

Mark

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, ²as it is written in the prophets,

Behold! I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way. ³He is a voice crying in the desert, "Prepare the Lord's way. Make his paths straight."

⁴John came and immersed in the desert, and preached the immersion of a change of heart, in order that sins might be forgiven. ⁵All the people of Judea were going out to him, and all of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and were being immersed by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁷He was preaching, saying,

One who is mightier than I comes after me. I am unworthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I immersed you in water, but he will immerse you in the Holy Spirit.

⁹In those days Jesus went from Nazareth of Galilee, and was immersed in the Jordan by John. ¹⁰Immediately he came up out of the water, and saw the heavens being opened, and the Spirit as a dove coming down on him. ¹¹A voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son. I am well pleased with you."

¹²Right away the Spirit led him into the desert, ¹³where for forty days he was being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, but the angels were serving him.

¹⁴After John had been taken into custody, Jesus went to Galilee and preached the gospel of God, ¹⁵saying, "The time is fulfilled and God's kingdom is near. Change your hearts and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶As Jesus was passing by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his

brother Andrew, casting a net in the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." ¹⁸At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹He went on a little way, and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John in the boat repairing nets. ²⁰Right away he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

²¹They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²²They were astonished at his doctrine, for he was teaching them as one with authority, and not as the scribes.

²³And immediately a man with an unclean spirit was in their synagogue, ²⁴saying, "What do we have to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him." ²⁶The unclean spirit convulsed him, screamed with a loud voice, and came out of him. ²⁷All were amazed, and questioned among themselves, asking, "What is this? A new teaching? With authority he commands unclean spirits and they obey him." ²⁸The report about Jesus went out speedily every where into all the surrounding region of Galilee.

²⁹Immediately they left the synagogue, and went into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with fever, and right away they told him about her. ³¹He went to her, took her hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began serving them.

³²In the evening, after sunset, they brought to him all those who were very ill, and those who were demon-possessed. ³³The whole city was gathering at the door. ³⁴He healed many who were ill with all kinds of diseases, and cast out many demons, but he did not permit them to speak, for they knew him.

³⁵Early in the morning, while it was still quite dark, he arose, went out, and departed into a desert place, and there was praying. ³⁶Simon and

those with him searched diligently for him. ³⁷They found him, and said, "All are seeking you." ³⁸He said to them, "Let us go elsewhere into the neighboring country towns, and I will preach there, because I have come for this." ³⁹And he went preaching in their synagogues in all of Galilee, and was casting out demons.

⁴⁰A leper came to him, entreating him, and kneeling, and saying to him, "If you should want to, you can cleanse me." ⁴¹His heart went out to him, and he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I will. Be cleansed." ⁴²Immediately the leprosy went away from him, and he was cleansed. ⁴³He sternly charged him, and at once sent him away, ⁴⁴and said to him,

See that you say nothing to anyone, but go show yourself to the priest and take for your cleansing the things Moses commanded for a testimony to them.

⁴⁵However, the man went out and told it everywhere and spread the news around, so that no longer could he enter a town openly. But he was outside in desert places, and they were coming to him from all directions.

2 Jesus entered Capernaum, and some days later it was reported that he was in a house. ²Many gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door, and he was speaking the message to them. ³They came and brought to him a paralytic being carried by four. ⁴When they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof where he was, made an opening, and lowered the stretcher on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵Jesus saw their faith, and said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, ⁷"Why does he speak this way? He is blaspheming. Who can forgive sins except God?" ⁸Jesus, knowing immediately in his spirit that they were so reasoning in themselves, said to them,

Why are you reasoning these things in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Arise, take up your stretcher and walk"? ¹⁰But that you may know the Son of man has authority on the earth to forgive sins,

(he said to the paralytic) ¹¹"I say to you, arise, take up your stretcher and go to your house." ¹²He arose, immediately took up his stretcher, and went out before them all, so that all were amazed, and were praising God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

¹³Again he went out beside the sea, and all the people were coming to him, and he was teaching them. ¹⁴As he went along, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, "Follow me." He arose and followed him.

¹⁵It came about that Jesus was dining in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for they were many, and they were following him. ¹⁶The scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, and asked his disciples, "Does he eat with the sinners and tax collectors?" ¹⁷Jesus heard and answered them, "They who are healthy do not need a physician, but the sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

¹⁸John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. They came and asked him, "Why do John's disciples and the Pharisees' disciples fast but yours do not?" ¹⁹Jesus said to them,

Can the bridegroom's attendants fast while the bridegroom is with them? So long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. ²⁰But the days will come when the bridegroom has been taken from them, and then they will fast in that day.

²¹No one sews an un-shrunken patch of cloth on an old garment; otherwise, the patch pulls from it, the new from the old, and the tear becomes worse.

²²Also, no one pours new wine into old wineskins; otherwise,

the wine will burst the wineskins and the wine is poured out and the wineskins are destroyed. But new wine must be poured into new wineskins.

²³It came about that on the sabbath he was going through the grain fields. His disciples began to make a way, picking heads of wheat. ²⁴But the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look! Why are they doing on the sabbath what is not lawful?" ²⁵He said to them,

Have you never read what David did when he had a need and he was hungry and those with him, ²¹how he went into God's house and ate the sacred bread, which, except for the priests, it is not lawful to eat, and also he gave to those with him? ²⁷The sabbath was created for the sake of man, not man for the sake of the sabbath. ²⁸So the Son of man is lord even of the sabbath.

3 Jesus again entered the synagogue, where there was a man with a withered hand. ²They were watching him closely to see if he would heal on the sabbath, in order to bring charges against him. ³Jesus said to the man with the withered hand, "Stand in the midst." ⁴Then he spoke to the people, "Is it lawful on the sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save a life or to kill?" They remained silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger, being grieved at the hardening of their hearts, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." As he did so his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out immediately with the Herodians, and conspired against Jesus, that they might destroy him. ⁷Then Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea.

A large crowd from Galilee followed him, and also from Judea, ⁸Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, and around Tyre and Sidon. They heard all that he was doing, and came to him. ⁹He told his disciples to prepare him a boat because of the crowd, lest they push against him; ¹⁰for he healed many, so that they were pressing upon him, in order that as many as had illnesses might touch him. ¹¹When unclean spirits saw

him, they would fall before him, and cry, "You are God's Son." ¹²And he strictly charged them that they should not make him known.

