O Lorde, help me in thy mercy! Amen.

From Philotheus, the Deacon of the Country of the East, to the spiritual Fathers, who are in every country, and in every province, in Jesus Christ our Lord and God; peace be multiplied!

I would have you to know, O my brethren, that I was exceedingly anxious in the love of our Lord to go up to Jerusalem, the City of the Great King, and to see the exalted regions wherein Christ walked, and the holy Places wherein He wrought mighty deeds and miracles. For I had desire to go to Bethlehem, and to enter into the Cave and to see the place where He, Who fashioneth babes in the wombs of those Who are with child, was wrapped in swaddling-bands and laid in a manger. And from thence I would go to the Jordan that I might understand how the river could bear Him Who created it, Him

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1 Emperor of the East A. D. 474–491.
2 Here and elsewhere for ἐαυτός we should probably read ἑαυτός.
Who holdeth the waters of the sea in the hollow of His Hand, and Who hath set the sand as an impassable boundary therefor. And I would go up also to Cana and see the place where\(^1\) He, Who commanded the earth to produce trees of every kind which should bear fruit each having the taste after its kind, sat at meat, having been invited to the feast, and changed the water into wine. And I would alight at and pass through the Porch of Solomon, and see the place where lay the paralytic, whose sickness had cleaved unto him and vexed him throughout eight and thirty years, to whom He spake one word, and raised him up from his bed; for to God everything is easy.\(^2\) And I would see the well of the Samaritan woman, and how he who had been blind from his mother's womb was healed. And I would pass by the grave of Lazarus, and I would go up from thence to Golgotha, and I would see where was fixed the Cross of Him Who stretched out the ladder from the heavens to the earth in the mountain of Gilead for the sake of Jacob His beloved. And I would go into the grave and see where the Lion's Whelp, concerning Whom the prophets wrote in their mysteries, crouched in the habitation of Sheol for three days and three nights. And afterwards I would go up to the Mount of Olives, where He lifted up His holy hands and blessed the Apostles and ascended unto his glorious Father. And I would also enter into the upper chamber where He, Who went forth from the womb and did not destroy the signs

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\(^1\) See p. 171, note 2.

\(^2\) Read, according to Add. 14,645 τῶν κατὰ τὰς ἔρημους ἀνασκῆντας εἰς τὴν ἐπάνω θάλασσαν.
of virginity of her who gave Him birth, went in to His disciples, the doors being shut. This, then, was the earnest desire which possessed me. And I set my face, and drew nigh unto my Bishop, and I persuaded him to permit me to go to perform my journey. And he received my entreaty and sent me away, and blessed me, saying, "Go, and may the "Lord God, Who hath kindled in thee the desire to "journey in His path in the belief of the truth, go "with thee. May He make straight thy way before "thee so that thou mayest go in peace and come in "peace; and may He make marvellous things to flourish "at thy hands, and mayest thou come and tell us "concerning the glorious things which thine eyes have "seen. Mayest thou be a builder up of the belief of "the truth, and an overthower of the Jews whose "wickedness thou shalt see, and concerning whose "shame thou shalt make proclamation! And do thou "pray on our behalf in the holy temples into which "thou shalt enter, and do thou have me in remem- "brance before the Grave of our Lord." With these words of blessing, then, was I provided for my jour- ney by my Bishop, and he spake unto me as it were in prophecy, for every thing which he spake unto me came to pass."

And it came to pass afterwards that I rose up and went forth from the house of my fathers, and having committed my soul to the living God I crossed over the river, the great Euphrates; and I journeyed through provinces, and I meditated in my heart,
and I understood matters. And I passed through Palestine and through the country of Tiberias; I saw cities which had become heaps and mounds, palaces which had been overthrown, villages which had been destroyed, and homesteads which had been made desolate and had become graves for the lords thereof. I saw dead bodies which had been scattered about, and bones which had been stripped of their flesh, and human limbs which had been thrown down broadcast; and I thought within myself that this country must have been Sodom whereupon God made to fall fire and brimstone. And as I was marvelling if it were so or no, not knowing whom I could ask to inform me, I bowed the knee, and prayed and said, “O God, “Who in Thy love wast pleased to descend from the “heavens to the earth to redeem the children of men “from error, do Thou make to meet me a man who “feareth Thy holy name that he may show me what “mean these things which mine eyes have seen, and “what cause hath called this destruction [upon the “country].” And it came to pass that whilst I was praying a certain man rose up before me, grey-haired but goodly of form and desirable in his appearance, and his words were gracious; and I looked upon him and knew that God had sent him. And I drew nigh unto him and saluted him, and I received a blessing from him, and I made entreaty unto him, saying, “I beseech thee, O master, to tell me “and to show me what is the cause of the overthrow “of all these cities and villages over which I have “passed and which have been turned into a wilderness, and when they received this judgment.” Then
the holy one opened his mouth and spake softly unto me, and said unto me, "Rise up, O my son, hearken, and I will show thee. It was thus from the beginning. When God saw that Adam had been brought low and had been cast into Sheol, and that his posterity had been led captive by Satan, and had been brought into servitude under the yoke of sin, He sent His Son Who came down and put on Adam through the Virgin Mary; and He was born and rose upon the world with unspeakable wonder, even as He desired and as was good in His sight. And the Magi came, bearing offerings, and the angels came down, singing praises with their voices, and the Seraphim, rustling their wings, and they cried out at the door of the cave in which He was born, saying, 'Holy, Holy, Holy is the Son of God Who hath come down from the heavens to the earth'. And He became like the children of men, and He attained to perfect stature like all [men] born of women. He hungered and thirsted like the children of men; He slept like the children of flesh; He wrought mighty deeds; He made manifest marvellous works like God; He cleansed the lepers, and cast out devils; He drove away demons; He made whole the sick; He healed those that were diseased; He gave life unto the dead; He made straight those that were crooked with disease; He opened the eyes of the blind; He made the deaf to hear; He commanded the water, and it became wine; and He blessed five barley-loaves, and five thousand men ate thereof and were satisfied. By His coming He made to be at peace the heavens and the earth.
which had been moved to wrath; in the wilderness
there was abundance; in the tilled land there were
wonders; in the height there was glorifying; and in
the depth there was praise.

But the people of the Jews had envy of Him, and
they laid hands upon Him, and seized Him, and reviled Him, and despised Him, and uttered blasphemies
concerning Him; and they delivered Him to the judgment of death, and they smote Him and they buffeted
Him. They set up a Cross and hung Him thereon.
He cried out from the top of the wood, and the sun
became darkened in the firmament. The veil of the
door of the Temple heard His voice and was rent
in twain; the rocks perceived it and split asunder;
the graves were opened and the dead went forth
therefrom. He delivered His soul into the hands
of His Father; and they took Him down from the
Cross, and laid Him in the grave. He entered into
the abode of the dead, and did not see corruption.
The angels came down and rolled away the stone
from the door of the grave; He rose from the tomb
on the third day, and raised up many with Him.
He appeared unto His disciples after [His] Resurrection from the dead, and He blessed them, and
ascended into heaven unto His Father, Who had
sent Him into the world, and He raised up with
Him the body of Adam. And, behold, He sitteth at
the right hand of Him Who sent Him."

Now this destruction which thou hast seen, that
is to say, the cities and villages which have been
overturned upon their inhabitants, hath taken place
because they despised His commandments and would
not receive Him, and because they contemned His
goodness and because they did not believe that
He was the true God Who came forth from the true
God. Now the reason for this judgment is this:
When Christ was dwelling in Jerusalem His disciples
drew nigh unto Him and showed Him the building
of the Temple of Jerusalem; and they said unto Him,
Behold, see how beautiful is the building of this
Temple, and how great, and glorious, and lofty,
and splendid it is!' And Jesus answered and said
unto them, 'Verily, I say unto you, Because the
Father is not served therein with holiness, and the
Son is not adored therein with praise, and the
Spirit is not cherished therein with devotion, one
stone shall not be left upon another which shall not
be overthrown; and the beauty thereof shall be de-
stroyed, and the Temple shall fall to the ground.'
And thus it came to pass, for it was overthrown even
to its foundations. And the Jews rose up afterwards
to set it up again and to build it as it was afore-
time, and to make the holy words of Christ to be
a lie. And the anger of the Lord went up and
He waxed wroth against them, He looked upon the
earth and made it to tremble, He commanded it
and it reeled, and its spirit descended and it turn-
ed itself over upon its inhabitants. And, had it not
been that the mercy of Christ sustained creation,
destruction,' absolute and entire, must have come
unto it. This is the cause of the desolation which
thou hast seen. But do thou, wheresoever thou goest,

1 Read עדכ.
"proclaim and teach and speak (and thou shalt not "be afraid), that this Jesus, Who was born of Mary "the Virgin, is God Who came forth from the Liv-"ing God, and that He was with His Father from "everlasting. May every soul, and every dominion, "and all powers worship and glorify Him, to Whom "praise and adoration are due for ever and for ever! "Amen."

And it came to pass that, when I had stood up and had listened to the words of the man of God, and had laid [them] in my heart, he was hidden from me, and I knew not whither he had gone. So I began to journey forwards on my way, and I went and entered into Tiberias,¹ and as I was going round about I saw therein horrible signs and fearful sights, that is to say, confusion which was without order | among the enemies of Christ and those who hated God. There were children who were without faith, and fathers who had no truth in them; they entered in scoffing, and they came forth mocking; they went forth blaspheming, and they came back sinning. And I rose up, and marvelled, and pains laid hold upon me like a woman who is about to bring forth; I me-"ditated anxiously, and my spirit was troubled. I looked on the right hand, and I saw that there was none who knew me; I longed greatly to hear the sweet voice of the cry which proclaimed concerning the

¹ I. e., the strongly fortified capital of Galilaea which was situated on the south-west coast of the sea of Tiberias; it was built by the tetrarch Antipas in honour of the Emperor Tiberius, and lay at a distance of about 84 miles from Jerusalem.
faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, and there was none. And moreover, whilst I was pondering this thought, "What is this heathenism, and where is the root "thereof that it hath not as yet dried up?" and whilst I was marvelling concerning everything which mine eyes had seen I left [that place] and went forth outside the city. And I went away therefrom about the distance of one mile, and I set the knee, and prayed, and said, "O Lord God, Who art merciful, and pro-
"tecting, and long-suffering, and abundant in good-
"ness and truth, Who desirest that the children of men "may live, Who lovrest rest and peace, let there be "found for me a man Who feareth Thy holy name "that he may show and declare unto me what is the "cause of this sin, and what is the promise of this "wickedness."

