

ومن خطبة له (عليه السلام) في المبادرة إلى صالح الاعمال

## About decline and destruction of the world

وَآتَقُوا اللَّهَ عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، وَبَادِرُوا آجَالَكُمْ بِأَعْمَالِكُمْ وَابْتَاعُوا بِمِاقِلِكُمْ بِمَا يَزُولُ عَنْكُمْ، وَتَرَحُّلُوا فَمَا تَزُولُ بِكُمْ وَاسْتَعِدُّوا لِلْمَوْتِ فَقَدْ أَظْلَمَكُمْ وَكُونُوا قَوْمًا صَاحِبِينَ بِهَمِّ فَانْتَبَهُوا، وَعَلِمُوا أَنَّ الدُّنْيَا لَيْسَتْ لَهُمْ بَدَارًا فَاسْتَبَدَلُوا

O creatures of Allāh! Fear Allāh and anticipate your death by good actions.

Purchase everlasting joy by paying transitory things — pleasures of this world. Get ready for the journey, for you are being driven, and prepare yourself for death, since it is hovering over you. Be a people who wake up when called, and who know that this world is not their abode, and so have it changed (with the next).

فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمْ يَخْلُقْكُمْ عَبَثًا، وَلَمْ يَتْرِكْكُمْ سُدًى وَمَا بَيْنَ أَعْيُنِكُمْ وَبَيْنَ الْجَنَّةِ أَوْ النَّارِ إِلَّا الْمَوْتُ أَنْ يَنْزِلَ بِهِ. وَإِنَّ غَايَةَ تَنْقِصِهَا اللَّحْظَةُ، وَتَهْلِكُ السَّاعَةُ، لِجِدْبَةِ بَقْصَرِ الْمَدَّةِ، وَإِنَّ غَائِبًا يَحْدُوهُ الْجَدِيدَانِ اللَّيْلُ وَالنَّهَارُ، لِحَرِيِّ بَسْرَعَةِ الْآوِيَةِ وَإِنْ قَادِمًا يَقْدُمُ بِالْفَوْزِ أَوْ الشَّقْوَةِ لِمَسْتَحِقِّ لِأَفْضَلِ الْعَدَةِ، فَتَزُو دَوَا فِي الدُّنْيَا مِنَ الدُّنْيَا مَا تَحْرُزُونَ بِهِ نَفْسَكُمْ غَدًا.

Certainly, Allāh has not created you aimlessly nor left you as useless. There is nothing between anyone of you and Paradise or Hell except death that must befall him. The life that is being shortened every moment and being dismantled every hour must be regarded very short. The hidden thing namely death which is being driven (to you) by two over new phenomena, the day and the night, is certainly quick of approach. The traveller which is approaching with success or failure (namely death) deserves the best of provision. So acquire such provision from this world while you are here with which you may shield yourself tomorrow (on the Day of Judgement).

فَاتَّقِي عَبْدَ رَبِّهِ، نَصَحَ نَفْسَهُ، قَدَّمَ تَوْبَتَهُ، غَلَبَ شَهْوَتَهُ، فَإِنَّ أَجَلَ مَسْتَوْرِعِنَهُ، وَأَمَلَهُ خَادِعٌ لَهُ، وَالشَّيْطَانُ مُوَكَّلٌ بِهِ، يَزِيدُنِي لَهُ الْمَعْصِيَةَ لِبُرْكِيهَا، وَيَمْنِيهِ التَّوْبَةَ لَيْسَ فِيهَا حَتَّى تَهْجَمَ مِنْهُ عَلَيْهِ أَعْفَلُ مَا يَكُونُ عَنْهَا. فَيَالِهَا حَسْرَةً عَلَى كُلِّ ذِي غَفْلَةٍ أَنْ يَكُونَ عَمْرُهُ عَلَيْهِ حِجَّةً، وَأَنْ تَوَدَّ بِهِ أَيَّامَهُ إِلَى الشَّقْوَةِ!

So everyone should fear Allāh, should admonish himself, should send forward his repentance and should overpower his desire, because his death is hidden from him, his desires deceive him and Satan is posted on him and he beautifies for him sin so that he may commit it and prompts him to delay repentance till his desires make him the most negligent. Piety is for the negligent person whose life itself would be a proof against him and his own days (passed in sin) would lead him to punishment.

نَسْأَلُ اللّٰهَ سُبْحَانَهُ أَنْ يَجْعَلَنَا وَإِيَّاكُمْ مِمَّنْ لَا تَبْطُرُهُ نِعْمَةٌ وَلَا تَقْصُرُ بِهِ عَنْ طَاعَةِ رَبِّهِ غَايَةٌ، وَلَا تَحُلُّ بِهِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ نَدَامَةً وَلَا كَأْبَةً.

We ask Allāh, the Glorified, that He may make us and you like one whom bounty does not mislead, whom nothing can stop from obedience of Allāh and whom shame and grief do not befall after death.