

الرَّسُول بولس في جزيرة مليطة

¹وَلَمَّا تَجَوَّا وَجَدُوا أَنَّ الْجَزِيرَةَ تُدْعَى مَلِيطَةً.² فَقَدَّمَتْ أَهْلُهَا الْبَرَابِرَةُ لَنَا إِحْسَانًا غَيْرَ الْمُعْتَادِ لَأَنَّهُمْ أَوْقَدُوا نَارًا وَقَبِلُوا جَمِيعَنَا مِنْ أَجْلِ الْمَطَرِ الَّذِي أَصَابَنَا وَمِنْ أَجْلِ الْبَرْدِ.³ فَجَمَعَ بُولُسُ كَثِيرًا مِنَ الْقُصْبَانِ وَوَضَعَهَا عَلَى النَّارِ فَخَرَجَتْ مِنَ الْحَرَارَةِ أَفْعَى وَتَشَبَثَ فِي يَدِهِ.⁴ فَلَمَّا رَأَى الْبَرَابِرَةُ الْوَحْشَ مُعْلَقًا بِيَدِهِ قَالَ بَعْضُهُمْ لِبَعْضٍ: لَا بُدَّ أَنْ هَذَا الْإِنْسَانُ قَاتِلٌ لَمْ يَدْعُهُ الْعَذْلُ يَحْيَا وَلَوْ تَجَا مِنْ الْبَحْرِ. فَتَقَصَّ هُوَ الْوَحْشَ إِلَى النَّارِ وَلَمْ يَبْصُرْ يَشْيَءٍ رَدِيٍّ.⁶ وَأَمَّا هُمْ فَكَانُوا يَنْتَظِرُونَ أَنَّهُ عَيْدٌ أَنْ يَنْفِخَ أَوْ يَسْطُطَ بَغْتَةً مَيْنًا. فَإِذْ انْتَبَظُوا كَثِيرًا وَرَأَوْا أَنَّهُ لَمْ يَعْصِرْ لَهُ شَيْءٌ مُضِرٌّ تَغَيَّرُوا وَقَالُوا: هُوَ إِلَهٌ.⁷ وَكَانَ فِي مَا حَوْلَ ذَلِكَ الْمَوْضِعِ صَيَاغٌ لِمُقَدِّمِ الْجَزِيرَةِ الَّذِي اسْمُهُ بُولْيُوسُ، فَهَذَا قِيلَنا وَأَصَافُنَا بِمِلَاطَفَةٍ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ.⁸ فَحَدَّثَ أَنْ أَبَا بُولْيُوسَ كَانَ مُضْطَجِعًا مُعْتَرِيًا بِخُمَّى وَسَخَجٍ، فَدَخَلَ إِلَيْهِ بُولُسُ وَصَلَّى وَوَضَعَ يَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ فَسَقَاهُ.⁹ فَلَمَّا صَارَ هَذَا كَانَ الْبَاقُونَ الَّذِينَ بِهِمْ أَمْرَاضٌ فِي الْجَزِيرَةِ يَأْتُونَ وَيُسْقَوْنَ.¹⁰ فَأَكْرَمْنَا هَؤُلَاءِ إِكْرَامَاتٍ كَثِيرَةً، وَلَمَّا أَفْلَعْنَا رَوَدُونَا يَمًا بُحْتَاخَ إِلَيْهِ.

