

٣٦٧. وَقَالَ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ): يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، مَتَاعُ الدُّنْيَا حَطَامٌ مُوْبِقٌ فَتَجَنَّبُوا مَرَعَاهُ! قَلَعْتَهَا أَحْظَى مِنْ طُمَأْنِينَتِهَا وَبَلَّغْتَهَا أَزْكَى مِنْ ثَرَوَتِهَا، حَكَمَ عَلَيَّ مَكْثُ مِنْهَا بِالْفَاقَةِ وَأَعْيَنَ مِنْ غِنِيِّهَا بِالرَّاحَةِ، مِنْ رَاقِهِ زَيْرُجُهَا أَعْقَبَتْ نَاطِرِيهِ كَمِهَا وَمِنْ اسْتِشْعَرِ الشَّغْفِ بِهَا مَلَاتِ ضَمِيرِهِ أَشْجَانًا، لَهِنَ رَقِصَ عَلَيَّ سَوِيدًا قَلْبَهُ هَمٌّ يَشْغَلُهُ، وَغَمٌّ يَحْزَنُهُ، كَذَلِكَ حَتَّى يَأْخُذَ بِكَظْمِهِ فَيَلْقَى بِالْفَضَاءِ، مَنْقَطِعًا أَبْهَرَاهُ، هَيْئًا عَلَى اللَّهِ فَنَاءُهُ، وَعَلَى الْإِخْوَانِ إِلْقَاؤُهُ.

367. Amīr al-mu'minīn, peace be upon him, said: O' people, the wealth of this world is broken orts that brings an epidemic; therefore keep off this grazing land, leaving it is a greater favour than peacefully staying in it, and its part enough for subsistence is more blissful than its riches. Destitution has been ordained for those who are rich here, while comfort has been destined for those who keep away from it. If a person is attracted by its dazzle, it blinds both his eyes; and if a person acquires eagerness towards it, then it fills his heart with griefs which keep alternating in the black part of his heart, some grief worrying him and another giving him pain. This goes on till the suffocation of death overtakes him. He is flung in the open while both the shrines of his heart are severed. It is easy for Allāh to cause him to die and for his comrades to put him in the grave.

وَإِذْ مَا يَنْظُرُ الْمُؤْمِنُ إِلَى الدُّنْيَا بَعَيْنِ الْإِعْتِبَارِ وَيَقْتَاتُ مِنْهَا بِبَطْنِ الْأَضْطِرَّارِ وَيَسْمَعُ فِيهَا بِأُذُنِ الْمَقْتِ وَالْإِنْغَاصِ، إِنَّ قِيلَ أَثْرَى قِيلَ أَكْدَى! وَإِنْ فَرِحَ لَهُ بِالْبَقَاءِ حَزَنَ لَهُ بِالْفَنَاءِ! هَذَا وَلَمْ يَأْتِهِمْ يَوْمٌ فِيهِ يَبْلِسُونَ.

The believer sees the world with eyes that derive instruction, and takes from it food enough for his barest needs. He hears in it with ears of hatred and enmity. If it is said (about someone) that he has become rich, it is also said that he has turned destitute; and if pleasure is felt on one's living, grief is felt over his death. This is the position, although the day has not yet approached when they will be disheartened.