THE SUFFERING1 OF PERPETUA AND FELICITAS

PREFACE
If there are ancient2 examples of faith, which are even testifying to God’s grace and are producing the edification of a human, and, on-that-account, are having been collected in letters so that the reading of them may be representations of past affairs, and so that God might be being honored and a human might be greatly-strengthened, why might new documents not also be collected, which will be equally convenient for both purposes? 2 Because, accordingly, these new illustrations will sometime in the future also be ancient and necessary for posterior generations—even if in the their present time (due to the veneration of antiquity having been taken-up) their authority is more-minor.

3 Instead, may they see to this—those who might be judging the one power of the one spirit according to the lifetimes of times—when the more-recent things (whichever ones are later than the last) will be reputed greater, in-accordance-with the exuberance of grace which has been decreed into the utmost periods3 of the age.

For:

In the last days, says the Lord,
I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
and their sons and daughters will prophesy,
and young-men will see visions,
and old-men will dream dreams.

( Joel 2:28–29 )

5 And, accordingly, we ( exactly-as we are recognizing and honoring prophecies, in-this-same-manner, are also recognizing new visions as equally promised-in-return to us ), are recognizing the rest of the powers of the holy spirit to be necessary for the instrumentation of the assembly (to which the same spirit was also sent, administering all gifts in all persons as the Lord proportionately distributed to each person), and we are celebrating these, and we are celebrating them by recital to the glory of God, so that no one who is either full of imbecility or despairing of faith might be estimating that the divine grace has conversed only with the ancients (whether in the dignity of testifiers, or whether in that of revelations), 4 especially when God might always be working the things which he has promised-in-return: in a testimony to those who are not believing, in a benefit to those who are believing.

9 And, accordingly, brothers and little-sons, what we have heard and have come-in-contact-with, we are also announcing to you5, so that you6 also, who attended in person, might be remembering the glory of the Lord; and so that you7, who are now recognizing him through hearing, might be having a communion with the holy testifiers, and, through them, with our Lord Jesus the Anointed-One, to whom be splendor and honor into the ages of the ages. Let it be.

CHAPTER I

1:1 A number of adolescent oral-students were having been apprehended: Revocatus and his fellow-slave Felicitas, Saturninus and Secundulus. 2 And here between them was also Vibia Perpetua: an honorable daughter, having been liberally instituted, having been matronly married, having a father and a mother and two brothers (the one of which was an oral-student like herself). And she was having an infant son at the breast. But she herself was about twenty two years old.

3 Now from here on, the entire account7 of her testimony here she herself has narrated (having been conscripted by her own-hand) and she has left-behind her-own sentiments. 4:1a She remarks:

At the time when we would have still1 being with the prosecutors,2 and my father, out of affection for me, was persevering to be overturning me by his words and to be throwing me down from the faith, I said, “Father, do you see this vase, for instance, lying here, or waterpot or whatever it may be?”

And he said, “I see it.”

And I said to him, “It is it able to be being called by another name than what it is?”

And he declared, "No.”

“Therefore, in-this-same-way, I also am not able to be being said to be anything other than what I am, a Christian.”

6:3 Then father, having been moved by this word, threw10 himself at me as though11 he would be plucking my eyes out. Instead, he only vexed me. And he had withdrawn12 from me, having been vanished along with his arguments of the Slanderer.

7:4 Then for a few days, I gave13 thanks to the Lord that I had become-free-from my father, and I was refreshed by his absence. 8:5 In the space of these few days, I was15 immersed; and the spirit dictated to me, that from the time of the water, I was to seek for nothing else except for bodily endurance.16

9 A few days after this, we were17 being retaken into the prison; and I was terror-stricken-out of my mind, because I had18 never before experienced such darkness. 10 O hopeless day! Because19 of the crowds, the heat was harsh! And there was the rough-handling of the soldiers! Last of all, I was being distressed20 there with worry21 for my infant.

10:7 Then Tertius and Pompianus (ministers having been blast) who were ministering to us, offered22 a bribe to the soldiers, so that, after we were sent-out into a better place of the prison, we might be refreshing ourselves for a few hours.

12:9 Then my brother said to me, "Lady23 sister, you are already in a position of great dignity—so much, that you may be requesting for a vision, and it may be being shown to you whether you are to undergo a suffering or whether to be given a free passage home.”

