

¹And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.²And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.³As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.⁴Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.⁵Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.⁶And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.⁷For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.⁸And there was great joy in that city.⁹But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:¹⁰To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.¹¹And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.¹²But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.¹³Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered,

إِصْطِهَادُ الْكَنِيسَةِ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ

¹وَكَانَ سَاوُلُ رَاضِيًا بِقَتْلِهِ. وَحَدَثَ فِي ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ اصْطِهَادٌ عَظِيمٌ عَلَى الْكَنِيسَةِ الَّتِي فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ فَتَشَتَّ الْجَمِيعُ فِي كُورِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَالسَّامِرَةِ مَا عَدَا الرُّسُلَ.²وَحَمَلَ رَجُلًا أَقْبِيَاءَ اسْتِقَانُوسَ وَعَمِلُوا عَلَيْهِ مَتَاعَةً عَظِيمَةً.³وَأَمَّا سَاوُلُ فَكَانَ يَسْطُو عَلَى الْكَنِيسَةِ، وَهُوَ يَدْخُلُ الْبُيُوتَ وَيَجُرُّ رَجَالًا وَنِسَاءً وَيُسَلِّمُهُمْ إِلَى السَّجْنِ.

فِيلِيسُ يَكْرُزُ بِالْمَسِيحِ فِي السَّامِرَةِ

⁴قَالِ الَّذِينَ تَشْتَبِهُوا جَالُوا مُبَشِّرِينَ بِالْكَلِمَةِ.⁵فَانْخَدَرَ فِيلِيسُّ إِلَى مَدِينَةٍ مِنَ السَّامِرَةِ وَكَانَ يَكْرُرُ لَهُمْ بِالْمَسِيحِ.⁶وَكَانَ الْجُمُوعُ يُبْغُونَ يَتَفَسَّ وَاحِدَةً إِلَى مَا يَقُولُهُ فِيلِيسُّ عِنْدَ اسْتِمَاعِهِمْ وَتَطَرُّهُمْ الْآيَاتُ الَّتِي صَنَعَهَا.⁷لَآنَ كَثِيرِينَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ بِهِمْ أَرْوَاحُ نَجِسَةٍ كَانَتْ تَخْرُجُ صَارِحَةً بِصَوْتٍ عَظِيمٍ، وَكَثِيرُونَ مِنَ الْمَقْلُوجِينَ وَالْغَرَجِ شَفُوا.⁸فَكَانَ قَرَحٌ عَظِيمٌ فِي تِلْكَ الْمَدِينَةِ.⁹وَكَانَ قَبْلًا فِي الْمَدِينَةِ رَجُلٌ، اسْمُهُ سِيمُونُ، يَسْتَعْمِلُ السَّحْرَ وَيُذْهِشُ شَعْبَ السَّامِرَةِ قَائِلًا، إِنَّهُ شَيْءٌ عَظِيمٌ.¹⁰وَكَانَ الْجَمِيعُ يَتَّبِعُونَهُ مِنَ الصَّغِيرِ إِلَى الْكَبِيرِ قَائِلِينَ: هَذَا هُوَ قُوَّةُ اللَّهِ الْعَظِيمَةِ.¹¹وَكَانُوا يَتَّبِعُونَهُ لِكُونِهِمْ قَدْ ائْتَدَّهِشُوا زَمَانًا طَوِيلًا بِسِحْرِهِ.¹²وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا صَدَّقُوا فِيلِيسُّ وَهُوَ يُبَشِّرُ بِالْأُمُورِ الْمُخْتَصَّةِ بِمَلَكُوتِ اللَّهِ وَبِاسْمِ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ اعْتَمَدُوا رَجَالًا وَنِسَاءً.¹³وَيَسْمَعُونَ أَيْضًا نَفْسَهُ آمَنَ، وَلَمَّا اعْتَمَدَ كَانَ يُلَارِمُ فِيلِيسُّ، وَإِذْ رَأَى آيَاتٍ وَقُوَّاتٍ عَظِيمَةٍ تُجْرَى ائْتَدَّهِشَ.

