

BESORAH NIQODIYMON

Edited by Noel Joshua Hadley

1 CHANANYAHU and Qayapha, and Summas, and Datam, Gamliy'el, Yahudah, Leviy, Naphtaliy, Alexander, Koresh, and other Yahudiym, went to Pilate about Yahusha, accusing him with many bad crimes.

² And said, We are assured that Yahusha is the son of Yoceph the carpenter, land born of Miryam, and that he declares himself the Son of Elohiym, and a king; and not only so, but attempts the dissolution of the Shabbath, and the Torah of our fathers.

³ Pilate replied, What is it which he declares? and what is it which he attempts dissolving?

⁴The Yahudiym told him, We have a law which forbids doing cures on the Shabbath day; but he cures both the lame and the deaf, those afflicted

with the palsy, the blind, and lepers, and demoniacs, on that day by wicked methods.

⁵ Pilate replied, How can he do this by wicked methods? They answered, He is a conjurer, and casts out devils by the prince of the devils; and so, all things become subject to him.

⁶ Then said Pilate, Casting out devils seems not to be the work of an unclean Ruach HaQodesh, but to proceed from the power of Elohiym.

⁷ The Yahudiym replied to Pilate, We entreat your highness to summon him to appear before your tribunal and hear him yourself.

⁸ Then Pilate called a messenger and said to him, By what means will Mashiach be brought hither?

⁹ Then went the messenger forth, and knowing Mashiach, worshipped him; and having spread the cloak which he had in his hand upon the ground, he said, Adonai, walk upon this, and go in, for the governor calls you.

¹⁰ When the Yahudiym perceived what the messenger had done they exclaimed against him to Pilate, and said, Why did you not give him his summons by a beadle, and not by a messenger? For the messenger, when he saw him, worshipped him, and spread the cloak which he had in his hand upon the ground before him, and said to him, Adonai, the governor calls you.

¹¹ Then Pilate called the messenger, and said, Why hast you done *thus*?

¹² The messenger replied, When you sent me from Yerushalayim to Alexander, I saw Yahusha sitting in a mean figure upon a she-ass, and the children of the Hebrews cried out, *Hosannah*, holding boughs of trees in their hands.

¹³ Others spread their garments in the way, and said, Save us, you who are in heaven; blessed is he who cometh in the name of YAHAUAHA.

¹⁴ Then the Yahudiym cried out, against the messenger, and said, The children of the Hebrews made their acclamations in the Hebrew language; and how could you, who are a Greek, understand the Hebrew?

¹⁵ The messenger answered them and said, I asked one of the Yahudiym and said, What is this which the children do cry out in the Hebrew language?

¹⁶ And he explained it to me, saying, they cry out *Hosannah*, which being interpreted, is, O, Adonai, save me; or, O Adonai, save.

¹⁷ Pilate then said to them, Why do you yourselves testify to the words spoken by the children, namely, by your silence? In what has the messenger done amiss? And they were silent.

¹⁸ Then the governor said unto the messenger, Go forth and endeavor by any means to bring him in.

¹⁹ But the messenger went forth, and did as before; and said, Adonai, come in, for the governor calleth you.

²⁰ And as Yahusha was going in by the ensigns, who carried the standards, the tops of them bowed down and worshiped Yahusha.

²¹ Whereupon the Yahudiym exclaimed more vehemently against the ensigns.

²² But Pilate said to the Yahudiym, I know it is not pleasing to you that the tops of the standards did of themselves bow and worship Yahusha; but why do you exclaim against the ensigns, as if they had bowed and worshiped?

²³ They replied to Pilate, We saw the ensigns themselves bowing and worshiping Yahusha.

²⁴ Then the governor called the ensigns and said unto them, Why did you do thus?

²⁵ The ensigns said to Pilate, We are all Pagans and worship the Elohiym in temples; and how should we think anything about worshiping him? We only held the standards in our hands, and they bowed and worshiped him.

²⁶ Then said Pilate to the rulers of the synagogue, Do you yourselves choose some strong men, and let them hold the standards, and we shall see whether they will then bend of themselves.

²⁷ So the elders of the Yahudiym sought out twelve of the most strong and able old men and made them hold the standards and they stood in the presence of the governor.

²⁸ Then Pilate said to the messenger, Take Yahusha out, and by some means bring him in again. And Yahusha and the messenger went out of the hall.

²⁹ And Pilate called the ensigns who before had borne the standards, and swore to them, that if they had not borne the standards in that manner when Yahusha before entered in, he would cut off their heads.

³⁰ Then the governor commanded Yahusha to come in again.

³¹ And the messenger did as he had done before, and very much entreated Yahusha that he would go upon his cloak, and walk on it, and he did walk upon it, and went in.

³² And when Yahusha went in, the standards bowed themselves as before, and worshiped him.

2 NOW when Pilate saw this, he was afraid, and was about to rise from his seat.

² But while he thought to rise, his own wife who stood at a distance, sent to him, saying, Have you nothing to do with that just man; for I have suffered much concerning him in a vision this night.

³ When the Yahudiym heard this they said to Pilate, Did we not say unto you, He is a conjuror? Behold, he hath caused your wife to dream.

⁴ Pilate then calling Yahusha, said, you hast heard what they testify against you, and make no answer?

⁵ Yahusha replied, If they had not a power of speaking, they could not have spoken; but because everyone has the command of his own tongue, to speak both good and bad, let him look to it.

⁶ But the elders of the Yahudiym answered, and said to Yahusha, What shall we look to?

⁷ In the first place, we know this concerning you, that you were born through fornication; secondly, that upon the account of your birth the infants were slain in Bethlehem; thirdly, that your father and mother Miryam fled into Egypt, because they could not trust their own people.

⁸ Some of the Yahudiym who stood by spoke more favorably, We cannot say that he was born through fornication; but we know that his mother Miryam was betrothed to Yoceph, and so he was not born through fornication.

⁹ Then said Pilate to the Yahudiym who affirmed him to be born through fornication, This your account is not true, seeing there was a betrothment, as they testify who are of your own nation.

¹⁰ Chananyahu and Qayapha spoke to Pilate, All this multitude of people is to be regarded, who cry out, that he was born through fornication, and is a conjuror; but they who deny him to be born through fornication, are his proselytes and disciples.

¹¹ Pilate answered Chananyahu and Qayapha, Who are the proselytes? They answered, They are those who are the children of pagans, and are not become Yahudiym, but followers of him.

¹² Then replied El'azar, and Asterius, and Antonius, and Ya'aqov, Caras and Shemu'el, Yitschaq and Piynechac, Crispus and Agrippa, Chananyahu and Yahudah, We are not proselytes, but children of Yahudiym, and speak the truth, and were present when Miryam was betrothed.

¹³ Then Pilate addressing himself to the twelve men who spoke this, said to them, I conjure you by the life of Qeycar, that you faithfully declare whether he was born through fornication, and those things be true which you have related.

¹⁴ They answered Pilate, We have a law, whereby we are forbidden to swear, it being a sin: Let them swear by the life of Cæsar that it is not as we have said, and we will be contented to be put to death.

¹⁵ Then said Chananyahu and Qayapha to Pilate, Those twelve men will not believe that we know him to be basely born, and to be a conjuror, although he pretends that he is the son of Elohiym, and a king: which we are so far from believing, that we tremble to hear.

¹⁶ Then Pilate commanded everyone to go out except the twelve men who said he was not born through fornication, and Yahusha to withdraw to a distance, and said to them, Why have the Yahudiym a mind to kill Yahusha?

¹⁷ They answered him, They are angry because he wrought cures on the Sabbath day. Pilate said, Will they kill him for good work? They say unto him, Yes, Sir.

3 THEN Pilate, filled with anger, went out of the hall, and said to the Yahudiym, I call the whole world to witness that I find no fault in that man.

² The Yahudiym replied to Pilate, If he had not been a wicked person, we would not have brought him before you.

³ Pilate said to them, Do you take him and try him by your law.

