

1500. 15:42-44. 16. 49 - Santa Temporal

Bill of sator - M659:1-4

Adam & Evil a companion

over



DISCOURSE ON ABBATÔN BY TIMOTHY,
ARCHBISHOP OF ALEXANDRIA

(Brit. Mus. MS. Oriental, No. 7025)

Fol. 1a THE DISCOURSE WHICH APA TIMOTHY,¹ ARCH-
 BISHOP OF RAKOTE, OUR HOLY FATHER,
 WHO WAS GLORIOUS IN EVERY RESPECT,
 PRONOUNCED ON THE MAKING OF AB-
 BATÔN, THE ANGEL OF DEATH. OUR HOLY
 FATHERS THE APOSTLES ASKED THE
 SAVIOUR ABOUT [ABBATÔN], SO THAT THEY
 MIGHT BE ABLE TO PREACH ABOUT HIM
 TO ALL MANKIND, FOR THEY KNEW THAT
 MEN WOULD ASK THEM QUESTIONS ABOUT
 EVERYTHING. AND THE SAVIOUR, WHO
 DID NOT WISH TO DISAPPOINT THEM
 ABOUT ANY MATTER CONCERNING WHICH
 THEY ASKED HIM QUESTIONS, INFORMED
 THEM, SAYING, 'THE DAY ON WHICH MY
 FATHER CREATED ABBATÔN WAS THE THIR-
 TEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH ATHÔR,² AND
 HE MADE HIM KING OVER ALL CREATION,
 WHICH HE HAD MADE, BECAUSE OF THE
 TRANSGRESSION OF ADAM AND EVE.' AND
 THE ARCHBISHOP WISHING | TO LEARN
 CONCERNING THIS FEARFUL AND TERRIFY-
 ING BEING WHOM GOD MADE, AND WHO

Fol. 1b

6

¹ He sat from about 380 to 385.

² November 9.

PURSUETH EVERY SOUL UNTIL IT YIELD-
 ETH UP ITS SPIRIT IN MISERY, WHEN HE
 WENT INTO JERUSALEM TO WORSHIP THE
 CROSS OF OUR SAVIOUR, AND HIS LIFE-
 GIVING TOMB, ON THE SEVENTEENTH
 DAY OF THE MONTH THOTH,¹ SEARCHED
 THROUGH THE BOOKS WHICH WERE IN THE
 LIBRARY OF JERUSALEM, AND WHICH HAD
 BEEN MADE BY OUR HOLY FATHERS THE
 APOSTLES, AND DEPOSITED BY THEM THERE-
 IN, UNTIL HE DISCOVERED [THE ACCOUNT
 OF] THE CREATION OF ABBATÔN, WITH AN
 AGED ELDER, WHO WAS A NATIVE OF
 JERUSALEM. WHEN ONE ASKED HIM WHAT
 WAS THE OCCASION FOR THE DISCOURSE
 HE HAD FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS. AND
 HE SPAKE ALSO CONCERNING THE HOLY
 APOSTLE SAINT JOHN, THEOLOGIAN AND
 VIRGIN, WHO IS NOT TO TASTE DEATH
 UNTIL THE THRONES ARE SET IN THE
 VALLEY OF JEHOSEPHAT, WHICH IS THE
 PLACE WHEREIN THE LAST STRIFE OF
 THE WORLD | SHALL TAKE PLACE. IN THE PEACE OF GOD! AMEN. BLESS US!

Fol. 2 a

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HEARKEN unto my speech, which is sweet and is filled
 with gladness of every kind! My Lord and my God
 crieth out to us daily in the Holy Gospel, saying, 'Every
 one who asketh shall receive, he who seeketh shall find,
 and to him that knocketh they will open.'² And again,
 'Everything which ye shall ask in My Name from (?)
 My Father, shall be unto you.'³ And the holy song-writer
 David saith, 'Blessed are they who are righteous in the

¹ August 14.² Matt. vii. 8; Luke xi. 9.³ John xv. 16.

