'Piety-Taqwa – Fearing Allah^{-azwj}'

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Abbreviations:

 $\mathbf{saww}:$ - \mathbf{S} al lal la ho \mathbf{A} llay hay \mathbf{W} a Aal lay he \mathbf{W} asallam

azwj: - Az Za Wa Jalla

asws: - Allay hay Salawat Wass Salam AJFJ: Ajal Allah hey wa Fara Jaak

ra: - Razi Allah^{-azwj} La: - Laan Allah^{-azwj}

In the Name of Allah^{-azwj} the Beneficent, the Merciful. The Praise is for Allah^{-azwj} Lord^{-azwj} of the Worlds, and Blessing be upon our Chief Muhammad^{-saww} and his^{-saww} Purified Progeny^{-asws}, and greetings with abundant greetings.

'Piety-Taqwa – Fearing Allah-azwj'

Summary:

Allah^{-azwj} Likes devoutness (piety-Taqwa- Fearing Allah^{-azwj}) and does not like persistence upon sins.

(Amir ul-Momineen-asws said) And in another report, (He^{-asws} said): 'Indeed! There is no goodness in a knowledge wherein there is no understanding. Indeed! There is no goodness in a recitation (of the Quran) wherein there is no pondering. Indeed! There is no goodness in a worship there being no thinking in it. There is no goodness in a ritual, there being no piety in it' (An extract).¹

عِدَّةٌ مِنْ أَصْحَابِنَا عَنْ سَهْلِ بْنِ زِيَادٍ وَ الْحُسَيْنُ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ عَنْ مُعَلَّى بْنِ مُحَمَّدٍ جَمِيعاً عَنِ الْوَشَّاءِ عَنْ أَبِي الْحَسَنِ (عليه السلام) قَالَ سَمِعْتُهُ يَقُولُ الْإِيمَانُ فَوْقَ الْإِيمَانُ مَنْ الْيَقِينِ .

A number of our companions, from Sahl Bin Ziyad, and Al Husayn Bin Muhammad, from Moalla Bin Muhammad, altogether from Al Washha,

(It has been narrated) from Abu Al-Hassan^{-asws}, said, 'I heard him^{-asws} saying: 'The *Emān* is above the *Islām* by a level, and 'النَّقِينَ' the piety is above the *Emān* by a level, and 'النَّقِينَ' the

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¹ Al Kafi V 1 – The Book Of Intellect and Ignorance CH 5 H 3

conviction is above 'التَّقْوَى' the piety by a level, and nothing has been distributed among the people as scarcely than 'الْيَقِينَ' the conviction'.²

Ali Bin Ibrahim, from his father, from Ibn Abu Umeyr, from Mansour Bin Yunus, from Abu Baseer who said,

'I heard Abu Abdullah^{-asws} saying: 'No, by Allah^{-azwj}! Allah^{-azwj} will not Accept anything from his obedience, upon his persistence upon something from his disobedience'.³

And the Prophet^{-saww} said: 'A principle of religion is the devoutness (piety). Be devout, you will become the most worshipping of the people, and be more attentive with the deeds with the piety than with the deeds with something else. Do not belittle a deed with the piety, and how can an Accepted deed be little, due to the Words of Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic: 'But rather, Allah only Accepts from the pious ones [5:27]'.

And in the preceding Revelation: 'The deed with consuming the Prohibited is like the carrier of water in the sieve''.4

And from the Prophet^{-saww} having said: 'A people will be coming on the Day of Qiyamah, for them would be from the good deeds like mount Tihama. He^{-azwj} will Command with them to the Fire!'

It was said, 'O Prophet-saww of Allah-azwj! Would they be the praying ones?'

² Al Kafi V 2 – The Book Of Belief and Disbelief CH 27 H 2

³ Al Kafi V 2 – The Book Of Belief and Disbelief CH 114 H 3

⁴ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 8 e

He^{-asws} said: 'They had been praying Salat, and fasting, and they were taking weakness from the night (by holding vigil), <u>but they were such, whenever something from the world (from illegitimate)</u> become apparent to them, they leapt upon it''.⁵

(The book) 'Fiqh Al-Reza^{-asws}', may the greetings be upon him^{-asws} – 'It is reported, 'The one who wants to become most honourable of the people, let him fear Allah^{-azwj} in his secrecy and his openness''.⁶

