

Sermon 161: Allah deputed the Prophet with a sparkling light....

Deputation of the Holy Prophet

(ومن خطبة له (عليه السلام

في صفة النبي وأهل بيته وأتباع دينه

وفيها يعظ بالتقوى

Allah deputed the Prophet with a sparkling light, a clear argument, an open path and a guiding book. His tribe is the best tribe and his lineal tree the best lineal tree whose branches are in good proportion and fruits hanging (in plenty). His birth-place was Mecca, and the place of his immigration Taybah (Medina), from where his name rose high and his voice spread far and wide.

ابْتَعَثَهُ بِالنُّورِ الْمُضِيِّ، وَالْبُرْهَانِ الْجَلِيِّ، وَالْمِنْهَاجِ الْبَادِي، وَالْكِتَابِ الْهَادِي. أُسْرَتُهُ خَيْرُ أُسْرَةٍ، وَشَجَرَتُهُ خَيْرُ شَجَرَةٍ، أَغْصَانُهَا مُعْتَدِلَةٌ، وَثَمَارُهَا مُتَهَدِلَةٌ. مَوْلِدُهُ بِمَكَّةَ، وَهَجْرَتُهُ بِطَيْبَةَ، عَلَا بِهَا ذِكْرُهُ، وَامْتَدَّ مِنْهَا صَوْتُهِ.

Allah sent him with a sufficing plea, a convincing discourse and a rectifying announcement. Through him Allah disclosed the ways that had been forsaken, and destroyed the innovations that had been introduced. Through him He explained the detailed commands. Now,

“..whoever adopts a religion other than Islam” (3:85),

his misery is definite, his stick (of support) will be cracked, his fate will be serious, his end will be long grief and distressing punishment. I trust in Allah, the trust of bending towards Him, and I seek His guidance for the way that leads to His Paradise and takes to the place of His pleasure.

أَرْسَلَهُ بِحُجَّةٍ كَافِيَةٍ، وَمَوْعِظَةٍ شَافِيَةٍ، وَدَعْوَةٍ مُتَلَافِيَةٍ . أَظْهَرَ بِهِ الشَّرَائِعَ الْمَجْهُولَةَ، وَقَمَعَ بِهِ الْبِدَعَ الْمَذْخُولَةَ، وَبَيَّنَ بِهِ الْأَحْكَامَ الْمَفْصُولَةَ. فَ(مَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا) تَتَحَقَّقُ شِقْوَتُهُ، وَتَنْفَصِمُ عُرْوَتُهُ، وَتَعْظُمُ كِبَوْتُهُ، وَيَكُنْ مَأْبَهُ إِلَى الْحُزْنِ الطَّوِيلِ وَالْعَذَابِ الْوَبِيلِ. وَأَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَى اللَّهِ تَوَكُّلَ الْإِنَابَةِ إِلَيْهِ، وَأَسْتَرْشِدُهُ السَّبِيلَ الْمُؤَدِّيَةَ إِلَى جَنَّتِهِ، الْقَاصِدَةَ إِلَى مَحَلِّ رَغْبَتِهِ.

Drawing lessons from this world (and counseling piety)

النصح بالتقوى

I advise you, O creatures of Allah, to exercise fear of Allah and to obey Him because it is salvation tomorrow and deliverance for ever. He warned (you of chastisement) and did so thoroughly. He persuaded (you towards virtues) and did so fully. He described this world, its cutting away from you, its decay and its shifting. Therefore, keep aloof from its attractions, because very little of it will accompany you. This house is the closest to the displeasure of Allah and the remotest from the pleasure of Allah.

أُوصِيكُمْ عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ، فَإِنَّهَا النَّجَاةُ غَدًا، وَالْمَنْجَاةُ أَبَدًا. رَهَبَ فَأَبْلَغَ، وَرَغَبَ فَأَسْبَغَ، وَوَصَفَ لَكُمْ الدُّنْيَا وَأَنْقَطَاعَهَا، وَزَوَالَهَا وَأَنْتِقَالَهَا. فَأَعْرِضُوا عَمَّا يُعْجِبُكُمْ فِيهَا لِإِقْلَةٍ مَا يَصْحَبُكُمْ مِنْهَا، أَقْرَبُ دَارٍ مِنْ سَخَطِ اللَّهِ، وَأَبْعَدُهَا مِنْ رِضْوَانِ اللَّهِ!

So close your eyes, O creatures of Allah, from its worries and engagements, because you are sure about its separation and its changing conditions. Fear it like a sincere fearer and one who struggles hard, and take a lesson from what you have seen about the falling places of those before you, namely that their joints were made to vanish, their eyes and ears were destroyed, their honour and prestige disappeared and their pleasure and wealth came to an end. The nearness of their children changed into remoteness.

The company of their spouses changed into separation with them. They do not boast over each other, nor do they beget children nor meet each other nor live as neighbours. Therefore, fear O creatures of Allah, like the fear of one who has control over himself, who can check his passions and perceive with his wisdom. Surely, the matter is quite clear, the sign is manifest, the course is level and the way is straight.

فَعُضُّوا عَنْكُمْ - عِبَادَ اللَّهِ - غُمُومَهَا وَأَشْغَا لَهَا، لِمَا قَدْ أَيقَنْتُمْ بِهِ مِنْ فِرَاقِهَا وَتَصَرُّفِ حَالَاتِهَا. فَاحْذَرُوهَا حَذَرَ الشَّقِيقِ

النَّاصِحِ، وَالْمُجِدِّ الْكَادِحِ، وَاعْتَبِرُوا بِمَا قَدْ رَأَيْتُمْ مِنْ مَصَارِعِ الْقُرُونِ قَبْلَكُمْ: قَدْ تَزَايَلَتْ أَوْصَالُهُمْ، وَزَالَتْ أَسْمَاعُهُمْ وَأَبْصَارُهُمْ، وَذَهَبَ شَرَفُهُمْ وَعِزُّهُمْ، وَانْقَطَعَ سُورُهُمْ وَنَعِيمُهُمْ؛ فَبَدِّلُوا بِقُرْبِ الْأَوْلَادِ فَقْدَهَا، وَبِصُحْبَةِ الْأَزْوَاجِ مُفَارَقَتَهَا. لَا يَتَفَاخَرُونَ، وَلَا يَتَنَاصَرُونَ، وَلَا يَتَنَاسَلُونَ، وَلَا يَتَزَاوَرُونَ، وَلَا يَتَجَاوَرُونَ. فَاحْذَرُوا، عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، حَذَرَ الْغَالِبِ لِنَفْسِهِ، الْمَانِعِ لَشَهْوَتِهِ، النَّاطِرِ بِعَقْلِهِ؛ فَإِنَّ الْأَمْرَ وَاضِحٌ، وَالْعِلْمَ قَائِمٌ، وَالطَّرِيقَ جَدُّ، وَالسَّبِيلَ قَصْدٌ.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 161

(1) Al-Majlisi, *Bihar*, XVIII, 222.

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