

Introduction

In The Name Of Allah, The Merciful, The Compassionate

Praise be to Allah, as it befits Him to be praised, and the blessings of Allah be on Muhammad and his Family, the good, the pure, the chosen ones.

This book comprises the medicine of the Ahl al-Bayt peace be on them.

Abu 'Atab and al-Husayn, the sons of Bistam, narrated from Muhammad b. Khalaf of Qazvin — one of the scholars of the Ahl al-Bayt — from al-Hasan b. 'Ali al-Washsha' from 'Abd Allah b. Sinan from his brother Muhammad from Ja'far al-Sadiq from his father from his grandfather from al-Husayn b. 'Ali, peace be upon them, who said:

'Amir al-Mu'minin, peace be upon him, visited Salman al-Farisi and said: "O Abu 'Abd Allah, how is your illness?" He replied: "O Amir al-Mu'minin, praise be to Allah, I complain to you of much distress." Amir al-Mu'minin said: "Do not be distressed, O Abu 'Abd Allah, for there is not one of our Shi'a afflicted with a pain (*waja'*), but that it is for a sin previously committed by him, and the pain is a purification for him." Salman replied: "If it is as you say then there is no recompense in it for us except to be purified." 'Ali, peace be upon him, said: "O Salman, there is recompense in it for you in enduring it patiently and beseeching Allah, magnified is His Name. For, by praying to Him in these two ways, He will credit you [with] good deeds and raise you by degrees. As for the pain, it is especially for the purification and expiation of sins." He [al-Husayn] said: Salman kissed his forehead and wept, saying: "Were it not for you, O Amir al-Mu'minin, who would distinguish these things for us?"

Abu 'Atab 'Abd Allah b. Bistam narrated from Muhammad b. Khalaf from al-Washsha' from 'Abd Allah b. Sinan from his brother Muhammad b. Sinan, who said that Ja'far b. Muhammad, peace be upon him, said: 'There is no one who, when fearing affliction, precedes it with prayer except that Allah turns away that affliction from him. Do you not know that Amir al-Mu'minin, peace be upon him, said: "The Prophet, blessings of Allah be upon him and his family, said: 'O 'Ali.' He replied: 'At your service, O Messenger of Allah.' He said: 'Prayer repels affliction, and that has been conclusively established.''"

Al-Washsha' said: I asked 'Abd Allah b. Sinan: 'Is there a particular prayer for that?' He replied: 'I asked al-Sadiq, peace be upon him, about that and he said: "Yes, the oppressed Shi'a have a particular prayer for every illness. Those endowed with perception have no particular prayer, for the prayer of those endowed with perception is not veiled."

'Abd Allah b. Bistam narrated from Muhammad b. Khalaf from al-Washsha' who said: Al-Ridha', peace be upon him, said to me: "If one of you falls ill, let him permit the people to call on him, for the prayer of each one will be answered." Then he said: "O Washsha'". I replied: "At your service, my lord and master." He said: "Have you understood what I told you?" I replied: "O son of the Messenger of Allah, yes." He said: "You did not understand. Do you know who 'the people' are?" I replied: "Yes indeed. The community (*umma*) of Muhammad, blessings of Allah and peace be upon him and his family." He said: "'The people' are the Shi'a."

Abu 'Abd Allah al-Husayn b. Bistam narrated from Muhammad b. Khalaf from al-Hasan b. 'Ali from 'Abd Allah b. Sinan from his brother Muhammad b. Sinan from al-Mufaddal b. 'Umar, who said: I heard al-Sadiq, peace be upon him, say on the authority of al-Baqir, peace be upon him: 'When a believer falls ill, Allah reveals to the companion at his left hand: "Do not record a single sin against my servant as long as he is in my custody, and in my hold." And He reveals to the companion at his right hand: "Write for my servant on his page of good deeds what you would record for him when he was well."

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