

Matthew

1 A book of the descent of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

²Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac of Jacob, Jacob of Judah and his brothers, ³Judah of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez of Hezron, Hezron of Ram, ⁴Ram of Amminadab, Amminadab of Nahshon, Nahshon of Salmon, ⁵Salmon of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz of Obed by Ruth, Obed of Jesse, and ⁶Jesse of David the king.

David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷Solomon of Rehoboam, Rehoboam of Abijah, Abijah of Asa, ⁸Asa of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat of Joram, Joram of Uzziah, ⁹Uzziah of Jotham, Jotham of Ahaz, Ahaz of Hezekiah, ¹⁰Hezekiah of Manasseh, Manasseh of Amon, Amon of Josiah, ¹¹Josiah of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

¹²After the exile to Babylon, Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel of Zerubbabel, ¹³Zerubbabel of Abiud, Abiud of Eliakim, Eliakim of Azor, ¹⁴Azor of Sadoc, Sadoc of Achim, Achim of Eliud, ¹⁵Eliud of Eleazar, Eleazar of Matthan, Matthan of Jacob, ¹⁶Jacob of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, the One called Christ.

¹⁷So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen, from David to the Babylonian exile fourteen, and from the exile to Christ fourteen.

¹⁸Jesus Christ was born in this manner: Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, but before they came together, she was discovered to be pregnant by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, her fiancé (being honorable, and not wanting to embarrass her), decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰However, while he was thinking about the problem, behold! The Lord's angel appeared to him in a dream, saying,

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to marry Mary your

fiancée, because her conception is by the Holy Spirit. ²¹She shall bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins.

²²In this way that which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet was fulfilled, saying, ²³"Behold! The virgin shall be pregnant, and shall bear a son, and they shall call his name *Immanuel*," meaning "God is with us."

²⁴Joseph awoke and obeyed the angel, marrying his fiancée. ²⁵However, he did not have sexual relations with her until she had given birth to a son. He called his name Jesus.

2 When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, behold! Wise men came from the east to Jerusalem, saying, ²"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? We have seen his star in the east, and have come to worship him." ³King Herod heard this, and was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴He gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people, and was asking them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They replied,

In Bethlehem of Judea, for so the prophet has written, ⁶"You, Bethlehem-Judah, are by no means the least among Judah's rulers, for from you a ruler shall come who shall be a shepherd for my people Israel."

⁷Herod then secretly sent for the wise men, and found out precisely what time the star had appeared, ⁸and sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, let me know, that I also may go and worship him."

⁹Those who heard the king left, and behold! The star which they had seen in the east went before them until it stood over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they became overjoyed, ¹¹and entered the house, and saw the child with Mary his mother, and fell

down, and worshipped him. They opened their packages, and presented gifts to him, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²They received a divine message in a dream not to return to Herod, and departed for their own country by another road.

¹³After they left, behold! The Lord's angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the child and his mother and go to Egypt. Stay there until I speak to you, for Herod will seek to kill the child." ¹⁴He took the child and his mother and went to Egypt by night. ¹⁵They stayed there until Herod died. In this way that which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet was fulfilled, "Out of Egypt I called my Son."

¹⁶Then Herod saw that he had been deceived by the wise men, and he was consumed with anger. He gave orders to destroy all the boys in Bethlehem and all the region around it up to two years old, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷In this way that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled,

¹⁸A voice was heard in Ramah: weeping, and terrible mourning. Rachel wept for her children, and refused to be comforted, for her children were no more.

¹⁹After Herod's death, behold! The Lord's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying, ²⁰"Arise, take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel, for the ones seeking his life have died." ²¹He arose, took the child and his mother, and went to Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was king instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. He received a divine message in a dream, and went away into parts of Galilee, ²³and lived in a city called Nazareth. In this way that which was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

3 In those days John the immerser came preaching in the Judean desert, ²saying, "Change your hearts, for heaven's kingdom has drawn near." ³This is he who was spoken of by Isaiah the prophet, "The voice

of one crying in the desert: 'Prepare the Lord's way. Make his paths straight.'"

⁴John was wearing a camel's hair garment and a leather belt. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the area around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and were being immersed by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw that many of the Pharisees and Sadducees were coming for his immersion, he exclaimed,

Brood of vipers, who warned you to escape from the coming wrath? ⁸Show proof that you have changed your hearts. ⁹Do not think about saying among yourselves, "Abraham is our father," for I assure you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham out of these rocks. ¹⁰Already the axe is placed at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree not bearing good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹I indeed am immersing you in water into a change of heart, but after me comes One stronger than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will immerse you in the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²With his winnowing shovel in his hand he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing floor: he will gather his wheat into the barn, but the straw he will burn with unquenchable fire.

¹³Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan to John to be immersed by him. ¹⁴But John forbade him, saying, "I need for you to immerse me, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵Jesus replied, "Permit it now, for it is proper for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he permitted him. ¹⁶After Jesus was immersed, he immediately came up from the water, and behold! Heaven was opened to him, and he saw God's Spirit coming down on him as a dove. ¹⁷Behold! A voice out of heaven was saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by

the devil. ²After he fasted forty days and nights he was hungry. ³The tempter came and challenged him, "If you are God's Son, command these rocks to become bread." ⁴Jesus' reply was, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God's mouth.'"

⁵The devil then took him into the holy city, and placed him on the summit of the temple, ⁶and said,

If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will catch you in their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

⁷Jesus answered, "Again it is written, 'You shall not make trial of the Lord your God.'"

⁸Further, the devil took him to the top of a very high mountain and showed him all the world's kingdoms and their glory, ⁹and said, "I will give you all these things if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus answered, "Go away, Satan, for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left, and behold! Angels came and were serving him.

¹²After Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he departed into Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum beside the sea in the territories of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴In this way that which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet was fulfilled,

¹⁵Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, ¹⁶the people sitting in darkness saw a great light, and to the ones sitting in the region and shadow of death, to them light has sprung up.

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Change your hearts, for heaven's kingdom has drawn near." ¹⁸As he walked beside the sea, he saw two brothers, Simon Peter and Andrew, casting a net into the

sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹Jesus invited them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰They immediately left their nets and followed him. ²¹Jesus, walking on, noticed two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, in the boat with their father repairing nets, and he summoned them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and infirmity among the people. ²⁴The news about him spread into all Syria, and they brought to him all those sick with various diseases and afflictions, those possessed by demons, those who were epileptic and paralyzed, and he healed them. ²⁵Large crowds from Galilee and the Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and beyond the Jordan followed him.

5 Jesus noticed the crowds, and went up into a mountain. He sat down, and his disciples came to him, ²and he began to teach:

³Blessed are the ones who know that spiritually they are paupers, for heaven's kingdom is theirs. ⁴Blessed are the ones who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are the ones who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called God's children. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness, for heaven's kingdom is theirs. ¹¹Blessed are you when they insult and persecute you, and lie, and say every evil thing against you because of Me. ¹²Be full of joy and celebrate, because your reward in heaven is great. In this way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has become tasteless,

how will it be seasoned? Good for nothing, it is thrown out and trampled. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden; ¹⁵neither do men light a lamp and put it under a measuring basket, but on a stand, and it gives light for all in the house. ¹⁶Therefore let your light shine before people that they may see your good deeds and give glory to your heavenly Father.

¹⁷Do not think I have come to destroy the law or the prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. ¹⁸Indeed I assure you that, until the heaven and the earth disappear, neither the smallest letter in the law, nor the smallest part of a letter, shall pass away before all things are fulfilled. ¹⁹Whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches people so shall be called the least in heaven's kingdom. But whoever does these commandments and teaches them shall be called great in heaven's kingdom. ²⁰I assure you that, unless your righteousness is more than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no way enter heaven's kingdom.

²¹ You have heard that it was said to them of old, "You shall not murder," and whoever murders shall be liable for judgment. ²²But I assure you that anyone who is angry with his brother without cause shall be liable for judgment, and whoever calls his brother Emptyhead shall be liable before the council, and who ever calls him Stupid shall be liable for the hell of fire.

²³If you bring your gift to the altar and there you remember that your brother holds something against you, ²⁴leave your gift, and go and be reconciled to your brother. Then return and offer your gift. ²⁵In a lawsuit be congenial with your opponent while you are with him, so that he will not deliver you to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and he puts you in jail. ²⁶Indeed I assure you that you will not go free until you have paid your last cent.

²⁷You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." ²⁸But I assure you that any man who looks at a woman lustfully has already in his heart committed adultery. ²⁹If your right

eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away, for it is better that one of your members be destroyed rather than your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away, for it is better that one of your members should die rather than for your whole body to go to hell.

³¹It was said, "Whoever divorces his wife is to give her a bill of divorce." ³²But I assure you that any man who divorces his wife except for fornication makes her to have suffered adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³Again, you have heard that it was said to them of old, "You shall not break your oath; you shall pay to the Lord what you have vowed." ³⁴But I say to you not to swear at all, neither by heaven, for it is God's throne, ³⁵nor by the earth, for it is his footstool, nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great king, ³⁶nor by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your speech be "yes, yes," or "no, no," and anything beyond these is of the evil one.

³⁸You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." ³⁹But I say to you, do not resist an evil person. Whoever hits you on your right cheek, turn to him the other. ⁴⁰To the one wanting to take you to court for your shirt, give him also your coat. ⁴¹Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴²To the one making a demand, give, and do not turn away from the one wishing to borrow.

⁴³You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." ⁴⁴But I say, love your enemies and pray for the ones who persecute you, ⁴⁵that you may be children of your heavenly Father, who makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and makes the rain to fall on the just and the unjust. ⁴⁶If you love the ones who love you, what reward do you have? The tax collectors do as much. ⁴⁷If you only greet your brothers, what are

you doing more than others? Do not even Gentiles do the same?
⁴⁸You therefore shall be mature, as your heavenly Father is mature.

