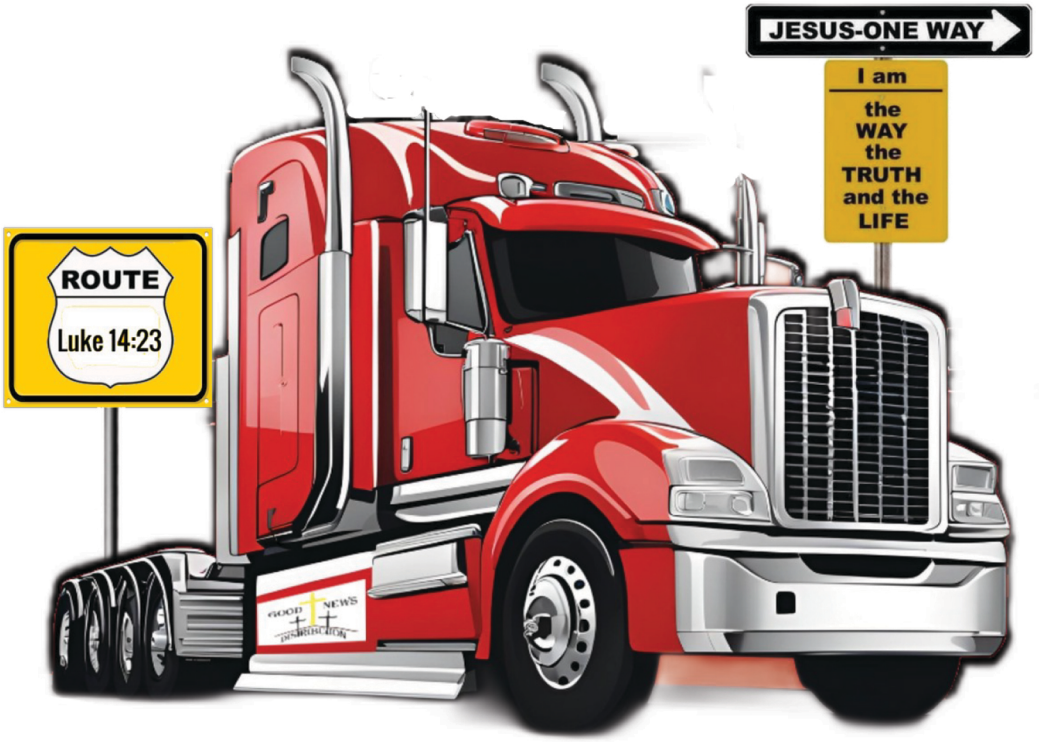
# Free Trucker's Bible

# King James *Plus*




# New Testament




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# The King James Plus

## New Testament

## Truckers Edition

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*quotation marks*
*paragraph headings*
*archaic words explained*
*application notes*
*trucker stories*
*study questions*
*topical index*


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# Truckers Edition

This is a special edition of the King James Plus version of the New Testament specifically designed to speak to truckers like you. Inside you will find testimonies of truck drivers who understand the challenges and struggles that are unique to our profession - the long road, the separation from family and friends, the temptations that go with a solitary lifestyle, the pressure to meet deadlines, the breakdowns, the calls from home .... It can be a tough profession. Those not in the trucking field have no idea what it is like. But you do.

This Bible came out of a partnership between Steve Elzinga, a Pastor with a heart to see people's lives changed by the Word of God and myself - a trucker whose life was transformed by the Bible.

The Bible can be hard to understand - even for people that have been reading it for years. And it is not always easy to know where to find something in the Bible that relates to what you are going through. So Steve and I have worked hard to give you help along the way. There are testimonies of truckers whose lives have been changed by the Bible. There are explanations of hard to understand words. There are footnotes that help explain and apply much of what you will read in this Bible. There are questions in the footnotes and additional study questions at the back of this Bible that will help you think about what you have read. There is a topical index to help you find verses that relate to things you are interested in. There is all of this and much more.

Our dream is that you start reading it. Christians believe it is inspired by the Spirit of God. Which means that when you reading it you are inviting the Spirit of God to do a powerful work in your life.

If you want a joy you have not found; if you want a renewed passion for life; if you want a sense of purpose that makes you excited to get out of bed (or the bunk) everyday; if you want direction for your life, your marriage, and your family; if you want a connection to the God who, not only created this universe, but also has a plan for you in that universe, then give reading this Bible a try. You will be glad you did.

Enjoy the journey!

John S Noel
Good News Distribution

**Note by Publisher:** It was a pleasure working with Good News Distribution. If you are involved in a ministry that would be blessed with its own Special Edition New Testament send me an email (s_elzinga@yahoo.com). I have many Bible products that can be customized for your ministry.



**What is the New Testment *and why should you bother reading it?***

1. *The New Testament is probably the most read portion of the most popular book in all human history - the Bible.*

2. *The New Testament tells the story of Jesus, arguably the most important, most interesting, most controversial figure who ever lived.*

3. *The New Testament tells the story of how the largest, and longest lasting organization in the world got started - the Church.*

4. *The New Testament is readable. It takes only 25 hours to read from cover to cover.*

5. *The New Testament is filled with interesting things: War. Death. Miracles. Sacrifice. Betrayal. Eternity. Hell. Heaven. Love. Joy. Peace. Hope.*

6. *Most importantly the New Testament could change your life. The words found in its pages have already influenced much of what is around you: architecture, philosophy, art, history, science, literature, and most importantly - people's lives. It may just influence your life as well.*

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5. *Bible Study Questions. There are questions for every chapter you read that will help you think about what you have read.*

6. *Topical Index. A topical index will help you find the topics you are interested in in this Bible.*

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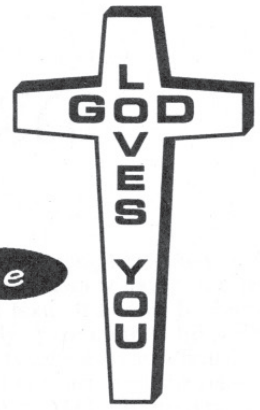
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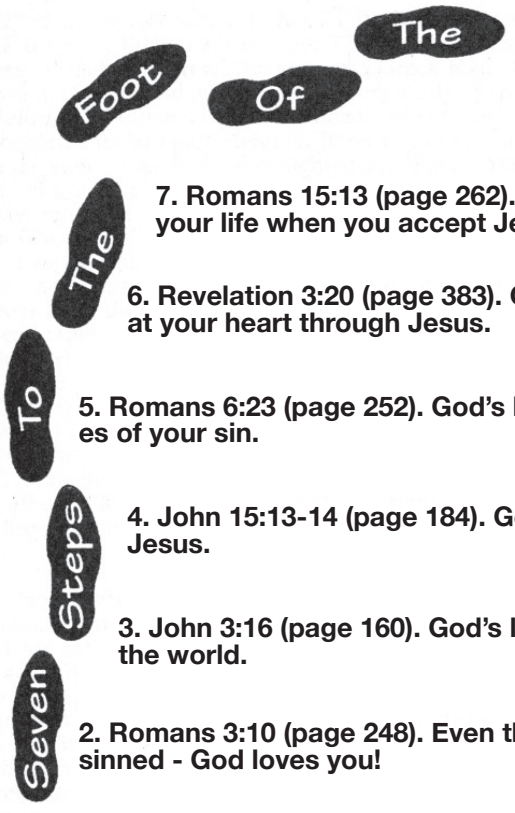
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**The pathway to a successful life always begins at the foot of the cross.**




**7. Romans 15:13 (page 262). God's love will flood your life when you accept Jesus as your Savior.**

**6. Revelation 3:20 (page 383). God's love is knocking at your heart through Jesus.**

**5. Romans 6:23 (page 252). God's love paid the wages of your sin.**

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**3. John 3:16 (page 160). God's love sent His Son into the world.**

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**1. Romans 5:8 (page250). God loves you!**

This edition of the New Testament is published so that you may easily discover GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION.

**By starting HERE**, with Step 1 on page 250, and continuing up through Step 7, you will learn how God has arranged for the atonement of your sin through the death of His Son, Jesus Christ. With the confession of your sin, invite Him to come into your life - right now - as your Savior and Lord.

## This one is for you

It was August 1995, but I remember it like it was yesterday. My wife Linda was going to this little country church. We had been having trouble with our marriage, so I decided it might help if I was to start going to church with her. I had been going a few months and listening to the preacher, but it seemed like every week that preacher was standing up there talking about me. So I did what a lot of people do. I quit going. I didn't need that every week.

After I quit going, things got worse. We were arguing, and I told my wife to just leave. I'd had enough. Well, she did. She went to her pastor's house, and it wasn't long before he was calling me. He asked if he could come to my house and talk to me. I really didn't want to hear what he had to say, but I really did like the guy. So I told him I guess he could. It didn't take him long to get there, and when he showed up he had a little book with him called eternal life. He ask me if he could read the book to me. I didn't want to hear it, but I didn't want to be rude so I said, "Sure, go ahead." He opened that little book and started reading. As he was reading, I was looking at the TV, the ceiling, the walls, anywhere to keep from looking at that little book. Being the good servant of God that he was, he just kept on reading. When he came to the end of the book there was a prayer at the end. He read that little prayer to me and asked me if I would like to pray and ask Jesus in to my life. He said Jesus would give me this eternal life if I would just confess my sins to Jesus with my mouth and believe with my heart. I told him that I didn't think I was quite ready for that.

He said that was fine and maybe I needed to think about it. Then, he left.

I went on to bed because I had to get up at 3am to make a run to northern Illinois the next day. The next morning I was up by 3 and on the road by 4 headed to Galena, Illinois. I'd been driving about an hour when the tears started pouring out of my eyes. I remember I couldn't stop crying, and I started talking to God. I said, "God, if there even is a God. I'm not sure if I even believe in God, but if you're real I need you to show me a sign. I need a sign from God." Well as I drove on the tears finally stopped. About daylight, I was driving up I-55 when I looked out in the field and there was this little blue sign that looked like it had been out there forever. As I looked at that old weather cracked sign, I read CHRIST IS THE ANSWER. When I read those words I thought, "That's a sign, that's a sign from God!"

Then I heard this voice inside my head saying, "That's not a sign from God. That old worn out sign has been there forever." Besides, when I asked for a sign from God, that's not what I meant. I didn't mean I wanted a sign. I meant I wanted something big something from God. So I started talking to God again, and I told God that wasn't good enough, that wasn't what I meant. I needed something else, something from God. So I wiped away my tears and drove on. I remember driving along and talking to God, and by this time I was on I-74 between Peoria and Galesburg, this little white van pulled up beside me. I looked down at this woman in the van. She looked up at me with a funny look on her face, rolled down her window, stuck her arm out the window, and pointed her thumb to the sky. I thought, "What is she doing? What's that supposed to mean?" Then, as the van went on by, I read on the back of the van it was a church van. When I read those words the first thought that came to my mind was that it was a sign from God.



Then I said, "No, God. That's not good enough either. That's not it. That's not what I wanted." I wanted something big, something that would leave no doubt that it was from God. I drove on with lots to think about, expecting at any moment something big would happen.

I made it to my destination a little past noon. I started unloading my bulk tanker of explosives. As I was unloading, sitting on top of 46,000 lbs. of explosives, I started talking to God again. I told God that I was still waiting for something big. I don't really know what I was looking for, but I would know it when I saw it. I had visions of a big bolt of lightning shooting down from the sky. When you're sitting on 23 tons of dynamite a bolt of lightning is the last thing you want to see, but I was ready and waiting. Well, nothing happened. I finished unloading and left. As I headed east toward Rockford on U.S. 20, I started talking to God again. I remember saying, "God I'm still waiting for my sign, for something big." I hit Rockford and headed south on I-39. About an hour later I looked to my left, and out in the field was a great big sign. On this sign was the face of Jesus and the words THIS ONE'S FOR YOU! As I looked into the eyes of Jesus and read those words, cold chills started running up and down my spine. Tears started running down my face. I started confessing my sins and trying to remember the prayer that was in the little book that Russ, my wife's pastor, had read to me. I prayed that prayer the best I could remember it. I prayed a whole lot more just in case that wasn't enough. The feeling that came over me was indescribable, but it was like I was floating the rest of the way home. Jesus had lifted all my burdens that day. I couldn't wait to get home, tell my wife, and call Russ who now is my pastor and best friend. The next day the sky was bluer and the grass was greener. Everything had changed! My and Linda's marriage is getting better every day. The problems of everyday life are still there, but I don't have to face them alone. Jesus is always there with me.

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## A Child's Prayer

My first encounter with Jesus was at children's crusade with Cowboy Bob at a church near our house. I was drawn to it mainly for the trinkets they gave us each night. But one night I actually asked Jesus into my heart - though I really did not fully understand what I was doing. That night when I got home, I asked my dad if he believed in God. This was his response: "There ain't no God boy. And don't ever bring it up again."

I loved my father and wanted to please him. I did this by working hard at school and sports. At age 15 my father died. My mother did the best she

could raising us but she struggles with issues of her own. There was a void in my life, and I became one very angry young man.

My mother married a good man, but I was so angry I didn't really let him be the father figure I needed. I developed a hard-outward shell and smoked or snorted any drug I could get my hands on. But then one day one of my drug friends named Bernie started talking to me about Jesus and the need to "get saved." He gave up drugs and wanted me to do the same. He would constantly talk to me about Jesus, the Bible, and invite me to church. I could see that something had taken place in his life. He was not same. He was happy and truly energized about the Lord.

I finally went to church with him. After a few visits I found myself at the altar, kneeling and asking Jesus to forgive me for my sings and make me a new person. As I began to devour the Bible God began to peel away my hard-outer shell.

But in the middle of enjoying my new life in Christ and finally becoming the person I always wanted to be my old life caught up with me. I was at work with a job I really enjoyed when the police showed up. They handcuffed me, read me my rights, and took me to jail.

The sale of a substantial quantity of drugs to an undercover agent as well as burglary of a drug store had me standing before a hard-nosed judge. No amount of pleading from my attorney could get the judge to understand that I had been truly changed. Testimonies from my Pastor and church members did not sway the judge and I found myself cared off to prison.

When I began my 18-month sentence in the county jail, I could not understand why God would allow this to happen to me after I had surrendered my life to Him.

I told an inmate about wishing I had my guitar and he coached me on making a request to the warden. In 3 days, I was playing and singing praise and worship music in prison. It was like a mini-revival right in the middle of the cell block. I couldn't stop telling people about Jesus and the Bible. I began to understand that God is in control no matter what our external circumstances are.

Then a miracle happened. Just 12 days into my 18 months sentence my name was called out to gather my belongings. I was being released.

A policeman named Elmer Beck who knew me in my old life but also saw the change in me in my new life in Christ talked to the judge and convinced him to release me into the Teen Challenge Program.

For the next year and a half, I continued to devour God's Word and God healed me from all the effects of my drug years.

Though there have been ups and downs along the way, I am now serving drivers all across the country through a ministry called Highways and Byways. This ministry reaches out to drivers through audio and video productions designed to bring encouragement as well as sound Biblical teaching.

It is a privilege to be used by God to make a difference in the lives of



trucker and their families. And I owe it all to a simple prayer made to God when I was 9 years old.

So, if you made a similar prayer at some point in your life, you can bet that God will answer it. If you haven't, why not do it now?

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## The Real High

I was brought up learning about God as a Catholic. I was baptized as an infant and went to Catholic school for the first two grades. I couldn't conform to it so I was sent to the public school. My parents made sure I did my confirmation and my first communion. But that is far as it went. I always knew God was real and that when times were tough I could pray to Him. I just didn't want to submit or commit my life to walk with Him at a personal level.

I led a very troubled teen and wild adolescent lifestyle with alcohol, drugs and smoking in front of my parents. I was very rebellious. But I was a hard worker. I knew how to manipulate people. I lived how I wanted to live. I loved things that gave me a quick high - racing cars, boats, snowmobiles; doing drugs and alcohol. My father had money and I knew how to spend it. I was living for myself and didn't really need God in my life.

Then at age 18 a young girl that I was dating was killed by a drunk driver in my presence. I felt a real need to pray to God and I knew He was there for me but in the end I could not submit my life to Him.

I got married and had two sons. One of my biggest regrets in life is that I did not pour my life into my family. Instead I was busy with what I wanted to do - driving a truck to make enough money so I could play with my racing toys when I was home. Like many truck drivers who are away from home so much of their time my marriage ended in divorce. On top of that, because I was so wasteful with my money, I also went through a bankruptcy. Again I felt the need to pray to God and I knew He was there for me but in the end I still could not submit my life to Him.

It seems strange to me now that a person can believe in God and know that He is there and then turn around and totally ignore Him. But that is what I did with the first half of my life. But God was so good to me. Though I ignored Him, He did not ignore me. He should have. I did not deserve His blessing in my life.

One day as I was driving my truck down the road listening to a radio program by James Dobson, God's grace to me finally got through my self-absorbed lifestyle. I remember pulling my truck to the side of the road and, not just praying to God as I had always done before, but actually submitting my life, my will, my time, my energy, my passion to God and His will

for my life.

When I came home, I joined a church. My first class was a test of my prayer of submission to God. It was a finance class. I was challenged to give God 10 percent of my income. It took me awhile but I did it. I was actually putting God before my racing boats and cars. Was it easy? No. But I can tell you that putting God first in my life has made me a new person - a person that I really want to be.

I then met my current wife a few years later. She wanted children. I had failed as a father in the past and I knew that I would need help to be the father I wanted to be. We joined a church to be with people who were trying to submit their lives, their marriages, and their families to God.

We were taught the absolute importance of having a daily, personal relationship with Jesus Crist, inviting and allowing Him to be Lord of our lives - every day, every hour of the day.

I spent so much of my life focused on me - looking for a quick high. All I found was brokenness and pain. But when I submitted my will to God, when I surrendered my ambition to God's plan I finally found the real high that I was looking for.

This is my prayer for you. Maybe you have been trying to find purpose and meaning in your life.

I still drive a truck. But I am more than a truck driver. I am an energetic, passionate follower of Jesus Christ, doing all I can to help truck drivers find real meaning and purpose for their lives. With His leading I founded the ministry Good News Distribution whose goal is to provide free Christian literature at various truck stops around the country. This Bible is one of our products. Please read it. It just might change your life.

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## Tired of Being Sick and Tired

My first memory was of my mother and father arguing. After the fight, she went into the bathroom and shot herself in the stomach with my father's 38. She survived but they divorced not long after. My mother and I moved in with my grandfather. That is where a family member introduced me to my first drink. It wasn't a regular thing but a seed was planted.

I would sometimes visit my father and his girlfriend on the weekends. She had four kids all around my age. On the weekend of September 15, 1974, her kids and I found my father and his girlfriend dead in the bedroom. They were getting high off some type of gas cylinder my father got from his job. They both were 28 years old.

My mother's side of the family was more of the church-going type. My



father's side was more of the party type. Even though I went to church for years, no one ever told me about Jesus. No one ever said I had to give my life to Him, to become a child of God, and to secure my eternal salvation. I looked saved; but I wasn't.

I started drinking wine when I was in 8th grade. I started smoking weed in my sophomore year. I barely made it through high school. I went off to college but dropped out. I had a few jobs and got married. We were immature and spent most of our time arguing and fighting. We separated.

I continued to sleep around, party, and not only use drugs, but also sell them as well. I fathered three daughters by two different women.

Then at age 28, I joined the army. I was one of the oldest recruits, but I excelled in rank. But my drinking increased because of being in a rapid deployment unit. All we did is train for war. I did a couple of tours that put me in Germany. While in Germany my wife divorced me because she found someone else. I met a German national who was about a month pregnant.

After getting out of the military, I stayed in Germany working as a manager. Drinking and getting high was still my way of life. I couldn't do anything without it. I had three major car accidents. After the last accident, my boss cut me loose. This was devastating because it was my only source of income. I didn't speak the language. From then on everything I bought was with money from selling drugs or cigarettes on the Black Market.

My new girl friend and I had just had our daughter, Destiny. I couldn't use my army benefits in Germany, so we decided to move to the States. I went on ahead of the family. I had three jobs lined up, but the pay wasn't that great. So one day my stepdad came home and put his check stub on the table. He was a dump truck driver. I saw that $1000 check and said to myself, "I'm in the wrong business." So on Easter Sunday, April 15, 2001, my mom's birthday, I went to a truck driving school in Florida.

I was done in three weeks and landed a job with one of the big companies. I sent for my fiancé and daughter. They stayed for two weeks. We got married and she went back to Germany to pack our stuff. Then 9/11 happened. People lost their lives in the Trade Towers. But I lost my family because my new wife was too afraid to return to the States. I responded by getting into crack cocaine.

I got an apartment and started dating again. I tried but just couldn't stop my addiction. I didn't depend on Jesus; I depended on me. On Sunday I would repent; on Monday I would be back at it.

This is when I met my angel, Rose. She lived in the same building as me. Rose was a woman of God like no other woman I'd ever met. She never got mad. She didn't argue. She had the patience of Job. We dated for about a year and started planning on getting married. She didn't believe in shacking up, so we decided to be celibate.

I was in love with her but I was also in love with my drugs. I started stealing from her even after she gave me $3000 to pay off my bills. This was the first time I hurt her. I decided to go live in my truck at a truck stop

in Gary, Indiana, while I kicked the demon out of me. I stayed there for three months.

Everyone told Rose to leave me, that I wouldn't change, and that I was no good for her. Then my mom said something to me that sticks with me to this day: "If you don't beat this, no matter where you go, you will carry it with you." My mom told Rose not to leave me, but instead, to pray for me. "This is not my son. This is not who he really is," she told her. Rose said she could see my heart through all the garbage.

I got clean to some degree. I moved back and we got married.

My dream was to become an owner operator. On my way to trucking school I had met a guy who worked for Land Star. He convinced me this was the best place to be. So the seed was planted even before I had my CDL.

I worked for one of the big companies for six years, still smoking weed because I convinced myself this is from the earth and God created it. I still kept drinking but not as much. Then the door opened for me to become a lease operator.

I felt this good fortune came my way because I was married to a Godly woman. God gave me favor just by being her husband. I paid the truck off and then went to another company. Things were good. But then one night I stopped by my stepfather's house and I drank a 5th of gin. I was drunk. I needed something to even out my high. I went out and met some of my old crack smoking buddies. I had been clean for almost 3 years but now I went on a 3-day binge.

I hurt everyone around me - my wife, my mom and others. This was the first time I saw my wife cry. She said she could not do this anymore. I couldn't either.

I was tired of being sick and tired. On September 28 of that year I got on my knees and asked God to take control of my life, which was something I was always too proud to do. I told Him I couldn't handle it. "Please make me into the man I need to be. Take my marriage, my business, my family. Lead, guide and direct me." I cried and prayed for two days. Finally I was washed clean. I was free. Three months later, I reconciled my life to God. I got baptized in the Holy Ghost and never looked back.

I quit work and took 30 days off just to be alone with God. I didn't know how the bills were going to be paid, but I knew God would provide. I was set free from all those years of struggle. I started working out and eating right. The door opened for Land Star. Blessings and opportunity came from everywhere. But it wasn't about me anymore, it was about Jesus.

We found a church home. Relationships were restored. Our business flourished. I became a chaplain/Channel 21 Minister. I started working at my church as a volunteer. My wife and I are partners with four different ministries.

We have a blended family with 3 sons, 5 daughters, and 15 grandchildren. We still have struggles at times just like everybody else. God didn't say we wouldn't have troubles. He said in Psalm 91 that He would be with us in troubles.



If you can relate to my story and if you too are tired of being sick and tired, then why not give Jesus a try?

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## I Was a Knucklehead

Before I start, I want it to be known that no one in this story except me is to blame for how I acted and the things I did. I let down my country, my wife, my kids, my parents, and so many other friends and family.

I was born in 1956 to parents who rarely went to church or mentioned the Bible, but they must have known Proverbs 13:24 pretty well. I was well acquainted with the rod!

I was allowed to go to church by myself at an early age, probably about the 4th grade. I remember I was even baptized at an early age in a Baptist Church in Houston Texas.

My parents were not mean parents. They did drink a little and smoked cigarettes a lot but it didn't seem like a big deal back then. My parents fought with each other quite often and separated a few times while I was growing up.

I believe my lying, cheating and stealing career started when I was about 10 years old. And even though I thought myself a good person, I really wasn't a very honest person. I was a big liar and a thief. Nothing I'm proud of as I reflect back. I stole things as small as newspapers all the way up to a brand new farm tractor one time. Boy, I can't believe I told that! I told so many lies when I was younger, I could not believe myself, even when I talked to myself.

At an early age, I would ride my bicycle all over our neighborhood. My folks would often hand me money to purchase things, like newspapers or cigarettes. Most the time I would steal the paper from our neighbors yard, then take it to Dad. I would then treat myself to soda and candy with the quarter that was supposed to be used for the paper. Back then at any age you could buy cigarettes. Mom would often send me, actually I volunteered. I had a way of walking out of the store without purchasing them. I would reward myself with the cigarette money at a nearby "Jack in the Box."

I wasn't very good in school and did only enough to pass. I failed second grade and had to take it over again. I would lie to my teachers about getting my report card signed by my parents and then lie to my parents about the teacher not issuing me a report card. In my high school days in Oklahoma I was in trouble a lot for either fighting or talking in class. I am pretty sure I was ADD.

I occasionally went to church in my teen years, not because I was interested in what the Lord had done for me, but because of my interest in a particular girl. I came home from school one day in the tenth grade and found my mother had signed my older brother up in the Army. He was already gone by the time my younger siblings and I knew it. Mom favored my older brother over us younger ones, so as soon as I turned seventeen, I begged my mom to sign me up for the Marine Corps. In 1973 I quit school and went to San Diego for boot camp. I didn't have a clue what I was doing. Lucky for me President Nixon called all soldiers home from Vietnam while I was in boot camp. After boot camp I was stationed at Camp Pendleton California. There I signed up for truck driving as my MO. After all that is what my dad did most of his life, drove a truck.

As soon as I got out of that training in the Corps, I convinced my dad to be an adult signer for me to marry my girlfriend from Oklahoma. Seventeen was still too young to marry in Oklahoma, so we had to drive to Texas. I moved her to California with me and we started a young new life. Soon the Marine Corps told me I had to go to Okinawa, Japan for a tour. Spouses weren't allowed to go and that made me angry, so I went AWOL. I took my bride and we went from relative to relative for as long as they could stand us. Being the liar I was, I convinced them that Uncle Sam just let me leave as I pleased. I had no conscience of wrongdoing.

After wearing out my welcome with friends and relatives, my wife and I went back to Oklahoma. I lied to everyone, including employers, about my past. Back then, no one looked at your credentials. I would make up a social security number and go to work. Soon, however, the Marines came looking for me. They handcuffed me and took my back to California. They would scold me and release me back to work. I would catch the next flight back to Oklahoma. This happened twice. The third time, the Marine Corp sent the FBI. After many lies to the Corps and many run-aways, they offered me a dishonorable discharge and let me go home for good. Of course, I still lied to family and friends about my service to our country. I still regret that behavior. You can see what a knucklehead I was.

Back then, you had to be 21 to get a commercial driver's license to drive a truck. I remember waltzing into a mobile home sales lot that was advertising for a driver. I lied to him about my age and license. I was 19 and did not have a commercial license but I was hired to pull 14' by 80' mobile homes all over western Oklahoma and the Texas panhandle. That was the beginning of my trucking career.

From the mid-70's until the mid-80's I cheated on my wife, lied to her, and drank quite a bit. My wife and I had two daughters and a pretty decent lifestyle, but I wanted out. I convinced her that we needed a divorce. It was all me. She was a good woman, wife, and mother to our daughters. I was the one who lied.

Soon I met my current wife. We have been married now for 34 years. She encouraged me to seek the Lord and go to church. I started my first over-the-road trucking job and we got married. It was her dream to be a professional over-the-road truck driver too, so after we got married, I taught



her to drive truck. We would occasionally drop in on a church, but we let the road and job be our God. After she felt confident enough to drive big trucks on her own, we both lied to a major trucking company about our experience in order to get hired on as team drivers. We drove for several trucking companies. We were always sure the grass would be greener at the next gig. Then, one day at a dock, I broke a little bone under my knee. We gave up trucking for a bit. We purchased a place in Missouri and settled down with local jobs. We started going to church on a regular basis. That's when the Lord got my attention. Many things happened then, mostly from us slowing down, hearing and seeking the Lord. We became good friends with other Christian couples and a few pastors in our area. I was re-baptized and I rededicated my life to the Lord for good. This time it was for the right reasons.

Yes I still do knucklehead things. I can feel something inside me tremble when I do these things. But now when I do, I buckle down on my knees and beg forgiveness. God's Word says He forgives us. I still have trouble forgiving myself for the things I've done in my past. I have asked my daughters and my ex-wife to forgive me, but I don't really believe they have yet. I can't say I blame them, even though, I know Jesus has forgiven me.

Billy Fields wrote and sings a song entitled "If That Wasn't God, Who is Living Inside Me?" That's exactly how I feel. Something is living inside me. I have a joy in my step and a happiness in my heart. Most people that know me know my wisecracks are from the happiness the Lord puts in me. I cannot begin to tell you how many times my wife and I have prayed for and seen the undeniable results from our Lord.

When I purchased my first computer, around 1993 I became excited and very interested in digital technology. I am not a geek or a nerd but I love this technology. Years ago, I created a Truckers Website called Truckers 4 Christ. I was never able to unite Christian Truckers through that, but God knew back then how He was going to put other Trucking Ministries in my path. He has allowed me to work with them, mainly in web development. That's what I call an awesome God!

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## I Was Always Trying to Fit In

As I look back through my childhood memories, it seems like I had to fight my way through life. I was raised in a dysfunctional family. My father was an alcoholic and my mother did her best to raise me. I made friends easily, but still found myself trying to fit into different groups. I played a lot

of sports to keep myself busy, but I still felt left out.

At the age of 9, I found a special kind of peace and acceptance in the local church a few blocks away. They didn't care what color I was, how well I performed, or if I was rich or poor. They loved me for what I was. We moved from Texas to Florida because my dad got a job offer, so unfortunately, I had to leave the only place I felt secure and safe.

After we moved to Florida I had to make new friends and try to adjust to a new home. When I was in 5th grade I was sexually abused by both a family member and by my best friend's uncle. They made it seem like it was a game. They told me that if I said anything to anyone, they would deny it. So I kept this secret to myself until I was in my early 20's. As I got older, I realized that the secret I kept inside caused me to feel unloved and out of place. I felt rejected and abandoned.

As I carried on with life I find myself remembering the feeling I had in that small country church. I believe that was what kept me going. I knew in my heart I was special to someone. At the time I didn't understand who it was or why I felt a sense of peace. I just knew I wanted that in my life.

I had to grow up fast and missed a lot of my childhood. When I got into high school, I found myself still looking for a place to fit in. I tried to fit in with the preps. I tried to fit in with the band. I tried to fit in with the cheerleaders. I tried to fit in with the sport teams. I never felt accepted.

As I got older I found myself hanging out and drinking with some friends. I was staying out late at the bars. I was hanging out with bikers and trying to live the lifestyle they were living. Don't get me wrong. All bikers are not bad people. Bikers help a lot of organizations. But the one I was involved in only wanted to party and control everyone.

I did finally finish school and got some college courses behind me. The problem now was that I always tried to please other people and did what they wanted me to do. I never lived life for myself. I lost who I was and never found peace. That is a lonely place to be. You can be in the middle of a crowd and feel so alone. I watched how people acted and I knew once again I was in a place I didn't want to be.

At the age of 25 I met a man that drove truck for a living. I worked at the truck stop as a waitress and he swept me off my feet. We got married a year later. He taught me how to drive a truck and we teamed for many years. In 1993 we parted and drove solo for the same company. At that time the Lord started really working in my life. When you are in a truck all day long, you have plenty of time to talk to the Lord. I started singing on the CB radio as the Lord gave me songs. I began to feel that peace again that I felt back in that small church. But it wasn't long after that that the devil started tempting me. Once again, trying to fit in, I started doing drugs to stay awake. I started hanging around with the wrong crowd.

Singing gospel on one hand and doing drugs on the other hand -- talk about a battle for my soul! I enjoyed hanging out with the group I was hanging with because I finally felt like I belonged. I fit in and they liked me. I didn't realize it was about partying and getting high.



One day, after taking a bunch of drugs as I was taking a load to Washington, I realized on was on the wrong side of the road. I stopped the truck and started begging God to save me. I had a large aspirin bottle filled with white powder of all kinds inside it. I threw it out the window of my truck and asked God to not let me die this way. I had two small children and I didn't want the police to have to tell them their mother died from an overdose. God sent an angel that day to help me. He was a truck driver and a trained as an EMT. He pulled over to help me and followed me to the next truck stop up the road. He told me if I didn't get help, I could die. I was afraid of losing my license so I never called the ambulance. I got back in my truck and started heading toward Washington. When I was almost at my destination, I started to feel funny again. My body started to feel numb. I was on a dark two lane road in the country. I heard two young boys talking on a base station and I called them to help me. Their mother got on a two-way radio and knew where I was. Soon after the ambulance showed up to get me. Once again, God had sent someone to help me. When we got to the hospital, the doctor asked me what had happened. I had to tell them I had been doing drugs so they knew how to treat me properly. How ashamed I felt when I had to call my mom and tell her why I was in the hospital. I flew home because I couldn't drive my truck back to Florida. I was an emotional wreck.

But God never gave up on me. After I recovered, I went back on the road. I have always loved the open road. I started reading my Bible and listening to Christian radio stations. I remember reading where God said I didn't need to fit in because I was set apart for His work and His glory. So all those years I spent trying to fit in and trying to please everyone was a lie from the enemy. The enemy was whispering in my ear telling me I wasn't worth anything. The devil comes to kill, steal, and destroy your life and will use anything and anyone to do it.

God has loved me from the beginning of time. He loves you too. God is the only One that can bring you the peace you are looking for and the acceptance you need. There is nothing God cannot do in your life if you let Him. He will never leave or forsake you. You are the very apple of His eyes. You are His sons and daughters. Our heavenly Father loves you with an everlasting love. God is there to catch you when you fall. He is there to forgive you for your sins. Best of all, if you repent of your sins and ask Jesus into your heart, you belong to Him.

I have been in the trucking industry for over 30 years now. I love trucking and I love the people. God has restored me and set me free from drugs and a life of self-destruction. He will do that for you as well. I am now a road chaplain for Channel 21 Ministries and the founder of Trucking Angels for Christ. My heart is for the lost and the hurting drivers that are on the road. I have been where you are and I continue to pray for all the drivers.

When you accept Christ as your Lord and Savior, you get a life of purpose now and a life of joy for all eternity. You no longer need to fit in. He is all you need. Joy and peace is yours. Call on Christ today to be your Savior. Ask him to live in your heart and change your ways. The Lord's ways are

much better than our ways. You will never be the same.

Just say this prayer: Lord Jesus, I trust in You. I repent of my sins. Come into my heart right now. I believe You came to save the lost and dying world so that we may have life more abundantly. Change me, mold me, and make me new. I know from this day forward I will never be the same. Thank you, Lord. I am in your book of life and I will forever spend my life with You. Amen

If you said this prayer and meant it, you are now saved. The Bible says: "Those who call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Read this trucker's Bible. You will see changes and so will the people around you. Please email me and let me know you prayed this prayer and I will keep you in my prayers.

Mona

www.treasuredwordsoutreach.com

## Never Too Late

When I was 13, my cousin Wesley invited me to church. There was a revival going on the night I got saved. I felt so free and clean. I went to every service. Most of the time I had to hitchhike because my mom and dad never followed Jesus. When I was living in West Virginia, I used to go with my grandmother, but I was too young to understand. But I know her prayers followed me even after her death.

I met a girl named Joyce at the church and I fell madly in love at the young age of 13. As many teenagers do, we let hormones and testosterone take over our lives. She got pregnant, so at age 17 we were married. We drifted away from church. A year later we had our second son. I was laid off from Ford Motor company in late 1979. In February 1980 I went to North American Van Lines truck driving school and purchased a truck through them. I was gone 4-6 weeks at a time. As you can guess, that doesn't make for a strong marriage. After 15 years of marriage and being away from God, we ended up divorced. We were both at fault here. And it wasn't just because of the poor decisions we made, but also because we had turned our backs on God allowing Satan to have his way with us. I remarried in 1983 and Joyce remarried in 1985. I sold my truck and got off the road and moved to Tennessee in the fall of 1984.

My second wife complained about me being gone so much. I had lost the love of my life, Joyce, over driving; I didn't want another divorce. But in the winter of 1987, I ended up divorced anyhow. When you don't follow God, Satan has a field day with you.

In September of 1988 I went up to Ohio to see my sons and my dad. Brian and his girlfriend (now his wife, Maria) was about to have a baby and I wanted to buy them a gift for the baby. Brian had moved and I didn't have his new phone number, so I called Joyce, my first wife, and asked for the number and also what they might need. She said they needed a car seat



and that she could get a discount at Sears where she worked. I met her the next day and bought the car seat. Joyce and I then went to lunch. She could tell I was very unhappy and sad because of the way my life had turned out. She started to cry for me and said I was too good a man for all this bad stuff to be happening to me. We left the restaurant. While walking through the mall, I asked her if she had to return to work. She didn't, so we went for a drive.

While on the drive she told me that she would follow me anywhere. I asked if she would follow me to Tennessee. She said that she would. I asked her what her husband would think about that. She said he wouldn't be too happy, but that he knew how she still felt about me. I really believe we were meant to be together, but because we forged ahead and got out of God's plan for us, it all fell apart.

She moved to Tennessee with me. She was able to transfer to a Sears near our home. I began working for Builders Transport in LaVergne, TN, as a dispatcher. The terminal manager that interviewed me asked me if I had ever dispatched before. I said, "No, but I have been dispatched." He asked me if I knew how to work a computer and I said, "No, but I have hauled a bunch of them." Bless his heart, he hired me anyway. In the fall of that year they opened a flatbed office at this terminal. I became the terminal manager of this fleet. I remained the manager until the spring of 1998. Then went to work for Deaton Truck Lines as a recruiter working out of my home. It was a real sweet deal until the VP that hired me left 2 months later. That's when my eyes were opened and I could see I was on a sinking ship. I got an interview with McElroy Truck Lines in Cuba, Alabama. They were going to open a terminal in middle Tennessee and were looking for a terminal manager. Going to work for MTL was one of the best moves of my life. I worked there 17 years, retiring in August of 2015.

Keep in mind the only time Joyce and I had ever darkened the door of a church was when we were married in 1989. We bought a new home, owned a boat, a car, and pick-up truck. We were debt free and had everything we needed. In early June 2007, I came home form work one day and planted my keister in my chair. Joyce said, "We need to talk." Man, I hate them grown up talks! We had all we needed but I could tell she wasn't really, truly happy. She said she had been watching the 700 Club and had turned her life back over to Christ.

I don't have the words to explain to you how that made me feel. I was relieved in some ways to know she would be serving God again. You see, I had always blamed myself for our failures, especially with God. Then she said "I can't do this alone." I told her I was happy and that I had all I needed. That's when she said, "I know you're not ready and you have almost all you need, but there is one thing missing in your life." I said, "What's that?" She said "JOY!"

For the first time in forty years, the Holy Spirit of God spoke to me. You see, when I was seventeen, I told God I would never ask Him for anything. I felt like I wasn't worthy of His grace or His mercy. After all I had been through, I never once cried out to Him. But suddenly He started talking to

me. He loved on me for three solid months. We started attending River of Life Church in Smyrna, TN. I would go on Sunday mornings with my wife. Sometimes the music would make me cry, but when the altar call came, I headed for the door. I wasn't going to get saved for my wife and I wasn't ready.

Again, the Holy Spirit talked to me daily, almost hourly; He wouldn't let up. Every time I gave an excuse as to why I couldn't serve Him, He gave me a reason why I could. After three months of this, I was losing my mind. Meanwhile, my wife was going to the Ladies' Monday Morning Prayer meetings, lifting me up in prayer.

September 17th, we went to the morning service. I bolted out the door during the altar call. Later that afternoon my wife and I were sitting on the patio. I told her my biggest regret in life was that I didn't raise our sons in the church. She said, "You're still their daddy and you're still alive. It's not too late."

I said, "Let's go to church tonight." I can't remember what the preacher preached on that night, but I hit that altar at the end of the service. I cried out to Jesus and asked Him to forgive me. I was SNOT SLINGING SAVED!!! God came down and LOVED ON ME. He set me free from alcohol, nicotine, and porn. I was free and free at last. When I stood up, the Monday Morning Ladies' Prayer group was standing there over us the whole time we were at the altar.

Long story short, in 2012, I started a Chaplaincy program called Channel 21 Ministries for truck drivers. We have helped over 150 truck drivers become Road Chaplains. We have had over 100 folks saved through this program. God has been so faithful. I received my minister's license in 2011 and I am currently Care Pastor at River of Life. God has been so good to Joyce and me. We have seen miracle after miracle occur in the past 11 years.

I pray that God will reveal Himself to you if you are not walking with Him. He is a loving God and it is never too late to come home. I was 57 years old and He saved my soul!!! You can call me anytime!

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*the book of* **Matthew**

**Summary:** *The first book of the four gospels was written by Matthew, a Jew and a tax collector (hated by his own people, the lowest of the low). He became a follower of Jesus and witnessed, firsthand, what Jesus did and said throughout most of His earthly ministry. Matthew tells the story of Jesus from a Jewish perspective (so there are many quotes from the Old Testament).*

### The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

**1:1** The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 Abraham begat (fathered) Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; 3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; 4 And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; 5 And Salmon begat Booz (Boaz) of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; 6 And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias; 7 And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa; 8 And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; 9 And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; 10 And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; 11 And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon:

12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel; 13 And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; 14 And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; 15 And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; 16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.

### Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise (way): When as his mother Mary was espoused (engaged) to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost (Spirit). 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick (public) example, was minded to put her away (divorce) privily (privately). 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."

22 Now all this was done, that it

might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name **Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, '**God with us**.'"[1]

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep (when woke up) did as the angel of the Lord had bidden (asked of) him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not (did not have relations with her) till she had brought forth (gave birth to) her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

### The Magi Visit the Messiah

**2:1** Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came **wise men**[2] from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."

3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 'And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.'"

7 Then Herod, when he had privily (privately) called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, "Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also."

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the **star,**[3] they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; **gold**, and **frankincense**, and **myrrh**.[4]

**1** *God is with YOU! In the middle of the night when you are trying to get to sleep in some overcrowed truck stop and your mind will not stop going down negative trails, God is with you. When you feel afraid, discouraged, helpless, God is with you. When in your life have you felt that God was with you?*

**2** *Wisemen from the East were looking for something that was worthy of their worship. Wise men still do. Have you found something in your life that is worth giving your life to? By reading this Bible you are looking in the right place.*

**3** *How do you find your way in this world? Perhaps you need a sign. Maybe you need to pray this prayer: "Lord give me a sign that I may follow You." Who or what has been the "star" in your life pointing you to a relationship with Jesus?*

**4** *Gold was the sign of a king. Myrrh was used by priests whose job it was to help people get connected to God. Frankincense was a spice used on a body of a deceased loved one to honor them. All three gifts pointed to Jesus (our king and priest) and what He came to do (die for us). How is Jesus your king and priest? What did his death on a cross done for you?*



12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

### The Escape from Egypt

13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him." 14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked (made a fool) of the wise men, was exceeding wroth (angry), and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy (Jeremiah) the prophet, saying, 18 "In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not (they are dead)."

### The Return to Nazareth

19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 Saying, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life." 21 And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room (place) of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither (there): notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

**3:1** In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." 3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias (Isaiah), saying, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." 4 And the same John had his raiment (dress) of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle (belt) about his loins (waist); and his meat (food) was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bring forth therefore fruits

meet (fitting) for repentance: 9 And think not to say within yourselves, 'We have Abraham to our father:' for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost (Spirit), and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner (the grain storehouse); but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

### The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. 14 But John forbad him, saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?"

15 And Jesus answering said unto him, "Suffer (allow) it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." Then he suffered him. 16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting (resting) upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

### Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

**4:1** Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred (hungry). 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread."

4 But he answered and said, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every **word**[1] that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."[2]

5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And saith unto him, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, 'He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.'"

7 Jesus said unto him, "It is written again, 'Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.'"

8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him, "All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall

**1** *When you are on the road you have to make sure you take the time to eat regularlly if you want to succeed as a driver.. The Word of God - the Bible- read a little bit each day can help you succeed as a person, a parent, a spouse, or a freind. How can you make Bible reading a dailey habit?*



down and worship me."

10 Then saith Jesus unto him, "Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, 'Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.'"

11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

### Jesus Begins to Preach

12 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; 13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: 14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet, saying, 15 "The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; 16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up." 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

### Jesus Calls His First Disciples

18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers (fishermen). 19 And he saith unto them, "Follow me, and I will make you **fishers of men**."[1] 20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. 21 And going on from thence (there), he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship (boat) with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

**1** *Fishing is fun because you don't always catch fish. It can be a challenge. God wants to use you to make a difference in the lives of the people around you - which is the greatest challenge of all. Are you ready to accept the challenge (to follow Him)?*

### Jesus Heals the Sick

23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. 24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers (different) diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them. 25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.

### The Sermon on the Mount

**5:1** And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

### The Beatitudes

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 **Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be com-**

**forted.**[1] 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are ye,when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

### Salt and Light

13 "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

### The Fulfillment of the Law

17 "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle (smallest marks in the Hebrew alphabet) shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. 19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees (These were the most religious people of the day), ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

### Murder

21 "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, 'Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:' 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, 'Raca' (empty head), shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, 'Thou fool,' shall be in danger of hell fire. 23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought (something) against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; **first be reconciled to thy brother, and then**

**1** *The word "blessed" could be translated as "happy'. And happiness is not necesarily never being sad. Sometimes real, deep, lasting happiness comes from comfort in your sadness. When have people in your life given you happiness in the form of comfort?*



**come and offer thy gift**.[1] 25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. 26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing (unit of money).

### Adultery

27 "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery:' 28 But I say unto you, That **whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**[2] 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. 30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut if off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

### Divorce

31 "It hath been said, 'Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:' 32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication (cheating), causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

### Oaths

33 "Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, 'Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:' 34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. 37 But let your communication be, 'Yea, yea;' 'Nay, nay:' for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

### Eye for Eye

38 "Ye have heard that it hath been said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:' 39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain (two). 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

### Love for Enemies

43 "Ye have heard that it hath been said, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.' 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you,

**1** *These verses suggest that a negative connection to the people around you can affect your connection to God. Are you at odds with anyone in your life? What can you do about it?*

**2** *The trucker lifestyle can be hard on a marriage. And there are many ways to cheat on your spouse. And who will know what you do on the internet? How are you safeguarding your marriage on the road?*

do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans (tax collectors) the same? 47 And if ye salute (welcome) your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

### Giving to the Needy

**6:1** "Take heed that ye do not your alms (giving to the poor) before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. 2 Therefore when thou doest thine alms (gifts for the poor), do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

### Prayer

5 "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. 14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

### Fasting

16 "Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

### Treasures in Heaven

19 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth



and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 **But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**,[1] where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

### Do Not Worry

24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon (money). 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment (clothes)? 26 Behold the fowls (birds) of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit (inch) unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed (clothed) like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or, 'What shall we drink?' or, 'Wherewithal shall we be clothed?' 32 For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

### Judging Others

**7:1** "Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 **And why beholdest thou the mote (speck of dust) that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam (log) that is in thine own eye?**[2] 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, 'Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye;' and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

6 "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your

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**1** *People say "you can't take it with you!" but they are wrong. What you do for others stores up treasures in heaven. Where are you storing your treasure these days?*

**2** *This verse just make good sense. So why do you so easily find fault with your spouse, you kids, your dispatcher, and your fellow travelers on the highway?*

pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend (attack) you.

### Ask, Seek, Knock

7 "**Ask**, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh **it shall be opened**.[1] 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? 12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them (This is known as the Golden Rule): for this is the law and the prophets.

### The Narrow and Wide Gates

13 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and **broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction,**[2] and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

### True and False Prophets

15 "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them.**[3]

### True and False Disciples

21 "Not every one that saith unto me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?' 23 And then will I profess unto them, 'I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.'

### The Wise and Foolish Builders

24 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it." 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine (teaching): 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

**1** *What are you waiting for? Ask, seek, knock. What do you need to ask God for? What are you seeking at this time in your life? What doors do you need to knock on?*

**2** *There are two ways to go down the road of lfie. One is to do whatever everyone else is doing. The other is to do what is right. Which way are you going?*

**3** *What kind of fruit are you bearing in your life?*



### Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

**8:1** When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. 2 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean."

