

## The Good News According to Matthew

### *The Genealogy of Jesus*

**1** A book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup>Abraham fathered Isaac, and Isaac fathered Jacob, and Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup>and Judah fathered Perez and Zerah of Tamar, and Perez fathered Hezron, and Hezron fathered Ram, <sup>4</sup>and Ram fathered Amminadab, and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon, <sup>5</sup>and Salmon fathered Boaz of Rahab, and Boaz fathered Obed of Ruth, and Obed fathered Jesse, <sup>6</sup>and Jesse fathered David the king.

And David fathered Solomon (by the *wife* of Uriah), <sup>7</sup>and Solomon fathered Rehoboam, and Rehoboam fathered Abijah, and Abijah fathered Asa, <sup>8</sup>and Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat fathered Joram, and Joram fathered Uzziah, <sup>9</sup>and Uzziah fathered Jotham, and Jotham fathered Ahaz, and Ahaz fathered Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup>and Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, and Manasseh fathered Amon, and Amon fathered Josiah, <sup>11</sup>and Josiah fathered Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the carrying away to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup>And after the carrying away to Babylon, Jechoniah fathered Shealtiel, and Shealtiel fathered

Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup>and Zerubbabel fathered Abiud, and Abiud fathered Eliakim, and Eliakim fathered Azor, <sup>14</sup>and Azor fathered Sadoc, and Sadoc fathered Achim, and Achim fathered Eliud, <sup>15</sup>and Eliud fathered Eleazar, and Eleazar fathered Matthan, and Matthan fathered Jacob, <sup>16</sup>and Jacob fathered Joseph the father of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

<sup>17</sup>So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, and from David to the carrying away to Babylon *are* fourteen generations, and from the carrying away to Babylon to the Christ *are* fourteen generations.

### *The Birth of Jesus*

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ happened this way: his mother Mary having been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together was found *to be* with child by *the* Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And Joseph her husband, being righteous and *yet* not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly. <sup>20</sup>But while he was thinking about these things, Look!, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to favorably accept Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is by *the* Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>And she will give birth to a son, and you will call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup>Now all this took place so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet was fulfilled, saying, <sup>23</sup>**Look!, the virgin will be with child, and will give birth to a son, and they will call his name Immanuel** (which translated, means, “God with us”). <sup>24</sup>Then Joseph, awaking from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to himself his wife. <sup>25</sup>But he did not know her *sexually* until she had given birth to a son, and he called his name Jesus.

### *The Visit of the Magi*

**2** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, Look!, Magi from *the east* arrived in Jerusalem, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in its rising and have come to pay homage to him.”

<sup>3</sup>Now, when Herod the king heard *this*, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>And gathering together all the high priests and experts in the law from among the People, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>And they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>**And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are absolutely not least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come one who leads, who will shepherd my People, Israel.**”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod, having secretly called the Magi, found out from them exactly the chronology of the appearing of the star. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, *and* said, “Go and search diligently for the child, and as soon as you have found *him* bring me word so that I may come and pay homage to him as well.” <sup>9</sup>So after listening to the king, they went on their way. And Look!, the star that they had seen in its rising was going before them, until having come, it stood over where the child was. <sup>10</sup>And seeing the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And coming into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling down, they paid homage to him. And having opened their treasures, they offered to him gifts: gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been divinely instructed in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their country by another road.

### *The Flight to Egypt*

<sup>13</sup>Now after they had departed, Look!, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Get up, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>Then he got up and took the young child and his mother during *the* night and departed for Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and stayed there until the

death of Herod, resulting in what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet being fulfilled, saying, **Out of Egypt I called my son.**

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been made a fool of by the magi, became greatly enraged, and having sent orders, he killed all the male children that were in Bethlehem and all its surrounding region, from two years old and under, according to the timing that he had found out from the magi.

<sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, saying, <sup>18</sup>**A sound was heard in Ramah, sobbing and great mourning. Rachel crying for her children and she would not be comforted because they are no more.**

### ***From Egypt to Nazareth***

<sup>19</sup>Now after Herod had come to the end of his life, Look!, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, <sup>20</sup>“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel, for the ones searching for the child’s soul have died.” <sup>21</sup>So he arose and took the child and his mother and entered into the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And having been divinely instructed in a dream, he departed into the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And having gone *there*, he lived in a city called Nazareth, in order that what was

spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled that “he will be called a Nazarene.”

### ***John the Baptist Prepares the Way***

**3** And in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the desert of Judea, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying, **The voice of one crying in the desert, “Make ready the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”**

<sup>4</sup>Now John himself had clothing *made* of camel’s hair, and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

<sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the regions around the Jordan, went out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, *after* publically confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath *that is* about to come? <sup>8</sup>Come now, bring forth fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup>and do not think you can say within yourselves, “We have Abraham as our father,” for I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham *even* from these stones.

<sup>10</sup>Indeed, the axe is already laid down at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that does not bring forth good fruit is cut down

and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>I baptize you in water as a symbol of *your* repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you in holy spirit and *in* fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing-floor, and he will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn up with unquenchable fire.”

### ***The Baptism of Jesus***

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus arrived from Galilee to the Jordan, *coming* to John to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>But John tried to prevent him, saying, “I have *the* need to be baptized by you, and you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus, answering, said to him, “Allow *it* now, for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed him. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, immediately as he stepped away from the water, Look!, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the spirit of God descending as a dove and coming upon him, <sup>17</sup>and Look!, a voice *came* out of the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

### ***The Temptation in the Desert***

**4** Then Jesus was led up by the spirit into the desert to be tempted by the Slanderer. <sup>2</sup>And when he had fasted forty days and

forty nights, afterwards he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the Tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” <sup>4</sup>But he answered and said, “It is written, **Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.**” <sup>5</sup>Then the Slanderer took him into the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and says to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, **He will give his angels a command concerning you, and, On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**” <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, **Do not tempt the Lord your God.**” <sup>8</sup>Again, the Slanderer took him to an exceedingly lofty mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them, <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, “All these things I will give you if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus says to him, “Be gone, Adversary! For it is written, **Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.**” <sup>11</sup>Then the Slanderer left him and Look!, angels came and ministered to him.

### ***Jesus Begins to Preach***

<sup>12</sup>Now when he heard that John was handed over, he withdrew into Galilee, <sup>13</sup>and leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which is by the lake, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what

was spoken through Isaiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, <sup>15</sup>**The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, along the Road of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—** <sup>16</sup>**the people who sat in darkness saw a great light, and to those who sat in death's territory and shadow, to them did light spring up.** <sup>17</sup>From that time on Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

### ***The Calling of Disciples***

<sup>18</sup>And walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother—casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he says to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup>And they immediately left the nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers—James the *son* of Zebedee and John his brother—in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>And immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

### ***Jesus' Fame Spreads***

<sup>23</sup>And Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Good News of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease and all manner of sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup>And the report of him went out into all

Syria, and they brought to him all who were sick, taken with various diseases and torments, demonized, and epileptic, and paralyzed, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>And great multitudes followed him from Galilee and Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and *from* beyond the Jordan.

### ***The Sermon on the Mount***

**5** And seeing the multitudes, he went up on the mountain, and when he had sat down, his disciples came to him <sup>2</sup>and he opened his mouth and taught them, saying,

### ***Beatitudes (Blessings)***

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed are the merciful, for they will obtain mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when *people* reproach you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil *things*

against you falsely for my sake.  
<sup>12</sup>Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad,  
for great is your reward in heaven.  
For in the same way they persecuted the  
prophets who were before you.

### ***Salt and Light***

<sup>13</sup>You are the salt of the  
earth. But if the salt has become  
tasteless, with what will it be salted?  
It is not useful for anything any  
more except to be thrown out and  
trampled by men.

<sup>14</sup>You are the light of the  
world. A city set on a hill is not able  
to be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people  
light a lamp and put it under the  
bushel, but on the stand, and it  
shines to all who are in the house.

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light  
shine before people so that they may  
see your good works and glorify  
your Father who is in heaven.

### ***The Law and Righteousness***

<sup>17</sup>Do not assume that I came  
to destroy the law or the prophets. I  
did not come to destroy *them*, but to  
fulfill *them*. <sup>18</sup>For truly I say to you,  
until heaven and earth pass away,  
not one *letter* yod or one  
ornamentation will ever pass away  
from the law until all things are  
accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever  
breaks one of the least of these  
commandments, and teaches others  
*to do* the same, will be called least in  
the kingdom of heaven, but whoever  
does *them* and teaches *them* will be

called great in the kingdom of  
heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I say to you, that  
unless your righteousness exceeds  
*the righteousness* of the experts in  
the law and Pharisees, you will  
absolutely not enter into the  
kingdom of heaven.

### ***Murder, Anger, and Reconciliation***

<sup>21</sup>You have heard that it was  
said to those of old time, **Do not  
murder**, and whoever murders will  
be in danger of the judgment. <sup>22</sup>But I  
myself say to you, that everyone  
who is enraged with his brother will  
be in danger of the judgment, and  
whoever says to his brother, "Raca,"  
will be in danger of the Sanhedrin,  
and whoever says, "You no-good,"  
will be in danger of Gehenna.

<sup>23</sup>Therefore, if you are offering your  
gift at the altar, and there remember  
that your brother has something  
against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there in  
front of the altar and go your way.  
Be reconciled to your brother first,  
and then come and offer your gift.

<sup>25</sup>Agree with your adversary  
quickly, while you are with him on  
the road, lest the adversary deliver  
you to the judge, and the judge  
deliver you to the guard, and you be  
thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly I say to  
you, you will absolutely not get out  
of there until you have paid the last  
quadrans.

### ***Adultery and Divorce***

<sup>27</sup>You have heard that it was said, **Do not commit adultery**, <sup>28</sup>but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart. <sup>29</sup>And if your right eye causes you to fall, pluck it out and throw it from you, for it is better for you that one of your members perish than your whole body be thrown into Gehenna. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to fall, cut it off and throw it away from you, for it is better for you that one of your members perish than your whole body go into Gehenna.

<sup>31</sup>It was also said, **Whoever puts away his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce**. <sup>32</sup>But I say to you, that everyone who puts away his wife, except for the cause of sexual immorality, makes her an adulteress, and whoever marries her when she is put away commits adultery.

### ***Oaths***

<sup>33</sup>Again, you have heard that it was said to the People long ago, **Do not make false vows, but fulfill your oaths to the Lord**. <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, do not swear at all, neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>nor by the earth, for it is the footstool of his feet, nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great king. <sup>36</sup>Neither shall you swear by your head, for you are not able to make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>But

let your speech be, “Yes, yes,” or “No, no,” and whatever is more than this is of the evil *one*.