الرَّسُولَانِ بَطْرُسُ وَبُوحَّا فِي السَّامِرَةِ

¹⁴وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ الرُّسُلُ الَّذِينَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ أَنَّ السَّامِرَةَ قَدْ قَبِلَتْ كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ، أَرْسَلُوا إِلَيْهِمْ بَطْرُسَ وَبُوحَّا، الَّذِينَ لَمَّا تَزَلَا صَلِّيًّا لِأَجْلِهِمْ لِكَيْ يَقْبَلُوا الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ.¹⁵لَآنَّهُ لَمْ يَكُنْ قَدْ حَلَّ بَعْدَ عَلَى أَحَدٍ مِنْهُمْ، غَيْرَ أَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا مُعْتَمِدِينَ بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ.¹⁷جِيئَئِذٍ وَصَعَا الْآيَادِي عَلَيْهِمْ فَقَبِلُوا الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ. وَلَمَّا رَأَى سِيمُونُ أَنََّّهُ يَوْضِعُ أَيْدِي الرُّسُلِ يُعْطَى الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ قَدَّمَ لَهُمَا دَرَاهِمَ.¹⁹قَائِلًا: أَعْطِيَانِي أَيْضًا هَذَا السُّلْطَانَ حَتَّى أَتِيَّ مَنِ وَصَعْتُ عَلَيْهِ يَدَيَّ يَقْبَلُ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ.²⁰فَقَالَ لَهُ بَطْرُسُ: لَيْتَكَ فِضَّتُكَ مَعَكَ لِلْهَلَاكِ لِأَنَّكَ طَلَسْتَ أَنْ تَقْتَنِي مَوْهَبَةَ اللَّهِ بِدَرَاهِمٍ.²¹لَيْسَ لَكَ تَصِيبٌ وَلَا فُرْعَةٌ فِي هَذَا الْأَمْرِ، لَآنَ قَلْبُكَ لَيْسَ مُسْتَقِيمًا أَمَامَ اللَّهِ.²²فَتُبَّ مِنْ

beholding the miracles and signs which were done.¹⁴ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:¹⁶ (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)¹⁷ Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.¹⁸ And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,¹⁹ Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.²⁰ But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.²¹ Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.²² Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.²³ For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.²⁴ Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.²⁵ And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.²⁶ And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.²⁷ And he arose and went: and,

سَرَّكَ هَذَا وَاطْلُبْ إِلَى اللَّهِ عَسَى أَنْ يُعْفَرَ لَكَ فُكْرُ قَلْبِكَ.²³ لَأَتِي أَرَاكَ فِي مَرَارَةِ الْمُرِّ وَرِبَاطِ الظُّلُمِ.²⁴ فَأَجَابَ سِيمُونُ وَقَالَ: اطْلُبْنَا إِلَى الرَّبِّ مِنْ أَجْلِي لِكَيْ لَا يَأْتِيَ عَلَيَّ شَيْءٌ مِمَّا ذَكَرْتُمَا. ثُمَّ إِنَّهُمَا بَعْدَ مَا شَهِدَا وَتَكَلَّمَا بِكَلِمَةِ الرَّبِّ، رَجَعَا إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ وَبَشَّرَا قُرَى كَثِيرَةً لِلسَّامِرِيِّينَ.