¹³Then he went up into the mountain, and called the ones he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴He appointed twelve to be with him, calling them apostles. He sent these to preach, ¹⁵and to have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶And he appointed the twelve: Simon (whom he surnamed Peter); ¹⁷James, the son of Zebedee, and John his brother (whom he surnamed Boanerges, that is, "Sons of Thunder"); ¹⁸Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddeus, Simon the Cananaean, ¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

²⁰He went into a home, but such a crowd gathered that they could not have a meal. ²¹And when his friends heard it, they went out to take hold of him, for they were saying, "He is beside himself." ²²The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He has Beelzebul," and "By the prince of demons he casts out demons." ²³Jesus summoned them to him, and spoke in parables,

²⁴How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand, ²⁶and if Satan rises up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but has an end. ²⁷No one can enter a strong man's house to seize his possessions unless he first binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house.

²⁸Indeed, I assure you that all sins and blasphemies will be forgiven to men, ²⁹but whosoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. He is guilty of an eternal sin.

³⁰Jesus said this because they were saying, "He has an unclean spirit."

³¹His mother and brothers came and stood outside, and sent to him, calling him. ³²The crowd was sitting around Jesus, and told him, "Behold! Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside, seeking

you." ³³He asked, "Who are my mother and brothers?" ³⁴And he looked around on those about him, and said, "Look! My mother and brothers! ³⁵Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

4 Again he began to teach by the seaside, and a large crowd gathered before him. He stepped into a boat and sat in the sea, while the people were on the beach. ²He instructed them in many things by parables, and was saying to them in his teaching:

³Behold! A sower went out to sow. ⁴As he sowed, some seed fell beside the way and the birds came and ate it. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground where the soil was shallow, and sprang up right away because the ground was shallow. ⁶When the sun arose it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked it, and it gave no fruit. ⁸Other seed fell on good ground and grew and increased, producing grain: thirty-fold, sixty-fold, and a hundred-fold.

⁹And he was saying, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

¹⁰When he was alone, the ones around him with the twelve were asking about the parables. ¹¹He replied,

The mystery of God's kingdom is given to you, but all is in parables to outsiders, ¹²that seeing they see but do not perceive, that hearing they hear but do not understand; so that they do not turn and are forgiven.

¹³He continued,

Do you not understand this parable? How will you know all the parables? ¹⁴The sower sows the message. ¹⁵When those by the wayside – where the seed is sown – hear the message, Satan immediately comes and takes the message away that was sown in them. ¹⁶The ones who are sown on the rocky ground are those who

hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷They have no root in themselves, but only last a little while. When distress or persecution comes because of the message, they immediately are caused to stumble. ¹⁸Others are those who are sown among the thorns. These are the ones who hear the message, ¹⁹and the cares of the world and deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things coming in choke the message, and it becomes unfruitful. ²⁰Those sown on the good ground are the ones who hear the message, receive it, and bear fruit: thirty-fold, sixty-fold, and a hundred-fold.

²¹And he was saying to them,

A lamp is not placed under a measuring basket or under a bed, is it? Is it not placed on a lamp stand? ²²Nothing is hidden that will not be uncovered, neither is anything concealed that will not come into the light. ²³If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

²⁴He continued,

Be careful what you hear: the measure you give will be the measure you get, and more. ²⁵He who has, will receive; but he who does not have, even what he has will be taken.

²⁶He also said,

God's kingdom is as if a man throws seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day. He does not know how the seed sprouts and grows. ²⁸The earth bears fruit by itself, first the blade, then the head, then the mature wheat. ²⁹When the condition of the crop permits, he immediately uses the sickle, because the grain is ripe.

³⁰He continued,

With what shall we compare God's kingdom, or in what parable shall we present it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which is the smallest seed when it is sown, ³²and it grows and becomes greater than all vegetables, and produces large branches, so that the birds can nest under its shadow.

³³With many such parables he continued to proclaim the message to them, as they could understand. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but he explained everything privately to his disciples.

³⁵He said to them, in the evening of that day, "Let us go to the other side." ³⁶They left the crowd, and took him as he was in a boat, and other boats were with him. ³⁷A strong windstorm arose, and waves were pouring in to the boat, so that it was already getting full. ³⁸He was in the rear, sleeping with his head on a cushion. They awoke him and asked, "Teacher, are you not concerned that we are perishing?" ³⁹He arose, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" The wind quieted and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰Then he asked, "Why are you afraid? Do you not yet have faith?" ⁴¹They were greatly afraid, saying to one another, "What kind of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

5 They went to the other side of the sea into the country of the Gadarenes. ²As he left the boat, immediately a man from the tombs, who had an unclean spirit, met him. ³He lived among the tombs. No one had been able to bind him with a chain; ⁴often he had been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains and broke the shackles. Nobody could subdue him. ⁵Continually, night and day, among the tombs, and in the mountains, he was crying and cutting himself with rocks.

⁶He saw Jesus from a distance, ran and fell before him, ⁷and cried with a loud voice, saying, "What do I have to do with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore you by God, do not torment me." ⁸Jesus

responded, "Unclean spirit, come out of the man." ⁹And he asked him, "What is your name?" He replied to him, "My name is Legion, because we are many." ¹⁰He pleaded earnestly with Jesus not to send them out of the country.

¹¹On the mountain a large herd of pigs was feeding. ¹²The unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the pigs, that we might enter them." ¹³He gave them permission, and the unclean spirits went out, and entered the pigs. The herd, about two thousand, dashed down the slope into the sea, and was choked in the sea. ¹⁴The herdsmen fled and spread the news in the city and country, and they came to see what had happened. ¹⁵They came to Jesus and saw the man who had been demon-possessed. He was sitting, clothed, and sane, and they were afraid.

¹⁶The ones who had seen what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs told the newcomers. ¹⁷They requested Jesus to leave their country. ¹⁸As he stepped into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. ¹⁹Jesus did not permit him, but said, "Go to your house to your people and tell them how many things the Lord has done for you, and that he had mercy on you." ²⁰He went away and proclaimed in the Decapolis what great things Jesus had done, and all marveled.

²¹Jesus again crossed the sea in the boat; a large crowd met him, and he was beside the sea. ²²One of the rulers of the synagogue, whose name was Jairus, came. He saw Jesus, fell at his feet, ²³and earnestly begged, "My daughter is at the point of death. Come, place your hands on her, that she may be well and live." ²⁴He went with him, followed by a large crowd pressing against him.

²⁵A woman who had hemorrhaged for twelve years, ²⁶and had suffered painfully from many physicians, and had spent all her money, was worse off. ²⁷She heard about Jesus, and came in the crowd behind, and touched his coat, ²⁸saying, "If only I touch his coat, I will be made well." Immediately the flow of her blood stopped, and she knew in her body that she was healed.