### ***Turn the Other Cheek***

<sup>38</sup>You have heard that it was said, **An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth**. <sup>39</sup>But I say to you, do not resist the evil *person*, but whoever strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup>And if anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. <sup>41</sup>And whoever will compel you to go one mile, go with him two. <sup>42</sup>Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

### ***Love Your Enemies***

<sup>43</sup>You have heard that it was said, “**Love your neighbor** and hate your enemy,” <sup>44</sup>but I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>in order that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. <sup>46</sup>For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do that? <sup>47</sup>And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more *than others*? Do not even the Gentiles do that? <sup>48</sup>Therefore, you are to be mature, as your heavenly Father is mature.

### ***Giving to the Needy***

**6** Be careful not to do your “acts of righteousness” in front of people in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward *laid up* beside your Father who is in heaven. <sup>2</sup>Therefore, when you give to the needy, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets in order that they may have glory from men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand does <sup>4</sup>so that your gifts may be in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

### ***The Lord’s Prayer and Forgiveness***

<sup>5</sup>And when you pray, do not be as the hypocrites, for they like to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets in order that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But you, when you pray, enter into your inner room, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you. <sup>7</sup>And when you are praying, do not keep repeating the same phrases, like the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup>Therefore do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. <sup>9</sup>So pray in this manner:

Our Father who is in the heavens, let your name be sanctified.

<sup>10</sup>May your kingdom come, may your will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. <sup>11</sup>Give us this day our daily bread, <sup>12</sup>and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup>And bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil *one*.

<sup>14</sup>For if you forgive people their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup>But if you do not forgive people their transgressions, your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

### ***Fasting***

<sup>16</sup>Moreover, when you fast, do not be gloomy, like the hypocrites, for they make their faces unattractive in order that they may be seen by people to be fasting. Truly I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face <sup>18</sup>so that you are not seen by people to be fasting, but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you.

### ***Lay Up Treasures in Heaven***

<sup>19</sup>Do not store up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal, <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither

moth nor rust consumes, and where thieves do not break through nor steal, <sup>21</sup>for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

<sup>22</sup>The lamp of the body is the eye; therefore, if your eye is pure, your whole body will be full of light.

<sup>23</sup>But if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

### ***Serving God Without Anxiety***

<sup>24</sup>No one is able to serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to the one and think little of the other. You are not able to serve God and Wealth. <sup>25</sup>Therefore I say to you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor yet for your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of heaven, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, and your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? <sup>27</sup>And which of you, by being anxious, is able to add one cubit to the measure of his life?

<sup>28</sup>And why are you anxious concerning clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they do not toil, neither do they spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I say to you, that even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so

clothes the grass of the field, which is *here* today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will he* not much more *surely clothe* you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or, ‘What will we drink?’ or, ‘With what will we be clothed?’ <sup>32</sup>For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you have need of all these things.

<sup>33</sup>But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup>Therefore, do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day *is* its own evil.

### ***Judging and Hypocrisy***

**7** Do not judge, so that you are not judged. <sup>2</sup>For by the standard you judge with, you will be judged, and by the standard you measure with, it will be measured to you. <sup>3</sup>And why do you see the splinter that is in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the beam that is in your own eye?

<sup>4</sup>Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the splinter out of your eye,’ and Look!, the beam is in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, take the beam out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother’s eye.

### ***No Pearls Before Pigs***

<sup>6</sup>Do not give that which is holy to dogs, nor throw your pearls

in front of pigs, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

### ***Keep Asking and the Golden Rule***

<sup>7</sup>Keep asking, and it will be given to you; keep seeking, and you will find; keep knocking, and it will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who keeps asking receives, and the one who keeps seeking finds, and to the one who keeps knocking it will be opened. <sup>9</sup>Or which one of you, if his son will ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone, <sup>10</sup>or if he will ask for a fish, will give him a serpent? <sup>11</sup>If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him? <sup>12</sup>Therefore, whatever you want people to do to you, so also do the same to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

### ***The Narrow and Wide Gates***

<sup>13</sup>Enter through the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and spacious is the road that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. <sup>14</sup>How narrow is the gate, and constricted the road, that leads to life, and few are those who find it.

### ***Know Them by Their Fruit***

<sup>15</sup>Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are destructive, greedy wolves. <sup>16</sup>By

their fruits you will know them. Do *men* gather grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? <sup>17</sup>Even so, every good tree brings forth good fruit, but the corrupt tree brings forth evil fruit. <sup>18</sup>A good tree is not able to bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that does not bring forth good fruit is cut down, and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup>Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

<sup>21</sup>Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven *will enter in*. <sup>22</sup>Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name cast out demons, and in your name do many mighty works?' <sup>23</sup>And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you who work lawlessness!'

### ***The Wise and Foolish Builders***

<sup>24</sup>Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock, <sup>25</sup>and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat violently against that house, and it did not fall because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup>And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a no-good man who built his house on the

sand, <sup>27</sup> and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall.”

<sup>28</sup>And it came to pass when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were astonished at his teaching, <sup>29</sup>for he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as their experts in the law.

### ***Jesus Heals a Leper***

**8** And when he had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. <sup>2</sup>And Look!, a leper came to him *and* bowed down before him, saying, “Lord, if you want to, you are able to make me clean.” <sup>3</sup>And he stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I want to. Be clean!” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. <sup>4</sup>And Jesus says to him, “See you tell no one, but go show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

### ***The Faith of a Centurion***

<sup>5</sup>Now when he had entered into Capernaum, a centurion came to him, entreating him, <sup>6</sup>and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, grievously tormented.” <sup>7</sup>And he says to him, “I will come and heal him.” <sup>8</sup>And the centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof, but only say the word and

my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me, and I say to this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” <sup>10</sup>And when Jesus heard it, he was amazed, and said to those who followed, “Truly I say to you, I have not found so much faith with anyone in Israel. <sup>11</sup>And I say to you, that many will come from the east and the west, and will lie down *at the table* with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup>but the sons of the kingdom will be thrown out into the extreme darkness. There will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth.” <sup>13</sup>And Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; as you have believed, be it done to you.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

### ***Many Healed in Capernaum***

<sup>14</sup>And when Jesus had come into Peter’s house, he saw his wife’s mother lying down, sick from a fever. <sup>15</sup>And he touched her hand and the fever left her, and she arose and began to serve him. <sup>16</sup>And when evening had come, they brought to him many *who were* demonized, and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick <sup>17</sup>in order to fulfill the *word* spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying: **he himself took our infirmities, and carried our diseases.**

### ***The Cost of Following Jesus***

<sup>18</sup>Now when Jesus saw great multitudes around him, he gave commandments to depart to the other side. <sup>19</sup>And an expert in the law came and said to him, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>20</sup>And Jesus says to him, “The foxes have holes, and the birds of heaven have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” <sup>21</sup>And another of the disciples said to him, “Lord, allow me first to go and bury my father.” <sup>22</sup>But Jesus says to him, “Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead.”

### ***Jesus Calms the Storm***

<sup>23</sup>And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup>And Look!, there arose a great storm on the lake, such that the boat was covered with the waves, but he was asleep. <sup>25</sup>And they came to him and woke him, saying, “Save us, Lord! We are perishing!” <sup>26</sup>And he says to them, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” Then he arose, and subdued the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. <sup>27</sup>And the men were amazed, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?”

### ***Demons Cast Out of Two Men***

<sup>28</sup>And when he had come to the other side, into the region of the

Gadarenes, two demonized *men* met him, *who were* coming out of the tombs. They were so exceedingly violent that no one could pass by that way. <sup>29</sup>And Look!, they cried out, saying, “What do we have in common with you, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” <sup>30</sup>Now far away from them there was a herd of many pigs feeding. <sup>31</sup>And the demons were begging him, saying, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of pigs.” <sup>32</sup>And he said to them, “Go.” And they came out and went into the pigs, and Look!, the whole herd rushed down the steep *bank* into the lake and perished in the waters. <sup>33</sup>And those who fed them fled, and went away into the city and told everything, including what happened to those who *were* demonized. <sup>34</sup>And Look!, the whole city came out to meet Jesus, and when they saw him, they implored him to depart from their territory.

### ***Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man***

**9** And he entered into a boat, and crossed over, and came into his own city. <sup>2</sup>And Look!, they brought to him a paralyzed man lying on a bed. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralyzed *man*, “Son, be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven.” <sup>3</sup>And Look!, some of the experts in the law said within themselves, “This man speaks defaming words.” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus,

knowing their thoughts said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?<sup>5</sup> For which is easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk?’<sup>6</sup> But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” (then he says to the paralyzed *man*), “Get up, take up your bed and go to your house.”<sup>7</sup> And he got up and departed to his house.<sup>8</sup> But when the multitudes saw it, they were filled with awe, and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

#### ***Jesus Calls Matthew***

<sup>9</sup>And as Jesus passed by from there, he saw a man called Matthew, sitting at the tax office, and he says to him, “Follow me.” And he arose and followed him.<sup>10</sup> And it came to pass, as he reclined *to eat* in the house, Look!, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples.<sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with the tax collectors and sinners?”<sup>12</sup> But when he heard it, he said, “*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.<sup>13</sup> But go and learn what *this* means, **I want mercy, and not sacrifice.** For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

#### ***Jesus Questioned About Fasting***

<sup>14</sup>Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we

and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?”<sup>15</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Are the sons of the bridechamber able to mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.<sup>16</sup> And no one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for *it will shrink and* tear away the piece, and a worse tear is made.<sup>17</sup> Neither do *people* put new wine into old wine-skins, otherwise the wine-skins burst and the wine is spilled, and the wine-skins are destroyed. But they put new wine into fresh wine-skins, and both are preserved.”

#### ***Woman Healed and Dead Raised***

<sup>18</sup>While he spoke these things to them, Look! a ruler came and bowed down before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”<sup>19</sup> And Jesus arose and followed him, and *so did* his disciples.<sup>20</sup> And Look!, a woman who had an issue of blood twelve years came behind him and touched the border of his garment,<sup>21</sup> for she was saying within herself, “If only I can touch his garment, I will be made whole.”<sup>22</sup> But Jesus turning and seeing her said, “Daughter, be of good cheer. Your faith has made you whole.” And the woman was made whole from that hour.

<sup>23</sup>And when Jesus came into the ruler's house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a tumult, <sup>24</sup>he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead, but is sleeping."

And they *began* laughing at him.

<sup>25</sup>But when the crowd had been put outside, he entered in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.

<sup>26</sup>And the news of this went out into all that land.

### ***Jesus Heals Two Blind Men***

<sup>27</sup>And as Jesus passed by from there, two blind men followed him, crying out and saying, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." <sup>28</sup>And after he had come into the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus says to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They say to him, "Yes, Lord." <sup>29</sup>Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." <sup>30</sup>And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, "See that no man know it." <sup>31</sup>But they went out and spread abroad his fame in all that land.

### ***Jesus Heals a Mute Man***

<sup>32</sup>And as they went out, Look!, a mute man *who was* demonized was brought to him.