6 Be careful not to give your money to a needy person before men to be seen by them. If you do, you have no reward from your heavenly Father. ²When you make a gift, do not blow a trumpet in front of you, as do the hypocrites in the synagogues and in the streets that they may be praised by men. Indeed I assure you that they have received their reward. ³When you make a gift, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing ⁴so that your gift may be in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

⁵When you pray you will not be as the hypocrites, for they like to pray in the synagogues and on street corners that people may see them. Indeed I assure you that they have received their pay. ⁶When you pray, go into a private room, shut the door, and pray to your Father in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷Also, in praying, do not babble as the heathen, who think that by their many words they will be heard. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask. ⁹In this manner pray: "Our heavenly Father, may your name be set apart. ¹⁰May your kingdom come. May your will be done on the earth as in heaven. ¹¹Give us our food day by day. ¹²Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. ¹³Lead us not into temptation, but rescue us from the evil one." ¹⁴If you forgive men their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; ¹⁵but if you do not forgive men, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions.

¹⁶When you fast, do not be like the sad-faced hypocrites who disfigure their faces to let people know they are fasting. Indeed I assure you that they have received their reward. ¹⁷When you fast,

anoint your head and wash your face ¹⁸so that you do not appear to be fasting, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

¹⁹Do not hoard up for yourselves treasures on the earth, where moths and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰Instead, store up treasures in heaven, where neither moths nor rust destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal, ²¹for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²²The lamp of the body is the eye. If your eye is sincere your whole body will be enlightened, ²³but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be dark. If the light in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

²⁴No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. ²⁵Therefore I say to you, do not worry about what you will eat or drink, or what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothing? Look at the birds, who neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value?

²⁷Who by worrying can add a few inches to his height? ²⁸And why are you so concerned about your clothing? Consider the lilies how they grow! They neither labor nor spin, ²⁹but I assure you that Solomon in all his splendor was not clothed like one of them. ³⁰If God clothes today's grass which disappears tomorrow, will he not much more clothe you, men of little faith? ³¹Do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat, or drink, or wear?" ³²All people seek these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first God's kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you. ³⁴Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will have its own cares. The evil of one day is enough for that day.

⁷ Do not judge, so that you will not be judged, ²for with what judgment you judge you will be judged, and with what measure you measure you will be measured. ³Why do you peer at the speck in your brother's eye, and overlook a log in yours? ⁴Or how will you say to your brother, "Permit me to pick the speck out of your eye," and behold! A log is in yours! Hypocrites, first remove the log from your eye, and then you will see clearly to pick a speck out of your brother's eye.

⁶Give not that which is holy to dogs. Do not throw your pearls to pigs, for they will trample them and then turn on you and tear you.

⁷Ask and it will be given; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened. ⁸Everyone who asks receives, and the seeker finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹What man among you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰If he asks for a fish, will he give him a snake? ¹¹If you being evil know to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him? ¹²Whatever you wish that people would do for you, do for them, for this is the law and the prophets.

¹³Enter by the narrow gate, because the gate is wide and the road is spacious that leads to death, and many go that way. ¹⁴But the gate is narrow and the road is restricted that leads into life, and few find it.

¹⁵Be alert for false prophets, who come in sheep clothing, but inside are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶By their fruits you will know them. Grapes are not gathered from thorns or figs from thistles. ¹⁷Every good tree yields good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, neither can a bad tree yield good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

²¹Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter into heaven's kingdom, but the one who does the will of my heavenly Father. ²²Many will say to me in that day, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in your name, and in your name have we not cast out demons, and in your name have we not done many miracles?" ²³Then I shall say to them, "I have never known you. Go away, workers of iniquity."

²⁴Everyone who listens to my words and does them is like a wise man who builds his house on a rock. ²⁵The rains came, the waters rose, and the winds beat against that house, yet it did not fall, because it had been founded upon the rock. ²⁶However, everyone who listens to my words but does not do them is like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand. ²⁷The rains came, the waters rose, and the winds beat against that house, and it collapsed, and its fall was great.

²⁸After Jesus finished this sermon, the crowds were amazed at his doctrine, ²⁹for he was teaching them as having authority, and not as the scribes.

8 When he came down from the mountain great multitudes followed, ²and behold! A leper kneeled, saying, "Lord, if you should want to, you are able to cleanse me." ³Jesus stretched out his hand, and touched him, saying, "I want to. Be cleansed." Immediately the leprosy disappeared. ⁴And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one, but go show yourself to the priest, and take the gift which Moses ordered for a testimony to them."

⁵Jesus entered Capernaum, and a centurion came to him, and requested him, ⁶saying, "Lord, my servant has been lying in the house paralyzed, suffering terribly." ⁷Jesus answered, "I will go and heal him." ⁸The centurion replied,

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof.

Only say a word and my servant will be healed. ⁹I also am a man under authority, having under me soldiers. I say to this one, "Go," and he goes, and to another, "Come," and he comes, and to my slave, "Do this," and he does it.

¹⁰Jesus was amazed when he heard this and said to his followers,

Indeed I assure you that I have found no one in Israel with such faith. ¹¹Also I assure you that many will come from the east and west and sit with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in heaven's kingdom, ¹²but the children of the kingdom will be cast into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

¹³Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go. As you have believed, it will be done for you." His servant was healed in that hour.

¹⁴Then Jesus went into Peter's house, and saw his mother-in-law, who was lying down with fever. ¹⁵When he touched her hand, the fever disappeared. She arose and began serving. ¹⁶In the evening they brought to him many who were demon-possessed. With a word he cast the spirits out, and healed all those who had various sicknesses. ¹⁷In this manner that which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet was fulfilled, "He took our sicknesses and carried our diseases."

¹⁸Jesus, noticing the crowd around him, gave direction to go to the other side. ¹⁹A scribe approached him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." ²⁰Jesus answered, "The foxes have dens and the birds have nests, but the Son of man does not have a place to rest his head." ²¹Another of his disciples said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." ²²Jesus replied, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."

²³He stepped into a boat and his disciples followed, ²⁴and behold! A great storm arose on the lake, so that the boat was covered by the waves. However, Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵They went and awoke him, begging, "Lord, save us! We are going to perish!" ²⁶He asked, "Why are

you afraid? Your faith is weak." He arose, and commanded the winds and the sea, and a great calm came. ²⁷The men were astonished, saying, "What kind of man is this that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

²⁸After he landed and entered the Gadarene country, two demon-possessed men came out of a cemetery and met him. They were very ferocious, so that no one could pass that way, ²⁹and behold! They cried out, saying, "What do we have to do with you, Son of God? Have you come before the time to punish us?"

³⁰Some distance away many pigs were feeding. ³¹The demons begged, "If you cast us out, send us into those pigs." ³²He replied, "Go." They entered the pigs, and behold! All the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and died in the waters. ³³The herdsmen ran away and entered the city, where they told everything that had happened, and the things about the ones who had been demon-possessed. ³⁴Behold! All the city went out to meet Jesus; they saw him, and requested that he leave their country.

9 He stepped into a boat, crossed over, and went to his own city, ²and behold! They brought to him a paralytic on a stretcher. Jesus saw their faith, and said to the paralytic "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." ³Behold! Certain of the scribes talked among themselves, "This man blasphemes." ⁴Jesus, knowing their thinking, said,

Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? ⁵Which is easier, to say "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Arise and walk"? ⁶But that you may know that the Son of man has power on the earth to forgive sins –

(he then said to the paralytic) "Arise, take up your stretcher and go to your house." ⁷He arose and went home. ⁸The crowds saw this, and were amazed, and praised God who had given such power to men.

⁹As Jesus left he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office, and said, "Follow Me." He arose, and followed him. ¹⁰While

Jesus was having dinner in Matthew's home, behold! Many tax collectors and sinners also were guests, along with Jesus' disciples. ¹¹The Pharisees saw this, and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²Jesus replied,

Healthy people do not need a physician, but the sick. ¹³But go and learn what the scripture means, "I desire mercy and not sacrifice," for I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.

¹⁴John's disciples came asking, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not?" ¹⁵Jesus replied,

Are the bridegroom's friends sad while he is still with them? When he is gone then they will fast. ¹⁶No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, because when the new piece shrinks, it will pull away from the old, and the hole becomes bigger. ¹⁷Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins, because the wineskins will tear, the wine will be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. But they put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.

¹⁸While he was talking to them, behold! A ruler came and kneeled, and said, "My daughter is just now dying, but if you will come and lay your hand on her, she will live." ¹⁹Jesus and his disciples arose and followed him.

²⁰Behold! On the way a woman (who had a hemorrhage for twelve years) came behind Jesus and touched the fringe of his coat, ²¹saying to herself, "If only I could touch his coat, I will be cured." ²²Jesus turned, saw her, and said, "Be of good courage, daughter, your faith has saved you." From that hour she was healed.

²³Jesus went into the ruler's house, and saw the flute players and the crowd mourning, ²⁴and said, "Make room, for the girl is not dead, only asleep." They ridiculed him. ²⁵Jesus expelled the crowd, took her

hand, and the maiden arose. ²⁶The report about her went into all that region.

²⁷As Jesus left, two blind men followed, crying, "Have pity on us, Son of David!" ²⁸He entered a house, and the blind men approached Jesus; and he asked them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" They answered, "Yes, Lord" ²⁹Then he touched their eyes, saying, "Let it be done to you according to your faith." ³⁰Their eyes were opened. Jesus strictly charged them, "Do not tell anyone." But they went out and spread the report about him in all that country.

³²As they were going out, behold! A demon-possessed man who could not speak was brought to Jesus. ³³Jesus cast out the demon, and the man began to talk. The crowds marveled, saying, "Such a thing as this has never been seen in Israel!" ³⁴However, the Pharisees were saying, "He is casting out demons by the ruler of demons."

