

*Testaments of Ibn Arabi*

**Al-futuhaat al-Makkiyyah**

**Volume four**

**Chapter 560**

**Testament no.1**

## 1.1 text

فَمِنْ ذَلِكَ وَصِيَّةٌ قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى فِي الْوَصِيَّةِ الْعَامَّةِ:

شَرَعَ لَكُمْ مِنَ الدِّينِ مَا وَصَّى بِهِ نُوحًا وَالَّذِي أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْكَ وَمَا وَصَّيْنَا بِهِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَى وَعِيسَى أَنْ أَقِيمُوا الدِّينَ وَلَا تَتَفَرَّقُوا فِيهِ [١٣:٤٢]

فَأَمَرَ الْحَقُّ بِإِقَامَةِ الدِّينِ وَهُوَ شَرْعُ الْوَقْتِ فِي كُلِّ زَمَانٍ وَ مَلَّةٍ،  
وَأَنْ يَجْتَمَعَ عَلَيْهِ وَ لَا يُتَفَرَّقَ فِيهِ، فَإِنَّ يَدَ اللَّهِ مَعَ الْجَمَاعَةِ،  
وَ إِنَّمَا يَأْكُلُ الذُّبُّ الْقَاصِيَةَ وَ هِيَ الْبَعِيدَةُ الَّتِي شَرَدَتْ وَ  
انْفَرَدَتْ عَمَّا هِيَ الْجَمَاعَةُ عَلَيْهِ

# Translation of 1.1

- Testament no.1: Amongst the wise testaments is one whereby the Almighty Allah has said:
- **“He has ordained for you of the (one) religion what He enjoined upon Noah and that which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], and what We enjoined upon Abraham and Moses and Jesus - to establish the religion and not be divided therein”**  
[42:13]
- Hence He, the Truth, has ordered (i) the establishment of religion and that is tantamount to the shariah of the times with respect to any given time or creed and (ii) being grouped together around it and not being divided with respect to it; verily Allah's Hand is with the congregation. The wolf after all only hunts for the sheep which has become isolated from the flock i.e. that which has escaped and distanced oneself from the congregation.

## 1.2 text and translation

وَحِكْمَةُ ذَلِكَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُعْقَلُ هَاهَا إِلَّا مِنْ حَيْثُ اسْمَاؤُهُ الْحَسَنَىٰ  
لَا مَنْ حَيْثُ هُوَ مَعْرَىٰ عَنْ هَذِهِ الْأَسْمَاءِ الْحَسَنَىٰ، فَلَا بَدَّ مِنْ  
تَوْحِيدِ عَيْنِهِ وَكَثْرَةِ اسْمَائِهِ وَبِالْمَجْمُوعِ هُوَ الْإِلَهُ

And the wisdom of this (i.e. that religion is one but shariahs are multiple) is the following: Allah cannot be perceived or acknowledged except through His beautiful names i.e. not through Him being free from such names. Inevitably therefore we must acknowledge the tawhīd of His essence and His abundant names, and altogether He is Allah.

## 1.3 text

فَإِذْ أَمَرَ اللَّهُ وَ هِيَ الْقُوَّةُ مَعَ الْجَمَاعَةِ. أَوْصَىٰ حَكِيمٌ  
أَوْلَادَهُ عِنْدَ مَوْتِهِ وَ كَانُوا جَمَاعَةً فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: ائْتُونِي  
بِعَصِيٍّ فَجَمَعَهَا وَ قَالَ لَهُمْ: اكْسِرُوهَا وَ هِيَ  
مَجْمُوعَةٌ وَ لَمْ يَقْدِرُوا عَلَىٰ ذَلِكَ ثُمَّ فَرَّقَا فَقَالَ لَهُمْ  
: خُذُوا وَاحِدَةً وَاحِدَةً فَاكْسِرُوهَا فَكَسَرُوهَا فَقَالَ لَهُمْ  
: هَكَذَا أَنْتُمْ بَعْدِي لَنْ تُغْلِبُوا مَا اجْتَمَعْتُمْ، فَإِذَا  
تَفَرَّقْتُمْ تَمَكَّنَ مِنْكُمْ عَدُوُّكُمْ فَأَبَادَكُمْ

## 1.3 translation

- And so the Hand of Allah – which is tantamount to power – is/lies with the congregation. A sage instructed his children – who were gathered together – at the time of dying and said to them: “bring me some splinters of wood” They collected the pieces of wood. Then he said to them: “break them whilst they are piled together” The children were not able to do it. The sage then parted the pieces from one another and said to them: “take the pieces one by one and break them” They managed to break them. He then said to them: “You will be like this after me; you’ll never be defeated as long as you are together but the time you part ways from one another, your enemies will conquer upon you and destroy you”

## 1.4 text

و كذلك القائمون بالدين اذا اجتمعوا على إقامة  
الدين و لم يتفرقوا فيه لم يقهرهم عدو، و كذلك  
الانسان في نفسه اذا اجتمع في نفسه على  
إقامة دين الله لم يغلبه شيطان من الانس و لا من  
الجن بما يوسوس به اليه مع مُساعدة الأيمان و  
الملك بلمته له.

## 1.4 translation

The same applies to those establishing religion; when together and not divided with respect to it, the enemy will not conquer over them. The same also applies to Man with respect to him/herself i.e. when he/she is together with respect to oneself (all faculties working in coordination) over the establishment of religion, satans – either of the human kind or the jinn kind – will never defeat one by means of their temptations; and this is only when faith and the kingdom (body) work together with one.