And it came to pass that as I was making supplication and praying unto God I found that man, who had appeared unto me aforetime, standing before me; but his appearance was changed, for he was clothed with wrath, his speech was hot with in-
dignation, and he was like unto a man who had es-
caped from a band of thieves. And he cried unto me and said, "What seekest thou, O man? What "cause hath called thee to this country? Whither is "thy face set to go?" And I drew nigh unto him, and I saluted him, and I received a blessing from him, and I made entreaty unto him concerning that which he had spoken unto me. And I asked him, saying, "I entreat thee, O my lord, tell me what is

1 Read ἀρκ.
"thy name, and whence comest thou, and why thou appearest to me like a man driven onwards by violence, and like a man who hath escaped from a band of thieves, and like a hostile man who is armed for war? For although thy appearance be fair and thy speech straight, yet thy wrath is cruel, and I am afraid to look upon thee." Then he opened his mouth and spake unto me, saying, "I am the captain of the hosts of the Lord, and I minister unto the majesty of the Son of God. I prayed unto Him, and He hath sent me to show thee that which thou hast asked and to inform thee concerning thy desire; and behold, He hath sent me unto thee twice. For when pure prayer is offered unto Him, straightway He commandeth, and the prayer entereth in before Him and receiveth that which it hath asked, and goeth forth; for God is the merciful One, and He heareth likewise the prayers of all those who believe. And, behold, we have received the command from Him, and we are wont to bring in before Him the prayers of all those who are penitent through the gate of the glory of the exalted majesty; and we do not dare to look at Him Who receiveth them." And because thy prayer hath entered in before Him, behold, I have been sent unto thee twice that I might make known unto thee that which thou hast asked in thy prayer from God. And as concerning that which thou hast said, that thou dost look upon me as upon one armed for battle, I stand ready so that if it was permitted unto me I would

1 The better reading is that of Add. 14,645 which has קָצַה. 
"straightway destroy all those who crucified [Christ].
"And I would cast down the dead bodies of the Jews,
"and would make an end1 of the nation that provoketh to wrath, and would blot out from the face
"of the earth all the sons of Jacob who have dared
"to revile, and to buffet, and to crucify, and to slay
"Him upon the outermost edge of the abiding-place
"of Whose Majesty we do not dare to look. It is
"for this reason that my wrath hath mounted up. But
"hearken, and I will show thee an iniquity which the
"wrath-provoking sons of contumacious fathers have
"wrought, which is greater than all else in this city
"which was stirred up thereby. And I prayed to God
"that He would show thee, for the ears of the child-
"dren of men are not able to hear this iniquitous
"thing, nor is their tongue able to speak concerning
"this wickedness, for it is great beyond measure, and
"abundant beyond counting, and vast beyond bounds.
"Atonement cannot be made for it, and offerings
"cannot be offered up therefor, for its retribution is
"Gehenna, the wages thereof are the worms, and the
"punishment therefor is darkness, and the inheritance
"thereof is woe and gnashing of teeth. Hearken now,
"and I will show thee, O believing man, and receive my
"words, and ascribe glory unto God Who hath been
"so long-suffering towards this contumacious people.
"For when they were in Egypt, and the Egyptians
"were making them serve with the service of mud
"and of bricks, and were embittering their lives with
"cruel labour, they cried out unto God and He heard

1 Read, with Add. 14,645, ἅσχοῖκο.
"their groaning, and He remembered His covenant and had mercy upon them. And He sent Moses and Aaron unto Pharaoh the king of Egypt, that He might deliver them out of the hand of those who were afflicting them. He wrought miracles and wonderful deeds among them by the cruel plagues with which He smote the Egyptians, and He brought the people out from thence. He divided the Sea of Reeds before them, and He heaped up the waters, as it were in skin-bottles, and the waters stood up straight, on their right hand and on their left, and became unto them like a wall, and the people passed through the sea on dry land. And Pharaoh the king of Egypt followed after them, and Moses brought his hand back over the sea, and it returned upon Pharaoh and upon all his host; and the Egyptians perished, and were drowned among the waves. And the Hebrews went up with praise and exultation, and God led them into the desert. He made them to march in the day time in a pillar of cloud, so that they should not be afraid of the hand of those who might afflict them in the noonday, and by night in the radiance of fire, so that they might not stumble in the darkness. He fed them with all manner of good things, and He satisfied them with all manner of glorious foods; they ate the bread of angels, yet they asked for onions and garlic. The nations were laid waste and cast down before them, yet they desired anxiously to be buried in Egypt; and they said unto Moses, 'Why didst thou not leave us to die in Egypt?' They became fat like stalled beasts with the good things of the sea and of the land,
"yet their mouth was filled with blasphemy and complaint. He cleft the rock in the wilderness, and brought out running waters from the stone, and they complained against God, | and said, 'Since He hath smitten the stony rock, and waters have flowed down and He hath made springs to gush out, perhaps adventure He is also able to give us bread or to make ready meat for His people.' And the Lord heard, and was wroth, but because of His covenant with Abraham He turned back His anger that He might not destroy them. And the Lord cried unto Moses, and said unto him, 'Speak unto the children of Israel, that they sanctify themselves and be holy; and do thou come up unto me into the mountain, and I will give thee the Law and the Commandment which thou shalt hand down to them.' And Moses did as the Lord said unto him, and while he was coming down from the mountain the people stood up against Aaron, and said unto him, 'Make unto us gods that they may go before us.' O foolish nation, O stubborn nation, O contumacious nation, could ye not perform His commandments? And consider the strength of God Who worked on your behalf, Who turned the waters into blood, and Who on your account punished the Egyptians severely with lice, and with blains, and with fire, and with hail, and with the death of the first-born, and with afflictions of every kind? And yet ye would require a God! And they made themselves a calf, and they bowed down before him, and they changed their glory into the similitude of an ox that eateth hay. And because of this thing my wrath went up.
“But hearken, and I will shew thee iniquity which is greater than all these things. And I prayed unto God, and I entreated Him to shew thee the iniquity which the wrath-provoking sons of rebellious fathers have wrought in this city, whereby it hath become perturbed. Hearken then, and receive my words, and ascribe glory unto God, Who hath been so long-suffering with this contumacious people.”

“Now those who crucified the Son of God wrote in their covenants to their sons, and to their sons’ sons, saying, ‘We seized Christ, the Son of Mary, because ‘He called Himself the Son of God; and we delivered Him over to the judgment of death, and we crucified Him, and we slew Him. And He did not rise of His own accord, but by favour He was buried by the children of His people. And after His death we seized His disciples, and we persecuted them, and we slew them, and we drove them forth from the congregation; and they went round about begging. And ye also, O children of fathers who wrought these things, make no mistake. If there should be any man who would make you to err [by following] after the doctrine of that seducer, ‘or if ye should find any man confessing Him, as ‘we have done even so do ye.’ But the foolish nation did not know that these things had been inscribed for their shame, and that they had been written down for their reproach. And all their children who were in this city gathered themselves together, and they also meditated within themselves how much disgrace they were able to heap upon the honourable Name of Christ; and they took coun-
"sel, one with another, how to make a picture of the
"Likeness of Christ upon a panel of wood, and how
"to make a mock of Him and how to insult Him.
"And the nobles took counsel together, and they
"sent and called a certain painter and said unto him
"craftily, 'We know that our fathers who crucified
"Christ acted very wickedly, and we do not consent
"to the wickedness which they wrought. But we
"entreat thee to take as much gold as ever thou
"wished, and to paint for us a likeness of Christ.'
"And these mad people did not know that they were
\[...\]
"We ourselves believe in Christ, and every one who
\[...\]
"in Him with our whole heart), will multiply the
\[...\]
"How would ye have me to portray Him? And in
\[...\]
"what manner would ye have me to depict Him?'
"And the priests said unto him, 'Paint Him for us
\[...\]
"'cross, and clothed in purple apparel, and having
\[...\]
"the crown of thorns upon His head.'"

"And the painter took a panel of wood, and painted
\[...\]
"him. And the Jews took it and set it up in an
\[...\]
"their will upon it. And they knelt down upon their "knees, and they paid homage unto it, and they "said, 'This is the Christ Whom our fathers crucified, "and we also give our consent to what they did in "the matter. And we would follow in their footsteps, "and we would emulate their acts; and had we been "living in their days we would have performed the "deed much better than they did.' Then one of "them ran, and took a spear, and grasping it in his "hand said, 'I myself also do even as my fathers "did'; and he drave the spear into the side of the "likeness of Christ, and made a mock of it the while. "Then straightway blood and water came forth there- "from. And the people who would crucify saw this "and marvelled, and some of them confessed, saying, "'Verily He Whom our fathers crucified in Jerusalem "is the Son of God, and He is the true God; and "this wonderful thing is indeed great.' And they "began to try and hide the matter as if nothing had "taken place. And it came to pass that, whilst they "stood whispering, and were seeking to hide this "matter so that it might not be heard of, a certain "blind man who was standing there heard them whis- "pering. And he answered and said unto them, 'I "'entreat you to bring me nigh unto the likeness so "that I may insult Him Who, being a man, made "'Himself to be the Son of God.' And the Jews "thought that he was [speaking] the truth, and they "took the blind man and brought him nigh unto it; "and the blind man stretched out his hand, and "clasped the likeness. And, as all the people were "looking on, he took some of the water and blood
“and smeared it upon his eyes, and he cried out
“with a loud voice, saying, ‘O Christ, the Son of
“God, as Bar-Timî (Bartimaeus) cried unto Thee,
“‘and Thou didst lay Thine hand upon his eyes and
“‘he saw the light, even so open Thou mine eyes
“‘for me in this hour, and I will confess Thy good-
“‘ness, and Thy holy Name shall be glorified.’ And
“‘immediately that the water and the blood touched
“him, his eyes were opened, and he saw the light,
“‘and he became as one whom hurt had never touch-
ed; and he gave thanks and glorified God | for the
“‘act of grace which He had wrought for him. Then
“‘the Jews took counsel among themselves, and said,
“‘Come, let us kill this blind man so that he may
“‘not go forth and proclaim in the world that which
“‘hath happened unto him. If we do not do this our
“‘priesthood will come to an end, and our laws will
“‘be abrogated, and our nation will perish, and our
“‘synagogue will be destroyed, and we shall die.’”

“And it came to pass that when those who believ-
ed in Christ heard these things, they planned means
“whereby they might rescue him from out of their
“hands. And they said unto them, ‘Nay, not so, it
“‘is not good that we should kill him, lest the report
“‘thereof go forth the more into the world, and it
“‘lead every man astray after Christ, and the people
“‘say, They rose up and killed that blind man be-
“‘cause Christ opened his eyes. But let us give him
“‘such a bribe as is necessary, and when he has
“‘accepted it let us teach him to say that we laid
“‘upon him the ark which is filled with our Holy Scrip-
“‘tures, and the Tables of the Law which Moses
"'wrote, and the Rod of Aaron, and the Coffer of "'Manna, and he saw the light.' Then the priests "called the blind man, and said unto him, 'What "'sayest thou, O man? Choose thee one of two "'things. Either accept gold, as much as thou know-"'est [how to ask], and conceal this matter, or get "'thee forth out of this city, and go whithersoever "'thou wishest to go. In the latter case we shall "'drive out along with thee all thy kinsfolk, and we "'shall not allow any of thy people to remain here. "'And besides all these things, if thou wilt not be "'persuaded [so to do], thou and all those who are "'acquaintances of thine shall receive the judgment "'of death.' And the blind man answered and said "unto them, 'Even though I were to die for the "'Name of Christ it would be gain unto me. How "'can ye tell me to deny Him upon Whom I cried, "'Who in one moment gave unto me the light "'which I had not seen having been vexed, even by "'day, by the darkness for these forty years past? "'And behold, this act of grace hath been given "'unto me at your hands, and I have seen the light "'which is much to be desired.' And when the Jews "heard the words, 'This gift hath been given unto "'me at your hands, | and I have seen the light,' they "rejoiced greatly and they imagined that they would "'be what he would say before all people. So they "'let him go forth free from the chamber wherein the "'likeness stood, and he had in his hand also some "'of that gracious gift which went forth from the like-"'ness, and which he had smeared upon his eyes and "'so gained his sight."
"And it came to pass that by the door of that "synagogue, on the right hand side, there was plac-
ed a bench whereupon lay a certain paralytic, who "had been sorely vexed by his affliction for a very "long time. Now God had preserved that gracious "gift [of the water and blood] for the shame of the "Jews. And the paralytic saw the blind man as he "was coming out, and he perceived with his under-
standing, and he said within himself, 'This man who "'hath now come out is he who was blind, and who "'used to go in and come out of the synagogue; he "'went in this day being blind, and, behold, he hath "'now come out with his eyes open. What is this "'wonderful thing? Who, then, can have opened his "'eyes for him? Can it be that the Ark of the priest[s] "'hath given him light? Behold, he was wont to go "'in and to come out with them every day, and yet "'no man ever helped him before. Or am I to think "'that the Law of Moses hath opened the pupils of "'his eyes for him? Yet he was hearing the Scrip-
tures always! Peradventure he is not the same "'man as the one I knew who was born blind, but "'some one who is very much like unto him.' And "'whilst he was thus thinking he cried out unto that "'blind man, and said unto him, 'Tell me, O man, "'what is thy name? By the God of Israel hide it "'not from me, and by Él-Shaddai, the great and "'true God, tell me what is thy name, and whence "'comest thou.' Then the blind man said unto him, "'Inasmuch as thou hast conjured me by Him, I will "'tell thee; but if thou hadst not conjured me by "'Him I would never have told thee. My name is
"‘Judah, and I belong to this city; and I dwell by "‘the side of the courtyard of the house of Ezra, the "‘chief of the congregation.’ And the paralytic said "unto him, ‘Art thou not he | who was blind, and "of whom people related that thou wast born blind?’ "And the blind man said unto him, ‘I, even I, am "‘he who was blind, and whom each day thou didst "‘see going' in and coming out from the synagogue; "‘but I never saw thee.’ And the paralytic said unto "him, ‘Tell me how thine eyes were opened, for, "‘behold, I have been lying here in this place for "‘twenty and one years, and I never saw or heard "‘that the eyes of any blind man had ever been "‘opened except thine.’ And the blind man said unto "him, ‘Hast thou ever heard of the Name of Jesus "‘Christ, the Son of God, Who, they say, came into "‘the world, and wrought mighty deeds, and worked "‘miracles, and made manifest marvellous things? And "‘the Jews laid hands upon Him, and they scourged "‘Him, and insulted Him, and crucified Him, and de- "‘livered Him over to death.’ And the paralytic said "unto him, ‘I have heard of Him of Whom thou "‘speakest, that He rose from the dead on the third "‘day, and ascended into heaven.’ And the blind "man said unto him, ‘It was He who opened my "‘eyes for me, and through Him I saw the light "‘which I had never before seen.’ And the paralytic "said unto him, ‘Tell me how He opened thine eyes "‘for thee, and how thou didst believe in Him.’ And "‘the blind man said unto him, ‘I believed in Him,"