⁴ Then the Yahudiym said, It is not lawful for us to put any one to death.

⁵ Pilate said to the Yahudiym, The command, therefore you shalt not kill, belongs to you, but not to me.

⁶ And he went again into the hall, and called Yahusha by himself, and said to him, Art you the king of the Yahudiym?

⁷ And Yahusha answering, said to Pilate, Dost you speak this of thyself, or did the Yahudiym tell it you concerning me?

⁸ Pilate answering, said to Yahusha, Am I a Yahud? The whole nation and rulers of the Yahudiym have delivered you up to me. What hast you done?

⁹ Yahusha answering, said, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, and I should not have been delivered to the Yahudiym; but now my kingdom is not from hence.

¹⁰ Pilate said, Art you a king then? Yahusha answered, You sayest that I am a king: to this end was I born, and for this end came I into the world; and for this purpose I came, that I should bear witness to the truth; and everyone who is of the truth, heareth my voice.

¹¹ Pilate says to him, What is truth?

¹² Yahusha said, Truth is from heaven.

¹³ Pilate said, Therefore, truth is not on earth.

¹⁴ Yahusha said to Pilate, Believe that truth is on earth among those who, when they have the power of judgment, are governed by truth, and form right judgment.

4 THEN Pilate left Yahusha in the hall, and went out to the Yahudiym, and said, I find not any one fault in Yahusha.

² The Yahudiym said unto him, But he said, I can destroy the temple of Elohiym, and in three days build it up again.

³ Pilate says unto them, What sort of temple is that of which he speaks?

⁴ The Yahudiym said unto him, That which Solomon was forty-six years in building, he said he would destroy, and in three days build up.

⁵ Pilate said to them again, I am innocent from the blood of that man; do you look to it.

⁶ The Yahudiym say to him, His blood be upon us and our children. Then Pilate calling together the elders and scribes, priests and Leviyiym, says to them privately, Do not act thus; I have found nothing in your charge (against him) concerning his curing sick persons, and breaking the Shabbath, worthy of death.

⁷ The Priests and Leviyiym replied to Pilate, By the life of Cæsar, if anyone be a blasphemer, he is worthy of death; but this man hath blasphemed against YAHAUAHA.

⁸ Then the governor again commanded the Yahudiym to depart out of the hall; and calling Yahusha, said to him, What shall I do with you?

⁹ Yahusha answered him, Do according as it is written.

¹⁰ Pilate said to him, How is it written?

¹¹ Yahusha says to him, Mosheh and the prophets have prophesied concerning my suffering and resurrection.

¹² The Yahudiym hearing this, were provoked, and said to Pilate, Why will you any longer hear the blasphemy of that man?

¹³ Pilate says to them, If these words seem to you blasphemy, do you take him, bring him to your court, and try him according to your law.

¹⁴ The Yahudiym reply to Pilate, Our law says, he shall be obliged to receive nine and thirty stripes, but if after this manner he shall blaspheme against YAHAUAHA, he shall be stoned.

¹⁵ Pilate says unto them, If that speech of his was blasphemy, do you try him according to your law.

¹⁶ The Yahudiym say to Pilate, Our law commands us not to put any one to death: we desire that he may be crucified, because he deserves the death of the cross.

¹⁷ Pilate says to them, It is not fit he should be crucified: let him be only whipped and sent away.

¹⁸ But when the governor looked upon the people that were present and the Yahudiym, he saw many of the Yahudiym in tears, and said to the chief priests of the Yahudiym, All the people do not desire his death.

¹⁹ The elders of the Yahudiym answered Pilate, We and all the people came hither for this very purpose, that he should die.

²⁰ Pilate says to them, Why should he die?

²¹ They said to him, Because he declares himself to be the Son of Elohiym, and a King.

5 BUT Niqodiymon, a certain Yahud, stood before the governor, and said, I entreat you, O righteous judge, that you wouldst favor me with the liberty of speaking a few words.

² Pilate said to him, Speak on.

³ Niqodiymon said, I spoke to the elders of the Yahudiym, and the scribes, and priests and Leviyiym, and all the multitude of the Yahudiym, in their assembly; What is it you would do with this man?

⁴ He is a man who hath wrought many useful and glorious miracles, such as no man on earth ever wrought before, nor will ever work. Let him go and do him no harm; if he cometh from Elohiym, his miracles, his miraculous cures will continue; but if from men, they will come to nought.

⁵ Thus Mosheh, when he was sent by Elohiym into Egypt, wrought the miracles which Elohiym commanded him, before Pharaoh king of Egypt; and though the magicians of that country, Yannes and Iambres, wrought by their magic the same miracles which Mosheh did, yet they could not work all which he did.

⁶ And the miracles which the magicians wrought, were not of Elohiym, as you know, Oh Scribes and Pharisees; but they who wrought them perished, and all who believed them.

⁷ And now let this man go; because the very miracles for which you accuse him, are from Elohiym; and he is not worthy of death.

⁸ The Yahudiym then said to Niqodiymon, Art you become his disciple, and making speeches in his favor?

⁹ Niqodiymon said to them, Is the governor become his disciple *also*, and does he make speeches for him? Did not Cæsar place him in that high post?

¹⁰ When the Yahudiym heard this they trembled, and gnashed their teeth at Niqodiymon, and said to him, Mayest you receive his doctrine for truth, and have your lot with Mashiach!

¹¹ Niqodiymon replied, *Amen*; I will receive his doctrine, and my lot with him, as you have said.

¹² Then another certain Yahud rose up, and desired leave of the governor to hear him a few words.

¹³ And the governor said, Speak what you hast a mind.

¹⁴ And he said, I lay for thirty-eight years by the sheep-pool at Yerushalayim, laboring under a great infirmity, and waiting for a cure which should be wrought by the coming of an angel, who at a certain time troubled the water; and whosoever first after the troubling of the water stepped in, was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

¹⁵ And when Yahusha saw me languishing there, he said to me, Will you be made whole? And I answered, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool.

¹⁶ And he said unto me, Rise, take up your bed and walk. And I was immediately made whole and took up my bed and walked.

¹⁷ The Yahudiym then said to Pilate, Our Adonai Governor, pray ask him what day it was on which he was cured of his infirmity.

¹⁸ The infirm person replied, It was on the Shabbath.

¹⁹ The Yahudiym said to Pilate, Did we not say that he wrought his cures on the Shabbath, and cast out devils by the prince of devils?

²⁰ Then another certain Yahud came forth, and said, I was blind, could hear sounds, but could not see anyone; and as Yahusha was going along, I heard the multitude passing by, and I asked what was there?

²¹ They told me that Yahusha was passing by: then I cried out, saying, Yahusha, Son of David, have mercy on me. And he stood still, and commanded that I should be brought to him, and said to me, What will you?

²² I said, Adonai, that I may receive my sight.

²³ He said to me, Receive your sight: and presently I saw, and followed him, rejoicing and giving thanks.

²⁴ Another Yahud also came forth, and said, I was a leper, and he cured me by his words only, saying, I will, be you clean; and presently I was cleansed from my leprosy.

²⁵ And another Yahud came forth, and said, I was crooked, and he made me straight by his word.

²⁶ And a certain woman named Veronica, said, I was afflicted with an issue of blood twelve years, and I touched the hem of his garments, and presently the issue of my blood stopped.

²⁷ The Yahudiym then said, We have a law, that a woman shall not be allowed as an evidence.

²⁸ And, after other things, another Yahud said, I saw Yahusha invited to a wedding with his disciples, and there was a want of wine in Cana of Galilee.

²⁹ And when the wine was all drunk, he commanded the servants that they should fill six pots which were there with water, and they filled them up to the brim, and he blessed them, and turned the water into wine, and all the people drank, being surprised at this miracle.

³⁰ And another Yahud stood forth, and said, I saw Yahusha teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum; and there was in the synagogue a certain man who had a devil; and he cried out, saying, let me alone; what have we to do with you, Yahusha of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know that you are the Holy One of Elohiym.

