

مشاركة الرسول في خدمته

¹قَدْ تَحْنُ غَامِلُونَ مَعَهُ تَطَلُّبُ أَنْ لَا تَقْبَلُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ بَاطِلًا،² لِأَنَّهُ يَقُولُ: "فِي وَقْتٍ مَقْبُولٍ سَمِعْتُكَ، وَفِي يَوْمٍ خَلَاصٍ أَعْنْتُكَ". هُوَذَا الْآنَ وَقْتُ مَقْبُولٍ، هُوَذَا الْآنَ يَوْمُ خَلَاصٍ.³ وَلَسْنَا نَجْعَلُ عَنَرَةً فِي سَيِّئَةٍ لِّئَلَّا نَلَامَ الْخِدْمَةَ، بَلْ فِي كُلِّ سَيِّئَةٍ نُظْهِرُ أَنْفُسَنَا كَخْدَامِ اللَّهِ: فِي صَبْرٍ كَثِيرٍ، فِي سَدَائِدٍ، فِي صَرُورَاتٍ، فِي ضِيقَاتٍ، فِي صَرَبَاتٍ، فِي سُجُونٍ، فِي اضْطِرَابَاتٍ، فِي أَعْيَابٍ، فِي أَشْهَارٍ، فِي أَصْوَامٍ، فِي طَهَارَةٍ، فِي عِلْمٍ، فِي أَتَاةٍ، فِي لُطْفٍ، فِي الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، فِي مَحَبَّةٍ بِلَا رِبَاءٍ،⁷ فِي كَلَامِ الْحَقِّ، فِي قُوَّةِ اللَّهِ بِسِلَاحِ الْبِرِّ لِلتَّيْمِينِ وَلِلْيَسَارِ. يَمَجِّدُ وَهَوَانٍ، يَصِيبُ رَدِيٍّ وَصِيبَ حَسَنٍ، كَمُضْلِلِينَ وَتَحْنُ صَادِقُونَ، كَمَجْهُولِينَ وَتَحْنُ مَعْرُوفُونَ، كَمَائِتِينَ وَهَذَا تَحْنُ تَحْيَا، كَمُؤَدَّبِينَ وَتَحْنُ غَيْرُ مَقْبُولِينَ،¹⁰ كَحَرَائِي وَتَحْنُ دَائِمًا قَرَحُونَ، كَقَفَرَاءَ وَتَحْنُ نُعْنِي كَثِيرِينَ، كَأَنْ لَا سَيِّئَةٍ لَنَا وَتَحْنُ تَمْلِكُ كُلَّ سَيِّئَةٍ.

تشجيع الرسول وتحذيره من الأصنام

¹¹قَمْنَا مَقْبُوحٌ إِلَيْكُمْ، أَيُّهَا الْكُورِنَثِيُّونَ، قَلْبُنَا مُنْسِغٌ،¹² لَسْنُكُمْ مُتَضَيِّقِينَ فَبِنَا بَلْ مُتَضَيِّقِينَ فِي أَحْسَانِكُمْ،¹³ فَجَرَاءَ لِذَلِكَ أَقُولُ كَمَا لِأَوْلَادِي، كُونُوا أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا مُنْسِغِينَ.

¹⁴لَا تَكُونُوا تَحْتَ نِيرٍ مَعَ غَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ، لِأَنَّهُ أَبَةُ خِلَاطِهِ لِلْبِرِّ وَالْإِيمِ؟ وَأَبَةُ شَرِكَةِ اللَّتُورِ مَعَ الطَّلَمَةِ؟¹⁵ وَأَيُّ اتِّعَاقٍ لِلْمَسِيحِ مَعَ بَلِيْعَالٍ؟ وَأَيُّ تَصِيبٍ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ مَعَ غَيْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ؟¹⁶ وَأَبَةُ مُوَافَقَةٍ لِهَيْكَلِ اللَّهِ مَعَ الْأَوْتَانِ؟ فَإِنَّكُمْ أَنْتُمْ هَيْكَلُ اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ كَمَا قَالَ اللَّهُ: "إِنِّي سَأَسْكُنُ فِيهِمْ وَأَسِيرُ بَيْنَهُمْ وَأَكُونُ لَهُمْ إِلَهًا وَهُمْ يَكُونُونَ لِي سَعْبًا".¹⁷ لِذَلِكَ: "اخْرُجُوا مِنْ وَسْطِهِمْ وَاعْتَرِلُوا"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ، "وَلَا تَمَسُّوا نَجَسًا، فَأَقْبَلَكُمْ،¹⁸ وَأَكُونُ لَكُمْ أَبًا وَأَنْتُمْ تَكُونُونَ لِي بَنِينَ وَتَتَاتٍ"، يَقُولُ الرَّبُّ الْقَادِرُ عَلَى كُلِّ سَيِّئَةٍ.

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

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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.