

٣٨. وَقَالَ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ) لِابْنِهِ الْحَسَنِ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ): يَا بُنَيَّ، احْفَظْ عَنِّي أَرْبَعًا وَأَرْبَعًا، لَا يَضُرُّكَ مَا عَمِلْتَ مَعَهُنَّ: إِنَّ أَغْنَى الْغِنَى الْعَقْلُ، وَأَكْبَرُ الْفَقْرِ الْحَمَقُ، وَأَوْحَشُ الْوَحْشَةِ الْعَجَبُ وَأَكْرَمُ الْحَسَبِ حَسَنُ الْخَلْقِ.

38. Amīr al-mu'minīn, peace be upon him, said to his son al-Ḥasan: O my son, learn four things and (a further) four things from me. Nothing will harm you if you practise them. That the richest of riches is intelligence; the biggest destitution is foolishness; the wildest wildness is vanity and the best achievement is goodness of the moral character.

يَا بُنَيَّ، إِدِيَاكَ وَمِصَادِقَةَ الْأَحْمَقِ، فَإِذَا هُوَ يَرِيدُ أَنْ يَنْفَعَكَ فَيَضُرُّكَ. وَإِدِيَاكَ وَمِصَادِقَةَ الْبَخِيلِ، فَإِذَا هُوَ يَقْعُدُ عَنْكَ أَحْوَجَ مَا تَكُونُ إِلَيْهِ. وَإِدِيَاكَ وَمِصَادِقَةَ الْفَاجِرِ، فَإِذَا هُوَ يَبِيعُكَ بِالتَّافِهِ وَإِدِيَاكَ وَمِصَادِقَةَ الْكَذَّابِ، فَإِذَا هُوَ كَالسَّرَابِ يَقْرُبُ عَلَيْكَ الْبَعِيدَ، وَيَبْعُدُ عَلَيْكَ الْقَرِيبَ.

O my son, you should avoid making friends with a fool because he may intend to benefit you but may harm you; you should avoid making friends with a miser because he will run away from you when you need him most; you should avoid making friends with a sinful person because he will sell you for nought; and you should avoid making friends with a liar because he is like a mirage, making you feel far things near and near things far.