

ومن كلام له (عليه السلام) وقد سأله ذعلبُ اليماني فقال : هل رأيت ربك يا أمير المؤمنين؟ فقال (عليه السلام) : أفأعبد ما لا أرى؟ فقال : وكيف تراه؟ فقال :

Dhi'lib al-Yamānī asked Amīr al-mu'minīn whether he had seen Allāh, when he replied, "Do I worship one whom I have not seen?" Then he enquired, "How have you seen Him?" Then Amīr al-mu'minīn replied:

لَا تَدْرِكُهُ الْعَيْونُ بِمُشَاهِدَةِ الْعَيْنِ، وَلَكِنْ تَدْرِكُهُ الْقُلُوبُ بِحَقَائِقِ الْإِيمَانِ، قَرِيبٌ مِنَ الْأَشْيَاءِ غَيْرَ مَلَامَسٍ، بَعِيدٌ مِنْهَا غَيْرَ مَبِينٍ، مُتَكَلِّمٌ بِلَا رُويَةٍ، مُرِيدٌ بِلَا هِمَّةٍ، صَانِعٌ لِأَبْجَارِحَةٍ، لَطِيفٌ لِأَبْصَافِ الْخَفَاءِ، كَبِيرٌ لِأَبْصَافِ الْجَفَاءِ، بَصِيرٌ لِأَبْصَافِ الْحَاسَةِ، رَحِيمٌ لِأَبْصَافِ الرِّقَةِ، تَعْنُو الْوُجُوهُ لِعَظَمَتِهِ، وَتَجِبُ الْقُلُوبُ مِنْ مَخَافَتِهِ.

Eyes do not see Him face to face, but hearts perceive Him through the realities of belief. He is near to things but not (physically) contiguous. He is far from them but not (physically) separate. He is a speaker, but not with reflection. He intends, but not with preparation. He moulds, but not with (the assistance of) limbs. He is subtle but cannot be attributed with being concealed. He is great but cannot be attributed with haughtiness. He sees but cannot be attributed with the sense (of sight). He is Merciful but cannot be attributed with weakness of heart. Faces feel low before His greatness and hearts tremble out of fear of Him.