

Sermon 10: Satan has collected his group...

Regarding the incitement of Satan: alluding to a particular group of people (about Talhah and az-Zubayr)

(ومن خطبة له (عليه السلام

يريد الشيطان أويكني به عن قوم

Beware! Satan¹ has collected his group and assembled his horse-men and foot-soldiers. Surely, with me is my sagacity. I have neither deceived myself nor ever been deceived. By Allah I shall fill to the brim for them a cistern from which I alone would draw water. They can neither turn away from it nor return to it.

أَلَا وَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ قَدْ جَمَعَ حِزْبَهُ وَاسْتَجْلَبَ خَيْلَهُ وَرَجُلَهُ، وَإِنَّ مَعِيَ لَبَصِيرَتِي. مَا لَبَسْتُ عَلَى نَفْسِي، وَلَا لُبْسَ عَلَيَّ.
وَإِنَّمُ اللَّهُ لَأَقْرَطَنَّ لَهُمْ حَوْضًا أَنَا مَاتِحُهُ! لَا يَصْدُرُونَ عَنْهُ، وَلَا يَعُودُونَ إِلَيْهِ.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 10

(1) Al-Mufid, *al-Irshad*, 118; see also under Sermon:22 and Sermon: 134 below.

¹ When Talhah and az-Zubayr broke away by violating the Oath of allegiance and set for Basrah in the company of `A'ishah, Amir al-mu'minin spoke in these words which are part of the long speech.

Ibn Abi'l-Hadid has written that in this sermon Satan denotes the real Satan as well as Mu`awiyah because Mu`awiyah was secretly conspiring with Talhah and az-Zubayr and instigating them to fight against Amir al-mu'minin but the reference to the real Satan is more appropriate, obvious and in accord with the situation and circumstances.

<https://www.al-islam.org/nahjul-balagha-part-1-sermons/sermon-10-satan-has-collected-his-group#comment-0>