MAKARIM AL AKHLAQ

By Shaykh Jaleel Radiyu'd-deen Abu Nasr al Hasan bin al Fadl al Tabrasi

Chapter 12, Section 5 concerning the advice Prophet Muhammad (s) gave to Abu Dharr

(Says the sheikh) that my master, father, may Allah increase his life-span Al Fadl bin al Hasan said: "These pages are of the advice of the Messenger of Allah (s) that he gave to Abu Dharr al Giffari." (Then he gives the whole chain of narrators tracing it from Sheikh Mufeed and Sheikh Abu Ja'far Muhammad bin Hasan Babweih up to Abu al Aswad.)

Abu al Aswad said, "I had arrived at al Rabdha and I met Abu Dharr Jundib son of Janada (a) and he narrated to me."

"I entered one day in the midday in the presence of the Messenger of Allah (s) in his masjid. I didn't see anyone at all in the masjid except the Messenger of Allah (s) and Ali (s) who was sitting by his side, so I took the opportunity of the emptiness of the masjid (to approach the Prophet (s))." I said, "Oh RasulAllah (s), by my father and mother, please advise me with such advice that Allah will benefit me by it." So he said, "Yes, and how noble you are, Oh, Abu Dharr! Most surely You are from us, the Ahl Al Bait (a), and I am giving You advise so remember it, for surely it is the collection of (all) the paths of goodness. Surely if You memorize them and put them into practice (hafiztaha), You will have by it 'Kiflan'." (Two folds of mercy, in this world and the hereafter).

Oh Abu Dharr! "Worship Allah as if You see Him and if You weren't seeing Him surely He sees You. Know You that the first of worship of Allah is (Ma'rifa) gnosis, for He is surely the first before every other thing, so there is nothing before Him, The singlemost without any second, the continuing but not to an end. He is the Creator of the heavens and earth and whatever is in them and between them and He is the Subtle, the Aware, and He has power over all things; then (the second most important factor in the worship of God is) belief in me and acknowledgment that Allah sent me to all of humanity as a bearer of glad tidings, a warner, a caller (of people) to Allah by His permission and a illuminating torch of light; Then (the third most important factor in God's worship is) the love of the people of my house, Those from whom Allah has removed (from them) every impurity and purified them a perfect purification.(33:33)

"You must know Abu Dharr that Allah, the Great and Majestic, has made the `Ahl al Bait' in my nation the likliness of the ship of Nuh (Noah) whoever rides it is saved and whoever desires other than it is drowned. He has made them the likeliness of the Gate of Jericho among the Banu Israel, whoever enters the gate is safe.

Oh Abu Dharr! "Safeguard what I am advising You, You will be happy in this world and next."

Oh Abu Dharr! There are two blessings seriously taken for granted (misused) by mankind, health and spare time.

Oh Abu Dharr! Take advantage of five things before five things seize you; Your youth before Your old age, your health before your sickness, Your wealth before your poverty, your spare time before your being busy and your life before you death.

Oh Abu Dharr! Beware of Procrastination for you are (in) today and not (in) tomorrow. If there is a tomorrow for you, be tomorrow as you are today. If there isn't a tomorrow for you, you will grievously regret the opportunity you missed today.

Oh Abu Dharr! How many a person there is who has met a day he didn't complete! How many a waiter there is of tomorrow who doesn't find it!

Oh Abu Dharr! Had you known the exact period of time you will live you would hate hopes and their deception.

Oh Abu Dharr! Be in the world as if you are a stranger or like one simply passing by as in a journey and count yourself as among the people of the graves.

Oh Abu Dharr! When you wake up in the morning don't talk to yourself about tonight and when night has come don't worry of the mourning for surely you don't know what your state will be tomorrow.

Oh Abu Dharr! Beware that may not over take you a fatal accident during stumbling. The stumbling will not be averted. It will not be possible to return (to correct your mistake). Will not praise you the one you left behind of what you left behind. Will not excuse you, the one you will meet (Allah), of what you were so busy conducting (in the world, carelessly).

Oh Abu Dharr! Be greedier, in terms of your time (life span) more than of your gold and silver coins (wealth).

