

¹Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.²And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.³And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)⁴And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.⁵Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.⁶And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.⁷And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.⁸And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.⁹And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.¹⁰When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.¹¹And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath

إِسْتِشْهَادُ الرَّسُولِ يَعْقُوبَ وَنَجَاةُ الرَّسُولِ بَطْرُسَ

¹وَفِي ذَلِكَ الْوَقْتِ مَدَّ هِيرُودُسُ الْمَلِكُ يَدَيْهِ لِيُسِيءَ إِلَى
أَتَاسٍ مِنَ الْكَنِيسَةِ،² فَقَتَلَ يَعْقُوبَ، أَخَا يُوحَنَّا،
بِالسَّيْفِ. ³وَإِذْ رَأَى أَنَّ ذَلِكَ يُرْضِي الْيَهُودَ عَادَ فَقَبَضَ
عَلَى بَطْرُسَ أَيْضًا، وَكَاتَبَ أَتَامَ الْقَطِيرِ.⁴ وَلَمَّا أَمْسَكَهُ
وَضَعَهُ فِي السَّجْنِ مُسَلِّمًا إِيَّاهُ إِلَى أَرْبَعَةِ أَزَاجٍ مِنَ
الْعَسْكَرِ لِيَحْرُسُوهُ تَابِيًا أَنْ يُقَدِّمَهُ بَعْدَ الْفِصْحِ إِلَى
الشَّعْبِ. ⁵فَكَانَ بَطْرُسُ مَحْرُوسًا فِي السَّجْنِ، وَأَمَّا
الْكَنِيسَةُ فَكَانَتْ تَصِيرُ مِنْهَا صَلَاةٌ يَلْجَأُ إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ
أَجْلِهِ.

⁶وَلَمَّا كَانَ هِيرُودُسُ مُرْمِعًا أَنْ يُقَدِّمَهُ كَانَ بَطْرُسُ فِي
تِلْكَ اللَّيْلَةِ تَائِمًا بَيْنَ عَسْكَرَيْنِ مَرْبُوطًا بِسِلْسِلَتَيْنِ،
وَكَانَ قُدَّامَ الْبَابِ حُرَّاسٌ يَحْرُسُونَ السَّجْنَ. ⁷وَإِذَا مَلَكَ
الرَّبِّ أَقْبَلَ وَتَوَرَّ أَصَاءَ فِي النَّيْتِ، فَصَتَرَ جَنْبَ بَطْرُسَ
وَأَبْقَطَهُ قَائِلًا: قُمْ عَاجِلًا، فَسَقَطَتِ السِّلْسِلَتَانِ مِنْ
يَدَيْهِ. ⁸وَقَالَ لَهُ الْمَلَكَ: تَمْنُطِقِ وَالْبَسِ ثَعْلِيكَ، فَعَمَلَ
هَكَذَا. فَقَالَ لَهُ: الْبَسِ رِدَاءَكَ وَاتَّبِعْنِي. ⁹فَخَرَجَ يَتْبَعُهُ،
وَكَانَ لَا يَعْلَمُ أَنَّ الَّذِي جَرَى يَوَاسِطُهُ الْمَلَكَ هُوَ حَقِيقِي
بَلْ يَطُلُّ أَنَّهُ يَنْطُرُ رُؤْيَا. ¹⁰فَجَارَا الْمَحْرَسَ الْأَوَّلَ وَالثَّانِي
وَأَتَيَا إِلَى بَابِ الْحَدِيدِ الَّذِي يُؤَدِّي إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ فَانْفَتَحَ
لَهُمَا مِنْ دَائِهِ فَخَرَجَا وَتَقَدَّمَا رُقَاقًا وَاجِدًا وَلِلْوَقْتِ قَارِقَهُ
الْمَلَكَ.