³⁰Jesus, immediately knowing that power had gone from him, turned around in the crowd, and asked, "Who touched me?" ³¹His disciples replied, "You see that the crowd is pushing against you and yet you ask, 'Who touched me?'" ³²He looked around to see who had done this. ³³The woman, afraid and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, fell before him, and told him all the truth. ³⁴He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace, and be healed from your suffering."

³⁵While he was yet speaking, some men from Jairus' house came and said, "Your daughter has died. Why do you still trouble the Teacher?" ³⁶Jesus, hearing what was said, reassured the ruler, "Do not be afraid, only believe." ³⁷He allowed no one to accompany him except Peter, James, and John (the brother of James). ³⁸They came to the ruler's house, and Jesus noticed the uproar of crying and wailing. ³⁹As Jesus entered, he said to them, "Why are you disturbed and crying? The child has not died, but is sleeping." ⁴⁰They ridiculed him. Jesus sent them all out, and took the child's father and mother and the ones who were with him, and entered the room where the child was. ⁴¹He took her hand, and said, "*Talitha cumi*," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." ⁴²Immediately the young girl stood up and was walking, for she was twelve years old. They were greatly astonished. ⁴³He sternly charged them that no one should know this, and instructed that food be given her.

6 He left that place and went to his home town, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue. Many were astonished at what they heard and exclaimed,

Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to this man? How can he do such miracles with his hands? ³Is this not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon? Are not his sisters here with us?

They were offended at him. ⁴Jesus replied, "A prophet is not dishonored

except in his own country and among his kinsmen and in his own home." ⁵He could not do a miracle there, except healing a few sick people, by placing his hands on them. ⁶And he continued to marvel at their unbelief.

He was going around the villages teaching, ⁷and called to himself the twelve, and began to send them out two by two. He gave them authority over unclean spirits, ⁸and charged them not to take anything for the road except a staff only: no bread, no bag, no copper in the belt; ⁹but to be shod with sandals, and "Do not take two coats."

¹⁰He also said,

Lodge in whatever house you enter until you leave that place. ¹¹And whatever place neither receives you, nor listens to you, as you leave, shake off the dust of your feet for a witness against them.

¹²They went out and preached that men should change their hearts. ¹³They cast out demons, anointed many sick people with oil, and healed them.

¹⁴When Herod the king heard – for Jesus' name had become known – he was saying, "John the immerser has been raised from the dead, and therefore the miraculous powers are at work in him." ¹⁵Others were saying, "He is Elijah," or "One of the prophets." ¹⁶But when Herod heard, he kept saying, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷Herod sent and had John seized and jailed because of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, for he had married her. ¹⁸John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹Herodias held a grudge against John, and wanted to kill him, but she had not been able, ²⁰for Herod was afraid of John, knowing that he was an upright and a holy man. He continued to protect him, but when he would listen to him, he would be deeply disturbed, yet he continued to listen to him gladly.

²¹On a convenient day, Herod hosted his birthday dinner for important officials, military officers, and the principal men of Galilee as guests. ²²Herodias' daughter entered and danced, pleasing Herod and his guests. The king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you wish, and I will give it to you!" ²³He swore loudly, "Whatever you ask, I will give it to you, to the half of my kingdom."

²⁴She went and asked her mother, "What shall I ask?" She said, "The head of John the immerser." ²⁵She immediately rushed to the king, and said, "I want you to give to me at once the head of John the immerser on a platter!" ²⁶The king was very sad, but because of his oath and the guests, he did not wish to refuse her. ²⁷The king immediately sent an officer and ordered him to bring his head. The officer went and beheaded John in the prison. ²⁸He brought the head on a platter, and gave it to the girl, who gave it to her mother. ²⁹John's disciples heard what had been done, and they went and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

³⁰The apostles returned to Jesus and related everything they had done and what they had taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come privately to a lonely place, and rest a little." Many people were coming and going, not leaving them enough time to eat.

³²They went privately in a boat to a desert place. ³³Many people from all the cities saw them leaving, and knew where they were going. They ran ahead and arrived there before them. ³⁴When he stepped out of the boat, he saw the large crowd and his heart went out to them, because they were as sheep without a shepherd. He began to teach them many things.

³⁵When the day was nearly gone, his disciples came to him and said, "This place is a desert and the hour is late. ³⁶Dismiss them so that they may go to the nearby farms and villages, and buy something to eat." ³⁷"You feed them," replied Jesus. They asked, "Shall we go and buy forty dollars worth of bread?" ³⁸He inquired, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." When they had found out, they replied, "Five, and

two fish."

³⁹He commanded them that all should sit in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰They took their places by hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹He took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up into heaven, and gave thanks, and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples, that they might set them before the people, and he distributed the fish among all of them. ⁴²After everyone had eaten and was satisfied, ⁴³they gathered twelve basketfuls of broken pieces, also of the fish. ⁴⁴Those who had eaten were five thousand men. ⁴⁵He immediately made his disciples embark in the boat and cross over to Bethsaida on the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶He said farewell to them, and went into the mountain to pray.

⁴⁷At evening the boat was out on the sea, while he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸He saw their struggling in their rowing (for the wind was against them), and he came to them about the fourth watch of the night, walking on the sea, and wanted to pass by them. ⁴⁹They, however, saw him walking on the water, and thought he was a ghost, and cried out, ⁵⁰for they all saw him and were terrified. He immediately spoke to them, saying, "Be of good courage. It is I. Do not be afraid." ⁵¹He went up to them in the boat, and the wind subsided, and they were altogether astonished. ⁵²They had not understood about the loaves, for their heart had been hardened.

⁵³They crossed over to the land, came to Gennesaret, and anchored. ⁵⁴As they left the boat, they were immediately recognized. ⁵⁵People ran about all of that country and began to carry the sick on stretchers where they were hearing that Jesus was. ⁵⁶Every place he went (in villages, cities, or in the country), they placed their sick in the market places, and begged to touch even the fringe of his clothing. As many as touched were healed.

7 The Pharisees and certain ones of the scribes from Jerusalem approached Jesus, ²and noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled (unwashed) hands. ³(The Pharisees and all the Jews do not

eat unless they wash their hands up to the elbows, holding the tradition of their elders. ⁴After they return from the market place, if they do not wash, they do not eat. And there are many other things which they have received to keep: the washing of cups, pots, brass utensils, and dining couches.) ⁵The Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk after the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He answered,

Isaiah has prophesied well of you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. ⁷In vain they worship me, teaching as precepts the commandments of men." ⁸You have forsaken the commandment of God, and are keeping the tradition of men.