12:2 And I (who was knowing that I was able to be talking with the Lord (whom-so-many benefits I had11 experienced)) confidently promised him in return, saying, "Tomorrow22 I will announce-an-answer to you.”

15 And I made-a-request, and this was15 shown to me:

(3) I saw a bronze ladder of miraculous height, reaching up to the heaven. And it was narrow, through which only a single person would be being able to be ascending at a time. And in the sides of the ladder, every kind of sharp-iron-implements were affixed. There were swords, lances, hooks, sabers, and javelins; so that if someone would have been ascending negligently or not stretching from above he would be being mangled and his flesh would be being inhered to the sharp-iron-implements.

16:4 And below the ladder itself, there was a dragon of miraculous magnitude, which was lying-down, which was lying in ambush for those who are ascending, and terrifying them away, so that they might not be ascending.

17:5 However Saturus ascended first (who afterward, had, of his own accord, delivered himself up for our sakes (who himself had edified us), and at-the-time when we were being led-to the court, had not been present).

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1 [Title] Lat / Gk “Testimony”
2 literally “veteran”
3 literally “causer”
4 literally “declared in the most-ultimate spaces”
5 literally “the total order”
6 literally “relinquished”
7 literally “hereof’sore”
8 [3:1] Lat (some have “persecutors” for “prosecutors”) / Gk “While we were still being closely-observed”
9 literally “here, waterpot if something-else?”
10 literally “sends”
11 literally “himself in me so that”
12 literally “And he is having been set-forward”
13 literally “tended”
14 literally “all”
15 literally “I was having been”
16 literally “endorsement of body”
17 literally “act”
18 literally “I was having”
19 literally “By benefit”
20 literally “macerated”
21 literally “solicitude”
22 literally “constituted”
23 literally “themselves being-vacant”
24 literally “solicited”
25 literally “condemning”
26 literally “on my benefit”
27 literally “solicitudes”
28 literally “worry I am having suffered”
29 literally “solicitude”
30 literally “lady”
31 literally “I was having”
32 literally “tomorrow’s day”
33 literally “this is having been”
34 literally “when we are having been led-to”
18.6 And he came to the top of the ladder. And he himself turned around, and he said to me, “Perpetua, I am holding-up for you. Instead, be seeing that that dragon might not be biting you.”

19.1 And I said, “He will not harm me, in the name of Jesus the Anointed-One.”

20.7 And the dragon, slowly, as-if-fearing me, ejected its head from underneath the ladder itself. And as-if it was the first step I would be treading, I trod on his head and I ascended.

21.8 And I saw an immense space of an orchard. And in the middle of it, a gray-haired human was sitting, dressed in shepherd’s garb. He was grand, and was milking sheep. And standing around him were many thousands clothed-in-white.

22.9 And he rose his head, and he looked-at me, and he said to me, “It is good you have the charges of my child.” And he called to me to name, and he gave to me, as it were, a small-mouthful of the cheese which he had milked. And I accepted it with my cupped hands and I ate it. And the whole group of those who were standing-around, said, “Let it be!”

23.10 And I was awakened to the sound of their voice, still completely-eating some unknown sweet thing. And straightforward, I brought-back a response to my brother. And we gained-intelligence that we were going to suffer. And we already began to have no hope in this age.

CHAPTER 2

1.5.1 A few days later, a rumor ran about, that we would be being heard in court. And my father arrived from the civil-community, having been consumed with tediousness. And he ascended to me, so that he might be throwing me down from the step, saying: 2 “My daughter, be having-mercy on my gray-haired. Be having-mercy-on your father—if I am worthy to be being called ‘father’ from you; if, with these hands, I have carried you forward to this flower of age; if I set you before all your brothers: May you not give me over to the scorn of humans. Be looking at your brothers. Be looking-at your mother and your mother’s-sister. Be looking-at your son, who will not be able to be living after you have died. Be laying-aside your soul. You will exterminate the whole of us. For not-one of us will be able to utter freely again if you would be made-to-suffer anything.”