Fol. 2^b way, | and who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are
 2̄ the saints, and those who seek them. Blessed are those who
 walk in His testimonies, and who seek Him with their
 whole heart.¹ And again, 'Those who seek after the Lord
 shall not lack any manner of thing which is good.'² Who
 are they who seek after the Lord? O my beloved, hearken
 attentively, O [ye] who love to hear, [and I will tell
 you]. Those who seek the Lord are all those wise men
 who meditate upon His law, and His commandments, and
 His righteous judgements, by day and by night, according to
 what is written, 'The law of God shall never be absent from
 thy mouth' (or speech).³ And again, 'It is meet that every
 Fol. 3^a man who is a Christian | should fill his body with the fruits of
 3̄ his lips, as if it were corporeal food.'⁴ Those who seek after
 God are those men who enquire concerning the creation of the
 angels of God, and who make manifest their holy commemora-
 tions. Those who seek after God are all those men who
 seek after His saints, and who bear in remembrance the suffer-
 ings which they endured, and record (?) them in the churches.
 Those who seek after God are all the men who give alms, and
 charities, and offerings unto God at their holy commemora-
 tions, each one according to his power. Those who seek after
 Fol. 3^b God | are all the men who love strangers (i.e. who shew
 4̄ hospitality), and those who love the poor, and who clothe the
 naked on the festival of the saints, each one according to his
 power. For this reason, then, O my beloved brethren, let us
 give this day unto the saints, each one according to his power.
 For this reason, then, O my beloved brethren, let us give
 with a right heart and with a perfect faith, in order that we
 may find them (i.e. our gifts) for ourselves in the day of our
 visitation. Our Saviour informeth us in the Holy Gospel,
 saying, 'Whosoever shall give one of these little ones even

¹ Ps. cxix. 1, 2; cxxviii. 1.

² Ps. xxxiv. 10.

³ Compare Exod. xii. 14; xiii. 9; Num. xv. 39; Deut. vi. 7; xi. 19.

⁴ Prov. xviii. 20.

a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, Amen, I say unto you'¹ |

[Three leaves wanting]

a week of days before the festival came. And in this manner Fol. 4 a
 we entered into the martyrion of the holy God-bearer Mary, 10
 which had been built to her in the Valley of Jehosaphat, and
 we received a blessing, and we prayed together with those
 who had come there for the festival. And in this wise we
 were mindful of the Offering with all diligence, and we
 received the Eucharist with all the people on that day. And
 each man departed to his house, and we withdrew ourselves
 from the festival, and I took up my abode in the church.
 And whilst we were living there the aged presbyter, whose
 name was John, came up to me, and did homage before me,
 saying, 'If thy servant hath found favour before thee, let my
 lord father | come to the house of thy servant, for we would Fol. 4 b
 enjoy thy blessing.' And when I had perceived his great 12
 love for his fellow man, and his gentleness, which was like
 [unto that of] an angel of God, I rose up, and I went with
 him, both I and those who were with me. And when he
 had taken us up into the upper storey of his house we prayed,
 and we sat down according to the commandment of our Saviour.
 And he made for us a great banquet that day, because he was
 a lover of men, and he was especially hospitable to strangers,
 and to every one who sojourned in the church, even as was
 the Patriarch Abraham.

And when the morning had come we talked together
 concerning the mighty deeds and miracles which | our Fol. 5 a
 Saviour had wrought, and how the godless Jews had crucified 16
 Him because of their jealousy of Him. And in this wise
 I spake unto the old man, the presbyter, 'My noble son, is
 not the Book of the appointing of Abbatôn, the Angel of Death,
 among all these books which are here, and under thy charge?
 I want it because I wish to learn how it came about that

¹ Matt. x. 42; Mark ix. 41.

God made him the king of all mankind, and of all the created things which He made, and how it was that God made him awful and terrifying, for he cometh and pursueth after every soul until it hath yielded up its spirit.' And straightway
 Fol. 5 b the old man, the elder, said unto me with a face | filled with
 IC graciousness, 'Well hath the Master of us all, the Christ, said in the Holy Gospel, "Whosoever seeketh shall find, and whosoever knocketh it shall be opened unto him, and whosoever asketh shall receive."¹ And as for thee, O my holy father, thou seekest, and thou shalt find; thou knockest, and it shall be opened unto thee; thou askest, and thou shalt receive. The Lord shall fulfil thy petition which thou hast asked.'

And when I had heard these things from the old man, the presbyter, I gave thanks to God because He had never disappointed me in respect of any matter which I had asked from Him; and thus the [old man] brought it (i. e. the book) to me. And when it had come into my hand I rejoiced |
 Fol. 6 a over it more than [I should have done over] very much
 IC riches, and I cried out with David the Psalmist, the righteous king, saying, 'I rejoice over thy words even as doth the man who hath found great spoil.'² And I read in the book, and I found written therein the following:

And it came to pass that when our Saviour, Who is the Root of all good, had finished everything, when the days of His Apocalypse were completed, and He was to ascend up to His Father, He laid His hand upon each one of His holy Apostles, and He prayed over them, and sent them forth into
 Fol. 6 b all the world to preach His holy Resurrection | to all the
 IC heathen, and He filled them with power and with His Holy Spirit, and He spake unto them, saying, 'The mighty deeds and miracles which I have performed, ye yourselves also shall do. Ye shall lay your hands upon the sick and they shall have rest (or, relief). Ye shall tread upon serpents and

¹ Matt. vii. 7.

