

ܕܕܥܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܡܢ ܡܪܝܬܐ

## A disputation between Death and Satan

ܡܕܢܕܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ  
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This poem was extracted from Sebastian P. Brock & George A. Kiraz book of *Select Poems of Ephrem the Syrian*. The original text was scripted in Syriac with English translation; this version is in Aramaic with slight modification to the interpretation of English translation

ܡܢܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ ܡܢ ܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ

the guilt<sup>1</sup> ones who have never conquered, nor shall they ever conquer

ܡܢܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ ܡܢ ܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ ܕܐܝܬܐ

Come let's listen as they contend by victory

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

for Death controls the final end – as conqueror.

ܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Death says to the Evil One, Victory will finally be mine,

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

to bring someone to death, while still alive, by means of the lusts.

ܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

This would be true, O death, should you be able

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

The just who rejected you, Evil One, did not reject me.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

I see amongst those who have died both the good and the bad.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

do not imagine, Death, that you are [really] death, for you are like a shade.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

The body's dead state is but a sleep, lasting for a time:

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Whereas those who have conquered you, I myself conquer.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

The upright have conquered you, Evil One, and they conquer you still,

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

for it is by reason of Adam whom I conquered that they have drunken the cup.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

In the case of the Upright whom you bring to death, it is no merit of yours,

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

and the Giants from the time of the Flood. Who can rival me? [Gen 6:2]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Look how Sheol is filled with the men of Sodom, the Assyrians, [Gen 19:24; 2Kgs 19:35]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

I am the one who caused them to sin, so that they should come to a bad end.

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

All these, O Death, had been slain by me:

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

he vanquished you in the inner room, but I vanquished him when I cast him into the tomb. [Gen 50:26]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

The Joseph<sup>2</sup> who overcame you, Satan, I overcame: [Gen 39:7-8]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

he conquered you in Egypt – but at the Rock, who was it who conquered him? [Num 20:12]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Look at Moses who conquered you, Death, with the sprinkling of the blood: [Exod 12:22-23]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

He fled from Jezebel's, out of his fear for me. [1 Kgs 19:2]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Take Elijah, who had no fear of you, Satan:

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

I gave him the earrings of gold and he forged the calf. [Exod 32:2-4]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

Take Aaron, who held you back, Death by means of the fragrant incense: [Num 16:46]

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

it was I who, after he had overcome you, then overcame him. [Job 1:22;

ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

You went down to the contest with Job, but he came up having vanquished

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

22 **בְּיָמָיו לֹא יָצָח שְׂעוֹל מִלְּפָנָיו מְלָכָה**  
 he could not eradicate Sheol, the citadel of my kingdom. [2Kgs 10:35]

فَكَذَّبَ بِحَدِيثِهِ وَتَضَمَّنَهُ كَذِبًا

۲۱. حَبِیصَہٗ لَیْلَہٗ وَنَہْدَہٗ دُوقَہٗ عَمَّیۡتَہٗ

حَدِّثْكَ مَقَاتَ حَدِّثْكَ حَدِّثْكَ حَدِّثْكَ

لَبِ بِمِ ۚ فَكُلْ مِنْهُمْ ۖ إِنَّهُم مُّصَنَّفُونَ

**دِه دځي د پلټنې د لاسوند هڅه**

يُذِخُكُمْ لِيَوْمٍ عَتَقَ فِيهِ بَنِي إِسْرَءِيلَ مِنْ يَدِ فِرْعَوْنَ وَهُوَ شَدِيدُ الْحِقَابِ

تُجَنَّبُ، وَفِيهِ مُتَجَنَّبٌ، وَحَبٌّ هُوَ حَفْظُهُ

he vanquished you with a woman - and it was with a woman that I vanquished him, making him deny (Christ). [Matt 26:69-72]

دُنْيَا اَوْ حَقِيقَتِ دُنْيَا مَعْنِيَّتُهُ دُنْيَا

saying, “Where is Death’s victory and the sting of Sheol?” [Hos 13:14; 1Cor 15:55]

مَنْ يَكْفُرْ ذَا ذَنْبٍ يَكْفُرْ بِحُوتِهِ

[illegible]

مَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا

Accursed is your mouth which said to Him, “Fall down and worship me”  
[Matt 4:9]

ذَهَبٌ دُحْكَلٌ صَفِيٌّ لَوْنُهُ مُدَوَّقٌ

مُسَوِّدَةٌ بِحَقِّهِ خَلَّدَ أَمْرُهُ حَتَّى

Take Jehu who eradicated the Temple of Baal, the shrine of the Evil One:  
[2Kgs 10:27]

عَلَيْهِمْ دُنُوبٌ مِنْهُمْ فَهِيَ حَلَّتْ حَبِيبَتُهُ

Take Solomon who snatched away from your mouth the child by his judgment: [1Kgs 3:27]

عمومك دجستك جمدى ه هكت

يُصَمِّمُ دُجَلَمَذَنْ دُزْدَنْ تَهَذَنْ مُهَذَنْ

Take Samson who, in the case of the lion's whelp, despised you, O Death:  
[Judg 14:15]

مَعْتَدٌ مِنْ خَلْقِهِ تَتَكَبَّرُ حَيْثُ

يَوْمَئِذٍ يُنْفَخُ الْخُطْبَةُ دُورَةُ الْحَيَاةِ

Hezekiah got the better of you, O death, when he overcame his allotted span of life, [Isa 38:5]

مَوْنَتُمْ دُونَ تَبْتِ وَتَنْصَبُ وَنُكْمِدْ

Take John, who vanquished you, O Evil One, by providing forgiveness and baptism: [Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3]

يُصَلِّمُ، وَفِي دُنُسَبِ اَعْلَمُ اَلْهَيْتَبَةِ

Simon defeated you when he revived the blessed woman: [Acts 9:40]

عَلَيْتِهِ وَتُتِي زُحَيْدٌ كَهْمٌ مُعَذِّ

Apostles and prophets alike have cursed you, O death.

لَقَدْ رَفَعْنَا فِي ذَٰلِكَ لَكَ آيَاتٍ لَّئِي لَّيْسَ لَكَ حُجَّةٌ بِنَا ۖ وَأَن تَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُنْكَارِ

تَنْتِيسَ اَسَہ دِمْہِیَہ جَہ مَحِیَہ خَہہ

It is the will of the Life-Giver of all that has confined Him in Sheol -

حَتَّىٰ تَقُومَ لَدُنْكَ رُجُوعُهُ ۚ لَكُمْ فِيهِ حَقٌّ مُّبِينٌ

O companion  
[1Sam 25:10]

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- حَبِطَ عَمٌّ : قَدْ قُتِلَ