

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْعَالَمِينَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَانْ يُصْلِلُ عَلَيْهِ

Allah *azza wajal*, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah *azza wajal*, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon

His Beloved Messenger *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam*

The Advice of Ebrahim bin Adham

Once a young man came in the blessed presence of Hadrat Sayyiduna Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* and mentioned to the great Saint that he had committed many transgressions and sins. He also asked Hadrat Sayyiduna Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* to advise him on how he could protect himself in future from these transgressions.

Hadrat Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* mentioned to him, "If you can adopt five things, then no harm can come to you and even this desire to perform any sin will also disappear from you. Whenever you intend to commit a sin, then do not eat the sustenance of Allah *azza wajal*."

The young man then replied, "What else can I eat because everything on earth comes from Allah *azza wajal*?"

Hadrat Sayyiduna Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* then remarked, "If that is the case, is it proper that you transgress against Him and still eat His sustenance?"

The young man replied, "No." He then asked the great Saint about the second bit of advice.

Hadrat Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* declared, "Whenever you intend to commit a sin, then go out of the kingdom of Allah *azza wajal*."

The young man replied, "This is even more difficult than the first advice."

Hadrat Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* replied, "Is it proper that you eat His sustenance and live in His kingdom and yet you are disobedient to Him?"

The young man then asked for the third bit of advice.

The great Saint replied, "Whenever you intend to disobey Him, then find such a secret and private place where He is unable to see you."

The young man declared, "How is this possible. Allah *azza wajal* is Fully Aware of everything. Nothing is hidden from Him."

Hadrat Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* replied, "Then is it proper that you eat His sustenance, you live in His kingdom and in front of His Divine Being you disobey Him?"

The young man declared that, "No, it would not be proper."

Hadrat Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* then said, "The fourth advice is that when the Angel of death, Malikul Maut, comes to take you away, then you must tell him to wait awhile so that you can make Taubah and perform some good and noble deeds."

The young man replied, "This is not possible that he will accept my request."

The great Saint declared, “When you are aware that death is something which will certainly come and you will not be able to escape from it, then why would you have any hope that you will be given a chance?”

The young man then asked for the fifth advice. Hadrat Sayyiduna Ebrahim bin Adham *Radi Allahu 'Anhu* replied, “When the Angels take you towards the Fire of hell, then you should refuse to go with them.”

The young man declared, “They will never listen to me nor will they leave me.”

The great Saint then explained that if this is the case, how he will expect to be saved. When he heard this, the young man replied, “This advice is sufficient for me and I also ask forgiveness from the Allah *azza wajal* and I also sincerely make Taubah.”

It is said that from that moment onwards, the young man continued to only busy himself in Ibadah. (Kitaabut Tawwabeen, 285)