3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, "I will; be thou clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4 And Jesus saith unto him, "See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them."

### The Faith of the Centurion

5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, 6 And saying, "Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented."

7 And Jesus saith unto him, "I will come and heal him.

8 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. 9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, 'Go,' and he goeth; and to another, 'Come,' and he cometh; and to my servant, 'Do this,'and he doeth it."

10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, "Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. 11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. 12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." 13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, "Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee." And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

### Jesus Heals Many

14 And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. 15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered (served) unto them. 16 When the even (evening) was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

### The Cost of Following Jesus

17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet, saying, "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

18 Now when Jesus saw great

multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side. 19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, “Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.”

20 And Jesus saith unto him, “The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.”

21 And another of his disciples said unto him, “Lord, suffer (let) me first to go and bury my father.”

22 But Jesus said unto him, “Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.”

### Jesus Calms the Storm

23 And when he was entered into a ship (boat), his disciples followed him. 24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest (storm) in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. 25 And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, “Lord, save us: we perish.”

26 And he saith unto them, “Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?” Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. 27 But the men marvelled, saying, “What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!”

### Jesus Restores Two Demon-Possessed Men

28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. 29 And, behold, they cried out, saying, “What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?”

30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31 So the devils besought (begged) him, saying, “If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.”

32 And he said unto them, “Go.”

**And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.**[1] 33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils. 34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.

### Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

**9:1** And he entered into a ship (boat), and passed over, and came into his own city. 2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy (paralyzed), lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; “Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.”

3 And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, “This man blasphemeth.”

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, “Wherefore (why) think ye evil in your hearts? 5 For whether (which) is easier, to say, ‘Thy sins be forgiven thee;’ or to say, ‘Arise, and walk?’ 6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins,” then saith he to the sick of the palsy, “Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.” 7 And he arose, and departed to his house. 8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

### The Calling of Matthew

9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence (there), he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom (customs booth): and he saith unto him, “Follow me.” And he arose, and followed him.

10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat (dinner) in the house, behold, many publicans (tax collectors) and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, “Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?”

12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, “They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. 13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

### Jesus Questioned About Fasting

14 Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?”

15 And Jesus said unto them, “Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. 16 No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent (tear) is made worse. 17 Neither do men put new wine into old bottles (wine skins): else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.”

### Jesus Raises a Girl & Heals a Woman

18 While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, “My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.” 19 And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples.

20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: 21 For she said within herself, “If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.”

22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, “Daughter, be of good comfort; thy

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**1** *Sometimes we engage in little sins and we ask ourselves, “What is the harm?” But know this: The goal of all evil in your life is to destroy you and all you love. What little evils are tempting you these days?*

faith hath made thee whole." And the woman was made whole from that hour.

23 And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels (professional funeral singers) and the people making a noise, 24 He said unto them, "Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth." And they laughed him to scorn. 25 But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. 26 And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land.

### Jesus Heals the Blind and the Mute

27 And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, "Thou Son of David, have mercy on us."

28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, "Believe ye that I am able to do this?"

They said unto him, "Yea, Lord."

29 Then touched he their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it unto you."

30 And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, "See that no man know it." 31 But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country.

32 As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb (mute) man possessed with a devil. 33 And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, "It was never so seen in Israel."

34 But the Pharisees said, "He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils."

### The Workers Are Few

35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

36 **But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.**[1] 37 Then saith he unto his disciples, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

### Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

**10:1** And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican (tax collector); James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Canaanite,

**1** *It is easy to feel like everything depends on you. And that is a lonely, lost place to be. Jesus sees you. He understands. He cares. Where do you need a shepherd in your life?*



and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, "Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. 9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip (bag) for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat (food). 11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence (from there). 12 And when ye come into an house, salute (bless) it. 13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you. 14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. 15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.

16 "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. 17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; 18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. 19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. 20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. 21 And the brother shall deliver up (betray) the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. 22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. 23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come. 24 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. 25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household? 26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. 27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. 28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. 32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

33 But whosoever shall deny me
before men, him will I also deny
before my Father which is in heaven. 34 Think not that I am come to
send peace on earth: I came not to
send peace, but a sword. 35 For I
am come to set a man at variance
against his father, and the daughter
against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.
36 And a man's foes shall be they
of his own household. 37 He that
loveth father or mother more than
me is not worthy of me: and he that
loveth son or daughter more than
me is not worthy of me. 38 And he
that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.
39 He that findeth his life shall lose
it: and he that loseth his life for my
sake shall find it.

40 "He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me
receiveth him that sent me. 41 He
that receiveth a prophet in the name
of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a
righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous
man's reward. 42 And whosoever
shall give to drink unto one of these
little ones a cup of cold water only
in the name of a disciple, verily I say
unto you, he shall in no wise lose his
reward."

### Jesus and John the Baptist

**11:1** And it came to pass, when
Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he
departed thence to teach and to
preach in their cities. 2 Now when
John had heard in the prison the
works of Christ, he sent two of his
disciples, 3 And said unto him, "Art
thou he that should come, or do we
look for another?"

4 Jesus answered and said
unto them, "Go and shew John
again those things which ye do 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 up, and the poor
have the gospel preached to them.
6 And blessed is he, whosoever
shall not be offended in me."

7 And as they departed, Jesus
began to say unto the multitudes
concerning John, "What went ye
out into the wilderness to see? A
reed shaken with the wind? 8 But
what went ye out for to see? A man
clothed in soft raiment (clothing)?
behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 But what
went ye out for to see? A prophet?
yea, I say unto you, and more than a
prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom
it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall
prepare thy way before thee.' 11
Verily I say unto you, Among them
that are born of women there hath
not risen a greater than John the
Baptist: notwithstanding he that is
least in the kingdom of heaven is
greater than he. 12 And from the
days of John the Baptist until now
the kingdom of heaven suffereth
violence, and the violent take it by
force. 13 For all the prophets and
the law prophesied until John. 14
And if ye will receive it, this is Elias
(Elijah), which was for to come. 15
He that hath ears to hear, let him
hear.

16 "But whereunto (what) shall
I liken this generation? It is like unto



children sitting in the markets, and
calling unto their fellows, 17 And
saying, 'We have piped (played a
song) unto you, and ye have not
danced; we have mourned unto you,
and ye have not lamented.' 18 For
John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He hath a devil.' 19 The Son of man came eating
and drinking, and they say, 'Behold
a man gluttonous, and a winebibber,
a friend of publicans (tax collectors)
and sinners.' But wisdom is justified
of her children."

### Woe on Unrepentant Towns

20 Then began he to upbraid
(speak against) the cities wherein
most of his mighty works were done,
because they repented not: 21 "Woe
unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee,
Bethsaida! for if the mighty works,
which were done in you, had been
done in Tyre and Sidon, they would
have repented long ago in sackcloth
and ashes. 22 But I say unto you,
It shall be more tolerable for Tyre
and Sidon at the day of judgment,
than for you. 23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell:
for if the mighty works, which have
been done in thee, had been done in
Sodom, it would have remained until
this day. 24 But I say unto you, That
it shall be more tolerable for the land
of Sodom in the day of judgment,
than for thee."

### The Father Revealed in the Son

25 At that time Jesus answered
and said, "I thank thee, O Father,
Lord of heaven and earth, because
thou hast hid these things from the
wise and prudent, and hast revealed
them unto babes. 26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy
sight. 27 All things are delivered
unto me of my Father: and no man
knoweth the Son, but the Father;
neither knoweth any man the Father,
save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

28 "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon
you, and learn of me; for I am meek
and lowly in heart: and ye shall find
rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke
is easy, and my burden is light."

### Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

**12:1** At that time Jesus went on
the sabbath day through the corn
(fields of corn); and his disciples
were an hungred, and began to
pluck the ears of corn, and to eat.

2 But when the Pharisees saw
it, they said unto him, "Behold, thy
disciples do that which is not lawful
to do upon the sabbath day."

3 But he said unto them, "Have
ye not read what David did, when
he was an hungred, and they that
were with him; 4 How he entered
into the house of God, and did eat
the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them
which were with him, but only for the
priests? 5 Or have ye not read in the
law, how that on the sabbath days
the priests in the temple profane the
sabbath, and are blameless? 6 But
I say unto you, That in this place is
one greater than the temple. 7 But if
ye had known what this meaneth, 'I
will have mercy, and not sacrifice,'
ye would not have condemned the
guiltless. 8 For the Son of man is

Lord even of the sabbath day." 9 And when he was departed thence (from there), he went into their synagogue:

10 And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days?" that they might accuse him.

11 And he said unto them, "What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? 12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days." 13 Then saith he to the man, "Stretch forth thine hand." And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other.

14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

### God's Chosen Servant

15 But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence (there): and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; 16 And charged them that they should not make him known: 17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet, saying, 18 "Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. 19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. 20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. 21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust."

### Jesus and Beelzebul

22 Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb (mute): and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said, "Is not this the son of David?"

24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils."

25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: 26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? 27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. 29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil (steal) his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. 30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

31 "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost (Spirit) shall not be forgiven unto men. 32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come. 33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. 36 **But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.**[1] 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."



### The Sign of Jonah

38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, "Master, we would see a sign from thee."

39 But he answered and said unto them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas (Jonah): 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. 42 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here. 43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none." 44 Then he saith, "I will return into my house from whence (where) I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished (in order). 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation."

### Jesus' Mother and Brothers

46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. 47 Then one said unto him, "Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee."

48 But he answered and said unto him that told him, "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?" 49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, "Behold my mother and my brethren! 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."

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**1** *One day you will stand before the Creator of the heavens and the earth. You will give an account of your life—including this very day. What idle words have you spoken lately?*

### The Parable of the Sower

**13:1** The same day went Jesus
out of the house, and sat by the sea
side. 2 And great multitudes were
gathered together unto him, so that
he went into a ship (boat), and sat;
and the whole multitude stood on
the shore. 3 And he spake many
things unto them in parables, say-
ing, "Behold, a sower went forth to
sow; 4 And when he sowed, some
seeds fell by the way side, and the
fowls (birds) came and devoured
them up: 5 Some fell upon stony
places, where they had not much
earth: and forthwith they sprung
up, because they had no deepness
of earth: 6 And when the sun was
up, they were scorched; and be-
cause they had no root, they with-
ered away. 7 And some fell among
thorns; and the thorns sprung up,
and choked them: 8 But other fell
into good ground, and brought forth
fruit, some an hundredfold, some
sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 9 Who
hath ears to hear, let him hear."

10 And the disciples came, and
said unto him, "Why speakest thou
unto them in parables?"

11 He answered and said unto
them, "Because it is given unto you
to know the mysteries of the king-
dom of heaven, but to them it is
not given. 12 For whosoever hath,
to him shall be given, and he shall
have more abundance: but who-
soever hath not, from him shall be
taken away even that he hath. 13
Therefore speak I to them in para-
bles: because they seeing see not;
and hearing they hear not, neither
do they understand. 14 And in them
is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias
(Isaiah), which saith, 'By hearing ye
shall hear, and shall not understand;
and seeing ye shall see, and shall
not perceive: 15 For this people's
heart is waxed gross (callused), and
their ears are dull of hearing, and
their eyes they have closed; lest at
any time they should see with their
eyes, and hear with their ears, and
should understand with their heart,
and should be converted, and I
should heal them.' 16 But blessed
are your eyes, for they see: and your
ears, for they hear. 17 For verily I say
unto you, That many prophets and
righteous men have desired to see
those things which ye see, and have
not seen them; and to hear those
things which ye hear, and have not
heard them.

18 "Hear ye therefore the para-
ble of the sower. 19 When any one
heareth the word of the kingdom,
and understandeth it not, then com-
eth the wicked one, and catcheth
(steals) away that which was sown
in his heart. This is he which re-
ceived seed by the way side. 20 But
he that received the seed into stony
places, the same is he that heareth
the word, and anon (at first) with joy
receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root
in himself, but dureth (endures) for a
while: for when tribulation or perse-
cution ariseth because of the word,
by and by he is offended. 22 He
also that received seed among the
thorns is he that heareth the word;
and the care of this world, and the
deceitfulness of riches, choke the
word, and he becometh unfruitful.
23 **But he that received seed into the
good ground is he that heareth the
word, and understandeth it; which also
beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some
an hundredfold, some sixty, some thir-
ty."**[1]



### The Parable of the Weeds

24 Another parable put he forth
unto them, saying, "The kingdom of
heaven is likened unto a man which
sowed good seed in his field: 25 But
while men slept, his enemy came
and sowed tares (weeds) among
the wheat, and went his way. 26 But
when the blade was sprung up, and
brought forth fruit, then appeared
the tares also. 27 So the servants
of the householder came and said
unto him, 'Sir, didst not thou sow
good seed in thy field? from whence
(where) then hath it tares (weeds)?'
28 He said unto them, 'An enemy
hath done this.' The servants said
unto him, 'Wilt thou then that we
go and gather them up?' 29 But he
said, 'Nay; lest while ye gather up
the tares, ye root up also the wheat
with them. 30 Let both grow togeth-
er until the harvest: and in the time
of harvest I will say to the reapers,
Gather ye together first the tares,
and bind them in bundles to burn
them: but gather the wheat into my
barn.'"

### The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

31 Another parable put he forth
unto them, saying, "The kingdom
of heaven is like to a grain of mus-
tard seed, which a man took, and
sowed in his field: 32 Which indeed
is the least of all seeds: but when it
is grown, it is the greatest among
herbs, and becometh a tree, so that
the birds of the air come and lodge
in the branches thereof."

33 Another parable spake he
unto them; "The kingdom of heaven
is like unto leaven (yeast), which a
woman took, and hid in three mea-
sures of meal, till the whole was
leavened." 34 All these things spa-
ke Jesus unto the multitude in par-
ables; and without a parable spake
he not unto them: 35 That it might
be fulfilled which was spoken by
the prophet, saying, "I will open my
mouth in parables; I will utter things
which have been kept secret from
the foundation of the world."

### The Parable of the Weeds Explained

36 Then Jesus sent the multi-
tude away, and went into the house:
and his disciples came unto him,
saying, "Declare unto us the parable
of the tares of the field."

37 He answered and said unto
them, "He that soweth the good
seed is the Son of man; 38 The field
is the world; the good seed are the
children of the kingdom; but the
tares are the children of the wicked
one; 39 The enemy that sowed them
is the devil; the harvest is the end of
the world; and the reapers are the
angels. 40 As therefore the tares are
gathered and burned in the fire; so
shall it be in the end of this world.
41 The Son of man shall send forth
his angels, and they shall gather out
of his kingdom all things that offend,
and them which do iniquity; 42 And
shall cast them into a furnace of fire:
there shall be wailing and gnashing
of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous
shine forth as the sun in the king-

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**1** *Which of the 4 soils can you relate to?*

dom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

### The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

44 **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.**[1]

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

### The Parable of the Net

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: 48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. 49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, 50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth." 51 Jesus saith unto them, "Have ye understood all these things?"

They say unto him, "Yea, Lord."

52 Then said he unto them, "Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

### A Prophet Without Honor

53 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. 54 And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, "Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?" 57 And they were offended in him.

But Jesus said unto them, "A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house." 58 And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

### John the Baptist Beheaded

**14:1** At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus, 2 And said unto his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him."

3 For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. 4 For John said unto him, "It is not lawful for thee to have her." 5 And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet. 6 But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of

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**1** *If you are on a journey to find the truth then know this: It is the most important journey you will every make. How goes the journey?*



Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. 7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. 8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said, "Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger (plate)."

9 And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake (his promise), and them which sat with him at meat (supper), he commanded it to be given her. 10 And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. 11 And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel (daughter): and she brought it to her mother. 12 And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

13 When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship (boat) into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities. 14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

15 And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying, "This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals (food)."

16 But Jesus said unto them, "They need not depart; give ye them to eat."

17 And they say unto him, "We have here but five loaves, and two fishes."

18 He said, "Bring them hither to me." 19 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 20 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. 21 And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.

### Jesus Walks on the Water

22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship (boat), and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. 24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a spirit;" and they cried out for fear.

27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid."

28 And Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water."

29 And he said, "Come."

**And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying,**

**"Lord, save me."** [1]

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, "Of a truth thou art the Son of God."

34 And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; 36 And besought (begged) him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

### That Which Defiles

**15:1** Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, 2 "Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread."

3 But he answered and said unto them, "Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, 'Honour thy father and mother:' and, 'He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.' 5 But ye say, 'Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;' 6 And 'honour not his father or his mother,' he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. 7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias (Isaiah) prophesy of you, saying, 8 'This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.'"

10 And he called the multitude, and said unto them, "Hear, and understand: 11 Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." 12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him, "Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?"

13 But he answered and said, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. 14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

15 Then answered Peter and said unto him, "Declare (explain) unto us this parable."

16 And Jesus said, "Are ye also yet without understanding? 17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man."

### The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

21 Then Jesus went thence (from there), and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. 22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed (irritated)with a devil."

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, "Send her away; for she crieth after us."

24 But he answered and said, "I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, "Lord, help me."

26 But he answered and said, "It is not meet (right) to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs."

27 And she said, "Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt." And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

### Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

29 And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there. 30 And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: 31 Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

32 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, "I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way."

33 And his disciples say unto him, "Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?"

34 And Jesus saith unto them, "How many loaves have ye?"

And they said, "Seven, and a few little fishes."

35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. 36 And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 37 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat (food) that was left seven baskets full. 38 And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children. 39 And he sent away the multitude, and took ship, and came into the coasts of Magdala.

### The Demand for a Sign

**16:1** The Pharisees also with

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**1** *What is the lesson here for you at this time: "keep your eyes of Jesus, not the storm" or "stay in the boat?"*

the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said unto them, “When it is evening, ye say, ‘It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.’ 3 And in the morning, ‘It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring.’ O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas (Jonah).” And he left them, and departed. 5 And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.

### The Yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees

6 Then Jesus said unto them, “Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.” 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “It is because we have taken no bread.” 8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, “O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? 9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?” 12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine (teaching) of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

### Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?”

14 And they said, “Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias (Elijah); and others, Jeremias (Jeremiah), or one of the prophets.”

15 He saith unto them, “But whom say ye that I am?”

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, “Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18vAnd I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” 20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

### Jesus Predicts His Death

21 From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the



elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. 22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, “Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.”

23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, “Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.”

24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. 28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”

### The Transfiguration

**17:1** And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment (clothing) was white as the light. 3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias (Elijah) talking with him. 4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.”

5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.”

6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. 7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, “Arise, and be not afraid.”

8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. 9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, “Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.”

10 And his disciples asked him, saying, “Why then say the scribes that Elias (Elijah) must first come?”

11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, “Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. 12 But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.” 13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.

### Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

14 And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, 15 “Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick (has seizures), and sore vexed (suffering

greatly): for ofttimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. 16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him."

17 Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me." 18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, "Why could not we cast him out?"

20 And Jesus said unto them, "Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, 'Remove hence to yonder place;' and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. 21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting."

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

22 And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, "The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: 23 And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again." And they were exceeding sorry (sad).

### The Temple Tax

24 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute (tax) money came to Peter, and said, "Doth not your master pay tribute?

25 He saith, "Yes."

And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, "What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?"

26 Peter saith unto him, "Of strangers."

Jesus saith unto him, "Then are the children free. 27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook (fishing line), and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee."

### The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven

**18:1** At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted (change), and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

### Causing to Stumble

6 "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.



7 "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! 8 Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt (crippled) or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. 9 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

### The Parable of the Wandering Sheep

10 "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. 11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. 12 How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? 13 And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. 14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

### Dealing With Sin in the Church

15 **"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass (sin) against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.**[1] 16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. 17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican (tax collector). 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

### The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

21 Then came Peter to him, and said, "Lord, how oft (often) shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?"

22 Jesus saith unto him, "I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven."

23 "Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. 24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him

**1** *It is easy to get offended by people when you are on the road. It is easy to get offended by people when you are home. Deal with the person directly and right away. Don't gossip. Who do you need to talk to today?*

to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.' 27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. 28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me that thou owest.' 29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.' 30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. 31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32 "Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, 'O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: 33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?' 34 And his lord was wroth (angry), and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. 35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses."

### Divorce

**19:1** And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these sayings, he departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan; 2 And great multitudes followed him; and he healed them there.

3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, "Is it lawful for a man to put away (divorce) his wife for every cause?"

4 And he answered and said unto them, "Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, 'For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain (two) shall be one flesh?' 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." 7 They say unto him, "Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?"

8 He saith unto them, "Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered (allowed) you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. 9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

10 His disciples say unto him, "If the case (situation) of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry."

11 But he said unto them, "All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. 12 For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it."



### The Little Children and Jesus

13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But Jesus said, "Suffer (allow) little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

### The Rich and the Kingdom of God

15 And he laid (placed) his hands on them, and departed thence.

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, "Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

17 And he said unto him, "Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments."

18 He saith unto him, "Which?"

Jesus said, "Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

20 The young man saith unto him, "All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?"

21 Jesus said unto him, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me."

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, "Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible."

27 Then answered Peter and said unto him, "Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?"

28 And Jesus said unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration (renewal of all things) when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

### The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

**20:1** "For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. 2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the market place, 4 And said unto them; 'Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you.' And they went their way.

5 "Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, 'Why stand ye here all the day idle?'

7 "They say unto him, 'Because no man hath hired us.'

"He saith unto them, 'Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.

8 "So when even (evening) was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, 'Call the labourers, and give them their hire (pay), beginning from the last unto the first.'

9 "And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. 11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, 12 Saying, 'These last have wrought (worked) but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.' 13 But he answered one of them, and said, 'Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? 14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?' 16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen."

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time

17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, 18 "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, 19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again."

### A Mother's Request

20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. 21 And he said unto her, "What wilt thou?"

She saith unto him, "Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom."

22 But Jesus answered and said, "Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

They say unto him, "We are able."



23 And he saith unto them, "Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father."

24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation (anger) against the two brethren. 25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, "Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. 26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister (servant);

27 And whosoever will be chief (greatest) among you, let him be your servant: 28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

### Two Blind Men Receive Sight

29 And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him.

30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David." 31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David."

32 And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, "What will ye that I shall do unto you?"

33 They say unto him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened." 34 So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

### Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

**21:1** And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, 2 Saying unto them, "Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass (donkey) tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. 3 And if any man say ought (anything) unto you, ye shall say, 'The Lord hath need of them;' and straightway he will send them." 4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, 5 'Tell ye the daughter of Sion (Zion), Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.' 6 And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, 7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. 8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. 9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." 10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?"

11 And the multitude said, "This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of

Galilee."

### Jesus at the Temple

12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, 13 And said unto them, "It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves."

14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. 15 And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David; they were sore displeased,"

16 And said unto him, "Hearest thou what these say?

And Jesus saith unto them, "Yea; have ye never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings (infants) thou hast perfected praise?'"

17 And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.

### Jesus Curses a Fig Tree

18 Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. 19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, "Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever." And presently the fig tree withered away. 20 And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying, "How soon is the fig tree withered away!"

21 Jesus answered and said unto them, "Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, 'Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea;' it shall be done. 22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

### The Authority of Jesus Questioned

23 And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?"

24 And Jesus answered and said unto them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men?"

And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, 'From heaven;' he will say unto us, 'Why did ye not then believe him?' 26 But if we shall say, 'Of men;' we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet." 27 And they answered Jesus, and said, "We cannot tell."

And he said unto them, "Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things."

### The Parable of the Two Sons

28 "But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, 'Son, go work to day in my vineyard.'



29 "He answered and said, 'I will not:' but afterward he repented, and went. 30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, 'I go, sir:' and went not. 31 Whether of them twain (the two) did the will of his father?"

They say unto him, "The first."

Jesus saith unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That the publicans (tax collectors) and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

### The Parable of the Tenants

33 "Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen (farmers), and went into a far country: 34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. 35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, 'They will reverence my son.' 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance.' 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.

40 "When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?"

41 They say unto him, "He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons."

42 Jesus saith unto them, "Did ye never read in the scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?' 43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. 44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." 45 And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. 46 But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.

### The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

**22:1** And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden (invited) to the wedding: and they would not come. 4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, 'Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are

killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.' 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. 7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth (angry): and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then saith he to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.' 10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

11 "And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: 12 And he saith unto him, 'Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment?'

"And he was speechless. 13 Then said the king to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

### Paying the Imperial Tax to Caesar

15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. 16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. 17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?" 18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? 19 Shew me the tribute money." And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them, "Whose is this image and superscription?"

21They say unto him, "Caesar's."

Then saith he unto them, "Render (give) therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." 22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

### Marriage at the Resurrection

23 The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, 24 Saying, "Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. 25 Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: 26 Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. 27 And last of all the woman died also. 28 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her."

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, "Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. 30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. 31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, 32 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?' God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." 33 And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine (teaching).



### The Greatest Commandment

34 But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. 35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, 36 "Master, which is the great commandment in the law?"

37 Jesus said unto him, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

### Whose Son Is the Messiah?

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 Saying, "What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?"

They say unto him, "The Son of David."

43 He saith unto them, "How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, 44 'The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?' 45 If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?" 46 And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

### A Warning Against Hypocrisy

**23:1** Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, 2 Saying, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: 3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. 4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. 5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, 6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.' 8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. 9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. 10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ. 11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased (humbled); and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

### Seven Woes on the Teachers of the Law and the Pharisees

13 "But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them

that are entering to go in. 14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. 15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass (travel across) sea and land to make one proselyte (follower), and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. 16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, 'Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!' 17 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? 18 And, 'Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty.' 19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift? 20 Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon. 21 And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein. 22 And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon. 23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. 24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel. 25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. 26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. 27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. 28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity. 29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, 30 And say, 'If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.' 31 Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. 32 Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. 33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

34 "Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: 35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. 36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. 37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets,



and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! 38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. 39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, 'Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.'"

### Signs of the End Times

**24:1** And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, "See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, "Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, 'I am Christ; and shall deceive many.' 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers (various) places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax (grow) cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, - whoso readeth, let him understand: - 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck (nurse) in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. 23 Then if any man shall say unto you, 'Lo, here is Christ,' or 'there;' believe it not. 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. 25 Behold, I have told you before. 26 Wherefore if they shall say

unto you, ‘Behold, he is in the desert;’ go not forth: ‘behold, he is in the secret chambers;’ believe it not. 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 28 For wheresoever the carcase (dead animal) is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh (near): 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. 34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. 35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

### The Day and Hour Unknown

36 “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. 37 But as the days of Noe (Noah) were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

42 “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. 43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered (allowed) his house to be broken up (into). 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat (provisions) in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, ‘My lord delayeth his coming;’ 49 And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.



### The Parable of the Ten Virgins

**25:1** “Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. 2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: 4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, ‘Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.’ 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said unto the wise, ‘Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.’

9 “But the wise answered, saying, ‘Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.’

10 “And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us.’

12 “But he answered and said, ‘Verily I say unto you, I know you not.’ 13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

### The Parable of the Bags of Gold

14 “For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. 15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his severalability (ability); and straightway took his journey.

16 “Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. 17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. 18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord’s money.

19 “After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth (ask for an accounting) with them. 20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, ‘Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.’

21 “His lord said unto him, ‘Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.’

22 “He also that had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.’

23 **“His lord said unto him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord’.** [1]

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**1** *One day you will stand before God and give an account of all that you have said and done. Imagine God looking you in the eye, saying, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” What decisions are you making today that will bear eternal fruit?*

24 “Then he which had received
the one talent came and said, ‘Lord,
I knew thee that thou art an hard
man, reaping where thou hast not
sown, and gathering where thou
hast not strawed: 25 And **I was
afraid, and went and hid thy talent in
the earth:**[1] lo, there thou hast that is
thine.’

26 “His lord answered and said
unto him, ‘Thou wicked and slothful
servant, thou knewest that I reap
where I sowed not, and gather where
I have not strawed: 27 Thou ought-
est therefore to have put my money
to the exchangers (bank), and then
at my coming I should have received
mine own with usury (interest). 28
Take therefore the talent from him,
and give it unto him which hath ten
talents.’ 29 For unto every one that
hath shall be given, and he shall
have abundance: but from him that
hath not shall be taken away even
that which he hath. 30 And cast ye
the unprofitable servant into outer
darkness: there shall be weeping
and gnashing of teeth.

### The Sheep and the Goats

31 “When the Son of man shall
come in his glory, and all the holy
angels with him, then shall he sit
upon the throne of his glory: 32 And
before him shall be gathered all na-
tions: and he shall separate them
one from another, as a shepherd
divideth his sheep from the goats:
33 And he shall set the sheep on
his right hand, but the goats on the
left. 34 Then shall the King say unto
them on his right hand, ‘Come, ye
blessed of my Father, inherit the
kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world: 35 For I was
an hungred, and ye gave me meat
(food): I was thirsty, and ye gave me
drink: I was a stranger, and ye took
me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me:
I was sick, and ye visited me: I was
in prison, and ye came unto me.’

37 “Then shall the righteous an-
swer him, saying, ‘Lord, when saw
we thee an hungred, and fed thee?
or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38
When saw we thee a stranger, and
took thee in? or naked, and clothed
thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick,
or in prison, and came unto thee?’

40 “And the King shall answer
and say unto them, ‘Verily I say unto
you, Inasmuch as ye have done it
unto one of the least of these my
brethren, ye have done it unto me.’

41 “Then shall he say also unto
them on the left hand, ‘Depart from
me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire,
prepared for the devil and his an-
gels: 42 For I was an hungred, and
ye gave me no meat (food): I was
thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43
I was a stranger, and ye took me not
in: naked, and ye clothed me not:
sick, and in prison, and ye visited
me not.’

44 “Then shall they also answer
him, saying, ‘Lord, when saw we
thee an hungred, or athirst (thirsty),
or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or
in prison, and did not minister unto
thee?’

45 “Then shall he answer them,
saying, ‘Verily I say unto you, In as

**1** *God has uniguely blessed you with gifts and talents. Some you may be aware of and others maybe not. What are you doing with what God has blessed you with?*



much as ye did it not to one of the
least of these, ye did it not to me.
46 And these shall go away into ev-
erlasting punishment: but the right-
eous into life eternal.’”

### The Plot Against Jesus

**26:1** And it came to pass, when
Jesus had finished all these say-
ings, he said unto his disciples, 2
“Ye know that after two days is the
feast of the passover, and the Son of
man is betrayed to be crucified.” 3
Then assembled together the chief
priests, and the scribes, and the el-
ders of the people, unto the palace
of the high priest, who was called
Caiaphas, 4 And consulted that they
might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill
him. 5 But they said, “Not on the
feast day, lest there be an uproar
among the people.”

### Jesus Anointed at Bethany

6 Now when Jesus was in Beth-
any, in the house of Simon the lep-
er, 7 There came unto him a woman
having an alabaster box of very pre-
cious ointment, and poured it on his
head, as he sat at meat (the meal). 8
But when his disciples saw it, they
had indignation (anger), saying, “To
what purpose is this waste? 9 For
this ointment might have been sold
for much, and given to the poor.”

10 When Jesus understood
(heard) it, he said unto them, “Why
trouble ye the woman? for she hath
wrought a good work upon me. 11
For ye have the poor always with
you; but me ye have not always.
12 For in that she hath poured this
ointment on my body, she did it for
my burial. 13 Verily I say unto you,
Wheresoever this gospel shall be
preached in the whole world, there
shall also this, that this woman hath
done, be told for a memorial of her.”

### Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

14 Then one of the twelve,
called Judas Iscariot, went unto the
chief priests, 15 And said unto them,
“What will ye give me, and I will de-
liver him unto you?” And they cov-
enanted (made a deal) with him for
thirty pieces of silver. 16 And from
that time he sought opportunity to
betray him.

### The Last Supper

17 Now the first day of the feast
of unleavened bread the disciples
came to Jesus, saying unto him,
“Where wilt thou that we prepare for
thee to eat the passover?”

18 And he said, “Go into the
city to such a man, and say unto
him, ‘The Master saith, My time is at
hand; I will keep the passover at thy
house with my disciples.’” 19 And
the disciples did as Jesus had ap-
pointed them; and they made ready
the passover. 20 Now when the even
(evening) was come, he sat down
with the twelve. 21 And as they did
eat, he said, “Verily I say unto you,
that one of you shall betray me.” 22
And they were exceeding sorrowful,
and began every one of them to say
unto him, “Lord, is it I?”

23 And he answered and said,
“He that dippeth his hand with me
in the dish, the same shall betray
me. 24 The Son of man goeth as it
is written of him: but woe unto that
man by whom the Son of man is
betrayed! it had been good for that

man if he had not been born."

25 Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, "Master, is it I?" He said unto him, "Thou hast said (yes)."

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission (forgiveness) of sins. 29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." 30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

**Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial**

31 Then saith Jesus unto them, "All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, 'I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.' 32 But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee."

33 Peter answered and said unto him, "Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended." 34 Jesus said unto him, "Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice."

35 Peter said unto him, "Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee." Likewise also said all the disciples.

**Gethsemane**

36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, "Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder."

37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy (troubled). 38 Then saith he unto them, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry (wait) ye here, and watch with me."

39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done." 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, "Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us



be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me."

**Jesus Arrested**

47 And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude (group) with swords and staves (spears), from the chief priests and elders of the people. 48 Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, "Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast."

49 And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, "Hail, master; and kissed him."

50 And Jesus said unto him, "Friend, wherefore art thou come?"

Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him. 51 And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. 52 Then said Jesus unto him, "Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. 53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?" 55 In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes, "Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me. 56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

**Jesus Before the Sanhedrin**

57 And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. 58 But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end. 59 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death; 60 But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses, 61 And said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.'"

62 And the high priest arose, and said unto him, "Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?" 63 But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, "I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God."

64 Jesus saith unto him, "Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

65 Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, "He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy. 66 What think ye?"

They answered and said, "He is guilty of death." 67 Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms

of their hands, 68 Saying, “Prophesy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?”

### Peter Disowns Jesus

69 Now Peter sat without (outside of) in the palace: and a damsel (girl) came unto him, saying, “Thou also wast (was) with Jesus of Galilee. 70 But he denied before them all, saying, “I know not what thou sayest.” 71 And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, “This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth.” 72 And again he denied with an oath, “I do not know the man.”

73 And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, “Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.”

74 Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, “I know not the man.” And immediately the cock crew. 75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, “Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.” And he went out, and wept bitterly.

### Judas Hangs Himself

**27:1** When the morning was come, 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 delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor.

3 Then Judas, which had betrayeth him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 Saying, “I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.”

And they said, “What is that to us? see thou to that (it is your problem).” 5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, “It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.”

7 And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter’s field, to bury strangers in. 8 Wherefore that field was called, “The field of blood,” unto this day. 9 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy (Jeremiah) the prophet, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value; 10 And gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord appointed me.”

### Jesus Before Pilate

11 And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, “Art thou the King of the Jews?”

And Jesus said unto him, “Thou sayest.” 12 And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

13 Then said Pilate unto him, “Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?”

14 And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly. 15 Now at that feast the governor was wont (accustomed) to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. 16 And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. 17 Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, “Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?” 18 For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.



19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, “Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.”

20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. 21 The governor answered and said unto them, “Whether (which) of the twain (two) will ye that I release unto you?

They said, “Barabbas.”

22 Pilate saith unto them, “What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?”

They all say unto him, “Let him be crucified.”

23 And the governor said, “Why, what evil hath he done?”

But they cried out the more, saying, “Let him be crucified.”

24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, “I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it (do as you will).” 25 Then answered all the people, and said, “His blood be on us, and on our children.”

26 Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

### The Soldiers Mock Jesus

27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. 28 And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

29 And when they had platted (braided) a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30 And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. 31 And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment (clothes) on him, and led him away to crucify him.

### The Crucifixion of Jesus

32 And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. 33 And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull,

34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink. 35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, “They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture (clothes)did they cast lots.” 36 And sitting down

they watched him there; 37 And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

38 Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left. 39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, 40 And saying, "Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross."

41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, 42 "He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. 43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" 44 The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.

### The Death of Jesus

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is to say, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, "This man calleth for Elias (Elijah)." 48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a spunge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. 49 The rest said, "Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him."

50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost (He died).

51 And, behold, **the veil of the temple was rent in twain (two) from the top to the bottom;**[1] and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God."

55 And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: 56 Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children.

### The Burial of Jesus

57 When the even (evening) was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: 58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. 59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

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**1** *The curtain separated the Holy part of the temple from the Holy of Holies-the holiest part reserved for God. When Jesus died on the cross for our sins he made it possible for us to enter into the very presence of God. When have you truly felt the presence of God in your life?*



60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed. 61 And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre.

### The Guard at the Tomb

62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, 63 Saying, "Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' 64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, 'He is risen from the dead:' so the last error shall be worse than the first."

65 Pilate said unto them, "Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can." 66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

### Jesus Has Risen

**28:1** In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers (guards) did shake, and became as dead men.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, "Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you."

8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. 9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "All hail."

And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. 10 Then said Jesus unto them, "Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me."

### The Guards' Report

11 Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. 12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, 13 Saying, "Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. 14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you." 15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

### The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a moun-

tain where Jesus had appointed (directed) them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 **Go** ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, **baptizing**[1] them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Spirit): 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

**1** *What is the point of life? Go. Teach. Bring people into a relationship with God (Baptize). What unigue opportunites does trucking give you to do these things?*



*the book of* **Mark**

**Summary:** *This second book of the gospels was written by Mark, a companion to Paul on some of Paul’s missionary journeys. (The story of Paul is found in the book of Acts; it is the story of the beginning of the church.) Mark told the story of Jesus emphasizing Him as the mighty miracle worker.*

### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

**1:1** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; 2 As it is written in the prophets, “Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. 3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” 4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 And John was clothed with camel’s hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins (waist); and he did eat locusts and wild honey; 7 And preached, saying, “There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet (laces) of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. 8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost (Spirit).”

### The Baptism and Testing of Jesus

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. 10 And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: 11 And there came a voice from heaven, saying, **“Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**[1] 12 And immediately the Spirit driveth him into the wilderness. 13 And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him.

### Jesus Announces the Good News

14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 And saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.”

### Jesus Calls His First Disciples

16 Now as he walked by the sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers (fishermen). 17 And Jesus said unto them, “Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.” 18 And straightway they forsook (left) their nets, and followed him. 19 And when he had gone a little farther thence, he saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also were in the ship mending their nets. 20 And straightway he called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship (boat) with the hired servants, and went after him.

**1** *Have you every heard anyone say these words to you? Have you said these words to someone else?*

### Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught. 22 And they were astonished at his doctrine (teaching): for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes. 23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, 24 Saying, “Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.”

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Hold thy peace, and come out of him.”

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. 27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What thing is this? what new doctrine (teaching) is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.” 28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

### Jesus Heals Many

29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon’s wife’s mother lay sick of a fever, and anon (immediately) they tell him of her. 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them. 32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils. 33 And all the city was gathered together at the door. 34 And he healed many that were sick of divers (various) diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

### Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place

35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed. 36 And Simon and they that were with him followed after him. 3 7And when they had found him, they said unto him, “All men seek for thee.”

38 And he said unto them, “Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.” 39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

### Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, “If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.”

41 And **Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him,**[1] and saith unto him, “I will; be thou clean.”

42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed. 43 And he straitly charged him, and

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**1** *Jesus touched the untouchable, before he healed him as if to say, “I love you, and though accept you as you are, I have so much more planned for you.” What is “untouchable” about you?*



forthwith sent him away; 44 And saith unto him, “See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.”

45 But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad (speak openly) the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

### Jesus Forgives and Heals

**2:1** And again he entered into Capernaum, after some days; and it was noised (became known) that he was in the house. 2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them. 3 And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy (paralyzed), which was borne of four. 4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press (crowd), they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.”

6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, 7 “Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?”

8 And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, “Why reason ye these things in your hearts? 9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, ‘Thy sins be forgiven thee;’ or to say, ‘Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?’ 10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, he saith to the sick of the palsy, 11 I say unto thee, ‘Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.’” 12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, “We never saw it on this fashion.”

### Jesus Calls Levi and Eats With Sinners

13 And he went forth again by the sea side; and all the multitude resorted unto him, and he taught them. 14 And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom (tax booth), and said unto him, “Follow me.”

And he arose and followed him. 15 And it came to pass, that, as Jesus sat at meat (dinner) in his house, many publicans (tax collectors) and sinners sat also together with Jesus and his disciples: for there were many, and they followed him. 16 And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, “How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?” 17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, “They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

### Jesus Questioned About Fasting

18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, “Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?”

19 And Jesus said unto them, “Can the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? as long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days. 21 No man also seweth a piece of new cloth on an old garment: else the new piece that filled it up taketh away from the old, and the rent is made worse. 22 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles (skins): else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred (ruined): but new wine must be put into new bottles.”

### Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

23 And it came to pass, that he went through the corn fields on the sabbath day; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of corn. 24 And the Pharisees said unto him, “Behold, why do they on the sabbath day that which is not lawful?”

25 And he said unto them, “Have ye never read what David did, when he had need, and was an hungred, he, and they that were with him? 26 How he went into the house of God in the days of Abiathar the high priest, and did eat the shewbread, which is not lawful to eat but for the priests, and gave also to them which were with him?” 27 And he said unto them, “The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: 28 Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

### Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

**3:1** And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. 2 And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. 3 And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, “Stand forth.”

4 And he saith unto them, “Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill?” But they held their peace.

5 And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, “Stretch forth thine hand.” And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.” 6 And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

### Crowds Follow Jesus

7 But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judaea, 8 And from Jerusalem, and from Idumaea, and from beyond Jordan; and they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him. 9 And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship (boat) should wait on him



because of the multitude, lest they should throng him. 10 For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues. 11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, “Thou art the Son of God.” 12 And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.

### Jesus Appoints the Twelve

13 And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. 14 And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, 15 And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils: 16 And Simon he surnamed Peter; 17 And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he surnamed them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder: 18 And Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Canaanite, 19 And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him: and they went into an house.

### Jesus Accused

20 And the multitude cometh together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread. 21 And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, “He is beside himself.”

22 And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, “He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.” 23 And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end. 27 No man can enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil (steal) his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house. 28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: 29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:” 30 Because they said, “He hath an unclean spirit.”

31 There came then his brethren and his mother, and, standing without, sent unto him, calling him. 32 And the multitude sat about him, and they said unto him, “Behold, thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.”

33 And he answered them, saying, “Who is my mother, or my brethren?” 34 And he looked round about on them which sat about him, and said, “Behold my mother and my brethren! 35 For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.”

### The Parable of the Sower

**4:1** And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship (boat),

and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land. 2 And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine (teaching), 3 “Hearken (listen); Behold, there went out a sower to sow: 4 And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls (birds) of the air came and devoured it up. 5 And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth: 6 But when the sun was up, it (the seed) was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. 8 And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred (times more).”

9 And he said unto them, “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.” 10 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. 11 And he said unto them, “Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without (outside the kingdom), all these things are done in parables: 12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.”

13 And he said unto them, “Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?

14 “The sower soweth the word. 15 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; 17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word’s sake, immediately they are offended. 18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, 19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. 20 And these are they which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.”

### A Lamp on a Stand

21 And he said unto them, “Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? 22 For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested (brought to light); neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad (be made known). 23 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.”

24 And he said unto them, “Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. 25 For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.”



### The Parable of the Growing Seed

26 And he said, “So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; 27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. 28 For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. 29 But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.”

30 And he said, “Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? 31 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less (smallest) than all the seeds that be in the earth: 32 But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls (birds) of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.” 33 And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it. 34 But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded (explained) all things to his disciples.

### Jesus Calms the Storm

35 And the same day, when the even (evening) was come, he saith unto them, “Let us pass over unto the other side.” 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship (boat). And there were also with him other little ships. 37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. 38 And he was in the hinder (back) part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, “Master, carest thou not that we perish?”

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, “Peace, be still.” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 And he said unto them, “Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?”

41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, “What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

### Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man

**5:1** And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. 2 And when he was come out of the ship (boat), immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: 4 Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame (calm) him. 5 And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. 6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, 7 And cried with a loud voice, and said, “What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.” 8 For he (Jesus) said unto him, “Come out of the

man, thou unclean spirit."

9 And he (Jesus) asked him, "What is thy name?"

And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion: for we are many." 10 And he (the man) besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. 11 Now there was there nigh (near) unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. 12 And all the devils besought him, saying, "Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them."

13 And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, they were about two thousand; and were choked (drowned) in the sea. 14 And they that fed the swine fled, and told it (what happened) in the city, and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that was done. 15 And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. 16 And they that saw it told them how it befell to him that was possessed with the devil, and also concerning the swine. 17 And they began to pray (ask) him (Jesus) to depart out of their coasts. 18 And when he was come into the ship (boat), he that had been possessed with the devil prayed (begged) him that he might be with him. 19 Howbeit Jesus suffered (did not allow) him not, but saith unto him, "Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee."

20 And he departed, and began to publish (let people know) in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel. 21 And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

### Jesus Raises a Dead Girl and Heals a Sick Woman

22 And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet, 23 And besought him greatly, saying, "My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live."

24 And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged (crowded) him. 25 And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, 26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, 27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. 28 For she said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole."

29 And straightway the fountain (source) of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue (power) had gone out of him, turned him about in the press (crowd), and said, "Who touched my clothes?"



31 And his disciples said unto him, "Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, 'Who touched me?'" 32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. 34 And he said unto her, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."

35 While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, "Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?"

36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, "Be not afraid, only believe." 37 And he suffered (allowed) no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James. 38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult (crowd), and them that wept and wailed greatly. 39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, "Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel (little girl) is not dead, but sleepeth."

40 And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying. 41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, "Talitha cumi;" which is, being interpreted, "Damsel, I say unto thee, arise."

42 And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment. 43 And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

### A Prophet Without Honor

**6:1** And he went out from thence (there), and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him. 2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing him were astonished, saying, "From whence hath this man these things? and what wisdom is this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands? 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us?" And they were offended at him.

4 But Jesus said unto them, "A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house." 5 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. 6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

### Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; 8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip (bag), no

bread, no money in their purse: 9 But be shod with sandals; and not put on two coats. 10 And he said unto them, “In what place soever ye enter into an house, there abide till ye depart from that place. 11 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.” 12 And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

### John the Baptist Beheaded

13 And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them. 14 And king Herod heard of him; for his name was spread abroad: and he said, That John the Baptist was risen from the dead, and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him. 15 Others said, That it is Elias (Elijah). And others said, That it is a prophet, or as one of the prophets. 16 But when Herod heard thereof, he said, “It is John, whom I beheaded: he is risen from the dead.” 17 For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias’ sake, his brother Philip’s wife: for he had married her. 18 For John had said unto Herod, “It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother’s wife.” 19 Therefore Herodias had a quarrel against him, and would have killed him; but she could not: 20 For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just man and an holy, and observed him; and when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. 21 And when a convenient day was come, that Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee; 22 And when the daughter of the said Herodias came in, and danced, and pleased Herod and them that sat with him, the king said unto the damsel, “Ask of me whatsoever thou wilt, and I will give it thee.” 23 And he sware unto her, “Whatsoever thou shalt ask of me, I will give it thee, unto the half of my kingdom.”

24 And she went forth, and said unto her mother, “What shall I ask?”

And she said, “The head of John the Baptist.

25 And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked, saying, “I will that thou give me by and by in a charger (platter) the head of John the Baptist.”

26 And the king was exceeding sorry; yet for his oath’s sake, and for their sakes which sat with him, he would not reject her (request). 27 And immediately the king sent an executioner, and commanded his head to be brought: and he went and beheaded him in the prison, 28 And brought his head in a charger, and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother. 29 And when his disciples heard of it, they came and took up his corpse, and laid it in a tomb.

### Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

30 And the apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught. 31 And he said unto them, “Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat.”

32 And they departed into a desert place by ship (boat) privately. 33 And the people saw them departing, and many knew him, and ran afoot thither out of all cities, and out went them, and came together unto him. 34 And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things. 35 And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, “This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed (late in the day): 36 Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.”

37 He answered and said unto them, “Give ye them to eat.”

And they say unto him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?”

38 He saith unto them, “How many loaves have ye? go and see.”

And when they knew, they say, “Five, and two fishes.”

39 And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass. 40 And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties. 41 And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all. 42 And they did all eat, and were filled. 43 And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes. 44 And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

### Jesus Walks on the Water

45 And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship (boat), and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people. 46 And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray. 47 And when even (evening) was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. 48 And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them. 49 But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: 50 For they all saw him, and were troubled (afraid). And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, “Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid.”

51 And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered.

52 For they considered not the miracle of the loaves: for their heart was hardened. 53 And when they had passed over, they came into the

land of Gennesaret, and drew to the shore. 54 And when they were come out of the ship, straightway they knew him, 55 And ran through that whole region round about, and began to carry about in beds those that were sick, where they heard he was. 56 And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.