² Ps. cxix. 62.

scorpions. Ye shall take up serpents in your hands. And when ye drink deadly poisons they shall have no evil effect upon you. Baptize those who believe in Me, and in My Good Father, and the Holy Spirit, in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and I will forgive them [their sins]. Those who do not believe shall be condemned to the second death. | Depart in peace. The peace which is Mine shall be with you. And I will never cease to walk with you even to the end of this world.'¹ Fol. 7 a
R

Then the Lord answered and said unto Saint Peter, the greatest of the Apostles, the pillar of the Church, the steward of the kingdom which is in the heavens, 'Him that thou wishest to take into it, take; and him that thou wishest to reject, reject.'² [And Peter] said unto the Saviour, 'My Lord and my God. Behold, Thou hast informed us concerning everything about which we have asked Thee, and Thou hast hidden nothing from us. And now, O my Lord and my God, | behold, Thou hast sent us out into the whole world to preach Thy holy Resurrection to all the nations, and the mighty deeds and miracles which Thou hast done, the which we have seen with our eyes, and concerning which we have heard, and Thou hast explained them all to us, even [the matter of] Thy Virgin Mother, and Thy holy Birth. And, O my Lord, Thou knowest that there are very many contentious and unbelieving people who will ask questions of us concerning everything, and we wish to be able to explain unto them everything. Now therefore, O my Lord, we wish Thee to inform us concerning the day wherein Thou didst stablish Abbatôn, the Angel of Death, and didst make him to be awful and | disturbing, and to pursue all souls until they yield up their spirits, so that we may preach concerning him to all mankind, even as we preach concerning all his fellow angels whom Thou hast created, and of whom Thou hast shewn us the days of their stablishing, and also that when' Fol. 7 b
R
Fol. 8 a
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¹ Matt. xxviii. 19, 20; Mark xvi. 15-18. ² Matt. xvii. 19; xviii. 18.

men hear of [him on] the day of his stablishing they may be afraid, and may repent, and may give charities and gifts on the day of his commemoration, just as they do to Michael and Gabriel, so that their souls may find mercy and respite on the day of Thy holy Resurrection.'

And the Saviour, the Storehouse that is filled with mercy
 Fol. 8 b and compassion | of every kind, Who loveth everything which
Rb is good in respect of His day, Who wisheth not to cause us
 disappointment about anything concerning which we are
 asked, said unto them, 'O ye whom I have chosen from out
 of the whole world, I will hide nothing from you, but I will
 inform you how My Father stablished him (i.e. Abbatón)
 over all the created things which He had made. For I and
 My Father are one,¹ according to what Philip said unto me,
 "Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us." And I said
 unto him, "O Philip, in all the time which thou hast been
 with Me, hast thou not known Me? He who hath seen Me
 Fol. 9 a hath seen | My Father. Believe thou that I am in My
Rc Father, and My Father is in Me. If it be impossible [for
 thee], believe His works."² And now, O my holy members,
 whom I have chosen from out of the whole world, I will hide
 nothing from you. It came to pass that when My Father
 was creating the heavens, and the earth, and the things
 which are therein, He spake the word, and they all came into
 being, Angel, and Archangel, and Cherubim, and Seraphim,
 and Thrones, and Divine Governors, and Dominions, and all
 the Powers that are in the heavens, and all the army of
 heaven. And He made the earth also, [and] the wild
 Fol. 9 b animals, and the reptiles, and the cattle, | and the birds, and
Rd everything which moveth upon it. And He planted also
 a paradise in the eastern part of the earth. And My Father
 saw that the whole world was a desert, and that there was no
 one to work it. And My Father said, "Let us make a man
 in Our image and likeness, that he may continue to praise

¹ John x. 30.

² John xiv. 8-11.

us by day and by night, and that [every one] may know that it is the hand of the Lord that hath made all these things; for I existed before these things were." And My Father commanded an angel, saying, "By My wish and by My command get thee to the land of Edem (i.e. אֶדֶם, the East-land), and bring to Me some virgin earth in order that I may make a man in Our | image and likeness therewith, so that he may ascribe blessing unto Us by day and by night." Fol. 10a
ⲛⲉ

'And the angel went to the land of Edem, according to My Father's command. And he stood upon the earth, and he reached out his hand to gather together some of it and take it to My Father. And straightway the earth cried out with a loud voice, saying, "I swear unto thee by Him Who sent thee to Me, that if thou takest me to Him, He will mould me into a form, and I shall become a man, and a living soul. And very many sins shall come forth from my heart (or, body), and many fornications, and slanderous abuse, and jealousy, and hatred and contention shall come forth from his hand, and many murders and sheddings [of blood shall come forth from his hand. And they shall cast me out to the dogs, and to the cats, and into pits and holes in the ground, and into streams of water before my time, and after all these things they will finally cast me into punishment, and they will punish me by day and by night. Let me stay here, and go back to the ground and be quiet." Fol. 10b
ⲛⲉ

