

## Mice

Translated by Saad ibn Aboo Talhah Daawood Burbank

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

**Shaykh Muhammad bin Saalih al-Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)**<sup>1</sup> said:

The flood of the dam<sup>2</sup> that was demolished by rats – a type of rodent. They also destroy animal hides, especially water-skins that were used [in the times of old] to hold water; they destroy them and rip them open. Likewise they steal gold – and this is something we have witnessed at home. We lost a ring from the rings of the women, so we searched and searched for it until we noticed a crack in the wall. And I had prior knowledge that they steal gold. So we made the crack bigger and found the ring inside the hole.

And our Shaykh [Imaam as-Sa`dee (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)] informed us of a man who was writing in his room when a mouse descended from the roof and came close to him; so he placed a vessel over it and trapped it. After a while – when it had become delayed from its friends – one of them came looking for it to see where it had gone. It came to know that it was underneath the vessel, so it ascended to the roof and returned with a gold coin. The coin was small, such that the mouse could easily carry it. So it brought the coin and dropped it next to the man. Why?

**The students reply:** As a ransom.

**Shaykh Muhammad bin Saalih al-Uthaymeen (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ):** Or as blood money!

Anyway, the man said [to himself]: I will not release it. The mouse waited to no avail. So it ascended to the roof and returned with another gold coin, and dropped it. However the man said [to himself]: 'Behind the hills is that which is behind them'<sup>3</sup>. It continued to bring a

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<sup>1</sup> (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him

<sup>2</sup> The Shaykh (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) is referring to the story Allaah the Most High mentions in His saying: لَقَدْ كَانَ لِسَبَإٍ فِي مَسْكِهُمْ آيَةٌ ۖ جَنَّتَانِ ۖ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ ۚ كُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ ۗ بَلَدَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ ۚ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ فَأَعْرَضُوا فَأَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ سَيْلَ الْعَرِمِ وَبَدَّلْنَاهُمْ مَسْكِهُمْ آيَةً ۚ جَنَّتَانِ ۖ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ ۚ كُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ ۗ بَلَدَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ ۚ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ فَأَعْرَضُوا فَأَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ سَيْلَ الْعَرِمِ وَبَدَّلْنَاهُمْ مَسْكِهُمْ آيَةً ۚ جَنَّتَانِ ۖ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ ۚ كُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ ۗ بَلَدَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ ۚ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ [Meaning: There was for the tribe of Sheba in their dwelling place a sign: two gardens on the right and on the left. They were told, "Eat from the provisions of your Lord and be grateful to Him. A good land have you, and a forgiving Lord." But they turned away refusing, so We sent upon them the flood of the dam, and We replaced their two gardens with gardens of bitter fruit, tamarisks and something of sparse lote trees.] Soorah Saba; [34:15-16]

<sup>3</sup> An Arabic metaphor used to describe something suspicious, or a scheme/plot behind something. Its origin is that a slave-girl promised her male friend that she would meet him behind the hill when she finished serving her family at night. However they busied her and prevented her from going, until her

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third, fourth, fifth – until it reached ten. Ten gold coins! It had become a collection!! He said: In the end it came with the bag. Indicating what? That's it! All that it had was finished. He said: When it brought the bag he uncovered the vessel and killed it. He killed the mouse and the other one ran away.

In any case, this story I mentioned my Shaykh [Imaam as-Sa`dee] (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) informed me of; indicating that from the harm and mischief of the mouse is it steals gold.

Similarly, it enters flour and contaminates it by defecation and other than that. So it is from the most corrupt of animals, and it is from the Sunnah (supererogatory) to kill it; even in the middle of the Masjidul-Haraam (i.e. where the Ka`bah is)."

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longing overtook her, and she said: "You prevented me, and behind the hills is that which is behind them".  
[See: 'Lisaanul-'Arab' of Ibn Manthoor]

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