

Bold lettering = the inscription of Alexander where it intersects with the text of the Avercius inscription as preserved in the vita; underlined lettering = the remains of the text of the Avercius inscription on the original stone; plain lettering = the text of the Avercius inscription according to the vita.

1 [**Εκ**]λεκτῆς πό[λ]εως ὁ πολεῖ[της τ]οῦτ' ἐποί[ησα]
[ζών, ε]ν' **ε**χω φανερ[ῆν] σώματος ενθα θεσιν,
ονομ<'> Ἀβέρκιος <ων ὁ> **μ**αθητῆς ποιμένος ἀγνοῦ,
ος βόσκει προβάτων ἀγέλας ὄρεσι<v> πεδίοις τε,
5 ὀφθαλμοὺς ὅς **ε**χει μεγάλους πάντη καθορόωντας.
Οὔτος γὰρ μ' ἐδίδαξε [- - -] γράμματα πιστά,
εἰς Ῥώμην ὅς επεμψεν ἐμὲν βασιλείαν ἀθρήσαι
καὶ βασιλίσσαν ἰδεῖν χρυσόσστολον χρυσοπέδιλον.
Λαὸν δ' εἶδον ἐκεῖ λαμπρὰν σφραγεῖδαν εχοντα,
10 καὶ Συρίας πέδον εἶδα καὶ ἀστεα πάντα, Νίσιβιν,
Εὐφράτην διαβάς· πάντη δ' εσχον συνο[μαιίμους],
Παύλον εχων ἐπ' οχω· Πίστις πάντη δὲ προήγε
καὶ παρέθηκε τροφὴν πάντη ἰχθὺν ἀπὸ πηγῆς
πανμεγέθη καθαρὸν, ὃν ἐδράξατο παρθένος ἀγνή,
15 καὶ τούτον ἐπέδωκε φίλ[η]σθ[αι] εἰς εἶν διὰ πάντος,
οἶνον χρηστὸν εχουσα, κέρασμα διδοῦσα μετ' ἀρτου.
Ταῦτα παρεστῶς εἶπον Ἀβέρκιος ὧδε γραφήναι,
ἑβδομηκοστὸν ετος καὶ δεῦτερον ἦγον ἀληθῶς.
Ταῦθ' ὁ νοῶν εὐξαι<θ'> ὑπὲρ <αὐτοῦ> πάς ὁ συνωδός.
20 **Οὐ μέντοι τὺμβῶ τις ἐμῷ ετερον τινα θήσει.**
Εἰ δ' οὖν, Ῥωμαίων ταμείῳ θήσει δισχειλία χρυσά
καὶ χρηστή πατρίδι Ἱεροπόλει χειλία χρυσά.

1 As a citizen of a favored city I have had this monument made
while alive in order that I might here have a prominent place for my
body.
My name is Avercius, a disciple of a holy shepherd,
who pastures flocks of sheep on mountains and on plains,
5 (and) who possesses huge eyes, which look down everywhere.
For he has taught me faithful writings [- - -],
he who has sent me to Rome to gaze upon a kingdom
and to see a golden-robed and golden-sandalled queen.
There I saw a people who had a radiant seal,
10 and I saw the soil of Syria and many cities, including Nisibis,
after I crossed over the Euphrates. Everywhere I had brethren

while I had Paul in my carriage. Faith led me everywhere
and everywhere served a fish from a spring as nourishment,
(a fish) which was enormous and pure, (and) which a holy maiden
grasped.

15 And she bestowed it among friends so that they could always
eat it,
as she had excellent wine and as she gave it in its mixed form with
bread.

While present I, Avercius, said that these (words) were to be written
here,

when I was in fact in my seventy-second year.

Let everyone, who understands these (words) and who is in unison
(with them), pray on his behalf.

20 Absolutely do not let anyone put another person in my tomb.
If anyone does this, he or she will pay two thousand gold coins to the
Roman treasury
and one thousand gold coins to my eminent city of origin, Hierapolis.