'And when the Angel of God had heard these things he was afraid of My Father's Name, and he returned and came to My Father, and said, "My Lord, when I heard Thy awful Name I did not wish to bring the earth unto Thee." And straightway My Father commanded an angel a second time to go to it, and then a third angel, and so on even unto seven angels, and not one of them wished to | approach the earth because it took awful oaths by mighty [names]. And when My Father saw that none of the angels wished to bring the earth to Him, He sent the angel Moiriël to the earth, Fol. 11a
ⲛⲉ

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Ⲛⲉ

saying unto him, "Go thou by My command to the land of Edem, and bring unto me some virgin earth so that I may fashion a man therefrom, after Mine own image and likeness, that he may ascribe blessing unto Us by day and by night."

'And when the Angel of God had departed to the earth he stood upon it in great power and might, and in the commandment of God. And he reached out his hand to take some of it, and straightway the dust (or, clay) cried out with a loud voice, saying, "I swear unto thee by the name of Him

Fol. 11 b that | created the heavens, and the earth, and the things

RH that are therein, that thou shalt not approach me to take me unto God." And the angel Mouriél was not afraid at [the mention of] the Name of My Father when he heard it, and he paid no heed thereto, but he went to it, and he laid hold of it with firmness and determination, and he brought it to My Father [Who] rejoiced over it. And He took the clay from the hand of the angel, and made Adam according to Our image and likeness, and He left him lying for forty days and forty nights without putting breath into him. And He heaved sighs over him daily, saying, "If I put breath into

Fol. 12 a this [man], he | must suffer many pains." And I said unto

RE My Father, "Put breath into him; I will be an advocate for him." And My Father said unto Me, "If I put breath into him, My beloved Son, Thou wilt be obliged to go down into the world, and to suffer many pains for him before Thou shalt have redeemed him, and made him to come back to his primal state." And I said unto My Father, "Put breath into him; I will be his advocate, and I will go down into the world, and will fulfil Thy command."

'And whilst He was wishing to put breath into him He took a book, and wrote therein [the names of] those who should come forth from him and who should enter into the kingdom which is in the heavens, according to what is written, "These are they whose names are written in the

Book of Life from the foundation of the world.”¹ And He put breath into him in this way ; He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life three times, saying, “Live! Live! Live! according to the type of My Divinity.” And the man lived straightway, and became a living soul, according to the image and likeness of God. And when Adam had risen up he cast himself down before [My] Father, saying, “My Lord and my God! | Thou hast made me to come into being [from a state Fol. 13 a in which] I did not exist.” Thereupon My Father set him $\overline{\lambda\delta}$ upon a great throne, and He placed on his head a crown of glory, and He put a royal sceptre [in his hand], and My Father made every order [of angels] in the heavens to come and worship him, whether angel or archangel. And all the hosts of heaven worshipped God first of all, and then they worshipped Adam, saying, “Hail, thou image and likeness of God!” And He intended that the order of the angels who were fashioned [before Adam] should worship him, and My Father said unto him (i.e. their chief), “Come, thou thyself shalt worship my image and likeness.” | And he, a being of Fol. 13 b great pride, drew himself up in a shameless manner, and said, $\overline{\lambda\delta}$ “It is meet that this [man Adam] should come and worship me, for I existed before he came into being.”

‘And when My Father saw his great pride, and that his wickedness and his evil-doing were complete,² He commanded all the armies of heaven, saying, “Remove the writing [which is] in the hand of the proud one, strip ye off his armour, and cast ye him down upon the earth, for his time hath come. For he is the greatest of them all,³ he is the head over them, and is like | a king, and he commandeth them as the Fol. 14 a general of an army [commandeth his] soldiers; he is the $\overline{\lambda\sigma}$ head over them, and their names are written in his hand.” Thus is it with this cunning one, and the [names of the] angels were written in his hand. And all the angels

¹ Phil. 4v. 8; Rev. xvii. 8; xxi. 27.

² i. e. had reached their highest pitch.

³ i. e. all the rebellious angels.

gathered together to him, and they did not wish to remove the writing from his hand. And My Father commanded them to bring a sharp reaping-knife, and to stab him therewith on this side and on that, right through his body to the vertebrae of his shoulders, and he was unable to hold himself up. And straightway My Father commanded a mighty Cherubim, and he smote him, and cast him down from heaven

Fol. 14 b upon the earth, | because of his pride, and he broke his wings
 𐌹𐌺 and his ribs and made him helpless, and those whom he had brought with him became devils with him.