⁹Are you doing right in rejecting God's command, that you may establish your tradition? ¹⁰Moses said, "Honor your father and your mother," and, "He who speaks evil of father or mother shall surely die," ¹¹but you say, "If a man says to his father or mother, 'Anything the benefit of which you would have received from me is Korban, that is, given to God,'" ¹²then you no longer permit him to do anything for his mother or father. ¹³You cancel God's message by your tradition. You do many such like things.

¹⁴He again summoned the crowd, and said to them,

Listen to me, and understand, all of you. ¹⁵Nothing that enters a man from the outside defiles him, but the things that come out of a man defile him.

¹⁷He left the crowd, and entered a house. There his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸He replied,

So are you also without understanding? Do you not understand that nothing that a man eats can defile him? ¹⁹What he eats does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is later expelled.

So he declared all foods clean, ²⁰and continued,

The thing which goes out of the man, that defiles the man. ²¹From within men's hearts arise evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, ²²adulteries, greedy desires, malicious acts, deceit, sensuality, malice, abusive speech, arrogance, folly. ²³All these things come from within, and they defile a man.

²⁴When he was ready, he departed from there and went into the region of Tyre and Sidon. He did not want anyone to know where he was, but he could not hide. ²⁵Immediately, a woman – whose daughter had an unclean spirit – heard about him, came to him, and fell at his feet. ²⁶She was a Greek of Syrophenicia, and begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He was saying to her, "Let the children be fed first, because it is not good to take the bread of the children and to throw it to the little dogs." ²⁸She answered, "True, Lord, but even the little dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Jesus said, "Because of your statement, go your way: the demon has gone out of your daughter." ³⁰When she arrived at her home she found the child laid on a bed and the demon gone.

³¹He again left the region of Tyre, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee into the midst of the district of Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment, and begged him to place his hand on him. ³³Jesus took him aside from the crowd and put his fingers in his ears; then he spit and touched his tongue. ³⁴He looked up into heaven, sighed, and said to him, "*Ephphatha*," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵Immediately, his ears were opened, and the fetter of his tongue was loosed, and he began speaking normally. ³⁶He charged them not to tell anyone, but the more he charged them, the more they were proclaiming it. ³⁷They were amazed beyond all measure and said, "He has done all things well, and has made the deaf to hear and the mutes to speak."

8 In those days there was again a large crowd with nothing to eat. He summoned his disciples, and said to them,

²My heart goes out to the people, because they have already been with me three days, and have nothing to eat. ³If I send them to their homes hungry, they will fall out on the road. Some of them have come from far away.

⁴His disciples replied, "From where, here in the desert, could anyone get bread enough to fill them?" ⁵He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." ⁶He commanded the crowd to sit on the ground. He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, and broke them and gave them to the disciples so that they could set them before the people. ⁷They also had a few small fish, for which he also gave thanks, and they were handed out. ⁸They ate and were satisfied, and they took up seven baskets of broken pieces that were left. ⁹About four thousand men had eaten, and he dismissed them. ¹⁰He immediately got into a boat with his disciples, and went into the parts of Dalmanutha.

¹¹The Pharisees came and began to question him. They tested him by asking for a sign from heaven. ¹²He groaned in his spirit, and replied, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Indeed I assure you that no sign shall be given to this generation." ¹³He left them, again got into a boat, and went to the other side.

¹⁴The disciples forgot to take bread, and they only had one loaf in the boat. ¹⁵He ordered, "Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Herodians." ¹⁶They began discussing among themselves, because they had no bread. ¹⁷But Jesus, being aware, asked them,

Why are you discussing that you do not have bread? Do you not yet perceive, neither understand? Do you have your heart hardened? ¹⁸Do you not see, though you have eyes? Do you not hear, though you have ears? ¹⁹Do you not remember when I broke

the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets of broken pieces you collected?

They replied, "Twelve." ²⁰"When I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of broken pieces did you collect?" They answered, "Seven." ²¹He continued, "Do you not yet understand?"

²²They went to Bethsaida, where some people led a blind man to him, and begged him that he might touch the man. ²³Jesus took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the village. He spit on his eyes, laid his hands on him, and asked, "Do you see anything?" ²⁴He looked up, and replied, "I see men like trees walking around." ²⁵Then he again put his hands on his eyes, and he opened his eyes wide, and he was cured, and he could see everything clearly. ²⁶Jesus sent him home, saying, "Do not enter the village."

²⁷Jesus went with his disciples into the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked, "Who do men say that I am?" ²⁸They replied, "Some say 'John the immerser,' and some 'Elijah,' and others, 'One of the prophets.'" ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, and said to him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰He ordered them not to talk about him to anyone.

³¹He began to teach them that it was necessary for the Son of man to suffer many things; to be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes; to be killed, and to arise after three days. ³²He was announcing these things openly, but Peter took him aside, and began to rebuke him. ³³But Jesus turned, and saw his disciples, and rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind me, Satan. You are not thinking about the things of God, but the things of men."

³⁴Jesus summoned the crowd with his disciples, and said,

If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, and whoever will lose his life because of me and of the

gospel will save it. ³⁶What will a man profit by gaining the whole world and losing his soul? ³⁷What will a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and sinful generation, the Son of man will be ashamed of him when he comes with his holy angels in his Father's glory.

9 And he was saying to them, "Indeed I assure you that some standing here will not taste of death until they see God's kingdom come in power."

²After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them into a high mountain alone. He was transformed before them. ³His clothes became dazzling, exceedingly white, such as no laundryman on the earth could whiten them so. ⁴Elijah and Moses appeared to them, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, and they were afraid. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Hear him." ⁸Suddenly, as they looked around, they no longer saw anyone, but only Jesus with themselves.

⁹While they were coming down from the mountain he gave orders to them that they should tell no one what they had seen until the Son of man should rise from the dead. ¹⁰They kept the matter to themselves, questioning what is "the rising from the dead"? ¹¹They asked him, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" ¹²He replied to them,

Elijah indeed comes first and restores all things, and how is it written concerning the Son of man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt? ¹³But I assure you that Elijah has already come and they did to him whatever they wished, as it is written concerning him.