### That Which Defiles

**7:1** Then came together unto him the Pharisees, and certain of the scribes, which came from Jerusalem. 2 And when they saw some of his disciples eat bread with defiled, that is to say, with unwashen, hands, they found fault. 3 For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, except they wash their hands oft, eat not, holding the tradition of the elders. 4 And when they come from the market, except they wash, they eat not. And many other things there be, which they have received to hold, as the washing of cups, and pots, brasen vessels, and of tables. 5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, "Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands?"

6 He answered and said unto them, "Well hath Esaias (Elijah) prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. 7 Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.' 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do."

9 And he said unto them, "Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. 10 For Moses said, 'Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:' 11 But ye say, 'If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.' 12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; 13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye."

14 And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, "Hearken (listen) unto me every one of you, and understand: 15 There is nothing from without (outside) a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. 16 If any man have ears to hear, let him hear."

17 And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable. 18 And he saith unto them, "Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?" 20 And he said, "That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. 21 For from within,



out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man."

### Jesus Honors a Syrophoenician Woman's Faith

24 And from thence (there) he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid. 25 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet: 26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter. 27 But Jesus said unto her, "Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs."

28 And she answered and said unto him, "Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs."

29 And he said unto her, "For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter." 30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

### Jesus Heals a Deaf and Mute Man

31 And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis. 32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment (problem) in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him. 33 And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue; 34 And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." 35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain. 36 And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it; 37 And were beyond measure astonished, saying, "He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb (mute) to speak."

### Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

**8:1** In those days the multitude being very great, and having nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples unto him, and saith unto them, 2 "I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat: 3 And if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way: for divers (many) of them came from far."

4 And his disciples answered him, "From whence can a man satisfy these men with bread here in the wilderness?"

5 And he asked them, "How many loaves have ye?"

And they said, "Seven."

6 And he commanded the peo-

ple to sit down on the ground: and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and brake, and gave to his disciples to set before them; and they did set them before the people. 7 And they had a few small fishes: and he blessed, and commanded to set them also before them. 8 So they did eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat (food) that was left seven baskets. 9 And they that had eaten were about four thousand: and he sent them away.

10 And straightway he entered into a ship (boat) with his disciples, and came into the parts of Dalmanutha. 11 And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him. 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, "Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation." 13 And he left them, and entering into the ship again departed to the other side.

### The Yeast of the Pharisees and Herod

14 Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship (boat) with them more than one loaf. 15 And he charged them, saying, "Take heed, beware of the leaven (yeast) of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod."

16 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have no bread."

17 And when Jesus knew it (understood their response), he saith unto them, "Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? 18 Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember? 19 When I brake the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up?"

They say unto him, "Twelve."

20 "And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up?"

And they said, "Seven."

21 And he said unto them, "How is it that ye do not understand?"

### Jesus Heals a Blind Man at Bethsaida

22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24 And he (the blind man) looked up, and said, "I see men as trees, walking."

25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. 26 And he (Jesus) sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell it to any in the town."

### Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

27 And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, "Whom do men say that I am?"



28 And they answered, "John the Baptist: but some say, Elias (Elijah); and others, One of the prophets."

29 And he saith unto them, "But whom say ye that I am?"

And Peter answereth and saith unto him, "Thou art the Christ."

30 And he (Jesus) charged them that they should tell no man of him.

### Jesus Predicts His Death

31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him. 33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, "Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men."

### The Way of the Cross

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. 36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? 37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? 38 Who so ever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

**9:1** And he said unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power."

### The Transfiguration

2 And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them. 3 And his raiment (clothing) became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller (one who cleans wool) on earth can white them. 4 And there appeared unto them Elias (Elijah) with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus. 5 And Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles (tents); one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." 6 For he wist not (did not know) what to say; for they were sore (very) afraid. 7 And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son: hear him." 8 And suddenly, when they had looked round about, they saw no man any more, save Jesus only with themselves. 9 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead. 10 And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another

what the rising from the dead should mean. 11 And they asked him, saying, "Why say the scribes that Elias (Elijah) must first come?

12 And he answered and told them, "Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things; and how it is written of the Son of man, that he must suffer many things, and be set at nought. 13 But I say unto you, That Elias is indeed come, and they have done unto him whatsoever they listed, as it is written of him."

### Jesus Heals a Boy Possessed by an Impure Spirit

14 And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them. 15 And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted (greeted) him. 16 And he asked the scribes, "What question ye with them?"

17 And one of the multitude answered and said, "Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit (unable to speak); 18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not."

19 He answereth him, and saith, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me." 20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. 21 And he asked his father, "How long is it ago since this came unto him?"

And he said, "Of (since he was) a child. 22 And ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us."

23 Jesus said unto him, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, **"Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."**[1]

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, "Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him."

26 And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose. 28 And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could not we cast him out?"

29 And he said unto them, "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting."

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

30 And they departed thence (from there), and passed through Galilee; and he would not that any man should know it. 31 For he

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**1** *Sometimes doubt is evidence of faith. You have to believe something before you can doubt it. What doubts do you have about your faith?*



taught his disciples, and said unto them, "The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day." 32 But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask him.

33 And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, "What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way?"

34 But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest. 35 And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, "If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all." 36 And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, 37 "Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me."

### Whoever Is Not Against Us Is for Us

38 And John answered him, saying, "Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us."

39 But Jesus said, "Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. 40 For he that is not against us is on our part. 41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

### Causing to Stumble

42 "And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea. 43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt (lame) into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 49 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt. 50 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another."

### Divorce

**10:1** And he arose from thence (there), and cometh into the coasts of Judaea by the farther side of Jordan: and the people resort unto him again; and, as he was wont, he taught them again.

2 And the Pharisees came to him, and asked him, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife?" tempting him.

3 And he answered and said
unto them, “What did Moses com-
mand you?”

4 And they said, “Moses suf-
fered (allowed us) to write a bill of
divorcement, and to put her away.”

5 And Jesus answered and said
unto them, “For the hardness of
your heart he wrote you this precept
(law). 6 But from the beginning of
the creation God made them male
and female. 7 For this cause shall
a man leave his father and mother,
and cleave to his wife; 8 And they
twain (two) shall be one flesh: so
then they are no more twain, but
one flesh. 9 What therefore God
hath joined together, let not man put
asunder (break apart).”

10 And in the house his disci-
ples asked him again of the same
matter. 11 And he saith unto them,
“Whosoever shall put away his wife,
and marry another, committeth adul-
tery against her. 12 And if a woman
shall put away her husband, and be
married to another, she committeth
adultery.”

### The Little Children and Jesus

13 And they brought young chil-
dren to him, that he should touch
them: and his disciples rebuked
those that brought them. 14 But
when Jesus saw it, he was much
displeased, and said unto them,
“Suffer (let) the little children to come
unto me, and forbid them not: for of
such is the kingdom of God. 15 Ver-
ily I say unto you, Whosoever shall
not receive the kingdom of God as
a little child, he shall not enter there-
in.” 16 And he took them up in his
arms, put his hands upon them, and
blessed them.

### The Rich and the Kingdom of God

17 And when he was gone forth
into the way, there came one run-
ning, and kneeled to him, and asked
him, “Good Master, **what shall I do
that I may inherit eternal life?”**[1]

18 And Jesus said unto him,
“Why callest thou me good? there is
none good but one, that is, God. 19
Thou knowest the commandments,
‘Do not commit adultery, Do not kill,
Do not steal, Do not bear false wit-
ness, Defraud not, Honour thy fa-
ther and mother.’”

20 And he answered and said
unto him, “Master, all these have I
observed from my youth.”

21 Then Jesus beholding him
loved him, and said unto him, “One
thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell
whatsoever thou hast, and give to
the poor, and thou shalt have trea-
sure in heaven: and come, take up
the cross, and follow me.” 22 And
he was sad at that saying, and went
away grieved: for he had great pos-
sessions.

23 And Jesus looked round
about, and saith unto his disciples,
“How hardly shall they that have
riches enter into the kingdom of
God!”

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**1** *A good question but the wrong one. There is nothing you can do to inherit eternal life. Jesus did it for you. You just need to accept it. That is the one thing you could do. Oh, and God is willing to help you do that as well! Have you accepted God’s gift of eternal life through what Jesus did for you on the cross?*



24 And the disciples were as-
tonished at his words. But Jesus an-
swereth again, and saith unto them,
“Children, how hard is it for them
that trust in riches to enter into the
kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for
a camel to go through the eye of a
needle, than for a rich man to enter
into the kingdom of God.”

26 And they were astonished
out of measure, saying among them-
selves, “Who then can be saved?”

27 And Jesus looking upon
them saith, “With men it is impossi-
ble, but not with God: for with God
all things are possible.”

28 Then Peter began to say unto
him, “Lo, we have left all, and have
followed thee.”

29 And Jesus answered and
said, “Verily I say unto you, There is
no man that hath left house, or breth-
ren, or sisters, or father, or mother,
or wife, or children, or lands, for my
sake, and the gospel’s, 30 But he
shall receive an hundredfold now in
this time, houses, and brethren, and
sisters, and mothers, and children,
and lands, with persecutions; and
in the world to come eternal life. 31
But many that are first shall be last;
and the last first.”

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time

32 And they were in the way
going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus
went before them: and they were
amazed; and as they followed, they
were afraid. And he took again the
twelve, and began to tell them what
things should happen unto him, 33
Saying, “Behold, we go up to Jeru-
salem; and the Son of man shall be
delivered unto the chief priests, and
unto the scribes; and they shall con-
demn him to death, and shall deliv-
er him to the Gentiles: 34 And they
shall mock him, and shall scourge
him, and shall spit upon him, and
shall kill him: and the third day he
shall rise again.”

### The Request of James and John

35 And James and John, the
sons of Zebedee, come unto him,
saying, “Master, we would that thou
shouldest do for us whatsoever we
shall desire.”

36 And he said unto them,
“What would ye that I should do for
you?”

37 They said unto him, “Grant
unto us that we may sit, one on thy
right hand, and the other on thy left
hand, in thy glory.”

38 But Jesus said unto them,
“Ye know not what ye ask: can ye
drink of the cup that I drink of? and
be baptized with the baptism that I
am baptized with?”

39 And they said unto him, “We
can.”

And Jesus said unto them, “Ye
shall indeed drink of the cup that I
drink of; and with the baptism that I
am baptized withal shall ye be bap-
tized: 40 But to sit on my right hand
and on my left hand is not mine to
give; but it shall be given to them for
whom it is prepared.”

41 And when the ten heard it,
they began to be much displeased
with James and John. 42 But Jesus
called them to him, and saith unto
them, “Ye know that they which are

accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. 43 But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister (servant): 44 And whosoever of you will be the chiefest (greatest), shall be servant of all. 45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."

### Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, "Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me."

48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, "Thou Son of David, have mercy on me."

49 And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, "Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee."

50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. 51 And Jesus answered and said unto him, "What wilt thou that I should (what would you like me to) do unto thee?"

The blind man said unto him, "Lord, that I might receive my sight."

52 And Jesus said unto him, "Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

### Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

**11:1** And when they came nigh (near) to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples, 2 And saith unto them, "Go your way into the village over against you: and as soon as ye be entered into it, ye shall find a colt tied, whereon never man sat; loose him, and bring him. 3 And if any man say unto you, 'Why do ye this?' say ye that the Lord hath need of him; and straightway he will send him hither (here)."

4 And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him. 5 And certain of them that stood there said unto them, "What do ye, loosing the colt?"

6 And they said unto them even as Jesus had commanded: and they let them go. 7 And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him. 8 And many spread their garments in the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strawed them in the way. 9 And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, "Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: 10 Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest."

11 And Jesus entered into Jerusalem, and into the temple: and when he had looked round about upon all things, and now the eventide was come, he went out unto Bethany with the twelve.



### Jesus Curses a Fig Tree and Clears the Temple Courts

12 And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry: 13 And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet. 14 And Jesus answered and said unto it, "No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever." And his disciples heard it.

15 And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves; 16 And would not suffer (allow) that any man should carry any vessel through the temple. 17 And he taught, saying unto them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer?' but ye have made it a den of thieves." 18 And the scribes and chief priests heard it, and sought how they might destroy him: for they feared him, because all the people was astonished at his doctrine (teaching). 19 And when even (evening) was come, he went out of the city.

20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. 21 And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, "Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away."

22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, "Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, 'Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea;' and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. 25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

### The Authority of Jesus Questioned

27 And they come again to Jerusalem: and as he was walking in the temple, there come to him the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders, 28 And say unto him, "By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority to do these things?"

29 And Jesus answered and said unto them, "I will also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. 30 The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? answer me."

31 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, 'From heaven;' he will say, 'Why then

did ye not believe him?' 32 But if we shall say, 'Of men;' they feared the people: for all men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed." 33 And they answered and said unto Jesus, "We cannot tell."

And Jesus answering saith unto them, "Neither do I tell you by what authority I do these things."

### The Parable of the Tenants

**12:1** And he began to speak unto them by parables. "A certain man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the winefat, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. 2 And at the season he sent to the husbandmen a servant, that he might receive from the husbandmen of the fruit of the vineyard. 3 And they caught him, and beat him, and sent him away empty. 4 And again he sent unto them another servant; and at him they cast stones, and wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully handled. 5 And again he sent another; and him they killed, and many others; beating some, and killing some. 6 Having yet therefore one son, his wellbeloved, he sent him also last unto them, saying, 'They will reverence my son.' 7 But those husbandmen said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours.' 8 And they took him, and killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard. 9 What shall therefore the lord of the vineyard do? he will come and destroy the husbandmen, and will give the vineyard unto others."

10 "And have ye not read this scripture; 'The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner:' 11 This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?" 12 And they sought to lay hold on him, but feared the people: for they knew that he had spoken the parable against them: and they left him, and went their way.

### Paying the Imperial Tax to Caesar

13 And they send unto him certain of the Pharisees and of the Herodians, to catch him in his words. 14 And when they were come, they say unto him, "Master, we know that thou art true, and carest for no man: for thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not? 15 Shall we give, or shall we not give?"

But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, "Why tempt ye me? bring me a penny, that I may see it."

16 And they brought it. And he saith unto them, "Whose is this image and superscription?"

And they said unto him, "Caesar's."

17 And Jesus answering said unto them, "Render (give) to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marvelled at him.

### Marriage at the Resurrection

18 Then come unto him the Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection; and they asked him, saying, 19 "Master, Moses wrote unto us, 'If a man's brother die, and



leave his wife behind him, and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.' 20 Now there were seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and dying left no seed. 21 And the second took her, and died, neither left he any seed: and the third likewise. 22 And the seven had her, and left no seed: last of all the woman died also. 23 In the resurrection therefore, when they shall rise, whose wife shall she be of them? for the seven had her to wife."

24 And Jesus answering said unto them, "Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God? 25 For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven. 26 And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?' 27 He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err."

### The Greatest Commandment

28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, "Which is the first (greatest) commandment of all?"

29 And Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is, 'Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:' 30 And 'thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.' 31 And the second is like, namely this, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.' There is none other commandment greater than these."

32 And the scribe said unto him, "Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: 33 And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

34 And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, "Thou art not far from the kingdom of God." And no man after that durst (dared) ask him any question.

### Whose Son Is the Messiah?

35 And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, "How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of David? 36vFor David himself said by the Holy Ghost, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.' 37 David therefore himself calleth him Lord; and whence is he then his son?" And the common people heard him gladly.

### Warning Against the Teachers of the Law

38 And he said unto them in his doctrine (teaching), "Beware of the scribes, which love to go in long clothing, and love salutations in the marketplaces, 39 And the chief seats in the synagogues, and the upper most rooms at feasts:

40 Which devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers: these shall receive greater damnation."

### The Widow's Offering

41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. 42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. 43 And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, "Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: 44 For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

### Signs of the End Times

**13:1** And as he went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, "Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here!"

2 And Jesus answering said unto him, "Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." 3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, 4 "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?"

5 And Jesus answering them began to say, "Take heed lest any man deceive you: 6 For many shall come in my name, saying, 'I am Christ;' and shall deceive many. 7 And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for such things must needs be; but the end shall not be yet. 8 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers (many) places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows.

9 "But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them. 10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations. 11 But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost (Spirit). 12 Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death. 13 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

14 "But when ye shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not, let him that readeth understand, then let them that be in Judaea flee to the mountains: 15 And let him that is on the housetop not go down into the house, neither enter therein, to take any thing out of his house: 16 And let him that



is in the field not turn back again for to take up his garment. 17 But woe to them that are with child, and to them that give suck (nurse) in those days! 18 And pray ye that your flight be not in the winter. 19 For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be. 20 And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days. 21 And then if any man shall say to you, 'Lo, here is Christ;' or, 'lo, he is there;' believe him not: 22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. 23 But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.

24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, 25 And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken. 26 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. 27 And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven. 28 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near: 29 So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. 30 Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done. 31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

### The Day and Hour Unknown

32 "**But of that day and that hour knoweth no man,**[1] no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. 33 Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. 34 For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. 35 Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: 36 Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. 37 And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch."

### Jesus Anointed at Bethany

**14:1** After two days was the feast of the passover, and of unleavened bread: and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take him by craft (a sly way), and put him to death. 2 But they said, "Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar of the people."

3 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat (a meal), there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. 4 And there were some that had indignation within

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**1** *If you knew Jesus was coming and the world was ending in one month, what things would you want to do? What if you knew Jesus was coming in a year? Ten years? Why not do what you would do today?*

themselves, and said, “Why was this waste of the ointment made? 5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor.” And they murmured against her.

6 And Jesus said, “Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. 7 For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. 8 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. 9 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.”

10 And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them. 11 And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him.

### The Last Supper

12 And the first day of unleavened bread, when they killed the passover (lamb), his disciples said unto him, “Where wilt thou that we go and prepare that thou mayest eat the passover?”

13 And he sendeth forth two of his disciples, and saith unto them, “Go ye into the city, and there shall meet you a man bearing a pitcher of water: follow him. 14 And wheresoever he shall go in, say ye to the goodman of the house, ‘The Master saith, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?’ 15 And he will shew you a large upper room furnished and prepared: there make ready for us.” 16 And his disciples went forth, and came into the city, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.

17 And in the evening he cometh with the twelve. 18 And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, “Verily I say unto you, One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.”

19 And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, “Is it I?” and another said, “Is it I?”

20 And he answered and said unto them, “It is one of the twelve, that dippeth with me in the dish. 21 The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born.”

22 And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body.” 23 And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. 24 And he said unto them, “This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. 25 Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

26 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

### Jesus Predicts Peter’s Denial

27 And Jesus saith unto them, “All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, ‘I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.’ 28 But after that I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee.”

29 But Peter said unto him, “Although all shall be offended, yet will not I.”

30 And Jesus saith unto him, “Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice.”

31 But he spake the more vehemently, “If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise.” Likewise also said they all.

### Gethsemane

32 And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, “Sit ye here, while I shall pray.”

33 And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;

34 And saith unto them, “My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry (wait) ye here, and watch.”

35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.”

37 And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, “Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour? 38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.”

39 And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words. 40 And when he returned, he found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy, neither wist (did they know) they what to answer him. 41 And he cometh the third time, and saith unto them, “Sleep on now, and take your rest: it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand.”

### Jesus Arrested

43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priest and the scribes and the elders. 44 And he that betrayed him had given them a token (sign), saying, “Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely.” 45 And as soon as he was come, he goeth straightway to him, and saith, “Master, master;” and kissed him.

46 And they laid their hands on him, and took him. 47 And one of them that stood by drew a sword, and smote a servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. 48 And Jesus answered and said unto them, “Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me? 49 I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be ful-

filled."

50 And they (His disciples) all forsook him, and fled. 51 And there followed him a certain young man, having a linen cloth cast about his naked body; and the young men laid hold on him: 52 And he left the linen cloth, and fled from them naked.

### Jesus Before the Sanhedrin

53 And they led Jesus away to the high priest: and with him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes. 54 And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire. 55 And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none. 56 For many bare false witness against him, but their witness agreed not together. 57 And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him, saying, 58 "We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands." 59 But neither so did their witness agree together.

60 And the high priest stood up in the midst, and asked Jesus, saying, "Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?" 61 But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, "Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"

62 And Jesus said, "I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven."

63 Then the high priest rent his clothes, and saith, "What need we any further witnesses? 64 Ye have heard the blasphemy: what think ye?" And they all condemned him to be guilty of death. 65 And some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to buffet him, and to say unto him, "Prophesy: and the servants did strike him with the palms of their hands."

### Peter Disowns Jesus

66 And as Peter was beneath in the palace, there cometh one of the maids of the high priest: 67 And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him, and said, "And thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth." 68 But he denied, saying, "I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest."

And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew. 69 And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, "This is one of them." 70 And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, "Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaean, and thy speech agreeth thereto. 71 But he began to curse and to swear, saying, "I know not this man of whom ye speak." 72 And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, "Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice." And when he thought thereon, he wept.

### Jesus Before Pilate

**15:1** And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council, and bound Jesus, and carried him away, and delivered him to Pilate. 2 And Pilate asked him, "Art thou the King of the Jews?"



And he answering said unto him, "Thou sayest it."

3 And the chief priests accused him of many things: but he answered nothing.

4 And Pilate asked him again, saying, "Answerest thou nothing? behold how many things they witness against thee."

5 But Jesus yet answered nothing; so that Pilate marvelled.

6 Now at that feast he released unto them one prisoner, whomsoever they desired. 7 And there was one named Barabbas, which lay bound with them that had made insurrection with him, who had committed murder in the insurrection. 8 And the multitude crying aloud began to desire him to do as he had ever done unto them.

9 But Pilate answered them, saying, "Will ye that I release unto you the King of the Jews?" 10 For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for envy. 11 But the chief priests moved the people, that he should rather release Barabbas unto them. 12 And Pilate answered and said again unto them, "What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews?"

13 And they cried out again, "Crucify him."

14 Then Pilate said unto them, "Why, what evil hath he done?"

And they cried out the more exceedingly, "Crucify him."

15 And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.

### The Soldiers Mock Jesus

16 And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they call together the whole band. 17 And they clothed him with purple, and platted (braided) a crown of thorns, and put it about his head, 18 And began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 19 And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him. 20 And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him.

### The Crucifixion of Jesus

21 And they compel one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear his cross. 22 And they bring him unto the place Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, "The place of a skull." 23 And they gave him to drink wine mingled with myrrh: but he received it not. 24 And when they had crucified him, they parted (divided) his garments, casting lots upon them, what every man should take. 25 And it was the third hour, and they crucified him. 26 And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS. 27 And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his

right hand, and the other on his left. 28 And the scripture was fulfilled, which saith, “And he was numbered with the transgressors.” 29 And they that passed by railed (yelled) on him, wagging their heads, and saying, “Ah, thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, 30 Save thyself, and come down from the cross.” 31 Likewise also the chief priests mocking said among themselves with the scribes, “He saved others; himself he cannot save. 32 Let Christ the King of Israel descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe.” And they that were crucified with him reviled him.

### The Death of Jesus

33 And when the sixth hour was come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which is, being interpreted, **“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”**[1]

35 And some of them that stood by, when they heard it, said, “Behold, he calleth Elias (Elijah).” 36 And one ran and filled a spunge full of vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink, saying, “Let alone; let us see whether Elias will come to take him down.”

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost (his life). 38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain (two) from the top to the bottom.

39 And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God.” 40 There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome; 41 Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him; and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.

### The Burial of Jesus

42 And now when the even (evening) was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved (wanted) the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate marvelled if (that) he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. 45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. 46 And he (Joseph) bought fine linen, and took him (Jesus) down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre (grave) which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre. 47 And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses beheld (saw) where he was laid.

### Jesus Has Risen

**16:1** And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. 2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. 3 And they said among themselves, “Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?” 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great (big & heavy). 5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. 6 And he saith unto them, “Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. 7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.” 8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.

9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. 10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.

12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. 13 And they went and told it unto the residue (rest of the disciples): neither believed they them.

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat (dinner), and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. 15 And he said unto them, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

**1** *Jesus’ fourth word on the cross was perhaps His most painful. He was rejected by His own Father. But it had to happen. He was rejected in our place so that we will be forever accepted. When have you felt the sting of rejection?*

**Summary:** *The third book of the gospels was written by Luke, a physician who accompanied Paul on some of Paul's missionary journeys. Luke emphasized Jesus' concern for the poor, the weak, and those who knew they needed a Savior.*

**1:1** Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, 2 Even as they delivered them unto us, which (who) from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word; 3 It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, 4 That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

### The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

5 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course (division) of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. 7 And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken (old) in years. 8 And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course (duty), 9 According to the custom of the priest's office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without (outside) at the time of incense.

11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said unto him, "Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. 14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. 15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost (Spirit), even from his mother's womb. 16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias (Elijah), to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

18 **And Zacharias said unto the angel, "Whereby (how) shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken (old) in years."**[1]

19 And the angel answering said unto him, "I am Gabriel, that (who) stand(s) in the presence of God; and

**1** *My guess is that Zacharias and his wife Elizebeth had prayed for children for many years. But eventually it is easier to give up hope than to keep hoping for something that never happens. What prayer have you given up on?*





am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings. 20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb (mute), and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season."

21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled (wondered why) that he tarried so long in the temple. 22 And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

23 And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration (time of service) were accomplished, he departed to his own house. 24 And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, 25 "Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on me, to take away my reproach (disgrace) among men."

### The Birth of Jesus Foretold

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused (engaged) to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast (wondered) in her mind what manner of salutation (greeting) this should be. 30 And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name **JESUS.**[1] 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man (I am a virgin)?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost (Spirit) shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible."

38 And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

### Mary Visits Elizabeth

39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; 40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

**1** *The name Jesus mean "Savior." Christmas is about a Savior being sent to save those who would believe in Him. Do you know the joy of knowing the Savior?*

41 And it came to pass, that, when
Elisabeth heard the salutation of
Mary, the babe leaped in her womb;
and Elisabeth was filled with the
Holy Ghost (Spirit): 42 And she spa-
ke out with a loud voice, and said,
“Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.
43 And whence (why) is this to me,
that the mother of my Lord should
come to me? 44 For, lo, as soon as
the voice of thy salutation (greet-
ing) sounded in mine ears, the babe
leaped in my womb for joy. 45 And
blessed is she that believed: for
there shall be a performance (ful-
fillment) of those things which were
told her from the Lord.”

### Mary’s Song

46 And Mary said, “My soul doth
magnify the Lord, 47 And my spirit
hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. 48
For **he hath regarded the low estate
(humble state) of his handmaiden (ser-
vant):**[1] for, behold, from henceforth
all generations shall call me bless-
ed. 49 For he that is mighty hath
done to me great things; and holy
is his name. 50 And his mercy is on
them that fear him from generation
to generation. 51 He hath shewed
strength with his arm; he hath scat-
tered the proud in the imagination of
their hearts. 52 He hath put down
the mighty from their (high) seats,
and exalted them of low degree (the
lowly). 53vHe hath filled the hungry
with good things; and the rich he
hath sent empty away. 54 He hath
holpen (helped) his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy; 55
As he spake to our fathers, to Abra-
ham, and to his seed for ever.” 56
And Mary abode (lived) with her
(Elizabeth) about three months, and
returned to her own house.

### The Birth of John the Baptist

57 Now Elisabeth’s full time
came that she should be delivered
(give birth); and she brought forth
a son. 58 And her neighbours and
her cousins heard how the Lord
had shewed great mercy upon her;
and they rejoiced with her. 59 And it
came to pass, that on the eighth day
they came to circumcise the child;
and they called him Zacharias, after
the name of his father. 60 And his
mother answered and said, “Not so;
but he shall be called John.”

61 And they said unto her,
“There is none of thy kindred (family)
that is called by this name. 62 And
they made signs to his father, how
he would have him called. 63 And
he asked for a writing table, and
wrote, saying, “His name is John.”
And they marvelled all. 64 And his
(Zacharias) mouth was opened im-
mediately, and his tongue loosed,
and he spake, and praised God.

65 And fear came on all that
dwelt round about them: and all
these sayings were noised (told)
abroad throughout all the hill coun-
try of Judaea. 66 And all they that
heard them laid them up in their
hearts, saying, “What manner of
child shall this be! And the hand of
the Lord was with him.”

**1** *As a truck driver you might not think of yourself as part of an elite group. You might not be from a prominent, well-to-do family? God is not a respecter of your social class or standing. He can and wants to use you, just as you are. What do you think God is calling you to do?*



### Zechariah’s Song

67 And his father Zacharias was
filled with the Holy Ghost (Spirit),
and prophesied, saying, 68 “Bless-
ed be the Lord God of Israel; for
he hath visited (came near) and re-
deemed his people, 69 And hath
raised up an horn of salvation for
us in the house of his servant Da-
vid; 70 As he spake by the mouth of
his holy prophets, which have been
since the world began: 71 That we
should be saved from our enemies,
and from the hand of all that hate us;
72 To perform the mercy promised
to our fathers, and to remember his
holy covenant; 73 The oath which
he sware to our father Abraham, 74
That he would grant unto us, that
we being delivered out of the hand
of our enemies might serve him
without fear, 75 In holiness and righ-
teousness before him, all the days
of our life. 76 And thou, child, shalt
be called the prophet of the High-
est: for thou shalt go before the face
of the Lord to prepare his ways; 77
To give knowledge of salvation unto
his people by the remission (forgive-
ness) of their sins, 78 Through the
tender mercy of our God; whereby
the dayspring (the sunlight) from on
high hath visited us, 79 To give light
to them that sit in darkness and in
the shadow of death, to guide our
feet into the way of peace.”

80 And the child grew, and
waxed (became) strong in spirit, and
was in the deserts till the day of his
shewing unto Israel.

### The Birth of Jesus

**2:1** And it came to pass in those
days, that there went out a decree
from **Caesar Augustus,**[1] that all the
world should be taxed. 2 And this
taxing was first made when Cyre-
nius was governor of Syria. 3 And all
went to be taxed, every one into his
own city. 4 And Joseph also went up
from Galilee, out of the city of Naz-
areth, into Judaea, unto the city of
David, which is called Bethlehem;
because he was of the house and
lineage of David: 5 To be taxed with
Mary his espoused wife (wife-to-
be), being great with child. 6 And so
it was, that, while they were there,
the days were accomplished that
she should be delivered (give birth).
7**And she brought forth her firstborn
son, and wrapped him in swaddling
clothes, and laid him in a manger; be-
cause there was no room for them in
the inn.**[2]

8 And there were in the same
country shepherds abiding in the
field, keeping watch over their flock
by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the
Lord came upon them, and the glory
of the Lord shone round about them:
and they were **sore (really) afraid.**[3]

**1** *It is called the Pax Romana (Roman peace) and it lasted 200 years—roughly from the birth of Jesus through the establishment of the early church. This period of peace throughout the Roman empire allowed the message of Christ to freely spread all over the Western world. How did the message of Christianity come to you?*

**2** *There’s a lot of pressure to have a “perfect” Christmas with great gifts, caroling, and family. Often that makes our actual Christmas a let-down. We forget the first Christmas was far from perfect... Mary had to give birth in a stable! What blessings from God can you find in your disappointments of the season?*

**3** *Fear at first. But then when they heard the message their fear turned to joy. Your*

10 And the angel said unto them,
"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you
good tidings of great joy, which shall
be to all people. 11 For unto you is
born this day in the city of David a
Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12
And this shall be a sign unto you;
Ye shall find the babe wrapped in
swaddling clothes, lying in a man-
ger."

13 And suddenly there was with
the angel a multitude of the heaven-
ly host praising God, and saying, 14
"Glory to God in the highest, and on
earth peace, good will toward men."

15 And it came to pass, as the
angels were gone away from them
into heaven, the shepherds said
one to another, "Let us now go even
unto Bethlehem, and see this thing
which is come to pass, which the
Lord hath made known unto us."

16 **And they came with haste,
and found Mary, and Joseph, and the
babe lying in a manger.**[1] 17 And when
they had seen it, they made known
abroad the saying which was told
them concerning this child. 18 And
all they that heard it wondered at
those things which were told them
by the shepherds. 19vBut Mary kept
all these things, and pondered them
in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned,
glorifying and praising God for all
the things that they had heard and
seen, as it was told unto them. 21
And when eight days were accom-
plished for the circumcising of the
child, his name was called JESUS,
which was so named of the angel
before he was conceived in the
womb.

### Jesus Presented in the Temple

22 And when the days of her
purification according to the law of
Moses were accomplished, they
brought him to Jerusalem, to pres-
ent him to the Lord; 23 As it is writ-
ten in the law of the Lord, "Every
male that openeth the womb shall
be called holy to the Lord;" 24 And
to offer a sacrifice according to that
which is said in the law of the Lord,
**A pair of turtledoves, or two young pi-
geons.**[2]

25 And, behold, there was a
man in Jerusalem, whose name was
Simeon; and the same man was just
and devout, waiting for the conso-
lation (hope) of Israel: and the Holy
Ghost (Spirit) was upon him. 26 And
it was revealed unto him by the Holy
Ghost, that he should not see death,
before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
27 And he came by the Spirit into
the temple: and when the parents
brought in the child Jesus, to do for
him after the custom of the law, 28
Then took he (Simeon) him (Jesus)
up in his arms, and blessed God,
and said, 29 "Lord, now lettest thou
thy servant depart in peace, accord-

*fear can turn to joy as well this Christmas season. What fears are robbing you of your joy?*

**1** *Though the shepherds had no idea what they were doing or what His birth was all about, they sought out the Savior that was born in Bethlehem. You may not have any idea what you are looking for as you start your own search for a Savoir reading this New Testament. What have you found so far?*

**2** *This was the offering of the poor. Jesus came into the world in a poor family. Maybe you are not getting rich driving a truck. How is God using you to bring about his purpose in the world around you?*



ing to thy word: 30 For mine eyes
have seen thy salvation, 31 Which
thou hast prepared before the face
of all people; 32 A light to lighten the
Gentiles, and the glory of thy people
Israel."

33 And Joseph and his moth-
er marvelled at those things which
were spoken of him. 34 And Sim-
eon blessed them, and said unto
Mary his mother, "Behold, this child
is set for the fall and rising again of
many in Israel; and for a sign which
shall be spoken against; 35 Yea, a
sword shall pierce through thy own
soul also, that the thoughts of many
hearts may be revealed."

36 And there was one Anna, a
prophetess, the daughter of Pha-
nuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was
of a great age, and had lived with
an husband seven years from her
virginity; 37 And she was a widow
of about fourscore (eighty) and four
years, which departed not from the
temple, but served God with fast-
ings and prayers night and day. 38
And she coming in that instant gave
thanks likewise unto the Lord, and
spake of him to all them that looked
for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 And when they (Mary and Jo-
seph) had performed all things ac-
cording to the law of the Lord, they
returned into Galilee, to their own
city Nazareth. 40 And the child grew,
and waxed (became) strong in spirit,
filled with wisdom: and the grace of
God was upon him.

### John the Baptist Prepares the Way

**3:1** Now in the fifteenth year of
the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius
Pilate being governor of Judaea, and
Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and
his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea
and of the region of Trachonitis, and
Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, 2
Annas and Caiaphas being the high
priests, the word of God came unto
John the son of Zacharias in the wil-
derness. 3 And he came into all the
country about Jordan, preaching the
baptism of repentance for the remis-
sion of sins; 4 As it is written in the
book of the words of Esaias (Isaiah)
the prophet, saying, "The voice of
one crying in the wilderness, Pre-
pare ye the way of the Lord, make
his paths straight. 5 Every valley
shall be filled, and every mountain
and hill shall be brought low; and
the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways shall be made
smooth; 6 And all flesh shall see the
salvation of God."

7 Then said he to the multitude
that came forth to be baptized of
him, "O generation of vipers, who
hath warned you to flee from the
wrath to come? 8 Bring forth there-
fore fruits worthy of repentance, and
begin not to say within yourselves,
'We have Abraham to our father:'
for I say unto you, That God is able
of these stones to raise up children
unto Abraham. 9 And now also the
axe is laid unto the root of the trees:
every tree therefore which bringeth
not forth good fruit is hewn down,
and cast into the fire."

10 And the people asked him,
saying, "What shall we do then?"

11 He answereth and saith unto
them, "He that hath two coats, let
him impart (give) to him that hath
none; and he that hath meat (food),

let him do likewise."

12 Then came also publicans (tax collectors) to be baptized, and said unto him, "Master, what shall we do?"

13 And he said unto them, "Exact no more than that which is appointed (is required) you."

14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, "And what shall we do?"

And he said unto them, "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages."

15 And as the people were in expectation (of the Messiah), and all men mused (wondered) in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; 16 John answered, saying unto them all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet (laces) of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost (Spirit) and with fire: 17 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner (storehouse); but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable." 18 And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people. 19 But Herod the tetrarch, being reproved by him for Herodias his brother Philip's wife, and for all the evils which Herod had done, 20 Added yet this above all, that he shut up John in prison.

### The Baptism and Genealogy of Jesus

21 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, 22 And the Holy Ghost (Spirit) descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, "Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased."

23 And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being as was supposed the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli, 24 Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi, which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Janna, which was the son of Joseph, 25 Which was the son of Mattathias, which was the son of Amos, which was the son of Naum, which was the son of Esli, which was the son of Nagge, 26 Which was the son of Maath, which was the son of Mattathias, which was the son of Semei, which was the son of Joseph, which was the son of Juda, 27 Which was the son of Joanna, which was the son of Rhesa, which was the son of Zorobabel, which was the son of Salathiel, which was the son of Neri, 28 Which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Addi, which was the son of Cosam, which was the son of Elmodam, which was the son of Er, 29 Which was the son of Jose, which was the son of Eliezer, which was the son of Jorim, which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi, 30 Which was the son of Simeon, which was the son of Juda, which was the son of Joseph, which was the son of Jonan, which was the son of Eliakim, 31 Which was the son of Melea, which was the son of Menan, which was the son of Mattatha, which was the son of Nathan, which was the son of David, 32 Which was the son of Jesse, which was the son of Obed, which was the son of Booz, which was the son of Salmon, which was the son of Naasson, 33 Which was the son of Aminadab, which was the son of Aram, which was the son of Esrom, which was the son of Phares, which was the son of Juda, 34 Which was the son of Jacob, which was the son of Isaac, which was the son of Abraham, which was the son of Thara, which was the son of Nachor, 35 Which was the son of Saruch, which was the son of Ragau, which was the son of Phalec, which was the son of Heber, which was the son of Sala, 36 Which was the son of Cainan, which was the son of Arphaxad, which was the son of Sem, which was the son of Noe, which was the son of Lamech, 37 Which was the son of Mathusala, which was the son of Enoch, which was the son of Jared, which was the son of Maleleel, which was the son of Cainan, 38 Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.



### Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

**4:1** And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost (Spirit) returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, 2 Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. 3 And the devil said unto him, "If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread."

4 And Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said unto him, "All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. 7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine."

8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, "Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, 'Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.'"

9 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, "If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence: 10 For it is written, 'He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: 11 And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.'"

12 And Jesus answering said unto him, "It is said, 'Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.'"

13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

### Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about. 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.

16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias (Isaiah). And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord." 20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say unto them, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears (hearing)."

22 And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?"

23 And he said unto them, **"Ye will surely say unto me this proverb, 'Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in thy country.'"**[1] 24 And he said, "Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country. 25 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias (Elijah), when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; 26 But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow. 27 And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus (Elisha) the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian."

28 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, 29 And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. 30 But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

### Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

31 And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days. 32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.

33 And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, 34 Saying, "Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God."

35 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Come out of him." And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not.

36 And they were all amazed,

**1** *Jesus had healed many in Capernaum and the people expected him to do the same in his hometown. When have your expectation of what you thought God should do in your life left you disappointed?*



and spake among themselves, saying, "What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out." 37 And the fame of him went out into every place of the country round about.

### Jesus Heals Many

38 And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. 39 And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them.

40 Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers (various) diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them. 41 And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, "Thou art Christ the Son of God." And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.

42 **And when it was day, he departed and went into a desert place:**[1] and the people sought him, and came unto him, and stayed him, that he should not depart from them. 43 And he said unto them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent." 44 And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee.

**1** *Jesus needed to be alone—to recharge, refocus, reestablish His intimate relationship with His Father. As you go down the road turn the radio off once in awhile. Sit in silence and let God replenish your soul. What has God been saying to your lately?*

### Jesus Calls His First Disciples

**5:1** And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, 2 And saw two ships (boats) standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. 3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

4 Now when he had left (finished) speaking, he said unto Simon, "Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught (catch).

5 And Simon answering said unto him, "Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net."

6 And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. 7 And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord." 9 For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught (catch) of the fishes which they had taken: 10 And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners

with Simon.

And Jesus said unto Simon, “Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.” 11 And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

### Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

12 And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, “Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.”

13 And he (Jesus) put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, “I will: be thou clean.” And immediately the leprosy departed from him.

14 And he charged him to “tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.”

15 But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities. 16 And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.

### Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man

17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

18 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. 19 And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch (cot) into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, “Man,thy sins are forgiven thee.”

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”

22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, “What reason ye in your hearts? 23 Whether is easier, to say, ‘Thy sins be forgiven thee;’ or to say, ‘Rise up and walk?’ 24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins,” he said unto the sick of the palsy, “I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.” 25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. 26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things to day.”

### Jesus Calls Levi and Eats With Sinners

27 And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican (tax collector), named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom (tax booth): and he said unto him, “Follow me.” 28 And he left all, rose up, and followed him.



29 And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them. 30 But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, “Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?”

31 And Jesus answering said unto them, “They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. 32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

### Jesus Questioned About Fasting

33 And they said unto him, “Why do the disciples of John fast often, and make prayers, and likewise the disciples of the Pharisees; but thine eat and drink?” 34 And he said unto them, “Can ye make the children of the bridechamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? 35 But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.”

36 And he spake also a parable unto them; “No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent (tear), and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old. 37 And no man putteth new wine into old bottles (wineskins); else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. 38 But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved. 39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, ‘The old is better.’”

### Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

**6:1** And it came to pass on the second sabbath after the first, that he went through the corn fields; and his disciples plucked the ears of corn, and did eat, rubbing them in their hands. 2 And certain of the Pharisees said unto them, “Why do ye that which is not lawful to do on the sabbath days?”

3 And Jesus answering them said, “Have ye not read so much as this, what David did, when himself was an hungred, and they which were with him; 4 How he went into the house of God, and did take and eat the shewbread (consecrated bread), and gave also to them that were with him; which it is not lawful to eat but for the priests alone?” 5 And he said unto them, “That the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

6 And it came to pass also on another sabbath, that he entered into the synagogue and taught: and there was a man whose right hand was withered. 7 And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him. 8 But he knew their thoughts, and said to the man which had the withered hand, “Rise up, and stand forth in the midst.” And he arose and stood forth.

9 Then said Jesus unto them, “I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?” 10 And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, “Stretch forth thy hand.” And he did so: and his hand was restored whole

as the other. 11 And they were filled with madness; and communed (talked with) one with another what they might do to Jesus.

### The Twelve Apostles

12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

13 And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles; 14 Simon, whom he also named Peter, and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, 15 Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, 16 And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.

### Blessings and Woes

17 And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; 18 And they that were vexed (troubled) with unclean spirits: and they were healed. 19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue (power) out of him, and healed them all.

20 And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, "Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God. 21 Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh. 22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. 23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. 24 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation (reward). 25 Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. 26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

### Love for Enemies

27 "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you, 28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. 29 And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also. 30 Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. 31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. 32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye (what reason is there to thank you)? for sinners also love those that love them. 33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. 34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. 35 But love ye your enemies,



and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. 36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

### Judging Others

37 "Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: 38 **Give, and it shall be given unto you;**[1] good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom (lap). For with the same measure that ye mete (give) withal it shall be measured to you again."

39 And he spake a parable unto them, "Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch? 40 **The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.**[2] 41 And why beholdest thou the mote (speck) that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam (plank) that is in thine own eye? 42 Either how canst thou say to thy brother, 'Brother, let me pull out the mote that is in thine eye,' when thou thyself beholdest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye.

### A Tree and Its Fruit

43 "For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 4 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of (from) thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes. 45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

### The Wise and Foolish Builders

46 "And why call ye me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not the things which I say? 47 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great."

### The Faith of the Centurion

**7:1** Now when he had ended all

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**1** *You want to give. People say it's good to give. You have been on the receiving end of others' giving. But it is just so counter-intuitive. You have needs of your own and if you give you might end up with even more needs. And then where will you be? Giving is risky. That's why it's so much fun! How can you join in on the fun of risky giving?*

**2** *If you want to make a disciple you must first be a disciple. Being a disciple reguires training. So who is training you? Oh, and the goal of the training - to be like Jesus. Who are you training to be like Jesus?*

his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum. 2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. 3 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. 4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: 5 "For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue."

6 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, "Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof: 7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. 8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, 'Go,' and he goeth; and to another, 'Come,' and he cometh; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he doeth it.

9 When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, "I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel." 10 And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

### Jesus Raises a Widow's Son

11 And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. 12 Now when he came nigh (near) to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her," Weep not."

14 And he came and touched the bier (coffin): and they that bare him stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say unto thee, Arise." 15 And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16 And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, "That a great prophet is risen up among us;" and, "That God hath visited his people." 17 And this rumour (news) of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about. 18 And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things.

### Jesus and John the Baptist

19 And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, "Art thou he that should come (the Messiah)? or look we for another?" 20 When the men were come unto him, they said, "John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, 'Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?'"

21 And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities (sicknesses) and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. 22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, "Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. 23 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me."

24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, "What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken (bending) with the wind? 25 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment (clothes)? Behold, they which are gorgeously appareled (dressed), and live delicately (in luxury), are in kings courts. 26 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet. 27 This is he, of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.' 28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans (tax collectors), justified (acknowledged) God, being baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers (teachers of the religious law) rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.

31 And the Lord said, "Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like? 32 They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, 'We have piped (played the flute) unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to (for) you, and ye have not wept.' 33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, 'He hath a devil.' 34 The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, 'Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber (drunk), a friend of publicans and sinners!' 35 But wisdom is justified of all her children."

### Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman

36 And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat (dinner). 37 And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment (expensive perfume), 38 And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee which had bidden (invited) him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, "This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner."

40 And Jesus answering said unto him, "Simon, I have somewhat (something) to say unto thee." And he saith, "Master, say on."

41 "There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. 42 And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave

them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most."

And he said unto him, "Thou hast rightly judged."

44 And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, "Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. 45 Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. 46 My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. 47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little."

48 And he said unto her, "Thy sins are forgiven."

49 And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, "Who is this that forgiveth sins also?"

50 And he said to the woman, "Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace."

### The Parable of the Sower

**8:1** And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve were with him, 2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities (sicknesses), Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, 3 And Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance (private means).

4 And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable: 5 "A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls (birds) of the air devoured it. 6 And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. 7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. 8 And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold."

And when he had said these things, he cried, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."

9 And his disciples asked him, saying, "What might this parable be?"

10 And he said, "Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. 13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And that which fell among thorns



are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. 15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with perserverance.

### A Lamp on a Stand

16 "No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel (bowl), or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. 17 For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest (evident); neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad. 18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have."

### Jesus' Mother and Brothers

19 Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press (crowd). 20 And it was told him by certain which said, "Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee."

21 And he answered and said unto them, "My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it."

### Jesus Calms the Storm

22 Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship (boat) with his disciples: and he said unto them, "Let us go over unto the other side of the lake." And they launched forth. 23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy (trouble).

24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, "Master, master, we perish." Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. 25 And he said unto them, "Where is your faith?" And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, "What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him."

### Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man

26 And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. 27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech (beg) thee, torment me not." 29 For he (Jesus) had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.

30 And Jesus asked him, saying, "What is thy name?"

And he said, "Legion:" because

many devils were entered into him. 31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.

32 And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer (allow) them to enter into them. And he suffered them. 33 Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked (drowned).

34 When they that fed them saw what was done, they fled, and went and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid. 36 They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed.

37 Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought (asked) him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again.

38 Now the man out of whom the devils were departed besought him that he might be with him: but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 "Return to thine own house, and shew how great things God hath done unto thee." And he went his way, and published (reported) throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him.

### Jesus Raises a Dead Girl and Heals a Sick Woman

40 And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.

41 And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought (asked) him that he would come into his house: 42 For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged (crowded) him.

43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, 44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanched (stopped). 45 And Jesus said, "Who touched me?"

When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, "Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, 'Who touched me?'"

46 And Jesus said, "Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue (power) is gone out of me."

47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him and how she was healed immediately.

48 And he said unto her, "Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace."



49 While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master."

50 But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, "Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole."

51 And when he came into the house, he suffered (allowed) no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden. 52 And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, "Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth."

