

¹But it came to pass, that when Sanballat heard that we builded the wall, he was wroth, and took great indignation, and mocked the Jews. ²And he spake before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned? ³Now Tobiah the Ammonite was by him, and he said, Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall. ⁴Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity: ⁵And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders. ⁶So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work. ⁷But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth, ⁸And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it. ⁹Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them. ¹⁰And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall. ¹¹And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst

¹وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ سَنْبَلْتُطُ أَنَّنَا آجِدُونَ فِي بِنَاءِ السُّورِ عَظَبَ وَأَعْتَاطَ كَثِيرًا وَهَزَأَ بِالْيَهُودِ ²وَقَالَ أَمَامَ إِخْوَتِهِ وَجَيْشِ السَّامِرَةِ، مَاذَا يَفْعَلُ الْيَهُودُ الضُّعَفَاءُ. هَلْ يَتْرُكُونَهُمْ. هَلْ يَدْبَحُونَ. هَلْ يَكْمِلُونَ فِي يَوْمٍ. هَلْ يُخَيِّتُونَ الْحِجَارَةَ مِنْ كَوْمِ التُّرَابِ وَهِيَ مُحْرَقَةٌ. ³وَكَانَ طُوبِيَّا الْعَمُونِيُّ بِجَانِبِهِ، فَقَالَ، إِنَّ مَا يَبْنُونَهُ إِذَا صَعِدَ تَغْلَبَ قَائِتُهُ يَهْدُمُ حِجَارَةَ خَائِطِهِمْ. ⁴اسْمَعْ يَا إِلَهِنَا لِأَنَّ قَدْ صِرْنَا اخْتِقَارًا، وَزِدْ تَغْيِيرَهُمْ عَلَى رُؤُوسِهِمْ، وَاجْعَلْهُمْ تَهَبًا فِي أَرْضِ السَّنِيِّ ⁵وَلَا تَسْتَرْ دُنُوبَهُمْ وَلَا تُنَجِّ حَصَنَتِهِمْ مِنْ أَمَانِكِ لِأَنَّهُمْ أَغْضَبُوكَ أَمَامَ الْبَائِينَ. ⁶فَبَيَّنَّا السُّورَ وَاتَّصَلَ كُلُّ السُّورِ إِلَيَّ بِضَفِّهِ وَكَانَ لِلشَّعْبِ قَلْبٌ فِي الْعَمَلِ. ⁷وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ سَنْبَلْتُطُ وَطُوبِيَّا وَالْعَرَبُ وَالْعَمُونِيُّونَ وَالْأَشْدُودِيُّونَ أَنَّ أَسْوَارَ أُورُشَلِيمَ قَدْ رُمِمَتْ وَالتَّغَرَّابُنَا تَسُدُّ، عَظَبُوا جِدًّا. ⁸وَيَأْمُرُوا جَمِيعَهُمْ مَعًا أَنْ يَأْتُوا وَيُحَارِبُوا أُورُشَلِيمَ وَيَعْمَلُوا بِهَا صَرَرًا. ⁹فَصَلَّيْنَا إِلَى إِلَهِنَا وَأَقَمْنَا حُرَاسًا ضِدَّهُمْ تَهَارًا وَلَيْلًا بِسَبْيِهِمْ. ¹⁰وَقَالَ يَهُودَا، قَدْ صَغُفَتْ قُوَّةُ الْحَمَالِينَ، وَالتُّرَابُ كَثِيرٌ، وَتَحْنُ لَا تَقْدِرُ أَنْ تَبْنِيَ السُّورَ. ¹¹وَقَالَ أَعْدَاؤُنَا، لَا يَعْلَمُونَ وَلَا يَرَوْنَ حَتَّى تَدْخُلَ إِلَى وَسَطِهِمْ وَتَقْلِبَهُمْ وَتُوقِفَ الْعَمَلَ. ¹²وَلَمَّا جَاءَ الْيَهُودُ السَّاكِنُونَ بِجَانِبِهِمْ قَالُوا لَنَا عَشْرَ مَرَّاتٍ، مِنْ جَمِيعِ الْأَمَاكِينِ الَّتِي مِنْهَا رَجَعُوا سَبَايُونَ عَلَيْنَا. ¹³فَأَوْقَفْتُ الشَّعْبَ مِنْ أَسْفَلِ الْمَوْضِعِ وَرَاءَ السُّورِ، وَعَلَى الْقِمَمِ أَوْقَفْتُهُمْ حَسَبَ عَشَائِرِهِمْ بِسُيُوفِهِمْ وَرِمَاحِهِمْ وَقِسِيهِمْ. ¹⁴وَتَطَرَّضْتُ وَفُتْتُ وَقُلْتُ لِلْعُظَمَاءِ وَالْوَلَاةِ وَلِبَقِيَّةِ الشَّعْبِ، لَا تَخَافُوهُمْ بَلْ اذْكُرُوا السَّيِّدَ الْعَظِيمَ الْمَرْهُوبَ، وَحَارِبُوا مِنْ أَجْلِ إِخْوَتِكُمْ وَبَيْنِكُمْ وَتَاتِكُمْ وَنِسَائِكُمْ وَبَنَاتِكُمْ. ¹⁵وَلَمَّا سَمِعَ أَعْدَاؤُنَا أَنَّنَا قَدْ عَرَفْنَا وَأَبْطَلَ اللَّهُ مَشُورَتَهُمْ، رَجَعْنَا كُلُّنَا إِلَى السُّورِ كُلِّ وَاجِدٍ إِلَى شُغْلِهِ. ¹⁶وَمِنْ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ كَانَ يَصُفُّ غِلْمَانِي يَسْتَعِيلُونَ فِي الْعَمَلِ وَيَضْفِفُهُمْ يُمَسِكُونَ الرِّمَاحَ يَهُودًا. ¹⁷الْبَائُونَ عَلَى السُّورِ يَتَوَّوْنَ وَحَامِلُو الْأَحْمَالِ حَمَلُوا. يَأْتِيهِ الْوَاحِدَةُ يَفْعَلُونَ الْعَمَلَ، وَيَأْتِي الْآخَرُ يُمَسِكُونَ السَّلَاحَ. ¹⁸وَكَانَ الْبَائُونَ يَبْنُونَ وَيَصِفُّ كُلُّ وَاجِدٍ مَرْبُوطًا عَلَى جَنْبِهِ، وَكَانَ النَّافِخُ بِالْبُوقِ بِجَانِبِي. ¹⁹فَقُلْتُ لِلْعُظَمَاءِ وَالْوَلَاةِ وَلِبَقِيَّةِ الشَّعْبِ، الْعَمَلُ كَثِيرٌ وَتَمْسَعُ وَتَحْنُ مُتَعَرِّفُونَ عَلَى السُّورِ وَبَعِيدُونَ بَعْضُنَا عَنْ بَعْضٍ. ²⁰فَالْمَكَانُ الَّذِي تَسْمَعُونَ مِنْهُ صَوْتُ الْبُوقِ هُنَاكَ

