

المقدمة

¹الكَلَامُ الْأَوَّلُ أَنَسَانُهُ، يَا تَاؤْفِيلُسُ، عَن جَمِيعِ مَا ابْتَدَأَ يَسُوعُ بَعْلَهُ وَتَعَلَّمَ بِهِ ²إِلَى الْيَوْمِ الَّذِي ارْتَفَعَ فِيهِ بَعْدَ مَا أَوْصَى بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ الرُّسُلَ الَّذِينَ اخْتَارَهُمْ، ³الَّذِينَ أَرَاهُمْ أَيْضاً نَفْسَهُ حَيّاً يَبْرَاهِينِ كَثِيرَةٍ بَعْدَ مَا تَأَلَّمَ وَهُوَ يَطْهَرُ لَهُمْ أَرْبَعِينَ يَوْماً وَيَتَكَلَّمُ عَنِ الْأُمُورِ الْمُخْتَصَّةِ بِمَلَكُوتِ اللَّهِ.

يسوع المسيح يرتفع الى السماء

⁴وَفِيَمَا هُوَ مُجْتَمِعٌ مَعَهُمْ أَوْصَاهُمْ أَنْ لَا يَبْرَحُوا مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ بَلْ يَنْتَظِرُوا مَوْعِدَ الْآبِ، الَّذِي سَمِعْتُمُوهُ مِنِّي. ⁵لَأنَّ يُوْحَنَّا عَمَّدَ بِالْمَاءِ وَأَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَسَتَنْتَظِرُونَ بِالرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ لَيْسَ بَعْدَ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ بَكْثِيرٍ. ⁶أَمَّا هُمْ الْمُجْتَمِعُونَ فَسَأَلُوهُ قَائِلِينَ: يَا رَبُّ، هَلْ فِي هَذَا الْوَقْتِ تَرُدُّ الْمُلْكَ إِلَى إِسْرَائِيلَ؟ ⁷فَقَالَ لَهُمْ: لَيْسَ لَكُمْ أَنْ تَعْرِفُوا الْأَرْبَمَةَ وَالْأَوْقَاتِ الَّتِي جَعَلَهَا الْآبُ فِي سُلْطَانِهِ، ⁸لَكِنْكُمْ سَتَأَلُونَ قُوَّةً مِّنْ خَلِّ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَتَكُونُونَ لِي شُهُوداً فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ وَفِي كُلِّ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَالسَّامِرَةِ وَإِلَى أَقْصَى الْأَرْضِ.

⁹وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا ارْتَفَعَ وَهُمْ يَنْظُرُونَ، وَأَخَذَتْهُ سَحَابَةٌ عَنْ أَعْيُنِهِمْ. ¹⁰وَفِيَمَا كَانُوا يَنْشَخُصُونَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ مُنْطَلِقٌ إِذَا رَجُلَانِ قَدْ وَقَفَا بِهِمْ يَلْبَاسِي أَبْيَضَ. ¹¹وَقَالَا: أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْجَلِيلِيُّونَ، مَا يَالَكُمْ وَاقِفِينَ تَنْظُرُونَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ؟ إِنَّ يَسُوعَ هَذَا الَّذِي ارْتَفَعَ عَنْكُمْ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ سَيَأْتِي هَكَذَا كَمَا رَأَيْتُمُوهُ مُنْطَلِقاً إِلَى السَّمَاءِ. ¹²جَنَبِذِ رَجَعُوا إِلَى أُورُشَلِيمَ مِنَ الْجَبَلِ الَّذِي يُدْعَى جَبَلِ الرَّبُّونَ الَّذِي هُوَ بِالْقُرْبِ مِنْ أُورُشَلِيمَ عَلَى سَقَرِ سَبْتٍ. ¹³وَلَمَّا دَخَلُوا صَعِدُوا إِلَى الْعُلْيَةِ الَّتِي كَانُوا يُقِيمُونَ فِيهَا، بُطْرُسُ وَبَعْقُوبُ وَيُوْحَنَّا وَأَنْدَرَاوُسُ وَفِيلُبُّسُ وَثُومَا وَبَرْتُولَمَآوُسُ وَمَتَّى وَبَعْقُوبُ بْنُ حَلْفَى وَسِمْعَانَ الْعَيُورَ وَيَهُودَا بْنَ بَعْقُوبَ. ¹⁴هَؤُلَاءِ كُلُّهُمْ كَانُوا يَواطِبُونَ بِنَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ عَلَى الصَّلَاةِ وَالطَّلَبَةِ مَعَ النِّسَاءِ وَمَرْيَمَ، أُمِّ يَسُوعَ، وَمَعَ إِخْوَتِهِ.

