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Silence

Silence الصَّمت

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الصَّمتُ

.... رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ) ـ لأبي ذَرٍّ وهو يَعِظُهُ ـ: أربَعٌ لا يُصيبُهُنَّ إلّا مؤمنٌ: الصَّمتُ وهُو أوَّلُ العِبادَةِ1

1– The Prophet (S) said to Abu Dharr, exhorting him, 'There are four things that none can accomplish apart from the believer: silence, and this is the first stage of worship…'[Makarim al-Akhlaq, v. 2, no. 377]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): الصَّمتُ آيَةُ النُّبلِ وثَمَرَةُ العَقلِ2

2– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'Silence is the sign of nobility and the fruit of the intellect.'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 1343]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ) ـ في صِفةِ المؤمِنِ ـ: كثيرٌ صَمتُهُ، مَشغولٌ وَقتُهُ3

3– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, describing the believer, 'Great is his silence and occupied is his time.'[Nahjul Balaghah, Saying 333]

The Fruits of Silence

ثَمَراتُ الصَّمتِ

4ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): علَيكَ بطُولِ الصَّمتِ فإنّهُ مَطرَدَةٌ لِلشَّيطانِ، وعَونٌ لكَ على أمرِ دينِكَ

4– The Prophet (S) said, ‘You must maintain silence for long periods of time for verily it drives Satan away and helps you in matters of your faith.’[Bihar al–Anwar, v. 71, p. 279, no. 19]

5ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): اِلزَمِ الصَّمتَ فَأدنى نَفعِهِ السَّلامَةُ .

5– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Adhere to silence for the very least of its benefits is health.’[Ghurar al–Hikam, no. 2314]

6ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): الصَّمتُ رَوضَةُ الفِكرِ

6– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘Silence is the garden of thought.’[Ibid. no. 546]

7ـ الإمامُ الحسنُ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): قد أكثَرَ مِن الهَيبَةِ الصّامِتُ .

7– Imam al–Hasan (a.s.) said, ‘Indeed the silent one has great earnestness.’[Bihar al–Anwar, v. 78, p. 113, no. 7]

8ـ الإمامُ الحسنُ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): نِعمَ العَونُ الصَّمتُ في مَواطِنَ كثيرَةٍ وإن كُنتَ فَصيحاً

8– Imam al–Hasan (a.s.) said, ‘How excellent an aid silence is in numerous situations, even if one be an expressive person.’[Ma’ani al–Akhbar, p. 401, no. 62]

9ـ الإمامُ الرِّضا (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): إنَّ الصَّمتَ بابٌ مِن أبوابِ الحِكمَةِ، إنَّ الصَّمتَ يُكسِبُ المَحَبَّةَ إنّه دَليلٌ على كُلِّ خَيرٍ.

9– Imam Ar–Ridha’ (a.s.) said, ‘Verily silence is one of the doors to wisdom; verily silence secures love; verily it leads one to all good.’[al–Kafi, v. 2, p. 113, no. 1]

الصَّمتُ المَمدوحُ

Blameworthy Silence

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): لا خَيرَ في الصَّمتِ عَنِ الحُكمِ، كما أنّهُ لا خَيرَ في القَولِ بِالجَهلِ10

10– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, ‘There is no good in keeping silent about a matter of wisdom, just as there is no good in speaking about something one is ignorant of.’[Nahjul Balaghah, Saying 182]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ في علامةِ المُتَّقي ـ: إن صَمَتَ لَم يَغُمَّهُ، وإن ضَحِكَ لَم يَعلُ صَوتُهُ11

11– Imam Ali (a.s.) said about the distinguishing characteristics of the pious one, ‘Verily when he is silent, his own silence does not distress him, and when he laughs he does not do so loudly.’[Ibid. sermon 193]

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