¹⁴They returned to the disciples and saw a large crowd around them, and scribes were arguing with them. ¹⁵All of the crowd immediately saw

Jesus and were amazed, and ran to him and greeted him. ¹⁶He asked them, "What were you debating with them?" ¹⁷One from the crowd answered,

Teacher, I have brought my son to you. He has a spirit that has made him mute. ¹⁸Wherever he seizes him, he throws him down, and causes him to foam at the mouth and to grind his teeth. He is wasting away. I asked your disciples to cast him out, but they could not.

¹⁹He replied to them, "O unbelieving generation! How long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰They brought the boy to him, and the spirit saw Jesus, and immediately threw the boy into convulsions. He fell to the ground and rolled, foaming at the mouth. ²¹Jesus asked his father, "How long has he been this way?" He answered, "From childhood, ²²and he often throws him into fire or water to destroy him. If you can do anything, have mercy on us and help us." ²³Jesus replied to him, "If you can! All things are possible to the one who believes." ²⁴The father of the child immediately cried out, "I believe! Help my unbelief."

²⁵Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, and he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to him, "Mute and deaf spirit, come out of him and do not enter him again." ²⁶The spirit cried out and tore him terribly, and then came out. The lad became as dead, so that many said that he had died. ²⁷Jesus took hold of his hand and raised him, and he stood.

²⁸Jesus entered a house, and his disciples asked him privately, "Why were we unable to cast out the spirit?" ²⁹He answered, "No one can cast out this kind, except by prayer."

³⁰They left that place, and went through Galilee, but he did not want anyone to know; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of man is being delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, but after three days he will arise." ³²However, they did

not understand his saying, and were afraid to ask him.

³³They went into Capernaum, and when he was in a house, he asked his disciples, "What were you discussing along the road?" ³⁴They remained silent, for in the way they had discussed among themselves who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "If any one wishes to be first he will be last of all and a servant of all." ³⁶He took a little child, placed him in their midst, took him in his arms, and said, ³⁷"Whoever receives one little child like this in my name receives me; and whoever receives me does not receive me but the One who sent me."

³⁸John said, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we forbade him, because he has not been following us." ³⁹Jesus replied,

Do not forbid him, for no one doing a miracle in my name can quickly speak evil of me. ⁴⁰He who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹He who gives you a cup of water in my name, because you belong to Christ, indeed I assure you that he certainly will not lose his reward.

⁴²Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a large millstone were hanged about his neck and he were cast into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It would be better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having both hands and go into hell, into unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It would be better for you to enter into life crippled than having two feet and be cast into hell. ⁴⁷If your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out. It would be better for you to enter God's kingdom with one eye than having two eyes and be cast into hell, ⁴⁸where the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.

⁴⁹Every one will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good, but if it becomes tasteless, how will you season it? Have salt in yourselves and

be at peace with one another."

10 Jesus left for Judea and the region beyond the Jordan. Crowds again went with him, and as he was accustomed, he continued to teach. ²The Pharisees came to him and tested Jesus by asking him if it is lawful for a man to divorce his wife. ³He asked them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They answered, "Moses permitted a bill of divorce and a release." ⁵Jesus said,

He wrote this commandment because of the hardness of your heart. ⁶But from the beginning of the creation "He made them male and female. ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife. ⁸The two shall be one flesh," so that they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore, what God has joined let no man separate.

¹⁰In the house the disciples again asked him about this. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³They were bringing little children to Jesus, so that he might touch them; but his disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴When Jesus saw this, he became angry, and said to them,

Allow the little children to come to me. Do not forbid them, for God's kingdom consists of such as these. ¹⁵Indeed I assure you that whoever does not receive God's kingdom like a little child shall certainly not enter it.

¹⁶And he took the children in his arms, blessed them, and laid his hands upon them.

¹⁷When Jesus was going out into the road, a man ran to him, knelt before him, and asked, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit everlasting life?" ¹⁸Jesus replied to him,

Why do you call me good? No one is good except One: God.
¹⁹You know the commands: "Do not murder; Do not commit adultery; Do not steal; Do not bear false witness; Do not cheat; Honor your father and mother."

²⁰He replied to him, "Teacher, I have obeyed all of these things since I was young." ²¹Jesus looked into him, loved him, and said, "One thing you lack: go and sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come and follow me." ²²He was saddened by Jesus' words, and went away sorrowful, because he had great possessions.

²³When Jesus had looked around, he said to his disciples, "How difficult it is for those who have riches to enter God's kingdom!" ²⁴The disciples were astonished at his words. Jesus repeated to them what he had said,

Children, how difficult it is for those who trust in riches to enter God's kingdom! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's kingdom.

²⁶They were even more amazed, and were asking among themselves, "Who then can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "This is impossible with men, but not with God; all things are possible with God." ²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Behold! We have left all and followed you." ²⁹Jesus replied,

Indeed I assure you, that no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, because of me, and because of the gospel, ³⁰but he shall now receive in this world a hundred-fold of houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the world to come. ³¹But many who are first shall be last, and the last first.

³²They were going up on the road to Jerusalem, and Jesus was leading them. They were astonished, and others who followed were afraid. He again took the twelve to himself, and began to tell them what was about to happen to him,

³³Behold! We are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes. They will condemn him to death and deliver him to the Gentiles. They will mock and spit upon him, flog and kill him, but after three days he will arise.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him and said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask." ³⁶He replied to them, "What do you want me to do?" ³⁷They said, "Grant that in your glory we may sit, one at your right hand, and one at your left." ³⁸Jesus said, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink, or be overwhelmed in the immersion that submerges me?" ³⁹They replied, "We can." Jesus said to them,

You will drink the cup that I drink, and the immersion that submerges me will overwhelm you; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right or left hand is not Mine to give: it is for them for whom it has been prepared.

⁴¹When the ten heard, they began to be angry at James and John. ⁴²Jesus summoned them and said,

You know that those who are reputed to be rulers among the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be this way among you. Whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first shall become a slave of all. ⁴⁵The Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.

⁴⁶They entered Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the side of the road. ⁴⁷He heard that Jesus, the Nazarene, was there, and he cried out, saying, "Son of David, Jesus, be merciful to me!" ⁴⁸Many rebuked him, telling him to be quiet, but all the more he continued pleading, "Son of David, be merciful to me!"

⁴⁹Jesus stood still, and said, "Call him." They called the blind man, saying, "Be of good cheer and arise. He calls you" ⁵⁰He left his coat, jumped up, and went to Jesus. ⁵¹Jesus asked, "What do you want me to do?" The blind man said, "My Teacher, that I may see!" ⁵²Jesus replied, "Go, your faith has saved you." Immediately he could see, and followed Jesus on the road.