³¹ And Yahusha rebuked him, saying, Hold your peace, unclean Ruach HaQodesh, and come out of the man; and presently he came out of him, and did not at all hurt him.

³² The following things were also said by a Pharisee; I saw that a great company came to Yahusha from Galilee and Judaea, and the seacoast, and many countries about Yardan, and many infirm persons came to him, and he healed them all.

³³ And I heard the unclean Ruachoth crying out, and saying, You are the Son of Elohiym. And Yahusha strictly charged them, that they should not make him known.

³⁴ After this another person, whose name was Centurio, said, I saw Yahusha in Capernaum, and I entreated him, saying, *Adonai*, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy.

³⁵ And Yahusha said to me, I will come and cure him.

³⁶ But I said, Adonai, I am not worthy that you shouldst come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant shall be healed.

³⁷ And Yahusha said unto me, Go your way; and as you hast believed, so be it done unto you. And my servant was healed from that same hour.

³⁸ Then a certain nobleman said, I had a son in Capernaum, who lay at the point of death; and when I heard that Yahusha was come into Galilee, I went and besought him that he would come down to my house, and heal my son, for he was at the point of death.

³⁹ He said to me, Go your way, your son lives.

⁴⁰ And my son was cured from that hour.

⁴¹ Besides these, also many others of the Yahudiym, both men and women, cried out and said, He is truly the Son of Elohiym, who cures all diseases only by his word, and to whom the devils are altogether subject.

⁴² Some of them further said, This power can proceed from none but Elohiym.

⁴³ Pilate said to the Yahudiym, Why are not the devils subject your doctors?

⁴⁴ Some of them said, The power of subjecting devils cannot proceed but from Elohiym.

⁴⁵ But others said to Pilate That he had raised Lazarus from the dead, after he had been four days in his grave.

⁴⁶ The governor hearing this, trembling said to the multitude of the Yahudiym, What will it profit you to shed innocent blood?

6 THEN Pilate having called together Niqodiymon, and the fifteen men who said that Yahusha was not born through fornication, said to them, What shall I do, seeing there is like to be a tumult among the people.

² They said unto him, We know not; let them look to it who raise the tumult.

³ Pilate then called the multitude again, and said to them, Ye know that you have a custom, that I should release to you one prisoner at the feast of the Passover.

⁴ I have a noted prisoner, a murderer, who is called Barabbas, and Yahusha who is called Mashiach, in whom I find nothing that deserves death; which of them therefore have you a mind that I should release to you?

⁵ They all cry out, and say, Release us Barabbas.

⁶ Pilate says to them, What then shall I do with Yahusha who is called Mashiach?

⁷ They all answer, Let him be crucified.

⁸ Again they cried out and say to Pilate, You are not the friend of Cæsar, if you release this man? for he hath declared that he is the Son of Elohiym, and a king. But are you inclined that he should be king, and not Cæsar?

⁹ Then Pilate filled with anger said to them, Your nation hath always been seditious, and you are always against those who have been serviceable to you?

¹⁰ The Yahudiym replied, Who are those who have been serviceable to us?

¹¹ Pilate answered them, Your Elohiym who delivered you from the hard bondage of the Egyptians, and brought you over the Red Sea as though it had been dry land, and fed you in the wilderness with manna and the flesh of quails, and brought water out of the rock, and gave you a law from heaven:

¹² Ye provoked him always, and desired for yourselves a molten calf, and worshipped it, and sacrificed to it, and said, These are Thy Elohiym, O Yashar'el, which brought you out of the land of Egypt.

¹³ On account of which your Elohiym was inclined to destroy you; but Mosheh interceded for you, and your Elohiym heard him, and forgave your iniquity.

¹⁴ Afterwards you were enraged against, and would have killed your prophets, Mosheh, and Aaron, when they fled to the tabernacle, and you were always murmuring against Elohiym and his prophets.

¹⁵ And arising from his judgment seat, he would have gone out; but the Yahudiym all cried out, We acknowledge Cæsar to be king, and not Yahusha.

¹⁶ Whereas this person, as soon as he was born, the wise men came and offered gifts unto him, which when Herod heard, he was exceedingly troubled, and would have killed him.

¹⁷ When his father knew this, he fled with him and his mother Miryam into Egypt. Herod, when he heard he was born, would have slain him; and accordingly sent and slew all the children which were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under.

¹⁸ When Pilate heard this account, he was afraid; and commanding silence among the people, who made a noise, he said to Yahusha, Art you therefore a king?

¹⁹ All the Yahudiym replied to Pilate, he is the very person whom Herod sought to have slain.

²⁰ Then Pilate taking water, washed his hands before the people and said, I am innocent of the blood of this just person; look you to it.

²¹ The Yahudiym answered and said, His blood be upon us and our children.

²² Then Pilate commanded Yahusha to be brought before him, and spoke to him in the following words:

²³ Thy own nation hath charged you as making thyself a king; wherefore I, Pilate, sentence you to be whipped according to the laws of former governors; and that you be first bound, then hanged upon a cross in that place where you are now a prisoner; and also, two criminals with you, whose names are Dimas and Gestas.

7 THEN Yahusha went out of the hall, and the two thieves with him.

² And when they came to the place which is called Golgotha, they stript him of his raiment, and girt him about with a linen cloth, and put a crown of thorns upon his head, and put a reed in his hand.

³ And in like manner did they to the two thieves who were crucified with him, Dimas on his right hand and Gestas on his left.

⁴ But Yahusha said, My Father, forgive them; For they know not what they do.

⁵ And they divided his garments, and upon his vesture, they cast lots.

⁶ The people in the meantime stood by, and the chief priests and elders of the Yahudiym mocked him, saying, he saved others, let him now save himself if he can; if he be the son of Elohiym, let him now come down from the cross.

⁷ The soldiers also mocked him, and taking vinegar and gall offered it to him to drink, and said to him, If you are king of the Yahudiym deliver thyself.

⁸ Then Longinus, a certain soldier, taking a spear, pierced his side, and presently there came forth blood and water.

⁹ And Pilate wrote the title upon the cross in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek letters, viz. This is the king of the Yahudiym.

¹⁰ But one of the two thieves who were crucified with Yahusha, whose name was Gestas, said to Yahusha, If you are the Mashiach, deliver thyself and us.

¹¹ But the thief who was crucified on his right hand, whose name was Dimas, answering, rebuked him, and said, Dost not you fear Elohiym, who are condemned to this punishment? We indeed receive rightly and justly the demerit of our actions; but this Yahusha, what evil hath he done?

¹² After this groaning, he said to Yahusha, *Adonai*, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

¹³ Yahusha answering, said to him, Verily I say unto you, that this day you shalt be with me in Paradise.

8 AND it was about the sixth hour, and darkness was upon the face of the whole earth until the ninth hour.

² And while the sun was eclipsed, behold the vail of the temple was rent from the top to the bottom; and the rocks also were rent, and the graves opened, and many bodies of saints, which slept, arose.

³ And about the ninth hour Yahusha cried out with a loud voice, saying, *Hely, Hely, lama azavtaniy?* which being interpreted, is, My Elohiym, My Elohiym, why hast you forsaken me?

⁴ And after these things, Yahusha said, Father, into your hands I commend my Ruach HaQodesh; and having said this, he gave up the ghost.

⁵ But when the centurion saw that Yahusha thus crying out gave up the ghost, he glorified Elohiym, and said, Of a truth this was a just man.

⁶ And all the people who stood by, were exceedingly troubled at the sight; and reflecting upon what had passed, smote upon their breasts, and then returned to the city of Yerushalayim.

⁷ The centurion went to the governor and related to him all that had passed.

⁸ And when he had heard all these things, he was exceedingly sorrowful.

⁹ And calling the Yahudiym together, said to them, Have you seen the miracle of the sun's eclipse, and the other things which came to pass, while Yahusha was dying?

¹⁰ Which when the Yahudiym heard, they answered to the governor, The eclipse of the sun happened according to its usual custom.

