

شهادة الإيمان في العهد القديم

¹ وَأَمَّا الْإِيمَانُ فَهُوَ الثَّقَّةُ بِمَا يُرْجَى وَالْإِيمَانُ بِأُمُورٍ لَا تُرَى. ² فَإِنَّهُمْ فِي هَذَا شُهِدُوا لِلْقَدَمَاءِ. ³ بِالْإِيمَانِ تَقَبَّحَهُمُ أَنَّ الْعَالَمِينَ أَنْفَعَتْ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ حَتَّى لَمْ يَتَكَوَّنْ مَا يَرَى وَمَا هُوَ ظَاهِرٌ. ⁴ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَدَّمَ هَابِيلُ لِلَّهِ ذَبِيحَةً أَفْضَلَ مِنْ قَايِينَ، فَبِهِ شُهِدَ لَهُ أَنَّهُ بَارٌّ إِذْ شَهِدَ اللَّهُ لِقَرَابَيْنِهِ، وَبِهِ، وَإِنْ مَاتَ، يَتَكَلَّمُ بَعْدُ. ⁵ بِالْإِيمَانِ نُفِلَ أَخْنُوخُ لِكَيْ لَا يَرَى الْمَوْتَ وَلَمْ يُوجَدْ لِأَنَّ اللَّهَ تَقَلَّهْ، إِذْ قَبْلَ تَقْلِيهِ شُهِدَ لَهُ بِأَنَّهُ قَدْ أَرْضَى اللَّهَ. ⁶ وَلَكِنْ بِدُونِ إِيمَانٍ لَا يُمْكِنُ إِرْصَاؤُهُ، لِأَنَّهُ يَجِبُ أَنْ الَّذِي يَأْتِي إِلَى اللَّهِ يُؤْمِنُ بِأَنَّهُ مُوجُودٌ وَأَنَّهُ يُجَازِي الَّذِينَ يَطْلُبُونَهُ. ⁷ بِالْإِيمَانِ نُوحٌ، لَمَّا أُوجِيَ إِلَيْهِ عَنْ أُمُورٍ لَمْ تَرُ بَعْدُ، خَافَ قَبْتِي فُلْكَ لِيَخْلَصَ بَنِيهِ، فَبِهِ دَانَ الْعَالَمُ وَصَارَ وَارِثًا لِلْبِرِّ الَّذِي حَسَبَ الْإِيمَانِ. ⁸ بِالْإِيمَانِ إِبْرَاهِيمُ، لَمَّا دُعِيَ، أَطَاعَ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ إِلَى الْمَكَانِ الَّذِي كَانَ عَتِيدًا أَنْ يَأْخُذَهُ مِيزَانًا، فَخَرَجَ وَهُوَ لَا يَعْلَمُ إِلَى أَيْنَ يَأْتِي. ⁹ بِالْإِيمَانِ تَعَرَّبَ فِي أَرْضِ الْمُؤَعَّدِ كَأَنَّهَا غَرِيبَةٌ سَاكِنًا فِي خِيَامٍ مَعَ إِسْحَاقَ وَيَعْقُوبَ الْوَارِثَيْنِ مَعَهُ لِهَذَا الْمُؤَعَّدِ عَيْنِهِ، ¹⁰ لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَنْتَظِرُ الْمَدِينَةَ الَّتِي لَهَا الْأَسَاسَاتُ الَّتِي صَانِعُهَا وَبَارِئُهَا اللَّهُ. ¹¹ بِالْإِيمَانِ سَارَةُ تَفْسُهَا أَيْضًا أَخَذَتْ قُدْرَةً