

## From the Commentary of al-Ṭabari on Quran 17:1<sup>a</sup>

﴿سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَىٰ بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِّنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ﴾

Praise to Him who made His servant to travel by night from the mosque of sanctuary to the furthest mosque, whose surroundings We have blessed

﴿لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ﴾

to show him of Our signs; indeed it is He who is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing

وأما قوله: ﴿مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ﴾ فإنه اختلف فيه وفي معناه، فقال بعضهم: يعني

As for His saying, ‘From the mosque of the *ḥarām* [sanctuary, sanctuary of Makkah]’ indeed this is disagreed upon and upon its meaning, and some of them say, “It means

من الحرم، وقال: الحرم كله مسجد. وقد بيّنا ذلك في غير موضع من كتابنا هذا

from the *ḥarām*” and say, “The *ḥarām*, all of it is a mosque”, and we have elucidated that in another passages in this book of ours.

وقال: وقد ذكر لنا أن النبيّ صلى الله عليه وسلم كان ليلة أُسري به إلى المسجد

And they say, “It has been recalled to us that the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him peace, was at one night-time caused to travel by night to the furthest mosque

الأقصى كان نائماً في بيت أمّ هانئ ابنة أبي طالب. ذكر من قال ذلك: حدثنا ابن حميد،

while he was sleeping in the house of °Umm Hani° the daughter of Abū Ṭālib. Those who recount this are: Narrated to us Ibn Ḥamīd

قال: ثنا سلمة، قال: ثنا محمد بن إسحاق، قال: ثني محمد بن السائب، عن أبي

who said, recounted Salma who said, recounted Muḥammad bin Ishāq who said, recounted to me Muḥammad bin al-Sā’ib of Abū

صالح بن باذام عن أمّ هانئ بنت أبي طالب، في مسرى النبيّ صلى الله عليه وسلم،

Ṣāliḥ bin Bādhām of °Umm Hāni° daughter of Abū Ṭālib in regard to the night journey of the Prophet, may God bless him and grant him peace,

أنها كانت تقول: ما أُسري برسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم إلا وهو في بيتي نائم عندي

that she used to say, “The Prophet of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, was not caused to travel by night except while he was in my house sleeping °*indī* [chez moi, at mine]

<sup>a</sup> Translation by Muhammad Al-Hussaini

تلك الليلة، فصلى العشاء الآخرة، ثم نام ونمنا، فلما كان قبيل الفجر، أهبنا  
that night, so he prayed the final night prayer, then we slept, and when it was just before the dawn,

رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم، فلما صلى الصبح وصلينا معه قال: "يا أم هانئ لقد  
the Prophet of God, may God bless him and grant him peace, awakened us, and when he had prayed the  
morning prayer and we had prayed with him, he said, "O ³Umm Hāni³, I have

صَلَّيْتُ مَعَكُمْ الْعِشَاءَ الْآخِرَةَ كَمَا رَأَيْتِ بِهَذَا الْوَادِي، ثُمَّ جِئْتُ بَيْتَ الْمَقْدِسِ فَصَلَّيْتُ  
prayed with you the last night prayer as you remember, then I came to the *bayt al-maqdis* [Jerusalem, Temple of  
Jerusalem] and I have prayed

فِيهِ، ثُمَّ صَلَّيْتُ صَلَاةَ الْعَدَاةِ مَعَكُمْ الْآنَ كَمَا تَرِينَ"  
in it, then I have prayed the daytime prayer with you now as you see."