5 My father was saying this, as-if for his piety, kissing my hands and tossing with his hands, I have carried you forward to this flower of age; if I set you before all your brothers: May you not give me over to the scorn of humans. Be looking at your brothers. Be looking-at your mother and your mother’s-sister. Be looking-at your son, who will not be able to be living after you have died. Be laying-aside your soul. You will exterminate the whole of us. For not-one of us will be able to utter freely again if you would be made-to-suffer anything.”

7 And I was comforting him, saying, “This will happen on that scaffold, in-the-way God would want. For you will know, that we have not been constituted in our own power, but instead in God’s.”

And he receded from me, having been grieved.

8.6.1 On another day, when we would have been eating-breakfast,10 we were suddenly seized, so that we might be being heard in court. And we came to the forum. Straightaway a rumor ran throughout the parts in-the-vicinity of the forum, and many immense people had formed11 the scaffold. After the rest of them were interrogated, they had confessed the faith.12

10 It also came13 to me. And my father suddenly appeared with my son. And he dragged me forth from the step, saying, “Be supplanting the gods. Be having-mercy-on your infant.”

11.5 And Hilarianus the procurator (who had then accepted the right of the sword after the proconsul Minucius Timinianus died) remarked, “Be sparing your father’s gray-hairs. Be sparing your infant boy. Be making the sacred-offering for the health of the emperors.”

12.4 And I responded, “I am not making it.”


13.5 And when father would have been standing trying to throw me down from the faith, he was directed from Hilarianus to be thrown-forward, and he was beaten with a stick. And I felt-pain for my father’s fall, as-if I would have been having been beaten myself. In-this-manner, I felt-pain for his miserable old-age.16

14.6 Then Hilarianus pronounced a sentence on the whole of us, and he was condemning us to the beasts. And we descended to the prison in cheers.17 Then, because my infant had become-acustomed to be accepting my breasts from me and to be remaining with me in the prison, I straightaway sent the minister Pompionius to my father, requesting for my infant. Instead, father did not wish to be giving him to me. And in-whatever-way God wanted, that infant did not-even desire my breasts any-longer, nor-even did my breasts make any inflammation.18 I was not being distressed by worry for my infant and by pain in the breasts.20

17.5 A few days later, while the whole of us were praying, suddenly, in the middle of the prayer, a voice made-its-way to me,21 and it named Dinocrates. And I became-stupefied, because that name would never have had come to me in my mind until then. And I felt-pain, after I was made-to-commemorate his fall.18 And straightaway, I recognized that I was worthy, and that I was to be being obligated to be begging for him. And I began to be making much prayer for him, and to be groaning to the Lord.

19.5 Immediately, on that very night, this was shown to me: 20.4 I saw Dinocrates going-out from a dark place, and where there were also several places. He was strongly heating and thirsting. He had filthy ornamentation and pale color. And the wound, which he had when he would have been made-dead, was still in his face.21 This Dinocrates had been my fleshly brother, who, at the age of seven years, went-to his end, while having shed a response that he might be throwing me down in immense space of a cavernous face, in order that his death became odious to all humans. Therefore, for this person, I had made my prayer.

22.6 And between me and him was a grand interval, in order that it would not have been being possible for either of us to be going-to the other.23 Next, in that place where Dinocrates was, there was a pool filled with water, having a rim which was higher than the stature of the boy. And Dinocrates was extending himself as-if he would drink from it.24

28.8.1 The day on which we remained in the stocks,25 this was shown to me: 29 I saw that same place, which I had formerly seen. And Dinocrates, with a clean body, having been well vested, was being refreshed. And where the wound was, I saw a scar.20 And that pool which I had formerly seen, its rim was having been lowered up to the boy’s navel. And he was drawing water from it without cessation. And above its rim was a golden saucer filled with water. And Dinocrates went to it and he began to be drinking from it. This saucer was not failing. And after he was satisfied, he went from the water to be playing, rejoicing in the manner of infants.

