

وَمِنْ كَلَامٍ لَهُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فِي ذِكْرِ الْبَيْعَةِ فِيهِ يَصِفُ أَصْحَابَهُ بِصَفَيْنِ حِينَ طَالَ مَنَعُهُمْ لَهُ مِنْ قِتَالِ أَهْلِ الشَّامِ

### On the swearing of allegiance

فَتَدَاكُؤُوا عَلَيَّ تَدَاكُؤَ الْأَبِلِ الْهَيْمِ يَوْمَ وُرْدِهَا، قَدْ أَرْسَلَهَا رَاعِيَهَا، وَخَلَعْتُ مِثْلَهَا، حَتَّى ظَنَنْتُ أَنَّهُمْ قَاتِلِي، أَوْ بَعْضُهُمْ قَاتِلُ بَعْضٍ لَدَيَّ، وَقَدْ قَلَبْتُ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ بَطْنَهُ وَظَهْرَهُ حَتَّى مَنَعَنِي الدَّوْمُ، فَمَا وَجَدْتَنِي يَسْعِينِي إِلَّا قِتَالُهُمْ أَوْ الْجُحُودُ بِمَا جَاءَ بِهِ مُحَمَّدٌ (صلى الله عليه وآله)، فَكَانَتْ مُعَالَجَةُ الْقِتَالِ أَهْوَنَ عَلَيَّ مِنْ مُعَالَجَةِ الْعِقَابِ، وَمَوَاتِ الدُّنْيَا أَهْوَنَ عَلَيَّ مِنْ مَوَاتِ الْآخِرَةِ.

They leapt upon me as the camels leap upon each other on their arrival for drinking water, having been let loose after unfastening of their four legs till I thought they would either kill me or kill one another in front of me. I thought over this matter in and out to the extent that it prevented me from sleeping. But I found no way except to fight them or else to reject what-ever has been brought by Muḥammad (S), I found that to face war was easier for me than to face the retribution, and the hardships of this world were easier than the hardships of the next world.