

¹We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.²(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)³Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:⁴But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,⁵In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;⁶By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,⁷By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,⁸By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;⁹As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;¹⁰As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.¹¹O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged.¹²Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels.¹³Now for a recompence in the same, (I speak as unto my children,) be ye also enlarged.¹⁴Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?¹⁶And what agreement hath the

مُثَابَرَةُ الرَّسُولِ فِي خِدْمَتِهِ

¹فَإِذْ تَحْنُ غَامِلُونَ مَعَهُ تَطْلُبُ أَنْ لَا تَقْبَلُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ بَاطِلًا،²لَأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ: "فِي وَقْتٍ مَقْبُولٍ سَمِعْتُكَ، وَفِي يَوْمٍ خَلَّاصٍ أَعْنَتُكَ." هُوَذَا الْآنَ وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ، هُوَذَا الْآنَ يَوْمُ خَلَّاصٍ.³وَلَسْنَا نَجْعَلُ غَيْرَةً فِي شَيْءٍ إِلَّا ثَلَامَ الْخِدْمَةِ، بَلْ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ نُظْهِرُ أَنْفُسَنَا كَخْدَامِ اللَّهِ: فِي صَبْرِ كَثِيرٍ، فِي شِدَائِدٍ، فِي صَرُورَاتٍ، فِي ضِيقَاتٍ، فِي صَرَبَاتٍ، فِي سُجُونٍ، فِي اضْطِرَابَاتٍ، فِي أَغْعَابٍ، فِي أَشْهَارٍ، فِي أَصْوَامٍ،⁶فِي طَهَارَةٍ، فِي عِلْمٍ، فِي أَنَاةٍ، فِي لُطْفٍ، فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِّ، فِي مَحَبَّةٍ بِلَا رِيَاءٍ،⁷فِي كَلَامِ الْحَقِّ، فِي قُوَّةِ اللَّهِ بِسِلَاحِ الْبِرِّ لِلْيَمِينِ، وَلِلسَّيَارِ.⁸بِمَجْدٍ وَهَوَانٍ، بِصِيَةٍ رَدِيَةٍ وَصِيَةٍ حَسَنَةٍ، كَمُضْلِينَ وَتَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ،⁹كَمُجْهُولِينَ وَتَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ، كَمَانِيَنَ وَهَذَا تَحْنُ نَحْيَا، كَمُؤَدِّيَنَ وَتَحْنُ غَيْرُ مَقْبُولِينَ،¹⁰كَحَرَائِي وَتَحْنُ دَائِمًا قَرَحُونَ، كَقُفَرَاءَ وَتَحْنُ نُعْنِي كَثِيرِينَ، كَأَنْ لَا شَيْءَ لَنَا وَتَحْنُ تَمْلِكُ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ.

تَشْجِيعُ الرَّسُولِ وَتَحْذِيرُهُ مِنَ الْأَصْنَامِ

¹¹قُمْنَا مَقْنُوحٌ إِلَيْكُمْ، أَيُّهَا الْكُورِنْثِيُّونَ، قَلْبُنَا مُتَّسِعٌ،¹²لَسْنُكُمْ مُتَضَيِّقِينَ فِينَا بَلْ مُتَضَيِّقِينَ فِي أَحْسَانِكُمْ،¹³فَجَزَاءً لِدَلِكْ أَقُولُ كَمَا لِأَوْلَادِي، كُونُوا أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا مُتَّسِعِينَ.¹⁴لَا تَكُونُوا تَحْتَ نِيرٍ مَعَ غَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ، لِأَنَّهُ أَبَةُ خِلَاطَةٍ لِلْبِرِّ وَالْإِيمِ؟ وَأَبَةُ شَرِكَةِ النُّورِ مَعَ الظُّلَمَةِ؟¹⁵وَأَيُّ اتِّفَاقٍ لِلْمَسِيحِ مَعَ بَلِيْعَالٍ؟ وَأَيُّ تَصِيبٍ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ مَعَ غَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ؟¹⁶وَأَبَةُ مُوَاقِفَةٍ لِهَيْكَلِ اللَّهِ مَعَ الْأَوْثَانِ؟ فَإِنَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ كَمَا قَالَ اللَّهُ: "إِنِّي سَأَسْكُنُ فِيهِمْ وَأَسِيرُ بَيْنَهُمْ وَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ إِلَهًا وَهُمْ يَكُونُونَ لِي سَعْبًا."¹⁷لِدَلِكْ: "اخْرُجُوا مِنْ وَسْطِهِمْ وَاعْتَزِلُوا"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، "وَلَا تَمَسُّوا تَجْسًا، فَأَقْبَلَكُمْ،¹⁸وَأَكُونُ لَكُمْ أَبًا وَأَنْتُمْ تَكُونُونَ لِي بَنِينَ وَبَنَاتٍ"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَادِرُ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ.

temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.¹⁷ Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,¹⁸ And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.