¹¹ But all those who were the acquaintance of Mashiach, stood at a distance, as did the women who had followed Yahusha from Galilee, observing all these things.

¹² And behold a certain man of Arimathea, named Yoceph, who also was a disciple of Yahusha, but not openly so, for fear of the Yahudiym, came to the governor, and entreated the governor that he would give him leave to take away the body of Yahusha from the cross.

¹³ And the governor gave him leave.

¹⁴ And Niqodiymon came, bringing with him a mixture of myrrh and aloes about a hundred-pound weight; and they took down Yahusha from the cross with tears, and bound him with linen cloths with spices, according to the custom of burying among the Yahudiym,

¹⁵ And placed him in a new tomb, which Yoceph had built, and caused to be cut out of a rock, in which never any man had been put; and they rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulcher.

9 WHEN the unjust Yahudiym heard that Yoceph had begged and buried the body of Yahusha, they sought after Niqodiymon; and those fifteen

men who had testified before the Governor, that Yahusha was not born through fornication, and other good persons who had shown any good actions towards him.

² But when they all concealed themselves through fear of the Yahudiym Niqodiymon alone shewed himself to them, and said, How can such persons as these enter into the synagogue?

³ The Yahudiym answered him, But how durst you enter into the synagogue who were a confederate with Mashiach? Let your lot be along with him in the other world.

⁴ Niqodiymon answered, Amen; so, may it be, that I may have my lot with him in his kingdom.

⁵ In like manner Yoceph, when he came to the Yahudiym, said to them Why are you angry with me for desiring the body of Yahusha of Pilate? Behold, I have put him in my tomb, and wrapped him up in clean linen, and put a stone at the door of the sepulcher:

⁶ I have acted rightly towards him; but you have acted unjustly aghast that just person, in crucifying him, giving him vinegar to drink, crowning him with thorns, tearing his body with whips, and prayed down the guilt of his blood upon you.

⁷ The Yahudiym at the hearing of this were disquieted, and troubled; and they seized Yoceph, and commanded him to be put in custody before the Shabbath and kept there till the Shabbath was over.

⁸ And they said to him, Make confession; for at this time, it is not lawful to do you any harm, till the first day of the week come. But we know that you will not be thought worthy of a burial; but we will give your flesh to the birds of the air, and the beasts of the earth.

⁹ Yoceph answered, That speech is like the speech of proud Goliath, who reproached the living Elohiym in speaking against David. But you scribes and doctors know that Elohiym says by the prophet, Vengeance is mine, and I will repay to you evil equal to that which you have threatened to me.

¹⁰ The Elohiym whom you have hanged upon the cross, is able to deliver me out of your hands. All your wickedness will return upon you.

¹¹ For the governor, when he washed his hands, said, I am clear from the blood of this just person. But you answered and cried out, His blood be

upon us and our children. According to what you have said, may you perish forever.

¹² The elders of the Yahudiym, hearing these words, were exceedingly enraged; and seizing Yoceph, they put him into a chamber where there was no window; they fastened the door and put a seal upon the lock.

¹³ And Chananyahu and Qayapha placed a guard upon it, and took counsel with the priests and Leviyiym, that they should all meet after the Shabbath, and they contrived to what death they should put Yoceph.

¹⁴ When they had done this, the rulers, Chananyahu and Qayapha, ordered Yoceph to be brought forth.

10 WHEN all the assembly heard this, they admired and were astonished, because they found the same seal upon the lock of the chamber and could not find Yoceph.

² Then Chananyahu and Qayapha went forth, and while they were all admiring Yoceph's being gone, behold one of the soldiers, who kept the sepulcher of Yahusha, spoke in the assembly.

³ That while they were guarding the sepulcher of Yahusha, there was an earthquake; and we saw an angel of Elohiym roll away the stone of the sepulcher and sit upon it;

⁴ And his countenance was like lightning and his garment like snow; and we became through fear like persons dead.

⁵ And we heard an angel saying to the women at the sepulcher of Yahusha, Do not fear; I know that you seek Yahusha who was crucified; he is risen as he foretold.

⁶ Come and see the place where he was laid; and go presently and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead, and he will go before you into Galilee; there you shall see him as he told you.

⁷ Then the Yahudiym called together all the soldiers who kept the sepulcher of Yahusha, and said to them, Who are those women, to whom the angel spoke? Why did you not seize them?

⁸ The soldiers answered and said, We know not whom the women were. Besides, we became as dead persons through fear, and how could we seize those women? ⁹ The Yahudiym said to them, As YAHAUAHA lives we do not believe you.

¹⁰ The soldiers answering said to the Yahudiym, when you saw and heard Yahusha working so many miracles, and did not believe him, how should you believe us? Ye well said, As YAHAUAHA lives, for YAHAUAHA truly does live.

¹¹ We have heard that you shut up Yoceph, who buried the body of Yahusha, in a chamber, under a lock which was sealed; and when you opened it, found him not there.

¹² Do you then produce Yoceph whom you put under guard in the chamber, and we will produce Yahusha whom we guarded in the sepulcher.

¹³ The Yahudiym answered and said, We will produce Yoceph, do you produce Yahusha. But Yoceph is in his own city of Arimathea.

¹⁴ The soldiers replied, If Yoceph be in Arimathea, and Yahusha in Galilee, we heard the angel inform the women.

¹⁵ The Yahudiym, hearing this, were afraid, and said among themselves, If by any means these things should become public, then everybody will believe in Yahusha.

¹⁶ Then they gathered a large sum of money, and gave it to the soldiers, saying, Do you tell the people that the disciples of Yahusha came in the night when you were asleep and stole away the body of Yahusha; and if Pilate the governor should hear of this, we will satisfy him and secure you.

¹⁷ The soldiers accordingly took the money and said as they were instructed by the Yahudiym; and their report was spread abroad among the people.

¹⁸ But a certain priest Piynechac, Ada a schoolmaster, and a Levite, named Ageus, they three came from Galilee to Yerushalayim, and told the chief priests and all who were in the synagogues, saying,

¹⁹ We have seen Yahusha, whom you crucified, talking with his eleven disciples, and sitting in the midst of them in Mount Olivet, and saying to them,

²⁰ Go forth into the whole world, preach the Besorah to all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Ruach HaQodesh; and whosoever shall believe and be baptized, shall be saved.

²¹ And when he had said these things to his disciples, we saw him ascending up to heaven.

²² When the chief priests, and elders, and Leviyiym heard these things, they said to these three men, Give glory to the Elohiym of Yashar'el, and make confession to him, whether those things are true, which you say you have seen and heard.

²³ They answering said, As YAHAUAHA of our fathers' lives, the Elohiym of Abraham, and the Elohiym of Yitschaq, and the Elohiym of Ya'aqov, according as we heard Yahusha talking with his disciples, and according as we saw him ascending up to heaven, so we have related the truth to you.

²⁴ And the three men farther answered, and said, adding these words, If we should not own the words which we heard Yahusha speak, and that we saw him ascending into heaven, we should be guilty of sin.

²⁵ Then the chief priests immediately rose up and holding the book of the law in their hands, conjured these men, saying, Ye shall no more hereafter declare those things which you have spoken concerning Yahusha.

²⁶ And they gave them a large sum of money, and sent other persons along with them, who should conduct them to their own country, that they might not by any means make any stay at Yerushalayim.

²⁷ Then the Yahudiym did assemble all together, and having expressed the most lamentable concern, said, What is this extraordinary thing which is come to pass in Yerushalayim?

²⁸ But Chananyahu and Qayapha comforted them, saying, Why should we believe the soldiers who guarded the sepulcher of Yahusha, in telling us, that an angel rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulcher?

²⁹ Perhaps his own disciples told them this, and gave them money that they should say so, and they themselves took away the body of Yahusha.

³⁰ Besides, consider this, that there is no credit to be given to foreigners, because they also took a large sum of us, and they have declared to us according to the instructions which we gave them. They must either be faithful to us, or to the disciples of Yahusha.

