

الرَّسُول بولس في أفسس

¹فَحَدَثَ فِيمَا كَانَ أَبُلُوسُ فِي كُورِنْثُوسَ أَنَّ بُولُسَ بَعْدَ مَا اجْتَارَ فِي التَّوَّاجِي الْعَالِيَةِ جَاءَ إِلَى أَفْسُسَ، فَإِذْ وَجَدَ تَلَامِيذَ² قَالَ لَهُمْ: هَلْ قَبِلْتُمْ الرُّوحَ الْقُدُسَ لَمَّا آمَنْتُمْ؟ قَالُوا لَهُ: وَلَا سَمِعْنَا أَنَّهُ يُوجَدُ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ.³ فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: فِيمَاذَا اعْتَمَدْتُمْ؟ قَالُوا: بِمَعْمُودِيَّةِ يُوَحَنَّا.⁴ فَقَالَ بُولُسُ: إِنَّ يُوَحَنَّا عَمَّدَ بِمَعْمُودِيَّةِ التَّوْبَةِ قَائِلًا لِلشَّعْبِ: أَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِالَّذِي يَأْتِي بَعْدَهُ، أَيْ بِالْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ.⁵ فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا اعْتَمَدُوا بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ.⁶ وَلَمَّا وَضَعَ بُولُسُ يَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهِمْ خَلَّ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ عَلَيْهِمْ فَطَفِفُوا يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِلُغَاتٍ وَتَسْبُحُونَ.⁷ وَكَانَ جَمِيعُ الرِّجَالِ تَحَوُّ أَشْيَ عَشَرَ.

خدمة الرسول بولس في أفسس

⁸ثُمَّ دَخَلَ الْمَجْمَعَ وَكَانَ يُجَاهِزُ مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَشْهُرٍ مُحَاجًّا وَمُفَنِّعًا فِي مَا يَخْتَصُّ بِمَلَكُوتِ اللَّهِ.⁹ وَلَمَّا كَانَ قَوْمٌ يَتَفَسَّسُونَ وَلَا يَفْقَهُونَ، سَاتَمِينَ الطَّرِيقَ أَمَامَ الْجُمْهُورِ، اعْتَرَلَ عَنْهُمْ وَأَفَرَزَ التَّلَامِيذَ مُحَاجًّا كُلَّ يَوْمٍ فِي مَدْرَسَةِ إِنْسَانٍ اسْمُهُ تِيرَاسُ.¹⁰ وَكَانَ ذَلِكَ مُدَّةَ سَتَيْنِ حَتَّى سَمِعَ كَلِمَةَ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ جَمِيعُ السَّاكِينِ فِي أَسِيَّا، مِنْ يَهُودٍ وَبُوتَانِيِّينَ.¹¹ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ يَضَعُ عَلَى يَدَيْ بُولُسَ قُوَّاتٍ غَيْرَ الْمُعْتَادَةِ،¹² حَتَّى كَانَ يُبْرِئُ عَنْ جَسَدِهِ بِمَتَادِيلٍ أَوْ مَازَرَ إِلَى الْمَرَضَى فَتَزُولُ عَنْهُمْ الْأَمْرَاضُ وَتَخْرُجُ الْأَرْوَاحُ الشَّرِيرَةُ مِنْهُمْ.

¹³فَسَرَعَ قَوْمٌ مِنَ الْيَهُودِ الطَّوَّافِينَ الْمُعَرِّمِينَ أَنْ يُسَمُّوا عَلَى الَّذِينَ بِهِمُ الْأَرْوَاحُ الشَّرِيرَةُ بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ قَائِلِينَ: نَفْسُكُمْ عَلَيْكَ يَسُوعَ الَّذِي يَكْرُرُ بِهِ بُولُسُ.¹⁴ وَكَانَ سَبْعَةَ بَنِينَ لِسَكَاوَا، رَجُلٍ يَهُودِيٍّ رَئِيسِ كَهَنَةٍ، الَّذِينَ فَعَلُوا هَذَا.¹⁵ فَأَجَابَ الرُّوحُ الشَّرِيرُ وَقَالَ: أَمَّا يَسُوعُ فَأَنَا أَعْرِفُهُ، وَبُولُسُ أَيَا أَعْلَمُهُ، وَأَمَّا أَنْتُمْ، فَمَنْ أَنْتُمْ؟¹⁶ قَوَّتَبَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْإِنْسَانُ الَّذِي كَانَ فِيهِ الرُّوحُ الشَّرِيرُ وَعَلَيْهِمْ وَقَوِيَ عَلَيْهِمْ حَتَّى هَرَبُوا مِنْ ذَلِكَ الْبَيْتِ غُرَاةً وَمُخَرَّجِينَ.¹⁷ وَصَارَ هَذَا مَعْلُومًا عِنْدَ جَمِيعِ الْيَهُودِ وَالْيُونَانِيِّينَ السَّاكِينِ فِي أَفْسُسَ، فَوَقَعَ خَوْفٌ عَلَى جَمِيعِهِمْ وَكَانَ اسْمُ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ يَتَعَظَّمُ.¹⁸ وَكَانَ كَثِيرُونَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا يَأْتُونَ مُقَرَّرِينَ وَمُخِيرِينَ بِأَفْعَالِهِمْ.¹⁹ وَكَانَ كَثِيرُونَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ يَسْتَعْمِلُونَ السَّحَرَ يَجْمَعُونَ الْكُتُبَ وَيُخَرِّقُونَهَا أَمَامَ الْجَمِيعِ، وَخَسَبُوا أَثْمَانَهَا فَوَجَدُوهَا خَمْسِينَ أَلْفًا مِنَ الْفِصَّةِ.²⁰ هَكَذَا كَانَتْ كَلِمَةُ الرَّبِّ تَنْمُو وَتَقْوَى بِشِدَّةٍ.

