

¹⁹ Those, who were scattered because of the oppression that happened over Stephen, went up to the region of Phoenicia, the province of Cyprus, and Syrian Antioch, speaking the word to no one except for Judeans. ²⁰ But some of the men from the provinces of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came into Syrian Antioch, also began speaking to the Greek-speaking-ones, declaring the Gospel of the Lord Jesus. ²¹ The hand of the Lord was with them and a great number trusted and turned to the Lord. ²² The news about them was heard by the community in Jerusalem and they sent out Barnabas to Syrian Antioch. ²³ Coming forth and seeing the generosity of the Creator, Barnabas rejoiced and began exhorting all of them, so they might remain with the Lord with purpose of heart. ²⁴ Because he was a good man, full of the Divine Breath and trust, an adequate crowd was added to the Lord. ²⁵ Barnabas went out to Tarsus to seek out Saul ²⁶ and, finding him, he brought him into Syrian Antioch. They gathered together with the community for a whole year, both to teach an adequate crowd and to inform the Anointed's first apprentices in Syrian Antioch.

²⁷ In those days, prophets came down from Jerusalem to Syrian Antioch. ²⁸ Standing up, one of them named Agabus signaled through the Breath that a great famine (which happened under Emperor Claudius) was about to come upon all of civilization. ²⁹ So each of the apprentices determined to send something helpful to serve the brothers dwelling in the province of Iudaea. ³⁰ They did this, sending it to the elders through the hand of Barnabas and Saul.

^{12.1} During that season, Ruler Herod Agrippa, threw hands upon some of those from the community to harm them. ² He executed Jacob of Zebedee, the brother of John, with the sword. ³ Seeing that this was pleasing to the Judeans, he added to it by also apprehending Peter during the days of Unyeasted Bread. ⁴ Seizing him, they put Peter under guard, giving him over to four squads of four soldiers to guard him, because they were desiring to send him up to the people after the Passover. ⁵ While Peter was being kept under guard, intense prayer to the Creator about him was being made by the community.

⁶ On that night, when Herod Agrippa was about to bring him out to the people, Peter was lying down, bound with two chains between two soldiers, while guards at the door were keeping him under guard. ⁷ A light shone and a messenger of the Lord stood in the room. Striking the side of Peter, he raised him, saying,

“Stand up with haste!”

The chains fell off Peter's hands ⁸ and the messenger said to him,

“Fasten and bind your sandals!”

Peter did this. Then the messenger said to Peter,

“Throw on your garment and follow me!”

⁹ Going out, Peter began following him. Peter did not discern the truth of what was happening through the messenger and was deciding he saw a vision. ¹⁰ After going past the first and second guards, they came upon the iron gate of the city, which opened by itself for them. Going out, they went down one alley and, immediately,

the messenger stood away from him. ¹¹ Coming to himself, Peter said,

“Now, I truly discern that the Lord sent out his messenger and delivered me from the hand of Herod Agrippa and every expectation of the Judean people.”

¹² Peter came upon the house of Mary, the mother of John who was called Mark, where an adequate group had gathered together and was praying. ¹³ After he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant named Rhoda came to listen. ¹⁴ Recognizing the voice of Peter, she, out of joy, did not open the gate, but, running in, reported that Peter stood before the gate. ¹⁵ They said to her,

“You are insane!”

But she was insisting it to be so. They began saying,

“It is his messenger.”

¹⁶ But Peter remained, knocking. After opening, they saw him and were beside themselves. ¹⁷ Shaking a hand to silence them, Peter described how the Lord brought him out of being under guard. He said,

“Report these things to Jacob the brother of Jesus and the brothers!”

Going out, he went to another place. ¹⁸ After the coming of day, there was great agitation, among the soldiers, over what had happened to Peter. ¹⁹ After seeking him and not finding him, Herod Agrippa judged the guards and instructed them to be taken away.

Coming down from Judea into Caesarea, Herod Agrippa stayed there. ²⁰ Herod Agrippa was passionately fighting with Tyre and Sidon. They began communally presenting themselves to him and, persuaded by Blastus, the one over the affairs of the Ruler, they began asking for harmony because their nourishment was from the Ruler’s land. ²¹ On the ordered day, Herod Agrippa, putting on Ruler’s apparel and sitting upon the judgment seat, began publicly-speaking to them. ²² The public began voicing,

“The voice of the Creator, not of humanity!”

²³ Immediately, a messenger of the Lord struck Herod Agrippa, for he did not give triumph to the Creator—becoming worm-food, life went out from him. ²⁴ The word of the Creator began increasing and multiplying.

²⁵ After fulfilling their service in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Saul turned back, taking along with them John, who was called Mark.