11 THEN Niqodiymon arose, and said, Ye say right, O sons of Yashar'el, you have heard what those three men have sworn by the Law of Elohiym,

who said, We have seen Yahusha speaking with his disciples upon Mount Olivet, and we saw him ascending up to heaven.

² And the Scripture teaches us that the blessed prophet Eliyahu was taken up to heaven; and Elisha being asked by the sons of the prophets, Where is our father Eliyahu? He said to them, that he is taken up to heaven.

³ And the sons of the prophets said to him, Perhaps the Ruach HaQodesh hath carried him into one of the mountains of Yashar'el, there perhaps we shall find him. And they besought Elisha, and he walked about with them for three days, and they could not find him.

⁴ And now hear me, O sons of Yashar'el, and let us send men into the mountains of Yashar'el, lest perhaps the Ruach HaQodesh hath carried away Yahusha, and there perhaps we shall find him, and be satisfied.

⁵ And the counsel of Niqodiymon pleased all the people; and they sent forth men who sought for Yahusha, but could not find him: and they returning, said, We went all about, but could not find Yahusha, but we have found Yoceph in his city of Arimathea.

⁶ The rulers hearing this, and all the people, were glad, and praised the Elohiym of Yashar'el, because Yoceph was found, whom they had shut up in a chamber, and could not find.

⁷ And when they had formed a large assembly, the chief priests said, By what means shall we bring Yoceph to us to speak with him?

⁸ And taking a piece of paper, they wrote to him, and said, Peace be with you, and all your family. We know that we have offended Elohiym and you. Be pleased to give a visit to us your fathers, for we were perfectly surprised at your escape from prison.

⁹ We know that it was malicious counsel which we took against you, and that YAHAUAHA took care of you, and YAHAUAHA himself delivered you from our designs. Peace be unto you, Yoceph, who are honorable among all the people.

¹⁰ And they chose seven of Yoceph's friends, and said to them, When you come to Yoceph, salute him in peace, and give him this letter.

¹¹ Accordingly, when the men came to Yoceph, they did salute him in peace, and gave him the letter.

¹² And when Yoceph had read it, he said, Blessed be YAHAUAHA Elohiym, who didst deliver me from the Yashar'elite's, that they could not

shed my blood. Blessed be Elohiym, who has protected me under your wings.

¹³ And Yoceph kissed them and took them into his house. And on the morrow, Yoceph mounted his ass, and went along with them to Yerushalayim.

¹⁴ And when all the Yahudiym heard these things, they went out to meet him, and cried out, saying, *Shalom* attend your coming hither, father Yoceph.

¹⁵ To which he answered, Prosperity from YAHAUAHA attend all the people.

¹⁶ And they all kissed him; and Niqodiymon took him to his house, having prepared a large entertainment.

¹⁷ But on the morrow, being a preparation-day, Chananyahu, and Qayapha, and Niqodiymon, said to Yoceph, Make confession to the Elohiym of Yashar'el, and answer to us all those questions which we shall ask you.

¹⁸ For we have been very much troubled, that you didst bury the body of Yahusha; and that when we had locked you in a chamber, we could not find you; and we have been afraid ever since, till this time of your appearing among us. Tell us therefore before Elohiym, all that came to pass.

¹⁹ Then Yoceph answering, said, Ye did indeed put me under confinement, on the day of preparation, till the morning.

²⁰ But while I was standing at prayer in the middle of the night, the house was surrounded with four angels; and I saw Yahusha as the brightness of the sun and fell down upon the earth for fear.

²¹ But Yahusha laying hold on my hand, lifted me from the ground, and the dew was then sprinkled upon me; but he, wiping my face, kissed me, and said unto me, Fear not, Yoceph; look upon me, for it is I.

²² Then I looked upon him, and said, Rabboni Elias! He answered me, I am not Elias, but Yahusha of Nazareth, whose body you didst bury.

²³ I said to him, Show me the tomb in which I laid you.

²⁴ Then Yahusha, taking me by the hand, led me unto the place where I laid him, and shewed me the linen clothes, and napkin which I put round

his head. Then I knew that it was Yahusha, and worshipped him, and said, Blessed be he who cometh in the name of YAHAUAHA.

²⁵ Yahusha again taking me by the hand, led me to Arimathea to my own house, and said to me, Peace be to you; but go not out of your house till the fortieth day; but I must go to my disciples.

12 WHEN the chief priests and heard all these things, they were astonished, and fell down with their faces on the ground as dead men, and crying out to one another said, What is this extraordinary sign which is come to pass in Yerushalayim? We know the father and mother of Yahusha.

² And a certain Levite said, I know many of his relations, religious persons, who are wont to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings to the Elohiym of Yashar'el, in the temple, with prayers.

³ And when the high priest Shimeon took him up in his arms, he said to him, YAHAUAHA, now let you your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for mine eyes have seen your salvation, which you hast prepared before the face of all people: a light to enlighten the Goyim, and the glory of your people Yashar'el.

⁴ Shimeon in like manner blessed Miryam the mother of Yahusha, and said to her, I declare to you concerning that child; He is appointed for the fall and rising again of many, and for a sign which shall be spoken against.

⁵ Yea, a sword shall pierce through thine own soul also, and the thoughts of many hearts shall be revealed.

⁶ Then said all the Yahudiym, Let us send to those three men, who said they saw him talking with his disciples in Mount Olivet.

⁷ After this, they asked them what they had seen, who answered with one accord, In the presence of the Elohiym of Yashar'el we affirm, that we plainly saw Yahusha talking with his disciples in Mount Olivet and ascending up to heaven.

⁸ Then Chananyahu and Qayapha took them into separate places, and examined them separately, who unanimously confessed the truth, and said, they had seen Yahusha.

⁹ Then Chananyahu and Qayapha said, "Our law says, By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established."

¹⁰ But what have we said? The blessed Chanok pleased Elohiym and was translated by the word of Elohiym; and the burying-place of the blessed Mosheh is unknown.

¹¹ But Yahusha was delivered to Pilate, whipped, crowned with thorns, spit upon, pierced with a spear, crucified, died upon the cross, and was buried, and his body the honorable Yoceph buried in a new sepulcher, and he testifies that he saw him alive.

¹² And besides these men have declared, that they saw him talking with his disciples in Mount Olivet and ascending up to heaven.

¹³ Then Yoceph rising up. said to Chananyahu and Qayapha, You may be justly under a great surprise, that you have been told, that Yahusha is alive, and gone up to heaven.

¹⁴ It is indeed a thing really surprising, that he should not only himself arise from the dead, but also raise others from their graves, who have been seen by many in Yerushalayim.

¹⁵ And now hear me a little: We all knew the blessed Shimeon, the high priest, who took Yahusha when an infant into his arms in the temple.

¹⁶ This same Shimeon had two sons of his own, and we were all present at their death and funeral.

¹⁷ Go therefore and see their tombs, for these are open, and they are risen: and behold, they are in the city of Arimathea, spending their time together in offices of devotion.

¹⁸ Some, indeed, have heard the sound of their voices in prayer, but they will not discourse with any one, but they continue as mute as dead men.

¹⁹ But come, let us go to them, and behave ourselves towards them with all due respect and caution. And if we can bring them to swear, perhaps they will tell us some of the mysteries of their resurrection.

²⁰ When the Yahudiym heard this, they were exceedingly rejoiced.

²¹ Then Chananyahu and Qayapha, Niqodiymon, Yoceph, and Gamliy'el, went to Arimathea, but did not find them in their graves; but walking about the city, they bound them on their bended knees at their devotions:

²² Then saluting them with all respect and deference to Elohiym, they brought them to the synagogue at Yerushalayim: and having shut the gates, they took the book of the law of YAHAUAHA,

²³ And putting it in their hands, swore them by Elohiym Adonai, and the Elohiym of Yashar'el, who spoke to our fathers by the law and the prophets, saying, If you believe him who raised you from the dead, to be Yahusha, tell us what you have seen, and how you were raised from the dead.