— literally “I am having been”
— literally “recognized for my brother to be laboring”
— literally “I am having been”
— literally “I am having been”
— literally “lady”

17 literally “it is having been”
18 literally “senility”
19 There is a wordplay here in Latin word for “cheer”, which is “hilarus”
20 literally “send”
21 literally “favor”
22 literally “macerated”
23 literally “solicitude”
24 literally “pain of breasts”
25 literally “voice is having made-to”
26 literally “recognized for me to be worthy for to be being obligated”
27 literally “this is having been”
28 literally “world”
29 literally “margin”
30 literally “will”
31 literally “margin”
32 literally “I am having been”
33 literally “recognized for my brother to be laboring”
34 [2:23] Lat / Gk “into the other prison, the one of the council”
35 [2:26] Lat / Gk “at the camp, because the birthday of Caesar was going to be celebrated”
36 literally “nerves”
37 literally “this is having been”
38 literally “margin”
39 literally “margin”
40 literally “which”
CHAPTER 3

10:2] Next, a few days later, a military adjutant named Pudéns (who was having been put-in-charge of the prison) began to be magnifying us, gaining-intelligence that there is some great virtue within us. He was admitting many people to visit us, so that even we and those individuals were being able to refresh one-other-in-turn.

2 However, as the day of the game neared, my father, consumed with tediousness, entered to visit me. And he began to be plucking the hairs out of his beard and to be throwing them on the ground, and to be prostrating himself on his face, and to be reproaching his years, and to be saying such words as would be moving the whole creation. I was feeling-pain for his unhappy old-age. 4

4:11] On the-day-before the one which we would be fighting with the beasts, I saw this in a supernatural-vision:

The minister Pomponius began to come to the door of the prison, and to be knocking vehemently. 5] And I went-out to him, and I opened up for him. He was having been vested in a beltless white tunic, and was having multilaced sandals. 6] And he said to me, “Perpetua, we are expecting you. Come.”

And he grasped my hand, and we began to be going through rough and winding places. 7] Scarcely, at last, panting-for-breath, we came to the amphitheater. And he led me into the middle of the arena. And he said to me, “Do not be wishing to be shuddering in fear. I am here with you, and I am laboring-together with you.”

And he went-away.

8] And I looked at an unnatural crowd of people who thundered. And, because I was knowing that I had been condemned to the beasts, I was being made-to-marvel that beasts were not being sent to me. 9] And a certain Egyptian, loathsome in his looks, who will fight with me, came out against me, along with his aids. 10] Some decent adolescences also came to me, to be my aids and favorers.

11] And I was exposed, and I was made masculine. And my favorers began to be rubbing me down with oil in-whatever-way is customary in a contest. 12] And I saw the Egyptian on that other side rolling in some fine-dust. 13] And there came-out, a certain man of miraculous magnitude, so that he was exceeding further than the top of the amphitheater. 14] He was wearing-beltless-clothes, having a purple-garment with two stripes running down through the middle of the breast, and multi-formed sandals having been made out of gold and silver. 15] And he was bearing a stick as if he were a gladiator-trainer, and a green branch on which were golden apples.

16] And he begged for silence, and he said, “This Egyptian, if he might be-victorious-over this woman, will cut that woman down with a sword. And if this woman might be-victorious-over this Egyptian, she will accept this branch.” And he receded.

17] And we went to one-another, and we began to send our fists at one-another. That man was wanting to be apprehending my feet, however, I was striking him in the face with my heels. 18] And I was taken-up into the air, and I began to be to be striking him in this-manner as-if I were not treading earth.

19] But as-soon-as I saw that some delay was being made, 20] I joined my hands together, so that I entwined the fingers of one hand with the fingers of the other; 21] and I apprehended that man’s head. And he fell on his face and I trod on that man’s head.

20:12] And the people began to be clamoring, and my aids psalmed. And I went to the gladiator-trainer, and I accepted the branch. 21] And he kissed me and he said to me, “Peace be with you, my daughter!”

And I began to be going with glory to the Sanavivarian Gate (which means, Gate of Health-and-Life). 22] And I was awakened. And I gained-intelligence that my fight was not to be against beasts, but instead against the Slanderer. Instead, I was knowing that victory was to be mine. 23] This is what I did up into the day-before the game. However, about the acts of the game itself, if there is someone who might want to, may he be writing them.

CHAPTER 4

11:1] Instead, even Saturus, who has been blest, gave-out this here-vision of his, which he himself conscripted. He says:

2] We were having suffered, and we went-out of the flesh, and we began to be being borne into the east by four heavenly-messengers, whose hands were not touching us. 3] However, we were not going lying-on-our-backs, looking upward, but instead as-if we were ascending a gentle slope. 4] And after we were first liberated from the world below, we saw an immense light.

