

الرَّسُول بولس أمام الملك أغريباس والوالي

فستوس

¹فَقَالَ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ لِبُولُسَ: مَاذُوْن لَكَ أَنْ تَتَكَلَّمَ لِأَجْلِ نَفْسِكَ. حِينَئِذٍ بَسَطَ بُولُسُ يَدَهُ وَجَعَلَ يَخْتَجُّ: ²إِنِّي أَحْسِبُ نَفْسِي سَعِيداً، أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ، إِذْ أَنَا مُرْمِعٌ أَنْ أَحْتَجَّ الْيَوْمَ لَدَيْكَ عَنْ كُلِّ مَا يُحَاكِمُنِي بِهِ الْيَهُودُ، ³لَا سِيَّما وَأَنْتَ عَالِمٌ بِجَمِيعِ الْعَوَائِدِ وَالْمَسَائِلِ الَّتِي بَيْنَ الْيَهُودِ لِدَلِكِ الْتِمَسُ مِنْكَ أَنْ تَسْمَعَنِي بِطَوْلِ الْآنَاءِ ⁴فَسِيرَتِي مُنْذُ حَدَاتِي الَّتِي مِنَ الْبِدَاةِ كَانَتْ بَيْنَ أُمَّتِي فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ يَعْرِفُهَا جَمِيعُ الْيَهُودِ ⁵عَالِمِينَ بِي مِنَ الْأَوَّلِ إِنْ أَرَادُوا أَنْ يَسْهَدُوا أَنِّي حَسَبْتُ مَذْهَبَ عِبَادَتِنَا الْأَصْنَفِي عِشْتُ قَرِيبِيّاً. ⁶وَالآنَ أَنَا وَقِفْتُ أَحَاكُمَ عَلَى رَجَاءِ الْوَعْدِ الَّذِي صَارَ مِنَ اللَّهِ لآبَائِنَا الَّذِي أَشْبَاطُنَا الْإِنثَا عَشَرَ بَرَجُونَ تَوَالِهِ غَايِدِينَ بِالْجَهْدِ لَيْلاً وَنَهَاراً. فَمِنْ أَجْلِ هَذَا الرَّجَاءِ أَنَا أَحَاكُمَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ، أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ، ⁸لِمَاذَا يُعَدُّ عِنْدَكُمْ أَمراً لَا يُصَدَّقُ إِنْ أَقَامَ اللَّهُ أُمُومَاناً؟ فَأَنَا ارْتَأَيْتُ فِي نَفْسِي أَنَّهُ يَتَّبِعِي أَنْ أَصْنَعَ أُمُوراً كَثِيراً مُضَادَّةً لِاسْمِ يَسُوعَ النَّاصِرِيِّ، ¹⁰وَقَعَلْتُ ذَلِكَ أَيْضاً فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ فَحَبَسْتُ فِي سُجُونٍ كَثِيرِينَ مِنَ الْفَرِيسِيِّينَ أَجْداً السُّلْطَانَ مِنْ قِبَلِ رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ، وَلَمَّا كَانُوا يُقْتَلُونَ أَلْقَيْتُ فُرْعَةً بِذَلِكَ، ¹¹وَفِي كُلِّ الْمَجَامِعِ كُنْتُ أَعَاقِبُهُمْ مِرَاراً كَثِيراً وَأَصْطَرَّهُمْ إِلَى التَّجْدِيفِ، وَإِذْ أَفْرَطَ حَتْفِي عَلَيْهِمْ كُنْتُ أَطْرُدُهُمْ إِلَى الْمَدِينِ الَّتِي فِي الْخَارِجِ.

¹²وَلَمَّا كُنْتُ ذَاهِباً فِي ذَلِكَ إِلَى دِمَشْقَ سُلْطَانٍ وَوَصِيَّةٍ مِنْ رُؤَسَاءِ الْكَهَنَةِ ¹³رَأَيْتُ فِي نِصْفِ النَّهَارِ فِي الطَّرِيقِ، أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ، نُوراً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ لَمْعَانِ الشَّمْسِ قَدْ أَتَرَقَّ حَوْلِي وَحَوْلَ الدَّاهِيَيْنِ مَعِي. ¹⁴وَلَمَّا سَهَقْتُ جَمِيعُنَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ سَمِعْتُ صَوْتاً يُكَلِّمُنِي بِاللُّغَةِ الْعِبْرَانِيَّةِ: سَأُولُ، سَأُولُ، لِمَاذَا تَصْطَلِّدُنِي؟ صَعُبَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ تَرْفُسَ مَنَاجِسَ. ¹⁵فَقُلْتُ أَنَا: مَنْ أَنْتَ، يَا سَيِّدُ؟ فَقَالَ: أَنَا يَسُوعُ الَّذِي أَنْتَ تَصْطَلِّدُهُ. ¹⁶وَلَكِنْ قُمْ وَقِفْ عَلَى رَجُلَيْكَ لِأَنِّي لِهَذَا طَهَّرْتُكَ لِكَلِّكَ خَادِماً وَسَاهِداً بِمَا رَأَيْتُ وَبِمَا سَاطَهَرْتُكَ بِهِ. ¹⁷مُنْظِراً إِيَّاكَ مِنَ السَّعْبِ وَمِنْ الْأُمَمِ الَّذِينَ أَنَا الْآنَ أُرْسِلُكَ إِلَيْهِمْ ¹⁸لِتَفْتَحَ عُيُونَهُمْ كَيْ يَرْجِعُوا مِنْ ظُلُمَاتٍ إِلَى نُورٍ وَمِنْ سُلْطَانِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِلَى اللَّهِ حَتَّى يَتَّالُوا بِالْإِيمَانِ بِي عُفْرَانِ الْخَطَايَا وَنَصِيْباً مَعَ الْمُقَدَّسِينَ.

