

Sermon 70: I was sitting when sleep overtook me...

Spoken on the morning of the day when Amir al-mu'minin was fatally struck with sword.

وقال (عليه السلام)

في سُحرة اليوم الذي ضرب فيه

I was sitting when sleep overtook me. I saw the Prophet of Allah appear before me, and I said: "O Prophet of Allah! What crookedness and enmity I had to face from the people." The Prophet of Allah said: "Invoke (Allah) evil upon them," but I said, "Allah may change them for me with better ones and change me for them with a worse one".

مَلَكْتَنِي عَيْنِي وَأَنَا جَالِسٌ، فَسَنَحَ لِي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (صلى الله عليه وآله) : يَا رَسُولَ
اللَّهِ، مَاذَا لَقِيتُ مِنْ أُمَّتِكَ مِنَ الْأَوْدِ وَاللَّدَدِ؟ فَقَالَ: «ادْعُ عَلَيْهِمْ»، فَقُلْتُ: أَبَدَلْنِي
اللَّهُ بِهِمْ خَيْرًا لِي مِنْهُمْ، وَأَبَدَلَهُمْ بِي شَرًّا لَهُمْ مِنِّي.

as-Sayyid ar-Radi says: "al-awad" means crookedness and "al-ladad" means enmity, and this is the most eloquent expression.

يعني (عليه السلام) بالآود: الاعوجاج، وباللدد: الخصام. وهذا من أفصح الكلام.

Alternative Sources for Sermon 70

- (1) Ibn Sa`d, *al-Tabaqat*, III, 36;
- (2) Abu al-Faraj, *Maqatil*, 16;
- (3) Ibn `Abd Rabbih, *al-`Iqd*, II, 298;
- (4) al-Qali, *Dhayl al-'Amali*, 190;
- (5) Ibn Qutaybah, *al-'Imamah*, I, 160;
- (6) Muhammad ibn Habib, *al-Mughtalin*, on the authority of Abu `Abd al-Rahman al-Salami;
- (7) Ibn `Abd al-Birr, *al-'Isti`ab*, III, 61;
- (8) al-Mufid, *al-'Irshad*, 9;
- (9) al-Murtada, *Ghurar*, IV, 78;
- (10) al-Baladhuri, *Ansab*, II, 495.

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