Passio Perpetuae et Felicitatis 9-10: Unit 9

§9. Perpetua Receives Visitors, Including Her Father

Deinde post dies paucos Pudens miles optio, praepositus carceris, nos magnificare coepit, intellegens magnam virtutem esse in nobis; qui multos ad nos admittebat ut et nos et illi invicem refrigeraremus. Ut autem proximavit dies muneris, intrat ad me pater meus consumptus taedio, et coepit barbam suam evellere et in terram mittere, et prosternere se in faciem, et inproperare annis suis, et dicere tanta verba quae moverent universam creaturam. Ego dolebam pro infelici senectā eius.

Nota

miles optio - the military adjutant (i.e. the soldier in charge of the prison)

praepositus, -i m. - the prison warden, chief, director (from prae • *pono*)

magnifico (1) - to esteem, to value

admitto, -mittere, -misi, -missum - to admit, send to (ad • *mitto, mittere, misi, missum*)

nos et illi - "we and they," both are subjects of the purpose clause verb, *refrigeraremus*. (N.B. When there are two subjects of a verb, the verb may agree with either one.)

invicem - in turns, one after another

proximo (1) - draw near

ut...proximavit: Note that this *ut* is followed by a verb in the indicative mood.

taedium, -i n. - exhaustion, weariness

barba, -ae f. - beard

ēvellō, -vellere, -vulsī, -vulsum - to pluck out, tear out

prosternō, -sternere, -strāvī, -strātum - to throw to the ground

inproperō (1) - to curse, to reproach. (*inproperare annis suis*: "to reproach me with his old age.")

quae moverent: "which would move" (relative clause of characteristic, see **Unit X**)

creatura, -ae f. - creation, creature

infelix (gen. infelicis) - unlucky, unfortunate. [in (not) • *felix*]

senecta, -ae f. - old age

§10a. Perpetua's Final Vision

Pridie quam pugnaremus, video in horomate hoc: venisse Pomponium diaconum ad ostium carceris et pulsare vehementer. Et exivi ad eum et aperui ei; qui erat vestitus discinctā candidā, habens multiplices galliculas. Et dixit mihi: "Perpetua, te exspectamus; veni." Et tenuit mihi manum et coepimus ire per aspera loca et flexuosa. Vix tandem pervenimus anhelantes ad amphitheatrum et induxit me in mediam arenam et dixit mihi: "Noli pavere. Hic sum tecum et conlaboro tecum." Et abiit. Et aspicio populum ingentem attonitum; et quia sciebam me ad bestias damnatam esse, mirabar non mitti mihi bestias.

Nota

pridie quam: "on the day before"

pugnaremus: the subjunctive here indicates an expected outcome

horōma, horomatis n. - vision (Greek ὅραμα)

ostium, -i, n. - door

pulsō (1) - to knock

vestiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītum - to dress

discingō, -cingere, -cinxī, -cinctum - to loosen (supply *tunicā*)

multiplices galliculas: "multilaced sandals"

asperus, -a, -um - harsh, rough

flexuosus, -a, -um - winding

anhelō (1) - to pant, to breath heavily

amphiteatrum, -i n. - amphiteater

arena, -ae f. - arena

paveō, pavēre, pāvī - to be afraid, panic

conlaboro (1) - to labor together

attonitus, -a, -um - surprised, stuned

§10b. The Egyptian Gladiator

Et exivit quidam contra me Aegyptius foedus specie cum adiutoribus suis pugnaturus mecum. Veniunt et ad me adolescentes decori, adiutores et fautores mei. Et expoliata sum et facta sum masculus; et coeperunt me favisores mei oleo defricare, quomodo solent in agone. Et illum contra Aegyptium video in afā volutantem. Et exivit vir quidam mirae magnitudinis ut etiam excederet fastigium amphitheatri, discinctus, purpuram inter duos clavos per medium pectus habens, et galliculas multiformes ex auro et argento factas, et ferens virgam quasi

lanista, et ramum viridem in quo erant mala aurea. Et petiit silentium et dixit: “Hic Aegyptius, si hanc vicerit, occidet illam gladio; haec, si hunc vicerit, accipiet ramum istum.” Et recessit.

Nota

Aegyptius, -a, -um - Egyptian

specie: “in appearance” (ablative of respect)

adiūtor, -ōris m. - assistant

adolescens, -entis m./f. - young person, youth

decōrus, -a, -um - handsome, beautiful

fautor, -ōris m. - promoter

expoliō (1) - to strip

masculus, -a, -um - male, masculine (as a substantive: a man)

favīsor, -ōris m. - supporter

oleum, -ī n. - olive-oil

defricō (1) - to rub down, to massage

agōn, -ōnis m. - contest, competition (Greek ἀγών)

afa, -ae f. - dust

mirus, -a, -um - marvelous, astonishing

excēdō, -cedere, -cessī, -cessum - to exceed, surpass (ex • *cedo, -ere, cessi, cessum*)

fastigium, -ī n. - roof, height

discinctus, -a, -um - disarmed, conquered

purpuram inter duos clavos: “a toga with two purple stripes”

per medium pectus: “in the middle of (his) chest”

virga, -ae f. - rod, twig

lanista, -ae m. - gladiator trainer

rāmus, -ī m. - branch

viridis, -e - green

mālum, -ī n. - apple

silentium, -i n. - silence

§10c. Perpetua Fights the Egyptian

Et accessimus ad invicem et coepimus mittere pugnos. Ille mihi pedes apprehendere volebat; ego autem illi calcibus faciem caedebam. Et sublata sum in aerem et coepi eum sic caedere quasi terram non calcans. At ubi vidi moram fieri, iunxi manus ut digitos in digitos mitterem et

apprehendi illi caput; et cecidit in faciem et calcavi illi caput. Et coepit populus clamare et favisores mei psallere. Et accessi ad lanistam et accepi ramum. Et osculatus est me et dixit mihi: “Filia, pax tecum.” Et coepi ire cum gloriā ad portam Sanavivariam. Et experrecta sum. Et intellexi me non ad bestias, sed contra diabolum esse pugnaturam; sed sciebam mihi esse victoriam. Hoc usque in pridie muneris egi; ipsius autem muneris actum, si quis voluerit, scribat.

Nota

pugnus, -ī m. - a punch, a fist

caedō, caedere, caecidī, caesum - to beat, hit

calx, calcis f. - heel

digitus, -ī m. - finger

clamō (1) - applaud, shout

psallō, psallere, psalli - to sing hymns (Greek ψάλλω)

osculor (1) - to kiss

ad portam Sanavivarium: “to the Gate of Life”. Should you be defeated, but survive a gladiator game, you would exit through the *Porta Sanavivaria*. The victor would exit through the *Porta Triumphalis*.

diābolus, -ī m. - the devil

quis: = *aliquis* (remember that, after *si*, *nisi*, *num*, and *ne*, the “*ali-*” drops away)