Face of his Lord, the Most High. He surely, will be pleased (when he enters Paradise).”¹

The scholars of tafsīr have agreed that these Āyāt were sent down regarding Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

Q72: Mention a narration from the statements of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه?

A: Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه used to say,

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ خَيْرَ عُمْرِي آخِرَهُ، وَخَيْرَ عَمَلِي خَوَاتِمَهُ،
وَخَيْرَ أَيَّامِي يَوْمَ أَلْقَاكَ.

“O Allāh! Make the best of my life the last of it, the best of my deeds the last of them and the best of my days the day I meet You.”²

¹ Sūrah al-Layl: 17-21.

² Reported by Ibn Abī Shaybah in his *Muṣannaf*, no. 29510.

Conclusion

All praise is due to Allāh, the abridged questions regarding the biography of Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq are complete. I ask Allāh that He bless this work and accept it from me. Just as I ask Him to make us from those who follow the Prophet and his Companions.

May Allāh grant His praise, manifest his virtue and elevate the status of our Prophet Muḥammad and protect him and the message of Islām, from any harm in this life or the next, as well as his family and all of his Companions.

Jumu'ah, the 15th of Ramaḍān, 1441
Coinciding with the 8th of May, 2020

If you knew that **someone** was from among those with whom Allāh is pleased, and that Allāh made following these people and traveling in their footsteps a condition of His pleasure [Qur'ān 9:100] - would you want to know him?

If you knew that **someone** was one of the Ten Promised Paradise and that half of the Ten Promised Paradise accepted Islām at this one person's hand - would you want to know him?

If you knew that **someone** memorized the Qur'ān, was one of the scribes who recorded it as it was being revealed, and was the first person to collect it into a written manuscript - would you want to know him?

If you knew that Allāh Himself - in the Qur'ān [9:40] - confirms **someone** specifically as the 'Ṣāḥib' (Companion) of the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ - would you want to know him?

These are only a few of the more than seventy-two distinguishing characteristics of the First Khalīfah, the one whom Allāh named as 'the Truthful', and the foremost in Īmān of all humanity - after the Prophets and Messengers of Allāh ﷺ.

If you want to know more about this great Companion of the Prophet ﷺ, begin right now reading this interesting, concise, and well documented biography of 'Abdullāh ibn 'Uthmān ibn 'Āmir ibn 'Amr ibn Ka'b ibn Sa'd ibn Taym ibn Murrah ibn Ka'b ibn Lu'ayy ibn Ghālib al-Qurashī at-Taymī, better known as Abū Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه.

-Shaykh Abu Muhammad Abdur-Ra'uf Shakir