

توصيات لشيوخ الكنيسة

¹أَطْلُبُ إِلَى الشُّيُوخِ الَّذِينَ بَيْنَكُمْ، أَنَا الشَّيْخُ رَفِيقُهُمْ وَالشَّاهِدُ لَأَلَمِ الْمَسِيحِ وَشَرِيكَ الْمَجْدِ الْعَتِيدِ أَنْ يُعْلَنَ،² اذْعُوا رَعِيَّةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي بَيْنَكُمْ تُطَارَأُ، لَا عَنْ اضْطِرَارٍ بَلْ بِالِاخْتِيَارِ، وَلَا لِرِيحِ قَبِيحٍ بَلْ بِنَسَاطٍ،³ وَلَا كَمَنْ يَسُودُ عَلَى الْأَنْصِبَةِ بَلْ صَائِرِينَ أُمْنَلَةً لِلرَّعِيَّةِ.⁴ وَمَتَى ظَهَرَ رَئِيسُ الرُّعَاةِ تَتَالَوْنَ إِكْلِيلَ الْمَجْدِ الَّذِي لَا يَبْلَى.

⁵كَذَلِكَ، أَنْهَا الْأَحْدَاثُ، اخْضَعُوا لِلشُّيُوخِ وَكُونُوا جَمِيعًا خَاضِعِينَ بَعْضُكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ وَتَسَرَّبَلُوا بِالتَّوَّاضِعِ، لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ يُقَاوِمُ الْمُسْتَكْبِرِينَ وَأَمَّا الْمُتَوَاضِعُونَ فَيُعْطِيهِمْ نِعْمَةً.⁶ فَتَوَاضَعُوا تَحْتَ يَدِ اللَّهِ الْقَوِيَّةِ لِكَيْ يَرْفَعَكُمْ فِي حِينِهِ مُلْقِينَ كُلَّ هَمِّكُمْ عَلَيْهِ لِأَنَّهُ هُوَ يَغْتَنِي بِكُمْ.⁷⁸ أَضْحُوا وَاسْهَرُوا، لِأَنَّ إِبْلِيسَ خَصَمَكُمْ كَأَسَدٍ زَائِرٍ يَجُولُ مُلْتَمِسًا مَنْ يَتَلَعَّهُ هُوَ، فَقَاوِمُوهُ رَاسِخِينَ فِي الْإِيمَانِ، غَالِمِينَ أَنَّ تَفْسَ هَذِهِ الْأَلَمِ تُجْرَى عَلَى إِخْوَتِكُمُ الَّذِينَ فِي الْعَالَمِ.

توصيات أخيرة

¹⁰وَالَهُ كُلُّ نِعْمَةٍ، الَّذِي دَعَانَا إِلَى مَجْدِهِ الْأَبَدِيِّ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ، بَعْدَمَا تَأَلَّمْتُمْ بَسِيرًا هُوَ يُكَمِّلُكُمْ وَيُسَبِّحُكُمْ وَيُقَوِّبُكُمْ وَيُمَكِّنُكُمْ.¹¹ لَهُ الْمَجْدُ وَالسُّلْطَانُ إِلَى أَبَدِ الْأَبَدِينَ، آمِينَ.

¹²يَدِ سِلْوَانُسَ، الْآخِ الْأَمِينِ، كَمَا أَطْلُتُ كَتَبْتُ إِلَيْكُمْ بِكَلِمَاتٍ قَلِيلَةٍ وَأَعْطَا وَشَاهِدًا، أَنَّ هَذِهِ هِيَ نِعْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْحَقِيقَةِ الَّتِي فِيهَا تَقُومُونَ.¹³ تُسَلِّمُ عَلَيْكُمْ الَّتِي فِي بَابِلَ، الْمُخْتَارَةُ مَعَكُمْ، وَمَرْفُسُ ابْنِي.¹⁴ سَلِّمُوا بَعْضُكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ بِقُبْلَةِ الْمَحَبَّةِ. سَلَامٌ لَكُمْ جَمِيعَكُمْ الَّذِينَ فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ. آمِينَ.

¹The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:²Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;³Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.⁴And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.⁵Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.⁶Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:⁷Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.⁸Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:⁹Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.¹⁰But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.¹¹To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.¹²By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.¹³The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.¹⁴Greet ye one another with a kiss of

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charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.