<sup>33</sup>And when the demon was cast out the mute man spoke, and the multitudes were amazed, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." <sup>34</sup>But the Pharisees said,

"By the prince of the demons he casts out demons."

### ***The Laborers Are Few***

<sup>35</sup>And Jesus was going through all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Good News of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. <sup>36</sup>But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them because they were distressed and scattered, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he says to his disciples, "Truly, the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few. <sup>38</sup>Therefore implore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

### ***The Twelve Apostles***

**10** And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. <sup>2</sup>Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: the first, Simon, who is called Peter; and Andrew his brother; James the *son* of Zebedee; and John his brother; <sup>3</sup>Philip; and Bartholomew; Thomas; and Matthew the tax collector; James the *son* of Alphaeus; and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Canaanite; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

### ***Jesus Sends Out the Twelve***

<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them, saying, “Do not go on *any* road of the Gentiles, and do not enter into any city of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

<sup>7</sup>And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, *and* cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give. <sup>9</sup>Provide no gold, nor silver, nor brass in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no wallet for *your* journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staff, for the laborer is worthy of his food.

<sup>11</sup>And into whatever city or village you enter, search out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you go away. <sup>12</sup>And as you enter into the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>And whoever will not receive you, nor hear your words, as you go forth out of that house or that city, shake off the dust of your feet. <sup>15</sup>Truly I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment than for that city.

### ***Sheep in the Midst of Wolves***

<sup>16</sup>Take notice!, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. <sup>17</sup>But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils, and flog you in their

synagogues, <sup>18</sup>and you will even be brought before governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

<sup>19</sup>But when they deliver you up, do not be anxious how or what you are to say, for it will be given to you in that hour what you are to say, <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the spirit of your Father that speaks in you. <sup>21</sup>And brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child, and children will rise up against parents, and cause them to be put to death. <sup>22</sup>And you will be hated by all men for my name’s sake, but he who endures to the end, the same will be saved. <sup>23</sup>But when they persecute you in this city, flee into the next, for truly I say to you, you will surely not finish *going through* the cities of Israel until the Son of Man will come.

<sup>24</sup>A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his lord. <sup>25</sup>It is enough for the disciple that he be as his teacher, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebub, how much more the members of his household! <sup>26</sup>Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. <sup>27</sup>What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light, and what you hear in the ear, proclaim on the house-tops. <sup>28</sup>And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul. But

rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. <sup>29</sup>Are not two little sparrows sold for an assarion? And not one of them will fall on the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>But even all the hairs of your head have been counted. <sup>31</sup>Then do not be afraid, you are of more value than many sparrows. <sup>32</sup>Therefore, everyone who will confess me before men, I will also confess him before my Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup>But whoever will deny me before men, I will also deny him before my Father who is in heaven.

### *Not Peace but a Sword*

<sup>34</sup>Do not assume that I came to send peace on the earth. I did not come to send peace, but a sword.

<sup>35</sup>For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, **and the daughter in law against her mother in law,** <sup>36</sup>**and a man's enemies—those of his own household!** <sup>37</sup>Whoever is attached to his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever is attached to his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>And whoever does not take his cross and follow me, is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

### *Rewards*

<sup>40</sup>Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever receives a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. <sup>42</sup>And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink in the name of a disciple, truly I say to you, he will not ever lose his reward."

**11** And it came to pass when Jesus had finished commanding his twelve disciples, he departed from there to teach and preach in their cities.

### *Jesus and John the Baptist*

<sup>2</sup>Now when John heard in the prison the works of the Christ, he sent by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the Coming One, or do we look for another?" <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things that you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised, and the poor have Good News told to them, <sup>6</sup>and blessed is the one who will not fall away because of me."

<sup>7</sup>And as these went their way, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John, "What did you go

out into the desert to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft *clothing*? Look, those who wear soft *clothing* are in king's houses. <sup>9</sup>But why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I say to you, and much more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written, **Look!, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.** <sup>11</sup>Truly I say to you, among those who are born of women there has not arisen a greater than John the Baptist. Yet he who is the least important *person* in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful people are seizing it as a prize. <sup>13</sup>For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. <sup>14</sup>And if you are willing to accept *it*, he himself is Elijah, who was to come. <sup>15</sup>Anyone who has ears had better listen!

<sup>16</sup>But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces, who call to their fellows <sup>17</sup>and say, 'We piped to you, and you did not dance. We sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.' <sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>19</sup>The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look! A gluttonous man and a wino, a friend of tax collectors and

sinners!' But wisdom is declared righteous by her works."

### ***Woe to Unrepentant Cities***

<sup>20</sup>Then he began to reproach the cities in which most of his mighty works were done, because they did not repent. <sup>21</sup>"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works that were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup>But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon on the Day of Judgment than for you. <sup>23</sup>And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will go down to the grave, for if the mighty works had been done in Sodom that were done in you, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup>But I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the Day of Judgment, than for you."

### ***Jesus Prays to the Father***

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank you, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you hid these things from the wise and understanding, and revealed them to babes. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in your sight.

### ***Invitation to Come and Rest***

<sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one really knows the Son

except the Father, neither does anyone really know the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son determines to reveal *him*.

<sup>28</sup>Come to me, all you who labor and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and humble in heart, and you will find rest to your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is kind, and my burden is light.”

### ***Lord of the Sabbath***

**12** At that time Jesus went through the grain fields on the Sabbath, and his disciples were hungry and began to pluck heads of *grain* and to eat. <sup>2</sup>But the Pharisees, when they saw it, said to him, “Look! Your disciples are doing what it is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.” <sup>3</sup>But he said to them, “Have you not read what David did, when he was hungry, and those who were with him, <sup>4</sup>how he entered into the house of God and ate the Bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him to eat, neither for those who were with him, but only for the priests? <sup>5</sup>Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath day the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are guiltless? <sup>6</sup>But I say to you, that one greater than the temple is here. <sup>7</sup>But if you had known what this means, **I desire mercy, and not sacrifice**, you would not have condemned the guiltless.

<sup>8</sup>For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.”

### ***Healing a Hand on the Sabbath***

<sup>9</sup>And he departed from there and went into their synagogue, <sup>10</sup>and Look!, there was a man with a withered hand. And they asked him, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?”—in order that they might accuse him. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, “Who is there among you that if he has *even* one sheep that falls into a pit on the Sabbath day, will not take hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup>How much then is a man of more value than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day.” <sup>13</sup>Then he says to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and it was restored whole, as the other. <sup>14</sup>But the Pharisees went out and counseled together against him, how they might destroy him.

### ***God’s Chosen Servant***

<sup>15</sup>But when Jesus realized *it*, he withdrew from there, and many followed him, and he healed them all. <sup>16</sup>And he warned them not to make him known, <sup>17</sup>so that what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, <sup>18</sup>**Look!, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved in whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my spirit upon him and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>He will not quarrel, nor cry aloud, neither will any one hear**

his voice in the streets.<sup>20</sup> **A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoking flax he will not quench, until he leads justice to victory.**<sup>21</sup> **And in his name will the Gentiles hope.**

### ***A House Divided***

<sup>22</sup>Then was brought to him a demonized *man who was blind and mute*. And he healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.<sup>23</sup> And all the multitudes were amazed, and said, “Can this be the Son of David?”<sup>24</sup> But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “This man does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub the prince of the demons.”<sup>25</sup> And knowing their thoughts he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.<sup>26</sup> And if the Adversary casts out the Adversary, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?<sup>27</sup> And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.<sup>28</sup> But if I by the spirit of God cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

<sup>29</sup>Or how is one able to enter the house of the strong *man* and carry off his goods, unless he first binds the strong *man*? And then he will plunder his house.<sup>30</sup> He who is not with me is against me, and he

who does not gather with me, scatters.

### ***The Unforgivable Sin***

<sup>31</sup>Therefore I say to you, every sin and defaming word will be forgiven to men, but the defaming of the Spirit will not be forgiven.<sup>32</sup> And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, neither in this world, nor in that which is about to come.

### ***Words Justify or Condemn***

<sup>33</sup>Either declare the tree good, and *thus* its fruit good, or declare the tree corrupt, and *thus* its fruit corrupt, for the tree is known by its fruit.<sup>34</sup> You offspring of vipers, how are you, being evil, able to speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.<sup>35</sup> The good man out of his good treasure brings forth good things, and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth evil things.<sup>36</sup> And I say to you, that every idle word that people speak, they will give account of it on the Day of Judgment.<sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be declared righteous, and by your words you will be condemned.”

### ***The Sign of Jonah***

<sup>38</sup>Then some of the experts in the law and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we want to see a

sign from you.”<sup>39</sup> But he answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and there will no sign be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet,<sup>40</sup> for as **Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the whale**, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.<sup>41</sup> The men of Nineveh will stand up in the Judgment with this generation, and will condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and Look!, *someone* greater than Jonah is here.<sup>42</sup> The queen of the south will rise up in the Judgment with this generation, and will condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and Look!, *someone* greater than Solomon is here.

#### ***Return of an Unclean Spirit***

<sup>43</sup> Now when the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest, and does not find it.<sup>44</sup> Then it says, “I will return into my house from which I came out,” and when it comes, it finds it empty, swept, and put in order.<sup>45</sup> Then it goes and takes with itself seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter in and live there, and the last state of that person becomes worse than the first. So also will it be with this evil generation.”

#### ***Jesus’ Mother and Brothers***

<sup>46</sup> While he was still speaking to the multitudes, Look!, his mother and his brothers stood outside, seeking to speak to him.<sup>47</sup> And someone said to him, “Look!, your mother and your brothers stand outside, seeking to speak to you.”<sup>48</sup> But he answered and said to the one telling him, “Who is my mother? And who are my brothers?”<sup>49</sup> And he stretched out his hand towards his disciples and said, “Look! My mother and my brothers!”<sup>50</sup> For whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

#### ***Parable of the Sower***

**13** On that day Jesus went out of the house and was sitting by the lake.<sup>2</sup> And *such* great multitudes gathered to him that he entered into a boat and sat down, and the whole multitude stood on the shore.<sup>3</sup> And he spoke many things to them in parables, saying, “Pay attention! The sower went forth to sow,<sup>4</sup> and as he sowed, some *seeds* fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them.<sup>5</sup> And others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much earth, and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of earth.<sup>6</sup> And when the sun rose they were scorched, and because they had no root, they withered away.<sup>7</sup> And others fell among the thorns, and the thorns

grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>And others fell upon the good ground, and yielded fruit, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Anyone who has ears had better listen!”

