

<sup>12</sup> Through the hands of the representatives many signs and wonders were happening among the people and they were communally on the Porch of Solomon. <sup>13</sup> None of the rest were daring to join them on the porch, but the people made their name great <sup>14</sup> and more were being added to those trusting the Lord—multitudes of both men and women. <sup>15</sup> Those who were weak were brought out into the broad places and put upon beds and cots, so when Peter was coming by, his shadow would overshadow them. <sup>16</sup> A multitude came together from the cities surrounding Jerusalem, bringing the weak and those harassed by breaths of impurity—all were being cared for, whatever they had. <sup>17</sup> Standing up, the leader of the temple-caretakers and all those with him (which is the group of the Sadducees) were filled with jealousy <sup>18</sup> and threw hands upon the representatives and put them in the public keep. <sup>19</sup> Opening the doors for those under guard, a messenger of the Lord brought them out during the night, saying to them,

<sup>20</sup> “Go! Stand in the temple-complex and speak the words of this life to all the people!”

<sup>21</sup> Listening, they entered into the temple-complex before daybreak and they began teaching. The leader of the temple-caretakers and those with him called together the Sanhedrin and the whole senate of the children of Israel and they sent for the representatives at the detention center. <sup>22</sup> Coming forth, the attendants did not find them under guard. Turning back, they reported, <sup>23</sup> saying,

“We found the detention center closed with all certainty and the guards standing at the doors, but, after opening, we found no one inside.”

<sup>24</sup> When the military officer of the temple-complex and the leaders of the temple-caretakers heard these words, they began being thoroughly confused about how this happened. <sup>25</sup> Coming forth, someone reported to them,

“Look! The men which you put under guard are standing in the temple-complex, teaching the people!”

<sup>26</sup> Fearing the people, the military officer with the attendants brought the representatives without force so they would not have stones thrown at them. <sup>27</sup> Bringing them, they stood the representatives in the Sanhedrin and the leader of the temple-caretakers spoke to them, <sup>28</sup> saying,

“We directed you not to teach on the basis of this name and, look, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are desiring to bring the blood of this person upon us!”

<sup>29</sup> Answering, Peter and the representatives said,

“It is necessary to obey the Creator, rather than humanity! <sup>30</sup> The Creator of our fathers raised Jesus, the one you handed over to death by hanging him upon a piece of wood. <sup>31</sup> the Creator lifted Jesus to his right hand as example and rescuer, to give transformation to Israel and freedom from rebellions. <sup>32</sup> We ourselves are testimonies of these things! Indeed, the Creator has given the Divine Breath to those who obey him!”

<sup>33</sup> Listening, they were enraged and were desiring to execute the representatives. <sup>34</sup> Standing up, a Pharisee among the Sanhedrin named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Torah valued by the people, instructed the

representatives to go outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup> Then he said to the Sanhedrin,

“Men! Israelites! Protect yourselves from what you are about to do on the basis of these persons!

<sup>36</sup> Before these days, Theudas stood up saying he himself was someone and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was executed and all those persuaded by him disbanded and became nothing. <sup>37</sup> After this, Judah from Galilee stood up in the days of the registration and he led those behind him away from the people. He also was destroyed and all those persuaded by him were dispersed.

<sup>38</sup> Now I say to you, stand away from these persons and set them free, because if this is from humanity then this work will be dismantled. <sup>39</sup> But if it is from the Creator, you will not be able to dismantle them and then you will be found fighting against the Creator!”

They were persuaded by Gamaliel <sup>40</sup> and, after calling for the representatives and whipping them, they directed them not to speak on the basis of the name of Jesus. Then they released them. <sup>41</sup> The representatives went out rejoicing in the face of the Sanhedrin, because they were judged worthy to be mistreated on behalf of the name of Jesus. <sup>42</sup> Everyday in the temple-complex and throughout the houses, they did not stop teaching and declaring the Gospel of Jesus, the Anointed.

<sup>6.1</sup> In those days when the apprentices were multiplying, a complaint came from the Greek-speaking-ones against the Hebrew-speaking-ones because their widows were being overlooked during the day-to-day service. <sup>2</sup> Calling the multitude of apprentices, the representatives said,

“It is not pleasing to us to serve tables while leaving the word of the Creator. <sup>3</sup> Brothers, look to the men among you for seven, who are being testimonies full of the Breath and wisdom, upon whom we will put these needs. <sup>4</sup> Then we will be steadfast to prayer and to the service of the word.”

<sup>5</sup> This word was pleasing in the sight of the whole multitude and they chose Stephen, a man full of trust and the Divine Breath, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas a convert from Syrian Antioch. <sup>6</sup> They stood them in the sight of the representatives and, while praying, they put hands upon them. <sup>7</sup> The word of the Creator was growing and the number of apprentices in Jerusalem was exceedingly multiplying and even a great crowd of temple-caretakers began trustfully listening.