Oh Abu Dharr! Does any of you wait for but wealth that will make him oppressive or poverty that will make him a forgotten thing or sickness that will destroy or old age that will not permit him to do anything but sit, or death that will finish him off, or the great deceiver, Dajjal - surely he is the most evil of those things awaited; or the hour (Day of Judgment) which is more calamitous and bitter. Most surely the worst of men in position with Allah on the Day of Judgment is he who didn't benefit from his knowledge. He who seeks knowledge in order to divert peoples attention towards himself will surely not smell the fragrance of Paradise.

Oh Abu Dharr! He who seeks knowledge to deceive by it others will not even smell the fragrance of Paradise.

Oh Abu Dharr! When you are asked of some knowledge you know not of say, "I do not know!" You will be saved of it's consequences. Don't make judgment of that which you haven't knowledge, you will be saved from the wrath of Allah on the Day of Judgement.

Oh Abu Dharr! There will be a day when a group of people of Paradise will be over a group of people of Hell and they will say, "What has made you enter hell-fire? For surely we entered paradise by you teaching us and your disciplining (educating) us!" They will say, :We used to bid others to do good while we ourselves didn't do it."

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the rights Allah (s) has over us are greater than his servant can possibly fulfill! Surely the favors of Allah are more than His servants can ever encompass. This is why they pass night and day repenting.

Oh Abu Dharr! You are surely in the passing of night and day where terms are short, deeds are recorded and death comes suddenly. Whoever sows good is on the verge of reaping good and whoever sows evil is on the verge of reaping regret. And for every sower in the like of that which he sowed. Will not pass a slow person even a moment and a greedy person will not reach that which is not destined for him. Whoever is given good, Allah gave it to him and whoever is protected from evil, then Allah protected him.

Oh Abu Dharr! The pious are the masters. And the learned are the leaders. Keeping their company is increase (in good). Surely the believer sees his sin as if it is a boulder, he fears that it will fall on him and surely the unbeliever sees his sin as if it is a fly passing on his nose.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah (s), when He wills good for a servant he puts his sins before his two eyes. When he wills bad for a servant he makes him forget his sins.

Oh Abu Dharr! Don't look at the smallness of the sin but look at the one you disobeyed.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the believer is stronger in his fleeing from sin than a sparrow when thrown from his nest.

Oh Abu Dharr! He whose words conform with his deed so he is the one who has attained his share. He whose words don't conform with his deed then he is only destroying himself.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely a mans sustenance is prohibited (from reaching him) because of a sin he did.

Oh Abu Dharr! Leave that which you have nothing to do with. Do not speak of that which does not concern you, and guard your tongue like you guard your money.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah, glorious is His praise, will enter a people into paradise and will give them until they are weary and above them there will be a people in the highest grades. So when they will look to them they will recognize them so they will say. "Oh our Lord, they are our brothers, we use to be together in the world so why have you favored them over us." So it will be said, "Far from it, far from it! Surely they used to be hungry while you were satiated, they used to be thirsty while you were quenched, they used to stand (in prayer) while you used to sleep, they used to rise (take a stand) while you used to go low (be passive, relax).

Oh Abu Dharr! Allah, glorious is His praise, has made the pleasure of my eye in Salat, and has made me to love the Salat like food is made loveable to the hungry and water to the thirsty. And surely the hungry one, when he eats, he is satiated and the thirsty one, when he drinks he is quenched but I am not satiated from Salat.

Oh Abu Dharr! Anyone who voluntarily does 12 raka't other than the obligatory, he has a sure right to a house in paradise.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely, so long as you are in Salat, you are knocking on the door of the Great King, and whoever knocks much on the door of the King it will be opened for him.

Oh Abu Dharr! There is no believer that stands in prayer but falls on him goodness (birr) what is between him and the Throne. And an angel is appointed for him that calls out, "Oh son of Adam, if you knew what there is for you in Salat and who you are calling, you would not turn away.

Oh Abu Dharr! The Salat is the pillar of the religion (deen) and the tongue is greater; and charity wipes out sin and the tongue is greater; and Fasting is a shield against the fire and the tongue is greater; and jihad is nobility and the tongue is greater.

Oh Abu Dharr! A degree in heaven is above a degree (like steps) like what is between the sky and earth. And surely the servant raises his eye and light dazzles it, almost snatching his sight, so he is shocked by it and says, "What is this?" So it is said, "This is the light of your brother." So he will say, "My brother so and so? We use to work together in the world and he has been so much favored over me?" So it will by said, "He surely was better than you in deeds." Then will be put in his heart satisfaction until he is satisfied.