### ***The Purpose of the Parables***

<sup>10</sup>And the disciples came and said to him, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered and said to them, “To you it is given to know the sacred secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. <sup>12</sup>For whoever has, to him *more* will be given, and he will have abundance, but whoever does not have, from him will be taken away even that which he has. <sup>13</sup>Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, neither do they understand. <sup>14</sup>And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, **Hearing you will hear, but will never understand, and seeing you will see, but will never perceive.** <sup>15</sup>**For this people’s heart has grown fat, and their ears are dull of hearing, and they have closed their eyes, lest they should perceive with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should return to God, and I should heal them.** <sup>16</sup>But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. <sup>17</sup>For truly I say to you, that many prophets and righteous people desired to see the things that you see, and did not see them, and to

hear the things that you hear, and did not hear them.

### ***The Sower Parable Explained***

<sup>18</sup>Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand *it*, the evil *one* comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is the one who was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>And the seed that was sown upon the rocky places, this is the one who hears the word, and immediately with joy receives it, <sup>21</sup>yet he does not have *any* root in himself, but is short-lived. When tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>Now the one that was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the worry of this age and the deceitfulness of wealth chokes the word, and it becomes unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>And the one who was sown upon the good ground, this is the one who hears the word and understands *it*, who indeed bears fruit, and yields, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

### ***The Kingdom: Good and Bad Seed***

<sup>24</sup>He set another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while the men were sleeping, his enemy came and also sowed darnel among the wheat, and

went away. <sup>26</sup>But when the blade sprang up and brought forth fruit, then the darnel appeared also. <sup>27</sup>And the servants of the head of the house came and said to him, ‘Lord, did you not sow good seed in your field? From where then does it have darnel?’ <sup>28</sup>And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ And the servants say to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them up?’ <sup>29</sup>But he says, ‘No, lest while you are gathering up the darnel, you uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the darnel, and bind them in bundles to burn them up, but gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

#### ***Kingdom is Like a Mustard Seed***

<sup>31</sup>He set another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field, <sup>32</sup>which indeed is smaller than all *other* seeds, but when it is grown, it is greater than the garden plants, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of heaven come and lodge in the branches of it.”

#### ***The Kingdom is Like Leaven***

<sup>33</sup>He spoke another parable to them, “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three satons of meal until it was all leavened.”

#### ***Using Parables Fulfills Prophecy***

<sup>34</sup>All these things Jesus spoke in parables to the multitudes, and he did not speak to them without *using* a parable, <sup>35</sup>so that what was spoken through the prophet was fulfilled, saying, **I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden from the foundation of the world.**

#### ***Seed Parable Explained***

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the multitudes and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the darnel of the field.” <sup>37</sup>And he answered and said, “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, <sup>38</sup>and the field is the world. And *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom, and the darnel is the sons of the evil *one*. <sup>39</sup>And the enemy who sowed them is the Slanderer, and the harvest is the end of the world, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Therefore, as the darnel is gathered up and burned up with fire, so it will be in the end of the world. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send forth his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom every stumbling block and those doing the lawlessness <sup>42</sup>and will throw them into the furnace of fire. There will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.”

Anyone who has ears had better listen!

***The Kingdom is Like Treasure***

<sup>44</sup>The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid. And in his joy he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

***The Kingdom is Like a Pearl***

<sup>45</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a man who is a merchant seeking fine pearls. <sup>46</sup>And having found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

***The Kingdom is Like a Net***

<sup>47</sup>Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was cast into the lake and gathered *fish* of every kind, <sup>48</sup>which, when it was filled, they drew up on the shore, and they sat down and gathered the good into containers, but the bad they threw away. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the wicked from the midst of the righteous <sup>50</sup>and will throw them into the furnace of fire. There will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth. <sup>51</sup>Have you understood all these things?" They say to him, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every expert in the law who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a man who is a head of a house, who brings

forth out of his treasure things new and old."

***Jesus Revisits Nazareth***

<sup>53</sup>And it came to pass when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed from there. <sup>54</sup>And coming into his home town, he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, "Where *did* this man get this wisdom, and these mighty works? <sup>55</sup>Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And his brothers, James, and Joseph, and Simon, and Judas? <sup>56</sup>And his sisters, are they not all with us? Where then *did* this man get all these things?" <sup>57</sup>And they fell away because of him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country and in his own house." <sup>58</sup>And he did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

***John the Baptist Beheaded***

**14** At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus, <sup>2</sup>and said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist. He is risen from the dead, and that is why these powers work in him." <sup>3</sup>For Herod had laid hold on John and bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. <sup>4</sup>For John said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." <sup>5</sup>And although he wanted to put him to death, he was afraid of

the multitude because they considered him to be a prophet. <sup>6</sup>But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced in the midst *of the company*, and pleased Herod. <sup>7</sup>So with an oath he promised to give her whatever she should ask. <sup>8</sup>And she, being prompted by her mother, says, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist." <sup>9</sup>And the king was grieved, but for the sake of his oaths, and of those who were reclining *to eat* with him, he commanded it to be given, <sup>10</sup>and he sent and beheaded John in the prison. <sup>11</sup>And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. <sup>12</sup>And his disciples came and took up the corpse and buried him, and they went and told Jesus.

### ***Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand***

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus heard *it*, he withdrew from there in a boat by himself to a solitary place, and when the multitudes heard *about that*, they followed him on foot from the cities. <sup>14</sup>And when he got out *of the boat* he saw a great multitude, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. <sup>15</sup>And when evening had come, the disciples came to him, saying, "This is a remote place and the hour is now late. Send the multitudes away in order that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." <sup>16</sup>But Jesus said to them, "They have no need to go away. You

give them *something* to eat." <sup>17</sup>And they say to him, "We do not have *anything* here except five loaves and two fish." <sup>18</sup>And he said, "Bring them here to me." <sup>19</sup>And he commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass, and he took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he blessed *them* and broke *them*, and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples *gave them* to the multitudes. <sup>20</sup>And they all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup>And those eating were about five thousand men, aside from women and children.

### ***Jesus Walks on the Water***

<sup>22</sup>And immediately he compelled the disciples to enter into the boat and to go before him to the other side while he sent the multitudes away. <sup>23</sup>And after he had sent the multitudes away, he went up by himself into the mountain to pray, and when evening had come, he was there alone. <sup>24</sup>But the boat was now in the midst of the lake, battered by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking upon the lake. <sup>26</sup>And when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost," and they cried out for fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke

to them, saying “Take courage! I am *he*; do not be afraid.”<sup>28</sup> And Peter answered him and said, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you upon the waters.”<sup>29</sup> And he said, “Come.” And Peter went down out from the boat and walked upon the waters to come to Jesus.<sup>30</sup> But when he saw the strong wind he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me.”<sup>31</sup> And immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and took hold of him, and says to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”<sup>32</sup> And when they went up into the boat, the wind ceased.<sup>33</sup> And those who were in the boat paid him homage, saying, “Of a truth you are the Son of God.”

#### ***Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret***

<sup>34</sup>And when they had crossed over, they came to the land, to Gennesaret.<sup>35</sup> And when the men of that place knew him, they sent into all the surrounding area and brought to him all who were sick,<sup>36</sup> and they begged him that they might only touch the border of his garment, and as many as touched were made whole.

#### ***Traditions and Commandments***

**15** Then Pharisees and experts in the law from Jerusalem come to Jesus, saying,<sup>2</sup> “Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

<sup>3</sup>And he answered and said to them, “Why do even you yourselves transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? <sup>4</sup>For God said, **Honor your father and your mother, and, He who speaks evil of his father or mother, let him be put to death.** <sup>5</sup>But you say, ‘Whoever says to his father or his mother, “Whatever you might have gained from me is a gift given *to God*;”’ <sup>6</sup>and he does not honor his father. And *thus* you have made void the word of God because of your tradition. <sup>7</sup>You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying, <sup>8</sup>**This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.** <sup>9</sup>**Moreover, in vain do they show devotion to me, teaching as their doctrines the commandments of men.**

#### ***What Defiles a Person***

<sup>10</sup>And he called to him the multitude and said to them, “Hear and understand: <sup>11</sup>*it is* not that which enters into the mouth that defiles the person, but that which proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the person.” <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees fell away *offended* when they heard this saying?” <sup>13</sup>But he answered and said, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone, they are blind guides. And if the blind guide the blind, both will fall into a pit.” <sup>15</sup>And Peter answered

and said to him, “Explain the parable to us.”<sup>16</sup> And he said, “Even you— are you still without understanding?<sup>17</sup> Do you not perceive that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled into the toilet?<sup>18</sup> But the things that proceed out of the mouth come out of the heart, and they defile the person.<sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual immorality, thefts, false witness, insults.<sup>20</sup> These are the things which defile the person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the person.”

#### ***The Faith of a Canaanite Woman***

<sup>21</sup>And Jesus went out from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon,<sup>22</sup> and Look!, a Canaanite woman came out from that area and *began* crying out, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David, my daughter is grievously demonized.”<sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and kept asking him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries after us.”<sup>24</sup> But he answered and said, “I was not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”<sup>25</sup> But she came and *began* to bow down before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”<sup>26</sup> And he answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.”<sup>27</sup> But she said, “Yes, Lord, for even the little dogs eat of the crumbs that fall

from their masters’ table.”<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith. Be it done to you even as you will.” And her daughter was healed from that hour.

#### ***The Feeding of the Four Thousand***

<sup>29</sup>And Jesus departed from there and came close to the Sea of Galilee, and he went up into the mountain and sat there.<sup>30</sup> And great multitudes came to him, having with them the lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and they laid them down at his feet and he healed them.<sup>31</sup> As a result, the multitude was amazed when they saw the dumb speaking, the maimed whole, and lame walking, and the blind seeing, and they glorified the God of Israel.

<sup>32</sup>And Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have remained with me now three days and have nothing to eat, and I do not want to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.”<sup>33</sup> And the disciples say to him, “Where could we get so many loaves in a desert place as to fill so great a multitude?”<sup>34</sup> And Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” And they said, “Seven, and a few small fish.”<sup>35</sup> And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground,<sup>36</sup> and he took the seven loaves and the fish, and he

gave thanks and broke *them*, and gave to the disciples, and the disciples *gave* to the multitudes. <sup>37</sup>And they all ate and were filled, and they took up that which remained of the broken pieces, seven baskets full. <sup>38</sup>And those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. <sup>39</sup>And he sent away the multitudes and entered into the boat, and came into the area of Magadan.

### ***Religious Leaders Demand a Sign***

**16** And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and tempting him, asked him to show them a sign from heaven. <sup>2</sup>But he answered and said to them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘*It will be fair weather, for the heavens are red.*’ <sup>3</sup>And in the morning, ‘*It will be foul weather today, for the heavens are red and threatening.*’ You know how to discern the face of the heaven, but you are not able to *discern* the signs of the times. <sup>4</sup>An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but there will be no sign given to it except the sign of Jonah.” And he left them, and departed.

