
MATTHEW

The King's Family Tree

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:¹

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

David fathered Solomon by her *who had been the wife* of Uriah. ⁷Solomon fathered Rehoboam, Rehoboam fathered Abijah, Abijah fathered Asa, ⁸Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat fathered Joram, Joram fathered Uzziah, ⁹Uzziah fathered Jotham, Jotham fathered Ahaz, Ahaz fathered Hezekiah, ¹⁰Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, Manasseh fathered Amon, Amon fathered Josiah, ¹¹and Josiah fathered Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

¹²Now after the deportation to Babylon, Jeconiah fathered Shealtiel, Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel, ¹³Zerubbabel fathered

1. All names are given in their OT forms

Abiud, Abiud fathered Eliakim, Eliakim fathered Azor, ¹⁴ Azor fathered Zadok, Zadok fathered Achim, Achim fathered Eliud, ¹⁵ Eliud fathered Eleazar, Eleazar fathered Matthan, Matthan fathered Jacob, ¹⁶ and Jacob fathered Joseph, the husband of Mary, who gave birth to Jesus, who is called Christ.²

2. Greek for *Anointed One*; Heb. *Messiah*

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations; and from David until the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon until the Christ, fourteen generations.

The Birth of Christ

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ came about in this way. During the time when his mother Mary was engaged³ to Joseph, *and* before the two of them⁴ had come together, Mary was found to be pregnant by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Now her husband Joseph, being a righteous man, was unwilling to make a public example of her; *therefore* he had in mind to divorce her privately. ²⁰ But while he was considering these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus,⁵ for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² Now all this took place in order to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ “Behold, the virgin will conceive and bear a son, and they will call his name “Immanuel,” which, when translated, means “God with us.”⁶ ²⁴ So when Joseph awoke from *his* sleep, he did just as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary as his wife; ²⁵ but he had no union with her⁷ until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

3. Greek *betrothed* (but legally reckoned as Joseph’s wife, vv. 19, 24)
4. Lit. *they*

5. I.e. “Yahweh saves,” or “Yahweh is salvation.”

6. Is. 7:14, 9:6-7

7. Lit. *was not knowing her*

The Visit of the Magi

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, Magi¹ from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is the child who is born² *to be* king of the Jews; for we saw his star in the east³ and have come to worship him?” ³ Now when Herod the king heard *this*, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ So when he had assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ Then they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is how the prophet wrote:

1. Traditionally, *wise men*; possibly Zoroastrian priests, specializing in astronomy, astrology, and natural science.
2. Lit. *the one born*
3. Or possibly *when it rose*

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’⁴

4. Mic. 5:2

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and found out from them the *exact* time the star had appeared. ⁸ And sending them on to Bethlehem, he said, “Go and search carefully for the young child; and when you’ve found *him*, report back to me so that I too may come and worship him.”

⁹ So after hearing from the king, the wise men once again took up their journey; and behold, the star they had seen in the east continually went before them until it arrived and stood over *the place* where the young child was. ¹⁰ Now when they saw the star, they rejoiced *with* an exceedingly great joy. ¹¹ And when they had entered the house, they saw the young child with his mother Mary; and they fell to the ground and worshiped him. And opening up their treasure boxes, they presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Then, being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their own country by another way.

Warning and Flight

¹³ Now after they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt; and remain there until I bring you word, for Herod is going to seek for the child in order to kill him.” ¹⁴ So when he had gotten up, Joseph took the child and his mother and departed by night for Egypt; ¹⁵ and he remained there until the death of Herod. *All this took place* so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”⁵

5. Hos. 11:1

Rachel Weeping

¹⁶ Now when Herod realized that the wise men had deceived him, he was beside himself with rage. So sending out men, he had all the little boys⁶ in Bethlehem and its surrounding districts put to death, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then the words⁷ spoken through the prophet Jeremiah were fulfilled, who said,⁸ ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping *for* her children; and she refused to be comforted, for they were no more.”⁹

6. Or *children*

7. Lit. *What was*

8. Lit. *saying*

9. Jer. 31:15

Return to Nazareth

¹⁹ Now after Herod *had* died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream *while he was still* in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel; for the men who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ So he arose, took the child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in the place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. So after being warned in a dream, he withdrew into¹⁰ the districts of Galilee. ²³ And he came and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled: that he would be called a Nazarene.¹¹

10. Or *turned aside for*

11. Or *be fulfilled: “He will be called a Nazarene.”*

The Ministry of John the Baptizer

3 Now in those days John the Baptizer came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!” ³ For this was he of whom the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; straighten out his paths.’”¹ ⁴ Now John himself wore an outer garment made of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ At that time *people from* Jerusalem, all Judea, and the entire region surrounding the Jordan began going out to him; ⁶ and he was baptizing them in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins.

1. Is. 40:3

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “*You* brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Very well then, bring forth fruit to prove your² repentance! ⁹ And don’t presume to say among³ yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as *our* father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these *very* stones. ¹⁰ Moreover, the axe is already placed at the root of the trees; for this reason every tree that fails to bring forth good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ As for me, I am baptizing you in water for repentance. But the one coming after me has far greater power,⁴ and I am unfit *even* to carry⁵ his sandals. He will baptize you in⁶ the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

2. Lit. *fruit worthy of*

3. Or *within*

4. Lit. *is mightier than me*

5. Or *remove*

6. Or *with*

Jesus Fulfills All Righteousness

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ But John was trying to prevent him,⁷ saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and you are coming to me?”

¹⁵ But in reply Jesus said to him, “Permit *it* at this time, for it is proper⁸ that we fulfill all righteousness in this way.” Then John consented.⁹ ¹⁶ And after he was baptized, Jesus immediately came up out of the water;¹⁰ and behold, the heavens were opened,¹¹ and he¹² saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him. ¹⁷ And behold, a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

7. Lit. *he was preventing him*
 8. Or *fitting*
 9. Lit. *permitted him*
 10. Or *went up from the water*
 11. Many mss add *to him*
 12. Or possibly *John*

Temptation in the Wilderness

4 Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And when he had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he hungered. ³ Then the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread.” ⁴ But Jesus answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”¹

⁵ Then the devil took Jesus with him to the holy city, stood him on the pinnacle² of the temple, ⁶ and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written that he will command his angels to care for you, and they will lift you up with their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone.”³

⁷ But Jesus said to him, “It is also written, ‘You shall not force a test on the Lord your God.’”⁴

⁸ Once again the devil took Jesus with him, *this time* to a very high mountain; and he showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ Then he said to him, “If you fall down and worship me, I will give you all these things.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him alone you shall serve.’”⁵

¹¹ Then the devil left him; and behold, angels came and ministered to his needs.⁶

1. Deut. 8:3
 2. Or *highest point*; lit. *wing*
 3. Ps. 91:11-12
 4. Deut. 6:16
 5. Deut. 6:13
 6. Lit. *to him*

Ministry in Galilee

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³ And leaving Nazareth, he went and settled in Capernaum, *a town* by the sea in the region of Zebulun

and Naphtali.¹⁴ This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah, when he said,⁷ ¹⁵ “*The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward*⁸ the sea, this side of the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: ¹⁶ The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, and on those who sit in the region and shadow of death a light has dawned.”⁹ ¹⁷ Now from that time on Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!”

7. Lit. *saying*

8. Lit. *the way beside*

9. Is. 9:1-2

The First Disciples

¹⁸ Now as he was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew—casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, “Come, follow me,¹⁰ and I will make you fishers of men.”²⁰ So at once they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ And going on from there, he saw two more brothers—James *the son* of Zebedee, and his brother John—*sitting* in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. So he called them *as well*;²² and immediately leaving the boat and their father behind, they followed him.

10. Lit. *Come after me*

Healing for the Multitudes

²³ Then Jesus began traveling throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every kind of sickness and every kind of infirmity¹¹ among the people. ²⁴ And the news of him spread throughout all Syria, with the result that the people¹² brought him all who were sick: those taken with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, and those who were epileptics and paralytics. And he healed them *all*.²⁵ And huge crowds followed him, *people* from Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and *the regions* beyond the Jordan.

11. Or *disease*

12. Lit. *they*

The Beatitudes

5 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And opening his mouth, he began to teach them, saying:

³ “Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed *are* those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed *are* the humble,¹ for they will inherit the earth.

1. Or *mEEK*

⁶ Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.²

2. Or *satisfied*

⁷ Blessed *are* the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ Blessed *are* the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

¹⁰ Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ Blessed are you when *men* revile you and persecute you and speak all kinds of evil against you falsely because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven; for that is how they persecuted the prophets who *came* before you.

Believers Are Salt and Light

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how can it become salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do men light a lamp and *then* place it under a basket; instead, they place it on its stand,³ and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

3. Lit. *on the lampstand*

Christ and the Law

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets: I have not come to destroy, but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For I tell you the truth: Till heaven and earth pass away, not one iota or one serif⁴ will pass from the Law till all is fulfilled. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever sets aside one of the least of these commands, and teaches men to do the same, he will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you *this*: Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

4. I.e. very small Hebrew marks

5. Or *by*

6. Ex. 20:13; Deut. 5:17

7. Some mss add *without a cause*

8. An apparent reference to a lesser Jewish tribunal

9. Aramaic for *empty-head* or *good-for-nothing*

10. Lit. *Sanbedrin*

Murder

²¹ "You have heard that it was said to⁵ the men of long ago, 'You shall not commit murder,'⁶ and 'Anyone who murders will be liable to the court.'²² But I say to you that anyone who goes on in anger against his brother⁷ will be liable to the court.⁸ Moreover, anyone who says 'Raca!'⁹ to his brother will be liable to the supreme court.¹⁰ And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will

- 11. Lit. *the Gehenna of fire*. Gehenna was a smoldering garbage dump outside Jerusalem
- 12. Or *offering*
- 13. Lit. *while you are with him in the way*

be liable to *judgment in the fires of Gehenna*.¹¹ ²³ So then: If you are bringing your gift¹² to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar, and first go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Make peace with your opponent quickly, while the two of you are still on your way *to court*,¹³ lest your opponent hand you over to the judge, *and* the judge hand you over to the officer, so that you are thrown into jail. ²⁶ I tell you the truth: You will not get out of there till you have paid the last cent.

Adultery

- 14. Ex. 20:14; Deut. 5:18

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’¹⁴²⁸ But I say to you that anyone who looks at a woman in order to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If then your right eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into Gehenna. ¹⁵³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into Gehenna.

- 15. Traditionally *hell*

Marriage

- 16. Deut. 24:1, 3

³¹ “It was also said, ‘Whoever sends his wife away, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’¹⁶ ³² But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the grounds of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Oaths

- 17. Or *by*
- 18. Lev. 19:12

³³ “Again, you have heard that it was said to¹⁷ the men of long ago, ‘Do not swear falsely, but fulfill your vows to the Lord.’¹⁸ ³⁴ But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ nor by the earth, for it is the footstool for his feet, nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ Nor should you swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. ³⁷ You should simply say, ‘Yes, yes,’ or ‘No, no.’ Anything beyond these *stems* from the evil one.¹⁹

- 19. Or *evil*; lit. *(is) out of the evil (one)*

Enemies

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’²⁰ ³⁹ But I say to you, do not retaliate against²¹ an evil-doer. Instead, whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other as well. ⁴⁰ And if anyone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him also have your cloak. ⁴¹ And whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² Give to him who asks you *for help*; and from the one who seeks to borrow from you, do not turn away.