And I said to Perpetua (for she was here at my side), “This is what the Lord was promising to us. We have entirely-received the promise.”

5] And while we were being carried by the four heavenly-messengers themselves, a grand open space was being made to us, which was like a park, having rose trees and every kind of flower.

6] The height of the trees was similar in measure to the cypress, whose leaves were falling without cessation. 7] However, there in the park were four other heavenly-messengers, brighter than the rest of them. As-soon-as they saw us, they gave honor to us; and they said to the rest of the heavenly-messengers with admiration, “Behold, they are here! Behold, they are here!”

8] And those four heavenly-messengers who were carrying us, who were shuddering-out-of their minds, set us down. And by-means-of our feet, we went-across to a stadium strewn-with-violets.

9] There we came-upon Jocundus and Saturninus and Artaxius, who all were blazed alive in the same persecution. And we also found Quintus, who himself also being a testifier, had gone-out of the body in the prison. And we were seeking from those men, where the others might be.

10] And the rest of the heavenly-messengers said to us, “Be coming first, be entering, and be greeting the Lord.”

11:12] And we came near to a place, a place of whose limits were having been built in such-a-way as if they were made of light. 12] And four heavenly-messengers were standing before the door of that place, who vested those who were going-in with white gowns. 13] And we went-in, and we heard the united voice saying without cessation, “Hail Holy! Holy!”

14] And we saw, sitting in the same place, someone like a gray-haired human, having snowy hair-on-his-head, and with a young countenance, of whose feet we did not see. 15] And on his right and on his left were four elders; 16] and behind them were standing several of the rest of the elders.

16] And while we were entering, we stood with admiration before the throne. And the four heavenly-messengers lifted us up from-below. And we kissed that man, and he strode our face with his hand.

17] And the rest of the elders said to us, “May we be standing.” And we stood, and we made peace. And the elders said to us, “Be going and be playing.”

18] And I said to Perpetua, “You have what you want.”

1] literally “not being-deficient”
2] literally “I am having”
3] literally “intelligence for him to be having been”
4] Literally “a certain soldier”
5] Literally “who”
6] literally “be sending them in the earth”
7] literally “in”
8] literally “on”
9] literally “amphitheater”
10] literally “who”
11] Literally “certain Egyptian”
12] Literally “in a shining garment and girdled about, and he had many-colored sandals”
13] literally “I am having been”
14] literally “I am having been”
15] It was the custom for fine-dust to be sprinkled on the body during athletic contests.
16] literally “in”
17] literally “on”
18] literally “having been”
19] literally “cutting”
20] literally “saw delay for to being made”
21] literally “that fingers would be sending in fingers”
22] literally “in”

21 [10:13] Lat / Gk “to a gate, the one being said to be ‘Life-giving’”
22 Literally “I am having been”
23 Literally “to/xward”
24 Literally, “having been turned”
25 Literally “in”
26 Literally “as-if”
27 Literally “cleaner”
28 Literally “who”
29 Literally “with”
30 Literally “stadium by a broad way” / Gk “stadium, taking a way”
31 Literally “as-if”
32 Literally “young/ile”
33 Literally “in” (also later in verse)
34 Literally “seniors” (also later in verse)
35 Literally “we are having kissed”
36 Literally “to us in our face from his hand”
37 Literally “seniors” (also later in verse)
And she said to me, "Thanks to God, that in-whatever-way I was cheerful in the flesh, I might now be being even more-cheerful here."

19(13) And we went-out. And before the doors, we saw the overseer Optatus to the right, and the elder and teacher Aspasius to the left, both having been separated and grieved. 20(2) And they cast themselves at our feet, and they said, "Be putting-together an agreement between us, because you* went-forth and you* left us in this state."

21(3) And we said to those men, "Are you not our papa? And you our elder? So how is it that you* would be casting yourselves at* our feet?"

And we were moved, and we embraced those men. 22(4) And Perpetua began to be uttering to those men in Greek. And we segregated them into a park under a rose tree.