³⁵Jesus visited all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and malady among the people. ³⁶He saw the crowds, and his heart went out to them, because they were in distress and helpless, as sheep with no shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is indeed abundant, but the workers are few. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send reapers into his harvest."

10 Jesus summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them power over unclean spirits to cast them out and to heal every sickness and disease. ²The names of the twelve apostles are: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John, ³Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and Matthew the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus and Thaddeus, ⁴Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. ⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, commanding them,

Go neither among the Gentiles nor into any Samaritan city, ⁶but

only to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷As you go, announce that heaven's kingdom is near. ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cure lepers, expel demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

⁹Take neither gold nor silver nor copper in your belts, ¹⁰nor a bag for the road, nor two coats, nor sandals, nor a staff, for a worker is worthy of his food. ¹¹Into whatever city or village you go, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter a house, give a greeting; ¹³if the house is worthy, let your peace rest on it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴Whoever does not receive you, and does not listen to your message, as you go outside of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. ¹⁵Indeed I assure you that it will be more lenient for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

¹⁶Behold! I am sending you as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore, be as wise as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷Watch out for men who will deliver you into the councils and flog you in their synagogues. ¹⁸You will be delivered to governors and even kings for my sake for a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

¹⁹When they arrest you, do not worry how you will speak or what you will say, for it will be given you in that hour what you will say. ²⁰You are not the ones speaking, but your Father's Spirit speaks through you. ²¹A brother will deliver a brother to death, and a father a child. Children will stand against parents and kill them. ²²You will be hated by all men for my name's sake. He who endures to the end, this one shall be saved. ²³When they pursue you in one city, escape to another. Indeed I assure you that you will by no means have gone through the cities of Israel until the Son of man comes. ²⁴A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above his master. ²⁵It is enough for a disciple to be as his teacher, and the slave as his master. If they call the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household.

²⁶Do not be afraid of them, for nothing is covered that will not be uncovered, nor is anything hidden which will not be known. ²⁷What I say to you in the darkness, tell it in the light. What you hear secretly, proclaim from the rooftops. ²⁸Fear not those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for one cent? Yet not one of them falls on the ground without your Father. ³⁰All the hairs of your head have been counted. ³¹Do not be afraid: you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²Everyone who acknowledges me in the presence of men, I will also acknowledge him in the presence of my heavenly Father; ³³and whoever denies me in the presence of men, I also will deny him in the presence of my heavenly Father.

³⁴Do not think that I came to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. ³⁵I came to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶A man's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷He who loves father or mother, son or daughter, more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸Whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

³⁹He who finds his life will lose it; he who loses his life for my sake will find it. ⁴⁰He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will receive the reward of a righteous man. ⁴²Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple, indeed I assure you that he will by no means lose his reward.

11 After Jesus finished instructing his twelve disciples he went elsewhere to teach and to preach in their cities. ²John heard in prison of

Christ's works, and sent a question through his disciples, ³"Are you the Coming One or should we expect another?" ⁴Jesus replied,

Go and tell John the things you are hearing and seeing: ⁵the blind are seeing, cripples are walking, lepers are cured, the deaf are hearing, the dead are being raised, the poor are hearing the good news, ⁶and blessed is he who is not caused to stumble because of me.

⁷As they left, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John,

What did you go out into the desert to see? A wind-shaken reed? ⁸A man wearing soft clothes? Behold! Those wearing soft clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹To see a prophet? Yes, I assure you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he about whom it is written, "Behold! I am sending my messenger before your face. He will prepare your way." ¹¹Indeed, I assure you that no one born of women is greater than John the immerser, but the least in heaven's kingdom is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John until now heaven's kingdom is roughly treated, and violent men forcefully lay hold of it. ¹³All the prophets and the law prophesied until John. ¹⁴If you desire to receive him, he is the Elijah who was to come. ¹⁵Let him, who has ears, hear!

¹⁶With what shall I compare this generation? They are like children, playing in a market place, who cry to the others, ¹⁷"We played the flute for you, but you did not dance. We wailed, but you did not mourn." ¹⁸John indeed came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon." ¹⁹The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Behold! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners." But wisdom is justified by its deeds.

²⁰Then he began to rebuke the cities where most of his works of

power had taken place, because they did not change their hearts:

²¹Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! Because if the miracles which have been done among you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have changed their hearts long ago in coarse clothing and in ashes. ²²Nevertheless, I assure you that it will be more lenient for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. ²³And you, Capernaum, are you lifted up to heaven? You will go to Hades, because if the miracles which have been done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until now. ²⁴But I assure you that it will be more lenient for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.

²⁵Then Jesus prayed,

I praise you, Father, Master of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have made them known to children. ²⁶Yes Father, for so is your will.

²⁷All things have been given to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Neither does anyone know the Father except the Son and the one to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. ²¹Come to me, all of you who are struggling and are yet burdened, and I will refresh you. ²⁹Take my yoke and learn from me, because I am gentle and lowly in heart. You will find refreshment for your souls, ³⁰for my yoke is pleasant and my load is light.

12 On the sabbath Jesus walked through a field of standing grain. His disciples were hungry and began to pick and eat heads of wheat. ²The Pharisees saw what they did, and rebuked him, "Look, your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the sabbath." ³He replied,

Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, and his companions? ⁴How he entered God's house and they ate the sacred

bread which was not lawful either for him or his companions, but only for the priests? ⁵Or have you not read in the law that on the sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the sabbath and are blameless? ⁶But I am saying to you that someone greater than the temple is here. ⁷If you had known what this scripture means, "I desire mercy, and not sacrifice," you would not have condemned the guiltless; ⁸for the Son of man is Master of the sabbath.

⁹He left them, and went into their synagogue, ¹⁰and behold! A man having a withered hand. To find fault, they asked, "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath?" ¹¹Jesus replied,

Which one of you, who has a sheep to fall into a pit on the sabbath, will not take hold and lift it out? ¹²How much more is a man of value than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful on the sabbath to do good.

¹³Then he spoke to the man, "Stretch out your hand." As he did so, it was restored whole like the other. ¹⁴The Pharisees went out, and took counsel to destroy Jesus.

¹⁵Jesus knew about their plotting, and departed. Many people followed, and he healed all of them. ¹⁶He commanded that they should not make him known, ¹⁷so that which had been spoken through Isaiah the prophet was fulfilled,

¹⁸Behold! My servant whom I have chosen! My beloved one, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will place my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. ¹⁹He will not wrangle or shout, neither will anyone hear his voice in the streets. ²⁰He will not break a bruised reed, and he will not extinguish a smoking wick, until he sends out judgment to victory. ²¹The Gentiles will hope in his name.

²²Then a demon-possessed man, blind and mute, was brought to

Jesus, who healed him so that he could both speak and see. ²³The crowds were astonished, and were saying, "Is not this the son of David?" ²⁴But when the Pharisees heard, they replied, "This man casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of demons." ²⁵Jesus knew their thinking, and replied,

Every kingdom divided against itself becomes desolate, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. ²⁶If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How therefore will his kingdom stand? ²⁷If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will be your judges. ²⁸But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then God's kingdom has come to you.

²⁹How can one enter the house of a strong man and seize his goods if first he does not bind the strong man? Then he will plunder his house. ³⁰He who is not with me is against me, and the one not gathering with me is scattering.

³¹For this reason, I assure you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven of men, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³²And, whoever says a word against the Son of man, it will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven, either in this world or the one to come. ³³Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for by the fruit the tree is known.

³⁴Brood of vipers, how are you, who are evil, able to speak good things? Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵A good man, out of his good treasure, speaks good things, but an evil man, out of his evil storehouse, speaks evil things. ³⁶I assure you that, in the day of judgment, men will give an account of every worthless word, ³⁷for by your words you will be accounted righteous, and by your words you will be condemned.

³⁸Then certain of the scribes and Pharisees answered, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." ³⁹He replied,

An evil and faithless generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. ⁴⁰As Jonah was in the stomach of the sea-monster three days and nights, so will the Son of man be three days and nights in the interior of the earth.

⁴¹The men of Nineveh shall stand up in the judgment with this generation and shall condemn it, for they changed their hearts into Jonah's preaching, and behold! Someone greater than Jonah is here. ⁴²The queen of the South shall be raised in the judgment with this generation and shall condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear Solomon's wisdom, and behold! Someone greater than Solomon is here.

⁴³When the unclean spirit has gone out of a man, he goes through waterless places seeking a resting place, and does not find it. ⁴⁴Then he says, "I will return to my house which I left." When he arrives, he finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits, more wicked than himself, and they go in and dwell there, and make the last condition of that man worse than the first. So it will be to this evil generation.

⁴⁶While he was speaking to the crowds, behold! His mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. ⁴⁷Someone told him, "Behold! Your mother and your brothers stand outside, wanting to speak to you." ⁴⁸He replied to the one who had spoken to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" ⁴⁹He stretched out his hand toward his disciples, and said, "Behold! My mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother and sister and mother."

13 On that day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea.

²Large crowds gathered around him, so that he stepped into a boat, and sat down, while the people stood on the shore. ³Then he spoke many things to them in parables, saying,

Behold! A sower went out to sow. ⁴While he was sowing, some seed fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground, where there was not much earth. They sprang up right away, because there was no depth of soil. ⁶After the sun came up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered. ⁷Other seed fell among the thorns, which grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seed fell on good earth, and were producing grain, some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty-fold. ⁹Let him, who has ears, hear!

¹⁰His disciples came and asked him, "Why are you talking to them in parables?" He answered them,

Because to you it has been given to know the mysteries of heaven's kingdom, but to them it has not been given. ¹²Whoever has, it will be given to him, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.