20. Ex. 21:24;
Lev. 24:20
21. Or *resist*

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor²² and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be seen as²³ sons of your Father in heaven; for he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you deserve? Don’t even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you only greet your brothers, what more are you doing than anyone else? Don’t even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ Therefore, you *too* must be²⁴ perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.²⁵

22. Lev. 19:18
23. Or *be, become*
24. Lit. *you shall be*
25. See Lev. 19:2;
Deut. 18:13

Almsgiving

6 “Take care that you don’t perform your good deeds¹ in front of men, in order to be seen by them; if you do, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² Therefore, whenever you give to the poor, you are not to sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the streets and synagogues, in order to receive praise from men. I tell you the truth: They have their reward. ³ But when you give to the poor, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be *done* in secret; then your Father who is watching in secret will reward you *himself*.²

1. Lit. *your righteousness*

2. Some mss add *openly*

Prayer

⁵ “And when you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners in order to be seen by men. I tell you the truth: They have their reward. ⁶ But *as for* you, when you pray, go into your inner room,³ and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is *with you* in secret; and your Father who is watching in secret will reward you. ⁷ Also, when you pray, don’t be like the

3. I.e. an inner room of one’s house, hidden from the outside world

4. Lit. *Therefore do not*

5. Or *necessary*

6. Or *evil*; lit. *the evil (one)*

7. Lit. *men*

8. A few ancient mss omit *their sins (trespasses)*

Gentiles, repeating yourselves over and again; for they think they will be heard on account of their many words. ⁸ You are not to⁴ be like them, for your Father knows the things you need before you ask him. ⁹ Here then is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, may your name be held in reverence. ¹⁰ May your kingdom come. May your will be done—as it is in heaven, so too upon *the* earth. ¹¹ Give us today our daily⁵ bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’⁶ ¹⁴ For if you forgive others⁷ of their sins, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others their sins,⁸ neither will your Father forgive you yours.

Fasting

¹⁶ ‘And whenever you fast, don’t be like the hypocrites, looking sad and sullen; for they distort their faces in order to show men that they are fasting. I tell you the truth: They have their reward. ¹⁷ But as for you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting will not be seen by men, but by your Father who is *with you* in secret; and your Father who is watching in secret will reward you.

Treasure in Heaven

¹⁹ ‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves cannot break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be as well. ²² The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore if your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴ No one can serve two masters, for he will either hate the one and love the other, or he will cling to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Worry

²⁵ ‘For this reason I say to you, don’t worry about your life: what you will eat or what you will drink. And don’t worry about your body: what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the wild birds,⁹ how they neither sow, nor reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly

9. Lit. *birds of the air*

Father feeds them. *And* are you not of far greater value than they? ²⁷ Moreover, which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his appointed span of life? ¹⁰

²⁸ “Again, why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, the way they grow: They neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was never dressed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you who have so little faith?

³¹ “Therefore, do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles constantly seek all these things; *but you need not*, for ¹¹ your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you *as well*. ³⁴ So then: Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. *Each* day has enough trouble of its own.¹²

Judging

7 “Do not judge, so that you *yourself* will not be judged; ² for in the way you judge, you will be judged, and the measure you use will be the measure you receive.¹³ Moreover, why do you stare at the speck in your brother's eye, but fail to consider the beam in your own? ⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ and look: There's a beam in your own! ⁵ You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you will see clearly *enough* to remove the speck from your brother's.

Wisdom

⁶ “Do not give what is holy to the dogs, and do not throw your pearls before the pigs; otherwise they may trample your pearls beneath their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Perseverance

⁷ “Keep on asking, and it will be given to you; keep on seeking, and you will find; keep on knocking, and *the door* will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, *the door* will be opened. ⁹ Or what man among you, if his son asks *him* for *some* bread, will

10. Or *add a single cubit to his stature*

11. Or possibly *all these things; and (besides)*

12. Lit. *Sufficient for the day is its own troubles*

1. Lit. *it will be measured to you*

give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks *him* for a fish, will he give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him! ¹² Therefore, whatever you desire others² to do for you, do the same for them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

2. Lit. *all things whatsoever you desire men*

The Narrow Gate

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide—and the road is broad—that leads to destruction, and many are entering by it. ¹⁴ How³ narrow is the gate—and *how* difficult the road—that leads to life; and *how* few are those who find it!

3. Some mss *For*

False Prophets

¹⁵ “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruits you will know them. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Just so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that doesn’t bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ So then, by their fruits you will know them.

²¹ Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but *only* he who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²² In that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and drive out demons in your name, and perform many *miraculous* works of power in your name?’ ²³ And then I will openly declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness!’²⁴

4. See Ps. 6:8

The Good Foundation

²⁴ “So then: Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice⁵ may be likened to a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floodwaters⁶ rose,⁷ and the winds blew and beat against that house; but it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice may be likened to a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floodwaters rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; and it fell with a great fall.”⁸

5. Lit. *and does them*

6. Or *streams, rivers*

7. Lit. *came*

8. Lit. *and it fell, and great was its fall*

²⁸ Now when Jesus had finished saying all these things,⁹ the crowds stood amazed at his teaching; for he was not teaching them like the scribes, but as one who had authority.

Christ the Healer

8 Now when Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him.² And behold, a leper came up to him, knelt down before him, and said, “Lord, if you’re willing, you can make me clean.”³ So Jesus stretched out *his* hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And at once the man was cleansed of his leprosy.¹⁴ Then Jesus said to him, “See that you tell no one; but go, show yourself to the priest, and present the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

9. Lit. *And it came about when Jesus had finished (completed) these words (sayings)*

1. Lit. *his leprosy was cleansed*

Jesus Heals a Centurion’s Servant

⁵ Now when he *had* entered Capernaum, a centurion came up to him and began pleading with him,⁶ saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home, paralyzed *and* dreadfully tormented.”⁷ So Jesus said to him, “I will come and heal him.”⁸ But in reply the centurion said, “Lord, I’m not worthy that you should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.”⁹ For I too am a man under authority, and I myself have soldiers under me. So I say to this *one*, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does *it*.”¹⁰ Now when Jesus heard *that*, he stood amazed; and he said to those who were following *him*, “I tell you the truth, I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel!”¹¹ And I tell you *this*: Many will come from the east and the west, and will recline *at the table* with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven;¹² but the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where³ there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go your way; as you have believed, *so* let it be done for you.” And in that very hour *his* servant was healed.

2. Many mss *I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel.*
3. Lit. *in that place*

Further Healings

¹⁴ Now when Jesus had entered Peter’s house, he saw his wife’s mother lying sick with a fever.¹⁵ So he touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she arose and began to serve him.¹⁶ And when evening fell they brought him many who were tormented by demons; and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick,¹⁷ so that what was spoken through Isaiah the

4. Or *took on, took hold of*
 5. Or *sicknesses*
 6. Is. 53:4

7. Some mss
a large crowd;
 others, *large crowds*

8. Lit. *birds of the air*

9. Many mss *his*

10. Some mss
the disciples or his disciples

11. Lit. *men*

12. Lit. "*What to us to you?*"

13. Or *left for the city;* lit. *departed into*

14. Or *especially;* lit. *and*

15. Lit. *when they had seen him*

prophet might be fulfilled, when he said, "He took away⁴ our infirmities,⁵ and carried off our diseases."⁶

Uncompromising Discipleship

¹⁸ Now when Jesus saw the crowd⁷ around him, he ordered his *disciples* to depart for the other side *of the sea*.¹⁹ Then a certain scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."²⁰ But Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes, and the wild birds⁸ have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."²¹ Then another one of the⁹ disciples said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."²² But Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."

Lord of Wind and Sea

²³ Now when Jesus got into the boat, his disciples followed him.²⁴ And behold, a great storm arose on the sea, so *great* that the waves began to swamp the boat. But Jesus himself was asleep.²⁵ So they¹⁰ went over to *him* and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We're about to die!"²⁶ But he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you *men* of little faith?" Then he stood up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and a great calm fell *upon the waters*.²⁷ And the disciples¹¹ marveled, saying, "What sort of a man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

Satan Driven Out

²⁸ Now when Jesus came to the other side *of the sea*—to the territory of the Gadarenes—two demon-possessed men emerged from the tombs and rushed towards him, *men* so exceedingly violent that no one could pass through by that way.²⁹ And behold, they cried out, saying, "Son of God, what do you want with us?¹² Have you come here to torment us before the time?"³⁰ Now a good way off from them there was a large herd of pigs, feeding.³¹ So the demons pleaded with him, saying, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."³² Then he said to them, "Begone!" And when the demons came out, they entered the herd of pigs; and behold, the entire herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and died in the waters.³³ Then the herdsmen fled; and when they had entered¹³ the city, they reported everything, including¹⁴ what had happened to the demoniacs.³⁴ And behold, the entire city went out to meet Jesus; and as soon as they saw him,¹⁵ they pleaded with *him* to leave their territory.

A Paralytic Forgiven and Healed

9 So after entering a boat, he crossed over and came to his own city. ² And behold, *some men* were bringing him a paralytic who was lying on a *makeshift* bed.¹ Now when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, take heart; your sins are forgiven you.”³ And at once² some of the scribes said to each other, “This man is blaspheming!”⁴ But Jesus, knowing³ their thoughts, said, “Why are you harboring evil⁴ thoughts in your hearts?⁵ For which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or, ‘Get up and walk’?⁶ But so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . .” (then he said to the paralytic), “Rise, pick up your bed, and go *back* to your house.”⁷ And the man got up and left for his house.⁸ Now when the crowds saw *this*, they were afraid; and they glorified God⁵ who had given such authority to men.

1. Or *stretcher*
2. Lit. *And behold*
3. Many mss *seeing*
4. Or *corrupt, perverted*

5. Or *they feared and glorified God*

A Tax Collector Called

⁹ Now as Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax collector’s booth. So he said to him, “Follow me!” And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰ Now as he was dining in Matthew’s house, it so happened that many tax collectors and sinners arrived and began to recline at the table with him and his disciples. ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why is your teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² But overhearing *them*, Jesus said, “Those who are well don’t need a physician, only those who are sick. ¹³ So go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’⁶ For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

6. Hos. 6:6

Fasting

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why is it that we and the Pharisees fast,⁷ but your disciples don’t fast *at all*?” ¹⁵ So Jesus said to them, “Can the friends of the bridegroom⁸ mourn while the bridegroom is still with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one puts a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment and the tear will be made worse. ¹⁷ Nor do *men* put new wine into old wineskins, for if they do, the wineskins burst, the wine is spilled,

7. Many mss add *much*; some mss *often*
8. Lit. *sons of the wedding hall*

and the wineskins are ruined. Instead, they put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”

Two Women Healed

¹⁸ Now as he was telling them these things, behold, a ruler *of the synagogue* arrived and knelt down before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her and she will live.” ¹⁹ Then Jesus, along with his disciples, got up and followed him. ²⁰ And behold, a woman who had suffered a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind *him* and grasped the hem of his outer garment; ²¹ for she was saying to herself, “If only I *can* grasp his cloak, I will be healed.” ²² But Jesus, turning around and seeing her, said, “Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well!” ²³ And from that hour on the woman was healed.

9. Lit. *saved you*

²³ Now when Jesus entered the ruler’s house, and when he saw the flute players and the noisy, wailing crowd, ²⁴ he said to them, “Go back *to your homes*, for the girl isn’t dead, but *only* sleeps.” So they *began* to laugh at him. ²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand; and the girl arose. ²⁶ And the news of this spread throughout that entire region.

Two Blind Men See

²⁷ Now as Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” ²⁸ So when he had entered the house, the blind men came up to him; and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I can do this?” They said to him, “Yes, Lord.” ²⁹ Then he touched their eyes, saying, “May it be done to you according to your faith.” ³⁰ And their eyes were opened. But Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See that no one knows *of this!*” ³¹ But once they had gone out, they spread the news of it¹⁰ throughout that entire region.

10. Or *him*

A Mute Man Speaks

³² And as they were leaving, behold, some people¹¹ brought him a man *who was* mute and oppressed by a demon; ³³ and when the demon had been driven out, the mute man spoke. So the crowds stood amazed, saying, “Nothing like this was ever seen in Israel!” ³⁴ But the Pharisees kept saying, “He is casting out demons by the ruler of the demons.”

11. Lit. *they*

The Compassion of Christ

³⁵ Then Jesus began circulating *through* all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every *kind of* disease and infirmity. ³⁶ And when he beheld the crowds, he was moved with compassion for them, for they were harassed and helpless,¹² like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “Truly, the harvest *is* plentiful, but the workers *are* few. ³⁸ So pray in earnest to the Lord of the harvest, that he would send out¹³ workers into his harvest.”