يد، التوحيد الْقُطَّانُ عَنْ أَحْمَدَ الْهُمْدَايِيَّ عَنْ عَلِيِّ بْنِ الْحُسَنِ بْنِ فَضَّالٍ عَنْ أَبِيهِ عَنْ مَرْوَانَ بْنِ مُسْلِمٍ عَنِ الثُّمَالِيِّ عَنِ ابْنِ طَرِيفٍ عَنِ ابْنِ طَرِيفٍ عَنِ ابْنِ طَرِيفٍ عَنِ اللهُ تَعَالَى إِلَى دَاوُدَ ع يَا دَاوُدُ تُرِيدُ وَ أُرِيدُ وَ لَا يَكُونُ إِلَّا مَا أُرِيدُ فَإِنْ أَسْلَمْتَ لِمَا أُرِيدُ أَنْعَبْتُكَ فِيمَا تُرِيدُ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُ إِلَّا مَا أُرِيدُ وَ إِنْ لَمُ تُسْلِمْ لِمَا أُرِيدُ أَتْعَبْتُكَ فِيمَا تُرِيدُ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُ إِلَّا مَا أُرِيدُ.

(The book) 'Al Tawheed' – Al Qattan, from Ahmad Al Hamdany, from Ali Bin Al-Hassan Bin Fazzal, from his father, from Marwan Bin Muslim, from Al Sumali, from Ibn Tareyf, from Ibn Nubatah who said,

'Amir Al-Momineen^{-asws} said: 'Allah^{-azwj} the Exalted Revealed to Dawood^{-as}: "O Dawood^{-as}! You^{-as} want and I^{-azwj} Want, it cannot happen except what I^{-azwj} Want. So if you^{-as} were to submit to what I^{-azwj} Want, I^{-azwj} shall Give you what you^{-as} want, and if you^{-as} do not submit to what I^{-azwj} Want, I^{-saww} shall Delay you^{-as} regarding what you^{-as} want, then it will not happen except what I^{-azwj} Want!"'⁷

⁵ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 8 h

 $^{^{\}rm 6}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 39 a

⁷ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 63 H 24

Introduction:

We review some Ahadith here related to Piety – Tagwa.

What is Piety (Taqwa)?

And Al-Sadiq^{-asws} was asked about the interpretation of piety. He^{-asws} said: 'Do not let Allah^{-azwj} Miss you where He^{-azwj} has Commanded you, nor Let him See you where He^{-azwj} has Prohibited you''.⁸

(The book) 'Mishakat Al Anwaar' – Copied from Al Mahasin,

'Amir Al-Momineen^{-asws} said: 'The piety is the root (origin) of Eman!

And it was said to Amir Al-Momineen-asws, 'Describe the world to us!'

He^{-asws} said: 'And what shall I^{-asws} described to you all? For its Permissible(s) there is Reckoning, and for it's Prohibited there is Punishment. If you could have seen the death and its travelling (coming), you would have been distracted away from the hopes and its deceptions'.

Then he^{-asws} said: 'One who observes pity (fears Allah^{-azwj}) as is the right of fearing Him^{-azwj}, Allah^{-azwj} would Give him comfort without a comforter, and riches without wealth, and honour without a ruling authority''.⁹

And from them^{-asws}: 'Exert efforts and strive, and if you don't do (good deeds), then do not disobey, for the one who builds and does not demolish, his building would rise higher, and

⁸ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 8 d

⁹ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 8 i

even if it was little, and the one who builds and demolished, there is no doubt his building will not rise higher". 10

مص، مصباح الشريعة قَالَ الصَّادِقُ ع التَّقُوى عَلَى ثَلَاثَةِ أَوْجُهٍ تَقُوى بِاللَّهِ فِي اللَّهِ وَ هُوَ تَرْكُ الْخَلَالِ فَضْلًا عَنِ الشَّبْهَةِ وَ هُوَ تَقُوى بِاللَّهِ فِي اللَّهِ وَ هُوَ تَوْكُ الْخَلَالِ فَضْلًا عَنْ حَرَامٍ وَ هُوَ تَقُوى الْخَاصِّ وَ تَقُوى مِنْ حَوْفِ النَّارِ وَ الْعِقَابِ وَ هُوَ تَقُوى الْخَاصِّ وَ تَقُوى مِنْ حَوْفِ النَّارِ وَ الْعِقَابِ وَ هُوَ تَقُوى الْخَاصِّ وَ تَقُوى مِنْ حَوْفِ النَّارِ وَ الْعِقَابِ وَ هُوَ تَتُوكُ الْخَرَامِ وَ هُوَ تَقُوى الْخَامِّ

(The book) 'Misbah Al Sharia' -

'Al-Sadiq^{-asws} said: 'The piety is based upon three aspects – piety with Allah^{-azwj} for the Sake of Allah^{-azwj}, and it is neglecting the Permissible(s) in addition to the suspect issues, and it is the most special piety; and the piety from Allah^{-azwj}, and it is neglecting the suspect in addition from the Prohibitions, and it is the special piety; and the piety from fear of the Fire and the Punishments, and it is neglecting the Prohibitions, and it is the general piety.