### ***The Leaven of Wrong Doctrine***

<sup>5</sup>And the disciples came to the other side and forgot to take bread. <sup>6</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Watch out, and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” <sup>7</sup>And they reasoned

among themselves, saying, “We did not take *any* bread.” <sup>8</sup>And Jesus, perceiving it, said, “O you of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves the fact that you have no bread? <sup>9</sup>Do you still not understand? Do you not remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets you took up, <sup>10</sup>nor the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets you took up? <sup>11</sup>How is it that you do not perceive that I did not speak to you about bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” <sup>12</sup>Then they understood that he did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

### ***Peter’s Confession of Christ***

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He says to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>And Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my

congregation, and the gates of the grave will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you forbid on earth *must* be already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth *must* be already permitted in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he ordered the disciples that they should tell no man that he was the Christ.

### ***Death and Resurrection Foretold***

<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and experts in the law, and be killed, and the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Be it far from you, Lord! This will never, ever, happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Adversary! You are a stumbling block to me, because you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.”

### ***Take Up Your Cross***

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his

soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is about to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then will he repay each *person* according to what he has done.

<sup>28</sup>Truly I say to you, there are some of those who stand here who will absolutely not taste of death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

### ***The Transfiguration***

**17** And after six days Jesus takes with him Peter, and James, and his brother John, and brings them by themselves up onto a high mountain. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone as the sun, and his garments became white as the light. <sup>3</sup>And Look!, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, I will make three tents here. One for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, Look!, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and Look!, a voice out of the cloud, saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.” <sup>6</sup>And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. <sup>7</sup>And Jesus came and touched them, and said, “Arise, and do not be afraid.” <sup>8</sup>And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one, except Jesus only.

### ***Death and Resurrection Foretold***

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of Man has risen from among *the* dead.” <sup>10</sup>And his disciples asked him, saying, “Then why do the experts in the law say that Elijah must come first?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered and said, “Elijah is coming, and will restore all things, <sup>12</sup>but I say to you, that Elijah has already come, and they did not know him, but did to him whatever they wanted. So also the Son of Man will suffer by them.” <sup>13</sup>Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them about John the Baptist.

### ***A Demonized Boy Healed***

<sup>14</sup>And when they came to the multitude, a man came to him, kneeling down before him, saying, <sup>15</sup>“Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is epileptic and suffers grievously, for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. <sup>16</sup>And I brought him to your disciples, and they were not able to cure him.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and twisted generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I bear with you? Bring him here to me.” <sup>18</sup>And Jesus subdued him, and *so* the demon came out of him. And the boy was cured from that hour.

<sup>19</sup>Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why were we not able to cast it out?” <sup>20</sup>And he says to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly I say to you, if you have faith like a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible to you.

### ***Death and Resurrection Foretold***

<sup>22</sup>And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, <sup>23</sup>and they will kill him, and the third day he will be raised.” And they were deeply grieved.

### ***Tax Money in a Fish***

<sup>24</sup>And when they came to Capernaum, those who received the half-shekel *Temple tax* came to Peter and said, “Does not your teacher pay the half-shekel?” <sup>25</sup>He says, “Yes.” And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, “What do you think, Simon? The kings of the earth, from whom do they receive customs or poll-tax? From their sons, or from others?” <sup>26</sup>And when he said, “From others,” Jesus said to him, “Therefore the sons are free. <sup>27</sup>But lest we cause them to fall, go to the lake and cast in a hook, and take up the first fish that comes up, and when you have opened his mouth, you will find a

stater *coin*. Take that and give *it* to them for you and me.”

### ***The Greatest in the Kingdom***

**18** In that hour the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”<sup>2</sup> And he called to him a little child and set him in the midst of them,<sup>3</sup> and said, “Truly I say to you, unless you change and become as little children, you will absolutely not enter into the kingdom of heaven.<sup>4</sup> Therefore, whoever will humble himself as this little child, the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.<sup>5</sup> And whoever shall receive one such little child in my name receives me,<sup>6</sup> but whoever shall cause one of these little ones who believes in me to fall away, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung about his neck, and *that* he should be sunk in the depth of the sea.

### ***Woe Because of Stumbling Blocks***

<sup>7</sup>Woe to the world because of the stumbling blocks! For it is inevitable that stumbling blocks come, but woe to that person through whom the stumbling block comes!<sup>8</sup> And if your hand or your foot causes you to fall away, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter into the Life maimed or lame, rather than having

two hands or two feet to be thrown into the fire of the *Age to come*.

<sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to fall away, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to enter into the Life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be thrown into Gehenna.<sup>10</sup> See that you do not look down on one of these little ones, for I say to you, that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

### ***Parable of the Lost Sheep***

<sup>12</sup>What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and seek that which has gone astray?

<sup>13</sup>And if he happens to find it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that have not gone astray.<sup>14</sup> In the same way, it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

### ***If Your Brother Sins Against You***

<sup>15</sup>And if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.<sup>16</sup> But if he does not hear *you*, take with you one or two more, so that **at the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.**<sup>17</sup> And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the congregation, and if he also refuses to hear the

congregation, let him be to you as the Gentile and the tax collector.

<sup>18</sup>Truly I say to you, whatever you forbid on earth *must* be already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth *must* be already permitted in heaven.

<sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they ask, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there in the midst of them.”

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus says to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

### ***Parable of the Unforgiving Servant***

<sup>23</sup>For this reason, the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>And when he had begun to settle *them*, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

<sup>25</sup>But because he did not have *the means* to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>Therefore, the slave, falling down, prostrated himself before him, saying, ‘Lord, have patience with me and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And the lord of

that slave, being moved with compassion, released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves, who owed him a hundred denarii, and he laid hold on him, and seizing him, began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow slave fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he was unwilling, and went and threw him into prison until he should pay that which was due.

<sup>31</sup>So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved, and came and told to their lord all that had happened.

<sup>32</sup>Then having called him in, his lord says to him, ‘You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, just as I had mercy on you?’

<sup>34</sup>And his lord was enraged, and delivered him to the torturers, until he should pay all that was owed.

<sup>35</sup>So will also my heavenly Father do to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

### ***Teaching About Divorce***

**19** And it came to pass when Jesus had finished these words, he departed from Galilee and came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan, <sup>2</sup>and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them there.

<sup>3</sup>And Pharisees came to him, tempting him, and saying, "Is it lawful *for a man* to put away his wife for every cause?" <sup>4</sup>And he answered and said, "Have you not read that he who made *them* from the beginning made them male and female, <sup>5</sup>and said, **For this cause will a man leave his father and mother and will be glued to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?** <sup>6</sup>So they are no more two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no man separate."

<sup>7</sup>They say to him, "Why then did Moses command to **give her a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?**" <sup>8</sup>He says to them, "Moses, in view of the hardness of your hearts, allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it has not been this way. <sup>9</sup>And I say to you, whoever shall divorce his wife, except for sexual immorality, and shall marry another, commits adultery, and he who marries her when she is put away commits adultery." <sup>10</sup>The disciples say to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." <sup>11</sup>But he said to them, "Not all men can receive this saying, but *only* those to whom it has been given. <sup>12</sup>For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He

who is able to receive it, let him receive it."

### ***Jesus Blesses the Little Children***

<sup>13</sup>Then little children were brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray, and the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup>But Jesus said, "Leave the little children alone, and do not forbid them to come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

<sup>15</sup>And, having laid his hands on them, he departed from there.

### ***The Rich Young Ruler***

<sup>16</sup>And Look!, one came to him and said, "Teacher, what good thing must I do in order that I may have life *in the Age?*" <sup>17</sup>And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about that which is good? There is One who is good. But if you want to enter into the Life, keep the commandments." <sup>18</sup>He says to him, "Which?" And Jesus said, **Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness,** <sup>19</sup>**Honor your father and mother, and Love your neighbor as yourself.** <sup>20</sup>The young man says to him, "All these things I have kept, what do I still lack?" <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come, follow me." <sup>22</sup>But the young man, having heard the word,

went away grieved, for he had many possessions.

### ***Rewards in the Kingdom***

<sup>23</sup>And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I say to you, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>24</sup>And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>25</sup>And when the disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then is able to be saved?” <sup>26</sup>And Jesus, looking at *them*, said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” <sup>27</sup>Then Peter answered and said to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you, so what will we have?” <sup>28</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Truly I say to you, that you who have followed me, in the New Beginning, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of his glory, you also will sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup>And everyone who has left houses, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or children, or lands, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit life *in the Age to come*. <sup>30</sup>But many *who are* first will be last, and *the* last, first.

### ***Parable of the Vineyard Laborers***

**20** For the kingdom of heaven is like a man, a head of a house,

who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>And when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And they went their way. <sup>5</sup>He went out again about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh *hour* he went out and found others standing, and he says to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They say to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He says to them, ‘Go also into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>And evening having come, the lord of the vineyard says to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning from the last to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>And when those who *were hired* about the eleventh hour came, each one received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>And when those *who were hired* first came, they assumed that they would receive more, and *yet* each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the head of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last have worked *only* one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he answered and said to one of them, ‘Friend, I

am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what is yours and go, and I will give to this last *group*, just as to you.

<sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I want with my own? Or is your eye evil, because I am good? <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last.”

### ***Death and Resurrection Foretold***

<sup>17</sup>And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside on the path, and he said to them, <sup>18</sup>“Pay attention! We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and experts in the law, and they will condemn him to death, <sup>19</sup>and will deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify *him*, and the third day he will be raised.”

### ***A Mother’s Request***

<sup>20</sup>Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, bowing down and asking something from him. <sup>21</sup>And he said to her, “What do you want?” She says to him, “Say that these—my two sons—may sit, one on your right and one on your left in your kingdom.” <sup>22</sup>But Jesus answered and said, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?” They say to him, “We are able.” <sup>23</sup>He says to them, “You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit on my right and on my

left is not mine to give, but *it is for those* for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” <sup>24</sup>And when the ten heard it, they were indignant with the two brothers. <sup>25</sup>But Jesus, having called them near, said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup>It will not be this way among you, but whoever among you desires to become great will be your servant, <sup>27</sup>and whoever wants to be first among you will be your slave, <sup>28</sup>just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

### ***Two Blind Men Healed***

<sup>29</sup>And as they were going out from Jericho, a great multitude followed him. <sup>30</sup>And Look!, two blind *men* sitting by the side of the path, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” <sup>31</sup>But the multitude rebuked them so that they would be silent. But they cried out all the more, saying, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” <sup>32</sup>And stopping, Jesus called them and said, “What do you want me to do for you?” <sup>33</sup>They say to him, “Lord, that our eyes may be opened.” <sup>34</sup>And Jesus, being moved with compassion, touched their eyes, and immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

### *The Triumphal Entry*

**21** And when they drew near to Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and *her* colt with her. Untie *them*, and bring *them* to me. <sup>3</sup>And if anyone says anything to you, say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.” <sup>4</sup>Now this took place so that what was spoken through the prophet was fulfilled, saying, <sup>5</sup>**Tell the daughter of Zion, “Look!, your King comes to you, meek, and riding on a donkey, even on a colt the foal of a donkey.”**

<sup>6</sup>And the disciples went and did just as Jesus directed them, <sup>7</sup>and brought the donkey and *her* colt and put their garments on them, and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>And most of the multitude spread their garments in the path, and others were cutting branches from the trees and were spreading them in the path. <sup>9</sup>And the multitudes who went in front of him, and *those* who followed, were crying out, saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David! **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**” <sup>10</sup>And when he had entered into Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>And the multitudes were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus, the *one* from Nazareth of Galilee.”