12. Or *downcast*

13. Or *thrust*

The Twelve Sent Out

10 Now when Jesus had called for his twelve disciples, he gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and heal every kind of disease and infirmity. ² And these are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the *son* of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew, the tax collector; James, the *son* of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Cananean, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out after giving them *the following* instructions: “Take no road that leads you to the Gentiles,¹ and enter no city of the Samaritans,⁶ but go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ And as you go, proclaim *this message*, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is near!’ ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. ⁹ Do not supply yourselves with gold, silver, or copper for your money belts,¹⁰ or with a bag for *your* journey, or two tunics, or *extra* sandals, or a staff; for the worker is worthy of his keep.² ¹¹ And *in* whatever city or village you enter, make inquiries as to who is worthy, and stay with him³ until you leave. ¹² And when you enter that household, greet it: ¹³ If the household is worthy, let your peace⁴ come upon it; but if it is not, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴ And whoever will not receive you or listen to your words, when you leave that house or city, shake the dust off your feet. ¹⁵ I tell you the truth: In the Day of Judgment it will be more bearable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that city!

1. Lit. *Do not depart into (the) way of the Gentiles*

2. Lit. *food, nourishment*

3. Lit. *there*

4. Or *blessing of peace*

The Twelve Warned

¹⁶ “Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ But beware

of men, for they will hand you over to *the* councils, and will scourge you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ Because of me you will even be brought before governors and kings, to testify to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they hand you over *to the authorities*, don't be concerned about how you should speak or what you should say, for what you should say will be given to you in that *very* hour; ²⁰ for it will not be you who is speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through⁵ you.

5. Lit. *in*

²¹ "And brother will hand over brother to death, and a father *his own* child; and children will rise up against *their* parents and have them put to death; ²² and because of my name you will be hated by all. But he who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ And whenever they persecute you in this city, flee to the next.⁶ For I tell you the truth: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

6. Lit. *the other*

²⁴ "A disciple is not above his teacher, neither is a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for a disciple to be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more the members⁷ of his household!

7. Lit. *those*

Healthy Fear

²⁶ "So have no fear of them, for there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and *nothing* hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸ And have no fear of those who kill the body, but who cannot kill the soul; but fear instead him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a *single* copper coin, yet not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father? ³⁰ But *as for you*, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid: You are more valuable than many sparrows! ³² Therefore *I say to you that* everyone who confesses me⁸ before men, I too will confess him before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies me before men, I too will deny him before my Father in heaven.

8. Lit. *will confess in (with) me*

Not Peace, But a Sword

³⁴ "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶ and a man's enemies will

be the members⁹ of his *own* household.¹⁰ ³⁷ Whoever¹¹ loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

9. Lit. *those*
 10. Mic. 7:6
 11. Lit. *He who*

Receiving Them, Receiving Him

⁴⁰ “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet¹² will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. ⁴² And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is *my* disciple, I tell you the truth: He will by no means lose his reward.”

12. Lit. *in the name of a prophet*

John Inquires of Jesus

11 Now after Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities. ² But when John, *who was* in prison, heard about the *miraculous* works of Christ, he sent *word* by his disciples, ³ asking¹ him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for someone else?” ⁴ So in reply Jesus said to them, “Go and tell John the things you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive their sight and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised to life and the poor have good news proclaimed to them; ⁶ and blessed are those who do not stumble over me.”²²

1. Lit. (*and*)
 said to

2. Lit. *blessed is whoever is not made to stumble by me*

⁷ Then, as John’s disciples³ were going their way, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to observe: a reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ But *if not that*, what did you go out to see: a man dressed in soft robes? Behold, those who wear soft robes are *found* in kings’ palaces.⁴ ⁹ But what *then* did you go out to see: a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face; he⁵ will prepare your way before you.’¹⁶

3. Lit. *these*

4. Lit. *houses*

5. Lit. *who*
 6. Mal. 3:1

¹¹ I tell you the truth: Among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptizer; nevertheless, he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² And from the days of John the Baptizer until now the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men are seizing it

for themselves. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴ And if you are willing to accept it, he himself is Elijah, who was promised to come.⁷ ¹⁵ He who has ears *to hear*, let him hear!

7. Lit. *who is (was) to come*

¹⁶ “But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces, calling out to their playmates and saying, ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, but you wouldn’t dance; we sang a dirge *for you*, but you wouldn’t beat *your* breasts!’ ¹⁸ For John came, neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon!’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ But wisdom is vindicated by what she does.”⁸

8. Or *ac-*
complishes; lit. *her*
works; many mss
her children (Luke
7:35)

Two Cities of Woe

²⁰ Then he began to denounce the cities in which most of his mighty miracles⁹ had been performed,¹⁰ because they did not repent: ²¹ “Woe to you, Chorazin! And woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty miracles performed in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² Moreover,¹¹ I say to you that in the Day of Judgment it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³ And *as for you*, Capernaum, do you refuse to be lifted up to heaven?¹² *Very well*, you will be thrown down to Hades! For if the mighty miracles performed in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained to this *very* day. ²⁴ Moreover, I say to you that in the Day of Judgment it will be more bearable for the land of Sodom than for you.”

9. Or *works of*
power; lit. *powers*

10. Lit. *occurred,*
taken place

11. Or
Nevertheless

12. Lit. *will you*
not be exalted to
heaven?

Revelation and Rest

²⁵ At that time Jesus spoke up in response: “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from *the* wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for *to work in* this way was pleasing in your sight. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father. And no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and those to whom the Son is willing to reveal *him*. ²⁸ Come to me, all who are weary¹³ and loaded down, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy¹⁴ and my load is light.”

13. Or *who labor,*
toil (to the point of
exhaustion)

14. Or *mild,*
pleasant

Lord of the Sabbath

12 At that time Jesus passed through the grain fields on a Sabbath day; and his disciples grew hungry and began picking the heads *of wheat* and eating *them*.² But when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said to him, “Look, your disciples are doing on the Sabbath what the Law forbids!”¹ ³ But he said to them, “Haven’t you read what David did when he was hungry—*both* he and the men with him—⁴ how he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated loaves, something that wasn’t lawful for him or his companions to do,² but only for the priests?⁵ Or have you not read in the Law that on the Sabbath the priests *servicing* in the temple break³ the Sabbath, and *yet* are guiltless?⁶ But I say to you: Something⁴ greater than the temple is here!⁷ Moreover, if you had known what this means—‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice’⁵—you would not have condemned the guiltless.⁸ For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

1. Lit. *what is unlawful to do*

2. Lit. *for him or those with him to eat*

3. Lit. *desecrate, profane*

4. Or *one who is*
5. Hos. 6:6

⁹ Now after leaving that place, he entered their synagogue. ¹⁰ And behold, a man with a withered hand *was inside*. So *the Pharisees* questioned Jesus, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”—in order to accuse him. ¹¹ But he said to them, “What man among you, if he owned a single sheep that⁶ fell into a pit on the Sabbath, wouldn’t take hold of it and lift *it* out?¹² So then: If a sheep has value, how much more a man! For this reason it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.”¹³ Then Jesus said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” So he stretched *it* out, and it was restored to health, just like the other. ¹⁴ But after they had gone out, the Pharisees began plotting against him as to how they could put him to death.

6. Lit. *and it*

The Patience of Christ

¹⁵ So Jesus, knowing *this*, withdrew from that place. And many people⁷ followed him, and he healed them all. ¹⁶ But he warned them not to make him known,¹⁷ so that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled, when he said:

7. Many mss *great crowds*

¹⁸ “Behold! My servant whom I have chosen,
my beloved one, in whom my soul is well pleased!
I will set my Spirit upon him,
and he will proclaim justice⁸ to the nations.

¹⁹ He will not quarrel or cry out;
neither will anyone hear his voice in the streets.

8. Or *judgment*

²⁰ A bruised reed he will not break off,

and a dimly burning wick he will not extinguish until he sends forth judgment to victory.

²¹ And in his name the Gentiles will *place their* hope.”¹⁹

9. Is. 42:1-4

The Unpardonable Sin

²² Then a demon-possessed man, blind and mute, was brought to him; and Jesus healed him, so that the mute *both* spoke and saw. ²³ And all the crowds stood amazed and said, “Could this be the Son of David?” ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard *that*, they said, “This man only drives out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons.” ²⁵ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to ruin; and every city or house divided against itself cannot¹⁰ stand. ²⁶ Now if Satan is driving out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then can his kingdom stand? ²⁷ Moreover, if I am driving out demons by Beelzebul, by whom are your sons driving them out? For this reason they will be your judges. ²⁸ If, however, I am driving out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹ Or *again*, how can someone enter a¹¹ strong man’s house and plunder his goods unless he first ties up the strong man? Only¹² then can he plunder his house. ³⁰ He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me is scattering far and wide. ³¹ For this reason I say to you *that* every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven to men, but the blasphemy *against* the Spirit will not be forgiven. ³² And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the age to come.

10. Lit. *will not*

11. Lit. *the*

12. Lit. *and*

Tend First to the Tree

³³ “Either make the tree good, so its fruit is good,¹³ or make the tree bad, so its fruit is bad; for a tree is known by *its* fruit. ³⁴ You offspring of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For the mouth speaks from that which fills the heart. ³⁵ The good man out of *his* good treasury brings forth good things; and the evil man out of *his* evil treasury brings forth evil things. ³⁶ Moreover, I tell you *this*: In the Day of Judgment men will give an account for every thoughtless¹⁴ word they speak; ³⁷ for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

13. Lit. *and its fruit good*

14. Lit. *lazy, careless*

The Sign of Jonah

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees responded to him, saying, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.” ³⁹ But he answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation clamors for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so too the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ At the Judgment the men of Nineveh will rise up with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, someone¹⁵ greater than Jonah *is* here! ⁴² At the Judgment the Queen of the South will rise up with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, someone greater than Solomon is here!

15. Or *something*

Woe to a Wicked Generation

⁴³ “Now when an unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places, seeking rest but finding none. ⁴⁴ Then it says, ‘I will go back to my house, *the house* from which I came.’ And when it arrives, it finds the house empty, swept clean, and set in order. ⁴⁵ Then it goes out and takes with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they *all* go in and live there, so that the final *state* of that man is worse than the first. So too shall it be for this evil generation.”

Jesus’ Family Tree

⁴⁶ While he was still speaking to the crowds, behold, his mother and brothers came and stood outside, desiring to speak with him. ⁴⁷ So someone said to him, “Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to speak with you.” ⁴⁸ But in reply Jesus said to the man who was talking to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” ⁴⁹ And stretching out his hand towards his disciples, he said, “Look, *here are* my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰ For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven, that is my brother and *my* sister and *my* mother.”

The Parable of the Sower

13 On that same day, after he had left the house, Jesus was sitting beside the lake. ² But such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down *there*, while

the whole crowd stood on the shore. ³ Then, using parables, he told them many things, saying: “Behold, a¹ sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some *of the seeds* fell on the roadside, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky places, where they had little soil; and because their soil had no depth, they sprang up immediately. ⁶ But after the sun had risen, the seedlings were² scorched; and because they had no root, the plants³ withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorn bushes, with the result that the bushes sprang up and choked the plants. ⁸ But other seeds fell on good ground and yielded a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

1. Lit. *the*

2. Lit. *it was*
(a collective pronoun)

3. Lit. *it*

The Purpose of Parables

¹⁰ Then the disciples came and said to him, “Why are you speaking to them in parables?” ¹¹ In reply Jesus said to them, “Because to you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, whereas to them it has not been given. ¹² For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he does have will be taken from him. ¹³ This is why I speak to them in parables, for though they see, they do not see; and though they hear, they do not hear, nor do they understand. ¹⁴ Indeed, in them the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says:

4. Lit. *with the sense of bearing*

5. Lit. *and seeing*

“With your ears⁴ you will hear,
but by no means understand;
and with your eyes⁵ you will see,
but by no means perceive;
¹⁵ for the heart of this people has grown fat.
Their ears are hard of hearing,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should see with *their* eyes,
and hear with *their* ears,
and understand with *their* hearts,
and return, so that I might heal them.”⁶

6. Lit. *and I would heal them;*
Is. 6:9-10

¹⁶ “But blessed *are* your eyes, for they see; and *blessed are* your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For I tell you the truth: Many prophets and righteous *men* desired to see what you see, but did not see *it*, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear *it*.

