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Sermon 37: I took up the task ...

Amir al-mu'minin's utterance which runs like a Sermon.
About his own steadfastness in religion and precedence in (acceptance of) belief. Spoken after the Battle of Nahrawan

(ومن كلام له (عليه السلام

يجري مجرى الخطبة

[وفيه يذكر فضائله (عليه السلام) قاله بعد وقعة النهروان]

I discharged duties when others lost courage (to do so), and I came forward when others hid themselves. I spoke when others remained mum. I stroke with Divine light when others remained standing. I was the quietest of them in voice but the highest in going forward. I cleaved to its rein and applied myself solely to its pledge, like the mountain which neither sweeping wind could move nor storm could shake. No one could find fault with me nor could any speaker speak ill of me.

فَقُمْتُ بِالأمْرِ حِينَ فَشِلُوا وَتَطَلَّعْتُ حِينَ تَعْتَعُوا وَمَضَيْتُ بِنُورِ اللهِ حِينَ وَقَفُوا، وَكُنْتُ أَخْفَضَهُمْ صَوْتاً، وَأَعْلاَهُمْ فَوْتاً فَطِرْتُ بِعِنَانِهَا وَاسْتَبْدَدْتُ بِرِهَانِهَا كَالْجَبَلِ لاَ تُحَرِّكُهُ الْقَوَاصِفُ، وَلاَ تُزِيلُهُ الْعَوَاصِفُ. لَمْ يَكُنْ لاِحَدٍ فيَّ مَهْمَزٌ، وَلاَ لِقَائِلٍ فيَّ مَغْمَزٌ.

The low is in my view worthy of honour till I secure (his) right for him while the strong is in my view weak till I take (other's) right from him. We are happy with the destiny ordained by Allah and have submitted to the command of Allah. Do you think I would speak lie about the Prophet of Allah?

By Allah, I am surely the first to testify him, so I will not be the first to falsify him. I looked at my affairs

and found that my obedience should have precedence over my allegiance while my pledge with him is a burden on my neck.

الذَّلِيلُ عِنْدِي عَزِيزٌ حَتَّى آخُذَ الْحَقَّ لَهُ، وَالْقَوِيُّ عِنْدِي ضَعِيفٌ حَتَّى آخُذَ الْحَقَّ مَنْهُ، رَضِينَا عَنِ اللهِ قَضَاءَهُ، وَسَلَّمْنَا له أَمْرَهُ. أَتَرَانِي أَكْذِبُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللهِ صلى الله عليه وآله ؟ وَاللهِ لاَنَا أَوَّلُ مَنْ صَدَّقَهُ فَلاَ أَكُونُ أَوَّلَ مَنْ كَذَبَ عَلَيْهِ. فَنَظَرْتُ في أَمْرِي، فَإِذَا طَاعَتِي قَدْ سَبَقَتْ بَيْعَتِي، وَإِذَا الميثَاقُ في عُنُقِي لِغَيْرِي.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 37

(1) Al-Saduq, *al-'Amali,* 134;

(2) al-Bayhaqi, *al-Mahasin,* I, 37.

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