

THE SIXTEENTH FLOWER: ACTIONS FOR YOUR GLORY

What is so beautiful in your Church, O Lord, is that the freedom that you granted us is honored and is used for the wellness and the goodness of its members. Although decrees¹ are declared and are handed down² to the many members of your Church, “*EKONOMEIA*” is used in special cases.³

These special decisions will not replace the decrees and will not set a precedent, but rather, they are wise personal decisions taken for the sake of the assembly. The members of your entire Church are the priority, so the decrees and the special decisions were taken to protect the faith that is revealed to us from illusions and different concepts.

Yes, my Lord, this is a big responsibility that is bestowed on your chosen ones who accepted to become your chosen vessels. We must stay attentive to your Spirit for guidance, obey your wisdom and follow the light of illumination so that we may make the right decisions and avoid falling into error. Yes, we make decisions but we should count on your Spirit to guide us as we carry out your work.⁴ Our endeavor is to reflect through prayers, your light unto others and to convert the land that you chose by planting the seed of faith in their thirsty souls.⁵

Your work was recognized by the multitude and was acclaimed by many. It changed the hearts of some and led them to baptism⁶ while others used your work for their benefit.⁷ The wrong usage of your work required us to take strict actions. It is our duty to discern good from bad, distinguishing between them and restricting evil work⁸ without hesitation, regardless of the consequences of our actions.⁹ For these actions, O Lord, are taken in your name and for your glory.

¹ Acts 15: 22.

² Acts 15: 30 & 16: 4.

³ Acts 16: 3.

⁴ Acts 16: 7 & 9.

⁵ Acts 16: 11.

⁶ Acts 16: 15.

⁷ Acts 16: 16 & 19.

⁸ Acts 16: 18.

⁹ Acts 16: 19-24.

Our trust in your wisdom is unshakeable. We endure tribulation for your sake and continue our mission even though in prison.¹⁰ Our mission is to proclaim you ceaselessly everywhere and in every situation. Our mission is to spread your word at every opportunity to every person we encounter while letting your actions work through them. We must witness your revelations and reflect them to others.

The consequences of our efforts on our lives are worthless. Our preoccupations and successes should never prevent us from praying to you and praising your name. We believe that we are vehicles of your work that is for the benefit of all humanity. For this reason, we carry out your ministry tirelessly, standing firmly with conviction, waiting for your salvation even in the midst of tribulation and mistreatment.¹¹

Even if we have the chance to escape¹² from unjust mistreatment, we do not take this opportunity because we need to care for the salvation of all,¹³ not only for our physical bodies. We are not cowards nor ashamed of our ministry. We believe in the True Life that our ministry reveals.

We are accountable for every action and reaction because we must proclaim you in our every breath. Our actions are more powerful than our words. They reflect our faith and our commitment and they reveal you. They mirror your love and your care for the salvation of the whole world. They show specifically who we are, empower us. They are proofs of Who our God is, and of Whom we speak in His name.

This ministry that you are allowing me to do in your name, O Lord, is the opportunity for the creation to see and rejoice of the marvelous deeds that are manifested. It is allowing the creation to repent and ask for the way of their salvation. It is directing them to minister joyfully to their healers and protect them.¹⁴

How many times do I neglect others and forget that they are your creatures, the work of your hands? How many times do I forget that you came to save the whole nation and not only me? How many times do I look to save my body, not caring enough for my soul and the souls of the others? How many times do I look to others through my eyes and not through yours? How many times do I not foresee the consequences of my behavior,

¹⁰ Acts 16: 25.

¹¹ Acts 16: 22.

¹² Acts 16: 27.

¹³ Acts 16: 30.

¹⁴ Acts 16: 31-34.

actions, and reactions on others? Despite all of this, your Church is always there for me to remind me of your teaching and commandment of love. Your Church is there to protect me from erring and to align me in the true path.