الإبحار نحو روما

¹¹وَبَعْدَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَشْهُرٍ أَفْلَعْنَا فِي سَفِينَةٍ إِسْكَندَرِيَّةٍ مَوْسُومَةٍ بِعَلَامَةِ الْجَوَرَاءِ كَأَنَّهُ قَدْ شَسَتْ فِي الْجَزِيرَةِ.¹² فَتَرَلْنَا إِلَى سِيرَاكُوسَ وَمَكِنَّا ثَلَاثَةَ أَيَّامٍ.¹³ ثُمَّ مِنْ هُنَاكَ ذُرْنَا وَأَقْبَلْنَا إِلَى رِيغْيُونِ، وَبَعْدَ يَوْمٍ وَاجِدٌ حَدَّثَنَا رِيحٌ جَنُوبٌ فَجِئْنَا فِي الْيَوْمِ الثَّانِي إِلَى بُوْطِيُولِي¹⁴ حَيْثُ وَجَدْنَا إِخْوَةً قَطَلَبُوا إِلَيْنَا أَنْ تَمَكَّتْ عِنْدَهُمْ سَبْعَةُ أَيَّامٍ، وَهَكَذَا أَتَيْنَا إِلَى رُومِيَّةٍ.¹⁵ وَمِنْ هُنَاكَ لَمَّا سَمِعَ الْإِخْوَةُ بِخَبَرِنَا خَرَجُوا لِاسْتِقْبَالِنَا إِلَى فُورْنِ أَبِيوسَ وَالثَّلَاثَةِ الْحَوَانِيثِ، فَلَمَّا رَأَهُمْ بُولُسُ شَكَرَ اللَّهَ وَتَسَبَّحَ.¹⁶ وَلَمَّا أَتَيْنَا إِلَى رُومِيَّةٍ سَلَّمَ قَائِدُ الْيَمَّةِ الْأَسْرَى إِلَى رَئِيسِ الْمُعَشِكِرِ، وَأَمَّا بُولُسُ فَادِنٌ لَهُ أَنْ يُقِيمَ وَحْدَهُ مَعَ الْعَسْكَرِيِّ الَّذِي كَانَ يَحْرُسُهُ.

الرَّسُول بولس في روما

¹⁷وَبَعْدَ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ اسْتَدْعَى بُولُسُ الَّذِينَ كَانُوا وَجُوهَ الْيَهُودِ، فَلَمَّا اجْتَمَعُوا قَالَ لَهُمْ: أَيُّهَا الرِّجَالُ الْإِخْوَةُ، مَعَ أَنِّي لَمْ أَفْعَلْ شَيْئًا ضِدَّ الشَّعْبِ أَوْ عَوَائِدِ الْآبَاءِ، أَسْلَمْتُ مُقْبِدًا مِنْ أَوْرَسَلِيمَ إِلَى أَيْدِي الرُّومَانِيِّينَ الَّذِينَ لَمَّا فَحَصُوا كَانُوا يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُطْلَعُونِي لِأَنَّهُ لَمْ تَكُنْ فِيَّ عِلَّةٌ

¹And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita.² And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.³ And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.⁴ And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.⁵ And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.⁶ Howbeit they looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.⁷ In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously.⁸ And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.⁹ So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:¹⁰ Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.¹¹ And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux.¹² And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three

وَاجِدَهُ لِلْمَوْتِ.¹⁹ وَلَكِنْ لَمَّا قَاوَمَ الْيَهُودُ اضْطُرُّوا أَنْ
أَرْفَعَ دَعْوَاهُ إِلَى قَيْصَرٍ، لَيْسَ كَانَ لِي سَبِيلاً لِأَسْتَكْبِرَ بِهِ
عَلَى أُمَّتِي.²⁰ فَهَذَا السَّبَبُ طَلَبْتُكُمْ لَأَرَاكُمْ وَأَكَلَمَكُمْ لَأَتِي
مِنْ أَجْلِ رَجَاءِ إِسْرَائِيلَ مُوتِقٍ بِهَذِهِ السَّلْسِلَةِ.²¹ فَقَالُوا
لَهُ: تَحْنُ لَمْ تَقْبَلْ كِتَابَاتٍ فِيكَ مِنَ الْيَهُودِيَّةِ وَلَا أَحَدٌ مِنَ
الْإِخْوَةِ جَاءَ فَأَخْبَرَنَا أَوْ تَكَلَّمَ عَنْكَ بِشَيْءٍ رَدِّيٍّ.²² وَلَكِنَّا
تَسْتَحْسِنُ أَنْ تَسْمَعَ مِنْكَ مَاذَا تَرَى لِأَنَّهُ مَعْلُومٌ عِنْدَنَا مِنْ
جَهَةِ هَذَا الْمَذْهَبِ أَنَّهُ يَقَاوَمُ فِي كُلِّ مَكَانٍ.

