

التعاليم المصلّة

¹وَلَكِنَّ الرُّوحَ يَقُولُ صَرِيحاً: إِنَّهُ فِي الْأَرْمَنَةِ الْأَخِيرَةِ يَرْتَدُّ قَوْمٌ عَنِ الْإِيمَانِ، تَابِعِينَ أَرْوَاحاً مُضَلَّةً وَتَعَالِيمَ شَيْطَانِينَ،² فِي رِبَاءِ أَقْوَالٍ كَاذِبَةٍ، مَوْسُومَةً صَمَائِزُهُمْ،³ مَا يَبْعِينَ عَنِ الرِّوَاجِ، وَأَمِيرِينَ أَنْ يُمْتَنَعَ عَنْ أَطْعَمَةٍ قَدْ خَلَقَهَا اللَّهُ لِنِسْأَوَلِ الشُّكْرِ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَغَارِفِي الْحَقِّ.⁴ لِأَنَّ كُلَّ خَلِيقَةِ اللَّهِ جَيِّدَةٌ وَلَا يُرْفَضُ شَيْءٌ إِذَا أُخِذَ مَعَ الشُّكْرِ،⁵ لِأَنَّهُ يُقَدَّسُ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةِ.⁶ إِنْ فَكَّرْتَ الْإِخْوَةَ بِهَذَا تَكُونُ خَادِماً صَالِحاً لِيَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ مُتَرَبِّياً بِكَلَامِ الْإِيمَانِ وَالتَّعْلِيمِ الْحَسَنِ الَّذِي تَتَّبَعْتَهُ.⁷ وَأَمَّا الْخَرَاقَاتُ الدَّيْسَةُ الْعَجَائِزِيَّةُ فَارْفُضْهَا وَرَوِّضْ نَفْسَكَ لِلتَّقْوَى،⁸ لِأَنَّ الرِّيَاضَةَ الْجَسَدِيَّةَ تَافِعُهُ لِقَلِيلٍ وَلَكِنَّ التَّقْوَى تَافِعُهُ لِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ، إِذْ لَهَا مَوْعِدُ الْحَيَاةِ الْخَاصِرَةِ وَالْعَيِّدَةِ.⁹ صَادِقَةٌ هِيَ الْكَلِمَةُ وَمُسْتَحِقَّةُ كُلِّ قُبُولٍ،¹⁰ لِأَنَّا لِهَذَا نَتَعَبُ وَنُعَبِّرُ، لِأَنَّا قَدْ أَلْقَيْنَا رَجَاءَنَا عَلَى اللَّهِ الْحَيِّ الَّذِي هُوَ مُخْلَصُ جَمِيعِ النَّاسِ وَلَا سِيَّمًا الْمُؤْمِنِينَ.¹¹ أَوْصِ بِهَذَا وَعَلِّمْ.

الخادم الصالح

¹²لَا يَسْتَهِنْ أَحَدٌ بِخَدَائِكَ بَلْ كُنْ قُدْوَةً لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ فِي الْكَلَامِ، فِي النَّصْرِفِ، فِي الْمَحَبَّةِ، فِي الرُّوحِ، فِي الْإِيمَانِ، فِي الطَّهَارَةِ.¹³ إِلَى أَنْ أَجِيءَ اعْكُفْ عَلَى الْقِرَاءَةِ وَالْوَعظِ وَالتَّعْلِيمِ.¹⁴ لَا تَهْمِلِ الْمَوْهَبَةَ الَّتِي فِيكَ الْمُعْطَاةَ لَكَ بِالنَّبُوءَةِ مَعَ وَضْعِ أَيْدِي الْمَسِيحَةِ.¹⁵ اهْتَمِّ بِهَذَا، كُنْ فِيهِ، لِكَيْ تَكُونَ تَقْدُمَكَ طَاهِراً فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ.¹⁶ لَا حِطُّ نَفْسِكَ وَالتَّعْلِيمِ، وَدَاوِمٌ عَلَى ذَلِكَ، لِأَنَّكَ إِذَا فَعَلْتَ هَذَا تُخْلَصُ نَفْسُكَ وَالَّذِينَ يَسْمَعُونَكَ أَيْضاً.

¹Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;³ Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.⁴ For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.⁵ If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.⁶ But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.⁷ For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.⁸ This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.⁹ For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.¹⁰ These things command and teach.¹¹ Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.¹² Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.¹³ Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.¹⁴ Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them;

that thy profiting may appear to all.¹⁶ Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.