The Sower Explained

¹⁸ “Listen then to *what* the parable of the sower *means*: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word about the kingdom and fails to understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the *meaning of the seed* sown beside the road. ²⁰ As for the seed sown in rocky places, this refers to the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy. ²¹ However he has no root within himself, but is *only* temporary. Therefore when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, he immediately falls away. ²² The seed sown among the thorn bushes refers to the one who hears the word, but the cares of *this present* age and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word so that it bears no fruit. ²³ But the seed sown in the good soil refers to the one who hears the word and understands it; who does indeed bear fruit and produce *a crop*, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.”

Of Wheat and the Tares

²⁴ *Then* he set another parable before them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares⁷ among the wheat and went his way. ²⁶ But when the wheat sprang up and formed heads,⁸ the tares appeared as well. ²⁷ So the servants of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’ ²⁸ Therefore he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ ²⁹ But he said, ‘No, for when you gather up the tares you might uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let them both grow together until the harvest. Then, at the time of the harvest, I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the tares and tie them in bundles to be burned; but *as for* the wheat, gather *it* into my barn.”’”

7. Lit. *darnel*, a poisonous weed resembling wheat
8. Lit. *produced fruit*

Of Mustard Seed and Leaven

³¹ *Then* he set another parable before them, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² Though it is indeed the smallest of all seeds, when it reaches full stature it is the largest of the garden plants, and becomes a tree; *and* as a result, the wild birds⁹ come and make their nests in its branches.”¹⁰

9. Lit. *birds of the air*
10. See Ezek. 17:22f, 31:5

11. Lit. *all of it* ³³ *And* he spoke another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal until the entire dough¹¹ was leavened.”

12. Ps. 78:2 ³⁴ All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; and without a parable he would not speak to them *at all*,³⁵ so that what was declared through the prophet might be fulfilled, when he said, “I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the founding of the world.”¹²

The Parable of the Wheat and Tares Explained

13. Or *left* ³⁶ Then Jesus dismissed¹³ the multitudes and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field.” ³⁷ So in reply he said, “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,³⁸ and the field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, and the tares are the sons of the evil one. ³⁹ The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ Therefore, just as tares are gathered up and burned in a fire, so it will be at the end of the age: ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send forth his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all stumbling-blocks and those who practice lawlessness,⁴² and will throw them into the furnace of fire. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.¹⁴ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

14. See Dan. 12:3

Hidden Treasure and a Precious Pearl

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid. Then, for joy *over the treasure*, he goes and sells everything he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant *who went* in search of fine pearls. ⁴⁶ And when he found a single pearl of great value, he went and sold everything he had and bought it.

The Dragnet

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was thrown into the sea and gathered in *fish* of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, they pulled *it* up onto *the* shore, sat down, and collected the good *fish* in baskets; but the worthless ones they threw away. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age: The angels will come

forth, take the wicked from among the righteous,⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵² Then he said to them, “For this reason *I say to you*: Every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven¹⁵ is like the head of a household who brings out from his storeroom of valuables things *both* new and old.”

15. Or *trained for the kingdom of heaven*

A Prophet Without Honor

⁵³ Now when Jesus finished *delivering* these parables, he left that place. ⁵⁴ And when he came *again* to his home town,¹⁶ he began teaching the people¹⁷ in their synagogue. As a result, they stood amazed and said, “Where did this man get such wisdom and such powers? ⁵⁵ Isn’t this the carpenter’s son? Isn’t his mother called Mary, and *aren’t* his brothers *called* James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? ⁵⁶ And *as for* his sisters, don’t they all live here with us?¹⁸ Where then did this *man* get all these things?” ⁵⁷ So they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town¹⁹ and his own house.” ⁵⁸ And he did not perform many miracles²⁰ there because of their unbelief.

16. Or *home territory*
17. Lit. *them*

18. Lit. *aren’t they all with us?*

19. Or *part of the country*

20. Lit. *works of power*

John Beheaded

14 At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus. ² So he said to his servants, “This is John the Baptizer; he has risen from the dead, and that’s why these miraculous powers are at work in him!” ³ For after Herod had arrested John, he had him bound and put in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife. ⁴ For John kept telling him, “It isn’t lawful for you to have her.” ⁵ And though *Herod* wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, for they regarded *John* as a prophet. ⁶ Now when Herod’s birthday arrived, the daughter of Herodias performed a dance in the midst *of the gathering*; and she pleased Herod, ⁷ so much so that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask. ⁸ But at the prompting of her mother, *she said*, “Give me the head of John the Baptizer here on a platter.” ⁹ And though it grieved the king, because of the oaths *he had sworn*, and because of those who were reclining at the table with him, he ordered that it be given *to her*. ¹⁰ So he sent *word* and had John beheaded in prison; ¹¹ and his head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl, who in turn brought it¹ to her

1. Lit. *and she brought it*

mother. ¹² Then John's disciples came, carried away the body, and buried it. And they went and reported *these things* to Jesus.

Food for Five Thousand

¹³ Now when Jesus heard *about this*, he withdrew from there by boat *and went* to an isolated place *to be* by himself. But when the crowds heard *of it*, they followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴ So when he got out *of the boat*, he beheld a great crowd; and he was moved with compassion for them, and he healed those among them who were sick.

¹⁵ Now when evening arrived his disciples came to him, saying, "This place is uninhabited, and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy themselves *some food*." ¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, "There's no need for them to leave: You give them something to eat." ¹⁷ But they said to him, "Out here we only have five loaves *of bread* and two fish." ¹⁸ So he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then, after ordering the crowds to sit down on the grass, he took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up into heaven, and asked God's blessing. And after breaking the loaves, he gave *portions* to the disciples, who in turn gave *portions* to the multitudes. ²⁰ So all of them ate and were filled;² and they took up twelve basketfuls of the fragments that were left over. ²¹ Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

2. Or *satisfied*

A Walk on the Sea

²² Then Jesus immediately had the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side *of the sea* while he sent the crowds away; ²³ and after doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Now when evening arrived, he was *still* there, all alone; ²⁴ but by this time the boat was many stadia away from the land *and being battered*³ by the waves, for the wind was against *them*. ²⁵ So in the fourth watch of the night Jesus came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were deeply distressed, saying, "It's a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But at once Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage! It is I; don't be afraid!"

3. Lit. *tormented*

²⁸ But Peter, in reply to him, said, "Lord, if it *really* is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ So Jesus said, "Come!" And when he had gotten down out of the boat, Peter walked on the water and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But looking

upon the high winds,⁴ he grew fearful; and as he started to sink, he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!”³¹ So stretching out his hand, Jesus immediately took hold of him; and he said to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?”³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ Then those who were in the boat knelt before him, saying, “Truly, you are the Son of God!”

4. Lit. *seeing (noticing) the strong wind*; some mss omit *strong*

The Touch that Heals

³⁴ Now after they had finished crossing *the sea*, they landed at Gennesaret.³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent *messengers* out into the entire surrounding area; and *the people* brought to him all who were sick.³⁶ And they pleaded with him simply to let them touch the edge of his cloak; and everyone who touched *it* was healed.

God, Law, Tradition

15 Then *certain* Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem, saying,² “Why do your disciples violate the tradition of the elders? For when they eat *their* food, they don’t wash their hands.”³ But in reply he said to them, “And why do you¹ violate the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?⁴ For God said,² ‘Honor your father and your mother,’³ and ‘He who curses *his* father or mother, let him be put to death.’^{4 5} Yet you say, ‘If someone⁵ tells his father or mother, ‘Anything of mine by which you might have received help has been dedicated as a gift to God,’⁶ he no longer needs to honor his father.’⁷ Thus you have nullified the word of God for the sake of your tradition.⁷ Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:⁸ ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁹ moreover, they worship me in vain, for they teach⁸ as doctrines *of God* the commandments of men.’”

1. Or possibly *Why do you yourselves*; lit. *Why also do you*
 2. Many mss issued a command, *saying*
 3. Ex. 20:12
 4. Ex. 21:17
 5. Lit. *Anyone who*
 6. Lit. *is a gift*
 7. Many mss add *or mother*.
 8. Lit. *in vain, teaching*; Is. 29:13

Defilement From Within

¹⁰ Now when he had summoned the crowd, he said to them, “Hear and understand:¹¹ It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a man, but what comes out of it; that is what defiles a man.”¹² Then the disciples came up and said to him, “Do you realize that the Pharisees were offended when they heard you say that?”⁹
¹³ But in reply Jesus said, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.¹⁴ Leave them alone.¹⁰ They are blind guides; and if the blind leads the blind, they both will fall into a pit.”¹⁵ Then Peter replied and said to him, “Explain

9. Lit. *when they heard the word (saying)*
 10. Or *Leave them!*

the parable to us.”¹⁶ But Jesus said, “After all this, are you too without understanding?¹⁷ Don’t you see that everything going into the mouth enters the stomach and is eliminated?¹⁸ But the things that go forth from the mouth come out of the heart; and it is these that defile the man.¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual sins, thefts, false witness, *and* slanders.^{11 20} These are the things that defile a man. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”

11. Or
blasphemies

Amazing Faith

²¹ Now after leaving that place, Jesus withdrew into the districts of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a Canaanite woman who lived in¹² those parts came forth and began to cry out, saying, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is cruelly tormented by a demon.” ²³ But Jesus gave *her* no reply, not *even* a *single* word. Then his disciples came up and began to plead with him, saying, “Send her away, for she is constantly crying out behind us.” ²⁴ But he answered and said, “I have not been sent *to any* except the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ Now after the woman had come *up*, she knelt before him and said, “Lord, help me!” ²⁶ But in reply Jesus said, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the household dogs.” ²⁷ But the woman said, “Yes, Lord, but even the household dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, “Woman, your faith is great! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And from that *very* hour her daughter was healed.

12. Lit. *from*

Multitudes Healed

²⁹ Now after he had left that place, Jesus travelled along the Sea of Galilee; and when he had gone up into the mountain, he sat down there. ³⁰ Then large crowds came to him, bringing with them *those who were* lame, crippled, blind, and mute, along with many others. And they laid them at his feet, and he healed them. ³¹ So when the crowd saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored to health, the lame walking, and the blind seeing, they were utterly amazed. And they glorified the God of Israel.

The Feeding of the Four Thousand

³² Then Jesus called for his disciples and said, “I am concerned about the crowd, for they have been with me now for three days; they¹³ have nothing to eat, and I don’t want to send them off hungry since they might weaken along the way.” ³³ Then

13. Lit. *and they*

his disciples said to him, “In *this* remote place where could we get enough bread to satisfy so great a crowd?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven, and a few small fish.” ³⁵ So when he had ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground, ³⁶ he took up the seven loaves and the fish. And when he had given thanks, he broke *them* and gave *portions* to his disciples, who in turn gave *portions* to the crowd. ³⁷ So all the people ate and were satisfied; and they picked up the leftover fragments: seven large basketsful. ³⁸ Now those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. ³⁹ And when he had dismissed the crowd, Jesus got into the boat and came to the region of Magadan.

Blind to the Signs

16 Now the Pharisees and Sadducees, coming to Jesus in order to test him, asked that he show them a sign from heaven. ² But in reply he said to them, “When evening arrives, you say, ‘*Tomorrow* it will be fair, for the sky is red.’ ³ And at dawn you say, ‘Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and threatening.’ You know how to read the face of the sky, but you cannot *read* the signs of the times! ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation keeps seeking a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.” Then he turned away from them and departed.

Beware the Leaven of the Pharisees!

⁵ Now when the disciples arrived on the other side *of the sea*, they had forgotten to take along bread. ⁶ Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees!” ⁷ So the disciples started to discuss *this* among themselves, saying, “It’s because we’ve brought no bread.” ⁸ But when Jesus became aware of this, he said to them, “You men of little faith! Why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? ⁹ Are you still without understanding? Don’t you remember the five loaves for the five thousand *men*, and how many baskets *of fragments* you picked up? ¹⁰ Or the seven loaves for the four thousand *men*, and how many large baskets *of fragments* you picked up? ¹¹ How is it that you don’t understand I was not speaking to you about bread? Nevertheless, be on guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees!” ¹² Then they realized he was not telling *them* to

beware of the leaven in bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Peter's Good Confession

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he put a question to his disciples, saying, "Who do men say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ So they replied, "Some say John the Baptizer, others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ Jesus said to them, "But who do you say I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God!" ¹⁷ Then Jesus responded and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ Moreover, I say to you that you are Peter;¹ and on this rock² I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will by no means prevail against³ it. ¹⁹ I will give you⁴ the keys of the kingdom of heaven: Whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven."⁵ ²⁰ Then he commanded his disciples to tell no one that he was the Messiah.

