

مسؤولية المؤمنين تجاه العالم

¹دَكَرْهُمْ أَنْ يَخْضَعُوا لِلرَّيَاسَاتِ وَالسَّلَاطِينِ وَيُطِيعُوا وَيَكُونُوا مُسْتَعِدِّينَ لِكُلِّ عَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ، ²وَلَا يَطْعَنُوا فِي أَحَدٍ، وَيَكُونُوا غَيْرَ مُخَاصِمِينَ، خُلَمَاءَ، مُطَهِّرِينَ كُلَّ وَدَاعَةٍ لِجَمِيعِ النَّاسِ. ³لَأَنَّا كُنَّا نَحْنُ أَيْضاً قَبْلًا أَغْيَاءَ، غَيْرَ طَائِعِينَ، صَالِينَ، مُسْتَعْبِدِينَ لِسَهَوَاتٍ وَلَذَاتٍ مُخْتَلِفَةٍ، غَائِثِينَ فِي الْخُبْثِ وَالْحَسَدِ، مَمْنُونِينَ، مُبْغِضِينَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضاً. ⁴وَلَكِنْ حِينَ طَهَّرَ لُطْفُ مُخْلِصِنَا إِلَهٍ وَإِحْسَانُهُ، ⁵لَا بِأَعْمَالٍ فِي بَرٍّ عَمَلْنَاهَا نَحْنُ بَلْ بِمُقْتَصَى رَحْمَتِهِ، خَلَصَنَا يَغْسِلُ الْمِيلَادِ الثَّانِي وَتَجْدِيدِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ ⁶الَّذِي سَكَبَهُ بِنِعْمَتِهِ عَلَيْنَا يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ مُخْلِصَنَا، ⁷حَتَّى إِذَا تَبَرَّرْنَا بِنِعْمَتِهِ نَصِيرُ وَرَثَةً حَسَبَ رَجَاءِ الْحَيَاةِ الْآبَدِيَّةِ. ⁸صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ. وَأَرِيدُ أَنْ تُقَرَّرَ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورُ لِكَيْ يَهْتَمَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ أَنْ يُمَارِسُوا أَعْمَالاً حَسَنَةً، فَإِنَّ هَذِهِ الْأُمُورَ هِيَ الْحَسَنَةُ وَالنَّافِعَةُ لِلنَّاسِ.

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⁹وَأَمَّا الْمُبَاحَثَاتُ الْعَبِيَّةُ وَالْأَنَسَابُ وَالْخُصُومَاتُ وَالْمُنَارَعَاتُ النَّامُوسِيَّةُ فَاجْتَنِبْهَا، لِأَنَّهَا غَيْرُ نَافِعَةٍ وَبَاطِلَةٌ. ¹⁰الرَّجُلُ الْمُتَبَدِّعُ، بَعْدَ الْإِنْدَارِ مَرَّةً وَمَرَّتَيْنِ، أَعْرِضْ عَنْهُ، ¹¹عَالِماً أَنَّ مِثْلَ هَذَا قَدْ انْحَرَفَ وَهُوَ يُخْطِئُ مَحْكُوماً عَلَيْهِ مِنْ تَفْسِيهِ. ¹²جَبِئاً أُرْسِلُ إِلَيْكَ أَرْتِيمَاسَ أَوْ تِيخِيكُسَ بَادِرَ أَنْ تَأْتِيَ إِلَيَّ إِلَى نِيكُوبُولِسَ، لِأَنِّي عَرَفْتُ أَنَّ أَسْنَى هُنَاكَ. ¹³جَهِّزْ زِينَاسَ النَّامُوسِيَّ وَأَبْلُوسَ بِاجْتِهَادٍ لِلسَّفَرِ حَتَّى لَا يُعْوزَهُمَا شَيْءٌ. ¹⁴وَلْيَتَعَلَّمْ مَنْ لَنَا أَيْضاً أَنْ يُمَارِسُوا أَعْمَالاً حَسَنَةً لِلْحَاجَاتِ الصَّرُورِيَّةِ حَتَّى لَا يَكُونُوا بِلَا تَمَرٍّ. ¹⁵يَسَلِّمْ عَلَيْكَ الَّذِينَ مَعِيَ جَمِيعاً. سَلِّمْ عَلَى الَّذِينَ يُحِبُّونَنَا فِي الْإِيمَانِ. أَلْتَعَمَّهُ مَعَ جَمِيعِكُمْ.

¹Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, ²To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. ³For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. ⁴But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, ⁵Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; ⁶Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; ⁷That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men. ⁹But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. ¹⁰A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; ¹¹Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself. ¹²When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter. ¹³Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them. ¹⁴And let ours also learn to maintain

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good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.¹⁵ All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.