عَلَى إِنْشَاءِ نَسْلِ وَغَدَ وَفَتِ السِّنِّ وَلَدَتْ، إِذْ حَسِبَتْ الَّذِي وَعَدَ صَادِقًا. ¹² لِذَلِكَ وُلِدَ أَيْضًا مِنْ وَاحِدٍ، وَذَلِكَ مِنْ مُمَاتٍ، مِنْئِذَا نُحُومِ السَّمَاءِ فِي الْكَثْرَةِ وَكَالزَّمَلِ الَّذِي عَلَى سَاطِئِ الْبَحْرِ الَّذِي لَا يُعَدُّ. ¹³ فِي الْإِيمَانِ مَاتَ هَؤُلَاءِ أَجْمَعُونَ وَهُمْ لَمْ يَبَالُوا بِالْمَوَاعِيدِ، بَلْ مِنْ بَعِيدٍ تَطَرُّوْهَا وَصَدَّقُوهَا وَخَبُّوْهَا وَأَقْرَبُوا بِأَنَّهُمْ غُرَبَاءُ وَتَرَلَاءُ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ. ¹⁴ فَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ مِثْلَ هَذَا يُظْهِرُونَ أَنَّهُمْ يَطْلُبُونَ وَطَنًا. ¹⁵ قَلَوْ ذَكَرُوا ذَلِكَ الَّذِي خَرَجُوا مِنْهُ لَكَانَ لَهُمْ فُرْصَةٌ لِلرُّجُوعِ، وَلَكِنْ الْآنَ يَسْتَعُونَ وَطَنًا أَفْضَلَ، أَيْ سَمَآوِيًّا، لِذَلِكَ لَا يَسْتَجِبُ بِهِمُ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُدْعَى إِلَهُهُمْ لِأَنَّهُ أَعَدَّ لَهُمْ مَدِينَةً. ¹⁷ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَدَّمَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ إِسْحَاقَ وَهُوَ مُجَرَّبٌ، قَدَّمَ الَّذِي قَبْلَ الْمَوَاعِيدِ، وَجِدَهُ، الَّذِي قِيلَ لَهُ: "إِنَّهُ بِإِسْحَاقَ يُدْعَى لَكَ نَسْلٌ"، ¹⁹ إِذْ حَسِبَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ قَادِرٌ عَلَى الْإِقَامَةِ مِنَ الْأَمْوَاطِ أَيْضًا الَّذِينَ مِنْهُمْ أَخَذَهُ أَيْضًا فِي مِثَالٍ. ²⁰ بِالْإِيمَانِ إِسْحَاقُ بَارَكَ يَعْقُوبَ وَعَيْشُو مِنْ جِهَةِ أُمُورٍ عَتِيدَةٍ. ²¹ بِالْإِيمَانِ يَعْقُوبُ عِنْدَ مَوْتِهِ بَارَكَ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْ ابْنَيْ يَوْسُفَ وَسَجَدَ عَلَى رَأْسِ عَصَاهُ. ²² بِالْإِيمَانِ يَوْسُفُ عِنْدَ مَوْتِهِ ذَكَرَ خُرُوجَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَأَوْصَى مِنْ

¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ² For by it the elders obtained a good report. ³ Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. ⁴ By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. ⁵ By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. ⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. ⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. ⁹ By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: ¹⁰ For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. ¹¹ Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she

جَهة عَظَامِهِ.²³ بِالْإِيمَانِ مُوسَى، بَعْدَمَا وُلِدَ، أَحَقَّاهُ أَبَوَاهُ
ثَلَاثَةَ أَشْهُرٍ لَأَنَّهُمَا رَأَيَا الصَّبِيَّ جَمِيلًا وَلَمْ يَخْشَيَا أَمْرَ
الْمَلِكِ.²⁴ بِالْإِيمَانِ مُوسَى لَمَّا كَبُرَ أَبَى أَنْ يُدْعَى ابْنُ ابْنَةِ
فِرْعَوْنَ²⁵ مَفْضَلًا بِالْأَخْرَى أَنْ يُدَلَّ مَعَ سَعْبِ اللَّهِ عَلَى أَنْ
يَكُونَ لَهُ تَمَنُّعٌ وَفَيْئٌ بِالْخَطِيئَةِ،²⁶ حَاسِبًا عَارَ الْمَسِيحِ غِنَى
أَعْظَمَ مِنْ خَزَائِنِ مِصْرَ لَأَنَّهُ كَانَ يَنْتَظِرُ إِلَى
الْمُجَارَاةِ.²⁷ بِالْإِيمَانِ تَرَكَ مِصْرَ عَبَّرَ خَائِفٍ مِنْ عَصَبِ
الْمَلِكِ لَأَنَّهُ تَشَدَّدَ كَأَنَّهُ يَرَى مَنْ لَا يَرَى.²⁸ بِالْإِيمَانِ صَنَعَ
الْفُصْحَ وَرَشَّ الدَّمَ لئَلَّا يَمَسَّهُمْ الَّذِي أَهْلَكَ
الْأَبْكَارَ.²⁹ بِالْإِيمَانِ اجْتَازُوا فِي الْبَحْرِ الْأَحْمَرِ كَمَا فِي
الْيَابِسَةِ، الْأَمْرُ الَّذِي لَمَّا سَرَعَ فِيهِ الْمِصْرِيُّونَ
عَرَفُوا.³⁰ بِالْإِيمَانِ سَقَطَتْ أَسْوَازُ أَرِيخَا بَعْدَمَا طَيْفَ
جَوْلَهَا سَبْعَةَ أَيَّامٍ.³¹ بِالْإِيمَانِ رَاحَبُ الرَّاغِبَةِ لَمْ تَهْلِكْ مَعَ
الْغُصَاةِ إِذْ قَبِلَتْ الْجَاسُوسِينَ بِسَلَامٍ.³² وَمَاذَا أَقُولُ أَيْضًا؟ لَأَنَّهُ يُعَوِّزُنِي الْوَقْتُ إِنْ أَحْبَرْتُ عَنْ
جِدْعُونَ وَبَارَاقَ وَشَمْشُونَ وَيَفْتَحَاحَ وَدَاوُدَ وَصَمُوئِيلَ
وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ،³³ الَّذِينَ بِالْإِيمَانِ قَهَرُوا مَمَالِكَ، صَنَعُوا بَرًّا، تَأَلَّوْا
مَوَاعِيدَ، سَدُّوا أَفْوَاهَ أَسُودٍ،³⁴ أَطْفَأُوا قُوَّةَ النَّارِ، تَجَاوَزُوا مِنْ
حَدِّ السَّيْفِ، تَقَوَّوْا مِنْ ضَعْفٍ، صَارُوا أَشِدَّاءَ فِي
الْحَرْبِ، هَزَمُوا جُبُوشَ غُرَبَاءَ،³⁵ أَخَذَتْ نِسَاءٌ أَمْوَاتَهُنَّ
بِقِيَامَةٍ، وَآخَرُونَ غَدَّبُوا وَلَمْ يَقْبَلُوا النِّجَاةَ لِكَيْ يَتَأَلَّوْا
قِيَامَةً أَفْضَلَ،³⁶ وَآخَرُونَ تَجَرَّبُوا فِي هُزْءٍ وَجَلَدٍ ثُمَّ فِي
قُبُودٍ أَيْضًا وَخَبْسٍ،³⁷ رُجِمُوا، نُشِرُوا، جُرِّبُوا، مَاتُوا قَتْلًا
بِالسَّيْفِ، طَافُوا فِي جُلُودِ عَنَمٍ وَجُلُودِ مِغْرَى، مُعْتَازِينَ،
مَكْرُوبِينَ، مُدَلِّينَ،³⁸ وَهُمْ لَمْ يَكُنِ الْعَالَمُ مُسْتَجِيبًا لَهُمْ،
تَائِهِينَ فِي بَرَارِيٍّ وَجِبَالٍ وَمَعَايِرَ وَسُفُوقِ
الْأَرْضِ.³⁹ فَهَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ، مَشْهُودًا لَهُمْ بِالْإِيمَانِ، لَمْ يَتَأَلَّوْا
الْمَوْعِدَ إِذْ سَبَقَ اللَّهُ فَتَطَرَّ لَنَا سَيِّئًا أَفْضَلَ لِكَيْ لَا
يُكْمَلُوا بِذُنُوبِنَا.

judged him faithful who had promised.¹² Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.¹⁴ For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.¹⁵ And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.¹⁶ But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,¹⁸ Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:¹⁹ Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.²⁰ By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.²² By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's

commandment.²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;²⁵ Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;²⁶ Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.²⁷ By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.²⁸ Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.³¹ By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.³² And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:³³ Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,³⁴ Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:³⁶ And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover

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of bonds and imprisonment:³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;³⁸ (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.³⁹ And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:⁴⁰ God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.