On Abu Dharr! This world is the prison of the believer and the paradise of the unbeliever. And no believer wakes up but is grieved in it. And how can he not be grieved in it when Allah has sworn that it will take him to Hell and He didn't promise him that it will deliver him from it, and that he shall meet (in it) sicknesses and hardships and matters which will anger him and he will be wronged in it and won't be helped. He seeks reward from Allah and continues to be in grief (in it)until he departs from it. And when he departs from it, he attains to comfort and honor.

Oh Abu Dharr! Allah (s), has not been worshipped with a thing like that of length of grief.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever is given knowledge which doesn't cause him to cry simply because he has been given knowledge, it will not benefit him. Allah has described the learned and said, "Surely those who were given knowledge before it, when it is recited onto them they fall upon their faces in prostration and they say, "Glory be to our Lord. Surely the promise of Allah shall be done." They fall on their faces crying and they increase in humility.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever is able to cry, let him cry. Whoever isn't able to cry then let him have his heart feel sadness and let him try to cry. Surely the hard heart is far from Allah (s), but they don't realize.

Oh Abu Dharr! Allah (s) says, "I will not combine for my servant two fears nor two safeties. So when he feels safe from me in the world, I make him fear on the Day of Judgement. And when he fears me in the world, I give him safety on the Day of Judgement."

Oh Abu Dharr! If a man had the deeds of 70 prophets he would be looked down upon and it is feared that he will not be saved from the evils of the Day of Judgement.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the servant will be shown his sins on the Day of Judgement with him who did his sins (also) so he will say, "As for me, I was afraid, feeling anxiety (about my sins) so he will be forgiven.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the man does a good deed and he trusts (depends) on it and he (also) does despised deeds until Allah comes to him while angry. Surely the man who does an evil deed and he is afraid of it (its consequence) he will come safely on the Day of Judgement.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the servant commits a sin, so he is made to enter into heaven by it! So I said, "And how is that? By my mother and father Oh Messenger of Allah (s)." He said, "That sin in front of his eyes makes him repentant of it, fleeing to Allah (s) (from it), until he enters heaven!"

Oh Abu Dharr! Smart is the one who subjugates himself and acts for that which is after death, and weak is the one who follows his self and its caprice and then hopes in Allah so many a hope.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the first thing which will be removed from this community (Ummat) is safekeeping (amaanat) and humbleness until it will hardly be seen fearful (of God)

Oh Abu Dharr! By Him in whose hand the soul of Muhammad is in (s), if the world was equal, with Allah, to that of a wing of a fly, the unbeliever wouldn't even get from it a glass of water.

Oh Abu Dharr! The world is cursed! Is cursed what is in it except that by which Allah's face is sought. And there is nothing more hateful to Allah than the world. He created it then left it so He didn't look at it and will not look at it until stands the hour (Day of Judgement). And there is nothing more loveable to Allah than faith (eeman) in Him and abandoning of that which He ordered to be abandoned.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah (s), revealed to my brother Isa (a), "Oh Isa! Don't love the world for surely I don't love it and love the Hereafter for surely it is the house of return."

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Jibreel (a) came to me with the treasures of the world and said, "Oh Muhammad (s)! This is the treasures of the world (for you) and it will not decrease of your share (in the Hereafter) with your Lord." So I said, "My beloved Jibreel! I have no need of it. When I'm satiated I thank my Lord and when I'm hungry I ask Him."

Oh Abu Dharr! When Allah wants good for a servant He gives him understanding in religion and makes him abstemious in the world and makes him to see his own faults.

Oh Abu Dharr! No servant abstains in the world but Allah causes wisdom to grow in his heart, and causes his tongue to utter it, and gives him insight of the faults of the world and its sickness and its cure and causes him to leave from it safely into the abode of peace.

Oh Abu Dharr! When you see your brother abstaining from worldliness, listen to him for surely he is dictating wisdom. So I said, "Oh Messenger of Allah (s), who is the most abstemious (zahid) of mankind?" So he said, "One who doesn't forget the graves and the deterioration (of the world) and leaves the excess of the adornment of the world and prefers what lasts over that which perishes and he doesn't count tomorrow among his days and counts himself among the dead.

