

The Septuagint, Apocrypha, 4 Maccabees, Chapter 8, Interlinear English - G.T. Emery.

1 Τό δὲ δὴ σφόδρα περιπαθῶς ἐκέλευσεν ἄλλους ἐκ τῆς λείας τῶν
The but indeed exceedingly violently excited he commanded others from of the captives of the
Ἑβραίων ἀγαγεῖν· καὶ εἰ μὲν μιαιοφαγήσαιεν, ἀπολύειν φαγόντας,
Hebrews to be brought; and if indeed they would eat defiling food, to release they having eaten,
εἰ δ' ἀντιλέγοιεν, πικρότερον βασανίζειν.
if but they should refuse, more bitterly to torture.

2 Ταῦτα διαταξαμένου τοῦ τυράννου, παρήσαν ἀγόμενοι μετὰ γεραιᾶς μητρὸς
These things having ordered the tyrant, were being brought with aged mother
ἑπτὰ ἀδελφοί, καλοὶ τε καὶ αἰδήμονες καὶ γενναῖοι καὶ ἐν παντὶ χαρίεντες.
seven brothers, handsome both and modest and well-born and by all opinion acceptable.

3 Οὓς ἰδὼν ὁ τύραννος καθάπερ ἐν χορῶ μέσσην τὴν μητέρα, περιέχοντας ἤσθετο
Whom having seen the tyrant just as in a dance in middle the mother, encircling he was pleased
ἐπ' αὐτοῖς, καὶ τῆς εὐπρεπείας ἐκπλαγεῖς καὶ τῆς εὐγενείας προσεμειδίασεν
at them, and of the goodly appearance having been struck and of the nobility he smiled
αὐτοῖς, καὶ πλησίον καλέσας, ἔφη,
to them, and near having summoned, said,

4 Ὡ νεανίαί, φιλοφρόνως ἐγὼ καθ' ἑνὸς ἐκάστου ὑμῶν θαυμάζω· τὸ κάλλος
O youths, friendly I through one of each¹ of you admire; the beauty
καὶ τὸ πλήθος τοσοῦτων ἀδελφῶν ὑπερτιμῶν, οὐ μόνον συμβουλεύω μὴ μαῆναι
and the number such as these of brothers greatly honouring, not only counsel not to be mad
τὴν αὐτὴν τῶ προβασανισθέντι γέροντι μανίαν,
the same as the before tortures old man madness,

5 ἀλλὰ καὶ παρακαλῶ συνείξαντάς μοι τῆς ἐμῆς ἀπολαύειν φιλίας·
but also I encourage you having yielded to me of the my to benefit of friendship;
δυναίμην δ' ἂν ὥσπερ κολάζειν τοὺς ἀπειθοῦντάς μου τοῖς ἐπιτάγμασιν,
I am able but just as to punish the disobeying of me the commands,
οὕτως καὶ εὐεργετεῖν τοὺς εὐπειθοῦντάς μοι.
so also to do good to the obeying me.

6 Πιστεύσατε οὖν καὶ ἀρχὰς ἐπὶ τῶν ἐμῶν πραγμάτων ἡγεμονικὰς λήμψεσθε,
Let you trust then and offices over of the my government authority let you receive,
ἀρνησάμενοι τὸν πάτριον ὑμῶν τῆς πολιτείας θεσμόν·
having disowned the ancestral tradition of you of the manner of living laid down in law;

7 καὶ μεταλαβόντες Ἑλληνικοῦ βίου, καὶ μεταδαιτηθέντες ἐντρυφήσατε ταῖς
and having changed to Greek way of life, and having changed life style let you enjoy the
νεότησιν ὑμῶν.
youthfulness of you.

8 Ἐπεὶ, ἐὰν ὀργίλω με διάθησθε διὰ τῆς ἀπειθείας, ἀναγκάσετέ με ἐπὶ
After that, if anger in me you should cause by of the disobedience, you will compel me with
δειναῖς κολάσεσιν ἕνα ἕκαστον ὑμῶν διὰ τῶν βασάνων ἀπολέσαι.
dreadful punishments one each one of you by of the tortures to destroy.

9 Κατελεήσατε οὖν ἑαυτοὺς, οὓς καὶ ὁ πολέμιος ἔγωγε καὶ τῆς
Let you have compassion then on yourselves, whom also the enemy for my part and of the

1 'each and every one'.

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ἡλικίας καὶ τῆς εὐμορφίας οἰκτίρομαι.

age and of the elegance I am compassionate.

10 Οὐ διαλογιεῖσθε τοῦτο, ὅτι οὐδὲν ὑμῖν ἀπειθήσασιν πλὴν τοῦ μετὰ
Not will you consider this, that nothing to you having been disobedient except of the with
στρεβλῶν ἀποθανεῖν ἀπόκειται;
torture machines to die exposed to?

11 Ταῦτα δὲ λέγων, ἐκέλευσεν εἰς τὸ ἔμπροσθεν τιθέναι τὰ βασανιστήρια,
These things and saying, he commanded for the forward to place the instruments of torture,
ὅπως καὶ διὰ τοῦ φόβου πείσειεν αὐτοὺς μιαιοφαγῆσαι.
so that also by of the fear might be persuaded them to eat defiling food.