### *Jesus Cleanses Temple (2<sup>nd</sup> Time)*

<sup>12</sup>And Jesus entered into the temple of God and cast out all those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling the doves, <sup>13</sup>and he says to them, “It is written, **My house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers.**”

<sup>14</sup>And blind and lame *people* came to him in the temple, and he healed them. <sup>15</sup>But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children who were crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they were very displeased, <sup>16</sup>and said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus says to them, “Yes. Have you never read, **Out of the mouth of little children and nursing children you have perfected praise?**” <sup>17</sup>And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and lodged there.

### *Lesson From the Cursed Fig Tree*

<sup>18</sup>Now in the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. <sup>19</sup>And having seen a lone fig tree by the path, he went up to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he says to it, “Let there be no

fruit from you any longer forever.” And immediately the fig tree withered.<sup>20</sup> And seeing *this*, the disciples were amazed, saying, “How did the fig tree wither immediately?”<sup>21</sup> And Jesus answered and said to them, “Truly I say to you, if you have faith, and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ it will be done.<sup>22</sup> And all things, whatever you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

#### ***Jesus’ Authority Challenged***

<sup>23</sup>And when he had come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the People came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”<sup>24</sup> And Jesus answered and said to them, “I also will ask you one question, which, if you tell me *the answer*, I also will tell you by what authority I do these things.

<sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Then why did you not believe him?’<sup>26</sup> But if we say, ‘From men,’ we fear the multitude, for all hold John as a prophet.”<sup>27</sup> And they answered Jesus and said, “We do not know.” He also

said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

#### ***Parable of the Two Sons***

<sup>28</sup>But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first, and said, ‘My child, go work today in the vineyard.’<sup>29</sup> And he answered and said, ‘I do not want to.’ But afterward he changed his mind and went.<sup>30</sup> And having approached the other *son*, he said the same thing. And he answered and said, ‘I *will go*, lord,’ but did not go.<sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of the father?” They say, “The first.” Jesus says to them, “Truly I say to you, that the tax collectors and the prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.<sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the path of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. But you, when you saw that, did not afterward change your mind *and* believe him.

#### ***Parable of the Greedy Farmers***

<sup>33</sup>Hear another parable: There was a man who was a head of a house, who planted a vineyard, and put a wall around it, and dug a winepress in it, and built a tower, and rented it out to some farmers, and went into another country.<sup>34</sup> And when the season of fruit drew near, he sent his slaves to the farmers to receive his fruit.<sup>35</sup> And the farmers

took his slaves, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another.<sup>36</sup> Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first ones, and they did the same to them.<sup>37</sup> And last of all he sent to them his son, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’<sup>38</sup> But the farmers, when they saw the son, said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and take his inheritance.’<sup>39</sup> And they caught him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.<sup>40</sup> Therefore, when the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?”<sup>41</sup> They say to him, “Those wretched *men*—He will destroy them in a wretched way, and will rent out the vineyard to other farmers, who will give him the fruit in its season.”<sup>42</sup> Jesus says to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures, **The stone that the builders rejected, it has become the chief cornerstone. This was from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes?**<sup>43</sup> Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and will be given to a nation producing its fruits.<sup>44</sup> And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it falls it will grind to powder.”<sup>45</sup> And when the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they knew that he was speaking about them.<sup>46</sup> And they were seeking to arrest him, *but* they feared the multitudes, because they considered him to be a prophet.

### *Parable of the Wedding Feast*

**22** And Jesus answered and spoke again in parables to them, saying,<sup>2</sup> “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a certain king who prepared a wedding feast for his son,<sup>3</sup> and sent out his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they did not want to come.<sup>4</sup> Again he sent out other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited, ‘Look! I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and the fatted cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’<sup>5</sup> But they, having paid no attention, went off—one to his own farm, another to his business,<sup>6</sup> and the rest, having seized his slaves, mistreated and killed *them*.<sup>7</sup> The king was enraged, and so he sent his armies *and* destroyed those murderers and burned their city.<sup>8</sup> Then he says to his slaves, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but the ones who had been invited were not worthy.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, go to the main streets, and as many as you find *there*, invite to the wedding feast.’<sup>10</sup> And those slaves went out on the roads and gathered together everyone whom they found, both wicked and good, and the wedding feast was filled with those reclining *to eat*.<sup>11</sup> But when the king came in to see those reclining *to eat*, he saw a man there who was not clothed in wedding clothing.<sup>12</sup> And he says to

him, ‘Friend, how did you enter here not having wedding clothing?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the extreme darkness; there will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth. <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.’”

### ***The Trap About Paying Taxes***

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees, having gone out, counseled together how they might ensnare him in *his* talk. <sup>16</sup>And they send to him their disciples, with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true, and teach the path of God in truth, and are not concerned about anyone’s *position*, for you do not look to the face of men. <sup>17</sup>Tell us therefore, what do you think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, knowing their wickedness, said, “Why do you tempt me, *you* hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin *used* for the poll-tax.” And they brought a denarius to him. <sup>20</sup>And he says to them, “Whose image and inscription *is* this?” <sup>21</sup>They say to him, “Caesar’s.” Then says he to them, “Then give the things that are Caesar’s to Caesar and the things that are God’s to God.” <sup>22</sup>And having heard *that*, they were amazed, so they left him *and* went away.

### ***The Trap About the Resurrection***

<sup>23</sup>On that *same* day Sadducees came to him (who say there is no resurrection), and asked him, <sup>24</sup>saying, “Teacher, Moses said, **If someone dies, having no children, his brother must marry his wife and raise up seed for his brother.** <sup>25</sup>Now there were with us seven brothers. And the first, having married, died, and having no seed left his wife to his brother. <sup>26</sup>In the same manner the second also, and the third, up to the seventh. <sup>27</sup>And after them all, the woman died. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, for they all had her.” <sup>29</sup>But Jesus answered and said to them, “You err, not having known the Scriptures, nor the power of God. <sup>30</sup>For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup>But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying, <sup>32</sup>**I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?** God is not *the God* of the dead, but of the living.” <sup>33</sup>And having heard *that*, the multitudes were astonished at his teaching.

### ***Trap About the Greatest Command***

<sup>34</sup>But the Pharisees, having heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, gathered together, <sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him *a question*, testing him: <sup>36</sup>“Teacher, which commandment *is* the great

one in the law?”<sup>37</sup> And he said to him, “**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.**”<sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment.

<sup>39</sup>And *the second is* like it: **Love your neighbor as yourself.** <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments the whole Law hangs, and *also* the prophets.”

### ***Jesus’ Question About David’s Son***

<sup>41</sup>Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them *a question*,<sup>42</sup> saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They say to him, “*The son of David.*”<sup>43</sup> He says to them, “Then how does David, *speaking* by the spirit, call him Lord, saying,<sup>44</sup> **The Lord said to my Lord, sit on my right hand, until I put your enemies underneath your feet?**”<sup>45</sup> If therefore David calls him Lord, how is he his son?”<sup>46</sup> And no one was able to answer him a word, neither did anyone dare ask him any more *questions* from that day on.

### ***Pharisees’ Character Revealed***

**23** Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to his disciples,<sup>2</sup> saying, “The experts in the law and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat,<sup>3</sup> therefore, everything, whatever they may tell you, do and observe. But do not do according to their works, for they say *things*, and do not do *them*.<sup>4</sup> For they tie up loads *that are* heavy and hard to

bear, and lay *them* on men’s shoulders, but they are unwilling to *help* move them with their finger.<sup>5</sup> And they do all their works to be seen by men, for they widen their phylacteries, and lengthen the tassels *of their garments*,<sup>6</sup> and they like the place of honor at the feasts, and the places of honor in the synagogues,<sup>7</sup> and the greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, ‘Rabbi.’<sup>8</sup> But you, you may not be called ‘Rabbi’, for one is your teacher, and all of you are brothers.<sup>9</sup> And do not call *anyone* on earth your ‘father’, for one is your Father, the heavenly *Father*.<sup>10</sup> Neither be called ‘teachers’, for you have one teacher—the Christ.<sup>11</sup> But the greatest among you will be your servant.<sup>12</sup> And whoever will exalt himself will be humbled, and whoever will humble himself will be exalted.

### ***Woes Upon the Pharisees***

<sup>13</sup>But woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven *right* in front of men, for you do not enter, neither do you allow the ones entering to enter.

<sup>15</sup>Woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel over the sea and the land to make one proselyte, and when he becomes *one*, you make him twice as much a son of Gehenna as yourselves.

<sup>16</sup>Woe to you, you blind guides, who say, ‘Whoever swears by the sanctuary, it is nothing, but whoever swears by the gold of the sanctuary, he is obligated *by his oath.*’ <sup>17</sup>*You* no-goods and blind *men!* For which is greater, the gold, or the sanctuary that has sanctified the gold? <sup>18</sup>*You* also say, ‘Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing, but whoever swears by the gift that is upon it, he is obligated *by his oath.*’ <sup>19</sup>Blind *men!* For which is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifies the gift? <sup>20</sup>Therefore the one who swears by the altar, swears by it, and by everything on it. <sup>21</sup>And the one who swears by the sanctuary, swears by it, and by the one who dwells in it. <sup>22</sup>And the one who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God, and by the one sitting on it.

<sup>23</sup>Woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier *matters* of the law, *which are* justice, and mercy, and faith. But these are the things necessary to have done, without neglecting the other. <sup>24</sup>*You* blind guides, who are straining out the gnat but swallowing the camel!

<sup>25</sup>Woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self indulgence.

<sup>26</sup>*You* blind Pharisee, first cleanse

the inside of the cup, that the outside of it may become clean also.

<sup>27</sup>Woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs that outwardly do indeed appear beautiful, but inwardly are full of dead people’s bones, and of every kind of impurity. <sup>28</sup>In the same way, outwardly, you also appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

<sup>29</sup>Woe to you, experts in the law and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and decorate the monuments of the righteous, <sup>30</sup>and you say, ‘If we had been in the days of our fathers we would not have been partners with them in the blood of the prophets.’

<sup>31</sup>Consequently, you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

<sup>32</sup>And you—you fill up the measure of your fathers. <sup>33</sup>Snakes! You offspring of vipers! How can you escape the judgment of Gehenna?