And an example of the piety is like water flowing in a river, and an example of these three categories in the meaning is, the piety is like the tree having been planted upon the banks of that river or every type and species, and every tree from these suck the water from that river in accordant to its essence and its taste, and its subtlety, and its thinness and its thickness.

Then the benefits of the creatures from those trees and fruits are based upon their worth and their values. Allah-azwj the Exalted Says: and single-rooted palm trees other than single-rooted, being irrigated by one water source, and We Prefer some of it upon the others regarding the eating. [13:4] – the Verse.

The piety for the obedience is like the water for the trees, and an example of the natures of the trees and the fruits in their types and their tastes is an example of the precepts of Eman. The one who was at the top rank regarding the Eman and cleanest of the essence with the soul, would be the most pious; and the one who was the most pious, his worship would be the most sincere and cleanest; and the one who was like that, he would be the closest from Allah-azwj.

 $^{^{\}rm 10}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 8 f

وَ كُلُّ عِبَادَةٍ غَيْرٍ مُؤَسَّسَةٍ عَلَى التَّقْوَى فَهُوَ هَبَاءٌ مَنْتُورٌ قَالَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَ جَلَ أَ فَمَنْ أَسَّسَ بُنْيانَهُ عَلَى تَقْوى مِنَ اللَّهِ وَ رِضْوانٍ حَيْرٌ أَمْ مَنْ أَسَّسَ بُنْيانَهُ عَلَى شَفا جُرُفٍ هارٍ فَانْهَارَ بِهِ فِي نارٍ جَهَنَّمَ الْآيَةَ

And every worship not based upon the piety, so it is floating dust (worthless). Allah-azwi Mighty and Majestic Says: Is the one who lays the foundation of his building on fear of Allah and Pleasure, better, or the one who lays the foundation of his building upon the brink of a cliff so it collapses with him into the Fire of Hell? [9:109] – the Verse.

And the interpretation of piety is neglecting there is no problem with taking it, being careful from what there is a problem with taking it, and in the reality, it is obedience; and Zikr without forgetfulness, and knowledge without ignorance, are Accepted without being Rejected".¹¹

ع، علل الشرائع ابْنُ إِدْرِيسَ عَنْ أَبِيهِ عَنِ الْأَشْعَرِيِّ عَنْ إِبْرَاهِيمَ بْنِ هَاشِمٍ عَنْ جَعْفَرِ بْنِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ الْمُمْدَايِيِّ عَنِ الْعُبَّاسِ بْنِ عَلْمِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَ فَقَالَ أَ تَفْتَخِرَانِ بِأَجْسَادٍ بَالِيَةٍ وَ عَالَ: افْتَحْرَ رَجُلَانِ عِنْدَ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَ فَقَالَ أَ تَفْتَخِرَانِ بِأَجْسَادٍ بَالِيَةٍ وَ عَالَ: افْتَحْرَ رَجُلَانِ عِنْدَ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَ فَقَالَ أَ تَفْتَخِرَانِ بِأَجْسَادٍ بَالِيَةٍ وَ عَالَ: افْتَحْرَ رَجُلَانِ عِنْدَ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَ فَقَالَ أَ تَفْتَخِرَانِ بِأَجْسَادٍ بَالِيَةٍ وَ أَرُواحِ فِي النَّارِ إِنْ يَكُنْ لَكَ عَقْلٌ فَإِنَّ لَكَ خُلُقاً وَ إِنْ يَكُنْ لَكَ تَقْوَى فَإِنَّ لَكَ كَرَماً وَ إِلَّا فَالْحِمَارُ حَيْرٌ مِنْكَ وَ لَسْتَ بِخَيْرٍ مِنْ أَحَدٍ.