'And My Father made them take Adam into Paradise, and a multitude of angels sang hymns before him, and they left him there, and he continued to ascribe blessing unto God. And Adam lived alone in Paradise for one hundred years. And when he had completed the period of one hundred years—now Adam lived in the Paradise of Delight, and remained there alone, and the angels used to come to him every day—My Father said, "It is not good to allow the man

Fol. 15 a to live by himself, but let Ūs make | for him a helper like unto
 𐌹𐌺 himself." And He brought a slumber upon Adam, who fell into a deep sleep, and He took out one of his ribs and filled up [the place thereof] with flesh, and He made a woman according to the form of Adam. And when Adam woke up out of his sleep he saw her, and he said, "This now is bone of my bones, and flesh of [my flesh]; she shall be called 'woman', because she was taken out of her male." Now it was Adam who gave names to all the cattle, and to the wild beasts and to the birds, and to every living creature which moveth upon the earth, and even to those which are in the waters; unto all of them did Adam give names, according to

Fol. 15 b the | command of My Good Father.

𐌹𐌺 'And Adam lived in the Paradise of Delight, he and Eve his wife, for two hundred years; and they were virgins, and they were even as the angels of God. And when they had been living in the Paradise of Delight for two hundred years,

Eve came forth and passed through the northern part of Paradise, close by the wall, in order to obtain fruit (*sic*) for the cattle and for all the [other] creatures, because My Father had told Adam and Eve to feed them according to His command, and they received their food from the hand of Adam and Eve. And the serpent himself came | at the hour Fol. 16 a
of evening to receive his food according to his wont, for the λζ
serpent was like unto all the [other] beasts, and he walked upon his feet just as did they. And the Devil lived nigh unto Paradise, and he lay in wait for Adam and Eve by day and by night, and when he saw Eve by herself he went into the serpent, and said within himself, "Behold, I have found [my] opportunity; I will speak into her ear, and I will make her to eat of the tree, and I will cause them to be expelled from Paradise, for I myself was expelled from Paradise for their sakes."

'And the Devil spake unto Eve through the mouth of the serpent, saying, "Why do ye not eat | of the tree which is in Fol. 16 b
the middle of Paradise, as ye do of all the [other] trees, for λη
the fruit thereof is good?" And [Eve] said, "God said unto us, Ye may certainly eat of every tree which is in Paradise with the exception of the tree of knowledge of the good and of the evil; in the day wherein ye eat thereof ye shall surely die." And the serpent said unto her, "Ye shall not surely die, but ye shall be like unto these gods, ye shall know the good and the evil, and ye shall [be able] to separate the sweet from the bitter. God spake unto you in this manner because |
when ye have eaten thereof ye shall become as gods." And Fol. 17 a
the Devil ceased not to speak into her [ear] until he had λθ
beguiled her and she ate of the tree. And straightway Eve became naked, and she knew that she was naked, and she took some leaves of the fig-tree, and covered her nakedness. And she went to Adam, and when Adam saw her, and saw that she was naked, he was exceedingly grieved, and he became very sorrowful in heart, [and shed] tears in great abundance. And

he said unto her, "Wherefore hast thou acted in this wise? Behold, from this day forward we shall die, and God will be wroth with us, and He will cast us forth from Paradise."

fol. 17 b

And Eve said unto him, "Come thou and eat. If God shall blame thee, I will take everything upon myself before God." And in this way Adam took, and ate, and he became naked, and he knew immediately that he was naked; and he covered his nakedness with fig-leaves.

'And straightway the voice of My Father came to him in Paradise, saying, "Adam, where art thou?" And he said, "My Lord, I heard Thy voice, but I was afraid, and I hid myself because I was naked." And My Father said unto him, "Who told thee [so]? Hast thou eaten of the tree until thou hast

Fol. 18 a

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become naked?" And Adam said, "My Lord, the woman whom Thou didst give unto me as a helper made me eat, and I became naked." And My Father said unto her, "Wherefore hast thou done this thing?" She said unto Him, "My Lord, the serpent led me astray; I ate, and I became like the gods." And My Father said unto the serpent, "Because thou hast done this thing, cursed art thou among all the beasts of the earth. Thou shalt walk upon thy belly all the days of thy life, and all thy seed [shall be accursed] throughout all generations on the earth. Thou shalt eat earth and ashes all thy time, and so shall all those that shall come forth from thee." It was in this way that the serpent came

Fol. 18 b

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to walk upon his belly, according to what My Father decreed for him. And He said unto the woman also, "Because thou hast done this thing thou shalt bring forth children in sorrow and sighing, and thou shalt turn to thy husband." And similarly He turned to Adam, and said unto him, "Cursed be the earth because of thy deeds. Thou shalt eat thy bread by the sweat of thy face, and all those who shall come out of thee shall do likewise. Behold, thou shalt die from this day onwards, because thou art earth, and thou shalt return again to the earth. Thou shalt live in the world a life

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of nine hundred and thirty years, and when death cometh upon thee thou shalt turn to the earth | again. Thy soul shall abide in Amente, and thou shalt sit in black darkness for four and a half thousand of years . . .