<sup>34</sup>Therefore, take notice! I send to you prophets, and wise men, and experts in the law. *Some* of them you will kill and crucify, and *some* of them you will whip in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, <sup>35</sup>that upon you may fall all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of Abel the righteous to the blood of Zachariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and

the altar. <sup>36</sup>Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

### ***Lament Over Jerusalem***

<sup>37</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the *one* killing the prophets and stoning the ones who have been sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together in the same way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

<sup>38</sup>Look!, your house is left to you desolate. <sup>39</sup>For I say to you, you will absolutely not see me again until you say, ‘**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**’”

### ***Signs of the End of the Age***

**24** And Jesus was going out of the Temple and going away, and his disciples came to him to show him the buildings of the temple. <sup>2</sup>But he answered and said to them, “You see all these things, do you not? Truly I say to you, in no way will *even* one stone be left here upon another that shall not be thrown down.”

<sup>3</sup>And as he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what *will be* the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them, “See to it that no one misleads you. <sup>5</sup>For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will mislead

many. <sup>6</sup>And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *these things* must come to pass, but it is not yet the end. <sup>7</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.

<sup>8</sup>But all these things are the beginning of birth pains. <sup>9</sup>Then they will hand you over to be tortured, and will *even* kill you, and you will be hated by all the nations for my name’s sake. <sup>10</sup>And then will many fall away, and will hand over one another, and will hate one another. <sup>11</sup>And many false prophets will arise, and will mislead many. <sup>12</sup>And because of the increase in lawlessness, the love of the many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup>But the one who endures to the end, this one will be saved. <sup>14</sup>And the Good News of the kingdom will be proclaimed to the whole inhabited world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore, when you see **the abomination of desolation** that was spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the Holy Place (let the one reading understand), <sup>16</sup>then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, <sup>17</sup>let him who is on the roof not go down into his house to take things out, <sup>18</sup>and let him who is in the field not return back to take his cloak. <sup>19</sup>But woe to those who are pregnant and to those nursing in

those days! <sup>20</sup>And pray that your flight is not in the winter, nor on a Sabbath, <sup>21</sup>for at that time there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, and it will never ever happen again. <sup>22</sup>And if those days were not shortened, no flesh would have been saved, but for the sake of the chosen, those days will be shortened.

<sup>23</sup>At that time if someone says to you, ‘Look!, here is the Messiah!,’ or, ‘Here *he is!*,’ do not believe *it*. <sup>24</sup>For false Messiahs will arise, and false prophets, and will show great signs and wonders so as to mislead, if possible, even the chosen *ones*. <sup>25</sup>Take notice! I have told you beforehand. <sup>26</sup>Therefore, if they say to you, ‘Look!, he is in the desert!,’ do not go out *there*, or ‘Look!, he is in the inner rooms of the Temple!,’ do not believe *it*. <sup>27</sup>For as the lightning goes out from the east and shines even to the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup>Wherever the carcass is, there the vultures will be gathered together.

### ***The Coming of the Son of Man***

<sup>29</sup>But immediately after the tribulation of those days **the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall** from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken, <sup>30</sup>and then the sign of the Son of Man will

appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the **Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven** with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup>And he will send forth his angels with a **loud trumpet blast, and they will gather together** his chosen *ones* from the four winds, from the ends of the heavens to the ends of it.

### ***The Parable of the Fig Tree***

<sup>32</sup>Now learn this parable from the fig tree: when its branch has become tender and sprouts its leaves, you know that the summer is near. <sup>33</sup>Even so you also, when you see all these things, know that he is near, *even* at the doors. <sup>34</sup>Truly I say to you, this generation will absolutely not pass away until all these things come to pass. <sup>35</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will absolutely not pass away.

### ***No One Knows the Day or Hour***

<sup>36</sup>But about that day and hour knows no one, not the angels of the heavens, nor the Son, but the Father alone. <sup>37</sup>For as in the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as they were in those days that were before the flood—eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage—until the day that Noah entered into the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they did not know *what was coming* until the flood came and took them all away, so *also* will be the coming

of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two men will be in the field; one is taken, and one is left. <sup>41</sup>Two women are grinding with a hand mill; one is taken, and one is left. <sup>42</sup>Therefore, watch, for you do not know on what day your Lord comes. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the head of the house had known in what watch the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have allowed *the wall of his house* to be dug through. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you be ready too, for in an hour that you do not think—the Son of Man comes.

<sup>45</sup>Who then is the faithful and wise slave, whom the lord has set over the slaves of his household, to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup>Blessed is that slave whom his lord, when he comes, will find him so doing. <sup>47</sup>Truly I say to you, that he will set him over all his possessions. <sup>48</sup>But if that evil slave will say in his heart, ‘My lord is not coming for a long time,’ <sup>49</sup>and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and continuously eats and drinks with the drunkards, <sup>50</sup>the lord of that slave will come on a day that he does not expect, and at an hour which he does not know, <sup>51</sup>and will cut him in two, and assign him a place with the hypocrites; there will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth.

### ***The Parable of the Ten Virgins***

**25** At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten

virgins, who, having taken their lamps, went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Now five of them were no-goods, and five *were* wise. <sup>3</sup>For the no-goods, when they took their lamps, did not take oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took oil in flasks with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>Now while the bridegroom was a long time in coming, they all became drowsy and *began* to sleep. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look!, the bridegroom! Go out to meet him!’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins awoke, and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the no-goods said to the wise, ‘Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘*No*, lest there will not be enough for you and us *too*. Go instead to the dealers and buy *some* for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>But while they were going away to buy *some*, the bridegroom came, and the ones *who were* prepared went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>And later the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open *the door* for us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered and said, ‘Truly I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

### ***The Parable of the Talents***

<sup>14</sup>For *it is* as *when* a man going on a journey called his own slaves, and entrusted his property to them. <sup>15</sup>And to one he gave five

talents, and to another two, and to another one; to each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>Immediately the one who received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. <sup>17</sup>Likewise the one *who received* the two, gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the one who received the one *talent*, having gone out, dug in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

<sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the lord of those slaves comes, and settles accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And the one who received the five talents came and brought five more talents, saying, 'Lord, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' <sup>22</sup>And the one who *received* the two talents also came and said, 'Lord, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You have been faithful over a few things, I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

<sup>24</sup>And the one who had received the one talent also came and said, 'Lord, I knew you that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter, <sup>25</sup>and I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the earth. See,

you have that which *is* yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy slave. You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and I gather where I did not scatter, <sup>27</sup>then you needed to deposit my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest.

<sup>28</sup>Therefore take away the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has *more* will be given, and he will have abundance, but from the one that does not have, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And throw out the worthless slave into the extreme darkness; there will be the sobbing and the gnashing of teeth.'

### ***The Sheep and Goat Judgment***

<sup>31</sup>But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And he will put the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to the ones on his right, 'Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom that has been prepared for you from the foundation of the world, <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me *something* to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you

invited me in; <sup>36</sup>naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came to me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and fed you? Or thirsty, and gave you a drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger, and took you in? Or naked, and clothed you? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick, or in prison, and came to you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the King, answering, will say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, in as much as you did it to one of these my brothers, *even* the least, you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will also say to the ones on the left hand, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the fire of the Age, which has been prepared for the Slanderer and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry, and you did not give me *anything* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me no drink; <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger, and you did not invite me in; naked, and you did not clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they will also answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not serve you?’ <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly I say to you, in so far as you did not do *it* to one of these least, you did not do *it* to me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into punishment *in the Age to come*; but the righteous into life *in the Age to come*.”

### ***The Plot to Kill Jesus***

**26** And it came to pass, when Jesus finished all these words, he said to his disciples, <sup>2</sup>“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man is handed over to be crucified.”

<sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests and the elders of the People were gathered together in the courtyard of the high priest, the one called Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and they plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth, and *then* kill *him*. <sup>5</sup>But they were saying, “Not during the feast, lest a riot arise among the People.”

### ***Jesus Anointed at Bethany***

<sup>6</sup>Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>7</sup>a woman came to him, having an alabaster *flask* of very expensive perfume, and she poured it upon his head as he was reclining *to eat*. <sup>8</sup>But having seen this, the disciples were indignant, saying, “To what purpose *was* this waste? <sup>9</sup>For it would have been possible to sell this for a high *price*, and *the money* given to the poor.” <sup>10</sup>But Jesus, perceiving it, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has worked a good work upon me. <sup>11</sup>For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me. <sup>12</sup>For this *woman*, having poured this perfume on my body—she did it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup>Truly I say to you, wherever this Good News shall be

preached in the whole world, what this *woman* did will also be spoken of for a memorial of her.”

### ***Judas Plots to Betray Jesus***

<sup>14</sup>Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, having gone to the chief priests, <sup>15</sup>said, “What are you willing to give me if I will hand him over to you?” And they weighed out to him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from then on he was watching for an opportunity to hand him over *to them*.

### ***The Last Supper***

<sup>17</sup>Now on the first *day* of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?” <sup>18</sup>And he said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, my time is near. I *am to* keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” <sup>19</sup>And the disciples did as Jesus directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>20</sup>Now when evening had come, he was reclining *at the table* with the twelve, <sup>21</sup>and as they were eating, he said, “Truly I say to you, that one of you will betray me.” <sup>22</sup>And they were deeply grieved, and each one began to say to him, “Surely I am not *the one*, Lord?” <sup>23</sup>And he answered and said, “The one who dipped his hand in the dish

with me, this one will betray me.

<sup>24</sup>The Son of Man is to go just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It had been good for that man if he had not been born.” <sup>25</sup>And Judas, the one betraying him, answered and said, “Surely I am not the one, Rabbi?” He says to him, “You yourself have said *it*.”

### ***The “Lord’s Supper” Instituted***

<sup>26</sup>And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and having blessed *it*, he broke it, and giving it to the disciples, said, “Take, eat. This is my body.” <sup>27</sup>And having taken a cup, and having given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup>For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for remission of sins. <sup>29</sup>And I say to you, I will absolutely not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

<sup>30</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>31</sup>Then Jesus says to them, “Tonight, all of you will be caused to fall away because of me, for it is written, **I will strike down the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.** <sup>32</sup>But after I am raised, I will go before you to Galilee.” <sup>33</sup>But Peter answered and said to him, “If everyone will fall away because of you, I will never

fall away.”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, “Truly I say to you that this night, before a rooster crows, you will deny me three times.”<sup>35</sup> Peter says to him, “Even if it is necessary for me to die with you, I will never ever deny you.” Likewise also said all the disciples.

### ***Jesus in Gethsemane***

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus comes with them to a place called Gethsemane, and says to his disciples, “Sit here while I go *over* there and pray.”

<sup>37</sup>And having taken Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him, he began to be grieved and distressed.

<sup>38</sup>Then he says to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death. Stay here, and watch with me.”