53 And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. 54 And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, "Maid (daughter), arise." 55 And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat (food). 56 And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

### Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

**9:1** Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. 2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. 3 And he said unto them, "Take nothing for your journey, neither staves (walking stick), nor scrip (bag), neither bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. 4 And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. 5 And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them." 6 And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him: and he was perplexed, because that it was said of some, that John was risen from the dead; 8 And of some, that Elias (Elijah) had appeared; and of others, that one of the old prophets was risen again. 9 And Herod said, "John have I beheaded: but who is this, of whom I hear such things?" And he desired to see him.

### Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

10 And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. 11 And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing. 12 And when the day began to wear away, then came the twelve, and said unto him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the towns and country round about, and lodge, and get victuals (food): for we are here in a desert place."

13 But he said unto them, "Give ye them to eat."

And they said, "We have no more but five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy meat (food) for all this people." 14 For they were about five thousand men.

And he said to his disciples, "Make them sit down by fifties in a company (group)."

15 And they did so, and made them all sit down. 16 Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed them, and brake, and gave to the disciples to set before the multitude. 17 **And they did eat, and were all filled: and there was taken up of fragments that remained to them twelve baskets.**[1]

### Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

18 And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, "Whom say the people that I am?"

19 They answering said, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elias (Elijah); and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again."

20 He said unto them, "But whom say ye that I am?"

Peter answering said, "The Christ of God."

### Jesus Predicts His Death

21 And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing; 22 Saying, "The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day."

23 And he said to them all, **"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**[2] 24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. 25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? 26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels. 27 But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God."

### The Transfiguration

28 And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. 29 And as he prayed, the fashion (appearance) of his countenance (face) was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering. 30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias: 31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. 33 And it came to pass, as they departed from him, Peter said unto

**1** *The people in Jesus' day would have remembered that Elisha, the prophet, who lived hundreds of years before, did this same miracle-multiplying loaves of bread to feed 100 in this same region of Israel. What is the point of this story for your life?*

**2** *A follower of Jesus is a follower of Jesus. You are not a follower of yourself. There is a transfer of control from you to Him. In what areas of your life are you struggling with control issues?*



Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles (tents); one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias:" not knowing what he said.

34 While he thus spake, there came a cloud, and overshadowed them: and they feared as they entered into the cloud. 35 And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son: hear him." 36 And when the voice was past, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it close (to themselves), and told no man in those days any of those things which they had seen.

### Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

37 And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him. 38 And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, "Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child. 39 And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him. 40 And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not."

41 And Jesus answering said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither."

42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Second Time

43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples, 44 "Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men." 45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

46 Then there arose a reasoning (dispute) among them, which of them should be greatest. 47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him, 48 And said unto them, "Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great."

49 And John answered and said, "Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us."

50 And Jesus said unto him, "Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us."

### Samaritan Opposition

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, 52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. 53 And they did not

receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias (Elijah) did?"

55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. 56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." And they went to another village.

### The Cost of Following Jesus

57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, "Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest."

58 And Jesus said unto him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head."

59 And he said unto another, "Follow me."

But he said, "Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father."

60 Jesus said unto him, "Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God."

61 And another also said, "Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house."

62 And Jesus said unto him, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and **looking back,**[1] is fit for the kingdom of God."

### Jesus Sends Out the Seventy-Two

**10:1** After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. 2 Therefore said he unto them, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. 3 Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. 4 Carry neither purse, nor scrip (bag), nor shoes: and salute (greet) no man by the way.

5 "And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house.' 6 And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. 7 And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. 8 And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: 9 And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, 'The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.' 10 But into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you not, go your ways out into the streets of the same, and say, 11 'Even the very dust of your city, which cleaveth (sticks) on us, we do wipe off against you: notwithstanding be ye sure of this, that the kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.' 12 But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable in that day for Sodom, than for that city.

13 "Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon, which have been done in you, they had a great while ago repented, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment, than for you. 15 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted to heaven, shalt be thrust down to hell. 16 He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me."

17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, "Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name."

18 And he said unto them, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven."

21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in spirit, and said, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that **thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemed good in thy sight.**[1] 22 All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him."

23 And he turned him unto his disciples, and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see: 24 For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them."

### The Parable of the Good Samaritan

25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 He said unto him, "What is written in the law? how readest thou?"

27 And he answering said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

28 And he said unto him, "Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live."

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

30 And Jesus answering said, "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment (clothes), and wounded him,

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**1** *You have begun a walk with God. You don't know exactly where it will lead. Don't look back. Keep going forward. See what happens. What is keeping you from from going forward in your faith?*

**1** *Walking with God is not about how smart you are. He speaks and reveals His will and gives insight and revelations to whom He pleases. What hidden things has He revealed to you?*

and departed, leaving him half dead.
31 And by chance there came down
a certain priest that way: and when
he saw him, he passed by on the
other side. 32 And likewise a Lev-
ite, when he was at the place, came
and looked on him, and passed by
on the other side. 33 But a certain
Samaritan, as he journeyed, came
where he was: and when he saw
him, he had compassion on him,
34 And went to him, and bound up
his wounds, pouring in oil and wine,
and set him on his own beast, and
brought him to an inn, and took care
of him. 35 And on the morrow when
he departed, he took out two pence,
and gave them to the host, and said
unto him, 'Take care of him; and
whatsoever thou spendest more,
when I come again, I will repay
thee.' 36 Which now of these three,
thinkest thou, was neighbour unto
him that fell among the thieves?"

37 And he said, "He that shewed
mercy on him.

Then said Jesus unto him, **"Go, and do thou likewise."**[1]

### At the Home of Martha and Mary

38 Now it came to pass, as they
went, that he entered into a certain
village: and a certain woman named
Martha received him into her house.
39 And she had a sister called Mary,
which also sat at Jesus' feet, and
heard his word. 40 But Martha was
cumbered (burdened) about much
serving, and came to him, and said,
"Lord, dost thou not care that my
sister hath left me to serve alone?
bid her therefore that she help me."

41 And Jesus answered and
said unto her, "Martha, Martha, thou
art careful (worried) and troubled
about many things: 42 But one thing
is needful: and Mary hath chosen
that good part, which shall not be
taken away from her."

### Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

**11:1** And it came to pass, that,
as he was praying in a certain place,
when he ceased, one of his disci-
ples said unto him, "Lord, teach us
to pray, as John also taught his dis-
ciples."

2 And he said unto them, "When
ye pray, say, Our Father which art in
heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come. Thy will be done, as
in heaven, so in earth. 3 Give us day
by day our daily bread. 4 And forgive
us our sins; for we also forgive every
one that is indebted to us. And lead
us not into temptation; but deliver
us from evil."

5 And he said unto them,
"Which of you shall have a friend,
and shall go unto him at midnight,
and say unto him, 'Friend, lend me
three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine
in his journey is come to me, and I
have nothing to set before him?' 7
And he from within shall answer and
say, 'Trouble me not: the door is now
shut, and my children are with me in
bed; I cannot rise and give thee.' 8
I say unto you, Though he will not
rise and give him, because he is his
friend, yet because of his importu-

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**1** *Both the Priest and the Levite would be declared "unclean" if either touched blood. Samaritans were only haf Jewish and were looked down in those days. Sometimes religious people are so intent on doing their religion that they overlook the point of their religion. When has this happened to you?*



nity (boldness) he will rise and give
him as many as he needeth.

9 "And I say unto you, Ask, and
it shall be given you; seek, and ye
shall find; knock, and it shall be
opened unto you. 10 For every one
that asketh receiveth; and he that
seeketh findeth; and to him that
knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If
a son shall ask bread of any of you
that is a father, will he give him a
stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for
a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he
shall ask an egg, will he offer him a
scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil,
know how to give good gifts unto
your children: how much more shall
your heavenly Father give the Holy
Spirit to them that ask him?"

### Jesus and Beelzebul

14 And he was casting out a
devil, and it was dumb (mute). And
it came to pass, when the devil was
gone out, the dumb spake; and the
people wondered. 15 But some of
them said, "He casteth out dev-
ils through Beelzebub the chief of
the devils." 16 And others, tempt-
ing him, sought of him a sign from
heaven.

17 But he, knowing their
thoughts, said unto them, "Every
kingdom divided against itself is
brought to desolation; and a house
divided against a house falleth. 18 If
Satan also be divided against him-
self, how shall his kingdom stand?
because ye say that I cast out devils
through Beelzebub. 19 And if I by
Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom
do your sons cast them out? there-
fore shall they be your judges. 20
But if I with the finger of God cast
out devils, no doubt the kingdom of
God is come upon you.

21 "When a strong man armed
keepeth his palace, his goods are
in peace (protected): 22 But when
a stronger than he shall come upon
him, and overcome him, he taketh
from him all his armour wherein
he trusted, and divideth (steal) his
spoils.

23 "He that is not with me is
against me: and he that gathereth
not with me scattereth.

24 "When the unclean spirit
is gone out of a man, he walketh
through dry places, seeking rest;
and finding none, he saith, 'I will re-
turn unto my house whence I came
out.' 25 And when he cometh, he
findeth it swept and garnished (put
in order). 26 Then goeth he, and ta-
keth to him seven other spirits more
wicked than himself; and they enter
in, and dwell there: and the last state
of that man is worse than the first."

27 And it came to pass, as he
spake these things, a certain woman
of the company lifted up her voice,
and said unto him, "Blessed is the
womb that bare thee, and the paps
(breasts) which thou hast sucked
(nursed)."

28 But he said, "Yea rather,
blessed are they that hear the word
of God, and keep it."

### The Sign of Jonah

29 And when the people were
gathered thick together, he began
to say, "This is an evil generation:
they seek a sign; and there shall no
sign be given it, but the sign of Jo-
nas (Jonah) the prophet. 30 For as

Jonas was a sign unto the Ninevites,
so shall also the Son of man be to
this generation. 31 The queen of the
south shall rise up in the judgment
with the men of this generation, and
condemn them: for she came from
the utmost parts of the earth to
hear the wisdom of Solomon; and,
behold, a greater than Solomon is
here. 32 The men of Nineve shall rise
up in the judgment with this gener-
ation, and shall condemn it: for they
repented at the preaching of Jonas;
and, behold, a greater than Jonas is
here."

### The Lamp of the Body

33 "No man, when he hath light-
ed a candle, putteth it in a secret
place, neither under a bushel, but on
a candlestick, that they which come
in may see the light. 34 The light of
the body is the eye: therefore when
thine eye is single (good), thy whole
body also is full of light; but when
thine eye is evil, thy body also is full
of darkness. 35 Take heed there-
fore that the light which is in thee be
not darkness. 36 If thy whole body
therefore be full of light, having no
part dark, the whole shall be full of
light, as when the bright shining of a
candle doth give thee light."

### Woes on the Pharisees and the Experts in the Law

37 And as he spake, a certain
Pharisee besought him to dine with
him: and he went in, and sat down
to meat (a meal). 38 And when the
Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he
had not first washed before dinner.

39 And the Lord said unto him,
"Now do ye Pharisees make clean
the outside of the cup and the plat-
ter; but your inward part is full of
ravening (greed) and wickedness.
40 Ye fools, did not he that made
that which is without (outside) make
that which is within (inside) also?
41 But rather give alms (gifts to the
poor) of such things as ye have;
and, behold, all things are clean
unto you.

42 "But woe unto you, Phari-
sees! for ye tithe mint and rue and
all manner of herbs, and pass over
judgment and the love of God: these
ought ye to have done, and not to
leave the other undone.

43 "Woe unto you, Pharisees!
for ye love the uppermost seats in
the synagogues, and greetings in
the markets.

44" Woe unto you, scribes and
Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as
graves which appear not, and the
men that walk over them are not
aware of them."

45 Then answered one of the
lawyers, and said unto him, "Master,
thus saying thou reproachest (insult)
us also."

46 And he said, "Woe unto you
also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men
with burdens grievous to be borne,
and ye yourselves touch not the
burdens with one of your fingers.

47 "Woe unto you! for ye build
the sepulchres (graves) of the proph-
ets, and your fathers killed them. 48
Truly ye bear witness that ye allow
the deeds of your fathers: for they
indeed killed them, and ye build
their sepulchres. 49 Therefore also
said the wisdom of God, I will send
them prophets and apostles, and



some of them they shall slay and
persecute: 50 That the blood of all
the prophets, which was shed from
the foundation of the world, may be
required of this generation; 51 From
the blood of Abel unto the blood of
Zacharias, which perished between
the altar and the temple: verily I say
unto you, It shall be required of this
generation.

52 "Woe unto you, lawyers!
for ye have taken away the key of
knowledge: ye entered not in your-
selves, and them that were entering
in ye hindered."

53 And as he said these things
unto them, the scribes and the
Pharisees began to urge (oppose)
him vehemently, and to provoke him
to speak of many things: 54 Laying
wait for him, and seeking to catch
something out of his mouth, that
they might accuse him.

### Warnings and Encouragements

**12:1** In the mean time, when
there were gathered together an
innumerable multitude of people,
insomuch that they trode one upon
another, he began to say unto his
disciples "first of all, Beware ye of
the leaven of the Pharisees, which
is hypocrisy. 2 For there is nothing
covered, that shall not be revealed;
neither hid, that shall not be known.
3 **Therefore whatsoever ye have spo-
ken in darkness shall be heard in the
light; and that which ye have spoken in
the ear in closets shall be proclaimed
upon the housetops.**[1] 4 And I say unto
you my friends, Be not afraid of them
that kill the body, and after that have
no more that they can do. 5 But I will
forewarn you whom ye shall fear:
Fear him, which after he hath killed
hath power to cast into hell; yea, I
say unto you, Fear him. 6 Are not
five sparrows sold for two farthings,
and not one of them is forgotten be-
fore God? 7 But even the very hairs
of your head are all numbered. Fear
not therefore: ye are of more value
than many sparrows. 8 Also I say
unto you, Whosoever shall confess
me before men, him shall the Son of
man also confess before the angels
of God: 9 But he that denieth me be-
fore men shall be denied before the
angels of God. 10 And whosoever
shall speak a word against the Son
of man, it shall be forgiven him: but
unto him that blasphemeth against
the Holy Ghost (Spirit) it shall not be
forgiven. 11 And when they bring
you unto the synagogues, and unto
magistrates, and powers, take ye no
thought how or what thing ye shall
answer, or what ye shall say: 12 For
the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the
same hour what ye ought to say."

### The Parable of the Rich Fool

13 And one of the company
said unto him, "Master, speak to
my brother, that he divide the inheri-
tance with me."

14 And he said unto him, "Man,
who made me a judge or a divider
over you?"

15 And he said unto them, "Take

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**1** *Talking about people behind their backs with a bunch of friends can make you feel like you are part of the group. And what is the harm? The person being talked about will never know, right? Really? Read this verse again. Perhaps read it a few times. When have you been hurt by the gossip of others?*

heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, "The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow (store) my fruits?'

18 "And he said, 'This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry."' 20 But God said unto him, 'Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?' 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

### Do Not Worry

22 And he said unto his disciples, "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. 23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment (clothes). 24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls (birds)? 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest? 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 "But rather **seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.**[1] 32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell that ye have, and give alms (gifts for the poor); provide yourselves bags which wax (do) not (get) old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

### Watchfulness

35 "Let your loins be girded about (dressed for action), and your lights burning; 36 And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird (be alert) himself, and make them to sit down to meat (the meal), and will

**1** *There are things to worry about when you are home. There are things to worry about when you are on the road. How does putting God first take care of all these worries?*



come forth and serve them. 38 And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. 39 And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered (allowed) his house to be broken through. 40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not."

41Then Peter said unto him, "Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?"

42 And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season? 43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. 45 But and if that servant say in his heart, 'My lord delayeth his coming;' and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; 46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder (in two), and will appoint (assign) him his portion (place) with the unbelievers. 47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. 48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

### Not Peace but Division

49 "I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I if (how I wish) it be already kindled? 50 But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! 51 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: 52 For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. 53 The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law."

### Interpreting the Times

54 And he said also to the people, "When ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, 'There cometh a shower;' and so it is. 55 And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, 'There will be heat;' and it cometh to pass. 56 Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time (season)? 57 Yea, and why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?

58 "When thou goest with thine adversary to the magistrate, as thou art in the way, give diligence (what you owe) that thou mayest be delivered from him; lest he hale (bring) thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and the officer cast thee into prison. 59 I tell

thee, thou shalt not depart thence, till thou hast paid the very last mite (penny)."

### Repent or Perish

**13:1** There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 And Jesus answering said unto them, "Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? 3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. 4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? 5 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

6 He spake also this parable; "A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. 7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, 'Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?' 8 And he answering said unto him, '**Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:**[1] 9 And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.'"

### Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman on the Sabbath

10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. 12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, "Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity." 13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, "There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day."

15 The Lord then answered him, and said, "Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? 16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" 17 And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

### The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast

18 Then said he, "Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble (compare) it? 19 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed (became) a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it."

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**1** *This is a wonderful metaphor for God's patience with us. Where specifically do you need God to be patient with you?*



20 And again he said, "Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? 21 It is like leaven (yeast), which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened."

### The Narrow Door

22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 Then said one unto him, "Lord, are there few that be saved?"

And he said unto them, 24 "Strive to enter in at the strait (narrow) gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. 25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without (outside), and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open unto us;' and he shall answer and say unto you, 'I know you not whence ye are:'

26 Then shall ye begin to say, 'We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.'

27 "But he shall say, 'I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

28 "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. 29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. 30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last."

### Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem

31 The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, "Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee." 32 And he said unto them, "Go ye, and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures (will heal people) today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected. 33 Nevertheless I must walk (keep going) to day, and to morrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out(side) of Jerusalem.

34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! 35 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, 'Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.'"

### Jesus at a Pharisee's House

**14:1** And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him. 2 And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy. 3 And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day?" 4 And they held their peace. And he took him, and healed him, and let him go; 5 And answered them, saying, "Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a

pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?" 6 And they could not answer him again to these things.

7 And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden (invited), when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms (place of honor); saying unto them, 8 "When thou art bidden of any man to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him; 9 And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, 'Give this man place;' and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room. 10 But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, 'Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship (honor) in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. 11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased (humbled); and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

12 Then said he also to him that bade him, "When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen (relatives), nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence (repayment) be made thee. 13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: 14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."

### The Parable of the Great Banquet

15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, "Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God."

16 Then said he unto him, "A certain man made a great supper, and bade (invited) many: 17 And sent his servant at suppertime to say to them that were bidden, 'Come; for all things are now ready.'

18 **"And they all with one consent began to make excuse.**[1] The first said unto him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.'

19 "And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove (see) them: I pray thee have me excused.'

20 "And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.'

21 "So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.'

22 "And the servant said, 'Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.'

23 "And the lord said unto the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges (back roads), and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.'"

### The Cost of Being a Disciple

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**1** *What are you so busy with that you don't have time for God?*



25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them, 26 "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. 27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

28 "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? 29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, 30 Saying, 'This man began to build, and was not able to finish.'

31 "Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage (ambassador), and desireth conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

34 "Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour (flavor), wherewith shall it be seasoned? 35 It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."

### The Parable of the Lost Sheep

**15:1** Then drew near unto him all the publicans (tax collectors) and sinners for to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, "This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them."

3 And he spake this parable unto them, saying, 4 "What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? 5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, 'Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.' 7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

### The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 "Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? 9 And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, 'Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.' 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

### The Parable of the Lost Son

11 And he said, "A certain man had two sons: 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods (inheritance) that falleth to me.' And he divided unto them his living (estate).

13 "And not many days after the younger son gathered all together,

and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance (wealth) with riotous living. 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine (Swine or pigs were unclean animals for Jews).

. 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 **"And when he came to himself (his senses), he said, 'How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!**[1] 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.' 20 And he arose, and came to his father.

**"But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck (hugged him), and kissed him.**[2]

21 "And the son said unto him, '**Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.'**[3]

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to be merry.

25 "Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said unto him, 'Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.'

28 "And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated (begged) him. 29 And he answering said to his father, 'Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed (disobeyed) I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid (young goat), that I might make merry with my friends: 30 But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured (wasted) thy living (wealth) with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.'

31 **"And he said unto him, 'Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.**[4] 32 It was meet (necessary) that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.'"

**1** *What was the boy's motive? Sorrow or hunger?*

**2** *His father accepted his son back before he even said he was sorry. God loves and wants to forgive you even before you say you are sorry.*

**3** *Notice the son didn't say, "Make me one of your hired servants." He didn't say it because he had already been accepted back as a son.How does knowing that God already wants to forgive you make it easier to confess your sins to Him?*

**4** *In other words: "I love you as much as your younger brother." The older brother cannot see his father's love for him becuase he thinks he has it coming. The younger brother finally sees how much his father loved him precisely becuase he knew he didn't deserve it. Which brother are you more like?*



### The Parable of the Shrewd Manager

**16:1** And he said also unto his disciples, "There was a certain rich man, which had a steward (manager); and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods. 2 And he called him, and said unto him, 'How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.'

3 "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig (do manual labor); to beg I am ashamed. 4 I am resolved (made a plan) what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.'

5 "So he called every one of his lord's debtors unto him, and said unto the first, 'How much owest thou unto my lord?'

6 "And he said, 'An hundred measures of oil.'

"And he said unto him, 'Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty.'

7 "Then said he to another, 'And how much owest thou?'

"And he said, 'An hundred measures of wheat.'

"And he said unto him, 'Take thy bill, and write fourscore.'

8 "And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light. 9 And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.

10 "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. 11 **If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon (earthly wealth), who will commit to your trust the true riches?**[1]12 **And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?**[2]

13 "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided (mocked) him. 15 And he said unto them, "Ye

**1** *Do you want more money? More influence? More opportunities? Do you want more friends? Do you want more responsibilities? Do you want more? Maybe God is waiting to see what you do with what you already have before He gives you more. How well are you managing what you already have?*

**2** *All that you have—your possessions, your gifts and talents, the good fortune that has come your way... all of it has been given to you on loan. One day the Lender will want an accounting. How have you done with what you have been given?*

are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

### Additional Teachings

16 “The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it. 17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle (detail) of the law to fail.

18 “Whosoever putteth away (divorces) his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery.

### The Rich Man and Lazarus

19 “There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared (lived) sumptuously (in luxury) every day: 20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, 21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; 23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24 And he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

25 “But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. 26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass (travel) from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.’

27 “Then he said, ‘I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father’s house: 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’

29 “Abraham saith unto him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’

30 “And he said, ‘Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.’

31 “And he said unto him, ‘If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though (even if) one rose from the dead.’”

### Sin, Faith, Duty

**17:1** Then said he unto the disciples, “It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come! 2 It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.

3 “Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass (sins) against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. 4 And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, ‘I repent;’ thou shalt forgive him.”



5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, “Increase our faith.”

6 And the Lord said, “If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, ‘Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea;’ and it should obey you.

7 “But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, ‘Go and sit down to meat?’ 8 And will not rather say unto him, ‘Make ready (prepare) wherewith I may sup (eat), and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink?’ 9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. 10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, ‘We are unprofitable (unworthy) servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.’”

### Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy

11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: 13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.”

14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, “Go shew yourselves unto the priests.” And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, “Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? 18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.” 19 And he said unto him, “Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.”

### The Coming of the Kingdom of God

20 And when he was demanded (asked) of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, “The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, ‘Lo here!’ or, ‘lo there!’ for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.”

22 And he said unto the disciples, “The days will come, when ye shall desire to see one of the days of the Son of man, and ye shall not see it. 23 And they shall say to you, ‘See here;’ or, ‘see there:’ go not after them, nor follow them. 24 For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of man be in his day. 25 But first must he suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation.

26 “And as it was in the days of

Noe (Noah), so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. 27 They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

28 “Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; 29 But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

30 “Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. 31 In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. 32 Remember Lot’s wife. 33 Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it. 34 I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. 35 Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 36 Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.”

37 And they answered and said unto him, “Where, Lord?”

And he said unto them, “Wheresoever the body is, thither (there) will the eagles (vultures) be gathered together.”

### The Parable of the Persistent Widow

**18:1** And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; 2 Saying, “There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, ‘Avenge me (grant me justice) of mine adversary’. 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I fear not God, nor regard man; 5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’”

6 And the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge saith. 7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? 8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”

### The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.’ 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, ‘God be merciful to me a sinner.’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased (humbled); and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”



### The Little Children and Jesus

15 And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them. 16 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, “Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. 17 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.”

### The Rich and the Kingdom of God

18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, “Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

19 And Jesus said unto him, “Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God. 20 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.”

21 And he said, “All these have I kept from my youth up.”

22 Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, “Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.” 23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

24 And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, “How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”

26 And they that heard it said, “Who then can be saved?”

27 And he said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

28 Then Peter said, “Lo, we have left all, and followed thee.”

29 And he said unto them, “Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or parents, or brethren, or wife, or children, for the kingdom of God’s sake, 30 Who shall not receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting.”

### Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time

31 Then he took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, “Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. 32 For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated (insulted), and spitted on: 33 And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.”

34 And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

### A Blind Beggar Receives His Sight

35 And it came to pass, that as he was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging: 36 And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant. 37 And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by.

38 And he cried, saying, "Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me."

39 **And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, "Thou Son of David, have mercy on me."**[1]

40 And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto him: and when he was come near, he asked him, 41 Saying, "What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee?"

And he said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight."

42 And Jesus said unto him, "Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee." 43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.

### Zacchaeus the Tax Collector

**19:1** And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans (tax collector), and he was rich. 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press (crowd), because he was little of stature. 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.

5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, "Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house." 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That "he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner."

8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold."

9 And Jesus said unto him, "This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

### The Parable of the Ten Minas

11 And as they heard these things, he added and spake a parable, because he was nigh to Jerusalem, and because they thought that the kingdom of God should immediately appear. 12 He said therefore, "A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. 13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them

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**1** *Perhaps being a self-relient truck driver makes it hard for you to ask for help. Could it be that asking for help is more about boldness than weakness. Where in your life do you need to be bold in asking for help?*



ten pounds, and said unto them, 'Occupy till I come.' 14 But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.'

15 "And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

16 "Then came the first, saying, 'Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.'

17 "And he said unto him, 'Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.'

18 "And the second came, saying, 'Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.'

19 "And he said likewise to him, 'Be thou also over five cities.'

20 "And another came, saying, 'Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin: 21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere (hard) man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.'

22 "And he saith unto him, 'Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow: 23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury (interest)?'

24 "And he said unto them that stood by, 'Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.'

25 "And they said unto him, 'Lord, he hath ten pounds.'

26 "For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him. 27 But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me."

### Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

28 And when he had thus spoken, he went before, ascending up to Jerusalem. 29 And it came to pass, when he was come nigh to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount called the mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, 30 Saying, "Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither. 31 And if any man ask you, 'Why do ye loose him?' thus shall ye say unto him, 'Because the Lord hath need of him.'"

32 And they that were sent went their way, and found even as he had said unto them. 33 And as they were loosing the colt, the owners thereof said unto them, "Why loose ye the colt?"

34 And they said, "The Lord hath need of him."

35 And they brought him to Jesus: and they cast their garments

upon the colt, and they set Jesus thereon. 36 And as he went, they spread their clothes in the way.

37 And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; 38 Saying, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest."

39 And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, "Master, rebuke thy disciples."

40 And he answered and said unto them, "I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out."

41 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, 42 Saying, "If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. 43 For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, 44 And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation."

### Jesus at the Temple

45 And he went into the temple, and began to cast out them that sold therein, and them that bought; 46 Saying unto them, "It is written, My house is the house of prayer: but ye have made it a den of thieves."

47 And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, 48 And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him.

### The Authority of Jesus Questioned

**20:1** it came to pass, that on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon him with the elders, 2 And spake unto him, saying, "Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?"

3 And he answered and said unto them, "I will also ask you one thing; and answer me: 4The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?"

5 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we shall say, 'From heaven;' he will say, 'Why then believed ye him not?' 6 But and if we say, 'Of men;' all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet. 7 And they answered, that they could not tell whence it was.

8 And Jesus said unto them, "Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things."

### The Parable of the Tenants

9 Then began he to speak to the people this parable; "A certain man planted a vineyard, and let it forth to husbandmen (farmers), and went



into a far country for a long time. 10 And at the season (harvest time) he sent a servant to the husbandmen, that they should give him of the fruit of the vineyard: but the husbandmen beat him, and sent him away empty. 11 And again he sent another servant: and they beat him also, and entreated him shamefully, and sent him away empty. 12 And again he sent a third: and they wounded him also, and cast him out.

13 "Then said the lord of the vineyard, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son: it may be they will reverence him when they see him.'

14 "But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, 'This is the heir: come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.' 15 So they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do unto them? 16 He shall come and destroy these husbandmen, and shall give the vineyard to others."

And when they heard it, they said, "God forbid."

17 And he beheld them, and said, "What is this then that is written, 'The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?' 18 Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

19 And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them.

### Paying Taxes to Caesar

20 And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign (pretend) themselves just (honest) men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. 21 And they asked him, saying, "Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God truly: 22 Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?"

23 But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, "Why tempt ye me? 24 Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it?" They answered and said, "Caesar's."

25 And he said unto them, "Render (give) therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's." 26 And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.

### The Resurrection and Marriage

27 Then came to him certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection; and they asked him, 28 Saying, "Master, Moses wrote unto us, If any man's brother die, having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed (children) unto his brother. 29 There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children. 30 And the second took her to wife, and he died childless. 31 And the third took her;

and in like manner the seven also: and they left no children, and died. 32 Last of all the woman died also. 33 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? for seven had her to wife."

34 And Jesus answering said unto them, "The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: 35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: 36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. 37 Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. 38 For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him."

39 Then certain of the scribes answering said, "Master, thou hast well said." 40 And after that they durst (dared) not ask him any question at all.

### Whose Son Is the Messiah?

41 And he said unto them, "How say they that Christ is David's son? 42 And David himself saith in the book of Psalms, 'The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 43 Till I make thine enemies thy footstool.' 44 David therefore calleth him 'Lord,' how is he then his son?"

### Warning Against the Teachers of the Law

45 Then in the audience of all the people he said unto his disciples, 46 "Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; 47 Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation."

### The Widow's Offering

**21:1** And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. 2 And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. 3 And he said, "Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: 4 For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury (poverty) hath cast in all the living that she had."

### The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times

5 And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said, 6 "As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down."

7 And they asked him, saying, "Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass?"

8 And he said, "Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, 'I am Christ;' and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them. 9 But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by."



10 Then said he unto them, "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: 11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

12 "But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. 13 And it shall turn to you for a testimony. 14 Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: 15 For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay (contradict) nor resist. 16 And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. 17 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. 18 But there shall not an hair of your head perish. 19 In your patience possess ye your souls."

20 "And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed (surrounded) with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh. 21 Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto. 22 For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. 23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck (are nursed), in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. 24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

25 "And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity (confusion); the sea and the waves roaring; 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

29 And he spake to them a parable; "Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; 30 When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. 31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand.

32 "Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. 33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.'

34 "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged (weighed down) with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35 For as a snare shall it come on all

them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

37 And in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called the mount of Olives. 38 And all the people came early in the morning to him in the temple, for to hear him.

### Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

**22:1** Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. 2 And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people.

3 Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. 4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him (Jesus) unto them. 5 And they were glad, and covenanted (promised) to give him money. 6 And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.

### The Last Supper

7 Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed. 8 And he (Jesus) sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat."

9 And they said unto him, "Where wilt thou that we prepare?"

10 And he said unto them, "Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. 11 And ye shall say unto the Goodman (owner) of the house, 'The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?' 12 And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready."

13 And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover. 14 And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. 15 And he said unto them, "With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: 16 For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

17 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves: 18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come."

19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me."

20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you. 21 But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. 22 And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!"

23 And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.



24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest. 25 And he said unto them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27 For whether (which) is greater, he that sitteth at meat (the meal), or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth. 28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. 29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; 30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

31 And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."

33 And he said unto him, "Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death."

34 And he said, "I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me."

35 And he said unto them, "When I sent you without purse, and scrip (bag), and shoes, lacked ye any thing?"

And they said, "Nothing."

36 Then said he unto them, "But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. 37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, 'And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.'"

38 And they said, "Lord, behold, here are two swords."

And he said unto them, "It is enough."

### Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives

39 And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. 40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, "Pray that ye enter not into temptation." 41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

45 And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping (exhausted) for sorrow, 46 And said unto them, "Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation."

### Jesus Arrested

47 And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. 48 But Jesus said unto him, “Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?”

49 When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, “Lord, shall we smite with the sword?”

50 And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear.

51 And Jesus answered and said, “Suffer ye thus far.” And he touched his ear, and healed him.

52 Then Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and the elders, which were come to him, “Be ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and staves? 53 When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

### Peter Disowns Jesus

54 Then took they him, and led him, and brought him into the high priest’s house. And Peter followed afar off. 55 And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them. 56 But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, “This man was also with him.”

57 And he denied him, saying, “Woman, I know him not.”

58 And after a little while another saw him, and said, “Thou art also of them.”

And Peter said, “Man, I am not.”

59 And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, “Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is a Galilaean.”

60 And Peter said, “Man, I know not what thou sayest.” And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. 61 And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, “Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.” 62 And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

### The Guards Mock Jesus

63 And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote him. 64 And when they had blindfolded him, they struck him on the face, and asked him, saying, “Prophesy, who is it that smote thee?” 65 And many other things blasphemously spake they against him.

### Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

66 And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council, saying, 67 “Art thou the Christ? tell us.”

And he said unto them, “If I tell you, ye will not believe: 68 And if I also ask you, ye will not answer me, nor let me go. 69 Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.”



70 Then said they all, “Art thou then the Son of God?”

And he said unto them, “Ye say that I am.”

71 And they said, “What need we any further witness? for we ourselves have heard of his own mouth.”

**23:1** And the whole multitude of them arose, and led him unto Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this fellow perverting (subverting) the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.”

3 And Pilate asked him, saying, “Art thou the King of the Jews?”

And he answered him and said, “Thou sayest it.”

4 Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, “I find no fault in this man.”

5 And they were the more fierce, saying, “He stirreth up the people, teaching throughout all Jewry, beginning from Galilee to this place.”

6 When Pilate heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a Galilaean. 7 And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time.

8 And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him. 9 Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. 10 And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. 11 And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.

12 And the same day Pilate and Herod were made friends together: for before they were at enmity between themselves.

13 And Pilate, when he had called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, 14 Said unto them, “Ye have brought this man unto me, as one that perverteth the people: and, behold, I, having examined him before you, have found no fault in this man touching those things whereof ye accuse him: 15 No, nor yet Herod: for I sent you to him; and, lo, nothing worthy of death is done unto him. 16 I will therefore chastise (punish) him, and release him.” 17 For of necessity he must release one unto them at the feast.

18 And they cried out all at once, saying, “Away with this man, and release unto us Barabbas:” 19 Who for a certain sedition (uprising) made in the city, and for murder, was cast into prison.

20 Pilate therefore, willing to release Jesus, spake again to them. 21 But they cried, saying, “Crucify him, crucify him.”

22 And he said unto them the third time, “Why, what evil hath he done? I have found no cause of death in him: I will therefore chastise him, and let him go.”

23 And they were instant with

loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and of the chief priests prevailed. 24 And Pilate gave sentence that it should be as they required. 25 And he released unto them him that for sedition and murder was cast into prison, whom they had desired; but he delivered Jesus to their will.

### The Crucifixion of Jesus

26 And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus.

27 And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him. 28 But Jesus turning unto them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. 29 For, behold, the days are coming, in the which they shall say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bare, and the paps (breasts) which never gave suck (nursed).' 30 Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us;' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' 31 For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?"

32 And there were also two others, malefactors (criminals), led with him to be put to death. 33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34 Then said Jesus, **"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."**[1] And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

35 And the people stood beholding (watching). And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God."

36 And the soldiers also mocked him, coming to him, and offering him vinegar, 37 And saying, "If thou be the king of the Jews, save thyself."

38 And a superscription (notice) also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, "If thou be Christ, save thyself and us."

40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, "Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss."

42 And he said unto Jesus, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom."

43 And Jesus said unto him, **"Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."**[2]

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**1** *Jesus spoke only seven words or phrases during the most important event in history and the first word was about forgiveness. Where do you need it? Who in your life needs it?*

**2** *Jesus' second word from the cross was to a thief who deserved what he was getting. But at the last minute he turned to Jesus and got Heaven instead. Maybe you havent lived the best life so far. It is never too late to turn things around by turning over your life to Jesus. Why is it smart not to wait until the very end to make the decision to accept Christ?*



### The Death of Jesus

44 And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, **"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit:"**[1] and having said thus, he gave up the ghost (He died).

47 Now when the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous man." 48 And all the people that came together to that sight, beholding the things which were done, smote their breasts, and returned. 49 And all his acquaintance, and the women that followed him from Galilee, stood afar off, beholding these things.

### The Burial of Jesus

50 And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: 51 The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them; he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. 53 And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulcher (tomb) that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. 54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.

55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. 56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

### Jesus Has Risen

**24:1** Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they (the women) came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. 3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: 5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, "Why seek ye the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, 7 Saying, 'The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" 8 And they remembered his words, 9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told

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**1** *One day you will give up your last breath. If you put you life in God's hands now He will hold you in His hand on that day. Whose hands are you in?*

these things unto the apostles. 11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. 12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

### On the Road to Emmaus

13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. 16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

17 And he said unto them, “What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another (what are you discussing), as ye walk, and are sad?”

18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, “Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?”

19 And he said unto them, “What things?”

And they said unto him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.”

25 Then he said unto them, “O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?” 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets (This was a shortcut way of saying the whole Old Testament), he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. 28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. 29 But they constrained him, saying, “Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” And he went in to tarry with them.

30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. 32 And they said one to another, “Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”



33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34 Saying, “The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.” 35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

### Jesus Appears to the Disciples

36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, “Peace be unto you.”

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, “Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle (touch) me, and see; for a spirit (ghost) hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.”

40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, “Have ye here any meat?” 42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took it, and did eat before them.

44 And he said unto them, “These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.”

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, 46 And said unto them, “Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And ye are witnesses of these things. 49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”

### The Ascension of Jesus

50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. 51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: 53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

*the book of* **John**

**Summary:** *The last book of the gospels was written by John, one of Jesus' 12 disciples. He was exiled to the Greek island of Patmos until his death. He was the last remaining disciple of the 12 when he died.*

**1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**[1] 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

### John tells of Jesus coming

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 **And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**[2]

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, "This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me." 16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

### John the Baptist Not the Messiah

19 And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who art thou?"

20 And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

21 And they asked him, "What then? Art thou Elias (Elijah)?"

And he saith, "I am not."

"Art thou that prophet?"

And he answered, "No."

22 Then said they unto him, "Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?"

23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias (Isaiah)."

24 And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, and said unto him, "Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias (Elijah), neither that (a) prophet?"

26 John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; 27 He it is, who coming after me is preferred before (greater than) me, whose shoe's latchet (lace) I am not worthy to unloose." 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### Jesus is the Lamb of God

29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**[1] 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me cometh a man which is preferred before (greater than) me: for he was before me.' 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest (known) to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water." 32 And John bare record, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode (rested) upon him. 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, 'Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost (Spirit).' 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God."

### Jesus calls disciples

35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; 36 and looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, "Behold the Lamb of God!"

37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, "What seek ye?"

They said unto him, "Rabbi," which is to say, being interpreted, "Master, where dwellest thou?"

39 He saith unto them, "Come and see."

They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour. 40 One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, "We have found the Messias (Messiah)," which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas (or Peter)," which is by interpretation, A stone (or rock).

### Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and fin-

**1** *The Bible begins with these words in the Book of Genesis: "In the beginning God ..." These words are repeated about Jesus. Jesus was not just a good person. He was from the beginning becuase He is God. Why is it important to belive that Jesus was God?*

**2** *Treat others with love and forgiveness as Jesus did, and they will see Jesus in you—God's love will be made flesh in you. What are you doing to show your relationship with Jesus to others?*

**1** *The lamb was used as a sacrifice at the first Passover, making it possible for the people of Israel to be freed from their slavery to the Egyptians. Jesus death on the cross was a sacrifice so that we can be freed from our slavery to sin and death. Have you accepted this sacrifice made on your behalf?*

deth Philip, and saith unto him, “Follow me.”

44 Now Philip was of (from) Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, “We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

46 And Nathanael said unto him, “Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?”

Philip saith unto him, “Come and see.”

47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, “Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile (falsehood)!”

48 Nathanael saith unto him, “Whence (From where) knowest thou me?”

Jesus answered and said unto him, “Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.”

49 Nathanael answered and saith unto him, “Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.”

50 Jesus answered and said unto him, “Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these.”

51 And he saith unto him, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.”

### Jesus turns water into wine

**2:1** And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2 and both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. 3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, “They have no wine.”

4 Jesus saith unto her, “Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.”

5 His mother saith unto the servants, “Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.” 6 And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.

7 Jesus saith unto them, “Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.” 8 And he saith unto them, “Draw out now, and bear unto (bring it to) the governor of the feast.” And they bare it.

9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was (where it came from): but the servants which drew the water knew; the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, 10 and saith unto him, “Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now.”

11 This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth (made known) his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

### Jesus clears out the temple

12 After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples: and they continued there not many days. 13 And the Jews’ passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, 14 and found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: 15 and when he had made a scourge of small cords (a whip), he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out (kicked out) the changers’ money, and overthrew the tables; 16 and said unto them that sold doves, “Take these things hence (out); make not my Father’s house an house of merchandise (buying and selling).”

17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, “The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.”

18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him, “What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?”

19 Jesus answered and said unto them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

20 Then said the Jews, “Forty and six years was this temple in building (in the process of being built), and wilt thou rear it up (rebuild it) in three days?” 21 But he spake of the temple of his body. 22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

23 Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when they saw the miracles which he did. 24 But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, 25 and needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

### Jesus talks about salvation

**3:1** There was a man of the Pharisees (A religious leader), named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2 the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, “Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.”

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, “How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?”

5 Jesus answered, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, ‘Ye must be born again.’ 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth (blows), and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, “How can these things be?”

10 Jesus answered and said

unto him, “Art thou a master (teacher) of Israel, and knowest not these things? 11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that (what) we do know, and testify that (what) we have seen; and ye receive not our witness (don’t believe it). 12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? 13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: 15 that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. **16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**[1] 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”

### John the Baptist honors Jesus

22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judæa; and there he tarried (remained) with them, and baptized. 23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized. 24 For John was not yet cast into prison.

25 Then there arose a question between some of John’s disciples and the Jews about purifying. 26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, “Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.”

27 John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. 28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.’ 29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

31 “He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. 32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. 33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. 34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. 36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

**1** *Take out the words “the world” and put your own name in this verse. God the Father gave up His Son for you. What does that say about how much you are worth? This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to John 15:13-14; pg. 184.*



### Jesus is the living water

**4:1** When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, 2 though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples, 3 he left Judæa, and departed again into Galilee. 4 And he must needs (had to) go through Samaria. 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. 7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, “Give me to drink.” 8 For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.

9 Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, “How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria?” for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

10 Jesus answered and said unto her, “If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, ‘Give me to drink;’ thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.”

11 The woman saith unto him, “Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? 12 Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?”

13 Jesus answered and said unto her, “Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: 14 but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.”

15 The woman saith unto him, “Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither (here) to draw.”

16 Jesus saith unto her, “Go, call thy husband, and come hither (here).”

17 The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.”

Jesus said unto her, “Thou hast well said, I have no husband: 18 for thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly (you speak the truth).”

19 The woman saith unto him, “Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshipped in (on) this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.”

21 Jesus saith unto her, “Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in (on) this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the

Jews. 23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

25 The woman saith unto him, "I know that Messias (Messiah) cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things."

26 Jesus saith unto her, "I that speak unto thee am he."

### The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, "What seekest thou?" or, "Why talkest thou with her?"

28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, 29 "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?"

30 Then they went out of the city, and came unto him.

31 In the mean while his disciples prayed (urged) him, saying, "Master, eat."

32 But he said unto them, "I have meat (food) to eat that ye know not of."

33 Therefore said the disciples one to another, "Hath any man brought him ought (something) to eat?"

34 Jesus saith unto them, "My meat (food) is to do the will of him (God) that sent me, and to finish his work. 35 Say not ye, 'There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?' behold, I say unto you, 'Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.' 36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. 37 And herein is that saying true, 'One soweth, and another reapeth.' 38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed (put in) no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered (gain) into (from) their labours."

### Many Samaritans Believe

39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, "He told me all that ever I did."

40 So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought (begged) him that he would tarry (stay) with them: and he abode (stayed) there two days. 41 And many more believed because of his own word; 42 and said unto the woman, **"Now we believe, not because of thy saying (word): for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world."**[1]

### Jesus heals the noble man's son

43 Now after two days he departed thence (from there), and went into Galilee. 44 For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country. 45

**1** *It would seem people need to experience Jesus in some way before they recognize Him as the Savior. How have you experienced the reality of Jesus in your life?*



Then when he was come into (came to) Galilee, the Galilæans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast. 46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judæa into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought (sought) him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death. 48 Then said Jesus unto him, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe."

49 The nobleman saith unto him, "Sir, come down ere (or) my child die."

50 Jesus saith unto him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth."

And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. 51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, "Thy son liveth." 52 Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend (get better). And they said unto him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, "Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house." 54 This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judæa into Galilee.

### Jesus heals the invalid at Bethesda

**5:1** After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue "Bethesda," having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent (invalid) folk, of blind, halt (lame), withered, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain season (time) into the pool, and troubled (stirred) the water: whosoever then (was first in) first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. 5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case (situation), he saith unto him, "Wilt thou (do you want to) be made whole?"

7 The impotent (invalid) man answered him, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled (stirred), to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me."

8 Jesus saith unto him, "Rise, take up thy bed (mat), and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed (mat), and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

10 The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, "It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed (mat)."

11 He answered them, "He that made me whole, the same said unto me, 'Take up thy bed, and walk.'"

12 Then asked they him, "What man is that which said unto thee,

'Take up thy bed, and walk?'"

13 And he that was healed wist not (did not know) who it was: for Jesus had conveyed himself away (disappeared), a multitude being in that place. 14 Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." 15 The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole.

### Jesus has God's Authority

16 And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day. 17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work."

18 Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.

19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. 20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew (show) him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. 21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them (makes them alive); even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. 22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: 23 that all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. 25 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; 27 and hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. 28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto (will receive) the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto (will receive) the resurrection of damnation. 30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

### God himself sent Jesus

31 "If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. 32 There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. 33 Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth. 34 But I receive not testimony from man: but these things I say, that ye might be saved. 35 He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light. 36 But I have greater witness than that of



John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. 37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. 38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. 39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. 40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. 41 I receive not honour from men. 42 But I know you, that ye have not the love of God in you. 43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. 44 How can ye believe, which receive honour one of another, and seek not the honour that cometh from God only? 45 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father: there is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom ye trust. 46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me. 47 But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?"

### Jesus feeds the 5,000

**6:1** After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias. 2 And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased. 3 And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples. 4 And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh (happening). 5 When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, "Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 And this he said to prove (test) him: for he himself knew what he would do.

7 Philip answered him, "Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little."

8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, 9 "There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?"

10 And Jesus said, "Make the men sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks (prayed), he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. 12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, "This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world." 15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.

### Jesus walks on the water

16 And when even (evening) was now come, his disciples went down unto the sea, 17 and entered into a ship (boat), and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was now dark, and Jesus was not come to them. 18 And the sea arose by reason of a great wind that blew. 19 So when they had rowed about five and twenty or thirty furlongs, they see Jesus walking on the sea, and drawing nigh unto the ship (boat): and they were afraid. 20 But he saith unto them, "It is I; be not afraid." 21 Then they willingly received him into the ship: and immediately the ship was at the land whither (to where) they went.

### Jesus is the bread of life

22 The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but that his disciples were gone away alone; 23 howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks: 24 when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping (got in boats), and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus. 25 And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, "Rabbi, when camest thou hither (here)?"

26 Jesus answered them and said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. 27 Labour not for the meat (food) which perisheth, but for that meat (food) which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed (set his seal)."

28 Then said they unto him, "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?"

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, "This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."

30 They said therefore unto him, "What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? 31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

32 Then Jesus said unto them, **"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world."**[1]

34 Then said they unto him, "Lord, evermore give us this bread."

35 And Jesus said unto them, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. 36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe

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**1** *The bread that came from heaven in the time of Moses (manna as it was called) fell from the sky miraculously to feed the people of Israel in the desert. But now Jesus says that He is the real bread from heaven. How is Jesus like bread?*



not. 37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."

41 The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, "I am the bread which came down from heaven." 42 And they said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that he saith, 'I came down from heaven?'"

43 Jesus therefore answered and said unto them, "Murmur not among yourselves. 44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall be all taught of God.' Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. 46 Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father. 47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. 48 I am that bread of life. 49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

52 The Jews therefore strove (argued) among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

53 Then Jesus said unto them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. 58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever."

