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20. The Four Chosen Cities

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): إِنَّ اللَّهَ اخْتَارَ مِنَ الْبُلْدَانِ أَرْبَعَةً فَقَالَ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ: وَ التِّيْنِ وَ الزَّيْتُونِ وَ طُورِ سِينِينَ وَ هٰذَا الْبَلَدِ الأَمِينَ وَ التِّيْنُ الْمَدِينَةُ وَ الزَّيْتُونُ بَيْتَ الْمَقْدَسُ وَ طُورُ سِينِينَ الْكُوْفَةُ وَ هٰذَا الْبَلَدِ الأَمِينَ مَكَّةَ.

The Messenger of Allah (blessings of Allah be upon him and his family) has said, “Surely Allah has chosen four cities from amongst all others, just as He, the Noble and Grand has said (in the Noble Qur’an):

وَ التِّيْنِ وَ الزَّيْتُونِ وَ طُورِ سِينِينَ وَ هٰذَا الْبَلَدِ الأَمِينَ

“I swear by ‘the fig’ and ‘the olive’ and the ‘Mountain of Sinai’ and by this protected city.”

‘The fig’ is the city of Madinah; ‘The olive’ is the city of Baitul Maqdas (in Jerusalem); ‘The Mountain of Sinai’ is Kufah; and the protected city is Makkah.”

Biharul Anwar, Volume 96, Page 77

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