23(5) And while we were uttering with them, the heavenly-messengers said to those men, "Be letting those individuals be, so that they might be refreshing themselves. 24 And if you* have any dissensions between you*, be forgiving to yourselves, one-to-another." 25(6) And they totally-disturbed them. And they said to Optatus, "Be correcting your commonality, because they are convening to you as-if they are going-back from a circus and contending about its factions."

26(7) And in-this-manner, it seemed to us-if they might be wanting to be closing the gates. 27(8) And in that-place, we began to be recognizing many brothers, but instead even testifiers. The whole of us were being fed by an indescribable odor, which was satisfying us.6

Then I was awakened, rejoicing.

CHAPTER 5

1(14.1) These were the remarkable visions of the most-blessed testifiers themselves, Saturus and Perpetua, which they themselves conscripted. 2 Truly, God called Secundulus to exit from this age earlier8 than the others while he was in the prison (not without grace), that he might not have to be gaining the beasts. 3 Nevertheless, his flesh, even-if his soul did not, certainly came to know the truth. 4(15.1) Truly about Felicitas: The grace of the Lord happened to her in-this-way:

5(2) When she would have been already having a belly for eight months (for she had been11 pregnant when she was apprehended), while the day of the spectacle was drawing-near,12 she was in great mourning that her death was to be being held on a different day13 due to the size of her belly (because it is not allowed for those who are being-pregnant to be being displayed14 with punishment), and that she might be pouring her sacred and innocent blood afterward with others who were defiled. 7(3) Instead also, her fellow-testifiers were gravely saddened, that they would have to be leaving-behind15 such a good associate as-if she might be being-in-a-company alone on16 the same way to17 hope.

8(4) So before the third day of the game, they, after they joined-together in a united groan, made a prayer to the Lord. 9(5) Straightaway afterward on their prayer month delivery she would have been feeling-pain while she was laboring, a certain one of the ministers of the prison-guards declared to that woman, 10 "You who are feeling-pain in-this-manner now, what will you do after you are thrown-toward the beasts? Beasts which you despised when you* did not want to be sacrificing."

11(6) And that woman responded, "What I am suffering now, I am suffering. However, at-that-place another will be inside me who will suffer for me, because I am also to be suffering for that man."

12(7) So she forced-out a girl, whom a certain sister educated as her own daughter.

13(8.1) Therefore, since the holy spirit has permitted (and, by permitting wanted) for the proceeding9 of the game itself to be being conscripted (even-if we are unworthy to supplement such a glorious description, nevertheless), we (as-if it were a mandate of the most-holy Perpetua) are being caused-to-follow-out her steadfast-attendance, while we are adding one documentation of her-own constancy and sublimity of soul.

14(9) When the tribune would have been chastising them with-more-chastising than usual (because, from the admonitions of vain humans, he was revering the thought that they would be being dragged-away10 from the prison by some magical incantations), Perpetua responded in his face. 15(10) "Why are you not, by-all-means, permitting us to be refreshing ourselves—yes, the most-noble noxious individuals of Caesar, you-may-know, and who will fight on the birthday of that same man? Or is it not to your glory if we are being led-forward in a healthier-condition?"21

16(11) The tribune became-horrified and he blushed.22 And so he directed for those individuals to be having more-humane treatment, so that he might make means for her brothers and the rest of them to go-inside, and that the prisoners might be refreshed with them in their presence. 17 And already, the adjutant of the prison, was himself believing.

18(12.1) Also,23 on the day before the exhibition, when they were at that last24 dinner (which they are calling, "the free dinner") they would have been dining (as-much-as it was in their-own power) not a free dinner, but instead, a love feast. 19 And they were tossing words at the people with the same steadfastness,25 threatening them with God’s judgment, while contesting to the felicity of their-own suffering, and laughing-at the curiosity of those who were running-together to see them, and while Saturnus was saying, 20(b) "Is not tomorrow satisfactory to you*? Why are you* gladly seeing what you* hated? Friends today, enemies tomorrow. 21 Nevertheless, diligently be noting our faces to yourselves, that you* might be recognizing us in that day."

22(13) So all of them were departing26 from-that-place having been rattled,27 many of whom believed.

