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‘Abdullāh ibn ‘Abbās (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) used to make me sit with the elderly men who had fought in the Battle of Badr. Some of them did not like that and said to ‘Umar: "Why do you bring in this boy to sit with us while we have sons like him?" ‘Umar replied: "Because of his status, which you already know about." One day ‘Umar called me and made me sit in the gathering of those people; and I think that he called me just to show them. ‘Umar then asked them: "What do you say about the verse that says: {When there comes the help of Allah and the conquest} [Sūrat An-Nasr: 1]?" Some of them said: "We are ordered to praise Allah and ask for His forgiveness when He helps us and grants us victory." Some others kept quiet and said nothing. Thereupon, ‘Umar asked me: "Do you say the same, O Ibn ‘Abbās?" I replied: ‘No.’ He said: "What do you say then?" I replied: "That is a sign of the Messenger’s death, of which Allah informed him. He says: O Muhammad, when there comes the help of Allah to you against your enemies and the Conquest of Makkah, which is a sign of your death, you should celebrate the praises of your Lord and ask for His forgiveness; verily, He is the One who accepts repentance." Upon that, ‘Umar said: "I do not know anything about it other than what you have said."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari]

‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) used to consult people of wisdom and good reasoning about problematic issues. He used to let Ibn ‘Abbās, despite his young age, attend the gatherings along with the senior Companions and participants of the Battle of Badr. They were angry, however, that ‘Umar allowed Ibn ‘Abbās in and disregarded their own children. So, ‘Umar wanted to show them the status of Ibn ‘Abbās in knowledge, intelligence, and wits. He gathered them and invited him to the gathering. He recited Sūrat An-Nasr to them, which reads: {When there comes the help of Allah and the conquest, and you see the people entering into the religion of Allah in multitudes, then proclaim the praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him. Indeed, He is ever Accepting of repentance} [Sūrat An-Nasr: 1-3]. When he asked them about its interpretation, some of them kept silent, while others said: “Allah, the Almighty, commands us to seek His forgiveness and to praise and exalt Him when He grants us victory and conquest.” However, ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) was asking about the implicit significance of these verses, not their literal meaning. So, he put the question to Ibn ‘Abbās, and he said that the Sūrah was a sign of the Prophet’s imminent death, and Allah gave it to him as notice. {When there comes the help of Allah and the conquest}, meaning: the Conquest of Makkah; this is a sign of your impending death. {Then proclaim the praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him. Indeed, He is ever Accepting of repentance.} Thereupon, ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) said: “I know nothing about

it save what you have said.” Thus, Ibn ‘Abbās’s merit became manifest.

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