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Sermon 81: O people, zuhd lies in ...

About Abstinence

(ومن كلام له (عليه السلام

في الزهد

O people! Abstinence (zuhd) is to shorten desires, to thank for bounties and to keep away from what is prohibited. If (all of) this is not possible then (at least) what is prohibited should not overpower your patience; and do not forget gratitude when receiving blessings For Allah has exhausted the excuses before you through clear, shining arguments and open, bright books.

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، الزَّهَادَةُ قِصَرُ الاْمَلِ، وَالشُّكْرُ عِنْدَ النِّعَمِ، والورعُ عِنْدَ الْـمَحَارِمِ، فَإِنْ عَزَبَ ذلِكَ عَنْكُمْ فَلاَ يَغْلِبِ الْحَرَامُ صَبْرَكُمْ، وَلاَ تَنْسَوْا عِنْدَ النِّعَمِ شُكْرَكُمْ، فَقَدْ أَعْذَرَاللهُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِحُجَجٍ مُسْفِرَةٍ ظَاهِرَةٍ، وَكُتُبٍ بَارِزَةِ الْعُذْرِ وَاضِحَةٍ.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 81

(1) Al-Saduq, *Ma'ani al-'akhbar,* 251;

(2) Idem., *al-Khisal,* I, 11;

(3) al-Barqi, *al-Mahasin,* 234;

(4) al- 'Amidi, *Ghurar,* 119;

(5) al-Fattal, *Rawdah,* 434;

(6) al-Tabarsi, *Mishkat,* 106.

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