Oh Abu Dharr! Allah didn't reveal to me to amass wealth upon wealth. But He revealed to me, "Glorify with the praise of your Lord and be among the prostrating ones and worship your Lord until comes to you the certainty."

Oh Abu Dharr! I wear coarse clothing, sit on the floor lick my fingers, ride a donkey without a saddle and have someone sit behind me. So whoever does not like my manner, so he is not of me.

Oh Abu Dharr! Love of wealth and honor are stronger in stripping a man of his religion than two ferocious wolves in a cattle pen of sheep; so they attack in it until mourning. So what will remain of it?

So I said, "Oh Messenger of Allah (s), the fearful humble lowly people who remember Allah much, will they be the first among mankind to go to heaven?" So he said, "No. But it will be the poor among the muslims. They will come outstripping the necks of mankind. Will say to them the Keepers of Heaven, "Like that you are until you are given account of!" So they will say, "About what shall we give account, for by Allah we didn't own anything by which we could oppress or do justice and we weren't given (wealth) so we could withhold or give (to others) but we worshipped our Lord until He called us so we answered.

Oh Abu Dharr! The world keeps our hearts and bodies busy and Allah will ask us about what we were favored with of His lawful (halal) so what about that which we enjoyed in His unlawful (haram).

Oh Abu Dharr! I surely asked Allah, magnificent is His praise, to make the sustenance of he who loves me sufficient and to give the one who hates me much wealth and children.

Oh Abu Dharr! Blessedness is for those who are abstemious in the world, the longers of the hereafter; they take the earth of Allah as a carpet and its soil as a pillow and its water as perfume. They read the book of Allah lowly and call Him loudly and they cut themselves off from worldliness completely.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely my Lord has informed me so He said, "By My glory and majesty, no servants attain to crying but I build for them a palace in paradise that no one will be a partner with in it.

So I said, "Oh Messenger of Allah (s), who among the believers is most intelligent?" He said, "those that remember death most and prepare for it in the best way.

On Abu Dharr! When light enters the heart it expands and becomes spacious. I said, "So what is the sign of that by my mother and father, Oh Messenger of Allah (s)."He said, "Turning (one's attention) to the eternal abode and keeping aloof from the abode of deception and preparation for death before it takes place."

Oh Abu Dharr! Fear Allah and don't show mankind that you fear Allah so they honor you while your heart is evil.

Oh Abu Dharr! Let there be for you in everything a pious intention, even when it comes to sleeping and eating.

Oh Abu Dharr! You must magnify the majesty of Allah in your heart. So don't remember him like the ignorant remembers Him in the presence of a dog saying, "Oh Allah disgrace him" and in the presence of a pig "Oh Allah disgrace him."

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah has angels who are standing out of fear of Him. They won't raise their heads until the trumpet shall be blown, the sounding of the Hereafter. So they will all say, "Glory be to You our Lord, and Your praise. We haven't worshipped you as it is fit for You to be worshipped!"

Oh Abu Dharr! If a man had the deeds of 70 prophets he would deem his deeds small because of the hardship he will see on that day. If a bucket of two baths were poured in the rising place of the sun it would cause to boil, the skulls of those who are witnessing its setting. And if Hell only exhaled one sigh, no near angel nor messenger sent would remain but would fall prostrate on his knees saying, "Lord have mercy on my soul," until he will forget Ibrahim and Ishaq and say, "My Lord, I am your Khaleel Ibrahim, so don't forget me!"

Oh Abu Dharr! If a woman of the people of paradise rose from the sky of the world in the darkest night she would illuminate the earth more than the moon does when it is full and would notice the fragrance she emits, all the people of the earth. And if a cloth of the garments of the people of paradise was spread today in the world, would faint who ever looks at it because of what their eyes are beholding.

Oh Abu Dharr! Lower your voice during a funeral, during fighting and during the recitation of the Qur'an.

Oh Abu Dharr! When you are in a funeral procession, so let your mind be busy in pondering and humbleness and know that you will meet the same fate.

Oh Abu Dharr! Know that when something gets spoiled then salt is its remedy and when the salt is spoiled there is no remedy for it. And know you that in you are two (dangerous) qualities; laughing at something not amusing and laziness when not tired.

Oh Abu Dharr! Two moderate cycles of prayer (rak'at) with pondering is better than standing all night in prayer with a neglectful heart.