1 Read יִשָּׂא.
and I still believe in Him; and I am ready to die 'rather than to deny Him.' And the paralytic said unto him, 'By Christ, the Son of God, in Whom thou hast believed, tell me how He opened thine eyes for thee. Didst thou call upon Him? And 'did He send an angel unto thee? Tell me how He 'opened thine eyes for thee, and how thou didst see 'the light.' And the blind man said unto him, 'Hearken and I will tell thee, and do thou thyself believe; and if thou dost believe, thou shalt at once 'receive healing, and thou shalt be made strong, 'even as He also gave me power and I saw the 'light.' And the paralytic said unto him, 'Speak, 'and I will listen, and will believe.' And the blind man said unto him, 'The chief priests, and the 'Pharisees considered among themselves, and they made a great likeness, and set it up in an inner chamber which they had in the refectory wherein no man except the priests entered. And in order that God might make manifest His wonderful acts, and 'that He might testify concerning His Son, Who came 'from Him, and Whom He had sent into the world, 'and that there might also come to me an act of 'grace, God caused it to happen that I should be among them when the matter which I am about to narrate to you took place. Now the Jews made a likeness of Jesus, and as soon as they had brought it into the chamber, they began to make a mock of it, 'even as their fathers had done of Christ. And some of them knelt down upon their knees, and did homage unto it, and some of them spat on its face, and as they
were making a mock of it one of them took a spear and smote it in the side, and straightway blood and water came forth from the likeness. And they saw it and marvelled, and astonishment laid hold upon them; and some of them believed in Christ, and said, 'Verily, He Whom the Jews crucified in Jerusalem was the Son of God, and He it was Whom creation awaited.' And I was standing among them listening, and I also feigned to be like one who sought to make a mock of it. And I spake unto one of them, and I conjured him, saying, 'By the Great Name, take me nigh unto the likeness so that I may make a mock thereof, and that I also, whom God hath caused to be among you, may have participation with you.' And the man led me, and brought me nigh unto the likeness, and I stretched out my right hand, and took some of the water and blood, and smeared it upon my eyes, and I prayed, and cried out upon the Name of Christ; and straightway He appeared unto me. And it came to pass that when mine eyes had been opened, the Jews beat upon their faces with their hands, and they wanted to kill me; but God delivered me from them.' And the paralytic said unto him, 'By Christ, upon Whom thou didst call, Who gave thee healing and thou didst see the light, and Whom thou dost confess, as this act of grace hath happened unto thee, and thou hast gotten the light which thou hadst not before, perform for me also an act of grace that I also may receive healing, and may be relieved from this affliction which hath vexed me for so many years.
"'Go in, and bring me some of that water and blood, "'and anoint for me my limbs, and I have confidence "'in Him that He will give me also healing; and this "'act of grace shall come to me at thy hands.' And "'the blind man said unto him, 'With the greatest "'difficulty only did I escape from those who wanted "'to kill me, and wouldst thou send me unto them "'again?' And the paralytic said unto him, 'But what "'can I do? I cannot stand up, and if I tell one of "'them' concerning this thing, they will stone me, "'and grief the more will be added unto me, because "'I am nigh unto the water and the blood, and there "'is no man to bring it unto me. Would that some "'such wonderful thing as this would happen—that "'He would descend, and would walk, and would "'come unto me, and would heal me of this affliction!' "'Now the paralytic did not know that some of the "'gracious gift was in the hand of the blind man.' "'And the blind man answered and said unto the "'paralytic, 'If thou knowest that thou dost believe "'in Christ, and dost confess that He is the Son of "'God, even as I myself have confessed Him, I will "'bring thee some of the water and the blood; and "'immediately it shall touch thy body thou shalt be "'healed, and thou shalt become like unto one who "'hath never at any time been attacked by any dis- "'ease whatsoever.' And when the paralytic heard "'these words from the blind man, he said unto him, "'By the Son of God, Who came down from heaven "'unto the earth, and Who gave thee [power] and
"thou didst see the light, in Whom thou dost believe, withhold not from me this gracious gift. For "I believe in Him, and in His Father, and that He "is God Who cometh from the true God; and if I "have any doubt whatever concerning Him, then let "some affliction which shall be more grievous than "that which I now have come upon me.' And when "the blind man heard the confession of the paralytic, "and was confident in his own mind that he was "confirmed in the faith, he drew forth his hand from "beneath his garment, and brought it nigh unto the "body of the paralytic, and rubbing him | with the "water and the blood said unto him, 'In the name "of Christ, upon Whom I have believed, upon Whom "I called, Who answered me and gave unto me the "true Light, rise up from where thou art.' And it "came to pass that when the water and the blood "touched him, he was healed straightway, and rose "up; and the paralytic gave thanks, and glorified "God, Who had given him healing."

"And when the chief priests and the scribes saw "him who had been made whole and who stood up, "they sought means whereby they might also hide "this wonderful thing, so that the name of Christ might "not in any way be magnified; but the more they "wished to hide it, the more was it proclaimed. And "they called the paralytic, and said unto him, 'Tell "us how thou wast made whole, and how thou wast "freed from [thy] affliction.' And the paralytic an-
swered and said unto the priests, 'It was Christ, the "Son of God, Who was crucified in Jerusalem, Who "sent unto me healing of the affliction in which I
"'lay.' And the priests said unto him, 'How could "'He, Who could not help Himself when the Jews "'seized Him, and crucified Him, and slew Him (and "'He died, and was buried, and even His disciples "'forsook Him, and fled, and were scattered), send "'healing unto thee? And who was it that was sent "'from Him that came and gave thee healing? If such "'a being was in truth seen by thee, then will we "'believe that He sent him.' And the paralytic said "'unto them, 'Ye are not worthy to see him [that "'brought healing to me from Him], for if ye believe "'not in Him, how will ye receive His ambassador?' "'And the priests said unto him, 'Be not deceived, "'for no one hath given thee healing except God "'and the Law which He hath sent by the hands of "'Moses, and which is read in this country; and be- "'cause thou hast been lying helpless at His gate for "'a very long time past, He hath had compassion "'upon thee, and hath given thee healing.' And the "'paralytic answered and said unto them, 'Against "'your wills ye speak the truth, for indeed it is not "'man who hath given me healing, but God only; "'for' He unto Whom I cried, and on Whom I have "'believed, is God, and He hath given healing unto "'me. He | is the true God, and He it is Who gave "'the Law unto Moses out of the mountain, and He "'it is Who came into the world of His own will. "'And your fathers laid hands upon Him, and they "'buffeted Him, and He bore from them insult and "'ignominy that He might redeem the posterity of

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1 Read יֵּהָוָה.
"'Adam. And as for you, your minds are blind like 
"'those of your fathers, and ye do not believe in 
"'Him.'"

"And it came to pass that when the priests heard 
"these things from the paralytic they were filled with 
"great wrath, and they became like unto a flame of 
"fire; and what to do they knew not. Then they 
"answered and said unto him, 'If thou wilt hearken 
"unto us we will advise thee on a certain matter 
"which shall benefit thee, and we will put away the 
"insult which we have heard from thee. Now we 
"have no anger against any man unto whom God 
"hath given healing, but go thou into the refectory, 
"and worship, and confess the God Who hath heal-
"ed thee, and hearken unto the laws of Moses. And 
"we will entreat God on thy behalf, so that He 
"may put away from thee thy folly wherewith thou 
"hast wronged His goodness.' Now the paralytic 
"desired greatly to see the likeness of Christ, and 
"he accepted the words of the priests, and he went 
"in and cast himself down before the ark, as close-
"ly as he could so that he might be near the chamber 
"wherein was the likeness; and he inclined his ear, 
"and he hearkened unto the service and the laws 
"like unto one who, in very truth, accepted their 
"words. And it came to pass that when the time 
"for all the people to go forth from the refectory 
"had arrived, the paralytic drew nigh and deceived 
"the priests, and he bowed his head like every other 
"man and was blessed by them.'

"And when all the people had gone forth, he 
"stretched out his hands towards heaven, and said,
"O God the Father, Who didst send forth Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who of Thine own free will didst send unto us a Redeemer and Deliverer Thy beloved Son, the Light of Thy glory, and the splendour of Thy Majesty, since Thou, in Thy grace, hast made me to be worthy of Thy grace and I have gotten healing through Judah, the blind man, who hath believed in Thee, and since I also believe in Thee, hearken, O Lord, unto my voice at this moment wherein I cry unto thee, and make me worthy to see thy glorious Likeness and Thy beautiful Form.' And after he had ceased his prayer, he drew nigh unto him that kept the door of the refectory, and he entreated him, and said unto him, 'By the awful Name which is preached in this country, shew me where the likeness of Christ is placed.' And the doorkeeper said unto him, 'Since thou hast conjured me by the awful Name, I will shew thee the chamber, but it is not possible for thee to enter therein, because it is sealed with the priest's seal, and no man can enter it unless the seals be broken.' And the paralytic answered and said unto him, 'Let it be according unto thy word. Shew me the chamber from the outside, for I do not wish either to go therein or that the seals should be broken.' Then the doorkeeper led the paralytic into the inner court-yard, and he shewed him, saying, 'Behold, the likeness of Christ standeth on the right hand side of that chamber which looketh towards the north.' And when the paralytic saw the chamber, he looked straight towards the East, and he prayed, saying, 'O Christ, the Son of God, deprive me not of..."
"'the sight of Thy glorious appearance, but, in Thy grace, open unto me the door at which I knock, and I will worship and give thanks unto Thy glorious Name.' And immediately the doors stood open upon their hinges, and the paralytic went in, and cast himself down before the likeness, and prayed, saying, 'O Christ, the Son of God, make 'Thou me also' worthy to go forth and to preach 'Thy Gospel in the world, and grant me [power] 'to stand against the threatening[s] of the Jews, 'and deliver me from their wickedness.'

"Now when the doorkeeper saw what had happened, he also ran and fell down before the likeness, and he made entreaty thereto, saying, 'O Lord, receive me also, and number me among the lambs of Thy fold. And forgive me the sinful blasphemies of thy Name which I uttered ignorantly.' And when the paralytic saw that the doorkeeper also confessed the Christ, he answered and said unto him, 'Bring me a new horn that we may take some of this gift of grace; and thou shalt see a great and a marvellous thing, the like of which hath never taken place in the world.' Then the door-keeper went, and brought a new horn, and wiped some of the water and blood from off the likeness, and filled the horn full therewith. And the paralytic said unto the doorkeeper, 'If the chief priests hear that this wonderful thing hath taken place, and that the doors have been opened—no man having opened them—and that we have gone in,

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1 Read ăc.
"...and have paid homage to this likeness of Christ, "...and that we have believed on Him, both thou and "...I, straightway they will burn us with fire. But come, "...let us cast ourselves down before this likeness, "...and let us entreat God that He will make it to be "...removed from here unto such place as He willeth.' "And the doorkeeper said unto him, 'In thy hands "...is the knowledge of Christ, Whom thou hast confessed; whatsoever thou shalt say unto me that will "...I do, and I will never leave thee until I die.'"

"Then the two of them sat down before the likeness, and they cast ashes upon their heads, and "...prayed, saying, 'O God, Whose dwelling-place is "...in the highest heights of heaven, and Whose eyes "...look into the lowest depths of the earth, Who "...triest the heart and the reins of the children of "...men, hear Thou our voice at this time, and remove "...from this country Thy holy Form. Lord, let not "...this baleful people insult it, for they will say, 'We "...were worthy to insult Him, and we have blasphemed "...His likeness which He hath not redeemed out "...of our hands.' Lord, cast not away from before "...Thee our petition, but let the likeness be taken "...away from here, and given unto a holy nation; "...and let these doors be shut fast again, and let the "...seals be found sealed in their proper places. And "...let Thine enemies see it and be put to shame, and "...Thou shalt be praised, and Thy servants shall "...rejoice.'"

"And it came to pass that, as they made an end

1 Read ᾳλε.
of their prayer, the doors were shut fast as afore-time, and the seals stood in their places. And they heard a voice which said unto them, 'Depart in peace, O blessed men, and confirm yourselves | in your faith, and fear not; everything that ye shall ask shall be [given] unto you, and I will be with you, and many people shall believe on Me through you.' And it came to pass that, whilst they were standing and marvelling concerning the voice which was heard by them, suddenly the Angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and went into the place where the likeness was; and a great earthquake took place. And the Angel took the likeness from where it was standing, and he removed it, and no man hath ever seen it since. And we wrote upon the door of that chamber, 'Enter in, O priests, and people of the Jews, and look upon your shame; for the likeness which ye placed here to make a mock of hath been lifted up into heaven, notwithstanding that the doors were shut fast, and that the seals remained in their places. For ye do not believe in Christ, even as your fathers did not believe in Him, when He rose from the grave and the seals stood unbroken upon it. And now, open ye, and come, and enter in, and see that He hath not allowed you to work your will upon His glorious Form.'

Then the blind man and the paralytic went forth together from the refectory, and they had with them the horn which was filled with the gracious gift of the water and blood. And the doorkeeper took the paralytic and they went into his house wherein was
a brother of his whose left hand was withered, and whose arm was bent double, and he was not able to stretch it out straight. Now he had been injured in this manner from the time when he was a child, for when his mother was carrying him, Satan smote him at the noon of the day, and made his arm to dry up; and he suffered greatly by reason of his left side. And the doorkeeper said unto the paralytic, 'Rub some of this gift of grace upon this poor man, for he is my brother, and it is a long time indeed since he hath stretched out his hand straight.' And the paralytic said unto him, 'It is not possible for this gift of grace to be brought nigh unto him unless he confess Him, Who hath given it unto us, and unless he believe on Him, and confess Him, even as I have believed on Him, and have been made whole, and behold, I was grievously vexed with sickness a long time. Thou thyself knowest how long I lay by the side of the door of the receptory, and that no man helped me, until I was helped by this gift of grace. And Judah the blind man also cried upon Him, and confessed Him with his whole heart, and straightway He gave him the light which he had never before seen. And so, likewise, shall it be with thy brother; if this gift of grace come nigh to him, and he believe on Christ, he shall be healed straightway.'

Then the man [with a withered hand] answered and said unto them, 'Whether I be made whole or not, I have seen a paralytic who hath been made whole, and a blind man who hath been made to see the light; and I believe that He [Who hath
"done these things] is indeed the Redeemer of the "'world. And whosoever doth not confess Him with "'all his soul, and with all his heart, and with all "'his strength, and with all his mind, and whosoever "'hath any doubt whatsoever concerning Him, or that "'He came down from heaven, and is God of very "'God, and that in His love He put on a body of "'the Virgin Mary, and was crucified by the Jews, "'and blood and water flowed from Him for the atone-"'ment of the children of men, and He died, and "'was buried, and came to life [again], and rose, and "'ascended into heaven, and behold, He sitteth on "'the right hand of the His Father, and the angels "'in heaven and the children of men upon earth adore "'Him, let his life come to an end upon earth.' Then "'the paralytic, on hearing the praises of the afflicted "'man, drew nigh unto him, and cried unto him, and "'said unto him, 'Draw nigh, and rest thy head upon "'this horn, and cry out upon Christ that He may "'have mercy upon thee.' Then the afflicted one drew "'nigh, and bowed his head before the horn, and "'prayed, saying, 'Hearken, O God, unto the petition "'of Thy servant, and answer thou me at this time. "'And if Thy Godhead shall know of the existence "'of any doubt in my mind, let no help follow me from "'Thy gift of grace; but if not, then deprive me not "'from being made whole, for I believe on Thee, and "'on Thy Father, and on the Holy Spirit.' And the "'paralytic poured some of the gift of grace into his "'hand, and he rubbed the afflicted one therewith, "'and said, 'In the Name of our Lord | Jesus Christ, "'Who gave me healing, on Whom I believed and
"'was made whole, stretch out thy right hand, and 'get healing, and confess His graciousness.' And it "came to pass that as soon as the gift of grace touched "his arm, he was straightway healed; and he became "like one who had never at any time had any injury "whatsoever."

"Now that day was the first day of the week, and "on the day following the priests went to the refectory, "but they did not find the doors open, as they were "accustomed to find them and everything made ready, "neither did they find there the doorkeeper. And the "priests went into the chamber where the likeness "was [to see] if the seals were unbroken, and they "saw that they were unbroken and that the doors "were shut fast. And they found written upon the "door an inscription which read thus, 'Enter in, O "priests and people of the Jews, and look upon your "shame with your own eyes; for the likeness of Christ "which ye set inside these doors under seals, and at "which ye were wanting to make a mock, hath been "taken up into heaven, and the seals have not been "destroyed.' And it came to pass that as they stood "there reading the inscription a mighty tumult took "place, and the people rushed in and read the in-"scription against the will of the priests; and the "priests were greatly afraid. And they said, 'Perchance "this thing hath been done in a mystery. If the "doors are thrown open, and all the people go inside, "and the likeness be not found therein, we shall "become a laughing-stock. And all the people will "believe on Christ, and this thing will be worse than "everything else which our Lord hath made manifest.
"But let us be patient, and when the sun hath set, and the people have departed and gone hence, we will open the door, and go in and see if that which is written upon the door be true."

"And it came to pass that whilst they were meditating these things all the people rose up against the priests, and they cried out with one voice, saying, 'We will not depart from this place unless the doors be opened before us, and we see if that likeness be therein or not. If it is therein, we will burn it with fire; and if it is not, then will we believe on Christ, by reason of this wonderful thing which hath taken place.' And the priests said unto all the people, 'We are not permitted to break the Sabbath and to transgress the Law; and we cannot put away the Scriptures of God and take heed unto others.'

'Now the priests said these things that they might make the disturbance among the people to cease. But all the people cried out and said, '[We swear] by the God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, that we will not depart from this place until the doors have been opened, and we have learned the truth.' Then the priests removed the seals, and they opened the doors and went in, and they found nothing. And all the people lifted up their voices, and cried out, and said, 'Verily, He Whom our fathers crucified in Jerusalem was Christ, the Son of God, and it is 'He Who hath wrought this wonderful thing.'"

"And one of those who believed in Christ stood up in the midst, and said unto them, 'Although we are now persuaded that we believe on the Son of God, and that He is God of very God—even as we
have received in our Scriptures—yet we did not believe that He rose from the grave, the door thereof being shut fast, and the seals being unbroken; but this last thing which hath happened maketh certain the former thing. Now, since His likeness was placed under seals so that it might not be insulted, and He hath removed it and hath not permitted it to be treated with contumely, how can we have any doubt concerning His Body, which rose on the third day and did not see corruption. Which does it appear to be to you, truth or falsehood?"

"And it came to pass that when the chief priests heard these things, they answered and said unto him, "'When didst thou begin to teach the Law? Or per-adventure thou hast taken a bribe from the disciples of that Deceiver, and they have taught thee to say these things.' Then straightway a great uproar took place, and every man was divided against his fellow; and report thereof reached the governor of the city. And the priests sent a bribe unto him, "'and said unto him, 'O lord, we would make supplication unto thy greatness. When we are in the refectory according to our wont we read the holy laws. But certain men have been found, that is to say, sorcerers, who have shut the eyes of the people, and they say that we heal the paralytics, and the blind, and the sick. And when we wished to lay hands upon them so that they might be questioned before thine integrity, that thou mightest know the truth of the matter concerning them, they took the opportunity and escaped, and where they are we know not. And behold, the people have fallen each man upon his
"fellow, and many murders will take place unless "thy greatness doth stand up.' Now the priests, as "they imagined, confounded the story so that the "wonderful deed might not become revealed."

"And it came to pass that when the governor had "received the bribe from the chief priests, he sent "the Greek officer and his forces with staves, and "swords, and ropes, and chains, and he commanded "them, saying, 'Go ye, and say unto the chief priests, "and unto the elders, and unto all the people of the "Jews, Whosoever maketh trouble in this city, so "that murders take place by reason of his speech, and "I hear of it, I will take off his head, and I will cast "him into the sea. Let every man abide in peace "lest he receive the punishment of the sword. As "for these man, concerning whom ye have spoken "unto me, should ye hear of the report of them in "any place, come and tell me, and I will send and "seize them, and I will cast them into prison until "I learn the truth concerning their actions.'"

"Now when the paralytic heard what the Jews had "done, he said unto the doorkeeper of the refectory, "who was in the house of him whose hand had been "withered, 'Whether we wish it to be so or not, the "Name of Christ will be preached throughout all "creation. Let us not, then, have doubt concerning "His goodness unto us, but rise up, and let us go "and seek for our brother Judah until we find him; "and let us cleave unto one another, and let us go "forth and preach and teach the Gospel of our Lord "throughout all the world. And should it happen "that we be seized by judges or by governors let
"'us not be afraid, for Christ is with us even as He promised us.' And the two of them rose up straightway, and they went forth, and they made the sign of the cross upon their foreheads, and they prayed to God, and said, 'O God, Who desirest the lives of the children of men, and Who art merciful, and compassionate, and long-suffering, and abundant in grace and truth, hearken unto our prayer, and 'make straight our way; and grant that we may 'find our brother Judah and may not be separated 'from his love.' And it came to pass that having gone round about in the city they arrived at the gate thereof, and when they had gone outside the wall of the city and had departed from it for about the distance of one mile, they found Judah standing in a certain hidden place praying. And the two of them drew nigh unto him, and saluted him, and they said unto him, 'Brother Judah, hast thou heard what 'hath happened in this city?' And Judah said unto them, 'What hath happened?' Then the paralytic said unto him, 'After thou hadst left me, the gift of grace having come [upon me] from thy hands, the priests seized me, and brought me into the refectory, so that by reason of me this our brother might find deliverance for his life; and they tormented me to deny Christ Who had given healing unto me. 'Now, because I desired greatly to see the beautiful Form of Christ, I made myself to be like unto one who accepted their counsel, until I had the opportunity of drawing nigh unto that chamber wherefrom I had gotten help. And the time having passed, 'and all the people having gone forth from the
"refectory, and the priests having departed unto
their habitations, I drew nigh unto this our brother
who, as thou knowest, kept the door; and I prayed
and entreated him to shew me the likeness. And
he said unto me, 'The doors are shut fast, and
seals have been put upon them; and thou canst
not go in to see it.' And I said unto him, 'Let it
be according to thy word; only shew me the
chamber, for I do not wish to enter therein, and
'shew me the chamber from the outside.' Then I
drew nigh and stood before it, and I cried upon
'the Name of Christ, and I asked Him in prayer
to shew me the path of His glory. And immediately,
in the twinkling of an eye, the doors were opened
and stood upon their hinges, and I went into the
chamber and cast myself down before the likeness.
And I prayed unto Him, and I gave thanks unto
' Him for the healing which He had given unto me
'at thy hands. And the goodness of God called
'this our brother also, and mingled him with us, so
'that he might be wholly one with us in the mystery
'of the Trinity. And again we made supplication
'and prayer, and entreated Him Who receiveth the
'prayers of all the children of men that He would
'remove the likeness from that chamber, and that
'the doors thereof should be shut fast, and that the
'seals should be found as they were aforetime. And
'it happened even so. And we wrote upon the
doors, saying, 'Enter in, O priests, and look upon
'your shame, and see that your intentions have not
'been accomplished; for the glorious likeness of
'Christ, notwithstanding that the doors were sealed,
"'hath been taken up into heaven.' And a voice was heard by us which said, 'Depart in peace, O blessed men, and fear not, for I am with you, and I will never forsake you.'"

"And it came to pass that when Judah heard all these things he gave thanks and glorified God. And he answered and said, 'God's will be done!' And whilst they were standing in the place wherein they had found Judah, who was standing [there] and praying, they began straightway to perform a service, and they raised a Psalm, and said, 'O come, let us give glory unto the Lord, and let us sing psalms unto God our Redeemer; let us come before His face with thanksgiving, and in hymns let us glorify Him.' And so on with the whole of the section [of the service]. And after they had ended the service, they said, 'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, 'and to the Holy Ghost, for ever and ever, Amen.'

"Thus they brought the prayer to an end."

"And Judah answered and said unto his companions, 'My brethren, if our Lord please and if it be good in His sight, let Him order our way, and let that which is necessary therefor, that is to say, the sign of baptism, be given unto us, and let Him reckon us among the number of His lambs, and let Him mix us with the assemblies of those who give praise unto Him. And, behold, our joy shall be made complete.' Then the companions of Judah said unto him, 'Whatsoever thou orderest shall be [observed] by us, for the Divine grace first of all

\[1\] Psalm XCV. 1ff.
"'called thee, and thou art the counsellor that doth benefit us.' And Judah answered and said unto his companions, 'I counsel you to do this thing; that is to say, let us commit the matter unto God, so that He alone may fulfil our petitions. For it is not meet that we should forget the words which we have learned, 'Cast thy care upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee; and He will never let His righteous ones be moved.' Now this accursed nation of the Jews hath made ready to persecute and to slay every one that loveth our Lord Jesus Christ. But God, in His righteousness, is about to do away their dominion, and to scatter them abroad, and to make them despised and rejected among all nations. For although God hath been longsuffering with them because of His covenant with Abraham, and the oaths which He sware unto Isaac, and His testimony unto Jacob that their seed should never pass away, yet their loftiness shall be brought low, and their dominion shall pass away, and their honourable estate shall be abated, and they shall become of no account whatsoever. And us ourselves they will seek after that they may do us harm. 'Then there came a voice unto them, saying, 'I will never forsake you.'"

'And it came to pass that when Judah had said these things, the time had arrived for them to say the service for the ninth hour. And they began the Psalm, and said, 'Be not envious of the wicked, neither be thou jealous of the workers of

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1 Psalm LV. 22.
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"'iniquity', and so on. And when they had finished the service they prayed, and said, 'O Lord, the 'God of the spirits of all flesh, Thou hidden Being, 'Whose honourable Majesty abideth in the heaven of 'heavens, Thou God, Who of thine own freewill hast 'adorned the earth with the colours of flowers of 'every kind which are much to be desired, receive 'our entreaty, and hearken unto our supplication, 'and purge away and remove utterly from us the 'spots of our sins; and make answer unto our 'petitions, for we put our hope in Thee. And give 'us, O Lord, the sign of baptism whereby our sins 'may be purged away, and propitiation made for 'our iniquities, and let us become unto Thee chosen 'vessels | and good servants who do the will of their 'Lord.'"

"And after these things they stood up straight, "and they lifted up their eyes and saw a certain "place which was like unto a vessel for baptism; "and it was full of soft and limpid water, which was "sparkling in its appearance and the smell of which "was sweeter than that of perfumes; and the light "which came from it was greater than the sun and the "radiance thereof. And, behold, a certain man, very "aged and of glorious countenance, who was clothed "in a white garment, and was holding a garment in "his right hand, was standing there and sanctifying "the water; and when we saw him we were afraid. "And we inclined our ears to hear what he was "saying, and he opened his mouth and said, 'I seal

1 Psalm XXXVII. 1.
"'this water in the name of the Father, and the Son, "'and the Holy Ghost.' And he was making entreaty "'and supplication, saying, 'Come, come, O Holy Spirit, "'descend and abide upon this water, and sanctify "'Thou it that it may serve for the atonement of "'iniquities and for the forgiveness of sins. And may "'it give Thy grace and Thy mercy unto them; yea, "'O Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit, for ever and "'for ever. Amen.' And it came to pass that, as we "'were standing and were afraid to draw nigh unto him, "'he opened his mouth and cried unto us, and said, "'Unto you I speak, O brethren, draw nigh unto "'me.' And we drew nigh unto him and we received "'a blessing from him. Then he spake unto us, say- "'ing, 'Your prayer and entreaty have entered in be- "'fore the Lord, and He hath sent me to give you the "'sign of baptism, and to teach you what it is meet "'that ye should do; and I will baptise you in the "'Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy "'Ghost.' And after they had received from him the "'sign of life, he said unto them, 'Take ye the horn "'which ye have, and which is filled with the gift "'of grace, and go ye and enter into this city, and "'do ye therein mighty deeds and miracles, so that "'the Jews may see and may be put to shame. And "'proclaim ye concerning our Lord Jesus Christ, that "'He is the Son of God, and fear ye not, neither be "'ye troubled. For in whatsoever place ye shall call "'upon Christ He shall come to your aid, | and He "'will put into your mouths the words wherewith ye "'shall overcome your enemies; go ye in peace, and "'our Lord shall be with you.' And Judah answered
“and said unto him, ‘Lord, pray Thou on our behalf “for confidence in our Lord; and whatsoever Thou “shalt say unto us that will we do.’”

“And they went and entered into the city, having “in their hands the horn that was filled with the gift “of grace, and they arrived at the gate of the city. “And, behold, men were carrying a certain young “man upon a bier, and they were going to bury him, “and his aged father was going on before him; and “he was plucking out his white hairs and casting them “upon the ground, for he had no other son, and he “was smiting his face until his eyes became dark. “And the blessed men saw him, and they were very “sorry for him. And Judah answered and said unto his “companions, ‘My brethren, let us draw nigh unto the “bier of this dead man, and let us anoint him with “some of this gift of grace; and let us entreat Christ “on his behalf, and let us make mention of the Name “of God over him, and straightway he shall come to “life. And when he doth live and stand up the Name “of Christ shall be greatly exalted, and His faith shall “be proclaimed abroad.’ And the three of them went “and stood before the bier, and they said unto the “men who were bearing it, ‘Put down this bier from “off yourselves, and set it upon the ground, and ye “shall see the glory of God;’ and much people were “thronging to that place. And it came to pass that, “when they had put the bier upon the ground, Judah “brought out the horn from under his garment, and “he turned himself towards the East, and prayed, “and he made the sign of the cross between the “eyes of that dead man, and he poured out some
of that gift of grace upon his nostrils and upon his cheek. And he answered and said, 'Come, O spirit of this young man from whatsoever place thou art in, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and enter in, and be at rest, and abide in the body which is thine; and let this young man rise up from his bier!' And immediately that he mentioned the Name of Christ over him, he came to life, and stood up; and all who saw him gave glory unto God; and in that hour there believed about three thousand people, both men and women. And the father of the young man drew nigh, and cast himself down before the blessed men, and said unto them, 'I do homage unto you, O my lords, because ye have had compassion upon my gray hairs, and because ye have given back to me this my only son that he may be the staff of my old age; blessed are ye before God, and blessed be Christ, the Son of God, Who hath hearkened unto you and hath brought back my son to life. Henceforth, even unto my death, I will never separate myself from the love of Christ your Lord, and I will give thanks and will worship His gracious Name. And if my whole body were mouths and tongues which could speak they would not suffice to give glory unto the Son of God, Who sent you to work for me this act of grace.' And the blessed men dismissed him, and said unto him, 'Go in peace, O man, and be thou ever mindful of Jesus Christ, Who had compassion upon thy gray hairs, and gave thee thy son back alive.' So the old man went away from thence, and the blessed men departed unto a place in the midst of the city.
"And, behold, a certain man had a devil which troubled him, and suddenly, when he had seen them, he lifted up his voice and said, 'Fie upon you, O generation of crucifiers, why have ye come against me? By the skin of my teeth only did I escape from Christ when He was upon the earth and walking about therein; why have ye taken and made a likeness of Him that it may be a goad to vex me? The gift of grace which flowed from Him it is that persecuted me. Fie upon you, O unbelievers! Was it not He Who persuaded the Legion of devils to go into the sea? Why have ye brought upon me this temptation? 'And, behold, I burn with fire at the sight of you.' And Judah answered and said unto that devil, 'Shut thy mouth, O thou enemy of man, thou most feeble of all things that exist, and go forth from this young man.' And straightway the devil cast the man upon the ground, and he was much bruised and became sick; and people not a few gathered round about him at once. Then Judah brought out from under his garment the horn which was full of the gift of grace, and anointed him; and he lifted up his eyes unto heaven, and prayed, and said, 'O Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Who didst send Him forth, by Whose power and by Whose command Satan was cast out and thrown down, together with all those who served him, so that they were scattered and drowned in the sea, by Whose power the sick bodies of the children of men which had been wounded by the

1 St. Mark. V. 9.
"'blows of Legion were made whole, do thou, O Lord, "'now also in Thy mercy command this helpless one "'to rise up healed from the place wherein he is. "'And let the devil that dwelleth in him be swept "'into the sea, and let him no longer have power "'to do harm unto the generation of men.' And "'having made his prayer, Judah gave him some of "'that gift of grace which he had upon him, and "'straightway the man stood up upon his feet; and "'the devil that was in him cried out before all the "'people, and left him, and fled. And every one who "'was near, and who saw and heard what had hap- "'pened, gave glory unto God.'

"Now, a certain woman was standing there, and "'she was weeping bitterly; and this woman was a "'widow. And she was crying in great pain, for she "'had a daughter who had overcome many by her "'beauty, but never had any man seen her or known "'her; many men had entreated her, but she had never "'submitted unto them. And it came to pass once at "'midnight that the young woman went out from the "'door of the house wherein she lived, and, behold, "'a devil in the form of a beautiful young man came "'unto her swiftly and seized her. And he said unto "'her, 'Come with me, and I will make thee my wife;' "'now she imagined that in very truth he was a man. "'And she said unto him, 'I will never be the wife "'of any man.' And it came to pass that whilst he "'was contending with her she lifted up her hands "'against him, but she was not able to reach him, "'and then she knew that he was a disciple of Satan. "'And as she was wishing to lift up her eyes to heaven,
"and to cry out to God to come to her aid, the "devil threw her down upon the ground outside the "door; and she was beaten and bruised until she "was [well nigh] dead. And having remained outside "for a long time, and not having gone in again "according to her wont, her mother rose up and went "out after her, and she found her cast upon the "ground sick and bruised. Then her mother drew "nigh unto her and lifted her up, but she was like "a dead body; and her mother called unto her, but "she did not answer her. Then her mother lifted up "her voice and wailed bitterly, and her neighbours "who were nigh unto her came thronging about her "from every side; and her mother rent the garment "which she had upon her, and she cast ashes upon "her head. And the neighbours took the young "woman and brought her into the house, and laid "her upon a bed; and her mother sat before her the "whole night beating her face. And at day-break "the soul of the young woman entered into her, and "she cried out unto her mother; and her mother "answered and said unto her, 'What aileth thee, O my "daughter, and what hath happened unto thee?' "And the young woman related unto her the whole "matter concerning herself, even as it had happened. "And from that day Satan persecuted her constantly, "and frequently he made her go out to the grave- "yard, and her mother used to go out after her, and "take hold of her to bring her back into her house; "but she was not able to overcome the strength of "the devil that was dwelling in her. And many times "she used to open the door of the grave-yard, and
"go inside, and shut it in her face; and her mother, "and other people along with her, used to go in and "bring her out. Now when this poor mother had "heard concerning the blessed men, she rose up "straightway and went to them. And when she saw "what they were doing, how they were giving healing "unto all those who drew nigh unto them, she also "came near and said unto them, 'O men, what is your "'report? And who hath sent you to do these mighty "'deeds and miracles? And by what might do ye do "'these things and are not afraid?' And when the "'blessed men heard the words of the woman, they "meditated among themselves, saying, 'It seemeth to "'us that one | of two things moveth this woman: "'either she speaketh without understanding, or the "'priests have put words into her mouth and have "'sent her unto us as a woman who would make "'enquiries, so that she may learn from us in the "'sight of all men that which they have commanded "'her [to learn]. But let us put our trust in our "'Lord, for the Gospel of Christ shall not be pro- "'claimed in secret.'"