“And when five and a half thousand of years are fulfilled I will send My beloved Son into the world, and He shall abide in a virgin womb, that is to say, the holy Virgin Mary. She shall give Him birth on the earth in lowliness and humility, and [after she hath done so] she shall remain a virgin, even as she was before. He shall pass thirty-three and a half years in the world, and He shall receive every attribute of humanity, | sin alone excepted. He shall perform innumerable mighty deeds and wonders, He shall raise the dead, He shall drive out the devils, He shall heal those who are sick of the palsy, He shall make the lame to walk, the deaf He shall make to hear, and the dumb He shall make to speak, He shall cleanse the lepers, and [restore] the arms that are withered, and He shall open the eyes of the blind by the word of His power. In short, there shall be no limit to the miracles which He shall perform, but in spite of all these men will not believe on Him. And at length, after all these things, they shall rise up against Him, and they shall deliver Him over unto death, and | they shall give Him into the hand of the Governor, that is to say, Pilate, and he shall judge Him for thy sake. He shall be in the form of a servant for thy sake. They shall smite Him in the face for thy sake. They shall treat Him with contempt and vilify Him for thy sake. They shall pass sentence of condemnation upon Him as if He were a sacrilegious person. They shall mount Him upon the wood of the Cross, between two thieves, for thy sake. They shall set a crown of thorns upon His head for thy sake. They shall make Him drink vinegar and gall for thy sake. They shall drive nails into His hands and feet for thy sake. He shall yield up His Spirit on the Cross. They shall pierce His side with a spear so that

Fol. 20^b water and blood shall flow forth therefrom, | and it is these
 21C which shall cleanse the sins of the world. They shall lay
 Him in a new tomb. He shall rise from the dead on the
 third day. He shall go down into Amente, He shall shatter
 the gate of brass, and break in pieces the bolts of iron, and
 shall bring thee up therefrom together with all those who
 shall be held there in captivity with thee. For thy sake,
 O Adam, the Son of God shall suffer all these things until
 He hath redeemed thee, and restored thee to Paradise, unto
 the place whence thou didst come, for He made Himself
 to be thy advocate (or, protector), when thou wast clay,
 before He put spirit (or, breath) into thee."

'It was I, the Son of God, Who suffered all these things
 Fol. 21^a until I delivered man | from the hand of the Devil. And ye have
 217 seen all these things with your eyes, O my holy Apostles. It
 was in this wise that My Father expelled Adam and Eve from
 Paradise. He shut the gate [thereof], and He placed a mighty
 being of fire to watch the gate of Paradise, so that no one might
 enter therein until all those things which He had proclaimed
 concerning Adam had been fulfilled.

'And the Devil went to meet Adam outside Paradise, and
 he said unto him, "Behold, O Adam, I was cast forth from my
 glory through thee, and behold, I have made thee to be
 expelled from the Paradise of Delight because thou hast
 caused me to become a stranger to my dwelling-place in
 heaven. Know thou that I will never cease to contend
 Fol. 21^b against thee and against all those who shall | come after thee
 21H from out of thee, until I have taken them all down into
 Amente with me."

'And when Adam heard these things he became very
 sad, and shed many tears both by day and by night. And
 My Father said unto Mouriël the angel, "Behold, the man
 whom I created in My image hath transgressed the com-
 mandment which I gave him. He hath eaten of the tree,
 and hath brought a great injury upon all mankind. For this

reason I make thee king over him, for it was thou who didst bring him to Me on this day, which is the thirteenth of the month Hathor.

"Thy name shall be | a terror in the mouth of every one. Fol. 22 a
They shall call thee Abbatôn, the Angel of Death. ⲁⲓⲟ

"Thy form and thine image shall be [associated with] complaining, and wrath, and threatening in all souls, until they have yielded up their spirits.

"Thine eye and thy face shall be like unto a wheel of fire which beareth waves and waves [of fire] before me.

"The sound of thy nostrils shall be like unto the sound of a lake of fire wherein burn fire and sulphur (or, naphtha).

"The sound of the noises made by thy lips shall be like unto the sounds of the seven thunders which shall speak with their tongues. |

"Thy head shall be like unto these great pillars of fire Fol. 22 b
which [reach] from heaven downwards. ⲁⲓ

"Thy teeth shall project from thy mouth the length of half a cubit.

"The fingers of thy hands and [the toes of] thy feet shall be like unto sharp reaping-knives.

"Seven heads shall be on the top of thy head, and they shall change their shapes and forms [continually].

"Their teeth shall project outside their mouths for the length of two palms, and they shall point towards the four quarters of the world. Thou shalt be suspended in the midst, and thou shalt sit upon a throne of fire.