²³ فَعَيَّنُوا لَهُ يَوْماً فَجَاءَ إِلَيْهِ كَثِيرُونَ إِلَى الْمَنْزِلِ، فَطَفِقَ
يَسْرُحُ لَهُمْ شَاهِداً يَمْلِكُوتُ اللَّهَ، وَثَمِيناً إِيَّاهُمْ مِنْ
تَامُوسَ مُوسَى وَالْأَنْبِيَاءِ بِأَمْرِ يَسُوعَ مِنَ الصَّبَاحِ إِلَى
الْمَسَاءِ.²⁴ فَاقْتَبَعَ بَعْضُهُمْ بِمَا قِيلَ وَبَعْضُهُمْ لَمْ
يُؤْمِنُوا،²⁵ فَانْصَرَفُوا وَهُمْ عَيْرُ مُتَّفِقِينَ بَعْضُهُمْ مَعَ بَعْضٍ
لَمَّا قَالَ بُولُسُ كَلِمَةً وَاجِدَةً: إِنَّهُ حَسَنًا كُلَّمَا الرُّوحُ
الْقُدُّوسُ أَبَاءَنَا بِاسْمِعْيَاءَ النَّبِيِّ قَائِلاً: "اذهَبْ إِلَى هَذَا
الشَّعْبِ وَقُلْ: سَتَسْمَعُونَ صَوْتِي وَلَا تَفْهَمُونَ
وَسَتَسْطُرُّونَ تَطَرّاً وَلَا تُبْصِرُونَ."²⁷ لِأَنَّ قَلْبَ هَذَا الشَّعْبِ
قَدْ غَلَطَ وَبَادَانَهُمْ سَمِعُوا تَقِيلاً وَأَعْيَيْنَهُمْ أَعْمَضُواهَا. لِئَلَّا
يُبْصِرُوا بِأَعْيَيْنِهِمْ وَيَسْمَعُوا بِأَذَانِهِمْ وَيَفْهَمُوا بِقُلُوبِهِمْ
وَيَرْجِعُوا فَاسْفِيهِمْ.²⁸ فَلَيْكُنْ مَعْلُوماً عِنْدَكُمْ أَنَّ خَلَاصَ
اللَّهِ قَدْ أُرْسِلَ إِلَى الْأُمَمِ وَهُمْ سَيَسْمَعُونَ.²⁹ وَلَمَّا قَالَ
هَذَا مَضَى الْيَهُودُ وَلَهُمْ مُبَاحَتَةٌ كَثِيرَةٌ فِيمَا بَيْنَهُمْ.

³⁰ وَأَقَامَ بُولُسُ سَتَيْنِ كَامِلَتَيْنِ فِي بَيْتٍ اسْتَأْجَرَهُ
لِنَفْسِهِ، وَكَانَ يَقْبَلُ جَمِيعَ الَّذِينَ يَدْخُلُونَ إِلَيْهِ كَارِزاً
يَمْلِكُوتُ اللَّهَ وَمُعَلِّماً بِأَمْرِ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحِ بِكُلِّ
مُجَاهَرَةٍ بِلَا مَانِعٍ.

days.¹³ And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli:¹⁴ Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.¹⁵ And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii Forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.¹⁶ And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.¹⁷ And it came to pass, that after three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.¹⁸ Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me.¹⁹ But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of.²⁰ For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.²¹ And they said unto him, We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee.²² But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.²³ And when they had

appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.²⁴ And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.²⁵ And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,²⁶ Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:²⁷ For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.²⁸ Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.²⁹ And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.³⁰ And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,³¹ Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.