

Sermon 195: Praise be to Allah who has displayed such effects...

Allah's praise, advice about fear of Allah and details about the Day of Judgement

(ومن خطبة له (عليه السلام

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Praise be to Allah who has displayed such effects of His authority and the glory of His sublimity through the wonders of His might that they dazzle the pupils of the eyes and prevent the minds from appreciating the reality of His attributes. I stand witness that there is no god but Allah by virtue of belief, certainty, sincerity and conviction.

I also stand witness that Muhammad is His slave and His Prophet whom He deputed when the signs of guidance were obliterated and the ways of religion were desolate. So, he threw open the truth, gave advice to the people, guided them towards righteousness and ordered them to be moderate. May Allah bless him and his descendants.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَظْهَرَ مِنْ آثَارِ سُلْطَانِهِ، وَجَلَّالِ كِبَرِيَّائِهِ، مَا حَيَّرَ مَقْلَ الْعُقُولِ مِنْ عَجَائِبِ قُدْرَتِهِ، وَرَدَعَ خَطَرَاتِ
هَمَاهِمِ النُّفُوسِ عَنْ عِرْقَانِ كُنْهِ صِفَتِهِ. . وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، شَهَادَةً إِيْمَانٍ وَإِقْبَانٍ، وَإِخْلَاصٍ وَإِذْعَانٍ

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، أَرْسَلَهُ وَأَعْلَامُ الْهُدَى دَارِسَةً، وَمَنَاهِجُ الدِّينِ طَامِسَةً، فَصَدَعَ بِالْحَقِّ، وَنَصَحَ لِلْخَلْقِ،
(وَهَدَى إِلَى الرُّشْدِ، وَأَمَرَ بِالْقَصْدِ،) صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Know, O creatures of Allah, that He has not created you for nought and has not left you free. He knows the extent of His favours over you and the quantity of His bounty towards you. Therefore, ask Him for success and for the attainment of aims. Beg before Him and seek His generosity. No curtain hides you from Him, nor is any door closed before you against Him. He is at every place, in every moment and every instance. He is with every man and *jinn*. Giving does not create any breach in Him. Gifting does not cause Him diminution. A beggar cannot exhaust Him and paying (to others) cannot take Him to the end.

وَأَعْلَمُوا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، أَنَّهُ لَمْ يَخْلُقْكُمْ عَبَثًا، وَلَمْ يُرْسِلْكُمْ هَمَلًا، عَلِيمٌ مَبْلَغَ نِعَمِهِ عَلَيْكُمْ، وَأَحْصَى إِحْسَانَهُ إِلَيْكُمْ، فَاسْتَفْنَحُوهُ
وَاسْتَنْجَحُوهُ وَاطْلُبُوا إِلَيْهِ وَاسْتَمْنَحُوهُ، فَمَا قَطَعَكُمْ عَنْهُ حِجَابٌ، وَلَا أَغْلَقَ عَنْكُمْ دُونَهُ بَابٌ، وَإِنَّهُ لِبِكْلِ مَكَانٍ، وَفِي كُلِّ
حِينٍ وَأَوَانٍ، وَمَعَ كُلِّ إِنْسٍ وَجَانٍّ، لَا يَنْقُصُهُ الْعَطَاءُ، وَلَا يَنْقُصُهُ الْحِبَاءُ، وَلَا يَسْتَنْفِدُهُ سَائِلٌ، وَلَا يَسْتَقْصِيهِ نَائِلٌ،

One person cannot turn His attention from another, one voice does not detract Him from another voice, and one grant of favour does not prevent Him from refusing another favour. Anger does not prevent Him from mercy, mercy does not prevent Him from punishing; His concealment does not hide His manifestness and His manifestness does not prevent Him from concealment. He is near and at the same time distant. He is high and at the same time low. He is manifest and also concealed. He is concealed yet well-known. He lends but is not lent anything. He has not created (the things of) creation after devising, nor did He take their assistance on account of fatigue.

وَلَا يَلْوِيهِ شَخْصٌ عَنْ شَخْصٍ، وَلَا يُلْهِبِهِ صَوْتُ عَنْ صَوْتٍ، وَلَا تَجْزُهُ هَبَّةٌ عَنْ سَلْبٍ، وَلَا يَشْغُلُهُ غَضَبٌ عَنْ رَحْمَةٍ،
وَلَا تُؤْلِيهِ رَحْمَةٌ عَنْ عِقَابٍ، وَلَا يُجِنُّهُ الْبُطُونُ عَنِ الظُّهُورِ، وَلَا يَقْطَعُهُ الظُّهُورُ عَنِ الْبُطُونِ، قَرُبَ فَنَائِي، وَعَلَا فَدْنَا،
وَوَظَّهَرَ قَبْطَنَ، وَبَطَّنَ فَعَلَنَ، وَدَانَ وَلَمْ يُدْنِ، لَمْ يَذَرَا الْخُلُقَ بِاحْتِيَالٍ، وَلَا اسْتَعَانَ بِهِمْ لِكَلَالٍ

I advise you, O creatures of Allah, to have fear of Allah, for it is the rein and the mainstay (of religion). Hold fast to its salient points, keep hold of its realities. It will take you to abodes of easiness, places of comfort, fortresses of safety and houses of honour on **the Day (of Judgement) when eyes will be wide open, (Qur'an, 14:42)**, when there will be darkness all round, when small groups of camels pregnant for ten months will be allowed free grazing, and when the Horn will be blown, then every living being will die, every voice will become dumb the high mountains and hard rocks will crumble (to pieces) so that their hard stones will turn into moving sand and their bases will become level. (On that day) there will be no interceder to intercede and no relation to ward off (trouble), and no excuse will be of avail.

أَوْصِيَكُمْ عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَإِنَّهَا الزِّمَامُ وَالْقَوَامُ، فَتَمَسَّكُوا بِوَتَائِقِهَا، وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِحَقَائِقِهَا، تَوَلُّ بِكُمْ إِلَى أَكْنَانِ
الدَّعَةِ، وَأَوْطَانِ السَّعَةِ، وَمَعَاوِلِ الْحَرَزِ، وَمَنَازِلِ الْعِزِّ فِي (يَوْمٍ تَشْخَصُ فِيهِ الْأَبْصَارُ)، وَتُظَلِّمُ لَهُ الْأَقْطَارُ، وَتُعْطَلُ فِيهِ
صُرُومُ الْعِشَارِ، وَيُنْفَخُ فِي الصُّورِ، فَتَزْهَقُ كُلُّ مُهْجَةٍ، وَتَبْكُمُ كُلُّ لَهْجَةٍ، وَتَذِلُّ الشُّمُ الشَّوَامِخُ، وَالصُّمُ الرُّوَاسِخُ، فَيَصِيرُ
صَلْدُهَا سَرَابًا رَقْرَقًا، وَمَعْهَدُهَا قَاعًا سَمَلَقًا، فَلَا شَفِيعَ يَشْفَعُ، وَلَا حَمِيمٍ يَنْفَعُ، وَلَا مَعْدِرَةَ تَدْفَعُ.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 195

(1) Al-Majlisi, *Bihar*, vol. 74, 314.

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