

¹الْكَلِمَةُ الَّتِي صَارَتْ إِلَى إِزْمِيَا مِنَ الرَّبِّ، بَعْدَ مَا أَرْسَلَهُ تَبْرُزَرَادَانُ رَئِيسُ الشَّرْطِ مِنَ الرَّامَةِ، إِذْ أَخَذَهُ وَهُوَ مُقَيَّدٌ بِالسَّلَاسِلِ فِي وَسْطِ كُلِّ سَبْيِ أَوْشَلِيمَ وَيَهُودَا الَّذِينَ سُبُّوا إِلَى بَابِلَ. ²فَأَخَذَ رَئِيسُ الشَّرْطِ إِزْمِيَا وَقَالَ لَهُ، إِنَّ الرَّبَّ إِلَهَكَ قَدْ تَكَلَّمَ بِهَذَا الشَّرِّ عَلَى هَذَا الْمَوْضِعِ. ³فَجَلَبَ الرَّبُّ وَفَعَلَ كَمَا تَكَلَّمَ، لِأَنَّكُمْ قَدْ أَخْطَأْتُمْ إِلَى الرَّبِّ وَلَمْ تَسْمَعُوا لَصَوْتِهِ، فَحَدَّثَ لَكُمْ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ. ⁴فَالآنَ هَسَدًا أَحْلَكَ الْيَوْمَ مِنَ الْفُيُودِ الَّتِي عَلَى يَدِكَ. فَإِنْ حَسَنْ فِي عَيْنِكَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَ مَعِيَ إِلَى بَابِلَ فَتَعَالَ، فَأَجْعَلَ عَيْنِي عَلَيْكَ. وَإِنْ قَبَحَ فِي عَيْنِكَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَ مَعِيَ إِلَى بَابِلَ فَامْتَنِعْ. أَنْظُرْ. كُلُّ الْأَرْضِ هِيَ أَمَامَكَ، فَخَيْتُمَا حَسَنٌ وَكَانَ مُسْتَقِيمًا فِي عَيْنِكَ أَنْ تَنْطَلِقَ فَانْطَلِقْ إِلَى هُنَاكَ. ⁵وَإِذْ كَانَ لَمْ يَجْعَ بَعْدَ قَالَ، ارْجِعْ إِلَى جَدَلْيَا بْنِ أَحِيْقَامَ بْنِ شَاقَانَ الَّذِي أَقَامَهُ مَلِكَ بَابِلَ عَلَى مُدُنِ يَهُودَا وَأَقِمْ عِنْدَهُ فِي وَسْطِ الشَّعْبِ، وَانْطَلِقْ إِلَى حَيْثُ كَانَ مُسْتَقِيمًا فِي عَيْنِكَ أَنْ تَنْطَلِقَ. وَأَعْطَاهُ رَئِيسُ الشَّرْطِ زَادًا وَهَدِيَّةً وَأَطْلَقَهُ. ⁶فَجَاءَ إِزْمِيَا إِلَى جَدَلْيَا بْنِ أَحِيْقَامَ إِلَى الْمِصْصَاةِ وَأَقَامَ عِنْدَهُ فِي وَسْطِ الشَّعْبِ الْيَافِيزِ فِي الْأَرْضِ. ⁷فَلَمَّا سَمِعَ كُلُّ رُؤَسَاءِ الْخُبُوشِ الَّذِينَ فِي الْحَقْلِ هُمْ وَرَجَالُهُمْ أَنَّ مَلِكَ بَابِلَ قَدْ أَقَامَ جَدَلْيَا بْنَ أَحِيْقَامَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ، وَأَنَّهُ وَكَلَّهُ عَلَى الرِّجَالِ وَالنِّسَاءِ وَالْأَطْفَالِ وَعَلَى فَقَرَاءِ الْأَرْضِ الَّذِينَ لَمْ يُسَبُّوا إِلَى بَابِلَ، ⁸أَتَى إِلَى جَدَلْيَا إِلَى الْمِصْصَاةِ إِسْمَاعِيلُ بْنُ تَنْتِيَا، وَبُوحَاتَانُ وَبُوتَاتَانُ ابْنَا قَارِيحَ، وَسَرَيَا بْنُ تَحُومَتَ، وَبُنُو عِيْقَايَ النَّصْلَوَقَايَ، وَبَرْتِيَا ابْنُ الْمَعْكِي، هُمْ وَرَجَالُهُمْ. ⁹فَحَلَفَ لَهُمْ جَدَلْيَا بْنُ أَحِيْقَامَ بْنِ شَاقَانَ وَلِرَجَالِهِمْ قَائِلًا، لَا تَخَافُوا مِنْ أَنْ تَخْدُمُوا الْكِلْدَانِيِّينَ. أَسْكُنُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَاحْدُمُوا مَلِكَ بَابِلَ فَيَحْسَنَ إِلَيْكُمْ. ¹⁰أَمَّا أَنَا فَهَتَيْدًا سَاكِنٌ فِي الْمِصْصَاةِ لَأَقِفَ أَمَامَ الْكِلْدَانِيِّينَ الَّذِينَ يَأْتُونَ إِلَيْنَا. أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَاجْمَعُوا حُمْرًا وَبَيْنًا وَزَيْتًا وَصَّغُوا فِي أَوْعِيَتِكُمْ وَاسْكُنُوا فِي مُدُنِكُمْ الَّتِي أَخَذْتُمُوهَا. ¹¹وَكَذَلِكَ كُلُّ الْيَهُودِ الَّذِينَ فِي مَوَاقِفِ بَنِي عَشُونَ وَفِي أَدُومَ وَالَّذِينَ فِي كُلِّ الْأَرْضِ، سَمِعُوا أَنَّ مَلِكَ بَابِلَ قَدْ جَعَلَ بَقِيَّةَ لِيَهُودَا وَقَدْ أَقَامَ عَلَيْهِمْ جَدَلْيَا بْنُ أَحِيْقَامَ بْنِ شَاقَانَ، ¹²فَرَجَعَ كُلُّ الْيَهُودِ مِنْ كُلِّ الْمَوَاضِعِ الَّتِي طَوَّحُوا إِلَيْهَا وَاتُّوا إِلَى أَرْضِ يَهُودَا إِلَى جَدَلْيَا إِلَى الْمِصْصَاةِ وَجَمَعُوا حُمْرًا وَبَيْنًا كَثِيرًا جِدًّا. ¹³ثُمَّ إِنَّ يُوَحَاتَانَ بْنَ قَارِيحَ وَكُلَّ رُؤَسَاءِ الْخُبُوشِ الَّذِينَ فِي الْحَقْلِ أَتَوْا إِلَى جَدَلْيَا إِلَى الْمِصْصَاةِ ¹⁴وَقَالُوا لَهُ، أَتَعْلَمُ

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after that Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had let him go from Ramah, when he had taken him being bound in chains among all that were carried away captive of Jerusalem and Judah, which were carried away captive unto Babylon. ²And the captain of the guard took Jeremiah, and said unto him, The LORD thy God hath pronounced this evil upon this place. ³Now the LORD hath brought it, and done according as he hath said: because ye have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed his voice, therefore this thing is come upon you. ⁴And now, behold, I loose thee this day from the chains which were upon thine hand. If it seem good unto thee to come with me into Babylon, come; and I will look well unto thee: but if it seem ill unto thee to come with me into Babylon, forbear: behold, all the land is before thee: whither it seemeth good and convenient for thee to go, thither go. ⁵Now while he was not yet gone back, he said, Go back also to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, whom the king of Babylon hath made governor over the cities of Judah, and dwell with him among the people: or go wheresoever it seemeth convenient unto thee to go. So the captain of the guard gave him victuals and a reward, and let him go. ⁶Then went Jeremiah unto Gedaliah the son of Ahikam to Mizpah; and dwelt with him among the people that were left in the land. ⁷Now when all the captains of the forces which were in the fields, even they and their men, heard that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah the son of Ahikam governor

عَلِمَا أَنَّ بَعْلِيَسَ مَلِكَ بَنِي عَمُّونَ قَدْ أَرْسَلَ إِسْمَاعِيلَ بْنَ
 نَتْنِيَا لِيَقْتُلَكَ. فَلَمْ يُصَدِّقْهُمْ جَدَلْيَا بْنُ أَحِيْقَامَ.¹⁵ فَكَلَّمَ
 يُوحَاتَانُ بْنُ قَارِيحَ جَدَلْيَا سِرًّا فِي الْمِصْقَةِ قَائِلًا، دَعْنِي
 أَنْطَلِقَ وَأَضْرِبَ إِسْمَاعِيلَ بْنَ نَتْنِيَا وَلَا يَعْلَمْ إِنْسَانٌ. لِمَاذَا
 يَقْتُلُكَ فَيَبْذُرَ كُلَّ يَهُودِ الْمُجْتَمِعِ إِلَيْكَ وَتَهْلِكَ بَقِيَّةُ
 يَهُودَا.¹⁶ فَقَالَ جَدَلْيَا بْنُ أَحِيْقَامَ لِيُوحَاتَانَ بْنِ قَارِيحَ، لَا
 تَفْعَلْ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ لَأَنَّكَ إِنَّمَا تَتَكَلَّمُ بِالْكَذِبِ عَنْ إِسْمَاعِيلَ.

in the land, and had committed unto him men, and women, and children, and of the poor of the land, of them that were not carried away captive to Babylon; Then they came to Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan and Jonathan the sons of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth, and the sons of Ephai the Netophathite, and Jezaniah the son of a Maachathite, they and their men.⁹ And Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan sware unto them and to their men, saying, Fear not to serve the Chaldeans: dwell in the land, and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you.¹⁰ As for me, behold, I will dwell at Mizpah to serve the Chaldeans, which will come unto us: but ye, gather ye wine, and summer fruits, and oil, and put them in your vessels, and dwell in your cities that ye have taken.¹¹ Likewise when all the Jews that were in Moab, and among the Ammonites, and in Edom, and that were in all the countries, heard that the king of Babylon had left a remnant of Judah, and that he had set over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan;¹² Even all the Jews returned out of all places whither they were driven, and came to the land of Judah, to Gedaliah, unto Mizpah, and gathered wine and summer fruits very much.¹³ Moreover Johanan the son of Kareah, and all the captains of the forces that were in the fields, came to Gedaliah to Mizpah,¹⁴ And said unto him, Dost thou certainly know that Baalis the king of the Ammonites hath sent Ishmael the son of Nethaniah to slay thee? But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam

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believed them not.¹⁵ Then Johanan the son of Kareah spake to Gedaliah in Mizpah secretly, saying, Let me go, I pray thee, and I will slay Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and no man shall know it : wherefore should he slay thee, that all the Jews which are gathered unto thee should be scattered, and the remnant in Judah perish?¹⁶ But Gedaliah the son of Ahikam said unto Johanan the son of Kareah, Thou shalt not do this thing: for thou speakest falsely of Ishmael.