¹And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,² He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.³ And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.⁴ Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.⁷ And all the men were about twelve.⁸ And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God.⁹ But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.¹⁰ And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.¹¹ And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:¹² So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.¹³ Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them

²¹وَلَمَّا كَمَلَتْ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورُ وَصَعَ بُولُسُ فِي تَهْنِيسِهِ أَنَّهُ بَعْدَمَا يَجْتَازُ فِي مَكْدُونِيَّةٍ وَأَخَاتِيَّةٍ يَذْهَبُ إِلَى أَوْرُسَلِيمَ قَائِلًا: إِنِّي بَعْدَ مَا أَصِيرُ هُنَاكَ بَتَّبِعِي أَنْ أَرَى رُومِيَّةً أَيْضًا.²² فَأَرْسَلَ إِلَى مَكْدُونِيَّةٍ اثْنَيْنِ مِنَ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا يَخْدُمُونَهُ، تِيمُوثَاوُسَ وَأَرْسَطُوسَ، وَلَيْتَ هُوَ رَمَانًا فِي أَسِيَّا.

سَعَبُ الصِّيَاغَةِ فِي أَفَسَسَ

²³وَحَدَثَ فِي ذَلِكَ الْوَقْتِ سَعَبٌ لَيْسَ بِقَلِيلٍ بِسَبَبِ هَذَا الطَّرِيقِ.²⁴ لَأَنَّ إِنْسَانًا اسْمُهُ دِيمُتْرِيُوسُ، صَانِعُ صَانِعِ هَيَاكِلِ فَصَّةٍ لِأَرْطَامِيسَ، كَانَ يُكْسِبُ الصَّنَاعَةَ مَكْسَبًا لَيْسَ بِقَلِيلٍ.²⁵ فَجَمَعَهُمُ وَالْقَعْلَةَ فِي مِثْلِ ذَلِكَ الْعَمَلِ وَقَالَ: أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ، أَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ سَبْعَتَا إِنَّمَا هِيَ مِنْ هَذِهِ الصَّنَاعَةِ.²⁶ وَأَنْتُمْ تَنْظُرُونَ وَتَسْمَعُونَ أَنَّهُ لَيْسَ مِنْ أَقْسُسٍ فَقَطْ بَلْ مِنْ جَمِيعِ أَسِيَّا تَقْرِبًا اسْتِمَالًا وَأَرَاغَ بُولُسُ هَذَا جَمْعًا كَثِيرًا قَائِلًا: إِنَّ الَّتِي تُصْنَعُ بِالْأَيْدِي لَيْسَتْ آلِهَةً.²⁷ فَلَيْسَ تَصِيئًا هَذَا وَحْدَهُ فِي خَطَرٍ مِنْ أَنْ يَحْضَلَ فِي إِهَاتِهِ بَلْ أَيْضًا هَيْكَلُ أَرْطَامِيسَ، الْإِلَهَةِ الْعَظِيمَةِ، أَنْ يُحْسَبَ لَا شَيْءَ وَأَنْ سَوْفَ تُهْذَمَ عَظَمَتُهَا، هِيَ الَّتِي يَعْبُدُهَا جَمِيعُ أَسِيَّا وَالْمَسْكُونَةِ.²⁸ فَلَمَّا سَمِعُوا امْتَلَأُوا غَضَبًا وَطَفِقُوا يَصْرُخُونَ قَائِلِينَ: عَظِيمَةُ هِيَ أَرْطَامِيسُ الْأَقْسُسِيِّينَ.²⁹ قَامَتِ الْمَدِينَةُ كُلُّهَا اضْطِرَابًا وَانْدَفَعُوا بِنَفْسٍ وَاجِدَةٍ إِلَى الْمَشْهَدِ خَاطِفِينَ مَعَهُمُ غَايُوسَ وَأَرْسْتَرْخُسَ الْمَكْدُونِيِّينَ، رَفِيقَيْ بُولُسَ فِي السَّيْرِ.

