

<sup>1</sup>قَاتَهُ مِنْ جِهَةِ الْخِدْمَةِ لِلْقَدِيسِينَ هُوَ فُضُولٌ مِنِّي أَنْ أَكْتُبَ إِلَيْكُمْ، <sup>2</sup>لَأَنِّي أَعْلَمُ تَسَاطُكُمُ الَّذِي أَفْتَحِرُ بِهِ مِنْ جِهَتِكُمْ لَدَى الْمَكْدُونِيِّينَ، أَنَّ أَخَايَةَ مُسْتَعِدَّةً مُنْذُ الْعَامِ الْمَاضِي، وَغَيْرَتُكُمْ قَدْ حَرَّصَتْ الْأَكْثَرِينَ. <sup>3</sup>وَلَكِنْ أُرْسَلْتُ الْإِخْوَةَ لئَلَّا يَتَعَطَّلَ افْتِحَارُنَا مِنْ جِهَتِكُمْ مِنْ هَذَا الْقَبِيلِ، كَيْ تَكُونُوا مُسْتَعِدِّينَ، كَمَا قُلْتُ، <sup>4</sup>حَتَّى إِذَا جَاءَ مَعِيَ مَكْدُونِيُّونَ وَوَجَدُوكُمْ غَيْرَ مُسْتَعِدِّينَ، لَا نُحْجَلْ نَحْنُ، حَتَّى لَا أَقُولُ أَنْتُمْ فِي جَسَارَةِ الْإِفْتِحَارِ هَذِهِ. <sup>5</sup>فَرَأَيْتُ لَازِمًا أَنْ أَطْلُبَ إِلَى الْإِخْوَةِ أَنْ يَسْهَبُوا إِلَيْكُمْ وَهُمْ يَتَوَقَّعُونَ بَرَكَتِكُمْ الَّتِي سَيَتَوَقَّعُ النَّحْبِيزُ بِهَا، لِتَكُونَ هِيَ مُعَدَّةً هَكَذَا، كَأَنَّهَا بَرَكَهٌ لَا كَأَنَّهَا بَحْلٌ.

### بركة الله للمعطي المسرور

<sup>6</sup>هَذَا وَإِنَّ مَنْ يَزْرَعُ بِالسَّحَابِ قَبَالِشَ أَخِصًا يَخْصُدُ، وَمَنْ يَزْرَعُ بِالْبَرَكَاتِ قَبَالِبَرَكَاتٍ أَخِصًا يَخْصُدُ. <sup>7</sup>كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ كَمَا يَتَوَيَّ بِقَلْبِهِ، لَيْسَ عَنْ حُرْنٍ أَوْ اضْطِرَارٍّ، لَأَنَّ الْمُعْطِيَ الْمَسْرُورَ يُجِبُّهُ اللَّهُ. <sup>8</sup>وَاللَّهُ قَادِرٌ أَنْ يَزِيدَكُمْ كُلَّ نِعْمَةٍ لِكَيْ تَكُونُوا وَلَكُمْ كُلُّ اكْتِفَاءٍ كُلِّ حِينٍ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، تَزْدَادُونَ فِي كُلِّ عَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ، <sup>9</sup>كَمَا هُوَ مَكْتُوبٌ: "فَرَّقْ، أَعْطَى الْمَسَاكِينَ، بَرُّهُ يَبْقَى إِلَى الْأَبَدِ". <sup>10</sup>وَالَّذِي يُقَدِّمُ يَدَارًا لِلزَّرْعِ وَخُبْرًا لِلْأَكْلِ، سَيُقَدِّمُ وَيُكَثِّرُ يَدَارَكُمْ وَيُثْمِي غَلَّتْ بِرُّكُمْ، <sup>11</sup>مُسْتَعِينِينَ فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ لِكُلِّ سَخَاءٍ يُنْشِئُ بِنَا شُكْرًا لِلَّهِ. <sup>12</sup>لَأَنَّ افْتِعَالَ هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ لَيْسَ يَسُدُّ إِغْوَارَ الْقَدِيسِينَ فَقَطْ بَلْ يَزِيدُ بِشُكْرِ كَثِيرٍ لِلَّهِ. <sup>13</sup>إِذْ هُمْ بِاخْتِبَارِ هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ يَمَجِّدُونَ اللَّهَ عَلَى طَاعَةٍ اغْتِرَافِكُمْ لِإِنْجِيلِ الْمَسِيحِ وَسَخَاءِ التَّوَزُّعِ لَهُمْ وَلِلْجَمِيعِ، <sup>14</sup>وَبِدُعَائِهِمْ لِأَحْلِكُمْ مُسْتَأْفِينَ إِلَيْكُمْ مِنْ أَجْلِ نِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ الْفَائِقَةِ لَدَيْكُمْ. <sup>15</sup>فَشُكْرًا لِلَّهِ عَلَى عَطِيَّتِهِ الَّتِي لَا يُعْبَرُ عَنْهَا.

<sup>1</sup>For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you: <sup>2</sup>For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many. <sup>3</sup>Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready: <sup>4</sup>Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be ashamed in this same confident boasting. <sup>5</sup>Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness. <sup>6</sup>But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: <sup>9</sup>(As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. <sup>10</sup>Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) <sup>11</sup>Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup>For the administration of this service

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not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;<sup>13</sup> Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection into the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;<sup>14</sup> And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.<sup>15</sup> Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.