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was no outright refusal. But in another way, it seemed to me to incline to the same thing as a refusal. For how would someone buy off so great a matter for five hundred drachmas, and from a man so incorruptible, that one might sooner stay the courses of the rivers than bribe him, a man again so clever in affairs, and who would least of all be deceived? The promise seemed to be a refusal, for it lacked any possibility. I was troubled by these things.

And in this, the God called me again to Pergamum, and Rufinus 83 happened to be in town. It was his care to honor us as much as he was able. Meeting him, I recounted what had been done and I asked him to help. I said that even Severus himself had fully agreed that my immunity was legal. But the written verdict was not enough. For it would be possible for every other governor to command some different thing of me, with this same clause, and so the immunity would be undone through the addition of "it remains in force." I wanted not a specious phrase, but the fact. For such was my physical condition. I seemed to Rufinus to speak justly, and he gave me a letter to 84 Severus, which he had written in his own tongue as zealously as possible, and in which he reviewed this and other matters, with some recommendations and some advice. And he hinted concerning the future, how it would be, if he would not willingly exempt me.

March 3 To conclude, we were in Smyrna, at the Dionysia, 85
153 A.D. and Severus was present for the festival. Now there was one of those who are called legates, who in other respects was remarkably close to him, and almost like his secretary. For he had authority over all correspondence. And then since we met him first, for he was in charge of the financial administration at Smyrna, we showed the letter to him. And I told him 86 everything, as much as it was necessary to say extemporaneously, so that he might know and inform the Governor exactly. And when I saw that he received my speech and was swayed to my rights, I remembered the voice of the dream, how the secretary promised that he would aid me. And I recounted the dream itself to him and I asked him to obey the God, for I said that this man was the man who promised, meaning him. He was pleased by the speech, brought us to the Governor, and joined us in giving him the letter. And while he was 87 still reading it, it was clear that he sought evasions and in many parts

of the letter stopped and turned back. But after Pardalas, who was our comrade and a close friend of his from childhood, had written to him many great things about my rhetorical career, and when he also received this letter and went over both, "No one," he said, "is investigating rhetoric, but it is one thing to be first of the Greeks and supreme in rhetoric," — for so he called me — "and another to be engaged in this and have pupils." And pausing a little, he said, "Go to the Council and persuade the citizens." And then also he encouraged and advised me to accept young men as pupils at some time. And I answered only that I had no need of a request, but the God had sent me for this very purpose, so that I must obey.

July Such was the beginning and state of the affair, 88
153 A.D. and my first appearance after the verdict which was given at Ephesus. When the matter was still pending, a second difficulty took place as follows. Before I came to the Council and there was any discussion about these things, the Council, at the suggestion of two or three men proposed me as Prytanis — the election for them was held at that time. And the affair had a strange reversal. For instead of persuading them of that for which the Governor sent me, I was compelled again to appeal from them to the Governor's court, and there were now two suits instead of one, and the judge was the same as in the beginning.

August And we went to Pergamum. To be brief, none 89
153 A.D. of us knew when the suit would be called. For the day had not been announced. But a dream, which came at dawn, said this much:

"Citizens of Cadmus, it is necessary to say timely things."
(Aeschylus *Septem* 1).

Therefore it was immediately clear that it would be necessary to contend, and so I prepared myself. And not much later someone came and reported that my name was now being called. While I was going 90 down from the Temple to the city, when there was a delay and my name was called again, they said that Severus remarked very courteously that I would come and that there was no need to be impatient. And after this, when he saw me drawing near, he immediately sent his lictors to make my approach easy — for I had requested this of