¹³For this reason I speak to them in parables, because seeing, they do not see; and hearing, they neither hear nor understand. ¹⁴In them Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled, which said, "In hearing, you will hear, but you will not at all understand; and seeing, you will see, but you will not at all perceive. ¹⁵The heart of this people has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have closed their eyes, so that they may not see with their eyes, or hear with their ears, or understand with their heart, and should turn around, and I will heal them." ¹⁶Blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. ¹⁷Indeed I assure you, many prophets and righteous men wanted to see what you see, but did not; and to hear what you hear, but did not.

¹⁸Listen therefore to the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the message of the kingdom, but he does not understand, the evil one comes and takes away that which had been sown in his heart: this one is that which was sown beside the road. ²⁰That which was sown on rocky soil, this is the one who hears the message and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹but he has no root in himself, and lasts only a little while. When trouble or persecution comes because of the message, immediately he stumbles. ²²That which was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the message, but the worry of the times and the deceitfulness of riches choke the message, and he bears no fruit. ²³That which was sown on good earth, this is the one who hears the message and understands, who indeed bears fruit, and produces some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty-fold.

²⁴He placed before them another parable, saying,

Heaven's kingdom is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵While men were sleeping his enemy came and sowed weeds in the midst of the wheat and went away. ²⁶When the plants sprouted and produced grain, then the weeds were also seen. ²⁷The slaves of the landowner came to him, and said, "Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Why therefore does it now have weeds?" ²⁸He replied, "An enemy has done this." The slaves asked, "Do you wish that we go and gather them?" ²⁹He replied, "No, lest while gathering the weeds, you also dig the wheat. ³⁰Allow both to grow together until the harvest. Then I will say to the reapers, 'Remove first the weeds and bind them into bundles to be burned, and gather the wheat into my barn.'"

³¹He gave them another parable, saying,

Heaven's kingdom is like a seed of mustard, which a man took

and sowed in his field. ³²It indeed is the smallest of all seeds, but when it is grown, it is the greatest of the garden-plants, and becomes a tree, so that even the birds of heaven nest in its branches.

³³He spoke another parable to them: "Heaven's kingdom is like leaven which a woman took and mixed in three pecks of flour until all of it was leavened."

³⁴Jesus spoke all these things to the crowds in parables, and without a parable he did not speak anything to them, ³⁵with the result that what had been spoken through the prophet was fulfilled, saying, "I will open my mouth in parables; I will declare things hidden from the world's creation."

³⁶Then he left the crowds, and went into the house. His disciples came to him, requesting, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He replied,

The one who sows the good seed is the Son of man. ³⁸The field is the world. The good seed are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are sons of the evil one. ³⁹The enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the world, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, as the weeds are gathered and burned, so it will be at the end of the world. ⁴¹The Son of man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom stumbling blocks and those committing iniquity, ⁴²and they will cast them into a fiery furnace. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in their Father's kingdom. Let him, who has ears, hear.

⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵Again, heaven's kingdom is like a merchant seeking excellent

pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one very precious pearl, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

⁴⁷Again, heaven's kingdom is like a dragnet which was cast into the sea, in which every kind was caught. ⁴⁸When the net was full, they dragged it on to the beach, sat down, and gathered the good into containers and threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the world: the angels will come and separate the righteous from the wicked, ⁵⁰and will cast the wicked into a fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹Have you understood all these things?

They replied, "Yes, Lord." ⁵²He said, "Therefore, every scribe instructed in heaven's kingdom is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

⁵³After Jesus finished these parables, he left that place, ⁵⁴and went to his home town, where he was teaching in their synagogue. They were astonished, saying,

What is the source of this wisdom and the miracles? ⁵⁵Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary, and are not his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? ⁵⁶Are not all his sisters with us? Where then did he get all these things?

⁵⁷They were offended at him, and Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own house." ⁵⁸He did not perform many miracles there because of their unbelief.

14 At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus, ²and said to his servants, "This is John the immerser. He has been raised from the dead, and therefore the miracles are at work in him." ³Herod had seized, bound, and imprisoned John because of Herodias, the wife of Philip his brother. ⁴John had been saying to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." ⁵Herod was wanting to kill John, but he was afraid of the

crowd, because they regarded him as a prophet.

⁶At Herod's birthday feast the daughter of Herodias danced in the midst. She pleased Herod, ⁷and he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. ⁸She was prompted by her mother, and replied, "Give me the head of John the immerser on a platter." ⁹The king was distressed because of the oaths and the dinner guests, but he ordered that it be given. ¹⁰He sent and beheaded John in prison, ¹¹and his head was brought on a platter, and given to the girl, who carried it to her mother. ¹²His disciples came, took the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

¹³Jesus heard of it, and withdrew in a boat to a desert place alone. The crowds heard, and followed him from the cities by land. ¹⁴As he stepped out of the boat, and looked on the large crowd, his heart went out to them, and he healed their sick. ¹⁵At evening his disciples came and said to him,

This place is a desert and the hour is late. Dismiss the people, that they may go into villages and buy food for themselves.

¹⁶He replied, "They do not need to leave. You give them something to eat." ¹⁷They said, "We only have five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸He answered, "Bring them to me."

¹⁹He commanded the crowds to sit on the grass, took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up into heaven, and gave thanks. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰After they all had eaten and were satisfied, they took up what was left of the broken pieces, twelve basketfuls. ²¹They who had eaten were five thousand men, besides the women and children. ²²Immediately he urged the disciples to get into a boat and go before him to the other side, while he was dismissing the crowds. ²³After he dismissed the crowds, he went up into the mountain by himself to pray. At evening he was there alone.

²⁴Already the boat, miles from the land, was being pitched by the waves, for the wind was contrary. ²⁵In the latter part of the night Jesus came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were alarmed, saying, "A ghost," and they cried out in fear. ²⁷At once he calmed them, saying, "Be of good courage. It is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter spoke out, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹Jesus answered, "Come." Then Peter stepped down from the boat, walked on the water, and went toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid. He began to sink, and cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, and took hold of him, saying, "Man of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²They stepped up into the boat, and the wind ceased. ³³Those in the boat fell at his feet, saying, "Truly you are God's Son."

³⁴They crossed to the other side and came to land at Gennesaret. ¹⁵The men of that place recognized him, and sent out into that whole area, and brought all those who were badly sick to him. ³⁶They were begging him that they might only touch the edge of his clothing. As many as touched were made well.

15 Then Pharisees and scribes from Jerusalem came to Jesus, asking, ²"Why do your disciples transgress the elders' tradition? They do not wash hands before they eat their food." ³Jesus replied,

Why do you transgress God's commandment with your tradition? ⁴God said, "Honor your father and mother" and "He who speaks evil of father or mother shall certainly die." ⁵But you say, "Whoever says to his father or mother, 'Whatever you would have received from me has been given to God,' ⁶and so he does not honor his father or mother." You have canceled God's word through your tradition. ⁷Hypocrites, Isaiah prophesied well about you, saying, ⁸"This people draws near to me with their mouth, and

honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. ⁹They worship me in vain, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

¹⁰Jesus summoned the crowd, and said, "Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a man, but that which defiles a man is what goes out." ¹²Then his disciples came and asked him, "Do you know that the Pharisees are angry because of what you said?" ¹³He replied,

Every plant which my heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted. ¹⁴Leave them alone: they are blind leaders. If a blind man leads a blind man, both shall fall into a pit.

¹⁵Peter said, "Explain the parable to us." ¹⁶He answered,

Are you still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that everything that enters the mouth makes its way out of the body? ¹⁸But the things that go out of the mouth have come from the heart, and those are the things that defile the man. ¹⁹Evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witnessings, and blasphemies come out of the heart. ²⁰These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.

²¹Jesus left that place and went into parts of Tyre and Sidon, ²²and behold! A Canaanite woman from those regions came crying, asking, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David. My daughter is severely possessed with a demon." ²³However, he answered her not one word, and his disciples came and were asking him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was only sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵She came and bowed before him, and said, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He replied, "It is not good to take the bread of the children and to throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷She said, "True, Lord, but

even the little dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."
²⁸Jesus said, "Woman, great is your faith! As you wish, let it be done for you." Her daughter was healed from that hour.

²⁹Jesus left that place, and walked beside the sea of Galilee. He went into a mountain, and while sitting there, ³⁰large crowds came to him, bringing those who were lame, blind, crippled, mute, and many others. They were laid at his feet and he healed them, ³¹so that the crowd was astonished! They saw the mute speaking, the crippled whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing, and they praised the God of Israel.

³²Jesus summoned his disciples, and said,

My heart goes out to the people, for they have now stayed with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, for they will faint on the road.

³³The disciples asked him, "Where in this desert is there enough food for us to satisfy such a crowd?" ³⁴Jesus asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" "Seven," they said, "and a few small fish." ³⁵Jesus commanded the crowd to sit down on the ground, ³⁶and took the seven loaves and the fish, gave thanks, and broke them, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ³⁷After all had eaten and were satisfied, they took up what was left of the broken pieces, seven basketfuls. ³⁸Four thousand men had eaten, besides women and children. ³⁹He dismissed the crowds, stepped into the boat, and sailed to the neighborhood of Magadan.

16 The Pharisees and Sadducees came to him, and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven. ²He replied to them,

When it is evening you say, "Good weather," for the sky is red, ³and in the morning, "Bad weather today," for the sky is red and threatening. You can read the face of the heavens, but not the signs of the times. ⁴An evil and faithless generation continues to seek a

sign, but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah.

He left them, and went away.