²⁴ Charinus and Lenthius, the two sons of Shimeon, trembled when they heard these things, and were disturbed, and groaned; and at the same time looking up to heaven, they made the sign of the cross with their fingers on their tongues.

²⁵ And immediately they spoke, and said, Give each of us some paper, and we will write down for you all those things which we have seen. And they each sat down and wrote, saying,

13 O ADONAI Yahusha and Father, who are Elohiym, also the resurrection and life of the dead, give us leave to declare your mysteries, which we saw after death, belonging to your cross; for we are sworn by your name.

² For you hast forbid your servants to declare the secret things, which were wrought by your divine power in She'ol.

³ When we were placed with our fathers in the depth of She'ol, in the blackness of darkness, all of a sudden there appeared the color of the sun like gold, and a substantial, purple-colored light enlightening the place.

⁴ Presently upon this, A'dam, the father of all mankind, with all the patriarchs and prophets, rejoiced and said, That light is the author of everlasting light, who hath promised to translate us to everlasting light.

⁵ Then Yesha'yahu the prophet cried out, and said, This is the light of the Father, and the Son of Elohiym, according to my prophecy, when I was alive upon earth.

⁶ The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim beyond Yardan, a people who walked in darkness, saw a great light; and to them who dwelled in the region of the shadow of death, light is arisen. And now he is come, and hath enlightened us who sat in death.

⁷ And while we were all rejoicing in the light which shone upon us, our father Shimeon came among us, and congratulating all the company, said, Glorify Adonai Yahusha Ha'Mashiach the Son of Elohiym.

⁸ Whom I took up in my arms when an infant in the temple, and being moved by the Ruach HaQodesh, said to him, and acknowledged, that now mine eyes have seen your salvation, which you hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Goyim and the glory of your people Yashar'el.

⁹ All the saints who were in the depth of She'ol, hearing this, rejoiced the more.

¹⁰ Afterwards there came forth one like a little hermit, and was asked by everyone, Who are you?

¹¹ To which he replied, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Yochanon the Baptist, and the prophet of the Most High, who went before his coming to prepare his way, to give the knowledge of salvation to his people for the forgiveness of sins.

¹² And I Yochanon, when I saw Yahusha coming to me, being moved by the Ruach HaQodesh, I said, Behold the Lamb of Elohiym, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

¹³ And I baptized him in the river Yardan and saw the Ruach HaQodesh descending upon him in the form of a dove, and heard a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

¹⁴ And now while I was going before him, I came down hither to acquaint you, that the Son of Elohiym will next visit us, and, as the dayspring from on high, will come to us, who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

14 BUT when the first man our father A'dam heard these things, that Yahusha was baptized in Yardan, he called out to his son, Sheth, and said,

² Declare to your sons, the patriarchs, and prophets, all those things, which you didst hear from Mikha'el, the archangel, when I sent you to the gates of Paradise, to entreat Elohiym that he would anoint my head when I was sick.

³ Then Sheth, coming near to the patriarchs and prophets, said, I Sheth, when I was praying to Elohiym at the gates of Paradise, beheld the angel of YAHAUAHA, Mikha'el appeared unto me saying, I am sent unto you from YAHAUAHA; I am appointed to preside over human bodies.

⁴ I tell you Sheth, do not pray to Elohiym in tears, and entreat him for the oil of the tree of mercy wherewith to anoint your father A'dam for his headache.

⁵ Because you cannot by any means obtain it till the last day and times, namely, till five thousand and five hundred years be past.

⁶ Then will Mashiach, the most merciful Son of Elohiym, come on earth to raise again the human body of A'dam, and at the same time to raise the bodies of the dead, and when he cometh he will be baptized in Yardan:

⁷ Then with the oil of his mercy he will anoint all those who believe on him; and the oil of his mercy will continue to future generations, for those who shall be born of the water and the Ruach HaQodesh unto eternal life.

⁸ And when at that time the most merciful Son of Elohiym, Mashiach Yahusha, shall come down on earth, he will introduce our father A'dam into Paradise, to the tree of mercy.

⁹ When all the patriarchs and prophets heard all these things from Sheth, they rejoiced more.

15 WHILE all the saints were rejoicing, behold Satan, the prince and captain of death, said to the prince of She'ol,

² Prepare to receive Yahusha of Nazareth himself, who boasted that he was the Son of Elohiym, and yet was a man afraid of death, and said, My soul is sorrowful even to death.

³Besides he did many injuries to me and to many others; for those whom I made blind and lame and those also whom I tormented with several devils, he cured by his word; yea, and those whom I brought dead to you, he by force takes away from you.

⁴ To this the prince of She'ol replied to Satan, Who is that so-powerful prince, and yet a man who is afraid of death?

⁵ For all the potentates of the earth are subject to my power, whom you brought to subjection by your power.

⁶ But if he be so powerful in his human nature, I affirm to you for truth, that he is almighty in his divine nature, and no man can resist his power.

⁷ When threfore he said he was afraid of death, he designed to ensnare you, and unhappy it will be to you for everlasting ages.

⁸ Then Satan replying, said to the prince of She'ol, Why didst you express a doubt, and were afraid to receive that Yahusha of Nazareth, both your adversary and mine?

⁹ As for me, I tempted him and stirred up my old people the Yahudiym with zeal and anger against him?

¹⁰ I sharpened the spear for his suffering; I mixed the gall and vinegar, and commanded that he should drink it; I prepared the cross to crucify him, and the nails to pierce through his hands and feet; and now his death is near at hand, I will bring him hither, subject both to you and me.

¹¹ Then the prince of She'ol answering, said, You said to me just now, that he took away the dead from me by force.

¹² They who have been kept here till they should live again upon earth, were taken away hence, not by their own power, but by prayers made to Elohiym, and their almighty Elohiym took them from me.

¹³ Who then is that Yahusha of Nazareth that by his word hath taken away the dead from me without prayer to Elohiym?

¹⁴ Perhaps it is the same who took away from me Lazarus, after he had been four days dead, and did both stink and was rotten, and of whom I had possession as a dead person, yet he brought him to life again by his power.

¹⁵ Satan answering, replied to the prince of She'ol, It is the very same person, Yahusha of Nazareth.

¹⁶ Which when the prince of She'ol heard, he said to him, I adjure you by the powers which belong to you and me, that you bring him not to me.

¹⁷ For when I heard of the power of his word, I trembled for fear, and all my impious company were at the same time disturbed.

¹⁸ And we were not able to detain Lazarus, but he gave himself a shake, and with all the signs of malice, he immediately went away from us; and the very earth, in which the dead body of Lazarus was lodged, presently turned him out alive.

¹⁹ And I know now that he is Almighty Elohiym who could perform such things, who is mighty in his dominion, and mighty in his human nature, who is the Savior of mankind.

²⁰ Bring not therefore this person hither, for he will set at liberty all those whom I hold in prison under unbelief, and bound with the fetters of their sins, and will conduct them to everlasting life.

16 AND while Satan and the prince of She'ol were discoursing thus to each other, on a sudden there was a voice as of thunder and the rushing of winds, saying, Lift up your gates, O you princes; and be you lifted up, O everlasting gates, and the King of Glory shall come in.

² When the prince of She'ol heard this, he said to Satan, Depart from me, and begone out of my habitations; if you are a powerful warrior, fight with the King of Glory. But what hast you to do with him?

³ And he cast him forth from his habitations.

⁴ And the prince said to his impious officers, Shut the brass gates of cruelty, and make them fast with iron bars, and fight courageously, lest we be taken captives.

⁵ But when all the company of the saints heard this, they spoke with a loud voice of anger to the prince of She'ol:

⁶ Open your gates so that the King of Glory may come in.

⁷ And the divine prophet David, cried out saying, Did not I when on earth truly prophesy and say, O that men would praise YAHAUAHA for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.

⁸ For he hath broken the gates of brass and cut the bars of iron in sunder. He hath taken them because of their iniquity, and because of their unrighteousness they are afflicted.

