RISE UP!

II Once, a man who was weary of oppression of the time, decided to travel to other lands in search of salvation. He made a promise to himself, not to return before he finds what he was looking for which was the answer to his questions.

So he started his journey and travelled the world from east to west. He left many lands behind, one after another. He passed lush forests, snowy and high mountains, vast plains, hot and dry deserts and turbulent seas to find his true savior. He had heard about the Saviors descriptions by others and knew that he is the only one who is able to solve the unsolvable problems of the world. Any land he entered he asked about him and heard different names. Buddhists called him Maitreya, Hindus Kalki, Jews Messiah, Christians son of man and Muslims called him Mahdi who is supposed to appear on earth alongside Jesus Christ.

III But he had realized the all these names are referring to one man: So he sought the one, day and night. After years of search, he one day sat in the shade of a tree, weary and hopeless, to rest, while his heart was full of complaints. Weariness of the journey had exhausted his body. His conscience was tormented by the fact that after years of travelling and bearing so many hardships, he should return empty-handed. It was the first time in his life that he felt helpless and in such a state he fell into a deep sleep. A sleep that lasted till night. At night, a cold breeze blew and fresh smell of grass filled the air.

He was suddenly woken up by a pleasing voice:
"Man! Why you have slept here? You may be my guest if you have no shelter!"
"What do you want? Leave me alone!"
Replied the man hopelessly while being half asleep "let me die in my misery. Leave me alone if you have nothing to tell me about my quest like others."



VI He hugged his knees and stared at the plain ahead of him, amazed and shocked and fell into a deep thought. The breeze blow gently and the air was full of the scent of daffodil. He listened carefully. A voice called him from within:

"rise up!"

An exerpt from the letter of
Imam Mahdi (pbuh)
to Shaik Mufid

V **You should do what makes you closer to us and refrain from what makes us grieved. Know that the god will perfect his light, whether the oppressors like it or not. So follow the path of god and make endeavors for justice, perfection and salvation to be realized.**

Also know that if our friends and followers were sympathetic and united in fulfilling their covenant with us, our arrival would not be delayed for one moment.

The man was deeply shocked, as though there was a mountain on his shoulder and was unable to move. As hard as it was he opened his eyes and looked around in haste, but there was no trace of the owner of the voice. He could not sit still out of excitement of the meeting. He searched around for a while without finding anything. Then he leaned to the tree with pity, but this time he had found what he was looking for.

IV **The trees were** gently swaying and had left their branches and leaves to breeze like hairs of little girls to be caressed by mother-nature. The trees were gently swaying and had left their branches and leaves to breeze like hairs of little girls to be caressed by mother-nature.

"Man! Don't think we are unaware of your situation. Nothing is hidden to us about you. We are informed about your trespassing and faithlessness, yet we have not forgotten you. Be aware that if it was not for our attention and favor, life's hardships and disasters and God's enemies would had already distroyed you. So, behold that it is your sins that have separated us from you and you from us. There is no need for rough journeys if you reform yourselves: then we shall come to visit you.

While the world is ruled by oppressors and wicked people, it is the will of God that we dwell far away from their realm. Yet we are aware of your situation and it shall be the same unless you fulfill your covenant with us.

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