### Some desert Jesus but the 12 remain

59 These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. 60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, "This is an hard saying; who can hear it?" 61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, "Doth this offend you? 62 What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? 63 It is the spirit that quickeneth (gives life); the flesh profiteth nothing: the words

that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. 64 But there are some of you that believe not." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. 65 And he said, "Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father."

66 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. 67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, "Will ye also go away?"

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, **"Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.**[1] 69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God." 70 Jesus answered them, "Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?" 71 He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.

### Jesus teaches at the feast of tabernacles

**7:1** After these things Jesus walked in Galilee: for he would not walk in Jewry (Judea), because the Jews sought to kill him. 2 Now the Jews' feast of tabernacles was at hand. 3 His brethren therefore said unto him, "Depart hence (from here), and go into Judæa, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest. 4 For there is no man that doeth any thing in secret, and he himself seeketh to be known openly. If thou do these things, shew (show) thyself to the world." 5 For neither did his brethren believe in him.

6 Then Jesus said unto them, "My time is not yet come: but your time is alway ready. 7 The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil. 8 Go ye up unto this feast: I go not up yet unto this feast; for my time is not yet full come." 9 When he had said these words unto them, he abode still in Galilee.

10 But when his brethren were gone up, then went he also up unto the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. 11 Then the Jews sought him at the feast, and said, "Where is he?" 12 And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, "He is a good man:" others said, "Nay; but he deceiveth the people." 13 Howbeit no man spake openly of him for fear of the Jews.

### Jesus Teaches at the Festival

14 Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught. 15 And the Jews marvelled, saying, "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?"

16 Jesus answered them, and said, "My doctrine (teaching) is not mine, but his that sent me. 17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. 18 He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

19 "Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?" 20 The people answered and said, "Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?"

21 Jesus answered and said unto them, "I have done one work (miracle), and ye all marvel. 22 Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers; and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man. 23 If a man on the sabbath day receive circumcision, that the law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at me, because I have made a man every whit (part) whole on the sabbath day? 24 Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment."

### Division Over Who Jesus Is

25 Then said some of them of Jerusalem, "Is not this he, whom they seek to kill? 26 But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ? 27 Howbeit we know this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is."

28 Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, "Ye both know me, and ye know whence (from where) I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. 29 But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me." 30 Then they sought to take him: but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come. 31 And many of the people believed on him, and said, "When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?"

32 The Pharisees heard that the people murmured such things concerning him; and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take him. 33 Then said Jesus unto them, "Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me. 34 Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither (there) ye cannot come."

35 Then said the Jews among themselves, "Whither (where) will he go, that we shall not find him? will he go unto the dispersed among the Gentiles, and teach the Gentiles? 36 What manner of saying is this that he said, 'Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come?'"

37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, 'out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" 39 But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost (Spirit) was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.

### Some choose for Jesus; some against

40 Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, "Of a truth this is the Prophet." 41 Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Shall Christ come out of Galilee? 42 Hath not the scripture said, 'That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?'"

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**1** *Good question. If you are not going to follow Jesus, who are you going to follow?*

43 So there was a division
among the people because of him.
44 And some of them would have
taken him; but no man laid hands on
him.

45 Then came the officers to
the chief priests and Pharisees; and
they said unto them, “Why have ye
not brought him?”

46 The officers answered, “Nev-
er man spake like this man.”

47 Then answered them the
Pharisees, “Are ye also deceived?
48 Have any of the rulers or of the
Pharisees believed on him? 49 But
this people who knoweth not the
law are cursed.” 50 Nicodemus
saith unto them, - he that came to
Jesus by night, being one of them,
- 51 “Doth our law judge any man,
before it hear him, and know what
he doeth?”

52 They answered and said
unto him, “Art thou also of Galilee?
Search, and look: for out of Galilee
ariseth no prophet.” 53 And every
man went unto his own house.

**8:1** Jesus went unto the mount
of Olives. 2 And early in the morn-
ing he came again into the temple,
and all the people came unto him;
and he sat down, and taught them.
3 And the scribes and Pharisees
brought unto him a woman taken
(caught) in adultery; and when they
had set her in the midst, 4 they say
unto him, “Master, this woman was
taken **in adultery, in the very act.**[1] 5
Now Moses in the law commanded
us, that such should be stoned: but
what sayest thou?” 6 This they said,
tempting him, that they might have
to accuse him.

But Jesus stooped down, and
with his finger wrote on the ground,
as though he heard them not. 7 So
when they continued asking him,
he lifted up himself, and said unto
them, **“He that is without sin among
you, let him first cast a stone at her.”**[2]
8 And again he stooped down, and
wrote on the ground. 9 And they
which heard it, being convicted by
their own conscience, went out one
by one, beginning at the eldest,
even unto the last: and Jesus was
left alone, and the woman standing
in the midst. 10 When Jesus had
lifted up himself, and saw none but
the woman, he said unto her, “Wom-
an, where are those thine accusers?
hath no man condemned thee?”

11 She said, “No man, Lord.”

And Jesus said unto her, “Nei-
ther do I condemn thee: go, and sin
no more.”

### Dispute Over Jesus’ Testimony

12 Then spake Jesus again unto
them, saying, **“I am the light of the
world: he that followeth me shall not
walk in darkness, but shall have the
light of life.”** [3]

13 The Pharisees therefore said

**1** *The men must have been waiting and watching. And what about the guilty man? Why is it so easy to condemn someone else and not ourselves?*

**2** *It is so easy to see the sin in others. Look at yourself before you condemn someone else. “People who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones.” Who have you condemned lately?*

**3** *Try going down the highway with a big rig at night without lights. Not wise. Are you going down the highway of life with or without the light of Jesus?*



unto him, “Thou bearest record of
thyself; thy record is not true.”

14 Jesus answered and said
unto them, “Though I bear record of
myself, yet my record is true: for I
know whence (where) I came, and
whither (where) I go; but ye cannot
tell whence I come, and whither I go.
15 Ye judge after the flesh; I judge
no man. 16 And yet if I judge, my
judgment is true: for I am not alone,
but I and the Father that sent me. 17
It is also written in your law, that the
testimony of two men is true. 18 I
am one that bear witness of myself,
and the Father that sent me beareth
witness of me.”

19 Then said they unto him,
“Where is thy Father?”

Jesus answered, “Ye neither
know me, nor my Father: if ye had
known me, ye should have known
my Father also.” 20 These words
spake Jesus in the treasury, as he
taught in the temple: and no man
laid hands on him; for his hour was
not yet come.

### Dispute Over Who Jesus Is

21 Then said Jesus again unto
them, “I go my way, and ye shall
seek me, and shall die in your sins:
whither (where) I go, ye cannot
come.”

22 Then said the Jews, “Will
he kill himself? because he saith,
‘Whither I go, ye cannot come.’”

23 And he said unto them, “Ye
are from beneath; I am from above:
ye are of this world; I am not of this
world. 24 I said therefore unto you,
that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye
believe not that I am he, ye shall die
in your sins.”

25 Then said they unto him,
“Who art thou?”

And Jesus saith unto them,
“Even the same that I said unto you
from the beginning. 26 I have many
things to say and to judge of you:
but he that sent me is true; and I
speak to the world those things
which I have heard of him.”

27 They understood not that he
spake to them of the Father. 28 Then
said Jesus unto them, “When ye
have lifted up the Son of man, then
shall ye know that I am he, and that I
do nothing of myself; but as my Fa-
ther hath taught me, I speak these
things. 29 And he that sent me is
with me: the Father hath not left me
alone; for I do always those things
that please him.” 30 As he spake
these words, many believed on him.

### Dispute Over Whose Children Jesus’ Opponents Are

31 Then said Jesus to those
Jews which believed on him, “If ye
continue in my word, then are ye
my disciples indeed; 32 and ye shall
know the truth, and the truth shall
make you free.”

33 They answered him, “We be
(are) Abraham’s seed, and were
never in bondage to any man: how
sayest thou, ‘Ye shall be made
free?’”

34 Jesus answered them, “Ver-
ily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoev-
er committeth sin is the servant of
sin. 35 And the servant abideth not
in the house for ever: but the Son
abideth ever. 36 If the Son therefore
shall make you free, ye shall be free

indeed. 37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. 38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father."

39 They answered and said unto him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus saith unto them, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham (do). 41 Ye do the deeds of your father."

Then said they to him, "We be not born of fornication (illegitimate) ; we have one Father, even God."

42 Jesus said unto them, "If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. 43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode (live) not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. 46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God."

### Jesus' Claims About Himself

48 Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, "Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?"

49 Jesus answered, "I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me. 50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth. 51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death."

52 Then said the Jews unto him, "Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death. 53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?"

54 Jesus answered, "If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God: 55 yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad."

57 Then said the Jews unto him, "Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?"

58 Jesus said unto them, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am."

59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so



passed by.

### Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

**9:1** And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which (that) was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 Jesus answered, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, 7 and said unto him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam," which is by interpretation, "Sent." He went his way therefore, and washed, and came (away) seeing.

8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, "Is not this he that sat and begged?" 9 Some said, "This is he:" others said, "He is like him:" but he said, "I am he." 10 Therefore said they unto him, "How were thine eyes opened?"

11 He answered and said, "A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash:' and I went and washed, and I received sight."

12 Then said they unto him, "Where is he?"

He said, "I know not."

### The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

13 They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime (before) was blind. 14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. 15 Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, "He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see."

16 Therefore said some of the Pharisees, "This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day." Others said, "How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?" And there was a division among them. 17 They say unto the blind man again, "What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see?"

20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: 21 but by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself." 22 These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore said his

parents, “He is of age; ask him.”

24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, “Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.”

25 He answered and said, “Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas (before) I was blind, now I see.”

26 Then said they to him again, “What did he (do) to thee? how opened he thine eyes?

27 He answered them, “I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples?”

28 Then they reviled him, and said, “Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses’ disciples. 29 We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence (where) he is.”

30 The man answered and said unto them, “Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence (where) he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. 33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.”

34 They answered and said unto him, “Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.”

### Spiritual Blindness

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, “Dost thou believe on the Son of God?”

36 He answered and said, “Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him?”

37 And Jesus said unto him, “Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee.”

38 And he said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshipped him.

39 And Jesus said, “For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.”

40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, “Are we blind also?”

41 Jesus said unto them, “If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, ‘We see;’ therefore your sin remaineth.”

### The Good Shepherd and His Sheep

**10:1** “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the porter (gatekeeper) openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow



him: for they know his voice. 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.”

6 This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. 9 **I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.**[1] 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**[2] 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12 But he that is an hireling (hired hand), and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

14 **“I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.**[3] 15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. 17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. 18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.”

19 There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings. 20 And many of them said, “He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him?” 21 Others said, “These are not the words of him that hath a devil. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?”

### Further Conflict Over Jesus’ Claims

22 And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon’s porch. 24 Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, “How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.”

25 Jesus answered them, “I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father’s name, they bear witness of me. 26 But ye be-

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**1** *How many doors have been shut in your face just because you didn’t have the right education or becuase you have had too many failures in your past. Jesus offers you a door that is wide open. What is stopping your from going through this door?*

**2** *Make no mistake about it. Jesus came so that you could have the best life possible - the best marriage, the best family, the best friends. What is stopping your from claiming this promise for yourself?*

**3** *The creator and sustainer of the whole universe knows you. He knows when you are tired from the road. He knows when you are frustrated with things back home. He knows your unfillfiled dreams and hopes. He knows you and wants you to be His. How can you give up the control of your life to the Great Shepherd today?*

lieve not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one."

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?"

33 The Jews answered him, saying, "For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God."

34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, Ye are gods?' 35 If he called them 'gods', unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; 36 say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, 'I am the Son of God?' 37 If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him."

39 Therefore they sought again to take him: but he escaped out of their hand, 40 and went away again beyond Jordan into the place where John at first baptized; and there he abode. 41 And many resorted unto him, and said, "John did no miracle: but all things that John spake of this man were true." 42 And many believed on him there.

### The Death of Lazarus

**11:1** Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. 3 Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick."

4 When Jesus heard that, he said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby." 5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. 6 When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode (stayed) two days still in the same place where he was.

7 Then after that saith he to his disciples, "Let us go into Judæa again."

8 His disciples say unto him, "Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither (there) again?"

9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world. 10 But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him." 11 These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep."

12 Then said his disciples, "Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well." 13 Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

14 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. 15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him." 16 Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow-disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

### Jesus Comforts the Sisters of Lazarus

17 Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already. 18 Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off: 19 and many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. 20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. 21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. 22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee."

23 Jesus saith unto her, "Thy brother shall rise again."

24 Martha saith unto him, "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. **Believest thou this?"**[1]

27 She saith unto him, "Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world."

28 And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, "The Master is come, and calleth for thee."

29 As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly, and came unto him. 30 Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him. 31 The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, "She goeth unto the grave to weep there."

32 Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died."

33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, 34 and said, "Where have ye laid him?"

They said unto him, "Lord, come and see."

35 Jesus wept.

36 Then said the Jews, "Behold how he loved him!" 37 And some of them said, "Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?"

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**1** *How about you? Do you believe this?*

### Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

38 Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. 39 Jesus said, "Take ye away the stone."

Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, "Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days."

40 Jesus saith unto her, "Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" 41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me." 43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth." 44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, "Loose him, and let him go."

### The Plot to Kill Jesus

45 Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him. 46 But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done.

47 Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, "What do we? for this man doeth many miracles. 48 If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation."

49 And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, "Ye know nothing at all, 50 nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not." 51 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; 52 And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. 53 Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death. 54 Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence (from there) unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples.

55 And the Jews' passover was nigh at hand: and many went out of the country up to Jerusalem before the passover, to purify themselves. 56 Then sought they for Jesus, and spake among themselves, as they stood in the temple, "What think ye, that he will not come to the feast?" 57 Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a commandment, that, if any man knew where he were, he should shew it, that they might take him.

### Jesus Anointed at Bethany

**12:1** Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had



been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard (aromatic nard), very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, 5 "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?" 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein (he was the treasurer of the group).

7 Then said Jesus, "Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this. 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always."

9 Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. 10 But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; 11 because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.

12 On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, **"Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord."**[1] 14 And Jesus, when he had found a young ass (donkey), sat thereon; as it is written, 15 "Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt." 16 These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him.

17 The people therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of his grave, and raised him from the dead, bare record. 18 For this cause the people also met him, for that they heard that he had done this miracle. 19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "Perceive ye how ye prevail nothing? behold, the world is gone after him."

### Jesus Predicts His Death

20 And there were certain Greeks among them that came up to worship at the feast: 21 the same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, "Sir, we would see Jesus." 22 Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.

23 And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn (kernel) of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but

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**1** *On Palm Sunday, 2,000 years ago, the people in Jerusalem had high, but misguided expectations for the long-awaited Messiah—Jesus. Some 2,000 years later, what expectations do you have for Jesus?*

if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. 25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. 26 If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

27 “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. 28 Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, ‘I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.’” 29 The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, “An angel spake to him.”

30 Jesus answered and said, “This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. 31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. 32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.” 33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.

34 The people answered him, “We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, ‘The Son of man must be lifted up?’ who is this Son of man?”

35 Then Jesus said unto them, “Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. 36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light.” These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

### Belief and Unbelief Among the Jews

37 But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: 38 that the saying of Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, “Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?” 39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, 40 “He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.” 41 These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

44 Jesus cried and said, “He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. 46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say,



and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”

### Jesus Washes His Disciples’ Feet

**13:1** Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. 2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray him; 3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; 4 he riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded (put it around his waist) himself. 5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. 6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, “Lord, dost thou wash my feet?”

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, “What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.”

8 Peter saith unto him, “Thou shalt never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.”

9 Simon Peter saith unto him, “Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.”

10 Jesus saith to him, “He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.” 11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, “Ye are not all clean.”

12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, “Know ye what I have done to you? 13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

### Jesus Predicts His Betrayal

18 “I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, ‘He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.’ 19 Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he. 20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.”

21 When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.”

22 Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. 23 Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. 24 Simon

Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. 25 He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, "Lord, who is it?"

26 Jesus answered, "He it is, to whom I shall give a sop (piece of bread), when I have dipped it." And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. 27 And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, "That thou doest, do quickly." 28 Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him. 29 For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, "Buy those things that we have need of against the feast;" or, that he should give something to the poor. 30 He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

### Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial

31 Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. 32 If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. 33 Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you. 34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

36 Simon Peter said unto him, "Lord, whither (where) goest thou?

Jesus answered him, "Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards."

37 Peter said unto him, "Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake."

38 Jesus answered him, "Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice."

### Jesus Comforts His Disciples

**14:1** "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house (heaven) are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know."

5 Thomas saith unto him, "Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?"

6 Jesus saith unto him, **"I am the way,**[1] the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. 7 If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him."

8 Philip saith unto him, "Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us."

9 Jesus saith unto him, "Have

**1** *If you are not following the way of Jesus, what way are you following?*



I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, 'Shew us the Father?' 10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

### Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

15 "If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. 20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. 21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, "Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?"

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, "If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. 24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. 25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost (Spirit), whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

27 "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, 'I go away, and come again unto you.' If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, 'I go unto the Father:' for my Father is greater than I. 29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe. 30 Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me. 31 But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence (here).

### The Vine and the Branches

**15:1** "I am the true vine, and my

Father is the husbandman (vineyard keeper). 2 **Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth (prunes) it, that it may bring forth more fruit.**[1] 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 **These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.**[2] 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. **13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.**[3] 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends;**[4] for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. 16 **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain:**[5] that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another.

### The World Hates the Disciples

18 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. 19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. 20 Remember the word that I said unto you, 'The servant is not greater than his lord.' If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. 22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin. 23 He that hateth me hateth my Father also. 24

**1** *How has God been pruning you lately?*

**2** *Do you know what God's desire is for your life? Read this verses again.*

**3** *This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to Romans 6:23; pg. 252.*

**4** *God isn't interested in a superficial relationship with you. He wants to connect with you at the deepest of all levels—friendship. How is your friendship with the Lord these days?*

**5** *If you have two children and they grow up, get married, and have two children, and this pattern continues, in 400 years you will have one million people in your family tree. What aspects of you do you hope will be seen in them?*



If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father. 25 But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.' 26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: 27 and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

**16:1** "These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended. 2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. 3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me. 4 But these things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them. And these things I said not unto you at the beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, 'Whither (where) goest thou? 6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. 8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11 of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

12 "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit (however) when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew (show) you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 16 A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father."

17 Then said some of his disciples among themselves, "What is this that he saith unto us, 'A little while, and ye shall not see me:' and again, 'a little while, and ye shall see me:' and, 'Because I go to the Father?'" 18 They said therefore, "What is this that he saith, 'A little while?' we cannot tell what he saith."

### The Disciples' Grief Will Turn to Joy

19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, "Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, 'A little while, and ye shall not see me:' and again, 'a little while, and ye shall see me?' 20 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.**[1] 21 A woman when she is

**1** *You have experienced sad times in your*

in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. 22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. 23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

25 "These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew (show) you plainly of the Father. 26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: 27 for the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father."

29 His disciples said unto him, "Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. 30 Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God."

31 Jesus answered them, "Do ye now believe? 32 Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

*life. Maybe you are going through one as you read this. Because of what Jesus did for you on the cross these sad times are not the whole of your life. There is great joy ahead. Where have you seen the joy of the Lord in your life?*

### Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

**17:1** These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2 as thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

### Jesus Prays for His Disciples

6 "I have manifested (made known) thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. 7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. 8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. 9 I pray for them: I pray not for



the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. 10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

11 "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. 12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

13 "And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

### Jesus Prays for All Believers

20 "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

24 "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

### Jesus Arrested

**18:1** When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron (Kedron), where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples. 2 And Judas also, which betrayed him, knew the place: for Jesus ofttimes resorted thither with his disciples. 3 Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither (there) with lanterns and torches and weapons. 4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, "Whom seek ye?"

5 They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus saith unto them, "I am he."

And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them. 6 As soon then as he had said unto them, “I am he,” they went backward, and fell to the ground. 7 Then asked he them again, “Whom seek ye?”

And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

8 Jesus answered, “I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way: 9 that the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, ‘Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.’” 10 Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. 11 Then said Jesus unto Peter, “Put up thy sword into the sheath: the cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?”

12 Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him, 13 and led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year. 14 Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

### Peter’s First Denial

15 And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest. 16 But Peter stood at the door without (outside). Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. 17 Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, “Art not thou also one of this man’s disciples?”

He saith, “I am not.”

18 And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself.

### The High Priest Questions Jesus

19 The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. 20 Jesus answered him, “I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither (where) the Jews always resort (gathered); and in secret have I said nothing. 21 Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said.”

22 And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, “Answerest thou the high priest so?”

23 Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?” 24 Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

### Peter’s Second and Third Denials

25 And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, “Art not thou also one of his disciples?”

He denied it, and said, “I am not.” 26 One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, “Did not I see thee in the garden with him?” 27 Peter then denied again: and immediately the cock crew.



### Jesus Before Pilate

28 Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover. 29 Pilate then went out unto them, and said, “What accusation bring ye against this man?”

30 They answered and said unto him, “If he were not a malefactor (evil doer), we would not have delivered him up unto thee.”

31 Then said Pilate unto them, “Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.”

The Jews therefore said unto him, “It is not lawful for us to put any man to death: 32 that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spake, signifying what death he should die.”

33 Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, “Art thou the King of the Jews?”

34 Jesus answered him, “Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me?”

35 Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done?”

36 Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence (here).”

37 Pilate therefore said unto him, “Art thou a king then?”

Jesus answered, “Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.”

38 Pilate saith unto him, “What is truth?”

And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, “I find in him no fault at all. 39 But ye have a custom, that I should release unto you one at the passover: will ye therefore that I release unto you the King of the Jews?”

40 Then cried they all again, saying, “Not this man, but Barabbas.” Now Barabbas was a robber.

### Jesus Sentenced to Be Crucified

**19:1** Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him. 2 And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head, and they put on him a purple robe, 3 and said, “Hail, King of the Jews”! and they smote him with their hands.

4 Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them, “Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him.” 5 Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, “Behold the man!”

6 When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, “Crucify him, crucify him.”

Pilate saith unto them, “Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him.”

7 The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.”

8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid; 9 and went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, “Whence art thou?” But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 Then saith Pilate unto him, “Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?”

11 Jesus answered, “Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.”

12 And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, “If thou let this man go, thou art not Cæsar’s friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Cæsar.”

13 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. 14 And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, “Behold your King!”

15 But they cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him.”

Pilate saith unto them, “Shall I crucify your King?”

The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Cæsar.” 16 Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified.

And they took Jesus, and led him away.

### The Crucifixion of Jesus

17 And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: 18 where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.

19 And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. 20 This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. 21 Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, “Write not, The King of the Jews; but that he said, I am King of the Jews.”

22 Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

23 Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. 24 They said therefore among themselves, “Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be:” that the scripture might be fulfilled,



which saith, “They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots.” These things therefore the soldiers did.

25 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, **“Woman, behold thy son!” 27 Then saith he to the disciple, “Behold thy mother!”**[1] And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.

### The Death of Jesus

28 **After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, “I thirst.” 29 Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a spunge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth.**[2] 30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **“It is finished:”**[3] and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

31 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, for that sabbath day was an high day, besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. 32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: 34 but one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. 35 And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. 36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, “A bone of him shall not be broken.” 37 And again another scripture saith, “They shall look on him whom they pierced.”

### The Burial of Jesus

38 And after this Joseph of Arimathæa, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre (grave), wherein was never man yet laid.

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**1** *Jesus’ third word from the cross was about His concern for His mother—His earthly family. How important is family to you?*

**2** *The scripture that was fulfilled is found in Exodus 12. There you can read about the first Passover where familes celebrated God’s salvation with a meal of a sacrificed lamb. Why do we need someone to die for us?*

**3** *Notice Jesus did not say that He was finished. He said it was finished. The devil was finished. The payment for sin was finished. The reign of death was finished. The reign of sin in your life is finished. What has Jesus finished in your life?*

42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

### The Empty Tomb

**20:1** The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre (grave), and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him."

3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 and the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and **he saw, and believed.**[1] 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

**1** *John saw the empty tomb and believed. Peter did not. Two people saw the same thing but reacted differently. Belief is a personal thing. God has a serperate plan for each of us. How has God's plan of belief been unfolding in your life?*

### Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

11 But Mary stood without (outside) at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, 12 and seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 And they say unto her, "Woman, why weepest thou?"

She saith unto them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him."

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her, "Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou?"

She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, "Sir, if thou have borne him hence (taken him from here), tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away."

16 Jesus saith unto her, "Mary."

She turned herself, and saith unto him, "Rabboni;" which is to say, "Master."

17 Jesus saith unto her, "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, 'I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.'" 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

### Jesus Appears to His Disciples

19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, "Peace be unto you." 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. 21 Then said Jesus to them again, "Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost (Spirit): 23 whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained."

### Jesus Appears to Thomas

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said unto them, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe."

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace be unto you." 27 Then saith he to Thomas, "Reach hither (here) thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing."

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, "My Lord and my God."



29 Jesus saith unto him, "Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

### The Purpose of John's Gospel

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 but **these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**[1]

### The Miraculous Catch of Fish

**21:1** After these things Jesus shewed (showed) himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias (Galilee); and on this wise shewed he himself. 2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter saith unto them, "I go a fishing."

They say unto him, "We also go with thee." They went forth, and entered into a ship (boat) immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus saith unto them, "Children, have ye any meat (food)? They answered him, "No."

**1** *If you want life in the name of Jesus, then you must get to know Him—that is what reading a little bit of the Bible every day is all about. Keep it up! How would you describe your relationship with Jesus?*

6 And he said unto them, “Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find.”

They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, “It is the Lord.”

Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt (tied) his fisher’s coat unto him, for he was naked, and did cast himself (jumped) into the sea. 8 And the other disciples came in a little ship (boat); for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits, dragging the net with fishes. 9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. 10 Jesus saith unto them, “Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.”

11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. 12 Jesus saith unto them, “Come and dine.” And none of the disciples durst ask him, “Who art thou?” knowing that it was the Lord. 13 Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. 14 This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.

### Jesus Reinstates Peter

15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these?”

He saith unto him, “Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.”

He saith unto him, “Feed my lambs.”

16 He saith to him again the second time, “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?”

He saith unto him, “Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee.”

He saith unto him, “Feed my sheep.” 1

7 He saith unto him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?”

**Peter was grieved (hurt) because he said unto him the third time, “Lovest thou me?”**[1] And he said unto him, “Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.”

Jesus saith unto him, “Feed my sheep. 18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst (dressed) thyself, and walkedst whither (where) thou wouldest (you wanted to): but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.” 19 This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, “Follow me.”

20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, “Lord, which is he that betrayeth

**1** *Jesus’ asked his question three times becuase Peter had denied knowing Jesus three times. What positive thing was Jesus trying to do for Peter here?*



thee?”

21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, “Lord, and what shall this man do?”

22 Jesus saith unto him, “If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.” 23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, “He shall not die;” but, “If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?”

24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.

25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

*the book of* **Acts**

**Summary:** *The book of Acts is the story of how the Church got started and grew—first in Jerusalem (Chapters 1-7), then in Samaria (Chapters 8-12) and then to the ends of the earth (Chapters 13-28).*

### Jesus Taken Up Into Heaven

**1:1** The former treatise (the book of Luke) have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost (Spirit) had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: 3 To whom also he shewed (showed) himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence (from now).

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"

7 And he said unto them, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put (has decided) in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked stedfastly (intently) toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

### Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. 13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode (stayed) both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said - the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty - 16 "Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning



Judas, which (who) was guide to them that took Jesus. 17 For he was numbered with us (one of us), and had obtained part of this ministry."

18 "Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity (the money for betraying Jesus); and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood

20 "For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick (leadership) let another take.' 21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection."

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed, and said, "Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew (show) whether (which) of these two thou hast chosen, 25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." 26 And they gave forth (cast) their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

### The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

**2:1** And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues (languages), as the Spirit gave them utterance (enabled them).

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. 7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, "Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? 8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God." 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, "What meaneth this?" 13 Others mocking said, "These men are full of new wine."

### Peter Addresses the Crowd

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, "Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken (listen) to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days,' saith God, 'I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

22 "Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

25 "For David speaketh concerning him, 'I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: 26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: 27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.'

29 "Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre (grave) is with us unto this day. 30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. 34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, 'The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool. 36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.'"

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

38 Then Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission (forgiveness) of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, "Save yourselves from this untoward (corrupt) generation." 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

### The Fellowship of the Believers

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. 43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. 44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; 45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. 46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from **house to house**, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.[1]

**1** *The most important church is the one that meets in your home—your family. How is the church in your own home going? Have you shared your walk with your family? Why? Why not?*



### Peter Heals a Lame Beggar

**3:1** Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, "Look on us." 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ancle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God: 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him. 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, "Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or

why look ye so earnestly on us, as
though by our own power or holiness
we had made this man to walk? 13
The God of Abraham, and of Isaac,
and of Jacob, the God of our fathers,
hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom
ye delivered up, and denied him in
the presence of Pilate, when he was
determined to let him go. 14 But ye
denied the Holy One and the Just,
and desired a murderer to be grant-
ed unto you (Barnabas); 15 And
killed the Prince of life, whom God
hath raised from the dead; whereof
we are witnesses. 16 And his name
through faith in his name hath made
this man strong, whom ye see and
know: yea, the faith which is by him
hath given him this perfect sound-
ness in the presence of you all.

17 "And now, brethren, I wot
(know) that through ignorance ye
did it, as did also your rulers. 18
But those things, which God before
had shewed by the mouth of all his
prophets, that Christ should suffer,
he hath so fulfilled.

19 'Repent ye therefore, and be
converted, that your sins may be
blotted out, when the times of re-
freshing shall come from the pres-
ence of the Lord; 20 And he shall
send Jesus Christ, which before was
preached unto you: 21 Whom the
heaven must receive until the times
of restitution of all things, which God
hath spoken by the mouth of all his
holy prophets since the world be-
gan. 22 For Moses truly said unto
the fathers, 'A prophet shall the Lord
your God raise up unto you of your
brethren, like unto me; him shall ye
hear in all things whatsoever he shall
say unto you. 23 And it shall come
to pass, that every soul, which will
not hear that prophet, shall be de-
stroyed from among the people.' 24
Yea, and all the prophets from Sam-
uel and those that follow after, as
many as have spoken, have likewise
foretold of these days.

25 "Ye are the children of the
prophets, and of the covenant
which God made with our fathers,
saying unto Abraham, 'And in thy
seed shall all the kindreds of the
earth be blessed.' 26 Unto you first
God, having raised up his Son Je-
sus, sent him to bless you, in turning
away every one of you from his iniq-
uities (evil ways)."

### Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin

**4:1** And as they spake unto the
people, the priests, and the captain
of the temple, and the Sadducees,
came upon them, 2 Being grieved
(disturbed) that they taught the peo-
ple, and preached through Jesus
the resurrection from the dead. 3
And they laid hands on them (seized
them), and put them in hold (jail)
unto the next day: for it was now
eventide. 4 Howbeit many of them
which heard the word believed; and
the number of the men was about
five thousand.

5 And it came to pass on the
morrow, that their rulers, and elders,
and scribes, 6 And Annas the high
priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and
Alexander, and as many as were of
the kindred of the high priest, were
gathered together at Jerusalem. 7
And when they had set them in the
midst, they asked, "By what pow-
er, or by what name, have ye done



this?"

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy
Ghost, said unto them, "Ye rulers
of the people, and elders of Israel,
9 If we this day be examined of the
good deed done to the impotent
man (cripple), by what means he is
made whole; 10 Be it known unto
you all, and to all the people of Isra-
el, that by the name of Jesus Christ
of Nazareth, whom ye crucified,
whom God raised from the dead,
even by him doth this man stand
here before you whole. 11 This is
the stone which was set at nought
of you builders, which is become
the head of the corner. 12 Neither is
there salvation in any other: for **there
is none other name under heaven giv-
en among men, whereby we must be
saved."**[1]

13 Now when they saw the
boldness of Peter and John, and
perceived that they were unlearned
and ignorant men, they marvelled;
and they took knowledge of them,
that they had been with Jesus. 14
And beholding the man which was
healed standing with them, they
could say nothing against it. 15 But
when they had commanded them
to go aside out of the council, they
conferred among themselves, 16
Saying, "What shall we do to these
men? for that indeed a notable mir-
acle hath been done by them is
manifest (evident) to all them that
dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot
deny it. 17 But that it spread no fur-
ther among the people, let us strait-
ly threaten them, that they speak
henceforth to no man in this name."
18 And they called them, and com-
manded them not to speak at all nor
teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But
Peter and John answered and said
unto them, "Whether it be right in
the sight of God to hearken (listen)
unto you more than unto God, judge
ye. 20 For we cannot but speak
the things which we have seen and
heard."

21 So when they had further
threatened them, they let them go,
finding nothing how they might pun-
ish them, because of the people: for
all men glorified God for that which
was done. 22 For the man was
above forty years old, on whom this
miracle of healing was shewed.

### The Believers Pray

23 And being let go, they went
to their own company, and reported
all that the chief priests and elders
had said unto them. 24 And when
they heard that, they lifted up their
voice to God with one accord, and
said, "Lord, thou art God, which
hast made heaven, and earth, and
the sea, and all that in them is: 25
Who by the mouth of thy servant
David hast said, 'Why did the hea-
then rage, and the people imagine
vain things? 26 The kings of the
earth stood up, and the rulers were
gathered together against the Lord,
and against his Christ.' 27 For of a
truth against thy holy child Jesus,
whom thou hast anointed, both
Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the
Gentiles, and the people of Israel,

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**1** *The world wants you to believe that many roads lead to life, salvation, fulfillment, or heaven, but God says there is only one. Every other person, religion, belief system, or lifestyle will fail you. Jesus is the only one who won't fail you. Who or what are you counting on for your salvation?*

were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. 29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, 30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus."

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

### The Believers Share Their Possessions

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought (any) of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. 33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. 34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. 36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, 37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

### Ananias and Sapphira

**5:1** But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to (aware of) it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God." 5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost (died): and great fear came on all them that heard these things. 6 And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. 8 And Peter answered unto her, "Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much?"

And she said, "Yea, for so much."

9 Then Peter said unto her, "How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out."

10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband. 11 And great fear came upon



all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

### The Apostles Heal Many

12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. 13 And of the rest durst (dared) no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. 14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women. 15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. 16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed (tormented) with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

### The Apostles Persecuted

17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, which is the sect of the Sadducees, and were filled with indignation, 18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. 19 But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, 20 "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life." 21 And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. But the high priest came, and they that were with him, and called the council together, and all the senate of the children of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. 22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told, 23 Saying, "The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within." 24 Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow.

25 Then came one and told them, saying, "Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people." 26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned. 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, 28 Saying, "Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. 31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him."

33 When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took coun-

sel to slay them. 34 Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation (respected) among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space; 35 And said unto them, "Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men. 36 For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought. 37 After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: he also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed. 38 And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought (nothing): 39 But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply (inadvertently) ye be found even to fight against God."

40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

### The Choosing of the Seven

**6:1** And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring (dispute) of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, "It is not reason (right) that we should leave the (spreading of the) word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte (convert to Judaism) of Antioch: 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

### Stephen Seized

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.



11 Then they suborned (secretly persuaded) men, which said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God." 12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council, 13 And set up false witnesses, which said, "This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law: 14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us." 15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

### Stephen's Speech to the Sanhedrin

**7:1** Then said the high priest, "Are these things so?"

2 And he said, "Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken (listen); The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, 3 And said unto him, 'Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred (relatives), and come into the land which I shall shew thee.'

4 "Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell. 5 And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed (descendants) after him, when as yet he had no child. 6 And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil (suffer mistreatment) four hundred years. 7 'And the nation to whom they shall be in bondage will I judge,' said God: 'and after that shall they come forth, and serve me in this place.' 8 And he gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.

9 "And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him, 10 And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

11 "Now there came a dearth (famine) over all the land of Egypt and Chanaan, and great affliction: and our fathers found no sustenance. 12 But when Jacob heard that there was corn in Egypt, he sent out our fathers first. 13 And at the second time Joseph was made known to his brethren; and Joseph's kindred was made known unto Pharaoh. 14 Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to him, and all his kindred, threescore and fifteen (seventy-five) souls.

15 "So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our fathers, 16 And were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor the father

of Sychem. 17 But when the time of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt, 18 Till another king arose, which knew not Joseph. 19 The same dealt subtilly (treacherously) with our kindred, and evil entreated (threatened) our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live. 20 In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months: 21 And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son. 22 And Moses was learned (educated) in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

23 "And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. 24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: 25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. 26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove (fought), and would have set them at one again (reconciled them with each other), saying, 'Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?'

27 "But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us? 28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?' 29 Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat (fathered) two sons.

30 "And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush. 31 When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold it, the voice of the Lord came unto him, 32 Saying, 'I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' Then Moses trembled, and durst (dared) not behold (look). 33 Then said the Lord to him, 'Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground. 34 I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.'

35 "This Moses whom they refused, saying, 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge?' the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. 36 He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

37 "This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, 'A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.' 38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us: 39 To whom our fathers would not obey,



but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt, 40 Saying unto Aaron, 'Make us gods to go before us: for as for this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not (don't know) what is become of him.' 41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

42 "Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, 'O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness? 43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.'

44 "Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen. 45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David; 46 Who found favour before God, and desired to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob. 47 But Solomon built him an house. 48 Howbeit (however) the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, 49 'Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me?' saith the Lord: 'or what is the place of my rest? 50 Hath not my hand made all these things?'

51 "Ye stiffnecked (stubborn) and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. 52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: 53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it."

### The Stoning of Stephen

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart (furious), and they gnashed on him with their teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped (covered) their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, 58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." And when he had said this, he fell asleep (died).

**8:1** And Saul was consenting unto (approving of) his death.

### The Church Persecuted and Scattered

And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over (mourned for) him. 3 As for Saul, he made havock of (began to destroy) the church, entering into every house, and haling (dragging off) men and women committed them to prison.

### Philip in Samaria

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. 6 And the people with one accord gave heed (paid attention) unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city.

### Simon the Sorcerer

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched (amazed) the people of Samaria, giving out (boasting) that himself was some great one: 10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." 11 And to him they had regard (respect), because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. 12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered (was amazed), beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: 15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: 16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) 17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. 18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, 19 Saying, "Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost."

20 But Peter said unto him, "Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. 21Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. 22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. 23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall (grip) of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity (captivity of sin)."



24 Then answered Simon, and said, "Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me."

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

### Philip and the Ethiopian

26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, "Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert." 27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, "Go near, and join thyself to this chariot".

30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, **"Understandest thou what thou readest?"**

31 And he said, **"How can I, except some man should guide me?"**[1] And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb (silent) before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: 33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth."

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, "I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?"

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, "See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?" 37 And Philip said, "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest."

And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. 39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

### Saul's Conversion

**9:1** And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, 2 And desired

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**1** *Philip helped the man in the chariot understand what he was reading in the Bible. Most people need help reading the Bible. God perhaps set it up that way. Who has helped you in the past? Who can you help?*

of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. 3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, “Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?”

5 And he said, “Who art thou, Lord?”

And the Lord said, “I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”

6 And he trembling and astonished said, “Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?” And the Lord said unto him, “Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.”

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. 8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, “Ananias”.

And he said, “Behold, I am here, Lord.”

11 And the Lord said unto him, “Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.”

13 Then Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind (arrest) all that call on thy name.”

15 But the Lord said unto him, “Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name’s sake.”

17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, “Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.” 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. 19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. 20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. 21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; “Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither (here) for that intent (purpose), that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?” 22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded (baffled) the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.



### Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel (conspired) to kill him: 24 But their laying await (plan) was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. 25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed (attempted) to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. 28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. 29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against (debated with) the Grecians: but they went about to slay him. 30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus. 31Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified (strengthened); and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

### Aeneas and Dorcas

32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. 33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy. 34 And Peter said unto him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed.” And he arose immediately. 35 And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. 37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber. 38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them. 39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth (out of the room), and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. 41 And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. 42 And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord. 43 And it came to pass, that he tarried (stayed) many days in Joppa

with one Simon a tanner.

### Cornelius Calls for Peter

**10:1** There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, 2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. 3 He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, "Cornelius."

4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, Lord?"

And he said unto him, "Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. 5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter: 6 He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do."

7 And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually; 8 And when he had declared all these things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

### Peter's Vision

9 On the morrow (following day), as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: 10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready (prepared the meal), he fell into a trance, 11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: 12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13 And there came a voice to him, "Rise, Peter; kill, and eat."

14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean."

15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common."

16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven. 17 Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made enquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate, 18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, "Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them."

21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, "Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?"

22 And they said, "Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned (instructed) from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee." 23 Then called he them in, and lodged them.



### Peter at Cornelius's House

And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him. 24 And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends. 25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. 26 But Peter took him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself also am (just) a man."

27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together. 28 And he said unto them, "Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean. 29 Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying (objecting), as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent (purpose) ye have sent for me?"

30 And Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, 31 And said, 'Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.' 33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God."

34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, "Of a truth I perceive (I realize now) that God is no respecter of persons (God does not show favoritism): 35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness (does what is right), is accepted with him. 36 The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: - he is Lord of all: - 37 That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; 38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

39 "And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: 40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; 41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead. 42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick (living) and dead. 43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whoso-

ever believeth in him shall receive remission (forgiveness) of sins."

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

Then answered Peter, 47 "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?"

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry (stay) certain days.

### Peter Explains His Actions

**11:1** And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. 2 And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with (criticized) him, 3 Saying, "Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them."

4 But Peter rehearsed (explained) the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying, 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me: 6 Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. 7 And I heard a voice saying unto me, 'Arise, Peter; slay and eat.'

8 "But I said, 'Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.'

9 "But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.' 10 And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.

11 "And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me. 12 And the spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house: 13 And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; 14 Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.'

15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. 16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, 'John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.' 17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand (oppose) God?"

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, "Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life."



### The Church in Antioch

19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only. 20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. 23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted (encouraged) them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave (remain committed) unto the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: 26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

27 And in these days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch. 28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth (famine) throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar. 29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: 30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

### Peter's Escape From Prison

**12:1** Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex (persecute) certain of the church. 2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. 3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. Then were the days of unleavened bread. 4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. 5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. 7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, "Arise up quickly." And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, "Gird thyself (get dressed), and bind on thy sandals." And so he did. And he saith unto him, "Cast thy gar-

ment about thee, and follow me." 9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist (understood) not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. 10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith (immediately) the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, "Now I know of a surety (for certain), that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews." 12 And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying. 13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda. 14 And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, "Thou art mad." But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, "It is his angel."

16 But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished. 17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison.

And he said, "Go shew (explain) these things unto James, and to the brethren." And he departed, and went into another place.

18 Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers, what was become of Peter. 19 And when Herod had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that they should be put to death. And he went down from Judaea to Caesarea, and there abode (stayed).

### Herod's Death

20 And Herod was highly displeased with them of Tyre and Sidon: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Blastus the king's chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished (given food supplies) by the king's country. 21 And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration (speech) unto them.

22 And the people gave a shout, saying, "It is the voice of a god, and not of a man." 23 And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.

24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

### Barnabas and Saul Sent Off

25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

**13:1** Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord (worshiped), and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

### On Cyprus

4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus. 5 And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had (added) also John to their minister (group).

6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Bar-jesus: 7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the sorcerer - for so is his name by interpretation - withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. 9 Then Saul - who also is called Paul - filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, 10 And said, "O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season."

And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

### In Pisidian Antioch

13 Now when Paul and his company loosed (left) from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem. 14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down. 15 And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, "Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on."

16 Then Paul stood up, and beckoning with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and ye that fear God, give audience. 17 The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm (mighty power) brought he them out of it. 18 And about the time of forty years suffered (endured) he their manners (behavior) in the wilderness. 19 And when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan, he divided their land to them by lot.

20 "And after that he gave unto them judges about the space (length) of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.

21 And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.'

23 'Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: 24 When John had first preached before his coming the baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. 25 And as John fulfilled his course, he said, 'Whom think ye that I am? I am not he. But, behold, there cometh one after me, whose shoes of his feet I am not worthy to loose.'

26 "Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. 27 For they that dwell at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets which are read every sabbath day, they have fulfilled them in condemning him. 28 And though they found no cause of death in him, yet desired they Pilate that he should be slain. 29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre. 30 But God raised him from the dead: 31 And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.

32 "And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, 'Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee'. 34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption (decay), he said on this wise, 'I will give you the sure mercies of David.' 35 Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, 'Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.' 36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep (died), and was laid unto his fathers (buried with his fathers), and saw corruption (his body decayed): 37 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

38 "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: 39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses. 40 Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; 41 'Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you.'"

42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought (asked) that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath. 43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who,



speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. 45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed (became) bold, and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, 'I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.'" 48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained (chosen) to eternal life believed.

49 And the word of the Lord was published (spread) throughout all the region. 50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts. 51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

### In Iconium

**14:1** And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren. 3 Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. 4 But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles. 5 And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully (mistreat them), and to stone them, 6 They were ware of it, and fled unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and unto the region that lieth round about: 7 And there they preached the gospel.

### In Lystra and Derbe

8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent (lame) in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: 9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, 10 Said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on thy feet." And he leaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, "The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men." 12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. 13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and

garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people. 14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, 15 And saying, “Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein: 16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.” 18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. 20 Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

### The Return to Antioch in Syria

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, 22 Confirming (strengthening) the souls of the disciples, and exhorting (encouraging) them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation (hardships) enter into the kingdom of God. 23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended (dedicated) them to the Lord, on whom they believed. 24 And after they had passed throughout Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. 25 And when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down into Attalia: 26 And thence sailed to Antioch, from whence they had been recommended to the grace of God for the work which they fulfilled. 27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed (reported) all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles. 28 And there they abode (stayed) long time with the disciples.

### The Council at Jerusalem

**15:1** And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, “Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.” 2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension (disagreement) and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question. 3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren. 4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received (welcomed) of (by) the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, “That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.”

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter. 7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, “Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe. 8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us; 9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. 10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.”

12 Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, “Men and brethren, hearken (listen) unto me: 14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take (choose) out of them a people for his name. 15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, 16 ‘After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: 17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things. 18 Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.’

19 “Wherefore my sentence (advice) is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: 20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. 21 For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.”

### The Council’s Letter to the Gentiles

22 Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren: 23 And they wrote letters by them after this manner; “The apostles and elders and brethren send greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: 24 Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no such commandment: 25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27 We have

sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell you the same things by mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well."

30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle: 31 Which when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation (encouragement). 32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren with many words, and confirmed them. 33 And after they had tarried (remained) there a space (time), they were let go in peace from the brethren unto the apostles. 34 Notwithstanding it pleased Silas to abide there still. 35 Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.

### Paul and Barnabas Part Ways

36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, "Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do." 37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. 38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work. 39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder (parted company) one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus; 40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended (commended) by the brethren unto the grace of God. 41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

### Timothy Joins Paul and Silas

**16:1** Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek: 2 Which (who) was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium. 3 Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek. 4 And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem. 5 And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.

### Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia

6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed (made plans) to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." 10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering (concluding) that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.



### Lydia's Conversion in Philippi

11 Therefore loosing (setting sail) from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis; 12 And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days. 13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont (expected) to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted (gathered) thither (there).

14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended (responded) unto the things which were spoken of Paul. 15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought (begged) us, saying, "If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there." And she constrained (persuaded) us.

### Paul and Silas in Prison

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination (predicting the future) met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying (fortune-telling): 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains (money-making) was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, 20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, 21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. 22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. 23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely: 24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. 26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. 27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that

the prisoners had been fled. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, “Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.”

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, 30 And brought them out, and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

31 And they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” 32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. 34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.

35 And when it was day, the magistrates sent the serjeants, saying, “Let those men go.” 36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, “The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.”

37 But Paul said unto them, “They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily (secretly)? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out.”

38 And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans. 39 And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city. 40 And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed.

### In Thessalonica

**17:1** Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: 2 And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, 3 Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that “this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.” 4 And some of them believed, and consorted (joined) with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few.

5 But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd (bad) fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company (mob), and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. 6 And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, “These that have turned the world upside down are come hither (here) also; 7 Whom Jason hath received: and these all do contrary to the decrees (laws) of Caesar, saying that there is another king, one Jesus.” 8 And they troubled the people and the rulers of the city, when they heard these things. 9 And when they had taken security of Jason (he posted bond), and of the other, they let them go.



### In Berea

10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 These (the Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so. 12 Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few. 13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was preached of Paul at Berea, they came thither also, and stirred up the people. 14 And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still. 15 And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and receiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.