⁹ After this another prophet, namely, holy Yesha'yahu, spoke in like manner to all the saints, did not I rightly prophesy to you when I was alive on earth?

¹⁰ The dead men shall live, and they shall rise again who are in their graves, and they shall rejoice who are in earth; for the dew which is from YAHAUAHA shall bring deliverance to them.

¹¹ And I said in another place, O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

¹² When all the saints heard these things spoken by Isaiah, they said to the prince of She'ol, Open now your gates, and take away thine iron bars; for you will now be bound and have no power.

¹³ Then there was a great voice, as of the sound of thunder saying, Lift up your gates, O princes; and be you lifted up, you gates of She'ol, and the King of Glory will enter in.

¹⁴ The prince of She'ol perceiving the same voice repeated, cried out as though he had been ignorant, Who is that King of Glory?

¹⁵ David replied to the prince of She'ol, and said, I understand the words of that voice, because I spoke to them by his ruach. And now, as I have above said, I say unto you, YAHAUAHA strong and powerful, YAHAUAHA mighty in battle: he is the King of Glory, and he is YAHAUAHA in heaven and in earth.

¹⁶ He hath looked down to hear the groans of the prisoners, and to set loose those that are appointed to death.

¹⁷ And now, you filthy and stinking prince of She'ol, open your gates, that the King of Glory may enter in; for he is YAHAUAHA of heaven and earth.

¹⁸ While David was saying this, the mighty Adonai appeared in the form of a man, and enlightened those places which had ever before been in darkness,

¹⁹ And broke asunder the fetters which before could not be broken; and with his invincible power visited those who sat in the deep darkness by iniquity, and the shadow of death by sin.

17 IMPIOUS Death and her cruel officers hearing these things, were seized with fear in their several kingdoms, when they saw the clearness of the light,

² And Mashiach himself on a sudden appearing in their habitations; they cried out therefore, and said, We are bound by you; you seem to intend our confusion before YAHAUAHA.

³ Who are you, who hast no sign of corruption, but that bright appearance, which is a full proof of your greatness, of which yet you seem to take no notice?

⁴ Who are you, so powerful and so weak, so great and so little, a mean and yet a soldier of the first rank, who can command in the form of a servant as a common soldier?

⁵ The King of Glory, dead and alive, though once slain upon the cross?

⁶ Who lays dead in the grave, and are come down alive to us, and in your death all the creatures trembled, and all the stars were moved, and now hast you your liberty among the dead, and give disturbance to our legions?

⁷ Who are you, who dost release the captives that were held in chains by original sin and bring them into their former liberty.

⁸ Who are you, who dost spread so glorious and divine a light over those who were made blind by the darkness of sin?

⁹ In like manner all the legions of devils were seized with the like horror, and with the most submissive fear cried out, and said,

¹⁰ Whence comes it, O you Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, that you are a man so powerful and glorious in majesty, so bright as to have no spot, and so pure as to have no crime? For that lower world of earth, which was ever till now subject to us, and from whence we received tribute, never sent us such a dead man before, never sent such presents as these to the princes of She'ol.

¹¹ Who therefore are you, who with such courage enter among our abodes, and are not only not afraid to threaten us with the greatest punishments, but also endeavor to rescue all others from the chains in which we hold them?

¹² Perhaps you are that Yahusha, of whom Satan just now spoke to our prince, that by the death of the cross you wert about to receive the power of death.

¹³ Then the King of Glory trampling upon death, seized the prince of She'ol, deprived him of all his power, and took our earthly father A'dam with him to his glory.

18 THEN the prince of She'ol took Satan, and with great indication said to him, O you prince of destruction, author of Beelzebub's defeat and banishment, the scorn of Elohiym's angels and loathed by all righteous persons! What inclined you to act thus?

² You wouldst crucify the King of Glory, and by his destruction, hast made us promises of very large advantages, but as a fool wert ignorant of what you were about.

³ For behold now that Yahusha of Nazareth, with the brightness of his glorious divinity, puts to flight all the horrid powers of darkness and death;

⁴ He has broken down our prisons from top to bottom, dismissed all the captives, released all who were bound, and all who were wont formerly to groan under the weight of their torments have now insulted us, and we are like to be defeated by their prayers.

⁵ Our impious dominions are subdued, and no part of mankind is now left in our subjection, but on the other hand, they all boldly defy us;

⁶ Though, before, the dead never durst behave themselves insolently towards us, nor, being prisoners, could ever on any occasion be merry.

⁷ O Satan, you prince of all the wicked, father of the impious and abandoned, why would you attempt this exploit, seeing our prisoners were hitherto always without the least hopes of salvation and life?

⁸ But now there is not one of them does ever groan, nor is there the least appearance of a tear in any of their faces.

⁹ O prince Satan, you great keeper of the infernal regions, all your advantages which you didst acquire by the forbidden tree, and the loss of Paradise, you hast now lost by the wood of the cross;

¹⁰ And your happiness all then expired, when you didst crucify Yahusha Ha'Mashiach the King of Glory.

¹¹ You hast acted against thine own interest and mine, as you will presently perceive by those large torments and infinite punishments which you are about to suffer.

¹² O Satan, prince of all evil, author of death, and source of all pride, you shouldest first have inquired into the evil crimes of Yahusha of Nazareth, and then you would have found that he was guilty of no fault worthy of death.

¹³ Why didst you venture, without either reason or justice, to crucify him, and hast brought down to our regions a person innocent and righteous, and thereby hast lost all the sinners, impious and unrighteous persons in the whole world?

¹⁴ While the prince of She'ol was thus speaking to Satan, the King of Glory said to Beelzebub, the prince of She'ol, Satan, the prince shall be subject to your dominion forever, in the room of A'dam and his righteous sons, who are mine.

19 THEN Yahusha stretched forth his hand, and said, Come to me, all you my saints, who were created in my image, who were condemned by the tree of forbidden fruit, and by the devil and death;

² Live now by the wood of my cross; the devil, the prince of this world, is overcome, and death is conquered.

³ Then presently all the saints were joined together under the hand of the Most-High Elohiym; and Adonai Yahusha laid hold on A'dam's hand and said to him, Peace be to you, and all your righteous posterity, which is mine.

⁴ Then A'dam, casting himself at the feet of Yahusha, addressed himself to him, with tears, in humble language, and a loud voice, saying,

⁵ I will extol you, O Adonai, for you hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me. O Adonai my Elohiym, I cried unto you, and you hast healed me.

⁶ O Adonai, you hast brought up my soul from the grave; you hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

⁷ Sing unto YAHAUAHA, all you saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness. For his anger endure but for a moment; in his favor is life.

⁸ In like manner all the saints, prostrate at the feet of Yahusha, said with one voice, You are come, O Redeemer of the world, and hast actually accomplished all things, which you didst foretell by the law and your holy prophets.

⁹ You hast redeemed the living by your cross, and are come down to us, that by the death of the cross you might deliver us from She'ol, and by your power from death.

¹⁰ O, Adonai, as you hast put the ensigns of your glory in heaven, and hast set up the sign of your redemption, even your cross on earth! so, Adonai, set the sign of the victory of your cross in She'ol, that death may have dominion no longer. ¹¹ Then Adonai stretching forth his hand, made the sign of the cross upon A'dam, and upon all his saints.

¹² And taking hold of A'dam by his right hand, he ascended from She'ol, and all the saints of Elohiym followed him.

¹³ Then the royal prophet David boldly cried, and said, O sing unto YAHAUAHA new song, for he hath done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have gotten him the victory.

¹⁴ YAHAUAHA hath made known his salvation, his righteousness hath he openly shewn in the sight of the heathen.

¹⁵ And the whole multitude of saints answered, saying, This honor have all his saints, Amen, Praise you YAHAUAHA.

¹⁶ Afterwards, the prophet Habakkuk cried out, and said, You went forth for the salvation of your people, even for the salvation of your people.