among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.¹² And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall return unto us they will be upon you .¹³ Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows.¹⁴ And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses.¹⁵ And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work.¹⁶ And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah.¹⁷ They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon.¹⁸ For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.¹⁹ And I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, The work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one far from another.²⁰ In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the

تَجْتَمِعُونَ إِلَيْنَا. إِلَهُنَا يُحَارِبُ عَنَّا.²¹ فَكُنَّا نَحْنُ نَعْمَلُ الْعَمَلَ، وَكَانَ يَضْفُهُمْ يُمَسِكُونَ الرِّمَاحَ مِنْ طُلُوعِ الْقَجْرِ إِلَى ظُهُورِ النَّجُومِ.²² وَقُلْتُ فِي ذَلِكَ الْوَقْتِ أَيْضاً لِلشَّعْبِ، لِيَبَيْتَ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مَعَ غُلَامِهِ فِي وَسْطِ أُورُشَلِيمَ لِيَكُونُوا لَنَا حُرَّاساً فِي اللَّيْلِ وَلِلْعَمَلِ فِي النَّهَارِ.²³ وَلَمْ أَكُنْ أَنَا وَلَا إِخْوَتِي وَلَا غِلْمَانِي وَلَا الْحُرَّاسُ الَّذِينَ وَرَائِي نَخْلَعُ ثِيَابَنَا. كَانَ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ يَذْهَبُ بِسِلَاحِهِ إِلَى الْمَاءِ.

trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us.²¹ So we laboured in the work: and half of them held the spears from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared.²² Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.²³ So neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard which followed me, none of us put off our clothes, saving that every one put them off for washing.