كنيسة كورنثوس شهادة للرّسول

أَفْنَبْتَدِئُ نَمْدَحُ أَنْفُسَنَا؟ أَمْ لَعَلَّنَا نَحْتَاجُ كَقَوْمٍ رَسَائِلَ تَوْصِيَةٍ مِنْكُمْ؟ أَثْتُمْ رِسَالَتُنَا مَكْثُوبَةً فِي قُلُوبِنَا، مَعْرُوفَةً وَمَقْرُوءَةً مِنْ جَمِيعِ النَّاسِ، قَطُاهِرِينَ أَنَّكُمْ رِسَالَهُ المَسِيحِ، مَحْدُومَةً مِنَّا، مَكْثُوبَةً لاَ بِحِبْرِ بَلْ بِرُوحِ اللهِ الْحَيِّ، لاَ فِي أَلْوَاحٍ حَجَرِيَّةٍ مَلْ فِي أَلْوَاحٍ حَجَرِيَّةٍ .

خدمة العهَد الجديد هي بالرّوح

ُوَلَكِنْ لَنَا ثِقَةٌ مِثْلُ هَذِهِ بِالمَسِيحِ لَدَى اللهِ، ۚلَيْسَ أَنَّنَا كُفَاةٌ مِنْ أَنْفُسِنَا أَنْ نَفْتَكِرَ شَبْئاً ۖ كَأَنَّهُ مِنْ أَنْفُسِنَا، يَلْ كفَايَتُنَا مِنَ اللهُ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا كُفَاةً لأَنْ نَكُونَ خُدَّامَ عَهْدٍ جَديدٍ، لاَ الْحَرْفِ بَلِ الرُّوحِ، لأَنَّ الْحَرْفَ يَقْتُلُ وَلَكِنَّ الِـرُّوحَ يُحْيِي. ُ ثُـمَّ إِنْ كَـانَتُ خِدْمَـةُ المَـوْتِ المَنْقُوشَـةُ باْحُرُفِ فِي حِجَارَةِ قَدْ حَصَلَتْ فِي مَجْدِ حَتَّى لَمْ يَقْدِرْ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ أَنْ يَنْظُرُوا إِلَى وَجْهِ مُوسَى لِسَبَب مَجْد وَجْهِهُ الزَّائِل، ْفَكَيْفَ لاَ تَكُونُ بِالأَوْلَى خِدْمَةُ الرُّوحِ فِي مَجْدٍ؟ ۚ لأَنَّهُ إِنْ كَانَتْ خِدْمَهُ الدَّيْنُونَةِ مَجْداً فَبِالأَوْلَى ۖ كَثِيراً تَزيدُ خِدْمَةُ الْبِرِّ فِي مَحْدِ.¹⁰فَإِنَّ المُمَحَّدَ أَيْضاً لَمْ يُمَحَّدْ مِنْ هَذَا الْقَبِيلِ لِسَبَبِ المَجُّدِ الْفَائِقِ.¹¹لأَنَّهُ إِنْ كَانَ الرَّائِلُ في مَحْد فَبالأَوْلَى كَثِيراً بَكُونُ الدَّائِمُ في مَحْد. أَفَاذْ لَنَا رَحَاءٌ مِثْلُ هَذَا نَسْتَعْمِلُ مُحَاهَرَةً كَثِيرَةً، أَوَلَيْسَ كَمَا كَانَ مُوسَى يَضَعُ بُرْ قُعاً عَلَى وَجْهِه لِكَيْ لاَ يَنْظُرَ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ إِلَى نِهَايَة الزَّاائِل، 14 أَغْلَظَتْ حَتَّى الْيَوْمُ ذَلِكَ الْبُرْقُعُ نَفْسُهُ عِنْدَ قِرَاءَةِ الْعَهْدِ الْعَتِيقِ بَاقِ غَيْرُ مُنْكَشِفِ، إلَّذِي يُبْطَلُ فِي المَسِيحِ.¹¹لَكِنْ حَتَّىَ الْيَـوْم، حِيـنَ يُقْـرَأُ مُوسَـي، الْـبُرْقُعُ مَوْضُـوعٌ عَلَـي قَلْبِهِمْ.َ 16 وَلَكِنْ عِنْدَمَا يَرْجِعُ إِلَى الرَّبِّ يُرْفَعُ الْبُرْقُعُ. 1 وَأُمَّا الرَّاتُّ فَهُوَ الرُّوحُ، وَحَيْثُ رُوحُ الرَّابِّ هُنَاكَ حُرِّيَّةُ.18وَنَحْنُ جَمِيعاً نَاظِرِينَ مَجْدَ الرَّبِّ بِوَجْهِ مَكْشُوفٍ كَمَا فِي مِرْآةٍ، نَتَغَيَّرُ إِلَى تِلْكَ الصُّورَةِ عَيْنِهَا مِنْ مَجْدِ إِلَى مَجْدِ، كَمَا منَ الرَّبِّ الرُّوحِ.

¹Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:5Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament: not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: 8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. 10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. 11 For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. 12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth

the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. ¹⁵But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. ¹⁶Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.