⁵The disciples departed to the other side, and forgot to take bread. ⁶Jesus said to them, "Watch and be on guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ⁷They talked among themselves, saying, "We took no bread." ⁸Jesus knew their discussion, and said,

Men of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves that you do not have bread? ⁹Do you not understand or remember the five loaves for the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? ¹⁰Or the seven loaves for the four thousand and how many baskets you took up? ¹¹Why do you not understand that it was not of bread that I spoke? Be on guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

¹²Then they understood that He had not said to guard against the leaven of bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

¹³Jesus came into the regions of Caesarea Philippi, and asked his disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" ¹⁴They replied, "Some have said that you are indeed John the immerser; and others, Elijah; yet others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷Jesus replied,

You are blessed, Simon, son of Jonah. Flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my heavenly Father. ¹⁸And I assure you that you are a small rock, but upon this foundation rock I will build my called-out people, and the gates of Hades shall not overpower them. ¹⁹I will give the keys of heaven's kingdom to you. What you bind on the earth will have been bound in heaven, and what you release on the earth will have been released in heaven.

²⁰Then he gave orders that the disciples should tell no one that he was

the Christ.

²¹From 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 scribes, and be killed, and on the third day to be raised. ²²But Peter took him aside, and began to rebuke him, saying, "May God in his mercy spare you this, Lord! Never, never will this happen to you." ²³But he turned, and said to Peter, "You get behind me, Satan. You are a cause of stumbling to me, because you are not thinking about the things of God, but the things of men." ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples,

If any one wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and let him take up his cross, and let him follow me. ²⁵Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶What will a man be profited if he gains the whole world and loses his soul? Or what will a person give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷The Son of man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will give to each one according to his work. ²⁸Indeed I assure you that some standing here will not taste of death until they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

17 After six days Jesus took along Peter and James and his brother John, and led them to a high mountain privately. ²He was changed in form before them: his face shined like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light, ³and behold! Moses and Elijah appeared to them, speaking with him. ⁴Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will build three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵While he was speaking, behold! A radiant cloud overshadowed them, and behold! A voice from the cloud was saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Hear him."

⁶The disciples heard the voice, and fell on their faces, greatly frightened. ⁷Jesus came and touched them, and said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." ⁸They lifted their eyes, and the only one they saw was Jesus.

"As they were walking down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one about the vision until the Son of man has been raised from the dead."

¹⁰The disciples asked him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must first come?" ¹¹He replied,

Elijah indeed comes, and he will restore all things, ¹²but I assure you that Elijah has come already. However, they did not know him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of man is going to suffer by them.

¹³Then the disciples understood that he had spoken to them about John the immerser.

¹⁴As they approached the crowd, a man came to him, fell on his knees before him, ¹⁵and asked,

Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers intensely. Oftentimes he falls into fire or water. ¹⁶I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him.

¹⁷Jesus answered,

Unbelieving and stubborn generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I tolerate you? Bring him to me.

¹⁸Jesus rebuked the demon, and he came out of him, and the boy was healed from that hour.

¹⁹The disciples then came privately to Jesus, and asked, "Why could we not cast out the demon?" ²⁰He answered,

Because of your little faith, for indeed I assure you that, if you have faith as a seed of mustard, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it shall move. Nothing shall be impossible to you.

²²While they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, ²³and they will kill him, but on the third day he will be raised." They were deeply sorrowful.

²⁴As they were coming into Capernaum, the ones who collected the half-shekel came to Peter, and asked, "Does your teacher pay the half-shekel?" ²⁵He said, "Yes." He went into the house, and Jesus spoke first to him, saying "Simon, do earthly kings require dues or tribute from their sons or from strangers?" ²⁶He replied, "From strangers." Jesus said,

Then the sons are exempt. ²⁷But, so that we do not offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up. Open his mouth and you will find a shekel. Give it to them for you and me.

18 In that hour the disciples came to Jesus, asking, "Who is the greatest in heaven's kingdom?" ²He called a little child, and set him in their midst, and said,

³Indeed I assure you that, unless you turn and become like little children, you shall never enter heaven's kingdom. ⁴Therefore, he who will humble himself like this little child is the greatest in heaven's kingdom. ⁵Whoever receives one such little child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, he would be better off if a large millstone were hung around his neck and he were sunk in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world because of the stumbling blocks! Stumbling blocks must come, but woe to the man through whom they come.

⁸If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter into life maimed or crippled rather than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into everlasting fire. ⁹If your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it

out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than to have two eyes and be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I assure you that their angels in heaven always look on the face of my Father. ¹²What do you suppose? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one strays away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and seek the lost one? ¹³And if he finds it, truly I assure you that he rejoices more because of it than for the ninety-nine that were not lost. ¹⁴So is the desire of your heavenly Father that not one of these little ones should be lost.

¹⁵If your brother sins [against you], go and show him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens, you have won your brother. ¹⁶If he does not listen, take with you one or two more, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, report it to the congregation. If he refuses to listen to the congregation, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸Indeed I assure you that whatever you bind on the earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you release on the earth will have been released in heaven. ¹⁹Again, I assure you that, if two of you agree on the earth about anything that you ask, it will be done by my heavenly Father, ²⁰for where two or three have assembled in my name, I am in the midst of them.

²¹Then Peter came to Him, and asked, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Until seven times?" ¹²Jesus replied to him,

I do not say to you until seven times, but until seventy times seven. ²³For this reason the heavenly kingdom is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began to

settle, one who owed ten million dollars was brought to him. ²⁵Since he could not pay, the lord ordered him, his wife and children, and all his possessions to be sold, and payment to be made. ²⁶Therefore the slave fell on his knees before his lord, begging, "Be patient with me, and I will pay you in full." ²⁷The lord, having sympathy, released him, and canceled the debt.

²⁸But that slave went out and found a fellow slave who owed him twenty dollars, and seized and choked him, demanding, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Therefore his fellow slave fell down and begged him, saying, "Be patient with me, and I will pay the debt." ³⁰But he was unwilling, and had him imprisoned until he should repay that which was owed. His fellow slaves, noticing what had occurred, were greatly grieved. They went and told their lord everything that had happened. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said, "Wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. ³³Should you not also have had sympathy for your fellow slave as I had for you?" ³⁴His angry lord delivered him to the tormentors until he had paid all that he owed. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to you if you do not forgive each one his brother from your hearts.

19 Jesus finished this discourse, and left Galilee and went into the regions of Judea beyond the Jordan. ²Large crowds followed, and he healed them.

³The Pharisees came to him to test him, asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?" ⁴He replied,

Have you not read that the Creator at the beginning made them male and female? ⁵And he said, "For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall be one flesh," ⁶So that they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, let no man separate what God has joined.

⁷They asked, "Why then did Moses command to give her a certificate of

divorce, and to release her?" ⁸He answered them,

Moses because of your hard heart permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. ⁹And I assure you that whoever divorces his wife, except for fornication, and marries another, commits adultery.

¹⁰His disciples responded, "If it is this way between a man and his wife, it is better not to marry." ¹¹He replied,

Not all men can receive this teaching, but the ones to whom it has been given. ¹²There are eunuchs who were born so, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the heavenly kingdom. He who can accept this saying, let him accept it.

¹³Then little children were brought to him, that he might place his hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴However, Jesus said, "Allow the little children to come to me, and do not forbid them, for of such is the heavenly kingdom." ¹⁵He placed his hands on them, and went away.

¹⁶Behold! Someone came to him, and asked, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have everlasting life?" ¹⁷Jesus answered, "Why do you ask me about the good? One is the Good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." ¹⁸He asked, "Which?" Jesus said,

"You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not give false testimony; ¹⁹Honor your father and mother," and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

²⁰The young man replied, "All these I have kept. What yet do I

lack?" ²¹Jesus answered, "If you wish to be complete, sell your possessions, and give them to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and come, be following me." ²²When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowfully, for he had many possessions. ²³Then Jesus said to his disciples,

Indeed I assure you that it is difficult for a rich man to enter the heavenly kingdom. ²⁴And again I assure you that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's kingdom.

²⁵The disciples were greatly amazed, asking, "Who then can be saved?" ²⁶Jesus saw their amazement, and replied, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

²⁷Then Peter said to him, "Behold! We have left all and followed you. What therefore will there be for us?" Jesus replied,

²⁸Indeed I assure you that in the regeneration, when the Son of man sits on the throne of his glory, you also will sit on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for my name's sake shall receive a hundred-fold and shall inherit everlasting life. ³⁰But many who are first shall be last, and the last first.

20 The heavenly kingdom is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ²He agreed with the workers for twenty cents a day, and sent them to his vineyard. ³About nine o'clock he came again, and saw others standing idle in the market place, ⁴and said, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will give to you whatever is right." ⁵And they went. About noon, and again at three o'clock, he did the same thing. ⁶About five o'clock he went out and found others standing around,

and asked them, "Why have you stood here idle all the day?" ⁷They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸At evening the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the workers and give them their pay, beginning from the last until the first." ⁹Those who had come about five o'clock received each one twenty cents. ¹⁰And when the first came, they thought they would receive more, but they also themselves received each one twenty cents. ¹¹They received this, and started murmuring against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last worked one hour, but you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the heat." ¹³He replied to one of them, "Friend, I have not been unfair with you. Did you not agree with me for twenty cents? ¹⁴Take what is yours and go, for I wish to give to the last as to you. ¹⁵Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is mine? Or are you envious because I am good?" ¹⁶So the last shall be first and the first last.

¹⁷Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, and took the twelve disciples aside, and on the road said to them,

¹⁸Behold! We are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, who will sentence him to death. ¹⁹They will deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, to flog, and to crucify. On the third day he will be raised.