فيلبس يُعَمِّدُ الرَّجُلَ الْحَبَشِيَّ

ثُمَّ إِنَّ مَلَاكَ الرَّبِّ كُلَّمَا فِيلِبُّسَ قَائِلًا: فُمْ وَاذْهَبْ تَحْوِ الْجَنُوبِ عَلَى الطَّرِيقِ الْمُتَحَدِرَةِ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ إِلَى غَرَّةِ الْيَمِي هِيَ بَرْيَّةٌ.²⁷ فَقَامَ وَذَهَبَ، وَإِذَا رَجُلٌ حَبَشِيٌّ حَصِيٌّ وَزِيرٌ لِكِنْدَاكَةِ، مَلِكَةِ الْحَبَشَةِ، كَانَ عَلَى جَمِيعِ خَزَائِنِهَا فَهَذَا كَانَ قَدْ جَاءَ إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ لِيَسْجُدَ.²⁸ وَكَانَ رَاجِعًا وَجَالِسًا عَلَى مَرْكَبَتِهِ وَهُوَ يَقْرَأُ النَّبِيَّ إِسْعْيَاءَ.²⁹ فَقَالَ الرُّوحُ لِفِيلِبُّسَ: تَقَدِّمْ وَرَافِقْ هَذِهِ الْمَرْكَبَةَ.³⁰ فَقَادَرَ إِلَيْهِ فِيلِبُّسُ وَسَمِعَهُ يَقْرَأُ النَّبِيَّ إِسْعْيَاءَ فَقَالَ: أَلَعَلَّكَ تَفْهَمُ مَا أَنْتَ تَقْرَأُ؟³¹ فَقَالَ: كَيْفَ يُمَكِّنِي إِنْ لَمْ يُرْشِدْنِي أَحَدٌ؟ وَاطْلُبْ إِلَى فِيلِبُّسَ أَنْ يَصْعَدَ وَجَالِسَ مَعَهُ.³² وَأَمَّا فَضْلُ الْكِتَابِ الَّذِي كَانَ يَقْرَأُ فَكَانَ هَذَا: "مِثْلُ سَاةٍ سَبَقَ إِلَى الدَّيْحِ وَمِثْلُ خُرُوفٍ صَامِتٍ أَمَامَ الَّذِي يَجْرُهُ هَكَذَا لَمْ يَتَمَنَّ فَاهُ، فِي تَوَاضِعِهِ انْتَرَعَ قِصَاؤُهُ، وَجِيلُهُ مَنْ يُخْبِرُ بِهِ؟ لِأَنَّ حَيَاتَهُ تُنْتَرَعُ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ".³⁴ فَأَجَابَ الْحَصِيُّ فِيلِبُّسَ وَقَالَ: اطْلُبْ إِلَيْكَ، عَنْ مَنْ يَقُولُ النَّبِيُّ هَذَا؟ عَنْ تَفْسِهِ أَمْ عَنْ وَاحِدٍ آخَرَ؟³⁵ فَقَتَعَ فِيلِبُّسُ فَاهُ وَابْتَدَأَ مِنْ هَذَا الْكِتَابِ قَبَشْرَهُ بِيَسُوعَ.

وَفِيمَا هُمَا سَائِرَانِ فِي الطَّرِيقِ أَقْبَلَا عَلَى مَاءٍ، فَقَالَ الْحَصِيُّ: هُوَذَا مَاءٌ، مَاذَا يَمْنَعُ أَنْ أَعْتَمِدَ؟³⁷ فَقَالَ فِيلِبُّسُ: إِنْ كُنْتَ تُؤْمِنُ مِنْ كُلِّ قَلْبِكَ يَجُوزُ. فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ: أَنَا أَوْمِنُ أَنَّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ هُوَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ. فَأَمَرَ أَنْ تَقِفَ الْمَرْكَبَةُ، فَتَزَلَا كِلَاهُمَا إِلَى الْمَاءِ، فِيلِبُّسُ وَالْحَصِيُّ، فَعَمَّدَهُ.³⁹ وَلَمَّا صَعِدَا مِنَ الْمَاءِ خَطَفَ رُوحُ الرَّبِّ فِيلِبُّسَ فَلَمْ يَبْصُرْهُ الْحَصِيُّ أَيْضًا، وَذَهَبَ فِي طَرِيقِهِ قَرِاحًا.⁴⁰ وَأَمَّا فِيلِبُّسُ فَوَجَدَ فِي أَسْدُودَ، وَبَيَّتَمَا هُوَ مُجْتَازًا كَانَ يُبَشِّرُ جَمِيعَ الْمُدُنِ حَتَّى جَاءَ إِلَى قَيْصَرِيَّةَ.

behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,²⁸ Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.²⁹ Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.³⁰ And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?³¹ And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.³² The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:³³ In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.³⁴ And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.³⁶ And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?³⁷ And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.³⁹ And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught

away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.⁴⁰ But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.