11 They drew near to Jerusalem (at Bethphage and Bethany on the mount of Olives), and he sent two of his disciples, ²saying,

As you enter the next village, right away you will find a colt tied upon which no one has ever sat. Untie him and bring him to me. ³If any one says to you, "Why are you doing this?", say, "The Lord needs him." He will send him right away.

⁴They went and found a colt tied at a door, outside in the street, and they began to untie him. ⁵Some men standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They replied to them as Jesus had instructed, and were permitted to take the colt. ⁷They led him to Jesus, and placed their garments on the colt, and Jesus sat on him. ⁸Many people spread their garments on the road; and others, leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. ⁹Those leading the way and those following him were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One coming in the Lord's name! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" ¹¹Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple, and looked around on everything. At evening he went with the twelve to Bethany.

¹²The next day as he left Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³From afar he saw a fig tree with leaves, and he walked over to it, if perhaps he might find fruit on it. However, since it was not the season for figs, he found nothing but leaves. ¹⁴He spoke to the tree, "Never will anyone eat your fruit." His disciples were listening.

¹⁵They went into Jerusalem. He entered the temple and began to throw out those who bought and sold in the temple, and to overturn the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹⁶Moreover he did not allow anyone to carry a vessel through the temple. ¹⁷He started teaching them, and was asking, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it a 'den of thieves.'" ¹⁸The chief priests and the scribes heard him, and started seeking how they might destroy him. But they were afraid of him, because all the people were amazed at his teaching. ¹⁹At evening they left the city.

²⁰Early the next morning as they walked along, they noticed the fig tree withered from the roots. ²¹Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered." ²²Jesus replied to them,

Have faith in God. ²³Indeed I assure you that whoever says to this mountain, "Be taken up and thrown into the sea," and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he has said will happen, it shall happen. ²⁴Therefore I assure you, have faith that you will receive the things for which you pray, and you shall receive them.

²⁵Also, when you stand and pray, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven will forgive you your trespasses."

²⁷They again entered Jerusalem. While he was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders approached him, ²⁸and said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things, and

who gave you this authority, that you might do them?" ²⁹Jesus replied to them,

I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ³⁰Is the immersion of John from heaven or from men?

³¹They were reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" ³²But if we say, 'From men,'" – they were afraid of the people, for they all regarded John as a true prophet. ³³So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." Then Jesus said, "Neither shall I tell you by what authority I am doing these things."

12 He began to speak to them in parables:

A man planted a vineyard, enclosed it with a hedge, dug a trough under the wine-press, built a tower, leased it to tenant farmers, and went on a journey. ²At harvest time he sent a slave to receive from the farmers some fruit of the vineyard. ³They seized him, beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴He sent to them another slave, whom they beat on the head and treated shamefully. ⁵Another was sent, whom they killed. Many others were sent, some of whom they beat, and others they killed. ⁶He had yet one more: his beloved son. He at last sent him to them, saying, "They will honor my son."

⁷But the farmers said among themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours." ⁸So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will kill the farmers, and will give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰Have you not read this scripture, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the keystone." ¹¹This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes!?"

¹²They continued to seek an opportunity to take him into custody, but were afraid of the people, because they knew that he had spoken the parable against them. They left him and went away.

¹³Then they sent to him some Pharisees and Herodians that they might catch him in an unguarded statement. ¹⁴They came, and said,

Teacher, we know that you are true, and that you court no man's favor; you show no partiality, but you teach God's way in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay tribute to Caesar or not?

¹⁵He perceived their trickery and asked them, "Why are you testing me? Bring to me a coin that I might see." ¹⁶They brought him one and he said to them, "Whose are the image and inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Give Caesar's things to Caesar, and God's things to God." They wondered because of him.

¹⁸Next, the Sadducees (who deny the resurrection) came to him and asked,

¹⁹Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a husband dies and leaves a wife, but does not leave a child, his brother is to marry the widow and rear offspring for his brother. ²⁰There were seven brothers. The first married and died, leaving no heir. ²¹The second married the widow, and he too died childless, as did the third. ²²None of the seven left an heir. Last of all, the widow died. ²³Whose wife will she be in the resurrection? They all had her as a wife.

²⁴Jesus said,

Are you not deceiving yourselves, because you know neither the scriptures nor God's power? ²⁵When they arise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but will be like the angels in heaven. ²⁶Concerning the dead, that they are raised, have you not read what God said in Moses' book in the passage about the thorn-bush, "I AM the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac,

and the God of Jacob"? ²⁷He is not the God of the dead but of the living. You are very much mistaken.

²⁸One of the scribes, who had heard their debate, and knew that he had answered them well, approached and asked, "What is the first commandment of all?" ²⁹Jesus replied,

The first is, "Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is one, ³⁰and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." ³¹The second is, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.

³²The scribe responded to him,

Well said, Teacher. You have spoken according to truth in saying that he is one and that there is no God except him; ³³and to continue loving him with all of the heart, and with all of the mind, and with all of the strength, and to love one's neighbor as himself, are more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.

³⁴Jesus saw that the man had answered thoughtfully, and said to him, "You are not far from God's kingdom." No one any more dared to ask him a question.

³⁵After Jesus had answered, he began teaching in the temple, asking,

Why do the scribes say that the Christ is David's son? ³⁶David himself said by the Holy Spirit, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies under your feet.'" ³⁷David himself called him "Lord." How then is he his son?

A large crowd continued to hear him gladly. ³⁸And he was saying in his teaching,

Watch out for the scribes who love to walk about in long robes, and receive greetings in the market places; ³⁹who enjoy the front seats in the synagogues, and the places of honor at dinners. ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and pray long prayers for show. These will receive more severe judgment.

⁴¹He sat opposite the contribution box, and watched the people casting in their money. Many who were rich were casting in much, ⁴²while one poor widow came and cast in two small copper coins. ⁴³He summoned his disciples and said,

Indeed I assure you that this poor widow has given more than all of those who have contributed; ⁴⁴for others gave of their surplus, but she of her need, even all of her living.

13 As he was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Teacher, look! What stones! What buildings!" ²Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? By no means shall a stone here be left on another which shall not be thrown down."

³While he was sitting on the mount of Olives, across from the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew privately asked, ⁴"When shall these things be, and what is the sign when all these things are about to come to an end?" ⁵Jesus began to say to them,

Be on guard that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name, saying, "I am the Christ," and will deceive many. When you hear of wars and news of wars, do not be alarmed. These things must come, but the end is not yet. ⁸Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. Earthquakes will be widespread, and famines. These are the beginning of woes.