"And having meditated in this wise the blessed "men answered and said unto her, 'We are the "'disciples of Christ, the Son of God, and by His "'power we do these things, for our own origin is "'of no account and humble. And as concerning that "'which thou hast said unto us, Ye fear not and ye "'tremble not, we are not afraid, because the might of "'His grace hath clothed us round about and because "'through Him we overcome our enemies.' And when "the woman heard the certainty of their faith, she
“lifted up her voice with a sob, and said unto them,

"'By the might wherewith your Lord hath clothed

"'you from on high, and whereby He hath made

"'Satan and all his hosts to be subject unto you,

"'I entreat you to have mercy upon my old age.

"'Have compassion upon my gray hairs, and have

"'upon my feet even one nail by reason of the

"'multitude of the stumblingblocks in my path. By

"'Christ, the Son of God, Who hath chosen you to

"'be His preachers, send me not away from you,

"'for my lot is bitter. That ye should visit the sick

"'your Lord hath sent you, let therefore the de-

"'liverance which ye have dawn upon me.'"

"Then the blessed men made her to be quiet, and

"they said unto her, 'Be thou silent, O woman, and

"'tell us what is the cause of thy outcry, and so far

"'as the power in us lies we will toil on thy behalf.

"'And inasmuch as thou hast conjured us by Christ,

"'the Son of God, we will devote ourselves to the

"'death unto thee. But tell us only what it is that

"'causeth thee pain.' Then the woman said unto

"'them, 'I have an only daughter, and, behold, for

"'seven years past Satan hath led her captive and

"'taken her outside the city. And among the tombs

"'he beateth her each day, and very little life re-

"'maineth in her; she is well nigh dead, and except

"'for bones stripped of flesh she hath nothing in her.'

"And the blessed men said unto her, 'Where is thy

"'daughter now?' And the woman answered and said

"'unto them, 'Behold, I have shut her up in the house,

"'and I placed fastenings upon it and came to inform
THE YOUNG WOMAN FLEES TO THE DESERT.

"'you.' And the blessed men said unto her, 'Wilt thou promise us that we may betroth her to the 'heavenly Bridegroom?' Now the woman thought that "they were speaking to her about a man, and she "answered and said unto them, 'My lords, I entreat 'you to let her be a virgin and a free woman all her 'life.' And the blessed men said unto her, 'The Bride-
groom unto Whom we would betroth her wisheth 'her to live in a state of virginity and holiness;' "and then the woman understood their words as "referring to Christ, when they told her that they "wanted to betroth her daughter to a bridegroom. "And she said unto them, 'She and I deliver our-
selves unto Him that we may be His handmaidens, "and we will serve that Bridegroom of Whom ye "spake.' And when the blessed men heard the words "of the woman they rose up and went with her to "her house. And when they had gone into the "courtyard they found the fastenings broken in pieces, "and the doors wide open, and her daughter had "gone forth; and they sought her, but they found "her not. And her mother said unto them, 'My lords, "I entreat you; She is to be found among the tombs; "'come ye with me, and let it not be a trouble unto "'you.' So they departed again and went forth after "her, and much people clave unto them.'"

"And it came to pass when they had arrived at "the gate of the city that the people thereof saw "them and the multitude of folk that were coming "with them; and they also joined themselves to them, "and they went along with them. Now the good God "had so appointed that they should see the wonderful
“works which were to be wrought in the Name of "Christ, and how He answereth every one that calleth "upon Him in true faith. And it came to pass that "when they had gone forth outside the city two "stadia, the mother and also the blessed men who "were with her lifted up their eyes, and they saw the "young woman wandering round about among the "tombs and beating her head. And the young woman "also saw them, and she looked at them, and the "devil lifted up his voice and said unto them, "‘Whither come ye against me? Am I not near "‘enough unto you? Cursed (?) be ye! I entreat you "‘to depart from me. I am unable to resist your power, "‘and I cannot wage war against you, for the might "‘with which ye are clothed round about is invisible. "‘The sword which is girt upon you is dipped in "‘flame, and your arrows have been poisoned with "‘blood and water; depart ye from me, for ye have "‘taken away my dominion.’ These were the words "which the devil spake as they were following him. "And it came to pass that when the devil saw that "he was overcome, he began to lead away the young "woman along a path which went to the sea, so that "she might fall into the sea and be drowned; and "the young woman began to depart with swift steps "like a man who fleeth before some evil beast. And "Judah lifted up his voice from afar off, and said, "‘I say unto thee, O thou foul devil, thou enemy of "‘the children of men, in the Name of Christ, the "‘Son of God, thou shalt not lead the young woman "‘away from this place.’ And when the devil heard "the Name of Christ, he straightway threw the young
"woman down headlong in that place, and he beat "her so that her soul might go forth from her. And "whilst Judah and her companions were coming up "to her, the man who had been a paralytic said unto "Judah, 'My lord, quicken thy step a little, for if thou "'dost not do so we shall not find any life left in "'her;' then straightway they ran quickly and came "up to her, and Judah brought forth the horn im-"mediately and anointed her with the gift of grace. "And he answered and said, 'Tarry in thy body, O "'soul, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.' And "Judah prayed and said, 'O God, Who didst create "'Adam in Thine image, and didst give him dominion "'over everything that Thou hadst made in Thy good "'pleasure, and didst give him every thing that was "'in the earth, and on his account didst send Thy "'beloved Son Jesus Christ, and He came into the "'world and endured sufferings on his behalf, O Lord, "'Thou knowest that we do not do this thing by "'way of boasting, or for our own vain glorifying, "'or that we may receive anything from any man, "'but in order that Thy Holy Name may be glorified, "'| and that Thine adorable Godhead may be exalted, "'and that all men may know and believe that Thou "'art He Who giveth help unto those who call upon "'Thee with a pure heart.' And when Judah had "'said these words, he turned to the young woman "'and said unto her, 'I say unto thee, O foul devil, "'thou feeblest of all natures, in the Name of the "'Trinity, go forth from this young woman, and draw "'not again nigh unto the race of the children of "'men.' And when the devil heard these words, he
“straightway went forth out of the young woman, and he uttered a roaring sound, and departed and fled. And all those who heard and saw [this] lifted up their voices and glorified God, saying, ‘Glory be to Thee, O Christ, the Son of God, Who hast sent Thy servants for the deliverance of creation; henceforth we will confess and believe in Jesus Christ, and He is the Redeemer of the world, and Him will we worship, and Him will we glorify for ever and for ever. Amen.’ And Judah drew nigh, and taking the hand of the young woman gave her to her mother. And he said unto her, ‘Take thy daughter and depart. But remember that which thou hast promised to us, that thy daughter shall lead a life of wariness and holiness; and thou shalt worship and confess Him who delivered her from the captivity in which she had been led captive.’ Then the mother of the young woman took her daughter, and went away giving thanks and glorifying God, Who had guarded her and restored her unto her.”

“And it came to pass that whilst the blessed men were working these glorious miracles in Tiberias, by the grace of Christ which accompanied them, their report went forth into all the country, and into all the land which was round about the city; and people not a few were gathered together and came unto them. And multitudes of people who were sick with divers kinds of diseases, and who went unto the blessed men in true faith, were healed straightway of their sicknesses. And those who saw the blessed men in the city of Tiberias said concerning
them, 'We saw men who were strangers from a remote country, and they had with them a certain medicine, the like of which we have never seen or heard of in the world; it cureth every kind of sickness and disease, and no pain can stand against it, and every person whom it toucheth is immediately made whole. For this medicine doth not permit pain to tarry with any person whom it hath once touched. And we think that this medicine which they have hath been given unto them from the highest heights of heaven, because, whenever any sick person is brought unto them, these men look up with their eyes towards heaven, though no man knoweth that which they say. But it is well known that they call upon God Who gave them this cure, and that when they have looked up into heaven they bring the medicine nigh unto the person who is sick or afflicted, and he is made whole. And what is more wonderful than all else is that they take nothing from any man. And on account of this [great] benefit multitudes come unto them from remote countries, bringing with them people who are very sick and ill, and they are all made whole and they go to their homes, rejoicing and giving thanks unto God Who hath given succour unto the children of men.'

'Now there was in the country which belonged to that city a certain village wherein dwelt Samaritans; and these people were not wont to mix with the inhabitants of the city, and their religion was different from theirs; for the religion of the Jews is not the same as that of the Samaritans. Now the man who
"had been made the governor of the whole village
"was, as far as the things of the world are concerned,
"a wise man; and he had had a brother who died and
"left behind him a young maiden who was exceedingly
"beautiful. And from the time that she was three
"years old she was betrothed to the son of that
"governor. And it came to pass that when she was
"full grown and her betrothed was about to take
"her to wife, as she was walking under a portico
"Satan threw her down headlong, even as a man
"whom something hath smitten, and she fell down in
"the courtyard, and all her bones were broken. And
"she became grievously sick, and many physicians
"bound up her wounds, but they did not in any
"way benefit her; nay, for every time that she
"came unto them her pain was increased. And the
"governor heard of the report of the blessed men,
"and that they were mighty physicians who cured
"sicknesses of every kind, and he prepared a bed
"for the damsel, and laid soft bedding thereupon,
"and he harnessed to it a gentle and quiet animal,
"and he took the damsel who was like a dead creature,
"and laid her upon the bed. Now she was crying
"out and uttering loud groans by reason of her
"great and frequent pain, and every one who heard
"her suffered very much more than her own kinsfolk,
"because they perceived that she was praying for
"her own death. And when they arrived at the gate
"of the city, the governor with tears enquired for
"the blessed men, saying, 'Where dwell the physicians
"who are in this city?' And the people of the city
"said unto him, 'What is thy business, O man? And
"'whom seekest thou?' And the governor said unto them, 'I have an only daughter who is nigh unto death and is in grievous pain. And I have heard concerning these men that they have a certain medicine which cureth all sicknesses.' Then the people of the city said unto him, 'Weep not, O man, neither be thou distressed, for as thou hast heard concerning these men, even so it is.' And the people of the city also went nigh unto the damsel and looked upon her, and they wept; and they accompanied the governor and his following, and went to the blessed men.