"Thine eyes shall look down upon the earth, and upon whatsoever is in the depths of the waters; nothing shall be hidden from thee in heaven, nor from one end of the earth | to the other, from the north to the south, and from the east Fol. 23 a
to the west, among all the created things which I have ⲁⲓ
made.

"Not one of them shall yield up his spirit until he hath seen thee.

and shall give alms and charities in thy name, or repent, | or Fol. 24 b
 write in the Book [the day of] thy stablishing, that is to say, 112
 the thirteenth day of the month Hathor, the day whereon
 I stablished thee over Adam because of his disobedience,
 I will write their names in the Book of Life, and I will give
 them as a gift unto thee in My kingdom, and they shall never
 experience any kind of punishment (or, torture). But thou
 shalt not go unto them in this terrible form of thine, but thou
 shalt go unto them and treat them with gentle tenderness,
 until thou art able to bring them (i.e. their souls) out of the
 body. I will give thee power over them, and thou shalt take
 them to the place of rest, the dwelling-place of all those who
 rejoice, | for I am God, the Good and Compassionate towards Fol. 25 a
 My clay." Then Abbatôn, the Angel [of Death], cast himself 113
 down before My Father, and he spake unto Him, saying,
 "I will purify them, O Lord, my God and my King, in the
 place of all those whom Thou hast made."

'And now, O my holy Apostles, I have made you to know
 what My Father did in respect of Abbatôn, the awful and
 terrifying [angel], [and how He set him] over the creation
 which He had made, because of the transgression of Adam
 and Eve; preach ye it to all mankind.'

And Saint John, the virgin, answered and spake [unto Him],
 saying, 'My Lord and my God, | Who hast sanctified me Fol. 25 b
 unto Thyself, Who hast made all my thoughts to cling unto 114
 Thee, Who didst guard me and didst not permit me to take
 unto myself a wife; when Thou shalt gather together all Thy
 clay into the Valley of Jehosaphat, in order that each one
 may receive according to what he hath done, whether it be
 good or whether it be evil, if Abbatôn, the Angel of Death,
 shall come on that day, being in forms of his own person,—if
 this be so, I say, my Lord, there is not one soul that shall be
 able to stand before Thy awful throne. Behold, we shall
 perish through fright when we hear these things at Thy
 hand.'

Fol. 26 a And the Saviour opened | His mouth with a smile in the
 117 face of John, and He spake unto him, saying, 'O John, My
 beloved, who didst cast thyself upon My breast because of
 the purity of thy heart, and the purity of thy holy body, and
 thy virginity, dost thou not know that in the day of the
 Holy Resurrection men will not take unto themselves wives,
 and women will not live with husbands, and that there shall
 be no death, because old things shall have passed away? And
 there shall remain only the second death for those who have to
 meet it. On the day of the Holy Resurrection I shall come
 upon the clouds of heaven, and every eye shall see Me, and

Fol. 26 b all peoples and tongues shall lament. And | thousands of
 118 thousands, and tens of thousands of tens of thousands of
 angels shall be before Me. And My Cross shall advance
 before Me, like a symbol of sovereignty before a king,
 according to what I have said unto you, "The Son of Man
 shall come in His glory, and with that which is of His
 Father, and all His angels with Him."¹ I will command
 My chief Archangel, the holy Michael, and he shall blow
 a blast on his trumpet in the Valley of Jehosaphat, that
 those who are dead may arise incorruptible, and there shall
 not remain upon the earth one soul that shall not rise up,
 from Adam the first man even unto the last man that shall
 be born into the world. And they all shall rise up in the

Fol. 27 a Valley of Jehosaphat, | so that each one may receive in his
 119 body according to what he hath done, whether it be good or
 whether it be evil. And they shall stand [there] in fear and
 trembling awaiting the Spirit of My Father.

'And as for thee, O My beloved John, thou shalt not die
 until the thrones have been prepared on the Day of the
 Resurrection, because the thrones of glory shall come down
 from heaven, and ye shall sit upon them, and I will sit in
 your midst. All the saints shall see the honour which I
 will pay unto thee, O My beloved John! I will command

¹ Matt. xix. 28; xxv. 31 ff.; Luke ix. 26.