1. Greek *petros*: a stone
2. Greek *petra*: large rock, bedrock
3. Or *overpower*
4. "You" is singular
5. Or possibly *will be bound . . . will be loosed*

Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection

²¹ From that time on Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be put to death and raised up on the third day. ²² Then Peter, after taking Jesus aside, began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord!⁶ This will never happen to you!" ²³ But turning his back on him,⁷ Jesus said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, for you are not intent⁸ on the things of God, but the things of man."⁹

6. Lit. *Mercy to you, Lord!*
7. Or *turning away, turning around*; lit. *turning*
8. Or *setting your mind*
9. Lit. *men*

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is soon to come in the glory of his Father, *and* with *all* his angels; and then he will repay every man according to his deeds. ²⁸ But I tell you the truth: There are some standing here who will not taste death before they have seen the Son of Man coming in his royal power."¹⁰

10. Or *with (in) his kingdom*

The Transfiguration

17 So six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James, and his brother John; and he brought them up into a high mountain by themselves.² And *there* he was transfigured before them, so that his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light.³ And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared before them, conversing with Jesus!⁴ So Peter, in response, said to Jesus, “Lord, it’s good for us to be here! If you like, I will set up three tents in this place: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”⁵ But while Peter was still speaking, a bright cloud suddenly overshadowed them, and a voice *came* out of the cloud, saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him!”⁶ Now when the disciples heard *that*, they fell face down *to the ground*, deathly afraid.⁷ But Jesus came to *them*; and when he had touched them, he said, “Stand up, and don’t be afraid.”⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus himself, *standing there all* alone.

⁹Now as they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus gave them a command, saying, “Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.”¹⁰ Then his disciples inquired of him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”¹¹ In reply Jesus said, “Elijah does indeed come *first* and will restore all things.¹² But I say to you, Elijah has already come; yet they failed to recognize him, and they did to him whatever they wanted. So too is the Son of Man about to suffer at their hands.”¹³ Then the disciples realized he was speaking to them about John the Baptizer.

Healing and Faith

¹⁴Now when they had come *down* to the crowd, a man came up to Jesus, knelt before him, and said,¹⁵ “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic who¹ suffers terribly; for time and again he falls into the fire and into the water.¹⁶ And I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn’t heal him.”¹⁷ But in reply Jesus said, “O unbelieving and perverse generation! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring him here to me!”¹⁸ Then Jesus rebuked the evil spirit,² and it came out of him; and from that very hour the child was healed.¹⁹ Afterwards the disciples came to Jesus in private and said, “Why couldn’t we cast it out?”²⁰ So he said to them, “Because of the smallness of your faith. For I tell you the truth: If you have faith no larger than a mustard seed,³ you will say to this mountain,

1. Lit. *and he*

2. Lit. *him, it*

3. Lit. *as a mustard seed*

4. Some mss add verse 21:
However, this kind does not come out except by prayer and fasting; see Mark 9:29
5. Or *betrayed*

6. Lit. *the two drachma tax*, equivalent to two days wages, used for the maintenance of the temple
7. Or *anticipated what he was about to say*
8. Lit. *coming up*
9. A coin worth four drachmas

1. Lit. *turned*

2. Lit. *millstone turned by a donkey*

3. Lit. *the stumbling block appears*

‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”⁴

A Second Prediction

²² Now while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man will soon be delivered⁵ into the hands of men,²³ and they will kill him. But on the third day he will be raised.” And they were deeply grieved and distressed.

The Sons are Free

²⁴ Now when they arrived in Capernaum, the men who collected the temple tax⁶ came up to Peter and said, “Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?”²⁵ Peter said, “Yes, *he does*.” But when Peter came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first,⁷ saying, “Simon, what do you think? From whom do the kings of the earth receive customs or taxes: from their sons or from foreigners?”²⁶ Now when Peter replied “From foreigners,” Jesus said to him, “Then the sons are free.”²⁷ Nevertheless, to avoid offending them, go down to the lake, throw in a hook, and take the first fish you bring up.⁸ When you have opened its mouth, *there* you will find a stater.⁹ Take that and give it to them for me and you.”

True Greatness

18 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”² So after calling a little child to himself, Jesus stood him in the midst of them³ and said, “I tell you the truth, unless you are converted¹ and become like little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴ So then: Whoever humbles himself like this little child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.⁵ And whoever receives one such child in my name receives me.⁶ But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a huge millstone² were hung around his neck and he were drowned in the depths of the sea.

⁷ “Woe to the world because of its stumbling blocks! For stumbling blocks must *indeed* appear, but woe to the man through whom they appear!¹³ ⁸ Moreover, if your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw *it far* from you; it is better for you to enter into life crippled or lame than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into the eternal fire.⁹ And if your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw *it far* from you; it

is better for you to enter into life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fires of Gehenna.

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

¹⁰ “See to it that you don’t look down with scorn on one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels behold the face of my heavenly Father at all times.⁴¹² What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the mountains and go and look for the one that has strayed? ¹³ And if in fact he finds it, I tell you the truth: He will rejoice over that one sheep more than over the ninety-nine that didn’t stray. ¹⁴ Just so, it is not the will of your Father in heaven for a single one of these little ones to perish.

4. Some later mss add verse 11: *For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.*

The Road to Reconciliation

¹⁵ “If your brother is sinning,⁵ go *to him* in private⁶ and reprove him for his fault. If he hears you, you have won your brother. ¹⁶ But if he won’t listen, take along with you one or two more, so that ‘by the testimony⁷ of two or three witnesses every fact⁸ may be confirmed.’⁹ ¹⁷ And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. But if he even refuses to listen to the church, let him be to you like a Gentile and a tax-collector. ¹⁸ I tell you the truth: Whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will have been loosed in heaven.

5. Or *sins*; many mss add *against you*
 6. Lit. *between you and him alone*
 7. Lit. *mouth*
 8. Or *charge*; lit. *word*
 9. Deut. 19:15

¹⁹ “*And* again I say to you: If, in regard to any matter, two of you agree on earth as to what they should ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.”

Forgiveness and the Family of God

²¹ Then Peter came up to him and said, “Lord, how often must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus said to him, “I tell you: not up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven!¹⁰ ²³ This is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a certain king who desired to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ Now when he had begun to do so, a man who owed *him* ten thousand talents was brought before him. ²⁵ But since the man had nothing with which to pay, his master ordered him to be sold, together with his wife, *his* children, and all that he had, and that repayment be made. ²⁶ Then the servant fell to

10. Or *seventy-seven*

his knees before him, saying ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you back everything!’²⁷ So the master of the servant, moved with pity, released him and forgave him the debt.²⁸ But after that servant had gone out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him *by the throat*, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay back what you owe!’²⁹ So his fellow servant fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you back!’³⁰ But he was unwilling to do so, and instead went off and had him thrown¹¹ into jail until he could pay back the debt.³¹ So when his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were deeply distressed; and they came and told their master everything that had taken place.³² Then his master summoned the first servant¹² and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me *for mercy*.³³ Should you not also have shown mercy to your fellow servant, just as I did to you?’³⁴ And moved with anger, his master handed him over to the torturers until he should repay¹³ everything he owed.³⁵ This is what my heavenly Father will do to you as well if each one of you does not forgive his brother from his heart.”

11. Lit. *and threw him*

12. Lit. *him*

13. Or *had repaid*; the Greek implies doubt about the possibility of repayment

Marriage, Divorce, and Kingdom Celibacy

19 Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he departed from Galilee and came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan;² and large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

³ Now *certain* Pharisees came to him in order to test him, saying, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason *whatsoever*?”⁴ So he answered and said, “Have you not read that he who created *them* at the beginning¹ made them male and female,⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’^{2,6} As a result, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together let no man separate.”⁷ They said to him, “Why then did Moses authorize³ a man to give *his wife* a certificate of divorce and send her away?”⁸ He said to them, “Due to the hardness of your hearts Moses allowed you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it was not meant to be.^{4,9} And I say to you *that* whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and *then* marries someone else, commits adultery.”^{5,6}

1. Lit. *that (he) who having created (them) from (at) the beginning*

2. Gen. 1:27, 2:24, 5:2

3. Lit. *command, order*

4. Or *it was not so*; lit. *it has not happened thus*

5. Some mss *makes her commit adultery*

6. Some mss add *and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery*

¹⁰The disciples said to him, “If this is the rule for a man with a wife, it is better not to marry *at all!*”¹¹ So Jesus said to them, “Not all *of you* can receive what I am about to say,⁷ only those to whom it has been given. ¹²For some eunuchs were born as such directly from *their* mother’s womb, some have been turned into eunuchs by men, and some have turned themselves into eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to receive *this*, let him receive *it*.

7. Lit. *receive this saying*

Let the Children Come

¹³Then *some* little children were brought to him so that he might lay *his* hands on them and pray; but the disciples rebuked *the ones who brought* them. ¹⁴But Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do nothing to hinder them,⁸ for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these!” ¹⁵And when he had laid *his* hands on them, he departed from that place.

8. Or *Leave the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to me*

Riches and the Kingdom

¹⁶And behold, a man came up to him and said, “Teacher, what good thing must I do in order to obtain eternal life?” ¹⁷But Jesus said to him, “Why are you asking me about what is good? There is *only* one who is good. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” ¹⁸The man said to him, “Which ones?” So Jesus said, ““You shall not commit murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, ¹⁹honor your father and your mother, and, you shall love your neighbor as yourself.”” ²⁰The young man said to him, “I have carefully observed all these commandments;⁹ what do I still lack?” ²¹Jesus said to him, “If you would be complete, go, sell what you have, and give *the proceeds* to the poor; and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” ²²But when the young man heard him say that,¹⁰ he went away sorrowing, for he had many possessions.¹¹

9. Lit. *all these things*

10. Lit. *heard the word*

11. Or *much property*

²³Then Jesus said to his disciples, “I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁵Now when his disciples heard *this*, they were utterly amazed; and they said, “Who then can be saved?” ²⁶So looking at them, Jesus said, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.” ²⁷In response Peter then said to him, “Look, we have

left everything and followed you; what then lies in store for us?”²⁸ So Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth: In the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for my name’s sake will receive back a hundred times as much, and will *also* inherit eternal life.³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

The Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard

20 “For the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.² And when he had agreed with the laborers *to pay them* a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.³ Now around the third hour he went out and saw other men standing idle in the marketplace;⁴ so he said to them, ‘You too go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.’ So they went.⁵ And around the sixth and the ninth hours he again went out and did the same.⁶ Then, around the eleventh hour, he went out and found *still* others standing *there*. So he said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day long?’⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard as well.’

⁸ Now when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the laborers and give them *their* wages, starting with the last *and* ending with the first.’⁹ And when the men who *were hired* around the eleventh hour came *forward*, they each received a denarius.¹⁰ Now when the first *to be hired* came *forward*, they assumed they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.¹¹ So when they received *it*, they began to speak up in anger against the landowner,¹² saying, ‘These last *only* worked one hour, and you’ve made them equal to us who suffered the burden and scorching heat of the day!’¹³ But replying to one of them, the landowner said, ‘Friend, I’m doing you no injustice. Didn’t you agree with me for a denarius?’¹⁴ Take *what is* yours and go your way. As for me, I want to give this last man *the same* as I gave you.¹⁵ Is it not lawful for me to do what I want with my own belongings? Or is your eye evil because I am good?’¹⁶ In *just* this way, the last will be first, and the first last.”

Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection a Third Time

¹⁷ Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve aside; and *standing* by¹ the road, he said to them, ¹⁸ “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed² to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will sentence³ him to death ¹⁹ and hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and scourged and crucified. And on the third day he will be raised.”

