

¹Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,² Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.³ And this will we do, if God permit.⁴ For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,⁵ And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,⁶ If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.⁷ For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:⁸ But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.⁹ But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.¹⁰ For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.¹¹ And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:¹² That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.¹³ For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself,¹⁴ Saying,

¹لِذَلِكَ، وَتَحْنُ تَارِكُونَ كَلَامَ بَدَاةِ الْمَسِيحِ، لِتَتَقَدَّمُوا إِلَى الْكَمَالِ غَيْرَ وَاضِعِينَ أَيْضاً أَسَاسَ التَّوْبَةِ مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمَيِّتَةِ وَالْإِيمَانِ بِاللَّهِ،² تَعْلِيمِ الْمُعْمُودِيَّاتِ وَوَضْعِ الْيَدَايِ، قِيَامَةِ الْأَمْوَاتِ وَالذَّبْنُوتِ الْآبِدِيَّةِ،³ وَهَذَا سَتَفْعَلُهُ إِنْ أَدَنَ اللَّهُ. ⁴لَأَنَّ الَّذِينَ اسْتُنِيرُوا مَرَّةً وَذَاقُوا الْمُوهِبَةَ السَّمَاوِيَّةَ وَصَارُوا شُرَكَاءَ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ⁵ وَذَاقُوا كَلِمَةَ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحَةَ وَقُوَّاتِ الذَّهْرِ الْآتِي، وَسَقَطُوا، لَا يُمْكِنُ تَجْدِيدُهُمْ أَيْضاً لِلتَّوْبَةِ إِذْ هُمْ يَصِلُونَ لَأَنْفُسِهِمْ إِنْ اللَّه تَابِيَّةً وَيُسَهِّزُونَهُ. ⁷لَأَنَّ أَرْضاً قَدْ شَرِبَتْ الْمَطَرِ الْآتِي عَلَيْهَا مِرَاراً كَثِيرَةً وَأَنْتَجَتْ عُشْباً صَالِحاً لِلَّذِينَ فُلِحَتْ مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ، تَتَالُ بَرَكَهً مِنَ اللَّهِ،⁸ وَلَكِنْ إِنْ أُخْرِجَتْ شَوْكاً وَخَسَكاً، فَهِيَ مَرْفُوضَةٌ وَقَرِيبَةٌ مِنَ اللَّعْنَةِ الَّتِي نَهَايَهَا لِلْحَرِيقِ.

⁹وَلَكِنَّا قَدْ تَبَقَّعْنَا مِنْ جِهَتِكُمْ، أَيُّهَا الْأَجْيَاءُ، أُمُوراً أَفْضَلَ وَمُخْتَصَّةً بِالْخَلَاصِ، وَإِنْ كُنَّا تَتَكَلَّمُ هَكَذَا. ¹⁰لَأَنَّ اللَّهَ لَيْسَ بِظَالِمٍ حَتَّى يَنْسَى عَمَلَكُمْ وَتَعَبَ الْمَحَبَّةِ الَّتِي أَطَهَرْتُمُوهَا تَحَوُّ اسْمِهِ، إِذْ قَدْ خَدَمْتُمُ الْفَدَيْسِينَ وَتَخَذِمُونَهُمْ. ¹¹وَلَكِنَّا تَشْتَهِي أَنْ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْكُمْ يُظْهِرُ هَذَا الْإِجْتِهَادَ عَيْنَهُ لِيَقِينَ الرَّجَاءَ إِلَى التَّهَابَةِ لَكِنِّي لَا تَكُونُوا مُتَبَاطِلِينَ بَلْ مُتَمَلِّلِينَ بِالَّذِينَ، بِالْإِيمَانِ وَالْآثَانَةِ، يَرْبُونُ الْمَوَاعِيدَ.

¹³قَالَ لَهُ لَمَّا وَعَدَ اللَّهُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِذْ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ أَغْطَمُ يُقْسِمُ بِهِ، أَفْسَمَ بِنَفْسِهِ ¹⁴قَائِلاً: "إِنِّي لِأُبَارِكَنَّكَ بَرَكَهً وَأَكْثَرَنَّكَ تَكْثِيرًا"، ¹⁵وَهَكَذَا، إِذْ تَأْتَى، تَالِ الْمَوْعِدِ. ¹⁶فَإِنَّ النَّاسَ يُقْسِمُونَ بِالْأَغْطَمِ وَنَهَابُهُ كُلِّ مُسَاجَرَةٍ عَنْهُمْ، لِأَجْلِ التَّسْبِيحِ، هِيَ الْقُسْمِ، ¹⁷فَلِذَلِكَ، إِذْ أَرَادَ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُظْهِرَ أَكْثَرَ كَثِيرًا لِيُورَثَةَ الْمَوْعِدِ عَدَمَ تَغْيِيرِ قَصَائِهِ، تَوْسَطِ يَقْسِمِ، ¹⁸حَتَّى بِأَمْرَيْنِ عَدِيمَي التَّغْيِيرِ، لَا يُمَكِّنُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَكْذِبُ فِيهِمَا، تَكُونُ لَنَا تَعَزِيَّةٌ قَوِيَّةٌ، تَحْنُ الَّذِينَ النَّجَاتَا لِنَفْسِكَ بِالرَّجَاءِ الْمَوْضُوعِ أَمَامَنَا، ¹⁹الَّذِي هُوَ لَنَا كِمِرْسَانَةٍ لِلنَّفْسِ، مُؤْتَمَتَةٍ وَتَابِيَّةٍ، تَدْخُلُ إِلَى مَا دَاخِلَ الْجَبَابِ، ²⁰حَيْثُ دَخَلَ يَسُوعُ، كَسَابِقٍ لِأَخِلَّتَا، صَانِراً عَلَى رُتْبَةٍ مَلِكِي صَادَقٍ، رَئِيسَ كَهَنَةٍ إِلَى الْآبِدِ.

Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.¹⁵ And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.¹⁶ For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife.¹⁷ Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:¹⁸ That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:¹⁹ Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;²⁰ Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.