### In Athens

16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. 17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. 18 Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, “What will this babbler say?” other some (said), “He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods:” because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection. 19 And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is? 20 For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.” 21For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.

22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars’ hill, and said, “Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. 23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare (reveal) I unto you. 24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds (area) of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply (perhaps) they might feel after (search for) him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring. 29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device. 30 And the

times of this ignorance God winked at (overlooked); but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance (proof) unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, "We will hear thee again of this matter." 33 So Paul departed from among them. 34 Howbeit certain men clave (joined) unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

### In Corinth

**18:1** After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; 2 And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. 3 And because he was of the same craft (trade), he abode (stayed) with them, and wrought (worked): for by their occupation they were tentmakers. 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks. 5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. 6 And when they opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, "Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles."

7 And he departed thence, and entered into a certain man's house, named Justus, one that worshipped God, whose house joined hard to the synagogue. 8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, "Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10 For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city." 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

12 And when Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews made insurrection (an uprising) with one accord against Paul, and brought him to the judgment seat, 13 Saying, "This fellow persuadeth men to worship God contrary to the law."

14 And when Paul was now about to open his mouth, Gallio said unto the Jews, "If it were a matter of wrong or wicked lewdness, O ye Jews, reason would that I should bear (agree) with you: 15 But if it be a question of words and names, and of your law, look ye to it; for I will be no judge of such matters." 16 And he drave them from the judgment seat. 17 Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him before the judgment seat. And Gallio cared for none of those things.



### Priscilla, Aquila and Apollos

18 And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; having shorn (shaved) his head in Cenchrea: for he had a vow. 19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews. 20 When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not; 21 But bade them farewell, saying, "I must by all means keep this feast that cometh in Jerusalem: but I will return again unto you, if God will." And he sailed from Ephesus. 22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch. 23 And after he had spent some time there, he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.

24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. 26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly. 27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace: 28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

### Paul in Ephesus

**19:1** And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, 2 He said unto them, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?"

And they said unto him, "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost."

3 And he said unto them, "Unto what then were ye baptized?"

And they said, "Unto John's baptism."

4 Then said Paul, "John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. 7 And all the men were about twelve.

8 And he went into the synagogue, and spake boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God. 9 But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing (debating) daily in

the school of one Tyrannus. 10 And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. 11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: 12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "We adjure (command) you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth." 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?" 16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

17 And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. 18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed (admitted) their deeds. 19 Many of them also which used curious arts (sorcery) brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

21 After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome." 22 So he sent into Macedonia two of them that ministered unto him, Timotheus and Erastus; but he himself stayed in Asia for a season.

### The Riot in Ephesus

23 And the same time there arose no small stir about that way. 24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain (profit) unto the craftsmen; 25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, "Sirs, ye know that by this craft (trade) we have our wealth. 26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands: 27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth."

28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." 29 And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre. 30 And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered (begged) him not. 31 And certain of the chief of Asia, which were



his friends, sent unto him, desiring him that he would not adventure himself into the theatre.

32 Some therefore cried one thing, and some another: for the assembly was confused; and the more part (many) knew not wherefore (why) they were come together. 33 And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. And Alexander beckoned with the hand, and would have made his defence unto the people. 34 But when they knew that he was a Jew, all with one voice about the space of two hours cried out, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." 35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, "Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter? 36 Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly. 37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess. 38 Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead (press charges against) one another. 39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning other matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly. 40 For we are in danger to be called in question for this day's uproar, there being no cause whereby we may give an account of this concourse (disturbance)." 41 And when he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

### Through Macedonia and Greece

**20:1** And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto him the disciples, and embraced them, and departed for to go into Macedonia. 2 And when he had gone over those parts, and had given them much exhortation (encouragement), he came into Greece, 3 And there abode three months. And when the Jews laid wait for him, as he was about to sail into Syria, he purposed (decided) to return through Macedonia. 4 And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus. 5 These going before tarried for us at Troas. 6 And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.

### Eutychus Raised From the Dead

7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. 8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. 9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft (level), and was taken up dead. 10 And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, "Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him." 11 When he therefore was come up

again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed. 12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

### Paul's Farewell to the Ephesian Elders

13 And we went before to ship, and sailed unto Assos, there intending to take in Paul: for so had he appointed, minding himself to go afoot. 14 And when he met with us at Assos, we took him in, and came to Mitylene. 15 And we sailed thence, and came the next day over against Chios; and the next day we arrived at Samos, and tarried at Trogyllium; and the next day we came to Miletus. 16 For Paul had determined to sail by Ephesus, because he would not spend the time in Asia: for he hasted (hurried), if it were possible for him, to be at Jerusalem the day of Pentecost.

17 And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. 18 And when they were come to him, he said unto them, "Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, 19 Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: 20 And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, 21 Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

22 "And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide (wait for) me. 24 **But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.**[1]

25 "And now, behold, I know that ye all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more. 26 Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. 27 For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. 28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. 29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

32 "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word

**1** *You have a God-given task today—to share the goodness of God with those in your life. What good has God been in your life? Are you sharing it with others?*



of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. 33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. 34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered (supplied) unto my necessities (needs), and to them that were with me. 35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

36 And when he had thus spoken, **he kneeled down, and prayed with them all.**[1] 37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him, 38 Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship.

### On to Jerusalem

**21:1** And it came to pass, that after we were gotten from them, and had launched, we came with a straight course unto Coos, and the day following unto Rhodes, and from thence unto Patara: 2 And finding a ship sailing over unto Phenicia, we went aboard, and set forth. 3 Now when we had discovered Cyprus, we left it on the left hand, and sailed into Syria, and landed at Tyre: for there the ship was to unlade her burden. 4 And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem. 5 And when we had accomplished (ended) those days, we departed and went our way; and **they all brought us on our way, with wives and children, till we were out of the city: and we kneeled down on the shore, and prayed.**[2] 6 And when we had taken our leave one of another, we took ship; and they returned home again.

7 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day. 8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. 9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. 11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle (belt), and bound his own hands and feet, and said, "Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles."

12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that

**1** *Sometimes very simple acts share your faith more powerfully than you would imagine. Praying with a friend or your family will bring the presence of God into their lives. How is your personal prayer life? How is your family prayer life?*

**2** *Spiritual values are powerfully taught in the context of your family. Try this: Next time you are home take this book to the kitchen table. Read it and pray with your family. What could your family do in terms of Bible reading and prayer?*

place, besought (urged) him not to go up to Jerusalem. 13 Then Paul answered, “What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” 14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, “The will of the Lord be done.”

15 And after those days we took up our carriages, and went up to Jerusalem. 16 There went with us also certain of the disciples of Caesarea, and brought with them one Mnason of Cyprus, an old disciple, with whom we should lodge.

### Paul’s Arrival at Jerusalem

17 And when we were come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. 18 And the day following Paul went in with us unto James; and all the elders were present. 19 And when he had saluted them, he declared particularly what things God had wrought among the Gentiles by his ministry. 20 And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord, and said unto him, “Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law: 21And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs. 22 What is it therefore? the multitude must needs come together: for they will hear that thou art come. 23 Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them; 24 Them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them (pay their expenses), that they may shave their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law. 25 As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.” 26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that an offering should be offered for every one of them.

### Paul Arrested

27 And when the seven days were almost ended, the Jews which were of Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the people, and laid hands on him, 28 Crying out, “Men of Israel, help: This is the man, that teacheth all men every where against the people, and the law, and this place: and further brought Greeks also into the temple, and hath polluted this holy place.” 29 For they had seen before with him in the city Trophimus an Ephesian, whom they supposed that Paul had brought into the temple.

30 And all the city was moved (stirred up), and the people ran together: and they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple: and forthwith the doors were shut. 31 And as they went about to kill him, tidings came unto the chief captain of the band, that all Jerusalem was in an uproar.



32 Who immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down unto them: and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, they left (quit) beating of Paul.

33 Then the chief captain came near, and took him (Paul), and commanded him to be bound with two chains; and demanded who he was, and what he had done. 34 And some cried one thing, some another, among the multitude: and when he could not know the certainty for the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle. 35 And when he came upon the stairs, so it was, that he was borne of (carried by) the soldiers for the violence of the people. 36 For the multitude of the people followed after, crying, “Away with him.”

### Paul Speaks to the Crowd

37 And as Paul was to be led into the castle, he said unto the chief captain, “May I speak unto thee?”

Who said, “Canst thou speak Greek? 38 Art not thou that Egyptian, which before these days madest an uproar, and leddest out into the wilderness four thousand men that were murderers?”

39 But Paul said, “I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, a citizen of no mean (ordinary) city: and, I beseech thee, suffer (allow) me to speak unto the people.”

40 And when he had given him licence (permission), Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto them in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

**22:1** “Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence which I make now unto you.” 2 And when they heard that he spake in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he saith, 3 “I am verily (indeed) a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day. 4 And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women. 5 As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to Damascus, to bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for to be punished.

6 “And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me. 7 And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, ‘Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?’

8 “And I answered, ‘Who art thou, Lord?’

“And he said unto me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest.’ 9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.

10 “And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’

“And the Lord said unto me,

'Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.' 11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

12 "And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, 13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, 'Brother Saul, receive thy sight.' And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14 "And he said, 'The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. 15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. 16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

17 "And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance; 18 And saw him saying unto me, 'Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.'

19 "And I said, 'Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: 20 And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him.'

21 "And he said unto me, 'Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles.'"

### Paul the Roman Citizen

22 And they gave him audience unto this word, and then lifted up their voices, and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth: for it is not fit that he should live." 23 And as they cried out, and cast off their clothes, and threw dust into the air, 24 The chief captain commanded him to be brought into the castle, and bade (ordered) that he should be examined by scourging; that he might know wherefore they cried so against him.

25 And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned?"

26 When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, "Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman."

27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, "Tell me, art thou a Roman?" He said, "Yea."

28 And the chief captain answered, "With a great sum obtained I this freedom." And Paul said, "But I was free born."

29 Then straightway they departed from him which should have examined him: and the chief captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.

### Paul Before the Sanhedrin

30 On the morrow, because he (the captain) would have known (wanted to know) the certainty (reason) wherefore he (Paul) was accused of the Jews, he loosed him



from his bands, and commanded the chief priests and all their council to appear, and brought Paul down, and set him before them.

**23:1** And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day." 2 And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth. 3 Then said Paul unto him, "God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law?"

4 And they that stood by said, "Revilest (do you insult) thou God's high priest?"

5 Then said Paul, "I wist (knew) not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, 'Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.'"

6 But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, "Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question."

7 And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided. 8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess (acknowledge) both.

9 And there arose a great cry: and the scribes that were of the Pharisees' part arose, and strove, saying, "We find no evil in this man: but if a spirit or an angel hath spoken to him, let us not fight against God." 10 And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle. 11 And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome."

### The Plot to Kill Paul

12 And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. 13 And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy. 14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, "We have bound ourselves under a great curse, that we will eat nothing until we have slain Paul. 15 Now therefore ye with the council signify (petition) to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you to morrow, as though ye would enquire something more perfectly (accurate) concerning him: and we, or ever (before) he come near, are ready to kill him."

16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went and entered into the castle, and told Paul. 17 Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, "Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him." 18 So he took him, and brought him to the chief captain, and said, "Paul the prisoner called

me unto him, and prayed (asked) me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee."

19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, "What is that thou hast to tell me?"

20 And he said, "The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to morrow into the council, as though they would enquire somewhat of him more perfectly. 21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee."

22 So the chief captain then let the young man depart, and charged (warned) him, "See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me."

### Paul Transferred to Caesarea

23 And he called unto him two centurions, saying, "Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night; 24 And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor."

25 And he wrote a letter after this manner: 26 Claudius Lysias unto the most excellent governor Felix sendeth greeting. 27 This man was taken of the Jews, and should (would) have been killed of them: then came I with an army, and rescued him, having understood that he was a Roman. 28 And when I would have known the cause wherefore they accused him, I brought him forth into their council: 29 Whom I perceived to be accused of questions of their law, but to have nothing laid to his charge worthy of death or of bonds. 30 And when it was told me how that the Jews laid wait for the man, I sent straightway to thee, and gave commandment to his accusers also to say before thee what they had against him. Farewell.

31 Then the soldiers, as it was commanded them, took Paul, and brought him by night to Antipatris. 32 On the morrow they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the castle: 33 Who, when they came to Caesarea, and delivered the epistle (letter) to the governor, presented Paul also before him. 34 And when the governor had read the letter, he asked of what province he was. And when he understood that he was of Cilicia; 35 "I will hear thee," said he, "when thine accusers are also come." And he commanded him to be kept in Herod's judgment hall.

### Paul's Trial Before Felix

**24:1** And after five days Ananias the high priest descended with the elders, and with a certain orator named Tertullus, who informed the governor against Paul. 2 And when he was called forth, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, "Seeing that by thee we enjoy great quietness (peace), and that very worthy deeds are done unto this nation by thy providence, 3 We accept it always, and in all places, most noble



Felix, with all thankfulness. 4 Notwithstanding, that I be not further tedious unto thee, I pray thee that thou wouldest hear us of thy clemency (kindness) a few words.

5 "For we have found this man a pestilent fellow (troublemaker), and a mover of sedition (riots) among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes: 6 Who also hath gone about to profane the temple: whom we took, and would have judged according to our law. 7 But the chief captain Lysias came upon us, and with great violence took him away out of our hands, 8 Commanding his accusers to come unto thee: by examining of whom thyself mayest take knowledge of all these things, whereof we accuse him."

9 And the Jews also assented (agreed), saying that these things were so.

10 Then Paul, after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak, answered, "Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself: 11 Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem for to worship. 12 And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city: 13 Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me. 14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: 15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. 16 And herein do I exercise (strive) myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

17 "Now after many years I came to bring alms to my nation, and offerings. 18 Whereupon certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with multitude, nor with tumult. 19 Who ought to have been here before thee, and object, if they had ought (anything) against me. 20 Or else let these same here say, if they have found any evil doing in me, while I stood before the council, 21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried standing among them, Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day."

22 And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of that way, he deferred them, and said, "When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter."

23 And he commanded a centurion to keep Paul, and to let him have liberty, and that he should forbid none of his acquaintance to minister or come unto him.

24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. 25 And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come Felix trembled, and answered, "Go thy way for this time; when I have

a convenient season (time period), I will call for thee." 26 He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him: wherefore he sent for him the oftener, and communed with him. 27 But after two years Porcius Festus came into Felix' room (succeeded Felix): and Felix, willing to shew the Jews a pleasure, left Paul bound.

### Paul's Trial Before Festus

**25:1** Now when Festus was come into the province, after three days he ascended from Caesarea to Jerusalem. 2 Then the high priest and the chief of the Jews informed him against Paul, and besought him, 3 And desired favour against him, that he would send for him to Jerusalem, laying wait in the way to kill him.

4 But Festus answered, that Paul should be kept at Caesarea, and that he himself would depart shortly thither. 5 "Let them therefore," said he, "which among you are able, go down with me, and accuse this man, if there be any wickedness in him."

6 And when he had tarried among them more than ten days, he went down unto Caesarea; and the next day sitting on the judgment seat commanded Paul to be brought. 7 And when he was come, the Jews which came down from Jerusalem stood round about, and laid many and grievous complaints against Paul, which they could not prove.

8 While he (Paul) answered for himself, "Neither against the law of the Jews, neither against the temple, nor yet against Caesar, have I offended any thing at all."

9 But Festus, willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said, "Wilt thou go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me?"

10 Then said Paul, "I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged: to the Jews have I done no wrong, as thou very well knowest. 11 For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die: but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar."

12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, "Hast thou appealed unto Caesar? unto Caesar shalt thou go."

### Festus Consults King Agrippa

13 And after certain days king Agrippa and Bernice came unto Caesarea to salute Festus. 14 And when they had been there many days, Festus declared Paul's cause unto the king, saying, "There is a certain man left in bonds by Felix: 15 About whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, desiring to have judgment against him. 16 To whom I answered, 'It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have licence (permission) to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him.'

17 "Therefore, when they were come hither, without any delay on



the morrow I sat on the judgment seat, and commanded the man to be brought forth. 18 Against whom when the accusers stood up, they brought none accusation of such things as I supposed: 19 But had certain questions against him of their own superstition, and of one Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive. 20 And because I doubted of such manner of questions, I asked him whether he would go to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these matters. 21 But when Paul had appealed to be reserved unto the hearing of Augustus, I commanded him to be kept till I might send him to Caesar."

22 Then Agrippa said unto Festus, "I would also hear the man myself."

"To morrow," said he, "thou shalt hear him."

### Paul Before Agrippa

23 And on the morrow, when Agrippa was come, and Bernice, with great pomp, and was entered into the place of hearing, with the chief captains, and principal men of the city, at Festus' commandment Paul was brought forth. 24 And Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all men which are here present with us, ye see this man, about whom all the multitude of the Jews have dealt with me, both at Jerusalem, and also here, crying that he ought not to live any longer. 25 But when I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death, and that he himself hath appealed to Augustus, I have determined to send him. 26 Of whom I have no certain thing to write unto my lord. Wherefore I have brought him forth before you, and specially before thee, O king Agrippa, that, after examination had, I might have somewhat to write. 27 For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes laid against him."

26:1 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, "Thou art permitted to speak for thyself."

Then Paul stretched forth the hand, and answered for himself: 2 "I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee touching all the things whereof I am accused of the Jews: 3 Especially because I know thee to be expert in all customs and questions which are among the Jews: wherefore I beseech thee to hear me patiently.

4 "My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; 5 Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee. 6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers: 7 Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews. 8 Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?

9 "I verily (also) thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary (opposed) to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of

the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. 11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.

12 "Whereupon as I went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests, 13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me. 14 "And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, 'Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.'

15 "And I said, 'Who art thou, Lord?'

"And he said, 'I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. 16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; 17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, 18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.'

19 "Whereupon, O king Agrippa, **I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:**[1] 20 But shewed (appeared) first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance. 21 For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me. 22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: 23 That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles."

24 And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, "Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad (insane)."

25 But he said, "I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness. 26 For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner. 27 King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest."

28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

29 And Paul said, "I would to

**1** *Paul had a vision from Heaven that kept him striving for a purpose? What the vision that keeps you striving for a purpose? Where did you get this vision?*



God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds."

30 And when he had thus spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them: 31 And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, "This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds."

32 Then said Agrippa unto Festus, "This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar."

### Paul Sails for Rome

**27:1** And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band. 2 And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us. 3 And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated (allowed) Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself. 4 And when we had launched from thence, we sailed under Cyprus, because the winds were contrary. 5 And when we had sailed over the sea of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra, a city of Lycia. 6 And there the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing into Italy; and he put us therein. 7 And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering (allowing) us, we sailed under Crete, over against Salmone; 8 And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called The fair havens; nigh whereunto was the city of Lasea.

9 Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them, 10 And said unto them, "Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading (cargo) and ship, but also of our lives." 11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul. 12 And because the haven (harbor) was not commodious (suitable) to winter in, the more part advised to depart thence also, if by any means they might attain (travel) to Phenice, and there to winter; which is an haven of Crete, and lieth toward the south west and north west.

### The Storm

13 And when the south wind blew softly, supposing that they had obtained their purpose, loosing thence, they sailed close by Crete. 14 But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon. 15 And when the ship was caught, and could not bear up into the wind, we let her drive. 16 And running under a certain island which is called Clauda, we had much work to come by the boat: 17 Which when they had taken up, they used helps, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the quicksands, strake sail, and so were driven. 18 And we be-

ing exceedingly tossed with a tempest, the next day they lightened the ship; 19 And the third day we cast out with our own hands the tackling of the ship. 20 And when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest (storm) lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.

21 But after long abstinence (without food) Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, “Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. 22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man’s life among you, but of the ship. 23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, 24 Saying, ‘Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.’ 25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. 26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.”

### The Shipwreck

27 But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed (believed) that they drew near to some country; 28 And sounded, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms. 29 Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day. 30 And as the shipmen were about to flee out of the ship, when they had let down the boat into the sea, under colour as though they would have cast anchors out of the foreship, 31 Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, “Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved.”

32 Then the soldiers cut off the ropes of the boat, and let her fall off. 33 And while the day was coming on, Paul besought (urged) them all to take meat, saying, “This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing. 34 Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.”

35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat. 36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat. 37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen (276) souls. 38 And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.

39 And when it was day, they knew not the land: but they discovered a certain creek with a shore, into the which they were minded (intended), if it were possible, to thrust in the ship. 40 And when they had taken up the anchors, they committed themselves unto the sea, and loosed the rudder bands, and hoised up the mainsail to the wind, and made toward shore. 41 And falling into a place where two seas met, they ran the ship aground; and the forepart stuck fast, and remained unmoveable, but the hinder part was broken with the violence of the waves.

42 And the soldiers’ counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should swim out, and escape. 43 But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose; and commanded that they which could swim should cast themselves first into the sea, and get to land: 44 And the rest, some on boards, and some on broken pieces of the ship. And so it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.



### Paul Ashore on Malta

**28:1** And when they were escaped, then they knew that the island was called Melita. 2 And the barbarous (native) people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold. 3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand. 4 And when the barbarians (islanders) saw the venomous beast hang on his hand, they said among themselves, “No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.”

5 And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm. 6 Howbeit they looked (watched for) when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead suddenly: but after they had looked a great while, and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.

7 In the same quarters were possessions of the chief man of the island, whose name was Publius; who received us, and lodged us three days courteously. 8 And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him. 9 So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed: 10 Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.

### Paul’s Arrival at Rome

11 And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in the isle, whose sign was Castor and Pollux. 12 And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days. 13 And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Puteoli: 14 Where we found brethren, and were desired to tarry with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome. 15 And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii Forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage. 16 And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered (allowed) to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.

### Paul Preaches at Rome Under Guard

17 And it came to pass, that af-

ter three days Paul called the chief of the Jews together: and when they were come together, he said unto them, “Men and brethren, though I have committed nothing against the people, or customs of our fathers, yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans. 18 Who, when they had examined me, would have let me go, because there was no cause of death in me. 19 But when the Jews spake against it, I was constrained to appeal unto Caesar; not that I had ought to accuse my nation of. 20 For this cause therefore have I called for you, to see you, and to speak with you: because that for the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain.”

21 And they said unto him, “We neither received letters out of Judaea concerning thee, neither any of the brethren that came shewed or spake any harm of thee. 22 But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: for as concerning this sect, we know that every where it is spoken against.”

23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening. 24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word (final statement), “Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias (Isaiah) the prophet unto our fathers, 26 Saying, ‘Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive: 27 For the heart of this people is waxed (become) gross (calloused), and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.’

28 “Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.” 29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, 31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.



*the book of* **Romans**

**Summary:** *On his third missionary journey Paul stopped in Corinth, Greece and wrote a letter to the churches in Rome. In this letter Paul explained how sin and law come together in the gospel (good news). He explained how law cannot save because every human being is a sinner. The grace of God through the death and resurrection of Jesus is the only path of salvation. Once saved, God’s love and the power of the Holy Spirit enables and inspires us to live for Him (the Law). Some Christians summarize Romans in 3 words: Sin, Salvation, Service.*

**1:1** Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, 2 Which he had promised afore (before) by his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed (family) of David according to the flesh; 4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: 5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name: 6 Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ: 7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Paul’s Longing to Visit Rome

8 **First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.**[1] 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; 10 Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; 12 That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. 13 Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, but was let hitherto (until now), that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles. 14 I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. 15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17 For therein (in it) is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **“The just shall live by faith.”**[2]

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**1** *Can you imagine someone thanking God for you because your faith—your story—is being shared with people all over the world? It could happen. God uses ordinary people like you to spread His love. How has God used your faith story to reach others?*

**2** *Some 500 years ago on the night before All Saints Day, a night we know today as “All Hallows Eve,” Martin Luther nailed 95 discussion points on the door of the Wittenberg Church in Germany thus ignaiting the Reformation. This verse played a key role in his thinking. What do you*

### God's Wrath Against Sinful Humanity

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 **For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:**[1] 21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things.

24 Wherefore (therefore) God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. 26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: 27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly (improper), and receiving in themselves that recompence (penalty) of their error which was meet. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate (depraved) mind, to do those things which are not convenient (proper); 29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity (evil intent); whisperers (gossip), 30 Backbiters (slanderers), haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenant (promise) breakers, without natural affection, implacable (unstoppable), unmerciful: 32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

### God's Righteous Judgment

**2:1** Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein (in what way) thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. 2 But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. 3 And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? 4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance (patience) and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? 5 But after thy hardness and impenitent (unrepentant) heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath (anger) against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; 6 Who will render (give) to every man according to his deeds: 7 To them who by patient continuance (endurance) in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: 8 But unto them that are contentious (self-seeking), and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, 9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; 10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: 11 For there is no respect of persons with God. 12 For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; 13 For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. 14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew (show) the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another; 16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

*think of it?*

**1** *When in your life were you overwhelmed with a sense of God's presence in creation?*



### The Jews and the Law

17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and restest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, 18 And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; 19 And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, 20 An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law. 21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? 22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest (detest) idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? 23 Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? 24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written. 25 For circumcision verily (truly) profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision. 26 Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? 27 And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? 28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly (only); neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

### God's Faithfulness

**3:1** What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? 2 Much (in) every way: chiefly (mainly), because that unto them were committed the oracles (words) of God. 3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? 4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, "That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." 5 But if our unrighteousness commend (makes more clear) the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance (revenge)? I speak as a man 6 God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world? 7 For if the truth of God hath more abounded (is enhanced) through my lie unto (for) his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner? 8 And not rather, as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say, "Let us do evil, that good may come?" whose damnation is just.

### No One Is Righteous

9 What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; **10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:** [1]11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. 13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps (venomous snakes) is under their lips: 14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: 15 Their feet are swift to shed blood: 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways: 17 And the way of peace have they not known: 18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

### Righteousness Through Faith

21 But now the righteousness of God without (apart from) the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation (satisfaction) through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission (forgiveness) of sins that are past, through the forbearance (tolerance) of God; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. 27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law?

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**1** *This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to John 3:16; pg. 160.*



of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. 29 Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: 30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith. 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

### Righteousness Through Faith

**4:1** What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining (related) to the flesh, hath found? 2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory (boast); but not before God. 3 For what saith the scripture? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. 6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth (credit) righteousness without works, 7 Saying, "Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. 8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."

9 Cometh this blessedness then upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that faith was reckoned (counted) to Abraham for righteousness. 10 How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. 11 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also: 12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: 15 Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.

16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, 17 As it is written, "I have made thee a father of many nations," before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth (revives) the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own

body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:

20 He staggered not (did not waver) at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22 And therefore it was imputed (credited) to him for righteousness. 23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; 24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; 25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

### Peace and Hope

5:1 Therefore being justified (declared righteous) by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein (in which) we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 **And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation (great misery) worketh patience; 4 And patience, experience (character) ; and experience, hope:**[1] 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad (poured out) in our hearts by the Holy Ghost (Spirit) which is given unto us.

6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure (possibly) for a good man some would even dare to die. **8 But God commendeth (demonstrates) his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**[2] 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. 11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement (reconciliation).

### Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 13 For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed (credited) when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude (manner) of Adam's transgression, who is the figure (type) of him that was to come.

15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded (abundantly overflowed) unto many. 16 And not as it was by one that

**1** *Do you want to be strong and steady in your faith and hope? Pray for something today that will require your endurance. What in life would test your ability to endure?*

**2** *This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to Romans 3:10; pg. 248.*



sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. 17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: 21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

**6:1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein (in it)? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

11 Likewise reckon (count) ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

### Slaves to Righteousness

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants (a slave) to obey, his servants (slave) ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine (teaching) which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free

from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity (weakness) of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. 21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. 22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. **23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.** [1]

### Released From the Law, Bound to Christ

**7:1** Know ye not, brethren, for I speak to them that know the law, how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? 2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. 3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. 5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions (passions) of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. 6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

### The Law and Sin

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, "Thou shalt not covet." 8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought (worked) in me all manner of concupiscence (strong desire). For without the law sin was dead. 9 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me. 12 Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. 16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. 17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. 18 For I know that in me that is, in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. 19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. 20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. 22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched (very unhappy) man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

### Life Through the Spirit

**8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally (fleshly) minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity (actively opposed) against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken (revive) your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify (destroy) the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby (by which) we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be

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**1** *This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to Revelation 3:20; pg. 383.*

also glorified together.

### Present Suffering and Future Glory

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creature (creation) waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20 For the creature was made subject to vanity (worthlessness), not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth (suffers) in pain together until now. 23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit (to say), the redemption of our body. 24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. 26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities (physical or mental weakness): for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but **the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (voiced).**[1] 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

28 **And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**[2] 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

### More Than Conquerors

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation (great misery), or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted (considered) as sheep for the slaughter." 37

**1** *Sometimes you may not know what to pray for. God will help you. When was there a times in your life when you could not even pray?*

**2** *A flat tire in the middle of Iowa, not enough hours to complete your run, a call from home becuase one of your kids is in trouble at school. It is hard to see the "good" in these things. When have you seen God's purpose in the trouble in your life?*



Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 **For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities (jurisdictions), nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**[1]

### Paul's Anguish Over Israel

**9:1** I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost (Spirit), 2 That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. 3 For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen (relatives) according to the flesh: 4 Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth (belong) the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; 5 Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

### God's Sovereign Choice

6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel: 7 Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called. 8 That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed. 9 For this is the word of promise, "At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son."

10 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; 11 For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth; 12 It was said unto her, "The elder shall serve the younger." 13 As it is written, "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. 15 For he saith to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth (show) mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, "Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth." 18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

19 Thou wilt say then unto me, "Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?" 20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, "Why hast thou made me thus?" 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

22 What if God, willing to shew

**1** *When bad things happen, you may be tempted to let go of God's hand. But know this—God will never let go of yours. When have you experienced God's presence in the tough times of your life?*

his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, 24 Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? 25 As he saith also in Osee (Hosea), "I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved." 26 And "it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God."

27 Esaias (Isaiah) also crieth concerning Israel, "Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant (small remainder) shall be saved: 28 For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." 29 And as Esaias said before, "Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha."

### Israel's Unbelief

30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. 31 But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. 32 Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; 33 As it is written, "Behold, I lay in Sion (Zion) a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

**10:1** Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal (enthusiasm) of God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. 5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, "That the man which doeth those things shall live by them." 6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise (in this way), "Say not in thine heart, 'Who shall ascend into heaven?'" that is, to bring Christ down from above: 7 Or, '"Who shall descend into the deep?'" that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead. 8 But what saith it? "The word is nigh (near) thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart:" that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, "Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed." 12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13



For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings (happy news) of good things!" 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, "Lord, who hath believed our report?" 17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily (truly), "their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world." 19 But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, "I will provoke you to jealousy by them that are no people, and by a foolish nation I will anger you."

20 But Esaias is very bold, and saith, "I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me." 21 But to Israel he saith, "All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying (contradicting-bad mouthing) people."

### The Remnant of Israel

**11:1** I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot (know) ye not what the scripture saith of Elias (Elijah)? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, 3 "Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged (tearing) down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life."

4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? "I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal." 5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. 6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded 8 According as it is written, "God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear; unto this day." 9 And David saith, "Let their table be made a snare (trap), and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence (retribution) unto them: 10 Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back always."

### Ingrafted Branches

11 I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. 12 Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much

more their fulness?

13 For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: 14 If by any means I may provoke to emulation (jealousy) them which are my flesh, and might save some of them. 15 For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? 16 For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump (the rest) is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches. 17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert graffed in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree; 18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. 19 Thou wilt say then, "The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in." 20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded (arrogant), but fear: 21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed (care) lest he also spare not thee.

22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. 23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again. 24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be graffed into their own olive tree?

### All Israel Will Be Saved

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits (opinions); that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in. 26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, "There shall come out of Sion (Zion) the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

28 As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. 29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. 30 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: 31 Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy. 32 For God hath concluded (enclosed) them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

### Doxology

33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! 34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? 35 Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed (re-payed) unto him again? 36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be



glory for ever. Amen.

### A Living Sacrifice

**12:1 I beseech (beg) you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.**[1] 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

### Humble Service in the Body of Christ

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us,**[2] whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry (serving), let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity (generosity); he that ruleth (leads), with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

### Love in Action

9 Let love be without dissimulation (insincerity). Abhor (hate) that which is evil; cleave (cling) to that which is good. 10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; 11 **Not slothful (lazy) in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;**[3] 12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant (urgent) in prayer; 13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. 14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. 15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. 16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to (descend voluntary to the level of) men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits. 17 Recompense (repay) to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto (God's) wrath: for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

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**1** *Take this day and all you will do in it—walking, talking, eating, working, playing, praying, laughing, crying—and dedicate it to God. In what way are you sacrificing yourself to God?*

**2** *"God has given YOU different gifts for doing certain things well." How will you put your gifts into practice today?*

**3** *Lacking ambition lately? No enthusiasm? Sleepy in the middle of the day? Try serving the Lord. Find something that needs doing in God's kingdom and do it! See what happens. What could you do?*

### Submission to Governing Authorities

**13:1** Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: 4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. 5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. 6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

### Love Fulfills the Law

8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. 9 For this, "Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet;" and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended (included) in this saying, namely, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

### The Day Is Near

11 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. 13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting (debauchery) and drunkenness, not in chambering (sexual indulgence) and wantonness (lacking restraint), not in strife (discord) and envying. 14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

### The Weak and the Strong

**14:1** Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations (opinions). 2 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. 3 Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. 4 Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand. 5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. 6 He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks. 7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. 8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living. 10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought (despise) thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written, "As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. 13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way. 14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean. 15 But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat (food), now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. 16 Let not then your good be evil spoken of: 17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost (Spirit). 18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. 19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify (build up) another. 20 For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence. 21 It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak. 22 Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth. 23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.



**15:1** We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. 3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me." 4 **For whatsoever things were written aforetime (in times past) were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**[1] 5 **Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:**[2] 6 That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 **Wherefore receive (accept) ye one another, as Christ also received us**

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**1** *The Bible is a record book of God's dealings with His people in the past. If you want to know how God might deal with you, you might want to keep reading it. What have you read in the Bible lately that has spoken to you?*

**2** *You need to be a part of a group that is united and following Christ. With this combination in your life, you will get the encouragement you need to persevere when things get tough. Are you part of a group like that?*

**to the glory of God.**[1] 8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: 9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, "For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name." 10 And again he saith, "Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people." 11 And again, "Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud (praise) him, all ye people." 12 And again, Esaias (Isaiah) saith, "There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust." **13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.**[2]

### Paul the Minister to the Gentiles

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish (encourage) one another. 15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God, 16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost (Spirit). 17 I have therefore whereof I may glory through Jesus Christ in those things which pertain to God. 18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought (worked) by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed, 19 Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. 20 Yea, so have I strived (try hard) to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation: 21 But as it is written, "To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand." 22 For which cause also I have been much hindered from coming to you.

### Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

23 But now having no more place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come unto you; 24 Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward (toward that place) by you, if first I be somewhat filled with your company. 25 But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints. 26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem. 27 It hath pleased them verily (truly); and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal

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**1** *There is nothing you can do to make God love you more than He does right now. He accepts you just the way you are. Do the same for someone else today. Who in your life needs to feel accepted? How can you help?*

**2** *This verse is part of the Pathway of Life. Next, continue reading this New Testament..*



things. 28 When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain. 29 And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

30 Now I beseech (beg) you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; 31 That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints; 32 That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed. 33 Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

### Personal Greetings

**16:1** I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: 2 That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer (helper) of many, and of myself also. 3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: 4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. 5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ. 6 Greet Mary, who bestowed (gave) much labour on us. 7 Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me. 8 Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord. 9 Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stachys my beloved. 10 Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of Aristobulus' household. 11 Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that be of the household of Narcissus, which are in the Lord. 12 Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord. 13 Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. 14 Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren which are with them. 15 Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them. 16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you. 17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. 18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. 19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all men. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. 20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

21 Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you. 22 I Tertius, who wrote this epistle (letter), salute you in the Lord. 23 Gaius mine host, and of the whole church,

saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother. 24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish (establish) you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, 26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: 27 To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.



*the books of* **1 & 2 Corinthians**

**Summary:** *While Paul was teaching in Ephesus, Turkey, he received word that the church he had planted three years before in Corinth, Greece was full of divisions, immorality, and misunderstandings. He wrote a letter, 1 Corinthians, in an attempt to set them straight. While in Philippi, he heard that the Corinthians accepted his first letter well, so Paul wrote a second letter expressing his joy - 2 Corinthians.*

**1:1** Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, 2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: 3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving

4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; 5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; 6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: 7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: 8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

### A Church Divided Over Leaders

10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. 12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, “I am of Paul;” and “I of Apollos;” and “I of Cephas;” and “I of Christ.” 13 Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; 15 Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. 16 And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. 17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

### Christ Crucified Is God’s Power and Wisdom

18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.” 20 Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it

pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. 22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: 23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: 27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound (confuse) the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: 29 That no flesh should glory in his presence. 30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, “He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”

**2:1** And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

### God’s Wisdom Revealed by the Spirit

6 Howbeit (nevertheless) we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: 7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost (Spirit) teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But



he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

### The Church and Its Leaders

**3:1** And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto (to now) ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas (while) there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? 4 For while one saith, “I am of Paul; “and another, “I am of Apollos;” are ye not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. 9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry (cultivated field), ye are God’s building. 10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed (careful notice) how he buildeth thereupon. 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble (stalks of grain plants after harvest); 13 Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. 14 If any man’s work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, “He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.” 20 And again, “The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.” 21 Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours; 22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; 23 And ye are Christ’s; and Christ is God’s.

### The Nature of True Apostleship

**4:1** Let a man so account of (regard) us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. 2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man’s judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. 4 For I

know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God. 6 And these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred (applied) to myself and to Apollos for your sakes; that ye might learn in us not to think of men above that which is written, that no one of you be puffed up for one against another. 7 For who maketh thee to differ from another? and **what hast thou that thou didst not receive?**[1] now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it? 8 Now ye are full, now ye are rich, ye have reigned as kings without us: and I would to God ye did reign, that we also might reign with you. 9 For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. 10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised. 11 Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted (struck with the hand), and have no certain dwellingplace; 12 And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled (abused), we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: 13 Being defamed, we intreat (beg): we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring (filth) of all things unto this day.

### Paul's Appeal and Warning

14 I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn you. 15 For though ye have ten thousand instructers in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten (fathered) you through the gospel. 16 Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. 17 For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church. 18 Now some are puffed up, as though I would not come to you. 19 But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power. 20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power. 21 What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?

### Dealing With a Case of Incest

**5:1** It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 2 And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In

**1** *All that you have. All that you are. All that you will have. All that you will ever be. All is from God. How can you show your thanks for all that God has given you?*



the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven (yeast) leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: 10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. 11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer (abusive), or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. 12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

### Lawsuits Among Believers

**6:1** Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? 2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? 4 If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church. 5 I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? 6 But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. 7 Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer (allow) yourselves to be defrauded? 8 Nay, ye do wrong, and defraud, and that your brethren. 9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate (a boy kept for homosexual relations), nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

### Sexual Immorality

12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient (useful): all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. 13 Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but

for the Lord; and the Lord for the body. 14 And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power. 15 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot (prostitute)? God forbid. 16 What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? "for two", saith he, "shall be one flesh." 17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 **For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**[1]

### Concerning Married Life

**7:1** Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband render (give) unto the wife due benevolence (sexual relations he owes): and likewise also the wife unto the husband. 4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. 5 Defraud (deprave) ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency (lack of self-control). 6 But I speak this by permission (as a concession), and not of commandment. 7 For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.

8 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I. 9 But if they cannot contain (control themselves), let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn (with passion). 10 And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart (divorce) from her husband: 11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. 12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. 13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. 15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. 16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

**1** *You are not your own. Your body has been given to you on loan. God gave it to you so that you could serve Him with passion and energy. How are you treating this gift?*



### Concerning Change of Status

17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches. 18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised. 19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God. 20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called. 21 Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. 22 For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant. 23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. 24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

### Concerning the Unmarried

25 Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. 26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be. 27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. 28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you. 29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away. 32 But I would have you without carefulness (concern). He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: 33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. 34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely (good for you), and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction. 36 But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry. 37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin (stay a virgin), doeth well. 38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better. 39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the

Lord. 40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

### Concerning Food Sacrificed to Idols

**8:1** Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. 2 And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. 3 But if any man love God, the same is known of him. 4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one. 5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, as there be gods many, and lords many, 6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him. 7 Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience (think) of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled. 8 But meat commendeth (brings) us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. 9 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. 10 For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat (table) in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened (tempted) to eat those things which are offered to idols; 11 And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? 12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. 13 Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.

### Paul's Rights as an Apostle

**9:1** Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord? 2 If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord. 3 Mine answer to them that do examine me is this, 4 Have we not power to eat and to drink? 5 Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas? 6 Or I only and Barnabas, have not we power to forbear working (work for a living)? 7 Who goeth a warfare (to war) any time at his own charges (money)? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? 8 Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? 9 For it is written in the law of Moses, "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn." Doth God take care for oxen? 10 Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: "that he that ploweth should plow in hope (of a harvest); and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope." 11 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall



reap your carnal things? 12 If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ. 13 Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things (food) of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? 14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. 15 But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void. 16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation (duty) of the gospel is committed unto me. 18 What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.

### Paul's Use of His Freedom

19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. 20 And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; 21 To them that are without law, as without law, being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ, that I might gain them that are without law. 22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

### The Need for Self-Discipline

24 **Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain (the prize).**[1] 25 **And every man that striveth for the mastery (athleticism) is temperate (self-controlled) in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we (strive for) an incorruptible.**[2] 26 **I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:**[3] 27 **But I keep under (discipline) my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.**[4]

### Warnings From Israel's History

**10:1** Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the

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**1** *Today is one more chance to run for the winning team. Enjoy the race. If your heart does not beat strongly for the cause of Christ, what does it beat strongly for? What are you running hard for?*

**2** *Whatever work or games you are involved in today, make sure you do your best for God. What are you striving for? Is God a part of it?*

**3** *Today make a goal to do something that will bring a smile to God's face. Write it down on your "to do" list—and then do something about it. What are some of your goals for your family? For work? For school? For fun? For God?*

**4** *If you are an athlete, you know that growth in a sport depends on your willingness to work at it. Spiritual growth is like that, too. What is your spiritual training program?*

cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat (food); 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play." 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples (examples): and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. 12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. 13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

### Idol Feasts and the Lord's Supper

14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. 15 I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say. 16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? 17 For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread. 18 Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? 19 What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? 20 But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. 21 Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils. 22 Do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? are we stronger than he?

### The Believer's Freedom

23 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient (practical): all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not. 24 Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth. 25 Whatsoever is sold in the shambles (meat market), that eat, asking no question for conscience sake: 26 For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. 27 If any of them that believe not bid you to a feast, and ye be disposed to go; whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake. 28 But if any man say unto you, "This is offered in sacrifice unto idols," eat not for his sake that shewed it, and for conscience sake: for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof: 29 Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another man's conscience? 30 For if I by grace be a partaker, why am I evil spoken of for that for which I give thanks? 31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: 33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

**11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.[1]**

### On Covering the Head in Worship

2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. 3 But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. 4 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head. 5 But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with her head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven. 6 For if the woman be not covered, let her also be shorn: but if it be a shame for a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be covered. 7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man. 10 For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless neither is the man without the woman, neither the woman without the man, in the Lord. 12 For as the woman is of the man, even so is the man also by the woman; but all things of god. 13 Judge in yourselves: is it comely (good) that a woman pray unto God uncovered? 14 Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? 15 But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering. 16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

### Correcting an Abuse of the Lord's Supper

17 Now in this that I declare unto you I praise you not, that ye come together not for the better, but for the worse. 18 For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. 19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you. 20 When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. 21 For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. 22 What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or

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**1** *Paul, the author of these words, was confident about his example to others. In what area of your life do you think you could be a good example for others to follow? Are you willing to do it?*

despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.” 25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, “This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.” 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come. 27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. 30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world. 33 Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry (wait) one for another. 34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.

### Concerning Spiritual Gifts

**12:1** Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. 2 Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb (mute) idols, even as ye were led. 3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost (Spirit). 4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations (services), but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

### Unity and Diversity in the Body

12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, “Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?” 16 And if the ear shall say, “Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body;” is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, “I have no need of thee:” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely (not so good) parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 **Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular (part of it).**[1]

28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? 30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? 31 But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

**13:1** Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

4 Charity (love) suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth (boast) not itself, is not puffed up, 5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; 6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; 7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall

1 *Paul, the author of these words, is talking about the Church. He says that each person is a part of it and that all the parts together become Christ’s body, which is the Church. How are you a part of the Church?*

vanish away. 9 For we know in part,
and we prophesy in part. 10 But
when that which is perfect is come,
then that which is in part shall be
done away. 11 When I was a child,
I spake as a child, I understood as a
child, I thought as a child: but when
I became a man, I put away childish
things. 12 For now we see through a
glass, darkly; but then face to face:
now I know in part; but then shall I
know even as also I am known. 13
And now abideth faith, hope, char-
ity, these three; but the greatest of
these is charity.

**Intelligibility in Worship**

14:1 Follow after charity, and de-
sire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye
may prophesy. 2 For he that spea-
keth in an unknown tongue spea-
keth not unto men, but unto God: for
no man understandeth him; howbeit
in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.
3 But he that prophesieth speaketh
unto men to edification, and exhor-
tation, and comfort. 4 He that spea-
keth in an unknown tongue edifieth
himself; but he that prophesieth ed-
ifieth the church. 5 I would that ye
all spake with tongues, but rather
that ye prophesied: for greater is he
that prophesieth than he that spea-
keth with tongues, except he inter-
pret, that the church may receive
edifying. 6 Now, brethren, if I come
unto you speaking with tongues,
what shall I profit you, except I shall
speak to you either by revelation, or
by knowledge, or by prophesying,
or by doctrine? 7 And even things
without life giving sound, whether
pipe or harp, except they give a dis-
tinction in the sounds, how shall it
be known what is piped or harped?
8 For if the trumpet give an uncer-
tain sound, who shall prepare him-
self to the battle? 9 So likewise ye,
except ye utter by the tongue words
easy to be understood, how shall it
be known what is spoken? for ye
shall speak into the air. 10 There are,
it may be, so many kinds of voices
in the world, and none of them is
without signification. 11 Therefore if
I know not the meaning of the voice,
I shall be unto him that speaketh
a barbarian, and he that speaketh
shall be a barbarian unto me.

12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye
are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek
that ye may excel to the edifying
of the church. 13 Wherefore let him
that speaketh in an unknown tongue
pray that he may interpret. 14 For if
I pray in an unknown tongue, my
spirit prayeth, but my understand-
ing is unfruitful. 15 What is it then?
I will pray with the spirit, and I will
pray with the understanding also:
I will sing with the spirit, and I will
sing with the understanding also. 16
Else when thou shalt bless with the
spirit, how shall he that occupieth
the room of the unlearned say Amen
at thy giving of thanks, seeing he
understandeth not what thou say-
est? 17 For thou verily givest thanks
well, but the other is not edified. 18 I
thank my God, I speak with tongues
more than ye all: 19 Yet in the
church I had rather speak five words
with my understanding, that by my
voice I might teach others also, than
ten thousand words in an unknown
tongue. 20 Brethren, be not children
in understanding: howbeit in malice
be ye children, but in understanding
be men. 21 In the law it is written,
“With men of other tongues and



other lips will I speak unto this peo-
ple; and yet for all that will they not
hear me, saith the Lord.” 22 Where-
fore tongues are for a sign, not to
them that believe, but to them that
believe not: but prophesying serveth
not for them that believe not, but for
them which believe. 23 If therefore
the whole church be come togeth-
er into one place, and all speak with
tongues, and there come in those
that are unlearned, or unbelievers,
will they not say that ye are mad? 24
But if all prophesy, and there come
in one that believeth not, or one un-
learned, he is convinced of all, he
is judged of all: 25 And thus are the
secrets of his heart made manifest;
and so falling down on his face he
will worship God, and report that
God is in you of a truth.