(The book) 'Ilal Al Sharaie' – Ibn Idrees, from his father, from Al Ashari, from Ibrahim Bin Hashim, from Ja'far Bin Muhammad Bin Ibrahim Al Hamdany, from Al Abbas Bin Aamir, from Ismail Bin Dinar, raising it to,

'Abu Abdullah-asws having said: 'Two men prided (with their ancestors) in the presence of Amir Al-Momineen-asws. He-asws said: 'Are you priding with the decayed bodies and the souls in the Fire? If there happens to be intellect for you then there will be morals for you, and if there happens to be piety for you, then there will be benevolence for you, or else the donkey is better than you are, and you are no better than anyone (else)!"¹²

A Story - End result is good for the Pious one (one with Piety)

ص، قصص الأنبياء عليهم السلام بِالْإِسْنَادِ إِلَى الصَّدُوقِ عَنْ أَبِيهِ عَنْ سَعْدٍ عَنِ ابْنِ عِيسَى عَنِ الْوَشَّاءِ عَنِ الْجُسْنِ بْنِ الجُهْمِ عَنْ رَجُلِ عَنْ أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ الصَّلَاةُ وَ السَّلَامُ قَالَ: كَانَ فِي بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ رَجُلٌ يُكْثِرُ أَنْ يَقُولَ الْحُمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعالَمِينَ وَ الْعاقِبَةُ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ رَجُلِ عَنْ أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ الصَّلَامُ قَالَ: كَانَ فِي بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ رَجُلٌ يُكْثِرُ أَنْ يَقُولَ الْحُمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعالَمِينَ وَ الْعاقِبَةُ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ

(The book) 'Qasas Al Anbiya', may the greetings be upon them^{-as} – by the chain to Al Sadouq, from his father, from Sa'ad, from Ibn Isa, from Al Washa, from Al Hasan Bin Al Jahm, from a man,

 $^{^{11}}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 41

¹² Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 29

'From Abu Abdullah^{-asws}, upon him^{-asws} be the Salawaat and the greetings, said: 'The was a man among the children of Israel who used to frequently say: 'The Praise is for Lord^{-azwj} of the worlds and the end-result is for the pious!'

That enraged Iblees^{-la}, so he^{-la} sent a Satan^{-la} to him. He^{-la} said, 'Say, 'The end result is for the rich'!' He^{-la} came to him and said that. They both took the judgment to the first one to emerge to them, based upon that the one who he judges against, his hand would be cut.

They met a person and informed him with their situation. He said, 'The end-result is for the rich'. (His hand was cut), and he returned praising Allah^{-azwj} and saying, 'The end-result is for the pious'.

He^{-as} said to him, 'Shall we repeat as well?' He said, 'Yes', based upon another hand (being cut).

They went out, and another one emerged. He judged against him as well, so his other hand was cut, and he returned as well praising Allah-azwj and saying, 'The end-result is for the pious'.

He^{-la} said to him, 'Will you go for judgment upon striking of the neck?' He said, 'Yes'.

They went out and saw a similar one. They paused to him. He-la said, 'If you could judge this one', and he narrated their story to him'.

He^{-asws} said: 'He wiped his hand and it returned (to normal), then he struck off the neck of that wicked one and said, 'The end-result is for the pious''.¹³

¹³ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 36

A Little Deed with Piety is better than more worship without Piety:

ما، الأمالي للشيخ الطوسي الْمُفِيدُ عَنِ الجِعَابِيّ عَنِ ابْنِ عُقْدَةَ عَنْ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ هَارُونَ بْنِ عَبْدِ الرَّمْمَنِ عَنْ أَبِيهِ عَنْ عِيسَى بْنِ أَبِي الْوَرْدِ عَنْ أَحْمَدَ بْنِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ عَنْ أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَ قَالَ قَالَ أَمِيرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَلَا يَقِلُ مَعَ التَّقْوَى عَمَلٌ وَ كَيْفَ يَقِلُ مَا يُتَقْبَّلُ.

(The book) 'Al Amaali' of the sheykh Al Tusi – Al Mufeed, from Al Jiany, from Ibn Uqdah, from Muhammad Bin Haroun Bin Abdul Rahman, from his father, from Isa Bin Abu Al Warad, from Ahmad Bin Abdul Aziz,

'From Abu Abdullah-asws having said: 'Amir Al-Momineen-asws said: 'Do not belittle a deed with piety, and how can it be little what is Accepted?''