²⁰Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to him with her sons. She fell at his feet, and asked something of him. ²¹He said, "What do you wish?" She replied, "Let my sons sit, one at your right hand and one at your left hand, in your kingdom." ²²He answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup which I am going to drink?" They answered, "We can." ²³He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right or left hand, this is not mine to give, but for whom it has been prepared by my Father." ²⁴The ten heard this, and were angry

against the two brothers. ²⁵Jesus summoned them, and said,

You know that the Gentile rulers have lordship over them, and their great ones exercise authority. ²⁶This shall not be so among you, but whoever among you wishes to be great shall be your servant, ²⁷and whoever among you wishes to be first shall be your slave, ²⁸even as the Son of man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

²⁹As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him, ³⁰and behold! Two blind men, sitting beside the road, who had heard that Jesus was coming, cried, saying, "Have mercy on us, son of David!" ³¹The crowd commanded them to be quiet, but they cried even more, "Lord, have mercy on us, son of David!" ³²Jesus stopped, and summoned them, and asked, "What do you want me to do?" ³³They answered, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened!" ³⁴Jesus' heart went out to them; he touched their eyes, and they regained their sight at once, and followed him.

21 They were near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage on the mount of Olives. Then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them,

Go into the village. Right away you will find a donkey tied and her colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you will answer that the Lord needs them. Right away he will send them.

⁴In this way the saying spoken through the prophet was fulfilled, saying,

⁵Say to the daughter of Zion, behold! Your King is coming to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, even on a colt the offspring of a donkey.

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed, ⁷and brought

the donkey and the colt. They placed their garments on them, making a saddle for him. ⁸A large crowd spread their garments on, the road. Some cut branches from the trees and put them on the road. ⁹The crowds going ahead and following were crying out, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the Lord's name! Hosanna in the highest heavens!" ¹⁰As he rode into Jerusalem all the city was stirred, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹The marchers were answering, "This is the prophet Jesus, the one from Nazareth of Galilee."

¹²He entered the temple, and cast out all of those who were buying and selling. He overturned the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of those who were selling doves, ¹³saying, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of thieves.'"

¹⁴The blind and the crippled came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵The chief priests and the scribes saw the marvelous things he was doing, heard the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David," and became angry. ¹⁶They asked him, "Do you hear what they are saying?" Jesus replied, "Yes. Have you never read 'Out of the mouth of children and sucklings I have ordained praise'?" ¹⁷He left them, and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

¹⁸Early the next morning, as he returned to the city, he was hungry. ¹⁹He saw one fig tree beside the road, and went to it, but found nothing but leaves. He said to it, "Never will fruit be on you," and the tree instantly became withered. ²⁰The disciples saw what happened, and marveled, asking, "How did the fig tree become withered so quickly?" ²¹Jesus replied to them,

Indeed I assure you, if you have steadfast faith, and do not waver, not only can you do as was done to this fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, "Be removed and cast into the sea," and it shall be so. ²²And all things whatever you ask in prayer,

believing, you shall receive.

²³He entered the temple, and the chief priests and the elders of the people went to him as he was teaching, and asked, "By what authority are you doing these things? And who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus replied to them,

I also will ask you one question, which, if you answer, I also will tell you by what authority I am doing these things: ²⁵was John's immersion from heaven or from men?

They began talking among themselves, saying, "If we say 'Of heaven,' he will ask us, 'Why therefore did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say 'Of men,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷They replied to Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them,

Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. He said to one, "Son, go work today in the vineyard." ²⁹He answered, "I do not intend to go," but later, having regret, he went. ³⁰He came to the other and said the same thing, who replied, "I will, sir," but he did not. ³¹Which of the two did the will of the father?

They replied, "The first." Jesus said to them,

Indeed I assure you that the tax collectors and the prostitutes enter God's kingdom before you. ³²John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. You saw what they did, but you had no regret, that you might believe him.

³³Hear another parable: a landowner planted a vineyard, and put a hedge around it, and dug a winepress in it, and built a tower, and

leased it to tenant farmers, and went away. ³⁴When harvest time drew near, he sent his slaves to the farmers to get his fruit. ³⁵The farmers seized the slaves, and beat one, and stoned one, and killed one. ³⁶Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first group, and they treated them the same way. ³⁷And last, he sent to them his son, saying, "They will respect my son." ³⁸But the farmers, having seen the son, said among themselves, "This is the heir. Come! Let us kill him, and have his inheritance." ³⁹They seized him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰When the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?

⁴¹They replied to him, "He will destroy those evil men, and will lease his vineyard to other tenant farmers, who will give him his fruit in due course." ⁴²Jesus said to them,

Have you never read the scriptures, "The stone which the builders rejected, this has become the keystone; this was from the Lord, and it is marvelous in our eyes"? ⁴³For this reason I assure you that God's kingdom will be taken from you, and will be given to a nation producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And he who falls on this stone will be dashed to pieces; and the stone will crush anyone upon whom it falls.

⁴⁵The chief priests and Pharisees heard his parables, and knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶They were seeking to lay hold of him, but were afraid of the crowds, since they considered him a prophet.

22 Again Jesus spoke in parables, saying,

²Heaven's kingdom is like a king who celebrated with a wedding dinner for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call the invited guests to the dinner, but they did not want to come. ⁴Again, he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been called, 'Behold! I have prepared my dinner. The oxen and the fat calves are

slaughtered, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding dinner.'
⁵But they paid no attention, and went away, one to his own farm, one to his business, ⁶and the rest laid hold of the king's slaves, abused, and killed them.

⁷The king became angry, and sent his soldiers to destroy these murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding dinner is ready, but the invited ones were not worthy. ⁹Go to the byways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding dinner." ¹⁰Those slaves went out to the byways, and gathered all they could find, both bad and good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹However, when the king came in to observe the guests, he saw there a man not clothed with a wedding garment, ¹²and he said to him, "Friend, why have you come without a wedding garment?" He was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to his servants, "Bind his hands and feet, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹⁴Many are called but few are chosen.

¹⁵The Pharisees left and took counsel how they might entrap Jesus in his words. ¹⁶They sent their followers with the Herodians to him, saying,

Teacher, we know that you are true, and that you truly speak God's way, and that you are impartial, for you do not respect the face of men. ¹⁷Tell us therefore what you think: is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar or not?

¹⁸Jesus was aware of their trickery, and said, "Why are you testing me, hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the tribute money." They brought to him a coin, ²⁰and he asked, "Whose are this image and inscription?" ²¹They replied, "Caesar's." Then he said, "Give therefore to Caesar the things of Caesar, and to God the things of God." ²²They heard this, and marveled,

and left him, and went away.

²³On that day the Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) also came and asked him, ²⁴saying,

Teacher, Moses said, "If a man die having no children, his brother as next of kin will marry his wife and give an heir to his brother." ²⁵There were seven brothers with us. The first married and died childless, leaving his wife to his brother, ²⁶as did the second, and the third, until there were seven. ²⁷The woman died last of all. ²⁸In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will she be for all seven had married her?

²⁹Jesus replied to them,

You are misled, not knowing the scriptures or God's power, ³⁰for in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels in heaven. ³¹And have you not read what God said concerning the resurrection of the dead, ³²"I AM the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob"? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.

³³The crowds listened and were amazed at his teaching. ³⁴The Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, and they gathered together. ³⁵One of them, a lawyer, testing him, asked, ³⁶"Teacher, what is the great commandment in the law?" ³⁷Jesus said to him,

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your understanding. ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹The second is like it, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰The whole law, and the prophets, hang on these two commandments.

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were assembled, Jesus asked them, ⁴²saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They

replied, "David's." ⁴³He asked them,

How then did David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴"The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet'"? ⁴⁵If, therefore, David called him "Lord," how is he his son?

⁴⁶No one could answer him a word, and from that day no more did anyone dare to question him.

23 Jesus then spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, ²saying,

The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat. ³Therefore, carry out and observe all things that they say, but do not practice their deeds, because they do not keep their own words. ⁴They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with their finger. ⁵They practice all their deeds to be seen of men. They widen their phylacteries and enlarge the tassels of their garments. ⁶They adore the place of honor at dinners and the front seats of the synagogues, ⁷and greetings in the market places, and to be called of men Rabbi.

⁸But you, do not be called Rabbi, for one is your Teacher, and all of you are brothers. ⁹Call no man your Father on the earth, for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. ¹⁰Neither be called Master, because one is your Master, the Christ; ¹¹and the greatest of you will be your servant. ¹²Furthermore, whoever exalts himself will be brought low, and whoever lowers himself will be exalted.

¹³Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you close the heavenly kingdom before men. You are not going in, and you do not permit the ones going in to enter.

¹⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you search the sea and the land to make one convert; and when he has been made, you make him a son of hell twice as bad as yourselves.

¹⁶Woe to you, blind leaders, who say, "He who swears by the temple, it is nothing, but he who swears by the gold of the temple, owes." ¹⁷Fools and blind, which is greater, the gold or the temple which sanctified the gold? ¹⁸And, "He who swears by the altar, it is nothing; but he who swears by the gift upon the altar, owes." ¹⁹Blind ones, which is greater, the gift or the altar which sanctifies the gift? ²⁰He who swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it; ²¹and he who swears by the temple swears by it and by him who lives in it; ²²and he who swears by heaven swears by God's throne and by him who sits upon it.

²³Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you tithe the mint, dill, and cumin, but you have forsaken the heavier matters of the law, justice, mercy, and faith. It is necessary to do these things, and not to forsake the others. ²⁴Blind leaders, the ones who are straining out the gnat and swallowing the camel!

²⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you wash the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. ²⁶Blind Pharisee, first wash the inside of the cup, so that its outside also may become clean.

²⁷Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you are like white-washed tombs which outwardly appear attractive; but inside are full of all kinds of uncleanness. ²⁸So also you appear to men to be righteous; but inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

²⁹Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you build the prophets' tombs and you decorate the memorials of righteous men, ³⁰and you say, "If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the prophets' blood." ³¹Thus you are testifying in yourselves that you are the sons of those who murdered the prophets, ³²and you fill up the measure of your fathers.