Oh Abu Dharr! The truth is heavy and bitter and the falsehood in light and sweet and it may be that the (fulfillment of the) desire of an hour will yield a long period of grief.

Oh Abu Dharr! A man has not fully understood until he sees mankind next to Allah as camels, then he looks to himself and holds himself more contemptible.

Oh Abu Dharr! You will not reach the reality of faith until you see all of mankind as fools in regards to their religion (deen) and intelligent in regards to their worldly matters (dunya).

Oh Abu Dharr! Take account of yourself before you're taken account of so your accounting will be easier tomorrow. And weigh yourself before you are weighed and prepare for the great staging; the day you will be presented, not the least of a hidden thing of you will be hidden from Allah.

Oh Abu Dharr! Be shy of Allah for surely by the One who my soul is in His hand, I always feel embarrassed when I go to the bathroom; I cover myself with my cloths because of the two angels with me.

Oh Abu Dharr! Would you like to enter heaven? I said, "Yes, may my father by sacrificed for thee." He said (s) , "So cut your hopes short and put death before your eyes and feel shy of Allah, the shyness due to Him." He said, I said, "Oh Messenger of Allah, all of us feel shy of Allah." He said, "That is not shyness; rather shyness is to not forget the graves and deterioration and protecting your stomach and what concerns it and the head and what it contains and whoever wants the honor of the Hereafter, so let him leave the embellishments of the worldly life. So if you are like that, you have attained the Kingdom (walayat) of Allah."

Oh Abu Dharr! Some supplication with good deeds is sufficient just as some salt is sufficient with food.

Oh Abu Dharr! The one who supplicates without deed is like one who tries to shoot his arrow without a string on his bow.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah, because of the goodness of his servant, He betters the condition of his whole family and even his neighbors and the houses around him so long as he is with them.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely your Lord (s) boasts to the angels about three people: A man who is in a deserted place (though alone), he calls azan and iqamat and he prays. So your Lord says to the angels, "Look at my servant! He's praying and no one sees him but me." So descends 70,000 angels and pray behind him and they seek forgiveness for him until the next day; and a man who stands in the mid of night and prays alone and does sajdah (prostrates) and falls asleep while prostrating. So Allah (s) says, "Look to my servant! His soul is with me and his body is prostrate" and a man who is in a war and all his companions flee, but he stays firm fighting until he is killed.

Oh Abu Dharr! No man puts his forehead (in prostration) in a place of the places of the earth but that place bears witness of that for him on the Day of Judgement. There is no place that a people visit but that place starts either sending salutation on them or cursing them.

Oh Abu Dharr! There is no place of lodging or departure of the places of the earth but they call one another, "Oh neighbor, did anyone pass by you who remembered Allah or worshipped by placing his forehead on you in prostration to Allah?" So one says yes and one says no. When one says yes, it shakes and opens up (in happiness) and sees that it has (been favored) a greater rank over its neighbor.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah, when He created the earth and created what's in it of trees. there was no tree that the children of Adam came to but they got from it a benefit. The earth and the trees remained like that until the evil of the children of Adam started saying the grievous utterance. Their saying, "Allah has taken a son." So when they said it the earth trembled and the benefits of the trees went away.

Oh Abu Dharr! The earth cries over the believer when he dies for forty mornings.

Oh Abu Dharr! When a servant is in a deserted place and does wudu or tayammum then he does Azan and Iqamat and he prays. Allah (s) orders the angels, so they form a row behind him where the two ends of the row are not seen. They bow with his bowing and prostrate with his prostrating and say Ameen for his supplications.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever does Iqamah without Azan, no one prays with him but the two angels with him.

On Abu Dharr! No youth leaves the world and he spent his youth in obedience to Allah but Allah gives him the reward of 72 Siddiq (truthful near servants).

Oh Abu Dharr! A remember (of Allah) among the careless is like a warrior among the fleeing.

Oh Abu Dharr! A pious gathering is better than being alone and being alone is better than an evil gathering and speaking good is better than silence and silence is better then speaking evil.

Oh Abu Dharr! Don't accompany but a believer and let no one eat your food but a pious person and don't eat the food of the evil doers.

Oh Abu Dharr! Give your food to eat to one who you love for Allah and eat the food of one who loves you for Allah (s).

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah (s) is with the tongue of every speaker. So let every man fear Allah and know what he is saying.