12 Ὡς δὲ τροχούς τε καὶ ἀρθρέμβολα στρεβλωτήριά, τε καὶ τροχαντῆρας καὶ
As but wheels both and joint dislocaters, both also rack and
καταπέλτας καὶ λέβητας, τήγανά τε καὶ δακτυλήθρας, καὶ χεῖρας σιδηρᾶς καὶ
poles and cauldrons, pans both and thumb-screws, and hands iron and
σφῆνας, καὶ τὰ ζώπυρα τοῦ πυρὸς οἱ δορυφόροι προέθεσαν, ὑπολαβῶν
wedges, and the sparks of the fire the spear-men set before, having resumed
ὁ τύραννος ἔφη,
the tyrant was saying,

13 Μειράκια, φοβήθητε, καὶ ἦν σέβεσθε δίκην, ἴλεως ὑμῖν ἔσται δι'
Young men, let you be afraid, also whatever you revere justice, gracious to you it will be through
ἀνάγκην παρανομήσασιν.
compulsion you defy law.

14 Οἱ δὲ ἀκούσαντες ἐπαγωγὰ, καὶ ὀρῶντες δεινὰ, οὐ μόνον οὐκ ἐφοβήθησαν,
The but having heard inducements, and seeing fearful devices, not only not were they afraid,
ἀλλὰ καὶ ἀντεφιλοσόφησαν τῷ τυράννῳ, καὶ διὰ τῆς εὐλογιστίας τὴν
but also with own philosophy opposed the tyrant, and by of the correct logic the
τυραννίδα αὐτοῦ κατέλυσαν.
tyranny of him they dismissed.

15 Καίτοι λογισώμεθα· εἰ δειλόψυχοι τινες ἦσαν, καὶ ἄνανδροι ἐν αὐτοῖς,
And further let us consider; if cowardly some were, and unmanliness in them,
ποίοις ἂν ἐχρήσαντο λόγοις; Οὐχὶ τούτοις;
of what sort of be declared arguments? Not these?

16 Ὡ τάλανες ἡμεῖς, καὶ λίαν ἀνόητοι βασιλέως ἡμᾶς καλοῦντος, καὶ ἐπὶ εὐεργεσίᾳ
O wretched we are, and truly senseless; king us summoning, and upon kindness
φωνοῦντος, μὴ πεισθεῖμεν αὐτῷ;
speaking, not should we obey him?²

17 Τί βουλήμασιν κενοῖς ἑαυτοὺς εὐφραίνομεν, καὶ θανατηφόρον ἀπειθειαν τολμῶμεν;
Why in resolves vain ourselves we are gladdened, and death-bringing disobedience we venture?

18 Οὐ φοβηθησόμεθα, ἄνδρες ἀδελφοί, τὰ βασανιστήρια, καὶ λογιούμεθα τὰς
Not will we be afraid, men brothers, the things of tortures, and we will consider the
τῶν βασάνων ἀπειλᾶς, καὶ φευξόμεθα τὴν κενοδοξίαν ταύτην καὶ ὀλεθροφόρον
of the tortures threats, and we will dispel the conceit this and death threatening
ἀλαζονείαν;
arrogance?

2 Alternative rendering - καὶ ἐπὶ εὐεργεσίᾳ παρακαλοῦντος, εἰ πεισθεῖμεν αὐτῷ,

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19 Ἐλεήσωμεν τὰς ἑαυτῶν ἡλικίας, καὶ κατοικτίρωμεν τὸ τῆς μητρὸς γῆρας·
We should show mercy the of ourselves youth, and let us have compassion on the of the mother age;

20 καὶ ἐνθυμηθῶμεν ὅτι ἀπειθοῦντες τεθνηξόμεθα.

and let us be minded that disobeying we will die.

21 Συγγνώσεται δὲ ἡμῖν καὶ ἡ θεία δίκη δι' ἀνάγκην τὸν βασιλέα φοβηθεῖσιν.

Will be in agreement with and us also the divine justice by compulsion the king having been afraid.

22 Τί ἐξάγομεν ἑαυτοὺς τοῦ ἡδίστου βίου, καὶ ἀποστεροῦμεν ἑαυτοὺς τοῦ

Why are we depriving ourselves of the most pleasant life, and divest ourselves of the

γλυκέος κόσμου;

sweet world?

23 Μὴ βιαζώμεθα τὴν ἀνάγκην, μηδὲ κενοδοξήσωμεν ἐπὶ τῇ ἑαυτῶν στρέβλῃ.

Not let us reject the compulsion, neither take hollow pride over to the ourselves rack.

24 Οὐδὲ αὐτὸς ὁ νόμος ἐκουσίως ἡμᾶς θανατοῖ φοβηθέντας τὰ βασανιστήρια.

Not itself the law willingly us put to death having been fearful of the tortures.

25 Πόθεν ἡμῖν ἡ τοσαύτη ἐντέτηκε φιλονεικία, καὶ ἡ θανατηφόρος ἀρέσκει,

From where to us the such as this has poured in eager strife, and the fatal appeasement

καρτερία παρὸν μετὰ ἀταραξίας ζῆν τῷ βασιλεῖ πεισθέντας;

obstinacy being with calmness to live by the king having been persuaded?

26 Ἀλλὰ τούτων οὐδὲν εἶπον οἱ νεανίαί βασανίζεσθαι μέλλοντες, οὐδὲ ἐνεθυμήθησαν.

But of this nothing said the young men to be tortured being about, nor were they considering.

27 Ἦσαν γὰρ περίφρονες τῶν παθῶν, καὶ αὐτοκράτορες τῶν ἀλγηδόνων.

They were for despising of the sufferings, and sovereign over of the pains.

Ὅστε ἅμα τῷ παύσασθαι τὸν τύραννον συμβουλεύοντα αὐτοῖς μιαιοφαγῆσαι,

So as once the to cease the tyrant counselling them to eat defiling food,

πάντες διὰ μιᾶς φωνῆς ὁμοῦ, ὥσπερ ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς ψυχῆς, εἶπον,

all by one voice together, as from of the same mind, said,