

ومن كتاب له (عليه السلام) إلى معاوية

To Mu'āwiyah

فَاتَّقِ اللَّهَ فِيمَا لَدَيْكَ، وَانظُرْ فِي حَقِّهِ عَلَيْكَ، وَارْجِعْ إِلَى مَعْرِفَةِ مَا لَا تُعْذَرُ بِجَهَالَتِهِ، فَإِنَّ لِلطَّاعَةِ أَعْلَامًا وَأُصْحَةً، وَسَبِيلًا نِيرَةً، وَمَحَجَّةً نَهْجَةً. وَغَايَةَ مَطْلَبَةٍ، يَرُدُّهَا الْأَكْيَاسُ، وَيَخَالِفُهَا الْأُنْكَاسُ، مَنْ نَكَبَ عَنْهَا جَارَ عَنِ الْحَقِّ، وَخَبِطَ فِي التَّيْبِ، وَغَيَّرَ اللَّهُ نِعْمَتَهُ، وَأَحْلَبَ بِهِ نَقْمَتَهُ.

Fear Allāh regarding what you have amassed and find out your true right therein, and turn to understand for what you will not be excused on the grounds of ignorance. Certainly, for (following the path of) obedience there are clear signs, shining ways, straight highways and a fixed aim. The shrewd proceed towards them while the mean turn away from them. Whoever turns his face from them deviates from the right and gropes in bewilderment. Allāh takes away His bounty from him and afflicts him with His chastisement.

فَنَفْسِكَ نَفْسِكَ! فَقَدْ بَيَّنَّ اللَّهُ لَكَ سَبِيلَكَ، وَحَيْثُ تَنَاهَيْتُ بِكَ أُمُورِكَ، فَقَدْ أَجْرَيْتُ إِلَى غَايَةِ خُسْرٍ، وَمَحَلَّةِ كُفْرٍ، فَإِنَّ نَفْسَكَ قَدْ أَوْحَلَتْكَ شَرًّا، وَأَقْحَمَتْكَ غِيًّا، وَأَوْرَدَتْكَ الْمَهَالِكِ، وَأَوْعَرَتْ عَلَيْكَ الْمَسَالِكِ.

Therefore, beware of yourself. Allāh has already shown you your way and the end where your affairs will terminate. You are speeding towards the aim of loss and the position of unbelief. Your ego has pushed you towards evil, thrown you into misguidance conveyed you to destruction and created difficulties in your way.