⁹Watch, for they will deliver you to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand before governors and kings because of me, to witness to them. ¹⁰The gospel, however, must be

preached first to all nations. ¹¹When they will lead you away, taking you into custody, do not be worried what you will say, but speak whatever is given you in that hour; for you are not the ones who speak, but the Holy Spirit. ¹²A brother will deliver his brother to death, and a father his child. Children will stand up against parents and put them to death. ¹³You will be hated by all people for my name's sake. He who endures to the end, this one shall be saved.

¹⁴When you see the detestable thing causing the desolation standing where it ought not (let the reader understand), then let those in Judea escape into the mountains. ¹⁵Let the one who is on the roof neither come down, nor go inside to take anything out of his house; ¹⁶and let not the one who is in the field return to pick up his coat. ¹⁷Woe to those who are pregnant and those who are nursing in those days. ¹⁸Pray that it be not winter, ¹⁹for in those days will be such suffering as has not been from the creation until now, and never will be. ²⁰Except the Lord shortens the days, no one will be saved. But for the sake of the chosen ones, he shall shorten the days. ²¹Then, if anyone says to you, "Look! Here is the Christ," or "Look! There," do not believe him; ²²for false Christs and false prophets shall arise and give signs and wonders to deceive the chosen ones, if possible. ²³Be on guard: I have told you all things beforehand.

²⁴In those days after that suffering, the sun shall be darkened and the moon shall not give its light. ²⁵The stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers in the heavens shall be shaken. ²⁶Then they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷He shall then send his angels, and he shall gather his chosen ones from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the end of heaven.

²⁸Learn the parable from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender, and it puts out leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So,

when you see these things happening, you shall know that he is near. ³⁰Indeed I assure you that this generation shall not pass away until all these things happen. ³¹Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall never pass away. ³²No one except the Father knows concerning that day or the hour: neither the angels, nor the Son. ³³Beware! Be on the alert! For you do not know when the time is. ³⁴It is like a man who is away on a journey, who left his house after giving authority to his slaves, to each to do his work, and he commanded the door-keeper to watch. ³⁵Stay awake, therefore, because you do not know when the master of the house comes, whether at evening, or in the middle of the night, or at the time the rooster crows, or early in the morning. ³⁶He may come unexpectedly and find you sleeping. ³⁷Tell everyone what I am telling you: watch!

14 Passover and the feast of unleavened bread were after two days. The chief priests and scribes were seeking a way to seize him by treachery and kill him. ²However, they were saying, "Not during the feast, for there will be an uproar among the people."

³While he was in Bethany, dining in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came with an alabaster bottle of pure nard, a very expensive perfume, broke the bottle, and poured the perfume on his head. ⁴Some were angry, saying among themselves, "Why was this perfume wasted? ⁵This perfume might have been sold for more than sixty dollars, and the money given to the poor." They scolded her. ⁶Jesus said,

Leave her alone. Do not trouble her. She has done a beautiful thing for me. ⁷You always have the poor with you, and whenever you wish, you can do good to them; but you do not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could. She has anointed my body beforehand to prepare me for burial. ⁹Indeed I assure you that wherever this gospel is proclaimed throughout the world, what this

woman has done will be told in her memory.

¹⁰Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to hand over Jesus to them. ¹¹They heard him, and rejoiced, and promised to give him money. Then he began seeking an opportune time to hand over Jesus to them.

¹²On the first day of unleavened bread, when the Passover lamb was being sacrificed, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare to eat the Passover?" ¹³He sent two of his disciples and said to them,

Go into the city. A man will meet you carrying a jar of water. Follow him. ¹⁴When he enters a house, say to the master of the house that the Teacher asks, "Where is the guest-room, where I shall eat the Passover with my disciples?" ¹⁵He will show you a large, furnished, upstairs room. Make preparation there for us.

¹⁶The disciples went into the city, and found everything as he had said, and prepared the Passover.

¹⁷At evening he came with the twelve. ¹⁸While they were eating, Jesus said, "Indeed I assure you that one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹They became sorrowful, and asked one by one, "Is it I?" ²⁰He replied to them,

One of the twelve, who dips in the bowl with me. ²¹The Son of man goes away, as it is written, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed. It would have been better for him if that man had not been born.

²²While they were eating, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this bread, which is my body." ²³And he took a cup, and blessed it, and gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴He said,

This is my blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many. ²⁵Indeed I assure you that I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in God's kingdom.

²⁶They sang a hymn, and went out into the mount of Olives. ²⁷Jesus said to them,

All of you will be offended at me, because it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered." ²⁸But after my resurrection I will go before you into Galilee.

²⁹Peter said to him, "If all are offended at you, I will not." ³⁰Jesus replied to him, "Today, even this night, before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹Peter emphatically protested, "If it is necessary for me to die for you, I will never deny you." All said the same thing.

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³He took aside with him Peter and James and John, and he began to be distressed and was filled with anxiety. ³⁴He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death. Stay here and watch." ³⁵He went forward a little, fell to the ground, and prayed that, if possible, the hour might pass away. ³⁶And he said, "*Abba*, Father, all things are possible for you: take this cup from me; yet not what I will, but what you will." ³⁷When he returned he found them sleeping, and said to Peter,

Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.

³⁹He went away again and prayed, saying the same thing. ⁴⁰He returned, and again found them sleeping (because their eyes were very heavy), and they did not know how to answer him. ⁴¹He came to them a third time, and said,

Are you going to continue sleeping and resting? It is enough! The hour has come. Behold! The Son of man is betrayed into sinners' hands. ⁴²Arise. Let us go. Behold! The betrayer is near.

⁴³Immediately, while he was still talking, Judas arrived with a crowd armed with swords and clubs. They came from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. ⁴⁴The betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I kiss, he is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard."

⁴⁵He came and right away approached Jesus and said to him, "Rabbi," and kissed him tenderly. ⁴⁶They grabbed him and took him into custody. ⁴⁷One of the bystanders drew his sword and struck the high priest's slave, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸Jesus said to them,

As if against a thief, have you come out with swords and clubs to seize me? ⁴⁹I was with you daily, teaching in the temple, but you did not arrest me. But these things must happen in order that the scriptures might be fulfilled.

⁵⁰Everyone forsook him and fled. ⁵¹There was a young man who had been following him, wearing only a linen cloth; and they seized him. ⁵²He left the cloth and ran away naked.

