

# SYRIAC ACTS OF PHILIP

*Edited by Noel Joshua Hadley*

Philip, at Yerushalayim, had a vision of Yahusha, who commanded him to go to the city of Carthage, 'which is in Azotus, and drive out the ruler of Satan, and preach the kingdom.'

He said: I know not Latin or Greek, and the people there do not know Aramaic. Yahusha said: Did I not create A'dam and give him speech? Go, and I will be with thee.

He went to Samaria, thence to Caesarea, and to the harbor and found a ship waiting for a wind. Asked to take Philip to Carthage, the captain said: Do not annoy me, we have waited twenty days: fetch your baggage and perhaps we shall get a wind, for you look like a servant of Elohiym.

Philip: I have none. Tell the passengers to come on board. Let us pray for a fair wind. Turning to the west he commanded the angel of peace who has charm of fair winds to send a wind to take him to Carthage in a single day.

On board was a Yahudan, Ananias, who blasphemed and said: May Adonai recompense thee, and HaMashiach on whom you calls, who is become dust and lies in Yerushalayim, while you live and lead ignorant men astray by his name.

A wind came and filled the sail. The Yahudan rose to help to hoist the sail, and an angel bound him by the great toes and hung him head down on the top of the sail. The ship flew onward, and the Yahudan cried out.

Philip said: You shall not come down till you confess. He confessed his secret blasphemy.

Philip: Do you now believe? Ananias confessed belief in a speech in which he enumerated Mashiach's mighty acts from creation to the deliverance of Shushanah. Philip asked that he might be pardoned, and the angel brought him down. And the four hundred ninety-five men on the ship feared.

They looked up and saw the pharos of Carthage, and said: Can this be true?

O fools, said Ananias, did you not see what befell me for unbelief? If he commands that city in Mashiach's name, it will take all its inhabitants and go and stop in Egypt.

The ship came into harbor. Philip dismissed the passengers and stayed on board to confirm the captain.

On the Sunday he went up to the city to drive out Satan, and as he entered the gates, signed himself with the cross. He saw a black man on a throne with two serpents about his loins, and eyes like coals of fire, and flame coming from his mouth, there was a smell of smoke, and black men in troops were on his right and left. When Philip crossed himself, the ruler fell backward and all his troops.

Philip said: Fall and rise not.

The ruler said: Why curse me? I do not abide here, but my troops wander over the earth and come to me at the third hour of the day, but they do not touch a Talmiyd of Yahusha. Woe is me! whither can I go? In all the four quarters of the world his Besorah is preached. I am completely overthrown.

The whole city heard him but saw him not. Philip bade him go, and he took his throne and his troops and flew away bewailing till they came to Babel, and he settled there. The whole city was in fear and Philip bade them leave their idols and turn to Elohiym, They praised Elohiym, and Philip went back to the ship. On the Sabbath the Yahudiym assembled in their synagogue and summoned Ananias, and asked if his adventures were true. He signed himself with the cross and said: It is true, and Elohiym forbid I should renounce Yahusha HaMashiach. He then addressed them in a long and very abusive speech (*modelled more or less on that of Stephen*), enumerating all their wicked acts. Then arose Yahushua, the son of Nun, and you sought to kill him with deadly poison. Yesha'yahu the prophet, and you sawed him with a saw of boxwood. Yechezq'el, and you dragged him by his feet until his brains were dashed out. Chabaqquq, and through your sins he went astray from his prophetic office.' His face was like an angel's. A priest arose and kicked him, and he died, and they buried him in the synagogue.

Next day, Philip in the ship prayed and asked that Ananias might be delivered from the Yahudiym. Elohiym commanded the earth, and it gave a passage like a water-pipe, and conveyed Ananias to the bottom of the sea, and a dolphin bore up the body. Philip saw it, and after reassuring the people, bade it take the body back till he should go and convict the murderers.

Next day, Philip went to the governor and got him to assemble all the Yahudiym and sit in judgement. Philip, to the Yahudiym: Where is Ananias?

They: Are we his keeper?

Philip: Well are you called children of Qayin. Tell me where he is, and I will ask pardon for you.

Yahudiym: We have said we do not know.

Philip: Do not lie.

Yahudiym: If the ruach were in you, you would know that we do not lie.

Philip: If he is found with you, what do you deserve?

Yahudiym: Death from Elohiym and Caesar.

Philip: Swear to me.

They swore they knew nothing.

He looked and saw a man leading a sick ox to sell. He said to it: I command thee, go to the synagogue, and call Ananias to rise and come and put these men to shame. The ox dragged his owner along and ran and called Ananias. He rose and laid hold of the ox with his right hand, and they came to Philip and prostrated themselves.

Philip said: From whence do you come?

Ananias said: From the synagogue of these Yahudiym, who murdered me for confessing Yahusha. Do me justice.

Philip: Adonai has commanded us not to render evil for evil.

The ox said: Order me and I will kill these men with my horns.

Philip: Hurt no man, but go and serve your master, and Adonai will heal thee. They went home in peace.

The governor said: These Yahudiym deserve death.

Philip: I am not come to kill but to give life.

The Yahudiym' mouths were closed.

Ananias spoke to the Yahudiym and Philip also: But they did not ask pardon, so they were cast out. Three thousand Goy and fifteen hundred Yahudiym believed; the unbelievers left the city, and before sunset an angel slew forty of the Yahudan priests for shedding innocent blood: and all who saw it confessed and worshipped.