1. Lit. *in, on*
2. Or *handed over*
3. Lit. *condemn*

The Path to Greatness

²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee, together with her sons, came up to him, knelt down, and asked a favor of him. ²¹ So he said to her, “What is it you want?” She said to him, “Declare that in your kingdom these two sons of mine will sit, one on your right hand and the other on your left.” ²² But Jesus answered and said, “You don’t realize what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup I am about to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” ²³ He said to them, “You will indeed drink my cup. But to sit on my right and on my left is not mine to give, but *belongs to* those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.”

²⁴ Now when the ten heard *about this*, they were angry with the two brothers. ²⁵ But summoning them *all*, Jesus said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and that *their* great men wield authority over them. ²⁶ But among you it must⁴ not be so. Rather, whoever desires to be great among you must be your servant; ²⁷ and whoever desires to be first among you must be your slave—²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

4. Lit. *will* (and so throughout these verses)

Two Blind Men Regain Their Sight

²⁹ Now as they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. ³⁰ And behold, two blind men were sitting beside the road. Now when they heard that Jesus was passing by, they cried out, saying, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” ³¹ But the crowd rebuked them, telling them to be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!” ³² Then, after coming to a halt, Jesus called for them; and he said, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³³ They said to him, “Lord, that our eyes may be opened.” ³⁴ So Jesus, moved with compassion, touched their eyes; and the men immediately regained their sight and followed him.

The Triumphal Entry

21 Now when they were nearing Jerusalem and had come to *the town of Bethphage* on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent out two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will come upon a donkey secured with a rope, and a colt with her. Untie *them* and bring *them* to me. ³ And if anyone says something to you, you will say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴ Now this took place so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, when he said: ⁵ “Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble and seated on a donkey; yes, on a *donkey’s* colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”¹

1. Zech. 9:9

⁶ So when the disciples had gone and done just as Jesus commanded them, ⁷ they brought *him* the donkey and the colt; and they laid their cloaks on the animals,² and Jesus sat down on the cloaks.³ ⁸ Meanwhile, a large crowd was spreading their garments on the road, while others were cutting down branches from the trees and doing the same with them. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him, as well as those that followed after, kept crying out, saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the Lord!’⁴ Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was thrown into turmoil, *with people* saying, “Who is this man?” ¹¹ So the crowds would answer, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee!”

2. Lit. *them*

3. Lit. *them*

4. Ps. 118:26

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

¹² Then Jesus entered the temple precincts and drove out all the men who were buying and selling in the temple courts; and he overturned the tables of the moneychangers and knocked down the chairs of those who were selling doves. ¹³ And he said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’⁵ but you have made it a den of thieves!”⁶

5. Is. 56:7

6. See Jer. 7:11

¹⁴ Then the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things he was doing,⁷ and the children crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were outraged. ¹⁶ So they said to him, “Do you hear what these *children* are saying?” But Jesus said to them, “Yes. *And* have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of children and nursing infants you have perfected praise?’”⁸ ¹⁷ Then he left them and went outside of the city, to Bethany; and he spent the night there.

7. Lit. *did*

8. Or *you have prepared praise for yourself*; see Ps. 8:2

The Fig Tree Cursed

¹⁸ Now early in the morning, as he was returning to the city, Jesus grew hungry. ¹⁹ And seeing a lone fig tree *standing* beside the road, he went over to it; but he found nothing on it except leaves. So he said to it, “Let no fruit ever grow on you again.” And at once the fig tree withered away. ²⁰ Now when the disciples saw *this*, they were amazed, saying, “How did the fig tree wither away so quickly?” ²¹ So in reply Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth: If you have faith, and do not give way to doubt,⁹ you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you said to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it would be done *for you*. ²² And whatever things you may ask for in prayer, if you believe, you will receive *them*.”

9. Lit. *and are not at odds with yourself*

Jesus' Authority Challenged

²³ Now when he entered the temple grounds, the chief priests and elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching. And they said *to him*, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ But in reply Jesus said to them, “I too will ask you one question, *and* if you answer me, I will also tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ The baptism of John: Where was it from? From heaven or from men?” Then the leaders *began* to deliberate among themselves, saying, “If we answer, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we answer, ‘From men,’ we fear the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus and said, “We don’t know.” *And* he in turn said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

²⁸ “But what do you think? A man had two sons; and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ But the son answered and said, ‘I will not.’ Yet later on he came to regret it and went out. ³⁰ Then the man came to the second *son* and said the same thing *to him*. And he answered and said, ‘I will, sir,’ but he didn’t go out. ³¹ Which of the two *sons* did the will of his father?” The leaders said to him, “The first.” *Then* Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth: The tax collectors and the prostitutes will enter¹⁰ the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn’t believe him. But the tax collectors and the prostitutes

10. Lit. *are entering*

11. Lit. *repent to believe (in) him*

did believe him; and even after seeing that, you *still* didn't change your mind and believe him.¹¹

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

12. Or *sharecroppers*

³³ Now hear another parable. There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard, placed a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower *to protect it*. Then he leased it out to tenants¹² and went away to a far country.³⁴ Now when the time for harvesting drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants in order to collect *his share of* the crop.³⁵ But seizing his servants, the tenants beat one, killed another, and stoned a third.³⁶ So once again the landowner sent other servants, more than the first; but the tenants did the same thing to them.³⁷ Finally, he sent them his *own* son, saying, '*Surely* they will respect my son.'³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and take his inheritance!'³⁹ And after they had seized him, they threw him out of the vineyard and killed *him*.⁴⁰ So then: When the owner of the vineyard returns, what will he do to those tenants?'⁴¹ The leaders said to him, 'He will bring those wretches to a miserable end, and will lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him his *share of the* crop season by season.'¹³

13. Lit. *at their appointed times*

⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is wondrous in our eyes?"¹⁴ ⁴³ For this reason I say to you that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation that produces its crops.⁴⁴ Moreover, he who falls on this stone will be broken in pieces, and¹⁵ he on whom it falls—it will grind him to powder.'¹⁶

14. Ps. 118:22-23

15. Or *but*

16. Or *crush him in pieces; scatter him like chaff (dust)*

17. Lit. *they*

⁴⁵ Now when the chief priests and Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they realized he was speaking about them.⁴⁶ But when they tried to lay hands on him, they feared the crowds, for the people¹⁷ held that he was a prophet.

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

22 Then, responding *further*, Jesus again spoke to them in parables, saying,² 'The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.'³ And he sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the feast; but they were unwilling to come.⁴ So again he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who were invited, "Look, I have prepared my

dinner: My oxen and my fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything *is* ready. Come to the banquet!”⁵ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his place of business;⁶ and as for the rest, when they had seized his servants, they abused¹ and killed *them*.⁷ So the king, roused to anger, sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.⁸ Then he said to his servants, ‘The banquet is ready, but those who were invited were unworthy.’⁹ Therefore go out into the highways, and as many as you find *there*, invite *them* to the wedding banquet.’¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together everyone they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with dinner guests.

1. Or *treated them disgracefully*

¹¹ “But when the king came in to view the guests, he saw a man there who wasn’t wearing a wedding robe. ¹² So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And *the man* was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the servants, ‘Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness: In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Pharisees Inquire about Taxes

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and discussed among themselves how they might trap Jesus in *his own* words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are dedicated to the truth, that you teach the way of God in truth, and that you court no man’s favor, since you have no regard for the standing of men.”²¹⁷ So tell us what you think: Is it lawful³ *for us* to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, perceiving their evil intent, replied, “You hypocrites, why are you putting me to a test? ¹⁹ Show me the coin that is used for taxes.” So they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose image and inscription *is* this?” ²¹ They said to him, “Caesar’s.” So he said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² Now when they heard that, they marveled; and they left him and went their way.

2. Lit. *And it is not a concern to you about anyone because you do not see the face of men*
3. Or *right*

The Sadducees Inquire about the Resurrection

²³ On that *same* day the Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came up to him and questioned him, ²⁴ saying: “Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies having no children, his brother must marry his widow and raise offspring for his brother. ²⁵ Now we

had seven brothers *living* among us. After he had married, the first one died; and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶The same thing also *happened* to the second and third *brothers*, all the way down to the seventh. ²⁷And last of all, the woman died. ²⁸So then: In the resurrection which of the seven *brothers* will have her as his wife? For they all had her *as a wife*.”

4. Or
understanding

5. Ex. 3:6, 15

²⁹ But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, knowing⁴ neither the scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are they given in marriage, but they are like *the* angels in heaven. ³¹But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, when he said, ³²‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?’⁵ God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” ³³And when the crowds heard *that*, they marveled at his teaching.

The Scribes Inquire about the Greatest Commandment

6. Lit. *for the same purpose*

7. Deut. 6:5

8. Lev. 19:18

³⁴ Now when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they *too* gathered together to test him. ³⁵Then one of them—a lawyer—asked *him* a question, putting him to a test. ³⁶“Teacher, what *is* the greatest commandment in the Law?” ³⁷So Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”⁷ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’⁸ ⁴⁰All the Law and *all* the Prophets hang on these two commands.”

Jesus Inquires about David’s Faith

9. In Hebrew:
Yahweh said to
my Adonai
10. Ps. 110:1

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were *still* assembled together, Jesus put a question to them, ⁴²saying, “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “*The son of David*.” ⁴³So Jesus said to them, “How then does David, in the Spirit, call him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The LORD said to my Lord,’⁹ ‘Sit at my right hand till I place your enemies beneath your feet’?”¹⁰ ⁴⁵If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him *with* a single word; nor from that day on did anyone dare to question him anymore.

One Brotherhood, One Leader

23 Then Jesus addressed *both* the crowds and his disciples, ²saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees have seated

themselves in the chair of Moses.³ Therefore practice and observe everything they tell you; but do not imitate their deeds, for they teach one thing and do another.¹ ⁴ Indeed, they tie up heavy loads that are hard to carry and lay *them* on men's shoulders; but they *themselves* are unwilling to move them with a single finger.

1. Lit. *do not do according to their works, for they say, but do not practice*

⁵ "What's more, everything they do, they do to be seen by men. They broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels *on their robes*; ⁶ and they love the place of honor at banquets, the chief seats in the synagogues, ⁷ formal salutations in the marketplaces, and being called 'Rabbi' by the people.² ⁸ But as for you, do not be called 'Rabbi,' for you have one teacher, and all of you are brothers. ⁹ And do not call anyone on earth your father, for you have one father: your Father in heaven.³ ¹⁰ And do not be called leaders,⁴ for you have one leader: the Messiah. ¹¹ But *as for you*, the greatest among you will be your servant; ¹² and whoever exalts himself will be humbled, but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

2. Lit. *by men*

3. Lit. *the heavenly Father*
4. Or *teachers, masters, guides*

Woe to the Scribes and Pharisees!

¹³ "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you stand in front of men, blocking the door to the kingdom of heaven;⁵ for you *yourselves* do not go in, and those who are trying to do so you turn away.

5. Lit. *You shut off the kingdom of heaven before men*

¹⁴ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for mere show offer lengthy prayers; therefore you will receive the greater punishment.⁶

6. This verse is not found in early mss; see Mark 12:40, Luke 20:47

¹⁵ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you traverse land and sea to win one proselyte; and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of Gehenna as yourselves.

¹⁶ "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, his vow means nothing;⁷ but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obligated *to fulfill it*.' ¹⁷ Fools and blind! Which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?

7. Lit. *it is nothing*

¹⁸ Moreover, you say, 'Whoever swears by the altar, his vow means nothing; but whoever swears by the gift *that was placed* on the altar, he is obligated *to fulfill it*.' ¹⁹ You blind men!⁸ Which is greater: the gift or the temple that sanctifies the gift? ²⁰ So then: He who swears by the altar is swearing by the altar and everything on it; ²¹ and he who swears by the temple is swearing by the

8. Lit. *Blind! (plural)*

temple and him who dwells in it;²² and he who swears by heaven is swearing by the throne of God, and by him who is seated on it.

9. Or *faithfulness*

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and dill and cumin, but have neglected the weightier matters of the Law: justice, mercy, and faith.⁹ These are the things you should have done, without neglecting the others. ²⁴ Blind guides, *men* who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

10. Or *robbery, extortion*

11. Lit. *so that its*

²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they are filled with greed¹⁰ and self-indulgence. ²⁶ Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the dish, so that the¹¹ outside can be clean as well!