¹Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself. Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself: I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews: Especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently. ⁴My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; ⁵Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee. ⁶And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers: ⁷Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews. ⁸Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead? ⁹I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. ¹¹And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities. ¹²Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests, ¹³At midday, O king,

¹⁹ مِنْ تَمَّ، أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ، لَمْ أَكُنْ مُعَانِدًا لِلرُّؤْيَا
السَّمَاوِيَّةِ. ²⁰ بَلْ أَحْبَزْتُ أَوَّلًا الَّذِينَ فِي دِمَشْقَ وَفِي
أُورُشَلِيمَ حَتَّى جَمِيعِ كُورَةِ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ ثُمَّ الْأَمَمَ أَنْ يَثُوبُوا
وَيَرْجِعُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ عَامِلِينَ أَعْمَالًا تَلِيْقُ بِالتَّوْبَةِ. ²¹ مِنْ أَجْلِ
ذَلِكَ أُمَسَّكَنِي الْيَهُودُ فِي الْهَيْكَلِ وَشَرَّعُوا فِي
قَتْلِي. ²² فَإِذْ حَصَلْتُ عَلَى مَعُونَةٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ بَقِيتُ إِلَى هَذَا
الْيَوْمِ شَاهِدًا لِلصَّغِيرِ وَالْكَبِيرِ وَأَنَا لَا أَقُولُ شَيْئًا غَيْرَ مَا
تَكَلَّمَ الْأَنْبِيَاءُ وَمُوسَى أَنَّهُ عَتِيدُ أَنْ يَكُونَ. ²³ إِنْ يُؤْلَمُ
الصَّبِيحُ، يَكُنْ هُوَ أَوَّلَ قِيَامَةِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، مُرْمَعًا أَنْ يُتَادِيَ
يُورِ لِلشَّعْبِ وَلِلْأَمَمِ.

²⁴ وَبَيْنَمَا هُوَ يَخْتَجُّ بِهَذَا قَالَ قَسْتُوسُ بِصَوْتٍ عَظِيمٍ: أَنْتَ
تَهْذِي، يَا بُولُسُ، الْكُتُبَ الْكَثِيرَةَ تَحْوِلُكَ إِلَى
الْهَدْيَانِ. ²⁵ فَقَالَ: لَسْتُ أَهْذِي، أَيُّهَا الْعَزِيزُ قَسْتُوسُ، بَلْ
أُنْطِيقُ بِكَلِمَاتِ الصِّدْقِ وَالصَّحْوِ. ²⁶ لِأَنَّهُ مِنْ جِهَةٍ هَذِهِ
الْأُمُورِ عَالِمُ الْمَلِكُ، الَّذِي أَكَلَّمَهُ جِهَارًا، إِذْ أَنَا لَسْتُ
أَصَدِّقُ أَنْ يَخْفَى عَلَيْهِ شَيْءٌ مِنْ ذَلِكَ، لِأَنَّ هَذَا لَمْ يَفْعَلْ
فِي رَاوِيَةٍ. ²⁷ أَنُؤْمِنُ، أَيُّهَا الْمَلِكُ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ، بِالْأَنْبِيَاءِ؟ أَنَا
أَعْلَمُ أَنَّكَ تُؤْمِنُ. ²⁸ فَقَالَ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ لِبُولُسَ: بِقَلِيلٍ تُفْعِنِي
أَنْ أَصِيرَ مَسِيحِيًّا. ²⁹ فَقَالَ بُولُسُ: كُنْتُ أَصَلِّي إِلَى اللَّهِ
أَنَّهُ بِقَلِيلٍ وَبِكَثِيرٍ لَيْسَ أَنْتَ فَقَطْ بَلْ أَيْضًا جَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ
يَسْمَعُونِي الْيَوْمَ يَصِيرُونَ هَكَذَا كَمَا أَنَا مَا خَلَا هَذِهِ
الْفُيُودَ.

³⁰ فَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا قَامَ الْمَلِكُ وَالْوَالِي وَتَرِيْكِي وَالْجَالِسُونَ
مَعَهُمْ، ³¹ وَأَنْصَرَفُوا وَهُمْ يُكَلِّمُونَ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا قَائِلِينَ: إِنَّ
هَذَا الْإِنْسَانَ لَيْسَ يَفْعَلُ شَيْئًا يَسْتَحِقُّ الْمَوْتَ أَوْ
الْفُيُودَ. ³² وَقَالَ أَغْرِيْبَاسُ لِقَسْتُوسَ: كَانَ يُمَكِّنُ أَنْ يُطْلَقَ
هَذَا الْإِنْسَانُ لَوْ لَمْ يَكُنْ قَدْ رَفَعَ دَعْوَاهُ إِلَى قَيْصَرٍ.

I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. ¹⁴ And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. ¹⁵ And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. ¹⁶ But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; ¹⁷ Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, ¹⁸ To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. ¹⁹ Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision: ²⁰ But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. ²¹ For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me. ²² Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: ²³ That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from

the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.²⁴ And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.²⁵ But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.²⁶ For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner.²⁷ King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.²⁸ Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.²⁹ And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.³⁰ And when he had thus spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them.³¹ And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.³² Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar.