

مَقْدَمَةُ الرِّسَالَةِ

¹بُولُسُ، عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ لِأَجْلِ إِيْمَانِ مُخْتَارِي اللَّهِ وَمَعْرِفَةِ الْحَقِّ الَّذِي هُوَ حَسَبُ التَّقْوَى، ²عَلَى رَجَاءِ الْحَيَاةِ الْأَبَدِيَّةِ الَّتِي وَعَدَ بِهَا اللَّهُ الْمُتَرْتِبَةَ عَنِ الْكَذِبِ قَبْلَ الْأَرْمَتَةِ الْأَرَلِّيَّةِ، ³وَأَمَّا أَظْهَرَ كَلِمَتُهُ فِي أَوْقَاتِهَا الْخَاصَّةِ بِالْكَرَارَةِ، الَّتِي أَوْثَمْتُ أَنَا عَلَيْهَا بِحَسَبِ أَمْرِ مُخَلِّصِنَا اللَّهُ، ⁴إِلَى تَيْطُسَ، الْإِسْنِ الصَّرِيحِ حَسَبِ الْإِيْمَانِ الْمُشْتَرَكِ، نِعْمُهُ وَرَحْمَةُ وَسَلَامٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ الْآبِ وَالرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مُخَلِّصِنَا.

تَوْصِيَّاتُ الرِّسُولِ لِلْكَنِيسَةِ

⁵مِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا تَرَكْتُكَ فِي كِرِيَتِ لِكَيَّ تُكَمِّلَ تَرْتِيبَ الْأُمُورِ النَّاقِصَةِ وَتُقِيمَ فِي كُلِّ مَدِينَةٍ شُبُوحاً كَمَا أَوْصَيْتُكَ، ⁶إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدٌ يَلَا لُومَ، بَغْلَ امْرَأَةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ، لَهُ أَوْلَادٌ مُؤْمِنُونَ لَيْسُوا فِي شِكَايَةِ الْخَلَاةِ وَلَا مُتَمَرِّدِينَ، ⁷لَأَنَّهُ يَجِبُ أَنْ يَكُونَ الْأَسْفُفُ يَلَا لُومَ كَوَكِيلِ اللَّهِ غَيْرَ مُعْجَبٍ بِنَفْسِهِ وَلَا غَضُوبٍ وَلَا مُدْمِنِ الْخَمْرِ وَلَا صَرَّابٍ وَلَا طَامِعٍ فِي الرِّيحِ الْقَبِيحِ، ⁸بَلْ مُضِيفاً لِلْغُرَبَاءِ، مُجَبّاً لِلْخَيْرِ، مُتَعَقِّلاً، بَارّاً، وَرِعاً، صَابِطاً لِنَفْسِهِ، ⁹مَلَارِماً لِلْكَلِمَةِ الصَّادِقَةِ الَّتِي بِحَسَبِ التَّعْلِيمِ، لِكَيَّ يَكُونَ قَادِراً أَنْ يَعْطَى بِالتَّعْلِيمِ الصَّرِيحِ وَيُؤَيِّجَ الْمُتَأَقِّضِينَ.

تَوْصِيَّاتُ الرِّسُولِ فِي تَوْيِجِ الْمُرْتَدِّينَ

¹⁰فَإِنَّهُ يُوجَدُ كَثِيرُونَ مُتَمَرِّدِينَ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِالْبَاطِلِ وَيَخْدَعُونَ الْعُقُولَ، وَلَا سِيَمَا الَّذِينَ مِنَ الْخِتَانِ ¹¹الَّذِينَ يَجِبُ سَدُّ أَفْوَاهِهِمْ، فَإِنَّهُمْ يَقْلِبُونَ بُيُوتاً بِجُمْلَتِهَا مُعَلِّمِينَ مَا لَا يَجِبُ مِنْ أَجْلِ الرِّيحِ الْقَبِيحِ. ¹²قَالَ وَاحِدٌ مِنْهُمْ، وَهُوَ تَيْيُّ لَهُمْ خَاصٌّ: الْكِرِيَتِيُّونَ دَائِماً كَذَّابُونَ، وَخُوشٌ رَدِيَّةٌ، بُطُونٌ بَطَالَةٌ. ¹³هَذِهِ الشَّهَادَةُ صَادِقَةٌ. فَلِهَذَا السَّبَبِ وَتَحْتَهُمْ بِصَرَامَةٍ لِكَيَّ يَكُونُوا أَصْحَاءً فِي الْإِيْمَانِ، لَا يُضْغَوْنَ إِلَى خُرَاقَاتِ يَهُودِيَّةٍ وَوَصَايَا أَنَاسٍ مُرْتَدِّينَ عَنِ الْحَقِّ. ¹⁴كُلُّ شَيْءٍ طَاهِرٌ لِلطَّاهِرِينَ وَأَمَّا لِلتَّجْسِسِينَ وَغَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فَلَيْسَ شَيْءٌ طَاهِراً، بَلْ قَدْ تَجَسَّسَ زَهْنُهُمْ أَيْضاً وَصَمِيرُهُمْ. ¹⁵بَعَثَرُوهُمْ بِأَنَّهُمْ يَعْرِفُونَ اللَّهَ وَلَكِنَّهُمْ بِالْأَعْمَالِ يُنْكَرُونَهُ، إِذْ هُمْ رَجِسُونَ غَيْرَ طَائِعِينَ وَمِنْ جِهَةِ كُلِّ عَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ مَرْفُوضُونَ.

¹Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; ²In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; ³But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; ⁴To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. ⁵For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: ⁶If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. ⁷For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; ⁸But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. ⁹For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: ¹⁰Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. ¹¹One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are alway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. ¹²This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; ¹³Not giving

heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.¹⁵ Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.¹⁶ They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.