**Good Order in Worship**

26 How is it then, brethren?
when ye come together, every one
of you hath a psalm, hath a doc-
trine (teaching), hath a tongue, hath
a revelation, hath an interpretation.
Let all things be done unto edifying.
27 If any man speak in an unknown
tongue, let it be by two, or at the
most by three, and that by course;
and let one interpret. 28 But if there
be no interpreter, let him keep si-
lence in the church; and let him
speak to himself, and to God. 29 Let
the prophets speak two or three, and
let the other judge. 30 If any thing be
revealed to another that sitteth by,
let the first hold his peace. 31 For
ye may all prophesy one by one,
that all may learn, and all may be
comforted. 32 And the spirits of the
prophets are subject to the proph-
ets. 33 For God is not the author
of confusion, but of peace, as in all
churches of the saints. 34 Let your
women keep silence in the church-
es: for it is not permitted unto them
to speak; but they are commanded
to be under obedience, as also saith
the law. 35 And if they will learn any
thing, let them ask their husbands at
home: for it is a shame for women to
speak in the church. 36 What? came
the word of God out from you? or
came it unto you only? 37 If any man
think himself to be a prophet, or
spiritual, let him acknowledge that
the things that I write unto you are
the commandments of the Lord. 38
But if any man be ignorant, let him
be ignorant. 39 Wherefore, brethren,
covet to prophesy, and forbid not to
speak with tongues. 40 Let all things
be done decently and in order.

**The Resurrection of Christ**

**15:1** Moreover, brethren, I de-
clare unto you the gospel which I
preached unto you, which also ye
have received, and wherein ye stand;
2 By which also ye are saved, if ye
keep in memory what I preached
unto you, unless ye have believed
in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you
first of all that which I also received,
how that Christ died for our sins
according to the scriptures; 4 And
that he was buried, and that he rose
again the third day according to the
scriptures: 5 And that he was seen
of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 Af-
ter that, he was seen of above five
hundred brethren at once; of whom
the greater part remain unto this
present, but some are fallen asleep.
7 After that, he was seen of James;
then of all the apostles. 8 And last
of all he was seen of me also, as of

one born out of due time. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet (worthy) to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 11 Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed.

### The Resurrection of the Dead

12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14 And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. 16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: 17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. 18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. 29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead? 30 And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? 31 I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. 32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.

33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. 34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

### The Resurrection Body

35 But some man will say, "How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?" 36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened (made alive), except it die: 37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may



chance of wheat, or of some other grain: 38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. 39 All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. 40 There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. 41There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. 42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: 43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. 45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam was made a living soul;" the last Adam was made a quickening (living) spirit. 46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy (of dust): the second man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 **Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.**[1]

### The Collection for the Lord's People

**16:1** Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store (put some money away), as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. 3 And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them

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**1** *You may feel like it's not worth it today. God knows your efforts and struggles. Don't lose heart! Everything you do for the Lord is worth it. When was the last time you felt like giving up?*

will I send to bring your liberality (gifts) unto Jerusalem. 4 And if it be meet (good) that I go also, they shall go with me.

### Personal Requests

5 Now I will come unto you, when I shall pass through Macedonia: for I do pass through Macedonia. 6 And it may be that I will abide, yea, and winter with you, that ye may bring me on my journey whithersoever I go. 7 For I will not see you now by the way; but I trust to tarry (stay) a while with you, if the Lord permit. 8 But I will tarry at Ephesus until Pentecost. 9 For a great door and effectual (work) is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries. 10 Now if Timotheus come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do. 11 Let no man therefore despise him: but conduct him forth in peace, that he may come unto me: for I look for him with the brethren.

12 As touching our brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time. 13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit (act) you like men, be strong. 14 Let all your things be done with charity. 15 I beseech you, brethren, ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted (devoted) themselves to the ministry of the saints, 16 That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth. 17 I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied. 18 For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such.

### Final Greetings

19 The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. 20 All the brethren greet you. Greet ye one another with an holy kiss. 21 The salutation of me Paul with mine own hand. 22 If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema (accursed) Maranatha (our Lord come).

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. 24 My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.



## 2 Corinthians

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia: 2 Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Praise to the God of All Comfort

3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies (compassion), and the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation (troubles), that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. 5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound (overflow) in us, so our consolation (comfort) also aboundeth by Christ. 6 And whether we be afflicted (distressed), it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual (effective) in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation (comfort) and salvation. 7 And our hope of you is stedfast (firm), knowing, that as ye are partakers of (share in) the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation.

8 For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch (so) that we despaired even of life: 9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: 10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; 11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

### Paul's Change of Plans

12 For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation (conduct) in the world, and more abundantly (especially) to youward. 13 For we write none other things unto you, than what ye read or acknowledge (understand); and I trust ye shall acknowledge even to the end; 14 As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.

15 And in this confidence I was minded (planned) to come unto you before, that ye might have a second benefit; 16 And to pass by you into Macedonia, and to come again out of Macedonia unto you, and of you to be brought on my way toward Judaea. 17 When I therefore was thus minded, did I use lightness (did I do it lightly)? or the things that I purpose (planned), do I purpose (plan) according to the flesh, that with me there should be yea yea, and nay nay?

18 But as God is true (faithful), our word toward you was not yea and nay. 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us, even by me and

Silvanus and Timotheus, was not yea and nay, but in him was yea. 20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. 21 Now he which stablisheth (establishes) us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; 22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest (deposit) of the Spirit in our hearts. 23 Moreover I call God for a record (witness) upon my soul, that to spare you I came not as yet unto Corinth. 24 Not for that we have dominion (authority) over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand.

**2:1** But I determined (decided) this with myself, that I would not come again to you in heaviness. 2 For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me? 3 And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all. 4 For out of much affliction (pain) and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you.

### Forgiveness for the Offender

5 But if any have caused grief, he hath not grieved me, but in part: that I may not overcharge you all. 6 Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted of many. 7 So that contrariwise (on the contrary) ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. 8 Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him. 9 For to this end also did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things. 10 To whom ye forgive any thing, I forgive also: for if I forgave any thing, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ; 11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

### Ministers of the New Covenant

12 Furthermore, when I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a door was opened unto me of the Lord, 13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence (there) into Macedonia. 14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest (evident) the savour (fragrance) of his knowledge by us in every place. 15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: 16 To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things? 17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

**3:1** Do we begin again to commend ourselves? or need we, as some others, epistles (letters) of commendation to you, or letters of commendation from you? 2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: 3 **Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle (letter) of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.**[1]

4 And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: 5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; 6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

### The Greater Glory of the New Covenant

7 But if the ministration (ministry) of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance (appearance); which glory was to be done away: 8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. 10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. 11 For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. 12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: 13 And not as Moses, which put a vail (covering) over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: 14 But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17 **Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (freedom).**[2] 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass (mirror) the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

### Present Weakness and Resurrection Life

**4:1** Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God,

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**1** *Your life is a letter. What kind of a letter are you? How do the people in your life read of God when they read you? How are you letting Christ write your life?*

**2** *Ultimate freedom is about relationships—those to whom you are connected. Who are you connected to? How would a connection to the Spirit of God give you freedom?*

who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. 8 **We are troubled (pressed) on every side, yet not distressed (crushed);**[1] we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; 10 Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. 11 For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. 12 So then death worketh in us, but life in you.

13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, "I believed, and therefore have I spoken;" we also believe, and therefore speak; 14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. 15 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound (overflow) to the glory of God. 16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. 17 **For our light affliction (trouble), which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;**[2] 18 **While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal (temporary); but the things which are not seen are eternal.**[3]

### Awaiting the New Body

**5:1** For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle (body) were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: 3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. 4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. 5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: 7 **For we walk by faith, not by sight:**[1] 8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

### The Ministry of Reconciliation

11 Knowing therefore the terror (fear) of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences. 12 For we commend not ourselves again unto you, but give you occasion (opportunity) to glory (take pride) on our behalf, that ye may have somewhat to answer them which glory in appearance, and not in heart. 13 For whether we be beside ourselves, it is to God: or whether we be sober, it is for your cause. 14 For the love of Christ constraineth (compels) us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. 16 Wherefore henceforth (from now on) know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing (counting) their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech (implore) you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead (on Christ's behalf), be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**6:1** We then, as workers together with him, beseech (beg) you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. 2 For he saith, "I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured (helped) thee:" behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

### Paul's Hardships

3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: 4 But in all things approving (proving) ourselves as the ministers (servants) of God, in much patience, in afflictions (troubles), in necessities (hardships), in distresses, 5 In stripes (beatings), in imprisonments, in tumults (riots), in labours (hard work), in watching's (sleepless nights), in fastings; 6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy

**1** *Hard pressed on every side—at work, at home, from family, from friends, from strangers. Perplexed—expectations not met, promises made to you and then broken, friendships inexplicably ended. But strangely, you are not crushed and not in despair. It must be God's strength. How does this describe your circumstances lately?*

**2** *Sometimes being a Christian means you will encounter more trouble, not less. But suffering trouble for the sake of your relationship with God pays off beyond your wildest dreams. What trouble have you experienced because of your faith?*

**3** *You see it. You want it. You go after it. But soon, so very soon, it is gone. Sometimes the things that are not seen, like faith, hope, love, God, and eternity, is more important than what is seen. What are your eyes fixed on today?*

**1** *Maybe you are struggling to believe in a God you cannot see. Faith is a struggle. If there is a struggle going on within you, then there is faith. And faith is all you need. What doubts do you struggle with? How has your faith become more certain?*

Ghost, by love unfeigned (sincere), 7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, 8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; 9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened (beaten), and not killed; 10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

11 O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged. 12 Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels. 13 Now for a recompence (fair exchange) in the same, - I speak as unto my children, - be ye also enlarged.

### Warning Against Idolatry

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord (harmony) hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel (unbeliever)? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, “I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”

17 “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,” saith the Lord, “and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

**7:1** Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

### Paul’s Joy Over the Church’s Repentance

2 Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded (exploited) no man. 3 I speak not this to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you. 4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying (pride) of you: I am filled with comfort (encouragement), I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation (troubles).

5 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled (harassed) on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. 6 Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; 7 And not by his coming only, but by the consolation (comfort) wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent (ardent) mind (concern) toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle (letter) hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season (short time). 9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner,



that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved (proved) yourselves to be clear (innocent) in this matter. 12 Wherefore, though I wrote unto you, I did it not for his cause that had done the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered wrong, but that our care (concern) for you in the sight of God might appear unto you. 13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all. 14 For if I have boasted any thing to him of you, I am not ashamed; but as we spake all things to you in truth, even so our boasting, which I made before Titus, is found a truth. 15 And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him. 16 I rejoice therefore that I have confidence in you in all things.

### The Collection for the Lord’s People

**8:1** Moreover, brethren, we do you to wit (want you to know) of the grace of God bestowed (given) on the churches of Macedonia; 2 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded (overflowed) unto the riches of their liberality (generosity). 3 For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were willing of themselves; 4 Praying (pleading) us with much intreaty (urgency) that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering (service) to the saints. 5 And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. 6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also. 7 Therefore, as ye abound (excel) in every thing, in faith, and utterance (speech), and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

8 I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and to prove the sincerity of your love. 9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

10 And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient (best) for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. 11 Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have. 12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. 13 For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened: 14 But by an equality, that now at

this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality: 15 As it is written, “He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.”

### Titus Sent to Receive the Collection

16 But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest (sincere) care into the heart of Titus for you. 17 For indeed he accepted the exhortation (request); but being more forward, of his own accord (initiative) he went unto you. 18 And we have sent with him the brother, whose praise is in the gospel throughout all the churches; 19 And not that only, but who was also chosen of the churches to travel with us with this grace, which is administered by us to the glory of the same Lord, and declaration of your ready mind: 20 Avoiding this, that no man should blame us in this abundance (generous gift) which is administered by us: 21 Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

22 And we have sent with them our brother, whom we have oftentimes proved diligent in many things, but now much more diligent, upon the great confidence which I have in you. 23 Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ. 24 Wherefore shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love, and of our boasting on your behalf.

**9:1** For as touching the ministering (service) to the saints, it is superfluous (unnecessary) for me to write to you: 2 For I know the forwardness (eagerness) of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked (stirred to action) very many. 3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready: 4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we - that we say not, ye - should be ashamed in this same confident boasting. 5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort (urge) the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty (gift), whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.

### Generosity Encouraged

6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 Every man according as he purposeth (decides) in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 8 **And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:**[1] 9 As it is written, “He hath dispersed (scattered) abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.”

10 Now he that ministereth (supplies) seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness; 11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness (generosity), which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want (needs) of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection (obedience) into the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal (generous) distribution unto them, and unto all men; 14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. 15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

### Paul’s Defense of His Ministry

**10:1** Now I Paul myself beseech (appeal to) you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base (timid) among you, but being absent am bold toward you: 2 But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (of the world), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; 5 Casting down imaginations (arguments), and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

7 Do ye look on things after the outward appearance? If any man trust to himself that he is Christ’s, let him of himself think this again, that, as he is Christ’s, even so are we Christ’s. 8 For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification (building you up), and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed: 9 That I may not seem as if I would terrify (frighten) you by letters. 10 “For his letters”, say they, “are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible (unimpressive).” 11 Let such an one think this, that, such as we are in word by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present.

12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. 13 But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath

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**1** *An old man, worn and weather-beaten, sitting in a musty jail cell in the Middle East 2,000 years ago, wrote these words in a letter to people just like you. His prayer changed their lives. It can change yours, too. How has God’s Word changed you? Ever wonder why God has blessed you with so much? It is because He has people in mind that need your help. Who in your world needs your help?*

distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you. 14 For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ: 15 Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly, 16 To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand. 17 But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. 18 For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.

### Paul and the False Apostles

**11:1** Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly (foolishness): and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused (promised) you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled (deceived) Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him. 5 For I suppose I was not a whit behind the very chiefest apostles. 6 But though I be rude (unpolished) in speech, yet not in knowledge; but we have been throughly made manifest among you in all things.

7 Have I committed an offence in abasing (lowering) myself that ye might be exalted (lifted up), because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely? 8 I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service. 9 And when I was present with you, and wanted (needed something), I was chargeable to no man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied: and in all things I have kept myself from being burdensome unto you, and so will I keep myself. 10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no man shall stop me of this boasting in the regions of Achaia. 11 Wherefore? because I love you not? God knoweth. 12 But what I do, that I will do, that I may cut off occasion (opportunity) from them which desire occasion; that wherein they glory, they may be found even as we.

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel (wonder); for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers (servants) also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

### Paul Boasts About His Sufferings

16 I say again, Let no man think me a fool; if otherwise, yet as a fool receive me, that I may boast myself a little. 17 That which I speak, I speak it not after the Lord (as the Lord would speak), but as it were foolishly, in this confidence of boasting. 18 Seeing that many glory after the flesh, I will glory also. 19 For ye



suffer (put up with) fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise. 20 For ye suffer, if a man bring you into bondage, if a man devour you, if a man take of you, if a man exalt himself, if a man smite you on the face. 21 I speak as concerning reproach, as though we had been weak. Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, - I speak foolishly, - I am bold also.

22 Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed (descendants) of Abraham? so am I. 23 Are they ministers (servants) of Christ? -I speak as a fool- I am more; in labours (hard work) more abundant, in stripes (beatings) above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft (often). 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep (open sea); 26 In journeyings (travels) often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watching's (sleeplessness) often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings (without food) often, in cold and nakedness. 28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

30 If I must needs glory (boast), I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities (weaknesses). 31 The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not. 32 In Damascus the governor under Aretas the king kept the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desirous to apprehend (arrest) me: 33 And through a window in a basket was I let down by the wall, and escaped his hands.

### Paul's Vision and His Thorn

**12:1** It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory (boast). I will come (proceed) to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, - whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth; - such an one caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I knew such a man, - whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth; 4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. 5 Of such an one will I glory (boast): yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities (weaknesses). 6 For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear (refrain), lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet (torment) me, lest I should be exalted (praised) above measure. 8 For this thing I besought (pleaded with) the Lord thrice (three times), that it might

depart from me. 9 And he said unto me, “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” Most gladly therefore will I rather glory (boast) in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches (insults), in necessities (hardships), in persecutions, in distresses (difficulties) for Christ’s sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

### Paul’s Concern for the Corinthians

11 I am become a fool in glorying; ye have compelled me: for I ought to have been commended of you: for in nothing am I behind (less than) the very chiefest apostles, though I be nothing. 12 Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought (done) among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds. 13 For what is it wherein ye were inferior to other churches, except it be that I myself was not burdensome to you? forgive me this wrong.

14 Behold, the third time I am ready to come to you; and I will not be burdensome to you: for I seek not yours, but you: for the children ought not to lay (save) up for the parents, but the parents for the children. 15 And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved. 16 But be it so, I did not burden you: nevertheless, being crafty, I caught you with guile (trickery). 17 Did I make a gain (profit) of you by any of them whom I sent unto you? 18 I desired (urged) Titus, and with him I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain (profit) of you? walked we not in the same spirit? walked we not in the same steps? 19 Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying (strengthening). 20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates (quarreling), envyings, wraths (anger), strifes (factions), backbitings (slander), whisperings (gossip), swellings (arrogance), tumults (disorder): 21 And lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and that I shall bewail (grieve) many which have sinned already, and have not repented of the uncleanness and fornication (sexual sin) and lasciviousness which they have committed.

### Final Warnings

**13:1** This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth (by the testimony) of two or three witnesses shall every word be established. 2 I told you before, and foretell you, as if I were present, the second time; and being absent now I write to them which heretofore have sinned, and to all other, that, if I come again, I will not spare: 3 Since ye seek a proof of Christ speaking in me, which to you-ward is not weak, but is mighty in you. 4 For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.

5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your



own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates (one rejected by God)? 6 But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. 7 Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. 8 For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth. 9 For we are glad, when we are weak, and ye are strong: and this also we wish, even your perfection. 10 Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness (harsh words), according to the power which the Lord hath given me to edification (build up), and not to destruction.

### Final Greetings

11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. 12 Greet one another with an holy kiss.

13 All the saints salute (greet) you. 14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

*the book of* **Galatians**

**Summary:** *Paul wrote this letter to the church he had planted in Galatia on his first missionary journey. He wrote to correct the notion that a person can be saved by doing the law. The law is God's will for our lives but we cannot earn our salvation by doing it.*

**1:1** Paul, an apostle, not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead; 2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia: 3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: 5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

**Paul Called by God**

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man (made up). 12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. 13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it (tried to destroy it): 14 And profited (was advancing) in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers. 15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, 16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: 17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus. 18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. 19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. 20 Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not. 21 Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia; 22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ: 23 But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed. 24 And they glorified God in me.

**Paul Accepted by the Apostles**

**2:1** Then fourteen years after



I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. 2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation (leaders), lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain. 3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised: 4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily (privately) to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage: 5 To whom we gave place by subjection, no (we did not give in to them), not for an hour (a minute); that the truth of the gospel might continue with you. 6 But of these who seemed to be somewhat (important), whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person: for they who seemed to be somewhat in conference added nothing to me: 7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me, as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter; 8 For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles: 9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars (leaders), perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision. 10 Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do.

**Paul Opposes Cephas**

11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed (in the wrong). 12 For before that certain (men) came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. 13 And the other Jews dissembled (disassociated) likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, "If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews? 15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, 16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. 18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21I do not frustrate the grace of

God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

### Faith or Works of the Law

**3:1** O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? 2 This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 3 Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? 4 Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain. 5 He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, "In thee shall all nations be blessed." 9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. 10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, "Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them." 11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, "The just shall live by faith." 12 And the law is not of faith: but, "The man that doeth them shall live in them." 13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:" 14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

### The Law and the Promise

15 Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth (cancel), or addeth thereto. 16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, "And to seeds, as of many;" but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. 18 For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise. 19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator. 20 Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one. 21 Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily (certainly) righteousness should have been by the law. 22 But the scripture hath concluded all (are) under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

### Children of God

23 But before faith came, we



were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

**4:1** Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; 2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father. 3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world: 4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. 6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba, Father." 7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

### Paul's Concern for the Galatians

8 Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. 9 But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements (principles), whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? 10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years. 11 I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain.

12 Brethren, I beseech you, be as I am; for I am as ye are: ye have not injured me at all. 13 Ye know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first. 14 And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. 15 Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? for I bear you record, that, if it had been possible, ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me. 16 Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth? 17 They zealously affect you, but not well; yea, they would exclude you, that ye might affect them. 18 But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing, and not only when I am present with you. 19 My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you, 20 I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice (tone); for I stand in doubt of you.

### Hagar and Sarah

21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear (what the law says) the law? 22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid (slave), the other by a freewoman. 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after

the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. 24 Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth (leads) to bondage, which is Agar. 25 For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. 26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. 27 For it is written, “Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.” 28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. 29 But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. 30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son:” for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman. 31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

### Freedom in Christ

**5:1** Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

2 Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor (liable) to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. 6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth (profiteth) any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love. 7 Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion cometh not of him that calleth you. 9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump. 10 I have confidence in you through the Lord, that ye will be none otherwise minded: but he that troubleth you shall bear his judgment, whosoever he be. 11 And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased. 12 I would they were even cut off which trouble you.

### Life by the Spirit

13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” 15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. 16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness (lustfulness), 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance (quarrels), emulations (jealousy), wrath, strife, seditions (dissensions),



heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24 And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

**6:1** Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. 2 Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. 3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. 4 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. 5 For every man shall bear his own burden. 6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. 7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. 8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. 9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (do not give up). 10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

### Not Circumcision but the New Creation

11 Ye see how large a letter I have written unto you with mine own hand. 12 As many as desire to make a fair shew in the flesh, they constrain you to be circumcised; only lest they should suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13 For neither they themselves who are circumcised keep the law; but desire to have you circumcised, that they may glory in your flesh. 14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth (means) any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature. 16 And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. 17 From henceforth let no man trouble me: for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. 18 Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

*the book of* **Ephesians**

**Summary:** *Paul was in a prison cell in Rome. He was awaiting his trail before Caesar. While in prison he wrote a letter to a church in a city that he had spent three years living in—Ephesus. This city was well known for it contained one of the wonders of the ancient world—The temple of Artemus. Paul's letter must have been incredibly encouraging to the Christians in Ephesus and it still is for readers today. Enjoy!*

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Praise for Spiritual Blessings in Christ

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence (insight); 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation (plan) of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest (guarantee) of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

15 Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, 16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; 17 **That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead,**[1] and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: 22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, 23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.



### Made Alive in Christ

**2:1** And you hath he quickened (made alive), who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation (living) in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4 **But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened (made us alive) us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved;**[2] 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 **For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.**[3] 10 **For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto (to do) good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.**[4]

### Jew and Gentile Reconciled Through Christ

11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh (close) by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle (dividing) wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to

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**1** *An old man, worn and weather-beaten, sitting in a musty jail cell in the Middle East 2,000 years ago, wrote these words in a letter to people just like you. His prayer changed their lives. It can change yours, too. How has God's Word changed you?*

**2** *Are you worth saving? Why would God bother with you? Answer: His love. His great love. His mercy. His rich mercy. Have you received God's love and mercy?*

**3** *What can you do today to make God love you? Nothing! What can you do today to get God to save you? Nothing! Oh, but you must have faith. Yes. But even faith is a gift. Have you accepted the gift of faith from God?*

**4** *There is no handiwork that can equal God's workmanship: you! He has created you with special gifts and talents to use for His glory. How are you using your unique abilities for God's work?*

make in himself of twain (out of two) one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. 18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. 19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

### God's Marvelous Plan for the Gentiles

**3:1** For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, 2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to youward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; 6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. 8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: 10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, 11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: 12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him. 13 Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

### A Prayer for the Ephesians

14 **For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;**[1] 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth (is beyond all) knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

20 **Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,**[1] 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

### Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

**4:1** I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 **With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**[2] 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 **But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.**[3] 8 Wherefore he saith, "When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." 9 Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things. 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 **From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.**[4]

### Instructions for Christian Living

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, be-

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**1** *When it comes down to it, who you are and what you do come from the inside. Specifically ask Jesus today to fill the treasure chest of your soul with His unlimited resources. What are you facing today that will require strength on the inside?*

**1** *You have a spiritual dream. But whatever it is, God's dream for you is beyond your own. What do you think God's spiritual dream is for you?*

**2** *Your friends are not perfect. Your co-workers are not perfect. Your kids are not perfect. Your spouse is not perfect. You are not perfect either. So lighten up! Whose faults bother you more—yours or others? Why?*

**3** *That's right. You are gifted. Oh, there's a good chance you don't see yourself in that light. But just step into God's light today—because gifted is how He sees you. What special abilities has Christ given you?*

**4** *Many who say they want to grow spiritually somehow think great things will happen while they sit on the bench watching others do the work. The Christian life is a team sport. Be a player, not a spectator. Are you a player or a spectator?*

ing alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness (sensuality), to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ; 21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation (way of life) the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil. 28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. 29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour (wrangling), and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: 32 **And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.**[1]

**5:1** Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour (offering). 3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; 4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient (suitable): but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. 7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them. 8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: 9 For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; 10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. 11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove (expose) them. 12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. 13 But all things that are reproved (exposed) are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. 14 Wherefore he saith, "Awake thou that sleepest,

1 *Need some motivation to be compassionate toward someone who has hurt you? Look at how much God loves you and is compassionate toward you. Who do you need to show compassion to today?*



and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." 15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, 16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in **psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;**[1] 20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

### Instructions for Christian Households

21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. 22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

**6:1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. 5 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; 6 Not with eyeservice (when watched), as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; 7 With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: 8 Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond (slave) or free. 9 And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him.

1 *Music is a language that slips past well-guarded hearts and souls. It connects us to God and people in mysterious and wondrous ways. How has music helped connect you with God? With others?*

### The Armor of God

10 **Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.**[1] 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles (schemes) of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins (waist) girt (buckled) about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; 19 And for me, that utterance (prayer) may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds (chains): that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

### Final Greetings

21 But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, shall make known to you all things: 22 Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that ye might know our affairs, and that he might comfort your hearts.

23 Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.

**1** *You can't do it. You feel like giving up. You are tired and worn out. You can't do it, but God can do it through you. God's mighty power is within you. Where in your life have you experienced God's power? Where in your life do you need God's power?*



*the book of* **Philippians**

**Summary:** *With this letter, Paul thanked the churches at Philippi (a city in present day Turkey) for their support, and encouraged them to be humble like Jesus, to be like stars in a dark world, and to press on in the Christian life with the enthusiasm of one seeking a prize.*

**1:1** Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: 2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 6 Being confident of this very thing, that **he which hath begun a good work in you will perform (complete) it until the day of Jesus Christ:**[1] 7 Even as it is meet (good) for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds (chains), and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. 8 For God is my record (witness), how greatly I long after you all in the bowels (heart) of Jesus Christ. 9 And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; 10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; 11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

### Paul's Chains Advance the Gospel

12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; 13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; 14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing (becoming) confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. 15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: 16 The one preach Christ of contention (rivalry), not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: 17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. 18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence (false motives), or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. 19 For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, 20 **According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.**[2]

**1** *Sometimes you may feel like nothing you do is really that good. But if there is a biginning of something good in you God will help you complete it. Looking back at your Christian walk, can you see any progress?*

**2** *To be bold for something that is worth dying for—that is true living. How can*

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to
die is gain. 22 But if I live in the flesh,
this is the fruit of my labour: yet what
I shall choose I wot not. 23 For I am
in a strait betwixt (torn between the)
two, having a desire to depart, and
to be with Christ; which is far bet-
ter: 24 Nevertheless to abide in the
flesh is more needful for you. 25 And
having this confidence, I know that I
shall abide and continue with you all
for your furtherance and joy of faith;
26 That your rejoicing may be more
abundant in Jesus Christ for me by
my coming to you again.

### Life Worthy of the Gospel

27 Only let your conversation
be as it becometh (is worthy) the
gospel of Christ: that whether I
come and see you, or else be ab-
sent, I may hear of your affairs, that
ye stand fast in one spirit, with one
mind striving together for the faith of
the gospel; 28 And in nothing terri-
fied by your adversaries: which is to
them an evident token of perdition
(evidence of their destruction), but
to you of salvation, and that of God.
29 For unto you it is given in the be-
half of Christ, not only to believe on
him, but also to suffer for his sake;
30 Having the same conflict (strug-
gle) which ye saw in me, and now
hear to be in me.

### Imitating Christ's Humility

**2:1** If there be therefore any con-
solation in Christ, if any comfort of
love, if any fellowship of the Spirit,
if any bowels (tenderness) and mer-
cies, 2 Fulfil (Complete) ye my joy,
that ye be likeminded, having the
same love, being of one accord,
of one mind. 3 **Let nothing be done
through strife or vainglory; but in low-
liness of mind let each esteem other(s)
better than themselves.**[1] 4 **Look not
every man on his own things (inter-
ests), but every man also on the things
of others.**[2] 5 Let this mind be in you,
which was also in Christ Jesus:
6 Who, being in the form of God,
thought it not robbery (something to
be grasped) to be equal with God:
7 But made himself of no reputation
(nothing), and took upon him the
form of a servant, and was made
in the likeness of men: 8 And being
found in fashion as a man, he hum-
bled himself, and became obedient
unto death, even the death of the
cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath
highly exalted him, and given him a
name which is above every name:
10 That at the name of Jesus every
knee should bow, of things in heav-
en, and things in earth, and things
under the earth; 11 And that every
tongue should confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God
the Father.

### Do Everything Without Grumbling

12 Wherefore, my beloved, as
ye have always obeyed, not as in
my presence only, but now much
more in my absence, **work out your
own salvation with fear and trem-
bling. 13 For it is God which worketh in
you both to will and to do of his good
pleasure.**[1]14 Do all things without
murmurings and disputings (argu-
ing): 15 That ye may be blameless
and harmless, the sons of God,
without rebuke (fault), in the midst
of a crooked and perverse nation,
among whom ye shine as lights in
the world; 16 Holding forth the word
of life; that I may rejoice in the day
of Christ, that I have not run in vain,
neither laboured in vain. 17 Yea, and
if I be offered upon the sacrifice and
service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice
with you all. 18 For the same cause
also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

### Timothy and Epaphroditus

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus
to send Timotheus shortly unto you,
that I also may be of good comfort,
when I know your state (how you
are). 20 For I have no man likemind-
ed, who will naturally care for your
state. 21 For all seek their own, not
the things which are Jesus Christ's.
22 But ye know the proof of him
(how he proved himself), that, as
(like) a son with the father, he hath
served with me in the gospel. 23
Him therefore I hope to send pres-
ently, so soon as I shall see how it
will go with me. 24 But I trust in the
Lord that I also myself shall come
shortly. 25 Yet I supposed it nec-
essary to send to you Epaphrodi-
tus, my brother, and companion in
labour, and fellow soldier, but your
messenger, and he that ministered
to my wants. 26 For he longed after
you all, and was full of heaviness,
because that ye had heard that he
had been sick. 27 For indeed he was
sick nigh unto death: but God had
mercy on him; and not on him only,
but on me also, lest I should have
sorrow upon sorrow. 28 I sent him
therefore the more carefully, that,
when ye see him again, ye may re-
joice, and that I may be the less sor-
rowful. 29 Receive him therefore in
the Lord with all gladness; and hold
such in reputation: 30 Because for
the work of Christ he was nigh unto
death, not regarding his life, to sup-
ply your lack of service toward me.

### No Confidence in the Flesh

**3:1** Finally, my brethren, rejoice
in the Lord. To write the same things
to you, to me indeed is not grievous,
but for you it is safe.

2 Beware of dogs, beware of
evil workers, beware of the concision (those who cut off the flesh). 3
For we are the circumcision, which
worship God in the spirit, and re-
joice in Christ Jesus, and have no
confidence in the flesh. 4 Though I
might also have confidence in the
flesh. If any other man thinketh that
he hath whereof he might trust in
the flesh, I more: 5 Circumcised the
eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of
the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of
the Hebrews; as touching the law,
a Pharisee; 6 Concerning zeal, per-
secuting the church; touching the
righteousness which is in the law,
blameless. 7 But what things were
gain to me, those I counted loss for
Christ. 8 **Yea doubtless, and I count
all things but loss for the excellency**

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*you be bold for Christ today? Or, what would it take for you to be bold for Christ today?*

**1** *There is a secret to being content in all situations. It is found in Philippians 4:13. Find it. Read it. Live it. What is the secret of being content?*

**2** *Today find someone to listen to. Let them tell their story. Ask someone what they are excited about. You might just learn something. It might just get you out of a self-obsessed rut. Who can you listen to today*

**1** *Growth in any area of life requires effort. If you want to grow spiritually, then work at it. But do so knowing that it is God who is working in you. How would you describe your spiritual growth?*

**of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,**[1] 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable (like him) unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend (take hold of) that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**[2]

### Following Paul's Example

15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect (mature), be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. 16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. 17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample (example). 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things. 20 For our conversation (citizenship) is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

### Closing Appeal for Steadfastness and Unity

**4:1** Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. 2I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. 3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.

### Final Exhortations

4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation (gentleness) be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth

**1** *There are many important things in life. But knowing Christ as your Savior is the most important thing. What things in your life are you putting ahead of your relationship to Christ?*

**2** *Taking hold. Straining toward. Pressing on. Goal. Win. Prize. What are you taking hold of? What are you straining toward? What is your goal? What do you want to win? Will you gain the prize?*



all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

### Thanks for Their Gifts

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased (in need), and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 **I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**[1] 14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. 15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity (aid). 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. 20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### Final Greetings

21 Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you. 22 All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

**1** *You have dreams. God has dreams for you. Be a risk-taker for God's kingdom and He will make your dreams come true. What is your spiritual dream?*

*the book of* **Colossians**

**Summary:** *A man that Paul had converted in the city of Ephesus came to visit him in Rome. This man had planted a church in Colossae, but his church was struggling with false teachers. Paul wrote this letter to set these false teachers straight. It can set us straight as well.*

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother, 2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, 4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, 5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; 6 Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth: 7 As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; 8 Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit. 9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing (please him in every way), being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; 12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet (qualified us) to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: 13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated (brought) us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

### The Supremacy of the Son of God

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. 21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable (free from accusation) in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled (established), and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;



### Paul's Labor for the Church

24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind (lacking) of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: 25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; 26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: 29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

**2:1** For I would that ye knew what great conflict I have for you, and for them at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; 2 That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ; 3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. 4 And this I say, lest any man should beguile (deceive) you with enticing words. 5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the stedfastness of your faith in Christ.

### Spiritual Fullness in Christ

6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished (established) in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments (principles) of the world, and not after Christ. 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened (made alive) together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances (written code) that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

### Freedom From Human Rules

16 Let no man therefore judge
you in meat (what you eat), or in drink,
or in respect of an holyday, or of the
new moon, or of the sabbath days:
17 Which are a shadow of things to
come; but the body is of Christ. 18
Let no man beguile (deceive) you
of your reward in a voluntary (false)
humility and worshipping of angels,
intruding into those things which he
hath not seen, vainly puffed up by
his fleshly mind, 19 And not holding
the Head, from which all the body
by joints and bands having nourish-
ment ministered, and knit together,
increaseth with the increase of God.

20 Wherefore if ye be dead with
Christ from the rudiments (princi-
ples) of the world, why, as though
living in the world, are ye subject
to ordinances, 21 "Touch not; taste
not; handle not;" 22 Which all are to
perish with the using; after the com-
mandments and doctrines of men?
23 Which things have indeed a shew
of wisdom in will worship, and hu-
mility, and neglecting of the body;
not in any honour to the satisfying
of the flesh.

### Living as Those Made Alive in Christ

**3:1** If ye then be risen with
Christ, seek those things which are
above, where Christ sitteth on the
right hand of God. 2 Set your affec-
tion (passion) on things above, not
on things on the earth. 3 For ye are
dead, and your life is hid with Christ
in God. 4 When Christ, who is our
life, shall appear, then shall ye also
appear with him in glory.

5 Mortify (put to death) therefore
your members which are upon the
earth (earthy nature); fornication,
uncleanness, inordinate affection
(lust), evil concupiscence (desires),
and covetousness, which is idolatry:
6 For which things' sake the wrath
of God cometh on the children of
disobedience: 7 In the which ye
also walked some time, when ye
lived in them. 8 But now ye also put
off all these; anger, wrath, malice,
blasphemy, filthy communication
out of your mouth. 9 Lie not one to
another, seeing that ye have put off
the old man with his deeds; 10 And
have put on the new man, which
is renewed in knowledge after the
image of him that created him: 11
Where there is neither Greek nor
Jew, circumcision nor uncircumci-
sion, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor
free: but Christ is all, and in all. 12
**Put on therefore, as the elect of God,
holy and beloved, bowels of mercies
(compassion), kindness, humbleness
of mind, meekness, longsuffering;**[1] 13
Forbearing one another, and forgiv-
ing one another, if any man have a
quarrel against any: even as Christ
forgave you, so also do ye. 14 And
above all these things put on chari-
ty, which is the bond of perfectness.
15 And let the peace of God rule in
your hearts, to the which also ye are
called in one body; and be ye thank-
ful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell
in you richly in all wisdom; teach-
ing and admonishing one another
in psalms and hymns and spiritual
songs, singing with grace in your
hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatso-

**1** *Shoes? Check. Shirt? Check. Pants or skirt? Check. Socks? Check. Kindness???? Don't forget to put on kindness. What will kindness look like on you today?*



ever ye do in word or deed, do all
in the name of the Lord Jesus, giv-
ing thanks to God and the Father by
him.

### Instructions for Christian Households

18 Wives, submit yourselves
unto your own husbands, as it is fit
(fitting) in the Lord. 19 Husbands,
love your wives, and be not bitter
against them. 20 Children, obey
your parents in all things: for this
is well pleasing unto the Lord. 21
Fathers, provoke not your children
to anger, lest they be discouraged.
22 Servants, obey in all things your
masters according to the flesh; not
with eyeservice (when their eyes
are on you), as menpleasers; but
in singleness of heart, fearing God:
23 **And whatsoever ye do, do it heart-
ily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;
24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall
receive the reward of the inheritance:
for ye serve the Lord Christ.**[1] 25 But
he that doeth wrong shall receive for
the wrong which he hath done: and
there is no respect of persons (fa-
voritism).

**4:1** Masters, give unto your ser-
vants that which is just and equal
(fair); knowing that ye also have a
Master in heaven.

### Further Instructions

2 Continue in prayer, and watch
in the same with thanksgiving; 3
Withal praying also for us, that God
would open unto us a door of utter-
ance, to speak the mystery of Christ,
for which I am also in bonds: 4 That
I may make it manifest, as I ought
to speak. 5 Walk in wisdom toward
them that are without, redeeming
the time. 6 Let your speech be al-
way with grace, seasoned with salt,
that ye may know how ye ought to
answer every man.

### Final Greetings

7 All my state (news about me)
shall Tychicus declare unto you, who
is a beloved brother, and a faithful
minister and fellowservant in the
Lord: 8 Whom I have sent unto you
for the same purpose, that he might
know your estate, and comfort your
hearts; 9 With Onesimus, a faithful
and beloved brother, who is one of
you. They shall make known unto
you all things which are done here.

10 Aristarchus my fellowprison-
er saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's
son to Barnabas, touching whom
ye received commandments: if he
come unto you, receive him; 11
And Jesus, which is called Justus,
who are of the circumcision. These
only are my fellow workers unto the
kingdom of God, which have been a
comfort unto me. 12 Epaphras, who
is one of you, a servant of Christ, sa-
luteth you, always labouring ferven-
tly for you in prayers, that ye may
stand perfect and complete in all the
will of God. 13 For I bear him record,
that he hath a great zeal for you,
and them that are in Laodicea, and
them in Hierapolis. 14 Luke, the be-
loved physician, and Demas, greet
you. 15 Salute the brethren which
are in Laodicea, and Nymphas, and
the church which is in his house.
16 And when this epistle (letter) is
read among you, cause that it be

**1** *You work for God Himself. He pays well and the retirement package is out of this world. How are you doing in your job serving the Lord?*

read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea. 17 And say to Archippus, “Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.”

18 The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bonds. Grace be with you. Amen.



*the books of* **1 & 2 Thessalonians**

**Summary:** *The response to Paul’s message among the Gentiles (non-Jews) in the city of Thessalonica (northern Greece) caused some Jews to turn the whole city against Paul. He barely escaped under the cover of darkness. Later he got a report from Timothy on how the church was doing and it is in response to this report that we now have the letters to Thessalonica. In these letters Paul gives encouragement and specific teaching on the second coming of Jesus.*

**1:1** Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians’ Faith

2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; 3 Remembering without ceasing your work of (produced by) faith, and labour of love, and patience (endurance) of (produced by) hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; 4 Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. 5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost (Spirit), and in much assurance (conviction); as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. 6 And ye became followers (imitators) of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: 7 So that ye were ensamples (examples) to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. 8 For from you sounded (rang) out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing. 9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in (reception) we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; 10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

### Paul’s Ministry in Thessalonica

**2:1** For yourselves, brethren, know our entrance in (visit) unto you, that it was not in vain: 2 But even after that we had suffered before, and were shamefully entreated, as ye know, at Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention (opposition). 3 For our exhortation was not of deceit, nor of uncleanness, nor in guile (trickery): 4 But as we were allowed of (by) God to be put in trust (God trusted us) with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth (tests) our hearts. 5 For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloke of covetousness (greed); God is witness: 6 Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor yet of others, when we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ. 7 But we were gentle among you, even as a

nurse cherisheth her children: 8 So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls (lives), because ye were dear unto us. 9 For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable (a burden) unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God. 10 Ye are witnesses, and God also, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe: 11 As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, 12 That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.

13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. 14 For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews: 15 Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men: 16 Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

### Paul's Longing to See the Thessalonians

17 But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in (from your) presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire. 18 Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? 20 For ye are our glory and joy.

**3:1** Wherefore when we could no longer forbear (stand it), we thought it good to be left at Athens alone; 2 And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish (strengthen) you, and to comfort you concerning your faith: 3 That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto. 4 For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know. 5 For this cause, when I could no longer forbear (stand it), I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

### Timothy's Encouraging Report

6 But now when Timotheus came from you unto us, and brought us good tidings of your faith and charity, and that ye have good remembrance of us always, desiring greatly to see us, as we also to see you: 7 Therefore, brethren, we were



comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith: 8 For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord. 9 For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God; 10 Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith? 11 Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you. 12 And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: 13 To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints.

### Living to Please God

**4:1** Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. 2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel (body) in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence (lustful passion), even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. 8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit. 9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. 10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more; 11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; 12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

### Believers Who Have Died

13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

### The Day of the Lord

**5:1** But of the times and the

seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. 2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, "Peace and safety;" then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. 8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

### Final Instructions

12 And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; 13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. 14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. 15 **See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.**[1] 16 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 **In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**[2] 19 **Quench not the Spirit.**[3] 20 Despise not prophesyings. 21 Prove (test) all things; hold fast that which is good. 22 Abstain from all appearance of evil. 23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

25 Brethren, pray for us.

26 Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss. 27 I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren.

28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

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**1** *If someone pokes you, you poke them back. Someone talks negatively behind your back, you talk negatively behind their back. Someone takes advantage of you, you... (You see the pattern). There is another way: kindness. Who in your life deserves a pay back that you can, instead, give kindness to?*

**2** *It may not be easy to give thanks today. But giving thanks when it's hard to give thanks is the perfect time to give thanks! You cannot be negative and be thankful at the same time. What things are you thankful for today?*

**3** *To wake up every morning with a passion for God and His Word, and a passion for His plan for your life and for God's plan for your family; to greet every morning with a passion for the success of God's kingdom, the church you attend, and the mission of reaching people for Christ—this is the Spirit's desire for you every morning. How are you fanning the Spirit's fire?*



## 2 Thessalonians

**1:1** Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: 2 Grace unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

3 We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth; 4 So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: 5 Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: 6 **Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation (pay back trouble) to them that trouble you;**[1] 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired (praised) in all them that believe because our testimony among you was believed in that day. 11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: 12 That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### The Man of Lawlessness

**2:1** Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition (destruction); 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth (holds him back) that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with

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**1** *There are people in your life—people who have mistreated you, passed you by, talked negatively behind your back or maybe even to your face. And they are getting away with it. You are suffering; they are doing well. You want so badly for them to pay for their trouble-making. They will. Who is giving you trouble these days?*

the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

### Stand Firm

13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: 14 Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle (letter). 16 **Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation (comfort) and good hope through grace, 17 Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.**[1]

### Request for Prayer

**3:1** Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: 2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish (strengthen) you, and keep you from evil. 4 And we have confidence in the Lord touching you, that ye both do and will do the things which we command you. 5 And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

### Warning Against Idleness

6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us. 7 For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; 8 Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought (nothing); but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable (a burden) to any of you: 9 Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample (example) unto you to follow us. 10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. 11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. 13 But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing. 14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15 Yet count him not as

**1** *As you go out into the world today in the hope of saying and doing good things, take with you the encouragement of God. What has the encouragement of God done for you?*



an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

### Final Greetings

16 Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.

17 The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

*the books of* **1 & 2 Timothy**

**Summary:** *Timothy, a companion missionary with Paul for 15 years, was now the pastor of the church in Ephesus. Paul's first letter to Timothy was filled with practical pastoral advise. In the second letter Paul, knowing that his life was coming to an end, wanted to pass the baton to Timothy, who had been like a son to him. Listen for the love and concern in these letters.*

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; 2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Timothy Charged to Oppose False Teachers

3 As I besought (urged) thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine (teaching), 4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions (promote controversies), rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do. 5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned (sincere): 6 From which some having swerved (turned away) have turned aside unto vain jangling (meaningless talk); 7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm. 8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; 9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; 11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

### The Lord's Grace to Paul

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; 13 Who (Paul) was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious (a violent man): but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting. 17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### The Charge to Timothy Renewed

18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; 19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.



### Instructions on Worship

**2:1** I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time. 7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle - I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not - a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity (truth).

8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. 9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness (not shamefully) and sobriety; not with broided (braided) hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But which becometh women professing godliness with good works. 11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

### Qualifications for Overseers and Deacons

**3:1** This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; 3 Not given to wine, no striker (not violent), not greedy of filthy lucre (money); but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity (respect); 5 For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God? 6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good report (reputation) of them which are without (outsiders); lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; 9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. 10 And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. 11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. 12 Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For they that have used the office of a dea-

con well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### Reasons for Paul's Instructions

14 These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: 15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. 16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

**4:1** Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats (food), which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. 6 If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. 7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables (tales), and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. 8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. 9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation. 10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach (strive), because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.

11 These things command and teach. 12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attendance to reading (the Word), to exhortation (preaching), to doctrine (teaching). 14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery (leadership). 15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear (be obvious) to all. 16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

### Widows, Elders and Slaves

**5:1** Rebuke not an elder, but intreat (talk to) him as a father; and the younger men as brethren; 2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity. 3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite (repay) their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. 6 But she



that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth. 7 And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless. 8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. 9 Let not a widow be taken into the number under threescore years old, having been the wife of one man, 10 Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work. 11 But the younger widows refuse: for when they have begun to wax wanton (sensual desires alienate) against Christ, they will marry; 12 Having (resulting in) damnation, because they have cast off their first faith. 13 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. 14 I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully. 15 For some are already turned aside after Satan. 16 If any man or woman that believeth have widows, let them relieve (take care of) them, and let not the church be charged; that it may relieve them that are widows indeed.

17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 18 For the scripture saith, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn." And, "The labourer is worthy of his reward." 19 Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses. 20 Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear. 21 I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality. 22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure. 23 Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities.

24 Some men's sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some men they follow after. 25 Likewise also the good works of some are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.

**6:1** Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine (teaching) be not blasphemed. 2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

### False Teachers and the Love of Money

3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting (extreme interest) about

questions and strifes of words (arguements), whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. 6 **But godliness with contentment is great gain.**[1] 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment (clothing) let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition (ruin). 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

### Final Charge to Timothy

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. 13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth (brings to life) all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: 15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; 16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; 18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings (useless chatter), and oppositions of science (knowledge) falsely so called: 21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

**1** *Not as tall as you want to be? Not as attractive as you would like? Not as successful as some? But are you living a God-honoring life? You have all you need and, by the way, more than most. How wealthy are you?*



## 2 Timothy

**1:1** Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, 2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Thanksgiving

3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; 4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; 5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned (sincere) faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

### Appeal for Loyalty to Paul and the Gospel

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance (I remind you) that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 7 **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.**[1] 8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; 9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: 11 Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. 12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

### Examples of Disloyalty and Loyalty

13 Hold fast the form of sound words (teaching), which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost (Spirit) which dwelleth in us. 15 This thou knowest, that all they which are in Asia be turned away from me; of whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes. 16 The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain: 17 But, when he was in Rome, he sought me out very diligently, and found me. 18 The Lord grant unto him that he may find mercy of the Lord in that day: and in how many things he ministered unto me at Ephesus, thou knowest very well.

