

¹هَلُمَّ الْآنَ، أَيُّهَا الْأَغْنِيَاءُ، ابْكُوا مُؤَلَّوِينَ عَلَى شَقَاوَتِكُمْ الْقَادِمَةِ. ²عِنَاكُم قَدْ تَهَرَّأَ وَتَبَايَكُم قَدْ أَكَلَهَا الْعُثُ، ³دَهَبُكُمْ وَفِصَّتُكُمْ قَدْ صَدِنَا وَصَدَّاهُمَا يَكُونُ شَهَادَةً عَلَيْكُمْ وَيَاكُلُ لُحُومَكُمْ كَنَارًا، قَدْ كَثُرَتْ فِي الْأَيَّامِ الْآخِرَةِ. ⁴هَذَا أَجْرُهُ الْفَعْلَةِ الَّذِينَ حَصَدُوا حُقُولَكُمْ الْمَبْخُوسَةَ مِنْكُمْ تَصْرُحُ وَصَيَاخُ الْحَصَادِينَ قَدْ دَخَلَ إِلَى أَدْنَى رَبِّ الْجُنُودِ. ⁵قَدْ تَرَفَّهْتُمْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ وَتَعَمَّمْتُمْ وَرَبَّيْتُمْ قُلُوبَكُمْ كَمَا فِي يَوْمِ الدَّبْحِ. ⁶حَكَمْتُمْ عَلَى الْبَارِّ، قَتَلْتُمُوهُ، لَا يُقَاوِمُكُمْ.

الْبَائِي وَالنِّقَّة فِي مَجِيءِ الرَّبِّ

⁷قَتَلْتُمَا، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، إِلَى مَجِيءِ الرَّبِّ. هَذَا الْفَلَّاحُ يَسْطِرُّ تَمَرَ الْأَرْضِ التَّيْمِينَ مُتَأَنِّبًا عَلَيْهِ حَتَّى يَتَالَ الْمَطَرُ الْمُبَكَّرَ وَالْمُتَأَخَّرَ، ⁸قَتَلْتُمَا أَنْتُمْ وَتَبَّيْتُمَا قُلُوبَكُمْ لِأَنَّ مَجِيءَ الرَّبِّ قَدْ اقْتَرَبَ. ⁹لَا يَبِينُ بَعْضُكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ، أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، لَيْلًا نَذَاتُوا، هَذَا الدَّبَّانُ وَاقِفٌ قُدَّامَ الْبَابِ. ¹⁰خُذُوا، يَا إِخْوَتِي، مِثَالًا لِاحْتِمَالِ الْمَسَقَاتِ وَالْأَنَاءِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ الَّذِينَ تَكَلَّمُوا بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ. ¹¹هَذَا تَحْنُ تُطَوَّبُ الصَّابِرِينَ، قَدْ سَمِعْتُمْ بِصَبْرِ أَيُّوبَ وَرَأَيْتُمْ عَاقِبَةَ الرَّبِّ، لِأَنَّ الرَّبَّ كَثِيرُ الرَّحْمَةِ وَرَوْوُفٌ.

التحذير من القسم

¹²وَلَكِنْ قَبْلَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، يَا إِخْوَتِي، لَا تَحْلِفُوا لَا بِالسَّمَاءِ وَلَا بِالْأَرْضِ وَلَا يَقْسِمَ آخَرُ، بَلْ لِيَكُنْ تَعَمُّكُمْ تَعَمٌ وَلَاكُمْ لَا، لِيَلَّا تَقْعُوا تَحْتَ دَيْتُونَةٍ.

طلبة البار تقتدر كثيرا في فعلها

¹³أَعْلَى أَحَدٍ بَيْنَكُمْ مَسَقَاتٌ فَلْيُصَلِّ، أَمْسِرُورٌ أَحَدٌ قُلُوبَتِي، أَمْرِيضٌ أَحَدٌ بَيْنَكُمْ فَلْيَدْعُ سُيُوحَ الْكَنِيسَةِ فَيُصَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَيَذْهَبُوا بِرَبِّتِ بِاسْمِ الرَّبِّ، ¹⁴وَصَلَاةُ الْإِيمَانِ تَشْفِي الْمَرِيضَ وَالرَّبُّ يُفِيضُهُ، وَإِنْ كَانَ قَدْ فَعَلَ خَطِيئَةً تُعَقِّرُ لَهُ. ¹⁵إِعْتَرَفُوا بِبَعْضِكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ بِالزَّلَّاتِ وَصَلُّوا بِبَعْضِكُمْ لِأَجْلِ بَعْضٍ لِكَيْ تُشْفَوْا، طَلِبَةُ الْبَارِّ تَقْتَدِرُ كَثِيرًا فِي فِعْلِهَا. ¹⁶كَانَ إِيلِيَّا إِنْسَانًا تَحْتَ الْإِلَامِ مِثْلَنَا وَصَلَّى صَلَاةً أَنْ لَا تُمَطِّرَ، فَلَمْ تُمَطِّرْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ ثَلَاثَ سِنِينَ وَسِتَّةَ أَشْهُرٍ، ¹⁷ثُمَّ صَلَّى أَيْضًا فَأَعْطَتِ السَّمَاءُ مَطَرًا وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ تَمَرَهَا.

المسؤولية تجاه الأخ المؤمن

¹⁸أَيُّهَا الْإِخْوَةُ، إِنْ صَلَّ أَحَدٌ بَيْنَكُمْ عَنِ الْحَقِّ فَدَّهِ أَحَدٌ، فَلْيَعْلَمْ أَنَّ مَنْ رَدَّ خَاطِئًا عَنْ ضَلَالٍ طَرِيقِهِ يُخَلِّصُ نَفْسًا مِنَ الْمَوْتِ وَيَسْتُرُ كَثْرَةً مِنَ الْخَطَايَا.

¹Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. ²Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. ⁴Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. ⁵Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. ⁶Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you. ⁷Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. ⁸Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. ⁹Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. ¹⁰Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. ¹¹Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. ¹²But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into

condemnation.¹³ Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.¹⁴ Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:¹⁵ And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.¹⁶ Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.¹⁷ Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.¹⁹ Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;²⁰ Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.