¹⁷ And all the saints said, Blessed is he who cometh in the name of YAHAUAHA; for YAHAUAHA hath enlightened us. This is our Elohiym for ever and ever; he shall reign over us to everlasting ages, *Amen*.

18 In like manner all the prophets spoke the sacred things of his praise and followed Adonai.

20 THEN Adonai holding A'dam by the hand, delivered him to Mikha'el the archangel; and he led them into Paradise, filled with mercy and glory;

² And two very ancient men met them, and were asked by the saints, Who are you, who have not yet been with us in She'ol, and have had your bodies placed in Paradise?

³ One of them answering, said, I am Chanok, who was translated by the word of Elohiym: and this man who is with me, is Eliyahu the Tishbite, who was translated in a fiery chariot.

⁴ Here we have hitherto been, and have not tasted death, but are now about to return at the coming of Antichrist, being armed with divine signs and miracles, to engage with him in battle, and to be slain by him at Yerushalayim, and to be taken up alive again into the clouds, after three days and a half.

⁵ And while the holy Chanok and Elias were relating this, behold there came another man in a miserable figure carrying the sign of the cross upon his shoulders.

⁶ And when all the saints saw him, they said to him, Who are you? For your countenance is like a thief's; and why dost you carry a cross upon your shoulders?

⁷ To which he answering, said, Ye say right, for I was a thief who committed all sorts of wickedness upon earth.

⁸ And the Yahudiym crucified me with Yahusha; and I observed the surprising things which happened in the creation at the crucifixion of Adonai Yahusha.

⁹ And I believed him to be the Creator of all things, and the Almighty King; and I prayed to him, saying, Adonai, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

¹⁰ He presently regarded my supplication, and said to me, Verily I say unto you, this day you shalt be with me in Paradise.

¹¹ And he gave me this sign of the cross saying, Carry this, and go to Paradise; and if the angel who is the guard of Paradise will not admit you, shew him the sign of the cross, and say unto him: Yahusha Ha'Mashiach who is now crucified, hath sent me hither to you.

¹² When I did this, and told the angel who is the guard of Paradise all these things, and he heard them, he presently opened the gates, introduced me, and placed me on the right-hand in Paradise,

¹³ Saying, Stay here a little time, till A'dam, the father of all mankind, shall enter in, with all his sons, who are the holy and righteous servants of Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, who was crucified.

¹⁴ When they heard all this account from the thief, all the patriarchs said with one voice, Blessed be you, O Almighty Elohiym, the Father of everlasting goodness, and the Father of mercies, who hast shewn such favor to those who were sinners against him, and hast brought them to the mercy of Paradise, and hast placed them amidst your large and spiritual provisions, in a spiritual and holy life. Amen. **21** THESE are the divine and sacred mysteries which we saw and heard. I, Charinus and Lenthius are not allowed to declare the other mysteries of Elohiym, as the archangel Mikha'el ordered us,

² Saying, you shall go with my brethren to Yerushalayim, and shall continue in prayers, declaring and glorifying the resurrection of Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, seeing he hath raised you from the dead at the same time with himself.

³ And you shall not talk with any man but sit as dumb persons till the time come when Adonai will allow you to relate the mysteries of his divinity.

⁴ The archangel Mikha'el farther commanded us to go beyond Yardan, to an excellent and fat country, where there are many who rose from the dead along with us for the proof of the resurrection of Mashiach.

⁵ For we have only three days allowed us from the dead, who arose to celebrate the Passover of our Adonai with our parents, and to bear our testimony for Mashiach Adonai, and we have been baptized in the holy river of Yardan. And now they are not seen by anyone.

⁶ This is as much as Elohiym allowed us to relate to you; give you therefore praise and honor to him, and repent, and he will have mercy upon you. Peace be to you from Adonai Elohiym Yahusha Ha'Mashiach, and the Savior of us all. Amen, Amen, Amen.

⁷ And after they had made an end of writing and had written in two distinct pieces of paper, Charinus gave what he wrote into the hands of Chananyahu, and Qayapha, and Gamliy'el.

⁸ Lenthius likewise gave what he wrote into the hands of Niqodiymon and Yoceph; and immediately they were changed into exceeding white forms and were seen no more.

⁹ But what they had written was found perfectly to agree, the one not containing one letter more or less than the other.

¹⁰ When all the assembly of the Yahudiym heard all these surprising relations of Charinus and Lenthius, they said to each other, Truly all these things were wrought by Elohiym, and blessed be YAHAUAHA Yahusha for ever and ever, Amen.

¹¹ And they went about with great concern, and fear, and trembling, and smote upon their breasts and went away everyone to his home.

¹² But immediately all these things which were related by the Yahudiym in their synagogues concerning Yahusha, were presently told by Yoceph and Niqodiymon to the governor.

¹³ And Pilate wrote down all these transactions and placed all these accounts in the public records of his hall.

22 AFTER these things Pilate went to the temple of the Yahudiym, and called together all the rulers and scribes, and doctors of the law, and went with them into a chapel of the temple.

² And commanding that all the gates should be shut, said to them, I have heard that you have a certain large book in this temple; I desire you therefore, that it may be brought before me.

³ And when the great book, carried by four ministers of the temple, and adorned with gold and precious stones, was brought, Pilate said to them all, I adjure you by the Elohiym of your Fathers, who made and commanded this temple to be built, that you conceal not the truth from me.

⁴ Ye know all the things which are written in that book; tell me therefore now, if you in the Scriptures have found anything of that Yahusha whom you crucified, and at what time of the world he ought to have come: shew it me.

⁵ Then having sworn Chananyahu and Qayapha, they commanded all the rest who were with them to go out of the chapel.

⁶ And they shut the gates of the temple and of the chapel, and said to Pilate, You hast made us to swear, O judge, by the building of this temple, to declare to you that which is true and right.

⁷ After we had crucified Yahusha, not knowing that he was the Son of Elohiym, but supposing he wrought his miracles by some magical arts, we summoned a large assembly in this temple.

⁸ And when we were deliberating among one another about the miracles which Yahusha had wrought, we found many witnesses of our own country, who declared that they had seen him alive after his death, and that they heard him discoursing with his disciples, and saw him ascending unto the height of the heavens, and entering into them.

⁹ And we saw two witnesses, whose bodies Yahusha raised from the dead, who told us of many strange things which Yahusha did among the dead, of which we have a written account in our hands.

¹⁰ And it is our custom annually to open this holy book before an assembly, and to search there for the counsel of Elohiym.

¹¹ And we found in the first of the seventy books, where Mikha'el the archangel is speaking to the third son of A'dam the first man, an account that after five thousand five hundred years, Mashiach the most beloved Son of Elohiym was come on earth,

¹² And we further considered that perhaps he was the very Elohiym of Yashar'el who spoke to Mosheh, You shalt make the ark of the testimony; two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

¹³ By these five cubits and a half for the building of the ark of the Old Testament, we perceived and knew that in five thousand years and a half one thousand years, Yahusha Ha'Mashiach was to come in the ark or tabernacle of a body;

¹⁴ And so our scriptures testify that he is the son of Elohiym, and Adonai and King of Yashar'el.

¹⁵ And because after his suffering, our chief priests were surprised at the signs which were wrought by his means, we opened that book to search all the generations down to the generation of Yoceph and Miryam the mother of Yahusha, supposing him to be of the seed of David;

¹⁶ And we found the account of the creation, and at what time he made the heaven and the earth and the first man A'dam, and that from thence to the flood, were two thousand, two hundred and twelve years.

¹⁷ And from the flood to Abraham, nine hundred and twelve. And from Abraham to Mosheh, four hundred and thirty. And from Mosheh to David the king, five hundred and ten.

¹⁸ And from David to the Babylonish captivity, five hundred years. And from the Babylonish captivity to the incarnation of Mashiach, four hundred years.

¹⁹ The sum of all which amounts to five thousand and half a thousand.

²⁰ And so it appears, that Yahusha whom we crucified, is Yahusha Ha'Mashiach the Son of Elohiym, and true and Almighty Elohiym. Amen.