³³Snakes, brood of vipers, how will you escape the judgment of

hell? ³⁴For this reason, behold! I send to you prophets, wise men, and scribes. You will kill some of them and crucify others. You also will flog some of them in your synagogues, and you will persecute them from city to city, ³⁵in order that on you will come all the righteous blood poured out on the earth from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zachariah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. ³⁶Indeed I assure you that all these things will come on this generation.

³⁷Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones the ones who are sent to her, how often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers together her chicks under her wings; but this is not what you wanted. ³⁸Behold! Your house is left to you deserted, ³⁹for I assure you that you will by no means see me again until you shout, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

24 As Jesus left the temple, and was going along, his disciples came to him to point out to him the buildings of the temple. ²He said to them, "Do you see all these? Indeed, I assure you that not a stone here will be left on another which shall not be thrown down."

³While he was sitting on the mount of Olives, the disciples came to him alone, asking, "Tell us when shall these things be, and what is the sign of your coming and the end of the world." Jesus said to them,

⁴Be on guard lest someone deceive you, ⁵for many will come in my name saying, "I am the Christ," and they will lead many astray. ⁶You are about to hear of wars and news of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for these things must come, but the end is not yet. ⁷A nation shall rise up against a nation, and a kingdom against a kingdom. Famines and earthquakes shall occur in various places. ⁸All these things are the beginning of woes.

⁹Then they shall deliver you into distress, and shall kill you.

You shall be hated by all nations because of my name, ¹⁰and then many shall be caused to stumble, and they shall betray one another and shall hate one another. ¹¹Many false prophets shall be raised up, and they shall lead many astray. ¹²Because wickedness shall be multiplied, the love of many shall grow cold. ¹³He who endures to the end, this one shall be saved. ¹⁴The gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all nations, and then the end shall come.

¹⁵When you see the detestable thing causing the desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶then let the ones living in Judea escape to the mountains. ¹⁷Let him on the housetop not come down to take things out of his house. ¹⁸Let him who is in the field not return for his coat. ¹⁹Woe in those days to pregnant women and to those who are nursing. ²⁰Pray that your flight be not in winter neither on a sabbath. ²¹Then there shall be great suffering such as has not been from the world's beginning, no, and never shall be seen.

²²If those days are not cut short, no flesh shall be saved; but, for the sake of the chosen ones, those days shall be cut short. ²³At that time if any one says to you, "Look! Here is the Christ," or "Here," do not believe him, ²⁴for false Christs and false prophets shall be raised up, showing great signs and wonders in order to deceive, if possible, even the chosen ones. ²⁵Behold! I have told you beforehand!

²⁶If they say to you, "Look! He is in the desert," do not go out. Or, "Look! He is in an inner room," do not believe them, ²⁷for as the lightning comes out of the east and shines to the west, so shall be the coming of the Son of man. ²⁸Where the carcass is, there the vultures shall gather.

²⁹Immediately after the suffering of those days, the sun shall be darkened, the moon shall not give its light, the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. ³⁰Then the

sign of the Son of man shall appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth shall wail, and they shall see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and much glory. ³¹He shall send his angels with the sound of a great trumpet, and they shall gather his chosen ones from the four winds, from one corner of heaven to another.

³²Learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch already has become tender, and the leaves sprout, you know that summer is near. ³³So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the doors. ³⁴Indeed, I assure you that this generation shall not pass away until all these things happen. ³⁵Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall never pass away.

³⁶No one knows about that day and hour, neither the angels, nor the Son, but the Father only, ³⁷for as it was in the days of Noah, so shall be the coming of the Son of man. ³⁸As in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and knew not until the flood came and took all away, so shall be the coming of the Son of man.

⁴⁰Two will be in the field, one is taken and one is left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill, one is taken and one is left. ⁴²Therefore watch, because you do not know what day your Lord comes. ⁴³And you know that if the householder had known in which watch the thief would come, he would have watched and would not have permitted his house to be broken into; ⁴⁴on account of this, you also stay ready, because the Son of man comes in an hour you do not expect.

⁴⁵Who is the faithful and wise slave whom the master of the house has put in charge of the slaves in his household, to give them food at the right time? ⁴⁶Blessed is that slave whose master, upon returning, finds him so doing. ⁴⁷Indeed I assure you that the master shall set him over all his possessions.

⁴⁸But if that wicked slave says in his heart, "My master is delaying," ⁴⁹and he begins to beat his fellow slaves, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, ⁵⁰that servant's master shall come in a day he does not expect, and in an hour he does not know; ⁵¹and he shall severely punish him and shall assign him a place among the hypocrites, where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

25 Heaven's kingdom will be like ten virgins who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³The foolish took their lamps, but no oil with them. ⁴The wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵While the bridegroom tarried, they all went to sleep, ⁶but in the middle of the night there was an outcry, "Look! The bridegroom! Come out to meet him."

⁷Then all the virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." ⁹But the wise answered, "There may not be enough for us and you. You go to those who sell and buy for yourselves." ¹⁰While they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding dinner, and the door was shut. Later the other virgins came, crying, "Lord, Lord, open to us." ¹²But he answered, "I assure you, I do not know you." ¹³Watch therefore, because you do not know the day or the hour.

¹⁴It is like a man going on a journey, who called his slaves and delivered to them his possessions. ¹⁵He gave to one five thousand dollars, to another two thousand, to another one thousand, according to the ability of each. He then departed. Right away ¹⁶the one who had five thousand dollars made an investment and gained five thousand more. ¹⁷Likewise, the one who received two thousand dollars gained two thousand more. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one thousand dollars went away and dug into the earth and hid his master's money.

¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The one with the five thousand dollars brought five thousand more, saying, "Master, you gave me five thousand dollars. Look! I have gained five thousand." ²¹The master said, "Splendid! Useful and dependable slave! You were dependable with a few things. I will put you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master." ²²The one with two thousand dollars came and said, "Master, you gave me two thousand dollars. Look! I have gained two thousand more." ²³The master said, "Splendid! Useful and dependable slave! You were dependable with a few things. I will put you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Finally, the one who had received the one thousand dollars came and reported, "Master, I knew you, that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, gathering where you did not scatter. ²⁵So, I was afraid, and I went and hid your money in the earth. Look! You have what is yours." ²⁶His master replied, "Wicked and lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and I gather where I have not scattered. ²⁷Therefore you should have deposited my money with the bankers, so that, when I came, I might receive my money with interest. ²⁸So take from him the thousand dollars and give it to the one who has ten thousand; ²⁹for to every one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, what he has will be taken. ³⁰Throw the worthless slave into the outer darkness, where will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

³¹When the Son of man comes in his grandeur, and all his angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them from one another as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats. ³³He will put his sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. ³⁴Then the King will say to the ones at his right hand, "Come, blessed ones of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you

from the foundation of the world. ³⁵I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger and you received me; ³⁶naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me." ³⁷Then the righteous will reply to him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and we fed you, or thirsty and we gave you to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and we received you, or naked and we clothed you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and we went to you?" ⁴⁰The King will reply to them, "Indeed I assure you, when you served one of the least of these my brothers, you served me."

⁴¹Then he will say to the ones on his left hand, "Depart from me, accursed ones, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his agents. ⁴²I was hungry, yet you did not feed me; I was thirsty, yet you did not give me to drink; ⁴³I was a stranger, yet you did not receive me; naked, yet you did not clothe me; sick and in prison, yet you did not visit me." ⁴⁴Then they will reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, or a stranger or naked, or sick or in prison, and we did not serve you?" ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, "Truly I assure you, in so far as you did not serve one of the least of these my brothers, you did not serve me." ⁴⁶These will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life.

26 Jesus finished all these words, and said to his disciples, ²"You know that the Passover occurs after two days, and the Son of man will be delivered up to be crucified."

³Then the chief priests and elders of the people gathered in the courtyard of Caiaphas the high priest, ⁴and laid plans to seize Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵However, they were saying, "Not at the feast, lest an uproar arise among the people."

⁶While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman having an alabaster bottle of very expensive perfume came to

Jesus, and anointed his head while he was at the table. ⁸The disciples were angry, saying, "Why such waste? ⁹This could have been sold for much money to give to the poor." ¹⁰Jesus, understanding the situation, responded,

Why are you troubling the woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me. ¹¹You always have the poor with you, but not me. ¹²She has poured this perfume on my body to prepare me for my burial. ¹³Indeed I assure you that what this woman has done will be told in her memory where ever this gospel will be preached in the whole world.

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and ¹⁵said, "What are you willing to give to me to deliver him to you?" They placed before him thirty pieces of silver, ¹⁶and from that time he continually sought to deliver him.

¹⁷On the first day of unleavened bread Jesus' disciples asked, "Where do you want us to prepare the Passover?" ¹⁸He answered,

Go into the city to a certain one and say, "The Teacher says, 'My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples in your home.'"

¹⁹The disciples did as Jesus had instructed and prepared the Passover. ²⁰In the evening he was sitting with the twelve. ²¹During the meal he said, "Indeed I assure you that one of you will betray me." ²²They were greatly grieved, and each one began to ask him, "It is not I, is it, Lord?" ²³He replied,

He who dips his hand with me in the dish will betray me. ²⁴Indeed the Son of man is going away as it has been written of him, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed. It would have been better if that man had not been born.

²⁵Judas (the betrayer) asked, "It is not I, is it, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have spoken." ²⁶During the meal Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat. This is my body." ²⁷And he took a cup, gave thanks, and passed it to them, saying,

All of you drink of it, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many so that sins might be forgiven. ²⁹I assure you, I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

³⁰They sang a hymn, and went out to the mount of Olives.

³¹Then Jesus said to them,

Tonight all of you will be offended at me, as it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered,"

³²After I have been raised, I will go before you into Galilee.

