

¹وَالآنَ إِلَيْكُمْ هَذِهِ الْوَصِيَّةُ الَّتِيهَا الْكَهَنَةُ،² إِنْ كُنْتُمْ لَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَلَا تَجْعَلُونَ فِي الْقَلْبِ لِنُعْطُوا مَجْدًا لِاسْمِي، قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ، قَائِلِي أُرْسِلْ عَلَيْكُمْ اللَّعْنُ. وَأَلْعَنُ بَرَكَاتِكُمْ، بَلْ قَدْ لَعَنْتُهَا، لِأَنَّكُمْ لَسْتُمْ جَاعِلِينَ فِي الْقَلْبِ³ هَتَدًا أَنْتَهُرْ لَكُمْ الزَّرْعَ، وَأُمْدُ الْقَرْتِ عَلَى وُجُوهِكُمْ، قَرَّتْ أَعْيَادِكُمْ، فَتَنَزَعُونَ مَعَهُ.⁴ فَتَعْلَمُونَ أَنِّي أُرْسَلْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ هَذِهِ الْوَصِيَّةُ لِكُونَ عَهْدِي مَعَ لَأَوِي، قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ. كَانَ عَهْدِي مَعَهُ لِلْحَيَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ، وَأَعْطَيْتُهُ إِبَاهُمَا لِلتَّقْوَى. فَاتَّقَانِي، وَمِنْ اسْمِي ارْتَاعَ هُوَ.⁶ سَرِيعَةُ الْحَقِّ كَانَتْ فِي فَمِهِ، وَإِنْ لَمْ يُوجَدْ فِي سَفَتَيْهِ. سَلَكَ مَعِي فِي السَّلَامِ وَالْإِسْتِقَامَةِ، وَأَرْجَعَ كَثِيرِينَ عَنِ الْإِنِّمِ.⁷ لَأَنَّ سَفَتَيِ الْكَاهِنِ تَحْقِطَانِ مَعْرِفَةَ، وَمِنْ فَمِهِ يَطْلُبُونَ الشَّرِيعَةَ لِأَنَّهُ رَسُولُ رَبِّ الْجُنُودِ.⁸ أَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَجَدْتُمْ عَنِ الطَّرِيقِ وَأَعْتَرْتُمْ كَثِيرِينَ بِالشَّرِيعَةِ. أَفَسَدْتُمْ عَهْدَ لَأَوِي، قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ.⁹ فَأَنَا أَيْضًا صَيَّرْتُكُمْ مُحْتَقِرِينَ وَدَنِيئِينَ عِنْدَ كُلِّ الشَّعْبِ، كَمَا أَنَّكُمْ لَمْ تَحْقِطُوا طَرِيقِي بَلْ حَابَيْتُمْ فِي الشَّرِيعَةِ.¹⁰ أَلَيْسَ أَبٌ وَاحِدٌ لِكُلِّنَا. أَلَيْسَ إِلَهُ وَاحِدٌ خَلَقَنَا. فَلِمَاذَا تَعَذَّرُ الرَّجُلُ بِأَخِيهِ لِتَذْيِيسِ عَهْدِ آبَائِنَا.¹¹ عَذَرَ يَهُودًا وَعَمِلَ الرَّجْسُ فِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَفِي أَوْشَلِيمَ. لَأَنَّ يَهُودًا قَدْ تَحَسَّنَ قُدْسَ الرَّبِّ الَّذِي أَحَبَّهُ، وَتَرَوَّجَ بِنْتُ إِلَهٍ غَرِيبٍ.¹² يَقْطَعُ الرَّبُّ الرَّجُلَ الَّذِي يَفْعَلُ هَذَا، السَّاهِرَ وَالْمُجِيبَ مِنْ جَنَامٍ يَعْقُوبَ، وَمِنْ يُقَرَّبُ تَقْدِمَةً لِرَبِّ الْجُنُودِ.¹³ وَقَدْ فَعَلْتُمْ هَذَا ثَانِيَةً مُعْطِينَ مَذْبَحَ الرَّبِّ بِالذَّمُوعِ بِالْبُكَاءِ وَالصَّرَاحِ، فَلَا تَرَاعَى التَّقْدِمَةَ بَعْدُ، وَلَا يَقْبَلُ الْمُضْضِي مِنْ يَدِكُمْ.¹⁴ فَقُلْتُمْ، لِمَاذَا. مِنْ أَجْلِ أَنَّ الرَّبَّ هُوَ السَّاهِدُ بِنْتُكَ وَبَيْنَ امْرَأَةِ سَبَابِكَ الَّتِي أَنْتَ عَدَرْتَ بِهَا، وَهِيَ قَرِيبَتُكَ وَامْرَأَةُ عَهْدِكَ.¹⁵ أَفَلَمْ يَفْعَلْ وَاحِدٌ وَلَهُ بَقِيَّةُ الرُّوحِ. وَلِمَاذَا الْوَاحِدُ. طَالِبًا زَرْعَ اللَّهِ. فَاجْذَرُوا لِرُوحِكُمْ وَلَا يَعْذَرُ أَحَدٌ بِأَمْرٍ شَبَّاهِ.¹⁶ لِأَنَّهُ يَكْفُرُهُ الطَّلَاقُ قَالَ الرَّبُّ إِلَهُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، وَأَنْ يُعْطِيَ أَحَدُ الظُّلْمِ يَنْبُوهِ قَالَ رَبُّ الْجُنُودِ. فَاجْذَرُوا لِرُوحِكُمْ لِلَّهِ تَعَذَّرُوا.¹⁷ لَقَدْ أَنْعَبْتُمْ الرَّبَّ بِكَلَامِكُمْ. وَقُلْتُمْ، يَمَّ أَنْعَبْنَا. يَقُولُكُمْ، كُلُّ مَنْ يَفْعَلُ الشَّرَّ فَهُوَ صَالِحٌ فِي عَيْنِي الرَّبِّ، وَهُوَ يُسَرُّ بِهِمْ. أَوْ، أَيْنَ إِلَهُ الْعَدْلِ..

¹And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.²If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.³Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.⁴And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.⁵My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name.⁶The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.⁷For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.⁸But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.⁹Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.¹⁰Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?¹¹Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the

LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.¹² The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.¹³ And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand.¹⁴ Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.¹⁵ And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.¹⁶ For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.¹⁷ Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?