"And when the governor saw the blessed men, he went and knelt down and fell at their feet; and the people wept, and entreated them to draw nigh and to visit the maiden, and to anoint her with the gift of grace which they had. And the blessed men said unto the governor, 'Whence art thou, O man? And of what religion art thou?' And the governor said unto them, 'I am from the village of Na'mî of the Samaritans, and I am a Samaritan.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'We shut the door in the face of no man, so that every man may turn unto God. The medicine which we have is beyond price, and not every man is able to buy it.' And the governor said unto them, 'I entreat you, O my lords, to have compassion upon me; give me some of it, and I will give you whatsoever price ye ask for it.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'The price of the medicine is that a man should believe upon Him Who gave it unto us.' And the governor said unto them, 'And who is he that gave
"it unto you, in whom ye wish me to believe?" And
"the blessed men said unto him, 'Have ye never
"heard of the report of Jesus Christ, the Son of
"God, Who came down from the heavens to the
"'earth for the redemption of the children of men?'
"And the governor said unto them, 'I have heard of
"the report of Him, but I know Him not.' And the
"blessed men said unto him, 'He it is Who hath
"given us this medicine of life; whatsoever sickness
"that hath the man who believeth upon Him is cured,
"and every pain and every disease.' And the gov-
"ernor said unto them, 'Behold, the people of the
"Jews do not receive Him, neither did our fathers
"believe in Him. Nay, according to what history
"relateth concerning Him, they even laid hands upon
"Him, and treated Him with contempt, and made
"Him to endure many evil things. And now, how
"can ye say unto me that it is He Who hath given
"unto you the medicine of life? For the history which
"concerneth Him is very ancient, whilst ye, who
"bear His gift and who heal every man of his
"sickness therewith, have only appeared in the world
"to-day.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'The
"Lord hath had pleasure in us, and He hath chosen
"us to be members of His household, and this gift
"of grace which thou seest with us hath been given
"unto us by Him for the help of the children of
"men, and for His praise, and for putting the Jews
"to shame.' And the man said unto them, 'Are ye
"not yourselves of the children of Israel? How then
"is it now that ye proclaim concerning their shame
"and concerning their fall, seeing that ye belong
"unto them?" And the blessed men answered and said unto him, 'We have already told thee, but again will we teach thee. Hast thou never heard of the report of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who was born of Mary the Virgin? He hath been unto us the true Light, and He hath made straight our way unto Him, and for His sake we deny that nation which hath cut itself off from the kingdom of God. And not unto us only hath grace called, but also unto every one that wisheth to inherit life. Now Paul the Apostle was one of them, and having gone forth to persecute the disciples of Jesus, grace called unto him, and made him an apostle. And to Zacchaeus also, the collector of money at the [city] gate, [did grace cry], for His gate is open unto all those that repent. And in His abundant mercy He hath also given unto us the hand (i.e., opportunity), and hath cried unto us, and we have drawn nigh unto Him, and He hath raised us up out of the slough of destruction. And we, if thou wilt hearken unto us, will shew thee the straight way which will take thee up into heaven; and if thou wilt believe on Him, whatsoever thou shalt ask He will give unto thee.'

And it came to pass that when the governor heard these wonderful things, he answered and said unto them, 'I confess Christ Who hath shewn us the true light, Who hath made straight our way unto you, Whom we know through you; far be it from us henceforth to leave Him even unto death.' Then Judah answered and said unto his companions, 'Come, let us pray for this maiden, and let us cry out
unto Christ to send help unto her; and we will
’anoint her with this gift of grace, and she shall
‘be made whole and shall stand up.’ Then Judah
drew nigh and stood over the maiden and he saw
‘that she was already [well nigh] dead, and that only
‘a very little breath remained in her. And he lifted
‘up his eyes, and prayed, and said, ‘O Lord God,
‘Thou mighty God, Who art the Father of our Lord
‘Jesus Christ, Who didst send Him forth, and didst
‘of Thine own free will put on the mortal body of
‘Adam, and didst deliver him from the subjection
‘of Satan, do Thou now, in Thine abundant mercy,
‘send forth healing and help unto this helpless
‘maiden, and let her be made whole and stand up.
‘And call her, and bring her nigh unto Thyself,
‘and let her become unto Thee | a chosen vessel
‘wherewith Thy Godhead may be well pleased.’
‘And immediately Judah had ended his prayer, he
drew nigh unto the maiden and gave her some of
‘the gift of grace, and straightway she was made
‘whole, and stood up; and every one who saw this
‘gave glory unto God Who had done the will of
‘those who feared Him.”

‘Now when her betrothed saw what had happened,
‘he answered and said unto his father, ‘In very truth
‘the sickness of this maiden hath been of great
‘benefit unto us, for by means of it we have found
‘deliverance for our souls. For otherwise whence
‘could we have learned that Jesus Christ giveth
‘healing unto every one that believeth in Him? Or
‘how could we have learned that there is to be a
‘judgment, and punishment, and a kingdom, and
"'life which passeth not away, in the new world that
'never cometh to an end? Whence could we have
'heard all these things? But behold, we have now
'gained two benefits: we have found life for our
'souls, and we have gotten healing for this maiden.'
'Then the two of them entreated the blessed men
'and said unto them, 'We beseech you, O our lords,
'ye servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, to shew us
'the straight way wherein ye know that it will please
'your Lord that we should walk, and pray ye on
'our behalf that Christ will forgive us our offences.'
'Then Judah answered and said unto them, 'Go ye
'and seek out and look for a village wherein a
'church hath been built, and be ye baptized and
'receive the sign of life, and become ye participators
'in the Body and Blood of our Lord; and believe
'upon Him with all your soul, and with all your
'strength, and give thanks unto Him for the goodness
'which He hath wrought for you.' So these men
'went, and they did as Judah had told them to do,
'and they believed upon our Lord, both they and
'the people of their village.'

"Then one of the enemies and haters of God went
"and informed the priests, and told them everything
"which he had seen and heard that the blessed men
"were doing. And when the chief priests had heard
"these things they were all gathered together in their
"synagogue, and they took counsel one with another.
"And they gave a bribe unto the governor, and said
"unto him, 'Lord, we beseech thy mighty power [to
"have regard unto] these seducers concerning whom,
"a short time ago, we brought information to thy
"greatness. Behold, they are going round about "the city, and they are leading astray much people, "and they make them blind with the things which "they do, and they teach lying things, the which "have no foundation; and multitudes become con- "vinced by their words, and go astray after their "doctrine. We beseech thy greatness concerning "them. Command that they be seized, and that they "be summoned unto thy royal judgment hall, and be "questioned before thee, and that they receive from "thee such punishment as is meet for their falsehood.' "And it came to pass that when the governor of the "city had taken the bribe, he sent and seized the "blessed men and cast them into prison, and he gave "orders concerning them, saying; 'Let them be guard- "ed carefully until they stand before me.' Now when "the blessed men had been shut up in prison, they "prayed and made supplication unto God, and they "ceased not to teach their doctrine. For they were "strenuous concerning the doctrine of Christ, and "the true faith was blazing up in their minds like a "flame of fire. There was no fear in their hearts, "and they were not afraid in their minds; for their "confidence was in Christ, and He hearkened unto "everything which they asked, and performed their "will."

"And when it was the time of evening, the three "men stood up in prayer, and they sang hymns, and "they said the whole of the Psalm which beginneth, "'An avenging God' is the Lord.' And when they

1 Psalm XCIV.
“had finished the service they prayed and said, ‘Look, “O God, and see the iniquity and wickedness of "this contumacious people, and turn back their own "iniquity upon them, and let the wrath of Thine "anger overtake them; and grant that we may preach "Thy Gospel unto all those who believe. And shew "Thou mercy upon the nations that err and that "have not received Thy spiritual doctrine, and turn "them to the knowledge of Thy truth; and enlighten "the eyes of their hearts so that they may know "and have understanding of Thy great and terrible "Name, for in the blackness of error | they have "lost their way.’ And when they had ended their "service, the angel of God appeared unto them and "said unto them, ‘Fear not, neither be ye troubled, "O ye servants of God, for your prayer hath been "heard before God, and many people are about to "believe in Christ through your spiritual doctrine; "and your enemies shall not have the power to do "evil unto you, for God will be with you at all "times, and He will never forsake you.’ "Now many people were shut up in prison, and "they were taking heed diligently and were observing "the blessed men as they were performing their "service; and [the blessed men] were constant in "fasting and prayer. And these men drew nigh unto "them and said unto them, ‘We beseech you, O our "lords, to tell us: What is your doctrine? What is "your religion? and whether the God Whom ye wor- "ship is stronger than are the gods whom we wor- "ship? For, behold, we see that ye are constantly "praying to your God, although He is not nigh unto
‘you.’ Then the blessed men opened their mouths and said unto them, ‘Our God is near and He is to be found by those who call upon Him; and in whatsoever place a man shall cry unto Him with a perfect heart, there is He. On the sea and on the dry land He ruleth with His will; and in the height and in the depth His command is fulfilled. ‘But now, who are your gods?’ And the men who were bound in prison answered and said unto the blessed men, ‘Our gods are many. Some worship Venus Astarte, and some confess Apollo, and some worship Sisinōs,’ and some of us do honour unto the great god Zeus.’ And when the blessed men heard these things they said unto them, ‘The gods whom ye worship are not gods at all, but dead idols, the work of the hands of the children of men; they can do neither good nor harm, and they cannot stand up to help those who worship them. ‘And if ye do not believe me, call upon them, and let them take you out from the prison wherein ye are bound.’ And the men answered and said unto the blessed men, ‘Why doth not your own God come and deliver you, and take you out of the prison?’ And the blessed men answered and said unto them, ‘Our God liveth, and He will take us out from this prison. And not only will He answer us, and deliver us from our enemies, but you also; for He receiveth and rejoiceth in those who turn unto Him, and delivereth them from their afflictions.’”

1 A corruption of the name ‘Dionysos’.
"And there was in that prison a certain man, a
councillor, who was imprisoned until he could be
tried; now he had only one eye. And when he
heard the blessed men talking about the wonderful
things of God, he answered and said unto them,
"'O ye servants of God, entreat Christ, Whom ye
'preach, on my behalf, that He may receive me
'among the number of His lambs.' And when the
'blessed men heard the confession of the councillor,
'they answered and said unto him, 'If thou art firm
'in the faith of Christ, the Son of God, we will
'shew thee the way of Christ; now the way of Christ
'leadeth those who love Him unto His Father. For
"'thus hath He taught us in His Gospel, saying, 'No
'man cometh unto the Father except by Me.'" And,
"'He who seeth Me hath seen the Father.'" And for us
"'who believe doth He do our will whensoever we ask
'His, and whensoever we call upon Him He cometh
'to our help. And that it may be certain unto thee
"'that these things are thus, if thou dost believe in
'Christ, we will straightway call upon Him, and we
"'will bring some of this medicine nigh unto thine eye,
"'and immediately it shall be opened, and thou shalt
"'see the light therewith.' And the councillor said unto
'them, 'In very truth I believe upon Him, and that
"'He, the Christ, is the Son of the living God, the
"'Light of the world, and that He in His grace and
"'mercy hath sent you unto us that ye might illumine
"'the eyes of our understanding with your spiritual
"'doctrine.' Then Judah poured some of the gift of

1 St. John XIV. 6.  2 St. John XIV. 9.
His eyesight is restored.

"Grace into his hand, and he anointed the eye of the councillor, and said, 'May Jesus, the true Light, Who by coming hath made to rejoice the creatures that were in darkness, illumine with the true light this pupil of the eye which is in darkness!' And immediately that the gift of grace touched it, it became light and as if it had never at all been diseased. And when those who were bound in prison saw what had happened, they lifted up their voices, and said, 'Glory to the true God, Whom Judah and his companions serve! We believe that He is the true Light, and that there is no other god besides Him, and that He giveth strength and healing unto those who believe in Him.'

'And it came to pass that when the keeper of the prison heard what had happened, he ran and made it known to the governor, and said unto him, 'I entreat thee, O my lord. These men, who by the command of thy lordship have been bound in prison, have been performing great and mighty deeds and miracles therein. And all night long a most glorious light from the chamber wherein they are illumineth the prison; and when those who were imprisoned along with them heard their doctrine and saw what they were performing, they too believed upon them. And further, I believe that if they wished it, the doors of the prison would open themselves before them, and they could depart. And, moreover, the lord councillor himself also hath believed in their doctrine.' Now when the governor of the city heard the words of the keeper of the prison, he straightway commanded the clerk of his troops, and...
"and he said unto them, 'Take ye fifty armed Greeks, 'and go to the prison and bring hither the lord "councillor and all those who are imprisoned with "him.' And when those who had been sent [to the "prison] had departed, they saw other soldiers sur- "rounding them, and they heard from them the true "doctrine. | And those who had gone for [the men "in prison] answered and said unto them, 'The judge "'hath sent us for you;' and they rose up with "them and went to the praetorium. And the chief of "the troops went in and said unto the governor of "the city, 'Behold, the men who were bound in prison "'are standing outside.' And the judge answered "and said unto them, 'Let the lord councillor come "'in;' and when he had gone in, and they saw that "both his eyes were opened, they marvelled at him "greatly. And the judge said unto him, 'My lord, "'for what cause hast thou been cast into prison?" "And the nobleman said unto him, 'My companions "'uttered calumnies concerning me before thy great- "'ness, and thou didst give the command concerning "'me, and I fell into prison.' And the governor said "unto him, 'Answer falsely nothing which I am about "'to ask you. Was not thine eye destroyed when "'thou didst fall into prison?' And the nobleman "said unto him, 'From the time when I could distin- "'guish between good and evil I never saw the light "'with it until I was shut up in prison.' Then the "governor said unto him, 'Thy falling into prison "'was, then, an advantage unto thee. But tell me "'how it was that thou camest to see the light with "'it, and who it was that gave thee light in thy blind
"'eye?' And the nobleman said unto him, 'O my lord
'the governor, thou sayest unto me truly that in
"'being bound in prison I gained great benefit; and
"'I did so both bodily and spiritually; for that light
"'which is inside the pupil of my eye which was
"'dark is stronger than that of all those who are
"'born [with sight]. But now, I will tell thee how it
"'happened. These blessed men, Judah and his com-
"'panions, whom thou hast bound in prison, were
"'praying and making supplication by night and by
"'day, and they never ceased to perform their service.
"'And I heard the voice of the angel which came
"'down to them, and encouraged them, and I saw
"'also the most excellent light with which the chamber
"'wherein they were bound was filled. And one
"'morning I went in to them and saluted them, and
"'when they saw that I had received their doctrine,
"'Judah brought forth the medicine from beneath his
"'garment, and put some of it upon my eye, | and
"'called upon the Name of Christ; and straightway
"'my eye became sound, and I saw the light.' And
"'when the judge heard the words of the nobleman,
"'he answered and said unto him, 'Go thou in peace
"'to thy house, and render thanks and gratitude unto
"'Him Who hath given thee this great gift.'"