³³Peter replied, "If everyone else is offended at you, I will never be offended." ³⁴Jesus responded, "Indeed I assure you that tonight, before a rooster crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵Peter answered, "Even if it is necessary to die with you, I will not deny you." All of the disciples said the same thing.

³⁶Jesus then went with them to a place called Gethsemane and said, "Sit here while I go there to pray." ³⁷He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and became sorrowful and was filled with anxiety. ³⁸Then he said to them, "My soul is deeply troubled, even to death. Wait here and watch with me." ³⁹He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away. Nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." ⁴⁰Jesus returned to the disciples, found them sleeping, and said to Peter,

Could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray that you do not come into temptation. The spirit is willing but the flesh

is weak.

⁴²He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cup cannot be removed unless I drink it, may your will be done." ⁴³He returned to them, and again found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴He left once more and prayed the same words a third time. ⁴⁵Then he returned to his disciples, and said,

Are you sleeping and resting? Behold! The hour has come. The Son of man is being delivered into sinners hands. ⁴⁶Arise, let us go. Look! My betrayer is near.

⁴⁷While he was speaking, behold! Judas, one of the twelve, and a large crowd from the chief priests and elders came with swords and clubs. ⁴⁸The betrayer had given them a sign, "The one I kiss is he. Seize him." ⁴⁹He immediately walked up to Jesus, saying, "Greetings, Rabbi," and kissed him tenderly. ⁵⁰Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came to do." They then came to Jesus, grabbed him, and held him. ⁵¹Behold! One of those with Jesus drew his sword, and struck the high priest's slave, cutting off his ear. ⁵²But Jesus said,

Put away your sword, for every one who uses a sword will die by it. ⁵³Do you not know that I could pray to my Father and he would send to me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴How then would the scriptures be fulfilled that it is necessary for this to occur?

⁵⁵Then Jesus spoke to the crowd,

Have you come with swords and clubs as for a thief? Every day in the temple I sat and taught and you did not lay hold of me. ⁵⁶All of this is a fulfillment of the scripture of the prophets.

Then all his disciples deserted and ran away.

⁵⁷The ones who had seized Jesus brought him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸Peter was following him from a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat with the servants to see the outcome. ⁵⁹The chief priests and the entire council were seeking a false witness against Jesus in order that they might kill him. ⁶⁰Though many false witnesses came before them, they found none.

Finally, two came before them, who ⁶¹testified, "This man said, 'I can destroy God's temple and rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶²The high priest arose and asked, "Do you say nothing? What are these testifying against you?" ⁶³Jesus was silent, and the high priest said to him, "I put you on oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." ⁶⁴Jesus replied,

You have spoken. Nevertheless, I assure you that afterwards you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

⁶⁵Then the high priest ripped his clothes, and exclaimed, "He has blasphemed! What further need have we of witnesses? Behold! Now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶What do you think?" They replied, "He deserves death!" ⁶⁷Then they spit in his face, hit him with their fists, and slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, "Prophecy to us, Christ, who struck you?"

⁶⁹Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl approached him, and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." ⁷⁰He denied this in front of everyone, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." ⁷¹As he went toward the gate, another servant-girl said to the others who were there, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." ⁷²Again Peter denied, this time with an oath, saying, "I do not know the man."

⁷³After a little time, the bystanders approached Peter and said, "Certainly you also are of them, for your speech gives you away." ⁷⁴Then he began cursing and swearing, "I do not know the man."

Immediately a rooster crowed, ⁷⁵and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went outside, and wept bitterly.

27 When it was morning all the chief priests and the elders conspired against Jesus to kill him. ²They bound him and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

³Judas the traitor saw that Jesus was condemned, and he was filled with regret, and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴and said, "I have sinned, betraying innocent blood." They replied, "What is that to us? You see to it!" ⁵He threw down the pieces of silver in the temple, departed, went away and hanged himself.

⁶The chief priests picked up the silver pieces, and said, "It is not lawful to put them in the treasury, since they are the price of blood." ⁷They took counsel, and bought a potter's field for burying strangers. ⁸As a result that field is called a "Field of Blood" to this day. ⁹Then was fulfilled that which was spoken through the prophet, saying,

They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set by the sons of Israel, ¹⁰and bought a potter's field, as the Lord instructed me.

¹¹Jesus stood in front of the governor, who asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "You are speaking," ¹²but he said nothing in reply to the charge leveled against him by the chief priests and elders. ¹³Then Pilate asked him, "Do you not hear how many things they are witnessing against you?" ¹⁴Jesus answered not one word, so that the governor was very much amazed.

¹⁵During the feast the governor had a custom of releasing one prisoner to the people whom they wished. ¹⁶At that time the notorious Barabbas was in prison. ¹⁷They assembled, and Pilate asked them, "Whom do you wish that I release, Barabbas or Jesus, the one called Christ?" ¹⁸(He knew that it was of envy that they had brought him.)

¹⁹While 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."

²⁰The chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas, and that they kill Jesus. ²¹Again the governor asked, "Which of the two do you wish me to release to you?" They answered, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus, the one called Christ?" They all replied, "Let him be crucified." ²³Pilate asked, "What evil has he done?" But they continued to cry loudly, "Let him be crucified." ²⁴Pilate, seeing that he was getting nowhere (but rather causing an uproar), took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "His blood will be on you, not on me." ²⁵All the people shouted, "May his blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶Then he released Barabbas to them, flogged Jesus, and delivered him to be crucified.

²⁷The governor's soldiers took Jesus into their headquarters, and gathered around him the whole regiment. ²⁸They removed his clothes and put on him a soldier's red cloak. ²⁹They wove a crown of thorns, and placed it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. They bowed before him, and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews." ³⁰They spit on him, and took the reed, and beat him on the head. ³¹They removed the cloak, put his clothes back on him, and led him away to be crucified.

³²While they were going out, they found a man of Cyrene by the name of Simon, whom they compelled to carry Jesus' cross. ³³They arrived at a place called Golgotha (which is called "The Place of a Skull"), ³⁴and gave him a mixture of wine and gall. He tasted it, and refused to drink. ³⁵They crucified him, and divided his garments, casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat there, watching him.

³⁷They placed above his head a written accusation, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then they crucified with him two thieves, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹Those who passed by were shouting

insults, wagging their heads, ⁴⁰and saying, "You, the one who destroys the temple and builds it in three days, save yourself! If you are God's Son, come down from the cross." ⁴¹Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, crying,

⁴²He saved others, but he cannot save himself! If he is Israel's king, let him now come down from the cross and we will believe on him. ⁴³He trusted in God. Let God now rescue him if he desires, for he said, "I am God's Son."

⁴⁴In the same way the thieves were heaping insults upon him.

⁴⁵From noon, darkness was on all the earth until three o'clock.

⁴⁶About three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "*Eli, Eli, Lema sabachthani*" (that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

⁴⁷Some of the bystanders who heard him said, "He is calling Elijah."

⁴⁸And immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed to give him a drink. ⁴⁹Others were saying, "Stop! Let us see if Elijah will come and save him." ⁵⁰Jesus, crying again with a loud voice, yielded his spirit.

⁵¹Behold! The temple's veil was torn in two from the top to the bottom, the earth shook, rocks were split, ⁵²tombs were opened, and the bodies of many of the saints who had died were raised. ⁵³(They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection, entered the holy city, and were seen by many.)

⁵⁴The centurion and the ones with him watching Jesus, seeing the earthquake and the things that happened, were greatly frightened, and said, "Indeed, this man was a son of God." ⁵⁵Many women were there watching from afar, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, serving him. ⁵⁶Among these were Mary of Magdala and Mary, the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

⁵⁷At evening a rich man from Arimathea, whose name was Joseph (who was also a disciple of Jesus), ⁵⁸went to Pilate and asked for Jesus'

body. Pilate then commanded that it be given to him. ⁵⁹He took the body and wrapped it in a pure linen cloth. ⁶⁰He placed it in his new tomb (which had been cut in the rock), and rolled a large stone to the door, and departed. ⁶¹Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were sitting over against the tomb.

⁶²The next day, after the Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together before Pilate, ⁶³saying,

Sir, we remember that the deceiver said, "I will arise after three days." ⁶⁴Command therefore that the tomb be made secure until the third day to guard against his disciples stealing the body and saying, "He has been raised from the dead." The last deception will be worse than the first.

⁶⁵Pilate replied to them, "Take guards and go and make the tomb as secure as you can." ⁶⁶They departed and secured the tomb, sealing the stone, and stationing the guards.

28 After the sabbath, as Sunday dawned, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary came to see the tomb, ²and behold! There was a great earthquake, and the Lord's angel came down from heaven and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. ³His appearance was like lightning and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴The guards trembled with fear and became like dead men. ⁵The angel spoke to the women,

Do not be afraid. I know you are seeking Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here! He has been raised, even as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying. ⁷Go without delay and tell his disciples that he has been raised from the dead, and behold! He will go before you into Galilee, and you will see him there. Behold! I have told you!

⁸The women immediately left the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold! Jesus met them and said,

"Greeting." They came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and they will see me there."

¹¹While they were going, behold! Some of the guards went into the city and told the chief priests all things that had happened. ¹²The priests met with the elders, plotted together, and gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, ¹³and instructed them, "Say, 'His disciples came at night and stole him while we were sleeping.' ¹⁴If the governor hears of this we will persuade him, and you will not have to worry." ¹⁵They took the money and did as they were instructed. This report has been spread among the Jews until this day.

¹⁶The eleven disciples went to Galilee to a mountain according to Jesus' instruction. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸Jesus came to them and spoke, saying,

All authority in heaven and on the earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go and make disciples of all nations, immersing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you, and behold! I am with you all the days to the end of the world.