³⁰وَلَمَّا كَانَ بُولُسُ يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَدْخُلَ بَيْنَ الشَّعْبِ لَمْ يَدْعُهُ التَّلَامِيذُ.³¹ وَأَتَانِ مِنْ وَجْهِهِ أَسِيَّا كَانُوا أَصْدِقَاءَهُ أَرْسَلُوا يَطْلُبُونَ إِلَيْهِ أَنْ لَا يُسَلِّمَ نَفْسَهُ إِلَى الْمَشْهَدِ.³² وَكَانَ الْبَعْضُ يَصْرُخُونَ بِشَيْءٍ وَالتَّغْصُ بِشَيْءٍ آخَرَ لِأَنَّ الْمُحَقَّلَ كَانَ مُضْطَرِبًا وَأَكْثَرُهُمْ لَا يَذُرُونَ لَأَيِّ شَيْءٍ كَانُوا قَدْ اجْتَمَعُوا.³³ فَاجْتَدَبُوا إِسْكَندَرَ مِنَ الْجَمْعِ، وَكَانَ الْيَهُودُ يَدْفَعُونَهُ، فَأَسَارَ إِسْكَندَرُ يَدَيْهِ يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَخْتِجَ لِلشَّعْبِ.³⁴ فَلَمَّا عَرَفُوا أَنَّهُ يَهُودِيٌّ صَارَ صَوْتُ وَاحِدٍ مِنَ الْجَمِيعِ صَارِخِينَ تَحَوُّ مَدَّةَ سَاعَتَيْنِ: عَظِيمَةُ هِيَ أَرْطَامِيسُ الْأَقْسُسِيِّينَ.

³⁵ثُمَّ سَكَّنَ الْكَاتِبُ الْجَمْعَ وَقَالَ: أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْأَقْسُسِيُّونَ، مَنْ هُوَ الْإِنْسَانُ الَّذِي لَا يَعْلَمُ أَنَّ مَدِينَةَ الْأَقْسُسِيِّينَ مُتَعَبَّدَةٌ لِأَرْطَامِيسَ، الْإِلَهَةِ الْعَظِيمَةِ وَالنَّمَاتِ الَّذِي هَبَطَ مِنْ رَفْسٍ؟³⁶ فَإِذَا كَانَتْ هَذِهِ الْأَشْيَاءُ لَا تُقَاوَمُ بَتَّبِعِي أَنْ تَكُونُوا هَادِئِينَ وَلَا تَفْعَلُوا شَيْئًا

to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.¹⁴ And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so.¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?¹⁶ And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.¹⁷ And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.¹⁸ And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.¹⁹ Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.²⁰ So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.²¹ After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome.²² So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.²³ And the same time there arose no small stir about that way.²⁴ For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;²⁵ Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.²⁶ Moreover ye see and hear,

أَفْتَحَامًا.³⁷ لَأَتَّكُمُ أَتَيْتُمْ يَهْدَى الرَّجُلَيْنِ وَهُمَا لَيْسَا سَارِقِي هَيَاكَلٍ وَلَا مُجَدِّقَيْنِ عَلَى إِلَهَيْكُمْ.³⁸ فَإِنْ كَانَ دِيمِتْرِيُوسُ وَالصُّنَاغُ الَّذِينَ مَعَهُ لَهُمْ دَعْوَى عَلَى أَحَدٍ، فَإِنَّهُ يُقَامُ أَبَّامُ لِلْقَضَاءِ وَيُوجَدُ وَلَا، فَلْيُرَافِعُوا بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا.³⁹ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَطْلُبُونَ شَيْئًا مِنْ جِهَةِ أُمُورٍ آخَرَ فَإِنَّهُ يُقْضَى فِي مَحْفَلٍ سَرْعَى.⁴⁰ لَأَتْنَا فِي خَطَرٍ أَنْ تُحَاكَمَ مِنْ أَجْلِ فِتْنَةٍ هَذَا الْيَوْمَ وَلَيْسَ إِلَهُهُ يُمَكِّنُنَا مِنْ أَجْلِهَا أَنْ نُقَدَّمَ حِسَابًا عَنْ هَذَا التَّجْمَعِ.⁴¹ وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا صَرَفَ الْمَحْفَلَ.

that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:²⁷ So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.²⁸ And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.²⁹ And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.³⁰ And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.³¹ And certain of the chief of Asia, which were his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.³² Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part knew not wherefore they were come together.³³ And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people.³⁴ But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.³⁵ And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana,

and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?³⁶ Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.³⁷ For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.³⁸ Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead one another.³⁹ But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.⁴⁰ For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar, there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this concourse.⁴¹ And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.