"'Then the governor sent and called the blessed
"'men, and said unto them, 'Ye must know that the
"'chief priests and the heads of the synagogue have
"'laid information concerning you before me, and
"'these men have told me that ye are seducers, and
"'that ye shew yourselves to be those who make the
"'eyes [of men] to be in darkness, and that ye lead
"astray the innocent of heart and the simple-minded
"folk, and that ye make disturbances in this city,
"and that many murders are committed among you,
"because ye are divided the one side against the
"other. And I as a judge must follow their words,
lest I should fall under the condemnation of the
"Emperors, as being a judge who hath heard of
"tumult in his city and hath not been able to abate
"the cause of the strife, but I have been led captive.
"But since the lord councillor, whose eye I know
"was destroyed, hath come unto me and he hath
"apologized for you, saying that ye lead good lives,
"and he hath shewed us also that his right eye which
"was destroyed hath been opened, I now believe that
"they spoke falsehoods against you through envy.
"And now, I entreat you to deal graciously with me
"also, even as ye have done for the lord councillor.'
"And the blessed men answered and said unto the
"governor, 'My lord, for this purpose also were we
"sent by Christ, that unto every man who wisheth to
"journey in the way of truth, and to turn unto the
"religion of God and to hate that which abideth not,
"and to love the happiness that abideth for ever, we
"should shew the way. For the time of this world
"is short, and it passeth away, and vanisheth, and
"is consumed; and the life thereof cometh to an end,
"and the dominion thereof is dissolved and goeth
"away quickly, and it passeth like the shadow that
"turneth, and it abideth not for ever. But those
"who desire greatly | to see that world shall inherit
"the happiness that never cometh to an end, and
"the habitation that goeth not away, and the kingdom
"which never passeth away, and the joy which is "never abated, and the praise which is never destroy-"ed, and the Light which maketh happy those who "see it for ever and for ever. But woe be unto the "sinners and unto the wicked who have not kept the "commandments of God when justice is revealed upon "them, and when they stand naked before the throne "of power, and the books are opened, and words are "tried! They shall make entreaty, but there shall be "none to answer; and they shall make supplication, "but there shall be none to hearken; and they shall "be in despair. There justice shall be lifted up, and "grace shall shine forth. No man shall make entreaty "for his fellow, and no man shall become surety for "his companion; offerings shall not be accepted there, "and supplication shall not be listened to, for there "is a gulf between the righteous and the wicked. "And sinners shall cry out, but they shall not be "heard; neither shall compassion be shewn unto "them, nor refreshing be allowed unto them. No "son shall aid his father there, and no father can "make entreaty on behalf of his son; there is no "accepting of persons in that place, for the judgment "of God is just, and every man shall be rewarded "according to his deeds. There the bond and the "free are as one, and the master and his servant "are equal, and the rich and the poor stand together. "He who acquired dominion [upon the earth] doth "not stand in his greatness, and the beggar doth "not return to his former lowly estate. This is the "constitution of the world which is to come. Blessed "is he whose iniquity hath been forgiven, and whose
sins have been covered! Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not reckon his sin, and in whose heart there is no guile.'"

"And it came to pass that as these holy men sowed in the ears of the judge words which were full of pain and repentance, suffering and sorrow clothed him about. And he turned to God, and he received their doctrine like the good and rich ground which receiveth seed, and yieldeth fruit thirtyfold, and sixtyfold, and a hundredfold; even thus did he receive their doctrine. And he confessed Christ, and became greatly confirmed in the faith of our Lord."

"Then the governor entreated the blessed men, saying, 'Now that the true light of your doctrine hath illumined the eyes of my understanding, and hath shone into my mind, I would make one request of you; withhold it not, for I am confident and certain that it is easy for you to grant it unto me.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'Ask whatsoever thou wishest; and if we are able to grant it, good and well, and if not, we will pray unto God and entreat Him to give thee the petition of thy heart.' And the governor answered and said unto them, 'I entreat you, O my lords. I have no son, and my wife is barren. But I have a son of the house, and one day he was occupied in some work of folly, and I became enraged with him, and I took a whip to beat him; and as I smote him, the thong went into his eye, and destroyed it, and he hath one eye [only]. And the grief wherewith I grieved concerning him was greater than that wherewith I
"grieved because I had no other children. And this "
"day, the day whereon our Lord hath shewed His "
"glory unto me, and your teaching hath drawn me "
"unto life, I entreat you to fulfil your goodness "
"towards me. Lay some of the medicine which ye "
"have upon the boy, and let his eye be healed, "
"and let him see the light; and I will rejoice in "
"your coming unto me.' And the blessed men said "
"unto the governor, 'Every difficult thing is easy unto "
"God, and to Him there is no crookedness which He "
"cannot make straight; and whosoever believeth upon "
"Him receiveth whatsoever he asketh. But tell me: "
"What religion hath the boy?' And the governor "
"said unto them, 'Both he and I worship the gods "
"whom the Emperors worship.' And the blessed men "
"said unto him, 'These gods whom the Emperors "
"worship are not [gods] at all. But the King whose "
"kingdom standeth for ever and ever is Jesus Christ, "
"Whom we serve. His promise is faithful and true, "
"and it is He Who giveth light, and life, and king- "
"dom, unto those who believe upon Him. It is He "
"Who giveth light to the blind, and hearing unto the "
"deaf; it is He Who bringeth the dead to life, and "
"He is the hope of the living. There is no one who "
"can deliver and save like unto Him, but without belief "
in Him no man is able to draw nigh unto God.'"

"And it came to pass that, when the governor "
"heard these words from the blessed men, he spake "
"unto them further, and said, 'In very truth your "
document is the true light, and, as we have heard "
"concerning you, ye shew the way of life unto the "
"children of men that they may serve the living God;
"'and I have seen with mine own eyes the things which have taken place. But I entreat you now to bring some of that medicine which ye have nigh unto the boy, and let his eye which hath been destroyed be made whole.' And the blessed men answered and said unto the boy, 'Tell us, O boy; What happened unto thee?' And the boy answered and said unto them, 'I entreat you, O my lords. The matter happened unto me thus. My lord was wroth with me because I had offended him, and he took a whip to beat me therewith; and as he was beating me the thong of the whip came into my eye, and blinded it.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'If one were to make it whole, what wouldst thou promise him?' And the boy said unto them, 'My master hath made me the steward of every thing that he hath, and he hath delivered into my hands every thing that he possesseth, together with his riches, and the goods which he hath laid up, and all his treasury; whatsoever that man should ask of me that would I give him.' And the blessed men said unto him, 'We require this of thee: thou must believe upon Him Who shall give thee the light.' And the boy answered and said unto them, 'My lords, I believe on Him with all my soul, and with all my mind; He is the true God, and the compassionate Lord. Henceforth I will have no other lord with Him, and I will never again put my neck under the yoke of another service, and I will never again know any other god except the Lord God.' And when the blessed men heard these things from the boy, they answered and said
"unto him, | Look up to heaven, and cry unto the
"God Who dwelleth therein, Whose eyes look upon
"the whole earth.' Then straightway the boy lifted
"up his gaze towards the celestial heights, and he
"prayed and said, 'O Lord God, Thou mighty God,
"Who maketh straight the way for sinners, and
"Who callest the lost ones into Thy fold, hearken
"Thou now, O Christ, to my voice, and grant that
"I may enter into Thy spiritual fold, and let me be
"one of those who have believed upon Thee. And
"pardon me my offences in that I erred ignorantly
"in following after dead idols, and make me to be
"a participator with those who serve before Thee
"with purity and holiness; yea, O Father, and Son,
"and Holy Ghost, for ever! Amen.'"

"And it came to pass that, when the blessed men
"had heard the confession of the boy, they marvelled
"and gave glory unto God. And straightway Judah
"brought forth the horn, and poured out some of
"that gift of grace and laid it upon his eye, saying,
"'In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ! May He
"Whose door is open unto all those who believe,
"Who desireth the life of all those who repent,
"open thine eyes! and mayest thou see the light.'
"And when Judah had said these words, the eye of
"the boy was opened straightway, and he saw the
"light; and every one who was nigh and had seen
"what had happened, gave thanks and glorified God,
"Who worketh the will of those who fear Him when-
"soever they call upon Him. And the blessed men
"also anointed the wife of the judge and said, 'May
"the Lord give thee fruit of joy!'"
"And when the chief priests had heard that the governor, and all those who were with him, and all his troops, had believed on Jesus Christ, they meditated thereon among themselves. And they chose out from their people fifty men who were mighty men of valour, and gave them to eat and to drink; and when they were merry they said unto them, 'Take as much gold as ye wish, and rise up this night and arm yourselves, and go by night, without any man knowing about you, and seize these seducers, that is to say, Judah and his companions, and go and cast them into the sea, and let them be drowned.' Now there was there among those who believed on Christ a certain just and righteous man, who was a fearer of God, and his name was Eutychus. And when he heard what the chief priests were wishing to do unto the blessed men, he busied himself diligently, and sent messengers unto them, saying, 'If ye do not save yourselves by flight this night ye will perish in the sea. For the chief priests have made a plan, and have brought fifty men who are mighty men of valour, and they have given them to eat and to drink, and have distributed money not a little among them, that they may come and seize you this night and cast you into the sea. And no man knoweth of the plan except me who have sent unto you.' And when the blessed men heard of the secret plan from the believing man, they rose up and went forth from the city; and they went down and journeyed through all the land of Palestine. And they passed on and came unto the country of
"Asia, and unto Galatia, and they preached unto every man in that country and taught there. And they came unto Phrygia and unto Cilicia, and in Cilicia they built a monastery wherein they dwelt all the days of their life. And they taught every one who went unto them to serve God with all their hearts, and they preached concerning Jesus Christ that He is the Son of God. And every one who was sick or ill of any disease whatsoever, if he went unto them believing in the power of God which clave unto them, he was healed whatever his disease might be. And they dwelt in that monastery all the days of their life, and they preached the goodness of our Lord Jesus Christ, and they healed everyone who went unto them in the faith of God and who took refuge in the victorious power of the atoning blood of Christ."

These things, and a great many more besides them, which mine eyes have seen and mine ears have heard, have I, Philotheus the deacon, written down and shewn forth, and made known concerning the most amazing and shameful deed which the crucifiers of Christ who were abominable in everything, committed; for in all that they did shame came upon them, but unto us by reason of what they did came the adoption of sons. Now all ye believers who are in every place, give thanks and glorify Christ, Who for the sake of our life sent His angel unto me, and made known to me these things for the redemption of our souls. Remember ye my feebleness, and the treasure
of life for which I have laboured and have laid up for your aid in this history. And let us give thanks together, and let us glorify the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, now and at all times, and for ever and ever! Amen.

Here endeth the History of the Likeness which the Jews made in the city of Tiberias to make a mock of, and of how they received their punishment. And to God be everlasting glory! Amen.