²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which do indeed look beautiful on the outside, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all *kinds of* uncleanness. ²⁸ And so it is with you: Outwardly you look righteous in the sight of men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous;³⁰ and you say, ‘If we had been *living* in the days of our fathers, we would never have joined them in *shedding* the blood of the prophets.’³¹ But in so doing you testify against yourselves that you are *the* sons of those who murdered the prophets. ³² So then: Fill up the measuring jar of your fathers!

³³ Serpents, offspring of vipers! How can you escape the sentence of Gehenna? ³⁴ For this reason, behold, I am sending you prophets, wise men, and scribes. Some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and chase from city to city,³⁵ so that all the righteous blood *ever* shed on the earth may fall on you: from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. ³⁶ I tell you the truth: All these things will come upon this generation.

Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem

³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, she who kills the prophets and stones the men who are sent to her! How often I yearned to

gather your children together like a hen *that* gathers her chicks beneath *her* wings; but you were unwilling!³⁸ Behold, your house is left to you in ruins.³⁹ For I tell you *this*: From now on you will not see me at all, not until the day you say,¹² ‘Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the Lord!’¹³

12. Or *you can say*; lit. *until whenever you say*
13. Ps. 118:26

The Signs of His Coming

24 Now after coming out, Jesus was walking away from the temple; and his disciples came up to him and called his attention to the temple buildings.² But he said to them, “Do you not see all these things? I tell you the truth: Not *one* stone in this place will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down.”¹

1. Lit. *on another that will not be thrown down*

³So as he was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us: When will these things happen? And what will be the sign of your coming² and of the end of the age?”⁴ In reply, Jesus said to them: “See to it that no one leads you astray,⁵ for many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Messiah’; and they will lead many astray.⁶ You will also hear of wars and rumors of wars: See that you don’t give way to fear, for these things must take place, but the end has not yet *come*.⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.⁸ But all these are only the beginning of the birth pains.

2. Greek *parousia*: the arrival of a dignitary in glory

⁹“Then they will hand you over to tribulation and kill you; and because of my name you will be hated by all nations.¹⁰ And then many will take offense, betray one another, and hate one another.¹¹ Moreover, many false prophets will rise up and lead many astray;¹² and because lawlessness will increase, the love of many will grow cold.¹³ But he who endures to the end will be saved.¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world³ as a testimony to all the nations. And then the end will come.

3. Lit. *in the whole inhabited world*

Great Tribulation

¹⁵“So when you see ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’⁴ which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (let the reader understand),¹⁶ “then those *who are living* in Judea must flee to the mountains;¹⁷ he who is on the roof must not come down to take things out of his house;¹⁸ and he

4. Dan. 11:31; 12:11

who is out in the field must not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant, and to those who are nursing infants in those days! ²⁰ And pray that your flight does not occur in winter, or on a Sabbath day; ²¹ for at that time there will be great tribulation, the likes of which have not been seen⁵ from the beginning of the world until now, *no* and never will be. ²² And unless those days had been cut short, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake, they will *indeed* be cut short. ²³ Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or 'There *he is!*' do not believe *him*. ²⁴ For false messiahs and false prophets will arise; and they will display great signs and wonders, so great that even the elect would be led astray,⁶ if that were possible. ²⁵ See, I have told you in advance. ²⁶ So if they say to you, 'Look, he's in the desert!' do not go out; and if they say, 'Look, he's in the inner rooms!' do not believe *it*. ²⁷ For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes all the way to the west, so the coming of the Son of Man will be. ²⁸ For wherever the carcass is, there the vultures⁷ will be gathered together.

5. Lit. *that has not taken place*

6. Lit. *wonders so as to lead astray even the elect*

7. Or *eagles*

The Coming of the Son of Man

²⁹ "But immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will wail and mourn and beat their breasts; and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send forth his angels with a loud *blast of the trumpet*; and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of the skies⁸ to the other.

8. Or *heavens*

The Parable of the Fig Tree

³² "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its branch has become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³ So also with you: When you see all these things, know that he⁹ is near—right at the doors! ³⁴ I tell you the truth: This generation will by no means pass away till all these things have taken place. ³⁵ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

9. Or *it*

10. Some mss add *or the son*; see Mark 13:32

³⁶ "But as for that day and hour, no one knows *them*, not even the angels of heaven,¹⁰ but my Father alone. ³⁷ And just as *it was*

in the days of Noah, so it will be *at* the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, *and* marrying and giving in marriage, right up to the day when Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they did not understand¹¹ until the flood came and swept them all away. This is how it will be *at* the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ At that time two will be *working* in the field: One will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two will be grinding at the mill: One will be taken and the other left. ⁴² So keep careful watch, for you do not know the day on which your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: If the head of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and not allowed his house to be entered by force. ⁴⁴ This is why you as well must be ready, for in an hour when you are not expecting *him*, the Son of Man will come.¹²

11. Or perhaps *realize* (*their peril; what was about to occur*)

12. Lit. *comes*

The Good and Evil Servant

⁴⁵ “Who then is that faithful and wise servant whom his master put in charge of his household, to give its members¹³ *their* food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant if his master finds him doing so when he returns: ⁴⁷ I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. ⁴⁸ But suppose that servant is wicked and says in his heart, ‘My master has been delayed.’ ⁴⁹ And suppose he begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards. ⁵⁰ Then that servant’s master will come on a day when he is not expecting *him*, and at an hour he does not foresee; ⁵¹ and he will cut him in two and assign him his lot with the hypocrites. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13. Or *the other servants*; lit. *them*

The Parable of Virgins

25 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Now five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they brought no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise brought jars of oil, together with their lamps.

⁵ Now while the bridegroom tarried they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶ But at midnight there came a shout: ‘Look, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ ⁷ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out!’ ⁹ But

the wise answered and said, 'No, *for* there may not be enough for both of us; go instead to the dealers and buy *some* for yourselves.' ¹⁰ But as the foolish were on their way to buy *more oil*, the bridegroom arrived, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later on the other virgins also arrived, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' ¹² But he answered and said, 'I tell you the truth: I don't know you.' ¹³ So then: Keep careful watch, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴ "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man setting off on a journey,¹ *and who therefore* summoned his servants² and entrusted his possessions to their care. ¹⁵ And to one *of them* he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, each according to his own ability. And *then* he left. ¹⁶ Now the servant who had received the five talents immediately went off, traded with them, and gained five more. ¹⁷ In the same way, the servant who had received two *talents* gained two more. ¹⁸ But the *servant* who had received the one *talent* went away, dug a *hole* in the ground, and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And when he came up to *his master*, the servant who had received the five talents brought him five more, saying, 'Master, you entrusted me with five talents; look, I have gained five more besides.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things, I will make you a ruler over many. Enter into the joy of your lord.' ²² Then the servant who had received the two talents also came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted me with two talents; look, I have gained two more besides.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things, I will make you a ruler over many. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

²⁴ "Then the servant who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew that you were a hard man, reaping where you haven't sown and gathering where you've scattered no seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But in reply his master said to him, 'You evil, lazy servant! You "knew" that I reap where I haven't sown and gather where I've scattered no seed?' ²⁷ In that

1. Lit. *leaving home on a journey to foreign lands*

2. Lit. *his own servants, slaves*

case you should have deposited my money in the bank,³ so that at my return I might have received it back with interest.²⁸ Therefore take the talent from this man,⁴ and give *it* to the servant who has the ten.²⁹ For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he does have will be taken away.³⁰ And throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

3. Lit. *with the bankers*

4. Lit. *him*

The Judgment Seat of Christ

³¹ “Now when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, at that time he will sit on his glorious throne.⁵³² And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;³³ and he will place the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on *his* left.³⁴ Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, *and* inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the founding of the world.³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. *I was* a stranger and you took me in,³⁶ naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, a prisoner⁶ and you came to me.’³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or naked and clothe you?’³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison, and come to you?’⁴⁰ And in reply the king will say to them, ‘I tell you the truth: Inasmuch⁷ as you did *it* to one of the least of these my brothers, you did *it* to me.’

5. Lit. *the throne of his glory*

6. Lit. *in prison*

7. Or *to the extent that*

⁴¹ “Then he will also say to those on *his* left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food; I was thirsty and you gave me no drink.⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take me in, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison, and you did not visit me.’⁴⁴ Then they too will reply, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister to you?’⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘I tell you the truth: Inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’⁴⁶ And *then* they will depart into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

A Plot to Kill Jesus

26 Now when Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ² “You know that two days from now the Passover will arrive, and the Son of Man will be handed over for crucifixion.” ³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered together at the residence of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas; ⁴ and they conspired with one another as to how they might seize Jesus by trickery and put him to death. ⁵ But they said, “Not during the feast, or there will be an uproar among the people.”

The Anointing at Bethany

⁶ Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷ a woman came to him holding an alabaster jar *full* of very costly perfumed oil; and as he was reclining at the table, she poured *the oil* on his head. ⁸ But when his disciples saw *it*, they were filled with indignation and said, “Why such waste? ⁹ For this *oil* might have been sold for a high price, and *the money* given to *the poor*.” ¹⁰ But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why are you troubling the woman? In performing this work she has served me well. ¹¹ For the poor will always be with you, but I will not; ¹² for when she poured this fragrant oil on my body, she was doing *it* to prepare me for burial. ¹³ I tell you the truth: Wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, people will speak of what this woman has done, and it will serve as a memorial to her.”²²

1. Lit. *she has worked a good (beautiful, valuable, admirable) work for me*

2. Lit. *what this woman has done will be spoken of unto her memorial*

The Treachery of Judas

¹⁴ Then one of the twelve, the one called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?” So they counted out to him³ thirty silver coins; ¹⁶ and from that time on *Judas* began looking for an opportunity to betray him.

3. Or *weighed out for him*

The Final Passover

¹⁷ Now on the first *day of the Feast* of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover *meal*?” ¹⁸ So he said, “Go into the city to such and such a man, and say to him, “The teacher says, “My time is near; I will observe the Passover at your house, together

with my disciples.””¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had instructed them; and they prepared the Passover *meal*.

²⁰ Now when evening came, he reclined⁴ at the table with the twelve. ²¹ And as they were eating he said, “I tell you the truth: One of you will betray me.” ²² So each of them, in deep distress, said to him, “Surely it isn’t me, Lord?”⁵ ²³ He answered and said, “Someone⁶ who dipped *his* hand with me in the bowl—he is the one who will betray me. ²⁴ And yes, the Son of Man will go his way just as it is written of him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born.” ²⁵ Then Judas, the one who was betraying him, responded and said, “Surely it isn’t me, Rabbi?” Jesus said to him, “You have said *it yourself*.”

4. Or *And evening having come, he was reclining*

5. Or *Is it me, Lord?*

6. Or *The one*

Jesus Institutes the Lord’s Supper

²⁶ Now while they were eating, Jesus took up bread; and when he had given thanks,⁷ he broke it and passed it to the disciples, saying, “Take *this and eat it*: This is my body.” ²⁷ Then he took *the* cup, gave thanks, and handed *it* to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ For this is my blood, *the blood* of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ And I tell you *this*: From now on I will no longer drink this fruit of the vine until the day I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” ³⁰ And after they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

7. Lit. *having blessed*

Jesus Predicts Peter’s Denial

³¹ Then Jesus said to them, “Tonight all of you will stumble because of me, for it is written, ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’⁸ ³² But after I’ve been raised, I will go before you into Galilee.” ³³ But Peter replied and said to him, “Even if everyone stumbles because of you, I will never do so.” ³⁴ Jesus said to him, “I tell you the truth: This night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” ³⁵ Peter said to him, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!” And all the *other* disciples said the same thing.

8. Zech. 13:17

Anguish in Gethsemane

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to the disciples, “Sit down here while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ And after taking Peter and the two sons of

Zebedee along with him, he began to grieve, and to sink into deep distress. ³⁸ Then he told them, “Sorrow is overwhelming my soul, *even* to the point of death; stay here and keep watch with me.” ³⁹ Then he went on a little further, fell face down *to the ground*, and prayed, saying, “O my Father, if it is possible let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you *will*.” ⁴⁰ Then he came *back* to the disciples, but he found them sleeping. So he said to Peter, “What! Couldn't you *men* watch with me for a single hour? ⁴¹ Watch and pray, so that you don't enter into temptation. The spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴² Again, for a second time, he went off and prayed, saying, “O my Father, if it's not possible for this *cup* to pass me by unless I drink from it, your will be done.” ⁴³ And again he came *back* and found the men sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴ So leaving them once more, he went off and prayed a third time, saying the same words yet again. ⁴⁵ Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking *your* rest?” Behold, the hour has arrived for the Son of Man to be betrayed⁹ into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Get up *and* let us be going; look, my betrayer is drawing near!”

