

٣١٦. وَقَالَ (عليه السلام): أَنَا يَعْسُوبُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ، وَالْمَالُ يَعْسُوبُ الْفُجَّارِ.

316. Amīr al-mu'minim, peace be upon him, said: I am the ya'sūb (leader) of the believers, while wealth is the leader of the wicked.

قال السيد الرضي: ومعنى ذلك أن المؤمنين يتبعونني، والفجار يتبعون المال، كما تتبع النحل يعسوبها، وهو رئيسها.

as-Sayyid ar-Raḍī says: It means that the believers follow me while the wicked follow wealth just as the bees follow their “ya'sūb” who is their leader. [1]

Footnote :

[1] We have already explained the meaning of the word “ya'sūb” in the footnote of saying requiring explanation No. 1, and pointed out that this title was given to Amīr al-mu'minīn by the Holy Prophet himself and we quoted some of his different utterances on this subject.

Here we quote one of the traditions in which this title appears. It is narrated by Abū Laylā al-Ghifārī, Abū Dharr, Salmān, Ibn 'Abbās and Ḥudhayfah ibn al-Yamān that the Holy Prophet used to say : Soon after my death there will be discord. When it occurs, adhere to 'Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib since he will be the first person to see me and the first person to shake hands with me on the Day of Judgement. He is the greatest man of truth (aṣ-Ṣiddīq al-akbar), and he is the discriminator (fārūq) from among this ummah who discriminates between right and wrong, and he is the ya'sūb (leader) of the believers while wealth is the ya'sūb of the hypocrites. (In addition to the references given in the above-mentioned footnote, see also Fayḍ al-qadīr, vol. 4, p. 358; Kanz al-'ummāl, vol. 12, p. 214; Muntakhab al-kanz, vol. 5, p. 33; Ibn Abī'l Ḥadīd, vol. 13, p. 228; Tārīkh ash-Shām, Ibn 'Asākir, (on the biography of Amīr al-mu'minīn), vol. 1, pp. 74—78; as-Sīrah al-ḥalabiyyah, vol. 1, p. 380; Dhakhā'ir al-'uqbā, p. 56; Yanābī' al-mawaddah, p. 62, 82, 201 and 251).