(The book) 'Ma'any Al Akhbar' – Ibn Al Waleed, from Al Saffar, from Ahmad Bin Muhammad, from his father, from Al Nasr, from Abu Husayn, from Abu Baseer who said,

'I asked Abu Abdullah^{-asws} about Words of Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic: *Fear Allah as is His right to be feared [3:102]*. He^{-asws} said: 'Obeyed. He should not disobey and be mindful. He should remember and not forget, and he should be thankful and not disbelieve (deny the bounties)".¹⁴

Rely more on what is for you with Allah^{-azwj} than what you have in your hands

مع، معاني الأخبار عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ص قَالَ: مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يَكُونَ أَتْقَى النَّاسِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ وَ مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يَكُونَ أَغْنَى النَّاسِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ وَ مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يَكُونَ أَغْنَى النَّاسِ فَلْيَكُنْ بِمَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ أَوْتُقَ مِنْهُ بِمَا فِي يَدِهِ.

(The book) 'Ma'any Al Akhbar' –

'From the Prophet-saww said: 'One who loves to be the most pious of the people, let him rely upon Allah-azwj, and the one who loves to be richest of the people, let him be more trusting with what is in the Presence of Allah-azwj Mighty and Majestic than what is in his hands''. ¹⁵

 $^{^{14}}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 31 $\,$

¹⁵ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 68 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 63 H 22

Short Ahadith on Piety:

لي، الأمالي للصدوق عَنْ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَ لَا كَرَمَ أَعَزُّ مِنَ التَّقْوَى

(The book) 'Al Amaali' of Al Sadouq,

'From Amir Al-Momineen-asws: 'The is no honour dearer than the piety'.

And he-asws was asked, 'Which deed is the most superior?' He-asws said: 'The piety''. 16

There is neither any affiliation for a Qureyshi nor an Arabian except with humbleness, not any honour except by piety". 17

And Abu Abdullah-asws said: 'The Qiyamah is a wedding (day) of the pious".

And Abu Abdullah^{-asws} said: '<u>Do not be deceived by their crying, but rather the piety is in the heart!</u>"

And Abu Abdullah^{-asws} said regarding Words of the, Majestic is His^{-azwj} Praise: *He is rightful to be feared and rightful for (Granting) the Forgiveness [74:56]*. He^{-asws} said: "I^{-azwj} am Rightful that My^{-azwj} servant should fear Me^{-azwj}. If he does not do so, then I^{-azwj} am Rightful to Forgive (his sins) for him".¹⁸

ما، الأمالي للشيخ الطوسي الْمُفِيدُ عَنِ الجِعَابِيِّ عَنِ ابْنِ عُقْدَةَ عَنْ سُلَيْمَانَ بْنِ مُحَمَّدٍ عَنْ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ عِيسَى الْمُفِيدُ عَنِ الجِعَابِيِّ عَنِ ابْنِ عُقْدَةَ عَنْ سُلَيْمَانَ بْنِ مُحَمَّدٍ عَنْ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ عِيسَى الْمُفِيدُ عَنِ الصَّادِقِ عَ قَالَ: مَنْ أَخْرَجَهُ اللَّهُ مِنْ ذُلِّ الْمَعْصِيةِ إِلَى عِزِ التَّقْوَى أَغْنَاهُ اللَّهُ بِلَا مَالٍ وَ أَعَرَّهُ بِلَا عَشِيرَةٍ وَ آنسَهُ بِلَا بَشَرٍ وَ مَنْ لَمُ يَغَفِ اللَّه عَزَّ وَ جَلَّ أَحَافَ اللَّهُ مِنْ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ.

 $^{^{16}}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 16

 $^{^{17}}$ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 19

¹⁸ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 9

(The book) 'Al Amaali' of the sheykh Al Tusi – Al Mufeed, from Al Jiany, from Ibn Uqdah, from Suleyman Bin Muhammad, from Muhammad Bin Imran, from Muhammad Bin Isa Al Kindy,

'From Al-Sadiq^{-asws} having said: 'One whom Allah^{-azwj} Extracts from the disgrace of disobedience to the honour of piety, Allah^{-azwj} will Enrich him without any wealth, and Honour him without any clan, and Comfort him without any person; and the one who fears Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic, Allah^{-azwj} would Cause all things to fear from him, and the one who does not fear Allah^{-azwj} Mighty and Majestic, Allah^{-azwj} would Cause him to fear from all things''.¹⁹

¹⁹ Bihar Al-Anwaar V 67 - The book of Eman and Kufr - Ch 56 H 22