9. Or *Sleep on now, and take your rest*; or *Sleep and take your rest later on*

10. Lit. *and the Son of Man is betrayed*

Betrayal and Arrest

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, suddenly arrived, together with a large crowd carrying¹¹ swords and clubs, *sent* by the chief priests and elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now his betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “Whichever one I kiss, that is the man; seize him.” ⁴⁹ And immediately Judas went over to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. ⁵⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Friend, why are you here?”¹² Then the men came over, took hold of Jesus, and arrested him. ⁵¹ But suddenly one of the men who were with Jesus stretched out *his* hand, drew his sword, and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁵² Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword! ⁵³ Or is it that you think I'm unable to call on my Father, who would immediately supply me with more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then could the scriptures be fulfilled *which say* it must happen in this way?” ⁵⁵ Now at that point¹³ Jesus said to the crowds: “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me, as you would against a robber? Day by day I sat in the temple teaching *you*, yet you didn't arrest me. ⁵⁶ But all this has happened so that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples fled, leaving him behind.¹⁴

11. Lit. *with*

12. Or possibly *Friend, do what you have come to do*

13. Lit. *in that hour*

14. Or *forsaking (abandoning) him*

Jesus Before the Sanhedrin

⁵⁷ So the men who had seized Jesus led *him* away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. ⁵⁸ But Peter followed Jesus at a distance as far as the high priest's courtyard; and after he had gone inside, he sat down with the guards to see *what* the outcome *would be*.

⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the entire council kept seeking false testimony against Jesus so that they could put him to death; ⁶⁰ but even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. Finally, two came forward ⁶¹ and said, "This *man* stated: 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" ⁶² So the high priest stood up and said to him, "Will you give no answer? What *is it that* these men are testifying against you?" ⁶³ But Jesus remained silent. So the high priest said to him, "By the living God, I put you under oath: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God!" ⁶⁴ Jesus said to him "You *have* said *it*. Nevertheless, I tell you *this*: From now on¹⁵ you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power *on high*, and coming on the clouds of heaven." ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his robes, saying, "He has blasphemed! What further need do we have for witnesses? Behold, you *yourselves* have now heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What do you think?" They answered and said, "He is guilty and deserves to die!" ⁶⁷ Then they spat in his face and struck him with their fists; and some *of them* slapped *him*, ⁶⁸ saying, "Prophecy to us, 'Messiah'! Which one of us hit you?"

15. Or possibly
Hereafter

Peter Denies His Lord

⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard; and a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." ⁷⁰ But he denied it in front of them *all*, saying, "I don't know what you're talking about." ⁷¹ Then, after going out to the entrance, another *servant* noticed him and said to the people there, "This *man* was with Jesus of Nazareth!" ⁷² But using an oath, he again denied *it*, *saying*, "I don't know the man!" ⁷³ A little while later the people who were standing around came up to Peter and said, "Surely you too are *one* of them, for even your accent gives you away!"¹⁶ ⁷⁴ Then he began calling down curses *on himself*, and swearing with an oath, *saying*, "I don't know the man!" And all at once a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

16. Lit. *for even
your speech makes
you evident*

Jesus Delivered Up to Pilate

27 Now as day began to dawn, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death; ² and when they had bound him, they led him away and handed him over to Pilate, the governor.

A Prophecy Fulfilled

³ When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus *now* stood condemned, he regretted *what he had done*. So he brought the thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and elders, ⁴ saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to that yourself!” ⁵ So after Judas had thrown the silver coins into the temple, he withdrew *from there*; and he went away and hanged himself. ⁶ Now after the chief priests had picked up¹ the silver coins, they said, “It is not lawful *for us* to put them into the temple treasury, since they are the price of blood.” ⁷ So after deliberating among themselves, they used *the money* to buy the potter’s field as a cemetery for foreigners. ⁸ Therefore, to this day it is called the Field of Blood. ⁹ Then what was spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled, when he said, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him whose price was set by the sons of Israel, ¹⁰ and they gave them for the potter’s field, just as the Lord directed me.”²

1. Or *received*

2. Jer. 19:1-13,
32:6-9; Zech.
11:12-13

Jesus Before Pilate

¹¹ So Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor questioned him, saying, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus said to him, “You are saying *it*.” ¹² Now as the chief priests and elders were accusing him, he said nothing at all. ¹³ So Pilate said to him, “Don’t you hear how many accusations they are bringing against you?” ¹⁴ But Jesus gave him no reply, not even to a single charge,³ with the result that the governor was utterly amazed.

3. Or *not even a single word*

The People Choose Barabbas

¹⁵ Now at the feast the governor had a custom of releasing to the crowds *any* one prisoner whom they desired. ¹⁶ And at that time they were holding a notorious prisoner by the name of Barabbas.⁴ ¹⁷ So after the people⁵ had assembled, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release to you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called *the* Messiah?” ¹⁸ (For Pilate knew the leaders had handed him over out of jealousy.) ¹⁹ But as he was sitting

4. Some mss *Jesus Barabbas*

5. Lit. *they*

on the judgment seat, his wife sent *word* to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for today I suffered many things⁶ in a dream because of him.”²⁰ Now the chief priests and elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus put to death.²¹ But in reply, the governor *again* said to the people, “Which of the two *men* do you want me to release to you?” And they said, “Barabbas!”²² Pilate said to them, “What then should I do with Jesus, who is called *the* Messiah?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!”²³ So he said, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they cried out all the more, saying, “Let him be crucified!”

6. Or *greatly*

²⁴ Now when Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere—in-
deed, *that* a riot was about to start—he took some water
and washed *his* hands in front of the crowd, saying, “See for
yourselves: I am innocent of this man’s blood!”²⁵ So all the
people answered and said, “May his blood be on us and on our
children!”²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them; but after having
Jesus flogged, he handed *him* over to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Jesus

²⁷ At that point the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the
Praetorium and gathered the entire cohort around him.²⁸ Then
they stripped him and wrapped a scarlet robe around him;²⁹ and
after they had woven a crown out of thorns, they placed *it* on
his head and put a reed in his right hand. Then they knelt
down before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, king of the
Jews!”³⁰ They also spat on him, and took the reed and repeatedly
struck him on the head.³¹ Then, when they had finished mocking
him, they removed the robe, clothed him again, and led him
away to be crucified.

The King is Lifted Up

³² Now as they were going out *of the city*, they came upon a man
from Cyrene whose name was Simon; and they forced him to
carry Jesus’ cross.³³ And when they had come to *the* place called
Golgotha (this means “Place of a Skull”),³⁴ they gave Jesus wine
to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he was unwilling to
drink *further*.³⁵ Now after they had crucified him, they divided
up his clothing by casting lots;³⁶ then they sat down and began
to keep watch over him there.³⁷ And above his head they posted
the indictment written against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF
THE JEWS.³⁸ Then they crucified two robbers along with him,

one on his right hand, and one on his left. ³⁹ And the passersby began to rail at him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, “You who can destroy the temple and rebuild *it* in three days, save yourself! If you *really* are the Son of God, come down from the cross!” ⁴¹ And the chief priests as well, together with the scribes and elders, were *all* mocking *him* in the same way, saying, ⁴² “He saved others, *but* he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel—let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusted in God, *so* let God deliver him now if he *really* does delight in him,⁷ for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” ⁴⁴ And⁸ the robbers who were crucified with him were also insulting him in the same way.

- 7. Or *if he desires it*
- 8. Or *even*

Jesus Dies on the Cross

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour⁹ darkness came over the entire land.¹⁰ ⁴⁶ Then, around the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”¹¹ ⁴⁷ Now when some of the people standing there heard *it*, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah!” ⁴⁸ And immediately one of them ran and picked up a sponge, filled *it* with sour wine, placed *it* on a reed, and offered it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the rest *of them* said, “Leave him alone! Let’s see if Elijah *really* does come and save him.”

- 9. I.e. 12-3 PM
- 10. Or *earth*
- 11. Ps. 22:18

⁵⁰ Now when Jesus had again cried out with a loud voice, he gave up¹² his spirit. ⁵¹ And suddenly the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, the earth shook, the rocks were split, ⁵² and the tombs were opened; and the bodies of many of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ (Moreover, after his resurrection they came out of the tombs, entered the holy city, and appeared to many.) ⁵⁴ Now when the centurion and the men who were guarding Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the things that had taken place, they feared greatly, saying, “Truly, this was a son of God!”¹³ ⁵⁵ And in that place, looking on from afar, there were a number of women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and ministered to his needs.¹⁴ ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

- 12. Or *yielded up, dismissed*
- 13. Or possibly *the Son of God*; there is no article in the Greek
- 14. Lit. *to him*

Jesus Buried in Joseph's Tomb

⁵⁷ Now when evening arrived there came a rich man from Arimathea by the name of Joseph, a man who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ Going to Pilate, this man asked *to take custody* of Jesus' body, at which time Pilate ordered the body to be handed over to him. ⁵⁹ And when Joseph had received the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, a tomb he had hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a large stone up against the entrance of the tomb and went his way. ⁶¹ (Now Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were in that place, sitting opposite the tomb.)

Pilate Sets a Guard

⁶² The next day (that is, the day after the Preparation), the chief priests and the Pharisees assembled before Pilate, ⁶³ saying, "Sir, we remember that when that deceiver was still alive he said, 'After three days I will rise again.' ⁶⁴ Therefore, command that the tomb be kept secure until the third day *is over*. Otherwise his disciples may come, secretly take him away,¹⁵ and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead!' As a result, the last deception will be worse than the first!" ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "Take a guard¹⁶ *and* go and make the tomb as secure as you know how." ⁶⁶ So they went their way and secured the tomb by placing a seal on the stone in the presence of the guard.¹⁷

15. Lit. *steal him*
 16. I.e. a Roman guard of 4-16 soldiers
 17. Or possibly *stone, and posting the guard*

He is Risen!

28 Now after the Sabbath, towards¹ dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. ² But behold, a great earthquake *had just* occurred; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven and coming to *the tomb, had* rolled back the stone and was *now* sitting on it. ³ His face² was like lightning, and his robe³ was *as* white as snow; ⁴ and for fear of him the guards trembled and shook and became as dead *men*. ⁵ But responding to *their presence*, the angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid; for I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He isn't here, for he has been raised, just as he said! Come *and* see the place where he⁴ was lying. ⁷ Now,⁵ go quickly and tell his disciples he has been raised from the dead.⁶ And behold, he is going before you into Galilee; you will see him there. See, *I myself* have told you!" ⁸ So with fear and great joy they quickly left the tomb and ran to bring word to his disciples.

1. Or *at*

2. Lit. *appearance*
 3. Lit. *outer garment*

4. Many mss read *the Lord*

5. Or *Then*; lit. *And*

6. Some mss omit *from the dead*

⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Rejoice!” So they came up *to him*, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Go *and* tell my brothers to leave for Galilee; there they will see me again.”

The Soldiers Bribed

¹¹ Now while they were on their way, some of the soldiers from the *Roman guard*⁷ went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. ¹² And when the chief priests had come together with the elders *for* consultation,⁸ they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, ¹³ saying, “Tell your superiors,⁹ ‘His disciples came at night and stole his body while we were sleeping.’” ¹⁴ And if *news of* this should reach the governor’s ears, we will win *him* over, freeing you from every fear.”¹⁰ ¹⁵ So they took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story was spread far and wide among the Jews, *and it has been* to this *very* day.

The Great Commission

¹⁶ So the eleven disciples went their way into Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ And when they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus drew near and spoke to them, saying, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ So go: Disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all¹¹ that I commanded you. And behold, I am with you each and every day,¹² even to the end of the age!”

7. Lit. *Behold, certain of the guard*

8. Or *as a council*

9. Lit. *money, saying, “You are to say that*

10. Lit. *and make you free from fear*

11. Lit. *all things whatsoever*

12. Lit. *all the days*