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Self-Admiration

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.. الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): لا وَحدَةَ أوحَشُ مِنَ العُجبِ1

1– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'There is no loneliness more miserable than self-admiration.'[Nahjul Balaghah, Saying 113]

.. الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): العُجبُ يُظهِرُ النَّقيصَةَ2

2– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'Self-admiration shows up your faults.'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 954]

.. الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): العُجبُ حُمقٌ3

3– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'Self-admiration is foolishness.'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 62]

.. الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): سَيِّئَةٌ تَسوؤكَ خَيرٌ عِندَ اللّهِ مِن حَسَنَةٍ تُعجِبُكَ4

4– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'An evil deed [of yours] that upsets you is better in the sight of Allah than a good deed which you feel proud about.'[Nahjul Balaghah, Saying 46]

5ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): إيّاكَ أن تَرضى عَن نَفسِكَ فَيَكثُرَ السّاخِطُ عَلَيكَ.

5– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Beware of self–satisfaction lest it increases the cause for [Allah’s] wrath against you.’[Ghurar al–Hikam, no. 2642]

6ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): ثَمَرَةُ العُجبِ البَغضاءُ.

6– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘The consequence of self–admiration is hatred [of other people towards you].’[Ghurar al–Hikam, no. 4606]

7ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): الإعجابُ ضِدُّ الصَّوابِ، وآفَةُ الألبابِ.

7– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Self–admiration is the opposite of proper conduct, and is the bane of the hearts.’[Tuhaf al–’Uqul, no. 74]

8ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): العُجبُ يُفسِدُ العَقلَ.

8– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Self–admiration corrupts reason.’[Ghurar al–Hikam, no. 726]

9ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): الإعجابُ يَمنَعُ الازدِيادَ.

9– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Self–admiration prevents progress.’[Nahjul Balaghah, no. 167]

10ـ الإمامُ الباقرُ أو الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِمَا السّلامُ): إنَّ اللّهَ تَبارَكَ وتَعالى يَقولُ: إنَّ مِن عِبادي مَن يَسأَلُني الشَّيءَ مِن طاعَتي لِأُحِبَّهُ، فأصرِفُ ذلكَ عَنهُ لِكَي لا يُعجِبَهُ عَمَلُه.

10– Imam al–Baqir and Imam al–Sadiq (a.s.) said, ‘Verily Allah, Blessed and most High, says, ‘Verily from among My servants is he who asks Me to enable him to perform an act of obedience to Me in order that he may procure My love, but I however, withhold that from him in order that he does not come to feel proud of that action of his.’[al–Zuhd li al–Husayn b. Sa’aid, p. 68, no. 179]

11ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): مَن دَخَلَهُ العُجبُ هَلَكَ.

11– Imam al–Sadiq (a.s.) said, ‘He who is overtaken by self–admiration perishes.’[al–Kafi, v. 2, p. 313, no. 2]

Enjoinment of Undervaluing the Good that One Does

الحَثُّ عَلَى استِقلالِ الخَيرِ مِنَ النَّفسِ

12- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) ـ في صِفَةِ العاقِلِ ـ: يَستَكثِرُ قَليلَ الخَيرِ مِن غَيرِهِ، ويَستَقِلُّ كَثيرَ الخَيرِ مِن نَفسِهِ.

12– The Prophet (S) said, describing the intelligent person, 'He regards the little good that others do as being much and regards the abundance of good that he himself does as being little.'[Mustadrak al-Wasa'il, v. 1, p. 132, no. 184]

13- الإمامُ الباقرُ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ): اِستَقِلِلْ مِن نَفسِكَ كَثيرَ الطّاعَةِ لِلّهِ؛ إزراءً عَلَى النَّفسِ وتَعَرُّضاً لِلعَفوِ.

13– Imam al-Baqir (a.s.) said, 'Undervalue the abundant acts of obedience that you perform for Allah, in contempt of your lower self and in order to expose yourself to Allah's pardon.'[Tuhaf al-'Uqul, no. 285]

14- الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ): قالَ إبليسُ ـ لَعنةُ اللّهِ عَلَيهِ ـ لِجُنودِهِ: إذا استَمكَنتُ مِن ابنِ آدَمَ في ثَلاثٍ لَم اُبالِ ما عَمِلَ؛ فإنَّهُ غَيرُ مَقبولٍ مِنهُ: إذا استَكثَرَ عَمَلَهُ، ونَسِيَ ذَنبَهُ، ودَخَلَهُ العُجبُ.

14– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, 'Iblis [Satan] – may Allah's curse be on him – says to his troops, 'If I can gain mastery over three things in man, I will no longer care how much good he does for it will not be accepted from him: if he overrates his good deeds, forgets his sins, and is overcome by self-admiration.'[al-Khisal, p. 112, no. 86]

Treatment of Self-Admiration

مُعالَجَةُ العُجبِ

15- الإمام عليّ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ): ما لِابنِ آدمَ والعُجبَ ؟! وأوَّلُهُ نُطفَةٌ مَذِرَةٌ، وآخِرُهُ جيفَةٌ قَذِرَةٌ، وَهُوَ بَينَ ذلكَ يَحمِلُ العَذِرَةَ؟!

15– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'What is the matter with man that he is so given to self-admiration when his origin was but a putrid droplet, and his end is as a filthy corpse, and between these states he is but a vessel for excrement?!'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 9666]

. ـ الإمامُ الباقرُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): سُدَّ سَبيلَ العُجبِ بِمَعرِفةِ النَّفسِ16

16– Imam al-Baqir (a.s.) said, ‘Block the path of self-admiration through self-knowledge.’[Tuhaf al-’Uqul, no. 285]

!ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): إن كانَ المَمَرُّ عَلَى الصِّراطِ حَقّاً فالعُجبُ لِماذا؟17

17– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, ‘If crossing the Sirat [Bridge extended over Hell] is a reality, then wherefore the need for self-admiration?!’ [Amali al-Saduq, p. 16, no. 5]

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