CHAPTER 6

1(14.1) The day of their victory dawned, and they proceeded from the prison into the amphitheater, cheerful, as-if in the heaven, with a decent countenance. If, by chance, they were shuddering, it was with joy, not by fear. 2 Perpetua was made-to-follow along, with a lucid countenance and a placid gait as a matron of the Anointed-One, as a delightful one of God, as a wife of the Anointed-One, throwing-down everyone’s stare28 by the vigor of her eyes. 3 Felicitas was doing likewise, rejoicing that she had delivered safely,29 so that she might be fighting against the beasts, going from blood to blood, from a midwife to a net-fighter, to have a washing after her delivery in a second immersion.

4 And when they were led into the gate and were31 driven-together, they dressed them in clothing: indeed the men, in that of the Saturnians, yet truly, the females in that of those who have been made-sacred to Ceres. But that generous Perpetua fought-back by her steadfastness32 up-to the end. 5 For she was saying, "For this-reason, we came to this on-our-own-accord, that our freedom might not be visited.33 For that-reason, we yielded to our soul, that we might not be doing anything such-as-this. This is our pact with you*."

6 Even injustice came-to-know justice. The tribune conceded. They would be being led-in simply, in-whatever-way they were currently34 driven. 7 Perpetua was psalming, she already treading the head of the Egyptian. Revocatus, and Saturninus, and Saturus were threatening the spectating people. 8 From here-on, as they came-to-a spot under the stare35 of Hilariusus, they began to be saying things to Hilariusus by gesture and nod. "You have condemned us," they were saying, "however God will condemn you."

9 At this the people, having become-exasperated, requested for them to be being vexed with whips through a line36 of hunters. And they, by-all-means, gave-

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1 literally “they sent themselves to”
2 literally “be composing”
3 literally “relinquished us in this-manner”
4 literally “be sending yourselves to”
5 literally “we are having been moved, and we are having embraced”
6 literally “dismissing”
7 literally “it is having been seen”
8 [4.27] Lat / Gk “which did not satisfy us”
9 literally “I am having been”
10 literally “insign” (i.e. “marked by a sign”)
11 literally “more-mature”
12 literally “bad being”
13 literally “standing-in-place”
14 literally “that she was differentiated”
15 literally “represented”
16 literally “relinquishing”
17 literally “to”
18 may also be translated “of”
19 literally “order” (as in something in order)
20 literally “abandoned”
21 literally “led-forward fatter”
22 literally “reinscribed”
23 literally “Too”
24 literally “ultimate”
25 literally “constancy”
26 literally “going-apart”
27 literally “thundered”
28 literally “attentive-look”
29 literally “rejoicing for her safe to deliver”
30 literally “to toward”
31 literally “up-to in the end”
32 literally “obstructed”
33 literally “attentive-look”
34 literally “order”
thanks\(^1\) that they also would be made-to-follow some share in the Lord’s sufferings.
\(^{10}\(19.1\) Instead, the one who had said, “Be begging and you\(^*\) will receive,” (Matthew 7:8/Luke11:10) had given to those who were begging the exit which each of them\(^{1}\) had desired.

\(^{11}\(2.2\) For if at any time they were holding-a-discourse between themselves of their wish about their testimony of the faith, indeed, Saturninus was professing, that he was wanting to be being thrown-toward all the beasts, so that, you-may-know, he might be carrying a more-glorious crown. \(^{12}\(4.6\) So at the outset of the spectacle, after he himself and Revocatus experienced a leopard, furthermore, while they were above the pulpit, they were\(^{1}\) vexed by a bear.

\(^{13}\(4.4\) However, Saturus was abhorring nothing greater than a bear. Instead, he was presuming to be being made-complete by one bite of a leopard. \(^{14}\(4.5\) So when he would have been being bestowed to a wild-boar, rather than the hunter, who would have been fastening\(^{9}\) that man to the wild-boar, was gored by the same beast. He went-to his death some days after the show was over. Saturus was\(^{4}\) merely dragged along. \(^{15}\(6.6\) And when he was\(^{1}\) strung on\(^{10}\) the bridge from below to await the bear, the bear did not want to be going-forth from its cave. So Saturus was recalled\(^{11}\) a second-time unhurt.