Oh Abu Dharr! Leave excessive speech and is enough for you what you reach by it your need.

Oh Abu Dharr! It is enough for a man as a lie to say everything he hears.

Oh Abu Dharr! There is nothing more deserving of being imprisoned for (in Hell) than the tongue.

Oh Abu Dharr! It is of respect to Allah to honor an old muslim man, and to honor a carrier of the Qur'an who acts by it, and to honor a just ruler.

Oh Abu Dharr! Has not acted, the one who has not guarded his tongue.

Oh Abu Dharr! Do not be a seeker of faults (in others) nor a person who over praises (others in there face), nor a defamer nor a wrangler.

Oh Abu Dharr! A servant continues to increase in distance from Allah so long as his behavior is bad.

Oh Abu Dharr! A good word (of advise) is sadaqah (charity) and every step you take towards Salat is (also) sadaqah.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever answers the caller of Allah and does well in inhabiting the masjids of Allah, his reward from Allah is paradise. So I said, "May my father and mother be sacrificed for you Oh Messenger of Allah (s). How should the masjids of Allah be inhabited?" He said, "Voices should not be raised in them and useless matters should not be discussed in them and things should not be bought and sold in them. Leave foolish talk so long as you are in them and if you don't, so don't blame on the Day of Judgement but yourself."

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely Allah (s) gives, so long as you're sitting in the masjid, for every breath taken in it, a degree in paradise. And the angels send blessings on you, and will be written for you for every breath you take in it ten good deeds and will be wiped out from you ten evil deeds.

Oh Abu Dharr! Do you know the reason concerning which this verse was revealed? "Be patient and exhort others to be patient and connect and fear Allah that you may be successful." I said, "I don't know. May my father and mother be sacrificed for you." He said, "In waiting for the next Salat after every Salat."

Oh Abu Dharr! Doing wudu well during difficulties is among the things that wipe out sins, and frequenting the masjids, that is connecting.

Oh Abu Dharr! Allah (s) says, "Surely the most beloved of the servants to me are they that love each other for my sake; they whose hearts are attached to the masjids and the seekers of forgiveness at dawn. They are the ones that when I want to punish the people of the earth, I remember them, so I avert the punishment from them."

Oh Abu Dharr! Every sitting in the masjid is a waste except three; the recitation of one offering prayers, the remembrance of Allah, and the asking of knowledge.

Oh Abu Dharr! Be more concerned about doing deeds with piety than just doing deeds. Because it is not deemed little, that which is done with piety. And how can a deed be deemed little which is accepted? Allah (s) says, "Allah only accepts from the pious."

Oh Abu Dharr! A man can not be among the pious until his accounting of himself is stronger than the accounting a (business) partner takes of his partner. So he knows from where his food comes from and from where his drink comes from and from where his cloths come from; from a lawful means or from a prohibited one.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever doesn't care from where he earns his money, Allah (s) doesn't care from where He will enter him into Hell.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever it pleases that he may be the most honorable of mankind, let him fear Allah.

Oh Abu Dharr! The most beloved of you to Allah, magnificent is His praise, is the one who remembers Him most. And the most honorable of you to Allah is the most pious among you, and the most saved of you from the punishment of Allah is the strongest of you in awe of Him.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the God-fearing are they who are careful concerning those things which people are not generally concerned with, out of fear of falling into that which is doubtful.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever obeys Allah has remembered Him even if his prayers, fasting and recitation of Qur'an is little.

Oh Abu Dharr! The king of religion is piety and its crown is obedience.

Oh Abu Dharr! Be pious! You will be the best in worship among mankind and the best of your religion is piety.

Oh Abu Dharr! The Virtue of knowledge is greater than that of worship. And know you that if you prayed until your back becomes bent and you fasted until you became thin as strings, that would not benefit you unless it is done with piety.

Oh Abu Dharr! Surely the people of piety and abstinence in this world, they are the real friends of Allah.

Oh Abu Dharr! Whoever does not come on the day of Judgement with three qualities he has surely lost. So I said, "What are the three, may my mother and father be sacrificed for you?" He said, "Piety that prevents him from that which Allah the Great and Majestic has made haraam for him, and clemency (hilm) by which he refutes the ignorance of the fools and good manners (Khuluq) with which he deals with the people.