<sup>39</sup>And having gone forward a little, he fell on his face, praying and saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”<sup>40</sup> And he comes to the disciples, and finds them sleeping, and says to Peter, “What, were you not strong enough to stay awake with me one hour?<sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray, in order that you do not enter into temptation. Indeed, the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

<sup>42</sup>Again, a second time, having gone away, he prayed, saying, “My Father, if this is not able to pass away unless I drink it, your will be done.”<sup>43</sup> And having come again he found them sleeping,

for their eyes were heavy.<sup>44</sup> And having left them again and having gone away, he prayed a third time, saying the same words again.

<sup>45</sup>Then he comes to the disciples, and says to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Look!, the hour has drawn near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.<sup>46</sup> Arise, let us be going. Look!, the one betraying me has drawn near.”

### ***Jesus Betrayed and Arrested***

<sup>47</sup>And while he was still speaking, Look!, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him *was* a great multitude with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priest and elders of the People.<sup>48</sup> Now the one betraying him gave them a sign, saying, “Whomever I will kiss, he is *the one*. Seize him.”<sup>49</sup> And immediately having come to Jesus, he said, “Greetings, Rabbi,” and kissed him.<sup>50</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Friend, *do* that for which you have come.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus, and seized him.

<sup>51</sup>And Look!, one of those who was with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and having stuck the slave of the high priest, he cut off his ear.<sup>52</sup> Then Jesus says to him, “Put your sword back into its place, for all those who take the sword shall perish by the sword.

<sup>53</sup>Or do you think that I am not able to call on my Father, and even now

he will send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup>How then would the scriptures be fulfilled that it must happen this way?” <sup>55</sup>In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, “Have you come with swords and clubs to seize me as *you would come* against a robber? I sat daily in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. <sup>56</sup>But all this has come to pass so that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

### ***Jesus Before Caiaphas***

<sup>57</sup>And the ones who had seized Jesus led him away to *the house of Caiaphas* the high priest, where the experts in the law and the elders were gathered together. <sup>58</sup>But far away, Peter was following him to the courtyard of the high priest and, having entered in, he was sitting with the servants to see the outcome.

<sup>59</sup>Now the chief priests and the Sanhedrin were all seeking false testimony against Jesus, so that they could put him to death, <sup>60</sup>and they did not find it, although many false witnesses came. But finally, two *false witnesses*, having come near, <sup>61</sup>said, “This one said, ‘I am able to destroy the sanctuary of God, and to build it in three days.’” <sup>62</sup>And the high priest, having arisen, said to him, “Are you not going to answer? What *is it that* these men testify against you?” <sup>63</sup>But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to

him, “I adjure you by the living God, that you tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God.” <sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, “Yes, you have said it, nevertheless I say to you all, in the future you will see **the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.**”

<sup>65</sup>Then the high priest tore his garments, saying, “Defaming talk! What further need do we have of witnesses? See!, now you have heard the defamation. <sup>66</sup>What do you think?” They answered and said, “He is deserving of death.” <sup>67</sup>Then they spat in his face and beat him with their fists. And they slapped him, <sup>68</sup>saying, “Prophecy to us, Christ. Who is he who struck you?”

### ***Peter Denies Jesus***

<sup>69</sup>Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came to him, saying, “You also were with Jesus of Galilee.” <sup>70</sup>But he denied *it* before everyone, saying, “I do not know what you are saying.” <sup>71</sup>And when he had gone out into the gateway, another saw him, and says to those who were there, “This one was with Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>72</sup>And again he denied *it* with an oath, *saying*, “I do not know the man.” <sup>73</sup>And after a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, “Of a truth you also are *one* of them, for your accent makes you known.” <sup>74</sup>Then he began to curse and to swear, *saying*, “I do

not know the man.” And immediately a rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, “Before a rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went outside, and cried bitterly.

### ***Daybreak Trial Then to Pilate***

**27** Now at daybreak all the chief priests and the elders of the People took counsel together against Jesus to put him to death, <sup>2</sup> and having bound him, they led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

### ***The Death of Judas Iscariot***

<sup>3</sup> Then Judas, the one betraying him, having seen that he was condemned *and* regretting *what he had done*, brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, <sup>4</sup> saying, “I have sinned *by* betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See *to that* yourself.” <sup>5</sup> And having thrown down the silver coins into the sanctuary, he departed, and having gone away, he hanged himself. <sup>6</sup> And the chief priests, having taken the silver coins, said, “It is not lawful to put these into the treasury, since it is the price of blood.” <sup>7</sup> So they took counsel together, and bought with them the potter’s field as a burial place for strangers. <sup>8</sup> Therefore that field has been called “Field of Blood” to this day. <sup>9</sup> Then what was

spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, **And they took the thirty silver coins, the price of the one whose price had been priced by the sons of Israel, <sup>10</sup> and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord directed me.**

### ***Jesus Before Pontius Pilate***

<sup>11</sup> Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, saying, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And Jesus said to him, “*Yes, it is as you say.*” <sup>12</sup> And when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer.

<sup>13</sup> Then Pilate says to him, “Do you not hear how many things they are testifying against you?” <sup>14</sup> But he did not answer him with even one word, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

### ***The People Choose Barabbas***

<sup>15</sup> Now the governor’s custom at the feast was to release to the multitude one prisoner, *anyone* whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup> And at that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas. <sup>17</sup> Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” <sup>18</sup> For he knew that they had handed him over because of envy. <sup>19</sup> And while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for

today I have suffered many things in a dream because of him.”

<sup>20</sup>Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. <sup>21</sup>But the governor answered and said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” <sup>22</sup>Pilate says to them, “Then what shall I do to Jesus who is called Christ?” They all kept saying, “Let him be crucified.” <sup>23</sup>But he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, saying, “Let him be crucified.” <sup>24</sup>So when Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water, and washed his hands in front of the multitude, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see *to it* yourselves.” <sup>25</sup>And all the People answered and said, “His blood *be* on us, and on our children.” <sup>26</sup>Then he released Barabbas to them, but Jesus he scourged and handed over to be crucified.

### ***The Soldiers Torture Jesus***

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium, and gathered to him the whole *Roman* cohort. <sup>28</sup>And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe. <sup>29</sup>And they twisted together a crown of thorns and put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand, and they kneeled down before

him, and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” <sup>30</sup>And they spat upon him, and took the reed and were striking him on the head. <sup>31</sup>And after they had mocked him, they took the robe off him, and put his *own* garments on him, and led him away to be crucified.

### ***The Crucifixion***

<sup>32</sup>And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They pressed him into service, that he might bear his cross. <sup>33</sup>And having come to a place called Golgotha (that is to say, Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup>they gave him wine mixed with gall to drink, and when he had tasted *it*, he would not drink. <sup>35</sup>And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them, casting lots *for them*. <sup>36</sup>And sitting down, they *began* to keep watch over him there. <sup>37</sup>And they set up over his head the charge against him, which read, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>38</sup>Then two robbers are crucified with him, one on the right hand and one on the left.

<sup>39</sup>And those passing by were hurling insults at him, shaking their heads, <sup>40</sup>and saying, “You who *are going to* destroy the sanctuary and build it in three days, save yourself. If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” <sup>41</sup>In the same way the chief priests also, with the experts in the law and elders, mocking *him*, said, <sup>42</sup>“He saved

others, *yet* he is not able to save himself. He is the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup>He had confidence in God, let him rescue him now, if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” <sup>44</sup>And the robbers who were crucified with him also were insulting him.

### ***The Death of Jesus***

<sup>45</sup>Now from the sixth hour darkness came over all the land until *the* ninth hour. <sup>46</sup>And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, “**Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?**” (that is, “**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**”). <sup>47</sup>And some of those standing there, when they heard it, said, “This man calls Elijah.” <sup>48</sup>And immediately one of them ran and took a sponge and filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, *and* gave him a drink. <sup>49</sup>But the rest said, “Leave *him* alone. Let us see whether Elijah comes to save him.”

<sup>50</sup>And Jesus, having cried out again with a loud voice, yielded up the spirit. <sup>51</sup>And Look!, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth was shaken, and the rocks were split. <sup>52</sup>[And the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the holy *ones* who had fallen asleep were raised, <sup>53</sup>and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they entered into the holy city and appeared to many.]

<sup>54</sup>Now the centurion and those who were with him keeping watch over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, were greatly afraid, saying, “Truly this was the Son of God.”

<sup>55</sup>And many women, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, serving him, were there looking on from a distance, <sup>56</sup>among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

### ***Joseph Buries Jesus***

<sup>57</sup>Now when evening came, a rich man came from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also himself was a disciple of Jesus, <sup>58</sup>he, having approached Pilate, asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded it to be given *to him*. <sup>59</sup>And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth <sup>60</sup>and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock, and he rolled a large stone over the door of the tomb and departed. <sup>61</sup>And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.

### ***The Tomb Guarded***

<sup>62</sup>Now on the next day, which is *the day* after the Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together to Pilate, <sup>63</sup>saying, “Lord, we

remember that when he was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will be raised.’<sup>64</sup>Therefore, command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples come and steal him away, and say to the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and this last deception will be worse than the first.”<sup>65</sup>Pilate said to them, “You have a guard. Go, make it *as* secure as you know *how to*.”<sup>66</sup>So they went, and made the tomb secure, *and* along with the guard, they sealed the stone.

### ***The Resurrection of Jesus***

**28** Now late on the Sabbath day, as it began to dusk *and come* toward the first *day* of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.

<sup>2</sup>And Look!, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled away the stone, and was sitting upon it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his garment white as snow, <sup>4</sup>and for fear of him the guards shook, and became as dead *men*. <sup>5</sup>And the angel answered and said to the women, “Do not fear, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for he has been raised, just as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying, <sup>7</sup>and go quickly and tell his disciples he was raised from the dead. And note this: he is

going before you into Galilee. You will see him there. See!, I have told you.”

<sup>8</sup>And having departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, they ran to report about him to his disciples. <sup>9</sup>And Look!, Jesus met them, saying, “Greetings.” And they came and took hold of his feet and paid homage to him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus says to them, “Do not fear. Go tell my brothers to go away to Galilee, and they will see me there.”

### ***The Report of the Guards***

<sup>11</sup>Now while they were going, Look!, some of the guard came into the city, and told the chief priests all the things that happened.

<sup>12</sup>And when they had assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, <sup>13</sup>saying, “Say that his disciples, having come during the night, stole him away while we were sleeping. <sup>14</sup>And if the governor hears about this, we will persuade him and keep you out of trouble.” <sup>15</sup>So they took the money and did as they were instructed, and this report was spread around among the Jews, *and continues* until this day.

### ***The Great Commission***

<sup>16</sup>But the eleven disciples went into Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them.

<sup>17</sup>And when they saw him, they

bowed before *him*, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came to them and spoke to them, saying, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the holy spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to obey all that I commanded you. And remember!, I am with you always, even to the end of the Age.”