اختيار الرسل الثاني عشر

¹⁵وَفِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ قَامَ بُطْرُسُ فِي وَسْطِ التَّلَامِيذِ، وَكَانَ عِدَّةُ أَسْمَاءٍ مَعاً، تَحَوِّ مِئَةً وَعِشْرِينَ، فَقَالَ: ¹⁶أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْإِخْوَةُ، كَانَ يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَتِمَّ هَذَا الْمَكْتُوبُ الَّذِي سَبَقَ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ فَقَالَهُ بِقَمِ دَاوُدَ عَنْ يَهُودَا الَّذِي صَارَ دَلِيلاً لِلَّذِينَ قَبَضُوا عَلَى يَسُوعَ، ¹⁷إِذْ كَانَ مَعْدُوداً بَيْنَنَا وَصَارَ لَهُ

¹The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ²Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: ³To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: ⁴And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. ⁵For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. ⁶When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? ⁷And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. ⁸But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. ⁹And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; ¹¹Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into

تَصِيبُ فِي هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ. ¹⁸ فَإِنَّ هَذَا اقْتَنَى حَقْلًا مِنْ أُجْرَةِ
الطَّلَمِ وَإِذْ سَقَطَ عَلَى وَجْهِهِ انْشَقَّ مِنَ الْوَسْطِ
فَانْشَكَتْ أَحْشَاؤُهُ كُلُّهَا. ¹⁹ وَصَارَ ذَلِكَ مَعْلُومًا عِنْدَ جَمِيعِ
سُكَّانِ أُورُشَلِيمَ حَتَّى دُعِيَ ذَلِكَ الْحَقْلُ فِي لُغَتِهِمْ: حَقْلَ
دَمًا، أَيْ حَقْلَ دَمٍ. ²⁰ لِأَنَّهُ مَكْتُوبٌ فِي سِفْرِ الْمَزَامِيرِ:
"لِتَصِرْ دَارُهُ خَرَابًا وَلَا يَكُنْ فِيهَا سَاكِنٌ وَلِيَأْخُذْ وَطِيقَتُهُ
آخَرًا." ²¹ فَتَبَغَّى أَنَّ الرِّجَالَ الَّذِينَ اجْتَمَعُوا مَعَنَا كُلَّ
الزَّمَانِ الَّذِي فِيهِ دَخَلَ إِلَيْنَا الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ وَخَرَجَ، مُنْذُ
مَعْمُودِيَّةِ بُوحَنَّا إِلَى الْيَوْمِ الَّذِي ارْتَفَعَ فِيهِ عَنَّا، يَصِيرُ
وَاحِدٌ مِنْهُمْ شَاهِدًا مَعَنَا بِقِيَامَتِهِ. ²³ فَأَقَامُوا اثْنَيْنِ، يُوسُفَ
الَّذِي يُدْعَى بَارْسَابَا، الْمُلَقَّبَ يُوسُفُسَ، وَمَتَّى. ²⁴ وَصَلُّوا
قَائِلِينَ: أَيُّهَا الرَّبُّ الْعَارِفُ قُلُوبَ الْجَمِيعِ، عَيْنُ أَنْتَ مِنْ
هَذَيْنِ الْإِثْنَيْنِ أَبَا احْتَرْتَهُ، ²⁵ لِيَأْخُذَ فُرْعَةً هَذِهِ الْخِدْمَةِ
وَالرَّسَالَةِ الَّتِي تَعْدَاهَا يَهُودًا لِيَذْهَبَ إِلَى مَكَانِهِ. ²⁶ ثُمَّ
أَلْقُوا فُرْعَتَهُمْ، فَوَقَعَتِ الْفُرْعَةُ عَلَى مَتَّى، فَحَسِبَ
مَعَ الْأَحَدِ عَشَرَ رَسُولًا.

heaven. ¹² Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. ¹³ And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. ¹⁴ These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. ¹⁵ And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) ¹⁶ Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. ¹⁷ For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. ¹⁸ Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aeldama, that is to say, The field of blood. ²⁰ For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. ²¹ Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be

ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.²³ And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.²⁴ And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,²⁵ That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.²⁶ And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.