

May Allaah forgive you, O Aboo Bakr!

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

From Rabee'ah al-Aslamee (rad iyallaahu `anhu)¹ who said, "I used to serve the Prophet of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم)² so he gave me some land and he also gave Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) some land. So the worldly life came along and we differed concerning a cluster of date palm trees. Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) said, "It is within the boundary of my land!" And I said, "It is within my boundary." There were some words exchanged and so Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) said something to me which I hated and he [immediately] regretted it. So he said to me, "O Rabee'ah! Say the same to me so that it will be even [i.e., you would have taken your right of retaliation, qisaas]." I said, "I will not do that." Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) said, "You will indeed say it or I will seek the assistance of the Messenger of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) against you!" I said, "I am not going to do it." Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) left the land and then went to the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and I went following him. Some people from [my tribe of] Aslam came and said, "May Allaah have mercy on Aboo Bakr! Why is he going to seek the assistance of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) against you, whilst he is the one who said what he said to you?" I said, "Do you know who this is? This is Aboo Bakr as-Siddeeq! The second of the two [in the cave], the elder of the Muslims. So beware in case he looks in your direction and sees you trying to aid me and thus becomes angry, and as a result goes to the Prophet of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) who becomes angry because of his [Aboo Bakr's] anger, and then Allaah becomes angry because of their anger and as a result Rabee'ah will be destroyed!" They said, "What do you order us to do?" I replied, "Go back." So Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) went to the Prophet of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and I followed him alone. I did so until he came to the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and narrated to him exactly what had happened. So he (صلى الله عليه وسلم) raised his head towards me and then said, "**O Rabee'ah! What is [the issue] between yourself and Aboo Bakr?**" I said, "O Messenger of Allaah! Such and such happened and then he said a word to me which I hated and so he said to me, "Say the same to me so that it will be even."" So the Prophet of Allaah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "**Indeed! Do not say the same to him, rather say, 'May Allaah forgive you, O Aboo Bakr! May Allaah forgive you, O Aboo Bakr!'**" So Aboo Bakr (rad iyallaahu `anhu) left while he was crying."³

¹ (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah be pleased with him

² (صلى الله عليه وسلم) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

³ *Silsilah*, no. 3258.