¹¹فَقَالَ بَطْرُسُ، وَهُوَ قَدْ رَجَعَ إِلَى نَفْسِهِ: الْآنَ عِلِمْتُ
يَقِينًا أَنَّ الرَّبَّ أَرْسَلَ مَلَكَهُ وَأَنْقَذَنِي مِنْ يَدِ هِيرُودُسَ
وَمِنْ كُلِّ انْطِبَارِ شَعْبِ الْيَهُودِ. ¹²ثُمَّ جَاءَ وَهُوَ مُتْبِعُهُ إِلَى
بَيْتِ مَرْيَمَ، أُمِّ يُوحَنَّا الْمَلَقَبِ مَرْفُوسَ، حَيْثُ كَانَ كَثِيرُونَ
مُجْتَمِعِينَ وَهُمْ يُصَلُّونَ. ¹³فَلَمَّا قَرَعَ بَطْرُسُ بَابَ الدَّهْلِيزِ
جَاءَتْ جَارِيَتُهُ، اسْمُهَا رُودَا، لَتَسْمَعَ. ¹⁴فَلَمَّا عَرَفَتْ صَوْتَ
بَطْرُسَ لَمْ تَفْتَحِ الْبَابَ مِنَ الْقَرَحِ بَلْ رَكَصَتْ إِلَى دَاخِلِ
وَأَخْبَرَتْ أَنَّ بَطْرُسَ وَاقِفٌ قُدَّامَ الْبَابِ. ¹⁵فَقَالُوا لَهَا: أَنْتِ
تَهْذِبنَ. وَأَمَّا هِيَ فَكَانَتْ تُؤَكِّدُ أَنَّ هَكَذَا هُوَ، فَقَالُوا: إِنَّهُ
مَلَكَ. ¹⁶وَأَمَّا بَطْرُسُ فَلَبِثَ يَقْرَعُ، فَلَمَّا فَتَحُوا وَرَأَوْهُ
انْدَهَشُوا. ¹⁷فَأَسَارَ إِلَيْهِمْ يَدَيْهِ لِيَسْكُنُوا وَحَدَّثَهُمْ كَيْفَ
أَخْرَجَهُ الرَّبُّ مِنَ السَّجْنِ، وَقَالَ: أَخْبِرُوا يَعْقُوبَ وَالْإِخْوَةَ
بِهَذَا، ثُمَّ خَرَجَ وَذَهَبَ إِلَى مَوْضِعٍ آخَرَ.

مَوْتُ هِيرُودَسِ الطَّاغِيَةِ

¹⁸فَلَمَّا صَارَ النَّهَارُ خَصَلَ اضْطِرَابٌ لَيْسَ بِقَلِيلٍ بَيْنَ

delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.¹² And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.¹³ And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.¹⁴ And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.¹⁵ And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.¹⁶ But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.¹⁷ But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.¹⁸ Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter.¹⁹ And when Herod had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death. And he went down from Judaea to Caesarea, and there abode.²⁰ And Herod was highly displeased with them of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Blastus the king's chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished by the king's country.²¹ And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration

الْعَسْكَرُ: تُرَى مَاذَا جَرَى لِبَطْرُسَ؟¹⁹ وَأَمَّا هِيرُودُسُ فَلَمَّا طَلَبَهُ وَلَمْ يَجِدْهُ فَحَصَّ الْخُرَّاسَ وَأَمَرَ أَنْ يَنْقَادُوا إِلَى الْقَتْلِ، ثُمَّ تَرَلَّ مِنَ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ إِلَى قَيْصَرِيَّةَ وَأَقَامَ هُنَاكَ.²⁰ وَكَانَ هِيرُودُسُ سَاخِطًا عَلَى الصُّورِيِّينَ وَالصَّيْدَاوِيِّينَ فَحَصَرُوا إِلَيْهِ يَتَفَسَّ وَاجِدَةً وَاسْتَعْطَفُوا بِلَاسْتُسَ، النَّاطِرَ عَلَى مَضْجِعِ الْمَلِكِ، ثُمَّ صَارُوا يَلْتَمِسُونَ الْمُصَالَحَةَ لِأَنَّ كُورَثَهُمْ تَقَاتَتْ مِنْ كُورَةِ الْمَلِكِ.²¹ فَفِي يَوْمٍ مُعَيَّنٍ لَيْسَ هِيرُودُسُ الْحَلَّةَ الْمُلُوكِيَّةَ وَجَلَسَ عَلَى كُرْسِيِّ الْمَلِكِ وَجَعَلَ يُخَاطِبُهُمْ.²² فَصَرَخَ الشَّعْبُ: هَذَا صَوْتُ إِلَهٍ لَا صَوْتُ إِنْسَانٍ.²³ فَفِي الْخَالِ صَرَبَهُ مَلَكَ الرَّبِّ لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ يُعْطِ الْمَجْدَ لِلَّهِ، فَصَارَ يَأْكُلُهُ الدُّودُ وَمَاتَ.²⁴ وَأَمَّا كَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ فَكَانَتْ تَنْمُو وَتَزِيدُ.²⁵ وَرَجَعَ بَرْتَابَا وَسَاوُلُ مِنَ أُورُشَلِيمَ بَعْدَ مَا كَمَّلَا الْخِدْمَةَ وَأَخَذَا مَعَهُمَا يُوحَنَّا الْمُلَقَّبَ مَرْفُسَ.

unto them.²² And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man.²³ And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.²⁴ But the word of God grew and multiplied.²⁵ And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.