⁵³As they led Jesus to the high priest, all the chief priests, elders, and scribes went along. ⁵⁴From afar Peter followed into the courtyard of the high priest. He sat with the servants, warming himself by the fire.

⁵⁵The chief priests and all the council sought to find testimony to put Jesus to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶There were many false witnesses against him, but their testimony was contradictory. ⁵⁷Certain ones stood up, and testified falsely against him, saying, ⁵⁸"We heard him saying, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and after three days I will build another not made with hands.'" ⁵⁹So their testimony was inconsistent.

⁶⁰Then the high priest arose in their midst, and asked Jesus, "Are

you not going to answer anything that these have witnessed against you?" ⁶¹He remained silent, and did not answer anything. The high priest again asked, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶²Then Jesus responded, "I am, and you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of Power and coming with the clouds of heaven." ⁶³The high priest tore his clothes and cried, saying, "What further need do we have for witnesses? ⁶⁴You have heard the blasphemy! What is your verdict?" They condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵Some began to spit on Jesus, to cover his face, to beat him, and to say, "Prophecy!" The guards received him with blows.

⁶⁶While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the high priest's servant-girls came. ⁶⁷She saw Peter warming himself, looked straight at him, and said, "You were with the Nazarene, Jesus." ⁶⁸Peter denied this, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are saying." He went out to the forecourt, and a rooster crowed.

⁶⁹The servant-girl looked at him, and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰He again denied. After a short time, the bystanders said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." ⁷¹He began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know this man whom you mention." ⁷²Immediately the rooster crowed a second time, and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." He reflected on it, and began to weep.

15 Immediately, early in the morning, the chief priests made plans with the elders and scribes and all of the council; and they bound Jesus and delivered him to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "You are speaking." ³The chief priests were making many accusations. ⁴Pilate again spoke to Jesus, "Do you make no answer? Behold! Consider how many things they are charging against you." ⁵Jesus still said nothing, so that Pilate was astonished.

⁶At each festival he customarily released to them one prisoner

whom they chose. ⁷There was a prisoner named Barabbas, who had committed murder with the rebels in the revolution. ⁸The crowd rose up and demanded that Pilate would follow his custom. ⁹He replied, "Do you want me to release the king of the Jews?" ¹⁰(He knew that the chief priests had delivered him because they were envious.) ¹¹The chief priests stirred up the crowd to demand rather that he release Barabbas to them. ¹²Pilate again asked them, "What then shall I do with the one you call the king of the Jews?" ¹³They again cried, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴Pilate asked them, "What evil has he done?" But they cried the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵Pilate, wanting to please the people, released Barabbas. He had Jesus flogged, and delivered him to be crucified.

¹⁶The soldiers brought Jesus to the courtyard of their headquarters, and called together their whole regiment. ¹⁷They clothed him with purple and put on him a woven thorny crown. ¹⁸They began to greet him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹They were beating him on the head with a reed, and spitting on him; kneeling, they worshipped him. ²⁰After they mocked him, they removed the purple robe from him, and put his own clothes back on him.

They led him out to crucify him, ²¹and forced a passerby, a certain Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²²They brought him to Golgotha, which means "The Place of a Skull." ²³They tried to give him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused. ²⁴They crucified him and divided his clothes, casting lots to see what each would receive. ²⁵It was nine o'clock, and they crucified him. ²⁶An inscription was written, "The King of the Jews."

²⁷Two rebels were crucified with him, one at his right hand and one at his left. ²⁹And those walking by were reviling him, shaking their heads, and saying,

Aha! The One who destroys the temple and builds it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!

³¹Likewise the chief priests were ridiculing him among themselves with the scribes, saying,

He saved others, but cannot save himself! ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, that we may see and believe!

Also the ones crucified with him were insulting him.

³³At noon darkness came on all the earth until three o'clock. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried loudly, "*Eloi! Eloi! Lema sabachthani*" (which means, "My God! My God! Why have you forsaken me?"). ³⁵Some of the bystanders heard him and said, "Behold! He calls Elijah!" ³⁶Someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed, and gave him a drink, saying, "Leave him alone. Let us see if Elijah comes to take him down." ³⁷Jesus cried with a loud voice and died.

³⁸The veil of the temple was split in two from the top to the bottom. ³⁹The centurion, who stood opposite him, saw how he died, and said, "Truly, this man was a son of God."

⁴⁰Among the women watching from a distance were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of Joseph and of James (the younger), and Salome. ⁴¹These had been with him in Galilee, following him and serving him; and many other women were there who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²At evening, since it was the Preparation (the day before the sabbath), ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea (a prominent counselor who was waiting for God's kingdom) dared to go to Pilate to ask for Jesus' body. ⁴⁴However, Pilate marveled if he had already died, and he had summoned a centurion and asked if he were already dead. ⁴⁵After he learned from the centurion, he granted the corpse to Joseph. ⁴⁶He bought a linen cloth, took him down, wrapped him in the cloth, and placed him in a tomb that was cut in the rock. He rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Joseph were

watching where he was placed.

16 After the sabbath was past Mary of Magdala and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought perfume that they might come and anoint him. ²They went to the tomb very early on Sunday morning, after the sun had arisen. ³They were asking among themselves, "Who will roll the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" ⁴As they looked up, they saw that the stone (which was extremely large) had been rolled away. ⁵They entered, and saw a young man sitting on the right side, wearing a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶He said to them,

Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here! Behold the place where they laid him! ⁷Now go to his disciples and Peter and say, "He goes before you to Galilee. You will see him there, even as he told you."

⁸They went outside, and ran from the tomb trembling in astonishment; they said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

[⁹Jesus arose early on Sunday morning, and appeared first to Mary of Magdala (from whom he had cast out seven demons). ¹⁰She went and reported to those who had been with him, who were mourning and crying. ¹¹They heard that he was alive, and that she had seen him, but they did not believe.

¹²After these things, he appeared to two of them in another form as they were walking, going into the country. ¹³These went and announced this to the rest, but they did not believe. ¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven and rebuked them for their unbelief and stubbornness of heart, because they did not believe the ones who had seen him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them,

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
¹⁶He who believes and is immersed shall be saved, but he who

does not believe shall be condemned. ¹⁷These signs shall follow the ones who believe: they shall cast out demons in my name; speak with new tongues; ¹⁸take up snakes; drink anything deadly without harm; and lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

¹⁹After the Lord had spoken, he was received into heaven and sat at God's right hand. ²⁰They went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the message by the signs that were following.]