\(^{16}\(20.1\) For the girls, however, the Slanderer prepared the most-ferocious cow on-that-account (something more-than the normal practice\(^{1}\) which is readied), having emulated their female sex with that of the beast. \(^{17}\(2.2\) So having been utterly-striped naked and having been dressed-in only nets, they were led-forward. \(18\) The people became-horrified, regarding that the one was a delicate girl, the other a woman\(^{13}\) fresh from delivery, with her breasts still dripping. So they were recalled and they were dressed-in unbelted clothes.

\(^{19}\(3.3\) Perpetua was\(^{1}\) tossed first, and she altogether-fell on\(^{15}\) her loins. \(^{20}\(3.4\) And as-soon-as she sat up, she pulled-down\(^{16}\) her tunic, which was rent from the side, for a cover\(^{4}\) for her thighs—rather more mindful of seemliness than of pain. \(^{21}\(3.5\) From-here, she sought for a needle, and she thoroughly-stroke\(^{1}\) the unclasped hair-of-her-head. \(^{22}\) For it was not decent for a testifier to be suffering with the hair-of-her-head having been disheveled,\(^{15}\) lest she might be seen to be beating-her-breasts-in-lamentation in her hour of glory.

\(^{23}\(3.6\) So she arose. And when she would have seen Felicitas who was crushed,\(^{9}\) she went-to her; and she offered\(^{9}\) her hand, and she raised that woman to her feet. \(^{24}\(3.7\) And both of them stood side-by-side.\(^{21}\) And after the hardiness of the people was completely-vanquished, they were\(^{22}\) recalled into the Sanavarian Gate (which means, Gate of Health-and-Life).

\(^{25}\(3.8\) There Perpetua was welcomed by a certain Rusticus (who was then an oral-student) who was adhering to her. \(^{26}\(3.9\) And she, having been aroused as-if from a kind of sleep (so-far had she been in spirit and in ecstasy), began to be looking-around. \(^{27}\) And, with all of them becoming-stupefied, she declared,\(^{23}\) remarking:\(25\) “When are we being led-forward to that cow? I do not know how long we have to wait.”

\(^{28}\(4.9\) And when she would have heard that it\(^{1}\) had already come-forth, she did not at-first believe it until she recognized certain marks\(^{22}\) of vexation in her body and her clothing. \(^{29}\(4.10\) From-there, after she fetched her brother and those oral-students, she uttered\(^{20}\) to them, saying, “All of you, be standing in the faith, and, be loving all in-turn. And may you\(^*\) not be being made-to-stumble by-means-of our sufferings.”

\(^{30}\(21.1\) Likewise, in another gate, Saturus was exhorting the soldier Padenus, saying, “In conclusion,\(^{25}\) it is certainly exactly-as I presumed and predicted,” he remarked\(^{1}\). “Up to now,\(^{26}\) not-one beast has sensed me. \(^{31}\) And now, so that you

\(^{1}\) literally “,” are having been made-to-give-thanks
\(^{2}\) literally “who”
\(^{3}\) literally “pressing for him to be wanting”
\(^{4}\) literally “So in the commission”
\(^{5}\) literally “they are having been”
\(^{6}\) literally “under-binding”
\(^{7}\) literally “was dag-from-below”
\(^{8}\) literally “Saturus is having been”
\(^{9}\) literally “he is having been”
\(^{10}\) literally “in”
\(^{11}\) literally “Saturus is being recalled”
\(^{12}\) literally “soap”
\(^{13}\) literally “recent”
\(^{14}\) literally “is having been”
\(^{15}\) literally “in”
\(^{16}\) literally “led-back into place”
\(^{17}\) literally “of”
\(^{18}\) literally “scattered”
\(^{19}\) literally “bunt-out” (perhaps should be understood as “knocked-out”?)
\(^{20}\) literally “delivered”
\(^{21}\) literally “stood equally” (idiom has been translated)
\(^{22}\) literally “they are having been”
\(^{23}\) literally “scarcifies, she rakes”
\(^{24}\) literally “which”
\(^{25}\) literally “notes”
\(^{26}\) literally “she is having been made-to-utter”
\(^{27}\) literally “At the summit”
\(^{28}\) literally “summit”
\(^{29}\) more literally “reverting”
\(^{30}\) more literally “wash”
\(^{31}\) [2:15] some Lat./one Lat. “finger-ring”
\(^{32}\) literally “sustaining”
\(^{33}\) usually translated “wandering”
\(^{34}\) literally “much”