Abbatôn, the Angel of Death, to come unto thee on that day, and he shall not be in any | form that will terrify thee, but he shall come unto thee in the form of a gentle man, with a face like unto that of Michael, and he shall take away thy soul and bring it unto Me. Thy body shall not be in the tomb for ever, neither shall the earth rest upon it for ever. All the saints shall marvel at thee because that shalt not be judged until thou judgest them. Thou shalt be dead for three and a half hours, lying upon thy throne, and all creation shall see thee. I will make thy soul to return to thy body, and thou shalt rise up and array thyself in apparel of glory, like unto that of one who hath stood up in the marriage chamber. | Ye shall judge the world, according to what I have ordained for you, and ye shall sit upon thrones and shall judge the Twelve Tribes of Israel. And I said with [My] mouth unto Paul, "We shall judge the angels before we come to the beings of the earth." For on that day [when] everything shall stand in fear and trembling I shall say, "Let them be separated from each other, even as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, the righteous on the right hand, and the sinners on the left," and not one shall make a sound (literally "give his voice") until he who is chief | in his day shall command him.

Fol. 27 b

33

Fol. 28 a

32

Fol. 28 b

36

'I shall look upon all My clay, and when I see that he is going to destruction I shall cry out to My Father, saying, "My Father, what profit is there in My Blood if he goeth to destruction?" And straightway the voice of My Father shall come unto Me from the seventh heaven, and none shall hear it except Myself, for I and My Father are One, saying, "Power belongeth unto Thee, O My Son, to do whatsoever Thou pleasest with Thy clay." And in that day I shall say, "I rejoice because Thou didst cleave My covering, and didst gird me about with joy, and My right hand shall bless Thee because I am without sorrow." | I shall say unto you in that day, "O My holy Apostles, and all My saints, whether ye be

Fol. 29 a

37

angels or archangels, or whether ye be prophets or righteous, and especially My Virgin Mother, and My chief Archangels Michael and Gabriel, I speak unto you, saying: No man who shall celebrate your commemoration upon earth, or shall give a loaf of bread in your name shall go to destruction." And straightway all the saints shall rush forward towards them, and each one shall seize upon those that belong to him. All

Fol. 29^b those who have shewn love | to you upon earth shall be
 32 brought back to the others who are on the right hand. Then shall the others cry out with loud wailings, and tears, and with suffering and sorrow of the heart, saying, "O Lord the Merciful One, the Son of the Merciful One, shew mercy upon us." Thereupon straightway shall the Son of God shed tears over them, and He shall say unto them, "My word remaineth with My Father." *

'And straightway My Father shall shut the door of heaven, and go His way. And I shall say to them straightway, "My Father doth not desire to shew mercy upon you." And they

Fol. 30^a shall cry out | the more, saying, "Have mercy upon us, for
 33 the Devil would not permit us to repent. If we had known that these things were to be we should have repented even unto the shedding of blood." And forthwith I shall utter curses upon Satan that day, and I will make them to seize him, and to fetter him in the bonds which cannot be broken, and I will curse that lying prophet who hath led astray all the nations, and Antichrist, the son of perdition, and they shall cast them into the Lake of Fire which burneth with fire and sulphur, together with all those who have been their followers in the world, and they shall never enjoy repose,

Fol. 30^b day or night. | Their worm shall not die, and their fire shall
 34 not be quenched.

'Now therefore, O My holy Apostles, behold I have shewn you everything which ye asked Me to explain, and how Adam transgressed until death came jnto the world, and how Abbaton, the Angel [of Death], became king over all

created things. And now ye shall proclaim the day of his commemoration, so that the sons of men may be afraid and repent. Speak ye unto all mankind, saying, "Whosoever doeth that which is good shall rise in the resurrection life. Whosoever shall do that | which is evil shall rise in ^{Fol. 31 a} the resurrection to judgement." Then the Apostles worshipped the Saviour, saying, "Our Lord and our God! Thou hast filled us with blessings, and Thou hast never disappointed us in any way, in [answering] the questions which we have asked of Thee." And the Saviour kissed them, and the angels bore Him up into heaven whilst they followed Him with their gaze. And the Apostles worshipped Him, and each one of them departed to preach what the Lord had commanded them. 27

Now behold, we have declared these things unto you, O my beloved, according to what we found in [the books of] the Library of Jerusalem, which our holy Fathers | the Apostles ^{Fol. 31 b} brought and placed therein, for the benefit of the believers and for the salvation of the men who are unbelievers. Now therefore, my beloved, let us be zealous in bestowing charities and making offerings on the day of the commemoration of Abbatôn, the Angel of Death, each according to his power. Remember what is written in the Gospel wherein our Saviour ascribed more blessing to the poor woman who cast two mites into the treasury than to all the other folk who had cast in [their offerings], and how He said, 'All these have cast in gifts from their superabundance, but she hath given out of her absolute poverty.'¹ | May God Who hath deemed us ^{Fol. 32 a} worthy to gather together in this place this day to commemorate Abbatôn, the Angel of Death, whom God hath made to be king over us, hold us to be worthy to gather together in His kingdom, which is in the heavens. O my beloved, we all have need of the Spirit of our God, even as the wise man saith, 'As I wish to live, I wish to make everyone else live 28

¹ Mark xii. 42; Luke xxi. 3.