**1** *Go out on a limb today. "But," you ask, "what if the wind blows and the branch I am depending on breaks?" Yes, that could happen. And you could just sit at the trunk of the tree. It's safe there. Still, go out on a limb today. Why? That's where the fruit is. When in your life have you been timid? When has God given you courage?*

### The Appeal Renewed

**2:1** Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. 3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No man that warreth in the army entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. 5 And if a man also strive for masteries (as an athlete), yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully. 6 The husbandman (farmer) that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruits. 7 Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. 8 Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel: 9 **Wherein I suffer trouble, as (just as) an evil doer, even unto bonds (chains); but the word of God is not bound.**[1] 10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: 12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: 13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

### Dealing With False Teachers

14 Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting (hurt) of the hearers. 15 Study (work) to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (handling) the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker (like gangrene): of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow (destroy) the faith of some. 19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, "The Lord knoweth them that are his." And, "Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet (good) for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. 22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. 23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender (lead to) strifes. 24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, 25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves;

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**1** *Paul wrote these words from prison—while in chains. You may be imprisoned by whatever is holding you back in life, but the Word of God can eventually set you free. How are you going to get the Word of God in your life today?*



if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; 26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

**3:1** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent (without self-control), fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady (rash), highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. 6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers (many) lusts, 7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate (rejected) concerning the faith. 9 But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was.

### A Final Charge to Timothy

10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine (teaching), manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, 11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. 12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse (go from bad to worse), deceiving, and being deceived. 14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; 15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine (teaching), for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished (equipped) unto all good works.

**4:1** I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick (living) and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; 2 Preach the word; be instant (prepared) in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine (teaching). 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. 6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course (race), I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that

love his appearing.

### Personal Remarks

9 Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me: 10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry. 12 And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus. 13 The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. 14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: 15 Of whom be thou ware (careful) also; for he hath greatly withstood our words. 16 At my first answer (defense) no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge (held against them). 17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. 18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

### Final Greetings

19 Salute Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. 20 Erastus abode (stayed) at Corinth: but Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. 21 Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia, and all the brethren.

22 The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen.



*the book of* **Titus**

**Summary:** *Titus was a companion of Paul on his second and third missionary journeys. Together they had planted a church on the island of Crete and Titus had stayed on as the pastor. He was young and was being opposed by ungodly men. Paul wrote this letter to encourage him and the new believers in this struggling church.*

**1:1** Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; 2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; 3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; 4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

### Appointing Elders Who Love What Is Good

5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: 6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker (fighter), not given to filthy lucre (money); 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; 9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers (those against the truth).

### Rebuking Those Who Fail to Do Good

10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: 11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's (money's) sake. 12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, "The Cretians are alway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies (gluttons)." 13 This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; 14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth. 15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate (unfit).

### Doing Good for the Sake of the Gospel

**2:1** But speak thou the things which become (are in-tune with) sound doctrine: 2 That the aged men be sober, grave (worthy of respect), temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. 3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

4 That they may teach the young
women to be sober, to love their
husbands, to love their children, 5
To be discreet, chaste, keepers at
home, good, obedient to their own
husbands, that the word of God be
not blasphemed. 6 Young men like-
wise exhort to be sober minded. 7
**In all things shewing thyself a pattern**
**of good works:**[1] in doctrine (teaching)
shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sin-
cerity, 8 Sound speech, that cannot
be condemned; that he that is of
the contrary part may be ashamed,
having no evil thing to say of you. 9
Exhort servants to be obedient unto
their own masters, and to please
them well in all things; not answering
again (talking back); 10 Not purloin-
ing (stealing), but shewing all good
fidelity (trust); that they may adorn
the doctrine (make the ways of God
attractive) of God our Saviour in all
things. 11 For the grace of God that
bringeth salvation hath appeared to
all men, 12 Teaching us that, deny-
ing ungodliness and worldly lusts,
we should live soberly, righteously,
and godly, in this present world; 13
Looking for that blessed hope, and
the glorious appearing of the great
God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
14 Who gave himself for us, that he
might redeem us from all iniquity,
and purify unto himself a peculiar
people, zealous of good works. 15
These things speak, and exhort, and
rebuke with all authority. Let no man
despise thee.

**1** *If you are a follower of Christ then you are a teacher. There are people in your life that look to you for how they should be. Who are you teaching? What are you teaching them?*

### Saved in Order to Do Good

**3:1** Put them in mind to be sub-
ject to principalities and powers, to
obey magistrates, to be ready to
every good work, 2 To speak evil of
no man, to be no brawlers, but gen-
tle, shewing all meekness unto all
men. 3 For we ourselves also were
sometimes foolish, disobedient, de-
ceived, serving divers (many) lusts
and pleasures, living in malice and
envy, hateful, and hating one anoth-
er. 4 But after that the kindness and
love of God our Saviour toward man
appeared, 5 Not by works of right-
eousness which we have done, but
according to his mercy he saved us,
by the washing of regeneration, and
renewing of the Holy Ghost (Spirit);
6 Which he shed on us abundantly
through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
7 That being justified by his grace,
we should be made heirs according
to the hope of eternal life. 8 This is
a faithful saying, and these things I
will that thou affirm constantly, that
they which have believed in God
might be careful to maintain good
works. These things are good and
profitable unto men. 9 But avoid
foolish questions, and genealogies,
and contentions (arguments), and
strivings about the law; for they are
unprofitable and vain. 10 A man that
is an heretick (decisive) after the
first and second admonition reject;
11 Knowing that he that is such is
subverted (perferted), and sinneth,
being condemned of himself.

### Final Remarks

12 When I shall send Artemas unto
thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to
come unto me to Nicopolis: for I
have determined there to winter. 13



Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos
on their journey diligently, that noth-
ing be wanting unto them. 14 And
let ours also learn to maintain good
works for necessary uses, that they
be not unfruitful.

15 All that are with me salute thee.
Greet them that love us in the faith.
Grace be with you all. Amen.

*the book of* **Philemon**

**Summary:** *Paul was in prison. While there he converted a man named Onesimus. It turned out that Onesimus was a runaway slave from Ephesus where Paul had planted a church years before. But, wonder of wonders, Onesimus was a slave of one of the church members—Philemon. So Paul was writing Philemon to ask that Philemon forgive Onesimus for running away. Paul also, very subtly and respectfully, conveyed his desire to keep Onesimus as his helper (the name Onesimus means helper). This book is a great case study on how to deal with a tricky situation.*

**1:1** Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer, 2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house: 3 Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

4 **I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,**[1] 5 Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; 6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. 7 For we have great joy and consolation (comfort) in thy love, because the bowels (hearts) of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.

### Paul's Plea for Onesimus

8 Wherefore, though I might be much bold in Christ to enjoin (urge) thee that which is convenient, 9 Yet for love's sake I rather beseech (beg) thee, being such an one as Paul the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. 10 I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten (become like a father) in my bonds (chains): 11 Which in time past was to thee unprofitable (useless), but now profitable (useful) to thee and to me: 12 Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels (heart): 13 Whom I would have retained (kept) with me, that in thy stead (place) he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel: 14 But without thy mind (consent) would I do nothing; that thy benefit should not be as it were of necessity, but willingly. 15 For perhaps he therefore departed for a season, that thou shouldest receive him for ever; 16 Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, both in the flesh, and in the Lord?

17 If thou count me therefore a partner, receive him as myself. 18 If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought (anything), put that on mine account; 19 I Paul have written it with mine own hand, I will repay it: albeit (although) I do not say to thee how thou owest unto me even thine own self besides. 20 Yea, brother, let me have joy of thee in the Lord: refresh my bowels (heart) in the Lord.

21 Having confidence in thy obedience I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say.

22 But withal (along with that) prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given (return) unto you. 23 There salute (greet) thee Epaphras, my fellowprisoner in Christ Jesus; 24 Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.

25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

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**1** *Think about some of the great people in your life—people that have helped you, that have believed in you, supported you, given you opportunities to grow as a child of God. Why not thank God for them today? Who are some of these great people in your life?*

*the book of* **Hebrews**

**Summary:** *The book of Hebrews was written to try and convince people of Jewish background that all the rituals, laws and sacrifices were about Jesus.*

### God's Final Word: His Son

**1:1** God, who at sundry (various) times and in divers (different) manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

### The Son Superior to Angels

5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, "Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten (fathered) thee?" And again, "I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"

6 And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten (first born) into the world, he saith, "And let all the angels of God worship him."

7 And of the angels he saith, "Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire."

8 But unto the Son he saith, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. 9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." 10 And, "Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: 11 They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax (grow) old as doth a garment; 12 And as a vesture (robe) shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail."

13 But to which of the angels said he at any times, "Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?"

14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

### Warning to Pay Attention

**2:1** Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed (attention) to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast (binding), and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence (payment) of reward; 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; 4 God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers (various) miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost (Spirit), according to his own will?



### Jesus Made Fully Human

5 For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection (submission) the world to come, whereof (of which) we speak. 6 But one in a certain place testified, saying, "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest (care for) him? 7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: 8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet."

For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

10 For it became him (fitting for Him), for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both he that sanctifieth (makes holy) and they who are sanctified (made holy) are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

12 Saying, "I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee."

13 And again, "I will put my trust in him."

And again," Behold I and the children which God hath given me."

14 Forasmuch (Since) then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily (truly) he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved (was necessary for) him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 **For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succor (help) them that are tempted.**[1]

### Jesus Greater Than Moses

**3:1** Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers (sharers) of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus; 2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. 3 For this man (Jesus) was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house. 4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. 5 And Moses verily (truly) was faithful in all his house, as a ser-

**1** *Oh, if only someone truly understood your situation—the pressures, the deadlines, the compromises, the choices, the grief, the anxiety, the stress! There is One who truly understands your situation better than you. He has already been there—Jesus. What do you need to bring to Him in prayer today?*

vant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; 6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.

### Warning Against Unbelief

7 Wherefore as the Holy Ghost (Spirit) saith, "Today if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation (rebellion), in the day of temptation in the wilderness: 9 When your fathers tempted me, proved (tried) me, and saw my works forty years. 10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, 'They do alway err (go astray) in their heart; and they have not known my ways.' 11 So I sware in my wrath, 'They shall not enter into my rest.'"

12 Take heed (careful note), brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 But exhort (encourage) one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast (firm) unto the end; 15 While it is said, "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation (rebellion)."

16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit (nevertheless) not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. 17 But with whom was he grieved (angry) forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcases fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

### A Sabbath-Rest for the People of God

**4:1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. 2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. 3 For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, "As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest:" although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

4 For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise (in this manner), "And God did rest the seventh day from all his works." 5 And in this place again, "If they shall enter into my rest."

6 Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein (into it), and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: 7 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, "To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

8 For if Jesus (Joshua) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. 11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.



12 For the word of God is quick (alive), and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder (into pieces) of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest (clear) in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

### Jesus the Great High Priest

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast (firmly to) our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities (weaknesses); but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.**[1]

**5:1** For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2 Who (Jesus) can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way (going astray); for that (because) he himself also is compassed (surrounded) with infirmity (weakness). 3 And by reason hereof he ought (needed), as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.

4 And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. 5 So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, "Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten (fathered) thee."

6 As he saith also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec." 7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.

### Warning Against Falling Away

11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered (explained), seeing (since) ye are dull (hard) of hearing. 12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles (words) of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age

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**1** *God is the greatest King the universe has ever known. Yet you can come into His throne room anytime. In fact, He is eager that you do so. Don't hesitate to come before Him today. How do you approach God?*

(mature), even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

**6:1** Therefore leaving the principles (basics) of the doctrine (teaching) of Christ, let us go on unto perfection (maturity); not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this will we do, if God permit.

4 For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost (Spirit), 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh (again), and put him to an open shame. 7 For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet (useful) for them by whom it is dressed (prepared), receiveth blessing from God: 8 But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh (near) unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

9 But, beloved, we are persuaded (confident) of better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. 10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. 11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end: 12 That ye be not slothful (lazy), but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

### The Certainty of God's Promise

13 For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, 14 Saying, "Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee (give you many descendants)." 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.

16 For men verily (truly) swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife (argument). 17 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability (unchangeableness) of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: 18 That by two immutable (unchangeable) things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation (encouragement), who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither (where) the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

### Melchizedek the Priest

**7:1** For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter (defeat) of the kings, and blessed him; 2 To whom also



Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation (being known as) "King of righteousness," and after that also "King of Salem," which is, "King of peace;" 3 Without father, without mother, without descent (descendant), having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth (remains) a priest continually (forever). 4 Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

5 And verily (truly) they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins (descended) of Abraham: 6 But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. 7 And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. 8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. 9 And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. 10 For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.

### Jesus Like Melchizedek

11 If therefore perfection were (possible) by the Levitical priesthood, for under it the people received the law, what further need was there that another priest should rise after (according to) the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? 12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. 13 For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth (belongs) to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. 15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude (likeness) of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, 16 Who is made, not after (according to) the law of a carnal (fleshly) commandment, but after the power of an endless life. 17 For he testifieth, "Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."

18 For there is verily (truly) a disannulling (cancellation) of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness (uselessness) thereof. 19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh (near) unto God. 20 And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest: 21 For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, "The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:"

22 By so much was Jesus made a surety (certainty) of a better testament (covenant).

23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered (permitted) to continue by reason of death: 24 But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. 25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost (completely)

that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

26 For such an high priest became (was suitable for) us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; 27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself. 28 For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity (weakness); but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated (made perfect) for evermore.

### The High Priest of a New Covenant

**8:1** Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer. 4 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: 5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, "See," saith he, "that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount (on the mountain)." 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, "Behold, the days come," saith the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not," saith the Lord. 10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days," saith the Lord; "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord:' for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more." 13 In that he saith, "A new covenant," he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth (becomes) old is ready to vanish away.

### Worship in the Earthly Tabernacle

**9:1** Then verily (truly) the first covenant had also ordinances (regulations) of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary. 2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called



the sanctuary. 3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all; 4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; 5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat (cover); of which we cannot now speak particularly (in detail).

6 Now when these things were thus ordained (arranged), the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. 7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: 8 The Holy Ghost (Spirit) this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest (clear), while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: 9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; 10 Which stood only in meats (food) and drinks, and divers (various) washings, and carnal (fleshly) ordinances (rules), imposed on them until the time of reformation.

### The Blood of Christ

11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. 13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament (covenant), that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

16 For where a testament ( a will) is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator (person who has drawn up a will). 17 For a testament (will) is of force (goes into effect) after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. 18 Whereupon neither the first testament (covenant) was dedicated without blood. 19 For when Moses had spoken every precept (commandment) to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, 20 Saying, "This is the blood of the testament (covenant) which God hath enjoined (commanded) unto you." 21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission (forgiveness).

23 It was therefore necessary
that the patterns of things in the
heavens should be purified with
these; but the heavenly things
themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24 For Christ is not
entered into the holy places made
with hands, which are the figures
(copies) of the true (one); but into
heaven itself, now to appear in the
presence of God for us: 25 Nor yet
that he should offer himself often,
as the high priest entereth into the
holy place every year with blood of
others; 26 For then must he often
(many times) have suffered since
the foundation of the world: but now
once in the end of the world hath
he appeared to put away sin by the
sacrifice of himself. 27 And as it is
appointed unto men once to die, but
after this the judgment: 28 So Christ
was once offered to bear the sins of
many; and unto them that look for
him shall he appear the second time
without sin unto salvation.

### Christ's Sacrifice Once for All

**10:1** For the law having (being)
a shadow of good things to come,
and not the very image of the things
(a copy), can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by
year continually make the comers
thereunto perfect. 2 For then would
they not have ceased to be offered?
because that the worshippers once
purged should have had no more
conscience of sins. 3 But in those
sacrifices there is a remembrance
again made of sins every year. 4 For
it is not possible that the blood of
bulls and of goats should take away
sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh
into the world, he saith, "Sacrifice
and offering thou wouldest not, but
a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In
burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin
thou hast had no pleasure." 7 Then
said I, "Lo, I come - in the volume of
the book it is written of me, - to do
thy will, O God."

8 Above (first) when he said,
"Sacrifice and offering and burnt
offerings and offering for sin thou
wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure
therein; which are offered by the
law;" 9 Then said he, "Lo, I come to
do thy will, O God." He taketh away
the first, that he may establish the
second. 10 By the which (that) will
we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once
for all.

11 And every priest standeth
daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which
can never take away sins: 12 But
this man (Jesus), after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever,
sat down on the right hand of God;
13 From henceforth expecting (waiting) till his enemies be made his
footstool. 14 For by one offering he
hath perfected for ever them that
are sanctified (being made holy).
15 Whereof the Holy Ghost (Spirit)
also is a witness to us: for after that
he had said before, 16 "This is the
covenant that I will make with them
after those days," saith the Lord, "I
will put my laws into their hearts,
and in their minds will I write them;
17 And their sins and iniquities will I
remember no more." 18 Now where
remission (forgiveness) of these is,
there is no more offering for sin.



### A Call to Persevere in Faith

19 Having therefore, brethren,
boldness to enter into the holiest (of
Holies) by the blood of Jesus, 20 By
a new and living way, which he hath
consecrated (set apart as holy) for
us, through the veil (curtain), that is
to say, his flesh; 21 And having an
high priest over the house of God;
22 Let us draw near with a true heart
in full assurance of faith, having our
hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed
with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast
the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that
promised; 24 And let us consider
one another to provoke (challenge)
unto love and to good works: 25 **Not
forsaking the assembling of ourselves
together (meeting together), as the
manner of some is; but exhorting (encouraging) one another: and so much
the more, as ye see the day approaching.**[1]

26 For if we sin wilfully after that
we have received the knowledge of
the truth, there remaineth no more
sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain
fearful looking for of judgment and
fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries (enemies). 28
He that despised Moses' law died
without mercy under two or three
witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer
punishment, suppose ye, shall he
be thought worthy, who hath trodden (trampled) under foot the Son
of God, and hath counted the blood
of the covenant, wherewith he was
sanctified, an unholy thing, and
hath done despite unto (insulted)
the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know
him that hath said, "Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense
(repay)," saith the Lord. And again,
"The Lord shall judge his people."
31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the
hands of the living God.

32 But call to remembrance the
former days, in which, after ye were
illuminated (enlightened), ye endured a great fight (contest) of afflictions (suffering); 33 Partly, whilst ye
were made a gazingstock (spectacle) both by reproaches (insults) and
afflictions (persecutions); and partly,
whilst ye became companions of
them that were so used (treated). 34
For ye had compassion of me in my
bonds (chains), and took joyfully the
spoiling (plundering) of your goods
(property), knowing in yourselves
that ye have in heaven a better and
an enduring (lasting) substance
(possession).

35 Cast not away therefore your
confidence, which hath great recompence (payment) of reward. 36
For ye have need of patience (perseverance), that, after ye have done
the will of God, ye might receive the
promise. 37 For yet a little while, and
he that shall come will come, and
will not tarry (delay).

38 Now the just shall live by
faith: but if any man draw back, my
soul shall have no pleasure in him.
39 But we are not of them who draw
back unto perdition (destruction);
but of them that believe to the sav-

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**1** *You cannot make it alone. All humans meet in groups of like-minded people to be challenged and encouraged in their common beliefs. If you want to walk with God, you must get together with others who want the same thing. Do you have a group to challenge and encourage your walk of faith?*

ing of the soul.

### Faith in Action

**11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed (made) by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

5 By faith Enoch was translated (transported) that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

7. By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house (household); by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither (where) he went. 9 By faith he sojourned (lived) in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed (become pregnant), and was delivered of a child when she was past age (old), because she judged him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable (not countable).

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15 And truly, if they had been mindful (thinking) of that country from whence (where) they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. 16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried (tested), offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten (fathered) son, 18 Of whom it was said, “That in Isaac shall thy seed (descendants) be called:” 19 Accounting (taking into account) that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence (where) also he received him in a figure (figuratively).



20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.

22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper (extra-ordinary) child; and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction (hardship) with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; 26 Esteeming (considering) the reproach (disgrace) of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence (payment) of the reward. 27 By faith he forsook (left) Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. 28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying (attempting) to do were drowned.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed (surrounded) about seven days.

31 By faith the harlot (prostitute) Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon (Gideon), and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: 33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought (worked) righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed (grew) valiant (courageous) in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35 Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: 36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings (beatings), yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: 37 They were stoned, they were sawn (cut) asunder (into pieces), were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute (penniless), afflicted, tormented; 38 - Of whom the world was not worthy: - they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

39 And these all, having obtained a good report through (commended for their) faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without (with) us should not be made perfect.

**12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed (surrounded) about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight (hindrance), and the sin which doth so easily beset (entangle) us, and let us run with patience (perseverance)) the race that is set before us,**[1] 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher (perfecter) of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider him that endured such contradiction (opposition) of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

### God Disciplines His Children

4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. 5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation (warning) which speaketh unto you as unto children, "My son, despise not thou the chastening (corrections) of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: 6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth (disciplines) every son whom he receiveth (accepts)."

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards (illegitimate children), and not sons. 9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection (submission) unto the Father of spirits, and live? 10 For they verily (truly) for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit (good), that we might be partakers of his holiness. 11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous (painful): nevertheless afterward it yieldeth (produces) the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised (trained) thereby.

12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble (weak) knees; 13 And make straight (level) paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way (disabled); but let it rather be healed.

### Warning and Encouragement

14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator (sexual immoral person), or profane (unholy) person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat (food) sold his birthright. 17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

### The Mountain of Fear and the Mountain of Joy

18 For ye are not come unto the mount (mountain) that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness,

**1** *Listen. Do you hear them? There is a crowd cheering you on when you feel like giving up. Who are the "fans" in your life who inspire you?*



and tempest, 19 And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard intreated (begged) that the word should not be spoken to them any more: 20 For they could not endure that which was commanded, "And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart:" 21 And so terrible (terrifying) was the sight, that Moses said, "I exceedingly fear and quake:"

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion (Zion), and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable (not countable) company of angels, 23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

25 See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven: 26 Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, "Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven." 27 And this word, "Yet once more," signifieth (indicates) the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

28 Wherefore (therefore) we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 29 For our God is a consuming fire.

### Concluding Exhortations

**13:1** Let brotherly love continue. 2 Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares (unknowingly). 3 Remember them that are in bonds (prison), as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity (hardship), as being yourselves also in the body.

4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge. 5 **Let your conversation be without covetousness (greed); and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."**[1] 6 So that we may boldly say, "The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

7 Remember them which have the rule over you (your leaders), who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith (you)follow, considering the end of their conversation (behavior). 8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

9 Be not carried about with divers (various) and strange (foreign) doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established (strengthened) with grace; not with meats (foods), which have not profited them that have been occupied

**1** *Use money; love God. Money comes and goes. God will be with you forever. Are you in charge of your money or is money in charge of you?*

therein (with them). 10 We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.

11 For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without (outside) the camp. 12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify (purify) the people with his own blood, suffered without (outside) the gate.

13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach (shame). 14 For here have we no continuing (enduring) city, but we seek one to come.

15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. 16 But to do good and to communicate (share with others) forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable (of no advantage) for you.

18 Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly. 19 But I beseech (beg) you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

### Benediction and Final Greetings

20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

22 And I beseech (beg) you, brethren, suffer (allow) the word of exhortation (encouragement): for I have written a letter unto you in few words. 23 Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty (released); with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you.

24 Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you. 25 Grace be with you all. Amen.



*the book of* **James**

**Summary:** *James, Jesus' brother and the leader of the Jerusalem church, wrote this letter to encourage and challenge his scattered flock and to assure them that Christianity makes a practical change in one's life.*

**1:1** James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

### Trials and Temptations

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers (various) temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire (complete), wanting nothing. 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally (generously), and upbraideth not (doesn't find fault); and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

9 Let the brother of low degree (status) rejoice in that he is exalted: 10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. 11 For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion (beauty) of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. 13 Let no man say when he is tempted, "I am tempted of God:" for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust (desire), and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16 Do not err (commit an error), my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness (change), neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begat (created) he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

### Listening and Doing

19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: 20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. 21 Wherefore lay apart (get rid of) all filthiness and superfluity (overflowing) of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted (implanted) word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural

face in a glass (mirror): 24 For he beholdeth (looks at) himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth (controls) not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain (worthless). 27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit (assist) the fatherless and widows in their affliction (need), and to keep himself unspotted (unpolluted) from the world.

### Favoritism Forbidden

**2:1** My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons. 2 For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile (shabby) raiment (clothing); 3 And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay (fine) clothing, and say unto him, "Sit thou here in a good place;" and say to the poor, "Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:" 4 Are ye not then partial (playing favorites) in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?

5 Hearken (listen carefully), my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? 6 But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? 7 Do not they blaspheme (curse) that worthy name by the which ye are called?

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself," ye do well: 9 But if ye have respect to persons (show favoritism), ye commit sin, and are convinced (guilty) of the law as transgressors (law-breakers). 10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. 11 For he that said, "Do not commit adultery," said also, "Do not kill." Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. 13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

### Faith and Deeds

14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute (lacking) of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, "Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled;" notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit (help)? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. 18 Yea, a man may say, "Thou hast faith, and I have works:" shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. 19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.



20 But wilt thou know, O vain (foolish) man, that faith without works is dead? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22 Seest thou how faith wrought (worked) with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? 23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, "Abraham believed God, and it was imputed (credited) unto him for righteousness:" and he was called the Friend of God. 24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot (prostitute) justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? 26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

### Taming the Tongue

**3:1** My brethren, be not many masters (teachers), knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation (judgment). 2 For in many things we offend (cause people to stumble) all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle (control) the whole body. 3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. 4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm (rudder), whithersoever the governor (captain) listeth (chooses). 5 Even so the tongue is a little member (body part), and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity (evil): so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: 8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude (likeness) of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? 12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

### Two Kinds of Wisdom

13 Who is a wise man and endued (supplied) with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. 14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory (boast) not, and lie not against the truth. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated (submis-

sive), full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality (favoritism), and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

### Submit Yourselves to God

**4:1** From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members (inside you)? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss (wrongly), that ye may consume it upon your lusts (pleasures).

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity (hatred toward) with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. 5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, "The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?" 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, "God resisteth (opposes) the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh (near) to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 9 Be afflicted (grieve), and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. 12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

### Boasting About Tomorrow

13 Go to now, ye that say, "To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:" 14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour (mist), that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15 For that ye ought to say, "If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." 16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil. 17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

### Warning to Rich Oppressors

**5:1** Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. 2 Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. 3 Your gold and silver is cankered (rusted); and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. 4 Behold, the hire (wages) of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. 5 Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton (self-indulgent); ye have nourished your hearts, as in



a day of slaughter. 6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

### Patience in Suffering

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman (farmer) waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. 8 Be ye also patient; stablish (strengthen) your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh (near). 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. 11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful (compassionate), and of tender mercy. 12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your "yea" be yea; and your "nay," nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

### The Prayer of Faith

13 Is any among you afflicted (in trouble)? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. 14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: 15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. 16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual (effective) fervent (sincere) prayer of a righteous man availeth (accomplishes) much.

17 Elias (Elijah) was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. 19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert (correct) him; 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

*the books of* **1 & 2 Peter**

**Summary:** *Peter wrote these letters to all the churches in Asia Minor who were facing persecution for their faith. This was about the time when Emperor Nero burned Rome to the ground and then blamed it on Christians. Peter encouraged church members to live an obedient lifestyle in contrast to the hostile environment around them.*

**1:1** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied (in abundance).

### Praise to God for a Living Hope

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten (new birth) us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness (grief) through manifold (many) temptations: 7 **That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:**[1] 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: 9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired (spoke) and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify (indicate), when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost (Spirit) sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

### Be Holy

13 Wherefore gird up the loins (get ready for action) of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, “Be ye holy; for I am holy.” 17 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to

**1** *Testing helps you know who you really are—your strengths and weaknesses. And it proves to you and God that your faith is real. How has your faith been tested? How did you come out in the test?*



every man’s work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear: 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. 22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned (sincere) love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 24 **For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.**[1]

**2:2** Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

**1** *Your body, strong though it may be, is like a flower that will fall to the ground. But as you take the Word of God into your life, you have something in you that will stand forever. How do you think the Word of God in you will last forever?*

### The Living Stone and a Chosen People

4 To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed (rejected) indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, “Behold, I lay in Sion (Zion) a chief corner stone, elect, precious:” and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded (put to shame). 7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed (rejected), the same is made the head of the corner, 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. 9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: 10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

### Living Godly Lives in a Pagan Society

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; 12 Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they

shall behold (see in you), glorify God in the day of visitation.

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: 16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. 17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. 18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted (beat) for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. 21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile (deceit) found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled (insulted), reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: 24 **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**[1] 25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

**3:1** Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. 3 Whose adorning (those who adorn) let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting (braided) the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel (nice clothes); 4 But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 5 For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: 6 Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. 7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.

### Suffering for Doing Good

8 **Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful (sympathetic), be courteous: 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing (insulting) for railing: but contrariwise (instead) blessing;**

**1** *Sin is a debt. Debts must be paid. Even if the one to whom the debt is owed decides to forgive the debt, the debt must still be paid. This is what Jesus did for us on the cross. What sins do you want Jesus to forgive for you?*



**knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.**[1] 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile (lies): 11 Let him eschew (turn from) evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue (pursue) it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

13 And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? 14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness (gentleness) and fear (respect):**[2] 16 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation (connection) in Christ. 17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. 18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened (made alive) by the Spirit: 19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; 20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21 The like figure whereunto (for example) even baptism doth also now save us not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: 22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

### Living for God

**4:1** Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from (done with) sin; 2 That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. 3 For the time past of our life may suffice us (was sufficient) to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings (drinking parties), and abominable idolatries: 4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you: 5 Who shall give account to him that is ready to judge the quick (living) and the dead. 6 For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

**1** *You have been chosen to receive a blessing from God today. How do you get this blessing? Be kind to those who curse you. Don't believe it will work? Try it. Perhaps you will be surprised. Who has been handing out unkind words to you lately?*

**2** *Look for opportunities to share your walk with God. Just share what you are doing every day to stay close to God. How did it go?*

7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. 8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. 9 Use hospitality one to another without grudging. 10 **As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.**[1] 11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

### Suffering for Being a Christian

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 14 If ye be reproached (insulted) for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. 16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf. 17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? 18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? 19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

### To the Elders and the Flock

**5:1** The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint (because you have to), but willingly; not for filthy lucre (money), but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage (people), but being ensamples (examples) to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth (opposes) the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

**1** *You are a gifted person. No, you don't think so? Well, it doesn't matter what you think. God says you are. What do you think your spiritual gift might be? How are you using it to be kind to others?*



7 **Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.**[1] 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish (establish), strengthen, settle you. 11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

### Final Greetings

12 By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand. 13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth (greets) you; and so doth Marcus my son. 14 Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**1** *You may have noticed how sharing your concerns and worries with someone can help you. This is how it is with God, too. When you talk to Him through prayer, the things that weigh you down get lighter. What are you worrying about today?*

## 2 Peter

**1:1** Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: 2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

### Confirming One's Calling and Election

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

### Prophecy of Scripture

12 Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. 13 Yea, I think it meet (good), as long as I am in this tabernacle (tent or body), to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; 14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. 15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. 16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 **For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost (Spirit).**[1]

**1** *The Bible was written by more than 40 authors over thousands of years and yet has one single message. Why? The Holy Spirit inspired the words. The same Holy Spirit promises to inspire you as you read them. When have you felt God was speaking to you from the Bible?*



### False Teachers

**2:1** But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily (privately) shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many shall follow their pernicious (shameful) ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. 3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned (false) words make merchandise (exploit) of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not. 4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; 5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; 6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample (example) unto those that after should live ungodly; 7 And delivered just Lot, vexed (distressed) with the filthy conversation of the wicked: 8 For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds; 9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: 10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. 11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. 12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; 13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the daytime. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling (deceiving) unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet. 17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. 18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 **While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.**[1] 20 For if after they have

**1** *Is it money? Is it food? Is it your "to do"*

escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, "The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."

### The Day of the Lord

**3:1** This second epistle (letter), beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: 3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition (destruction) of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. 14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. 15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things;

*list? Is it your need to be liked? Is it your desire to be the center of attention? Is it your fear? Is it your insecurity? Is it the internet? Is it your hobby? Is it your doubt? What controls you? What takes your time? What takes your energy? Whatever it is, you have become its slave. What things seek to control your life?*



in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. 17 Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness. 18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

*the books of* **1, 2 & 3 John**

**Summary:** *At the time John wrote these letters he was the only one of the 12 disciples that was still alive. He had walked with Jesus, heard His words first hand, and had witnessed His miracles. And now John wanted to encourage all the churches to love one another with the love that he had experienced from Jesus Himself.*

### The Incarnation of the Word of Life

**1:1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2 - For the life was manifested (made visible), and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us; - 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

### Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**2:1** My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate (one who pleads our case) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

### Love and Hatred for Fellow Believers

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, "I know him," and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily (truly) is the love of God perfected: hereby (by this) know we that we are in him. 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning. 8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. 9



He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. 10 He that loveth his brother abideth (remains) in the light, and there is none (no) occasion (cause) of stumbling in him. 11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither (where) he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

### Reasons for Writing

12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. 13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. 14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth (lives) in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

### On Not Loving the World

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust (desire) of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth (lives) for ever.

### Warnings Against Denying the Son

18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest (clear) that they were not all of us.

20 But ye have an unction (anointing) from the Holy One, and ye know all things. 21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth. 22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. 23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

24 Let that therefore abide (live) in you, (that) which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father. 25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.

26 These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce (lead astray) you. 27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth (lives) in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide (live) in him.

### God's Children and Sin

28 And now, little children, abide
in him; that, when he shall appear,
we may have confidence, and not be
ashamed before him at his coming.
29 If ye know that he is righteous,
ye know that every one that doeth
righteousness is born of him.

**3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed (given) upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:**[1] therefore the world knoweth
us not, because it knew him not.
2 Beloved, now are we the sons
of God, and it doth not yet appear
what we shall be: but we know that,
when he shall appear, we shall be
like him; for we shall see him as he
is. 3 And every man that hath this
hope in him purifieth himself, even
as he is pure. 4 Whosoever commit-
teth sin transgresseth (breaks) also
the law: for sin is the transgression
of the law. 5 And ye know that he
was manifested (appeared) to take
away our sins; and in him is no sin.
6 Whosoever abideth (lives) in him
sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath
not seen him, neither known him. 7
Little children, let no man deceive
you: he that doeth righteousness is
righteous, even as he is righteous. 8
He that committeth sin is of the dev-
il; for the devil sinneth from the be-
ginning. For this purpose the Son of
God was manifested (made known),
that he might destroy the works of
the devil.

9 Whosoever is born of God
doth not commit sin; for his (God's)
seed remaineth in him: and he can-
not sin, because he is born of God.
10 In this the children of God are
manifest (known), and the children
of the devil: whosoever doeth not
righteousness is not of God, neither
he that loveth not his brother.

### More on Love and Hatred

11 For this is the message that
ye heard from the beginning, that we
should love one another. 12 Not as
Cain, who was of that wicked one,
and slew his brother. And where-
fore slew he him? Because his own
works were evil, and his brother's
righteous.

13 Marvel not, my brethren, if
the world hate you. 14 We know that
we have passed from death unto
life, because we love the brethren.
He that loveth not his brother abi-
deth (remains) in death. 15 Whoso-
ever hateth his brother is a murder-
er: and ye know that no murderer
hath eternal life abiding in him.

16 Hereby perceive (under-
stand) we the love of God, because
he laid down his life for us: and we
ought to lay down our lives for the
brethren. 17 But whoso hath this
world's good (possessions), and
seeth his brother have need, and
shutteth up his bowels (heart) of
compassion from him, how dwelleth
the love of God in him? 18 My lit-
tle children, let us not love in word,
neither in tongue; but in deed and in
truth. 19 And hereby we know that
we are of the truth, and shall assure
(set) our hearts before him. 20 For if
our heart condemn us, God is great-
er than our heart, and knoweth all

1 *Sacrifice. That is what love is. Not loving someone because she or he does something for you. Sacrifice. Have you accepted Jesus' sacrificial love? Are you giving it away?*



things.

21 Beloved, if our heart con-
demn us not, then have we confi-
dence toward God. 22 And what-
soever we ask, we receive of him,
because we keep his command-
ments, and do those things that are
pleasing in his sight. 23 And this is
his commandment, That we should
believe on the name of his Son Je-
sus Christ, and love one another, as
he gave us commandment. 24 And
he that keepeth his commandments
dwelleth (lives) in him, and he in him.
And hereby we know that he abideth
(lives) in us, by the Spirit which he
hath given us.

### On Denying the Incarnation

**4:1** Beloved, believe not every
spirit, but try (test) the spirits wheth-
er (if) they are of God: because
many false prophets are gone out
into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the
Spirit of God: Every spirit that con-
fesseth that Jesus Christ is come
in the flesh is of God: 3 And every
spirit that confesseth not that Jesus
Christ is come in the flesh is not of
God: and this is that spirit of anti-
christ, whereof ye have heard that it
should come; and even now already
is it in the world. 4 Ye are of God,
little children, and have overcome
them: because greater is he that is
in you, than he that is in the world.
5 They are of the world: therefore
speak they of the world, and the
world heareth them. 6 We are of
God: he that knoweth God heareth
us; he that is not of God heareth not
us. Hereby (by this) know we the
spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

### God's Love and Ours

7 Beloved, let us love one an-
other: for love is of God; and every
one that loveth is born of God, and
knoweth God. 8 He that loveth not
knoweth not God; for God is love.
9 In this was manifested (made
known) the love of God toward us,
because that God sent his only be-
gotten Son into the world, that we
might live through him. 10 Herein is
love, not that we loved God, but that
he loved us, and sent his Son to be
the propitiation (atoning sacrifice)
for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so
loved us, we ought also to love one
another. 12 No man hath seen God
at any time. If we love one another,
God dwelleth in us, and his love is
perfected (made perfect) in us.

13 Hereby know we that we
dwell in him, and he in us, because
he hath given us of his Spirit. 14 And
we have seen and do testify that the
Father sent the Son to be the Sav-
iour of the world. 15 Whosoever
shall confess that Jesus is the Son
of God, God dwelleth in him, and he
in God. 16 And we have known and
believed the love that God hath to
us. God is love; and he that dwelleth
in love dwelleth in God, and God
in him. 17 Herein is our love made
perfect, that we may have boldness
in the day of judgment: because as
he is, so are we in this world. 18
There is no fear in love; but per-
fect love casteth out fear: because
fear hath (has to do with) torment
(punishment). He that feareth is not
made perfect in love. 19 **We love him, because he first loved us.**[1] 20 If

1 *Love is the greatest food for an emotionally starving world. But you have to*

a man say, “I love God,” and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

### Faith in the Incarnate Son of God

**5:1** Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat (fathered us) loveth him also that is begotten of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous (heavy). 4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

6 This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost (Spirit): and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. 9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. 10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record (witness) that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

### Concluding Affirmations

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. 14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him. 16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. 17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death. 18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten (born) of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. 19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. 20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

*have love before you can give love. God has a huge warehouse full of love. He will give you more than you need so that you can share it with others. How does God's love for you show itself in the lives of those around you?*

## 2 John

**1:1** The elder unto the elect (chosen) lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth; 2 For the truth's sake, which dwelleth (lives) in us, and shall be with us for ever. 3 Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.

4 I rejoiced greatly that I found of thy children walking in truth, as we have received a commandment from the Father. 5 And now I beseech (beg) thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another. 6 And this is love, that we walk after (follow) his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought (worked for), but that we receive a full reward. 9 Whosoever transgresseth (sins), and abideth (remains) not in the doctrine (teaching) of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid (tell) him God speed (God bless) : 11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker (sharing) of his evil deeds.

12 Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full. 13 The children of thy elect (chosen) sister greet thee. Amen.



## 3 John

**1:1** The elder unto the well-beloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth.

2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. 3 For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. 5 Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; 6 Which have borne witness of thy charity (love) before (for) the church: whom if thou bring forward (send) on their journey after a godly sort (manner), thou shalt do well: 7 Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. 8 We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.

9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence (first place) among them, receiveth us not. 10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating (speaking in a foolish way) against us with malicious (hurtful) words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of the church.

11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God. 12 Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear (give) record (witness); and ye know that our record is true.

13 I had many things to write, but I will not with ink and pen write unto thee: 14 **But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute (greet) thee. Greet the friends by name.**[1]

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**1** *You may remember a time when someone you only met once remembered you by name. It probably gave you a special feeling of importance and being loved. Do this for someone else today.* Whom can you greet warmly today?

*the book of* **Jude**

**Summary:** *Jude was a brother of Jesus. He warned believers to guard against those in the fellowship who were causing divisions.*

**1:1** Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified (set apart) by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called: 2 Mercy unto you, and peace, and love, be multiplied.

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the (our) common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort (encourage) you that ye should earnestly contend (fight) for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares (unexpectedly), who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness (immorality), and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

5 I will therefore put you in remembrance (remind you), though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. 6 And the angels which kept not their first estate (status), but left their own habitation (dwelling place), he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. 7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication (sexual immorality), and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering (enduring) the vengeance (wrath) of eternal fire.

8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh (their bodies), despise dominion (authority), and speak evil of dignities (celestial beings). 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending (fighting) with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst (dared) not bring against him a railing (abusive) accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke thee." 10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally (instinctively), as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying (opposition) of Core (Korah).

12 These are spots (blemishes) in your feasts of charity (love), when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; 13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, 15 To execute (carry out) judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard (harsh) speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." 16 These are murmurers (grumblers), complainers, walking after their own lusts (evil desires); and their mouth speaketh great swelling (prideful) words, having men's persons in admiration (external status) because of advantage (profit).





### A Call to Persevere

17 But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; 18 How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts (desires). 19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost (Spirit), 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted (stained) by the flesh.

### Doxology

24 **Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding (great) joy, 25 To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.**[1]

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**1** *Giving praise to God gives you confidence in His ability to keep you from falling.*

*the book of* **Revelation**

**Summary:** *John, the last remaining disciple of the 12, was banished to the island of Patmos (off the cost near Ephesus in the Mediterranean Sea) where he received a vision from God about the present and the future. Jesus revealed Himself to John as a shepherd who cares for His sheep, as a righteous judge who will punish the wicked, and a victorious king who will establish His kingdom forever.*

### Prologue

**1:1** The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: 2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. 3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

### Greetings and Doxology

4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds (peoples) of the earth shall wail (cry) because of him. Even so, Amen. 8 "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending," saith the Lord, "which (who) is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

### John's Vision of Christ

9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation (suffering), and in the kingdom and patience (endurance) of Jesus Christ, was in (on) the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11 Saying, "I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:" and, "What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea."

12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; 13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt (tie) about the paps (breasts) with a golden girdle. 14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. 17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, "Fear not; I am the first and the last: 18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter; 20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

### To the Church in Ephesus

**2:1** Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; "These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; 2 I know thy works, and thy labour (deeds), and thy patience (perseverance), and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat (something) against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works (when you first became Christians); or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. 6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate. 7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

### To the Church in Smyrna

8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; "These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; 9 I know thy works (deeds), and tribulation (suffering), and poverty, but thou art rich and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. 10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. 11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death."

### To the Church in Pergamum

12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; "These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; 13 I know thy works (deeds), and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even

in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. 14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine (teaching) of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. 15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate. 16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it."

### To the Church in Thyatira

18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; "These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience (endurance), and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

20 "Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest (allow) that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space (time) to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins (minds) and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works (deeds). 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine (teaching), and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

26 "And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers (pieces): even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

### To the Church in Sardis

**3:1** And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; "These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works (deeds), that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch (wake up), I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.



4 "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white (clothes): for they are worthy. 5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment (clothing); and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

### To the Church in Philadelphia

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; "These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8 I know thy works (deeds): behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shutit: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience (obeyed my command to endure patiently), I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. 11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

12 "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

### To the Church in Laodicea

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; "These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; 15 I know thy works (deeds), that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert (were) cold or hot. 16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. 17 Because thou sayest, "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;" and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment (clothing), that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. **20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup (eat) with him, and he with me.**[1]

21 "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. 22 He that hath an ear, let him

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**1** *This verse is part of the Pathway to Life. Next go to Romans 15:13; pg. 262.*

hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

### The Throne in Heaven

**4:1** After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter." 2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne. 3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald. 4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment (clothing); and they had on their heads crowns of gold. 5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. 6 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. 7 And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. 8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come." 9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, 10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, 11 **"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."**[1]

### The Scroll and the Lamb

**5:1** And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. 2 And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?" 3 And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. 4 And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 5 And one of the elders saith unto me, "Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."

6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. 7 And he came and took the book

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**1** *Give God praise today. Just use the words of Revelation 4:11. Repeat them over and over. Why does your giving God praise end up blessing you?*



out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. 8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials (bowls) full of odours (incense), which are the prayers of saints. 9 And they sung a new song, saying, "Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; 10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth."

11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; 12 Saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing." 13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, "Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

14 And the four beasts said, "Amen." And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

### The Seals

**6:1** And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, "Come and see."

2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. 3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, "Come and see." 4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. 5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, "Come and see."

And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. 6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, "A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine."

7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, "Come and see."

8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. 9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell

on the earth?”

11 And white robes were given
unto every one of them; and it was
said unto them, that they should rest
yet for a little season, until their fel-
lowservants also and their brethren,
that should be killed as they were,
should be fulfilled. 12 And I beheld
when he had opened the sixth seal,
and, lo, there was a great earth-
quake; and the sun became black
as sackcloth of hair, and the moon
became as blood; 13 And the stars
of heaven fell unto the earth, even
as a fig tree casteth her untimely
figs, when she is shaken of a mighty
wind. 14 And the heaven departed
as a scroll when it is rolled together;
and every mountain and island were
moved out of their places. 15 And
the kings of the earth, and the great
men, and the rich men, and the chief
captains, and the mighty men, and
every bondman (slave), and every
free man, hid themselves in the
dens and in the rocks of the moun-
tains; 16 And said to the mountains
and rocks, “Fall on us, and hide us
from the face of him that sitteth on
the throne, and from the wrath of
the Lamb:” 17 For the great day of
his wrath is come; and who shall be
able to stand?

### 144,000 Sealed

**7:1** And after these things I saw
four angels standing on the four
corners of the earth, holding the
four winds of the earth, that the
wind should not blow on the earth,
nor on the sea, nor on any tree. 2
And I saw another angel ascending
from the east, having the seal of the
living God: and he cried with a loud
voice to the four angels, to whom it
was given to hurt the earth and the
sea, 3 Saying, “Hurt not the earth,
neither the sea, nor the trees, till we
have sealed the servants of our God
in their foreheads.”

4 And I heard the number of
them which were sealed: and there
were sealed an hundred and forty
and four thousand of all the tribes of
the children of Israel. 5 Of the tribe
of Juda were sealed twelve thou-
sand. Of the tribe of Reuben were
sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe
of Gad were sealed twelve thou-
sand. 6 Of the tribe of Aser were
sealed twelve thousand. Of the tribe
of Nepthalim were sealed twelve
thousand. Of the tribe of Manass-
es were sealed twelve thousand. 7
Of the tribe of Simeon were sealed
twelve thousand. Of the tribe of Levi
were sealed twelve thousand. Of the
tribe of Issachar were sealed twelve
thousand. 8 Of the tribe of Zabulon
were sealed twelve thousand. Of the
tribe of Joseph were sealed twelve
thousand. Of the tribe of Benjamin
were sealed twelve thousand.

### The Great Multitude in White Robes

9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a
great multitude, which no man could
number, of all nations, and kindred’s
(families), and people, and tongues,
stood before the throne, and before
the Lamb, clothed with white robes,
and palms in their hands; 10 And
cried with a loud voice, saying, “Sal-
vation to our God which sitteth upon
the throne, and unto the Lamb.”

11 And all the angels stood
round about the throne, and about
the elders and the four beasts, and



fell before the throne on their faces,
and worshipped God, 12 Saying,
“Amen: Blessing, and glory, and
wisdom, and thanksgiving, and hon-
our, and power, and might, be unto
our God for ever and ever. Amen.”

13 And one of the elders an-
swered, saying unto me, “What are
these which are arrayed in white
robes? and whence came they?”

14 And I said unto him, “Sir,
thou knowest.”

And he said to me, “These are
they which came out of great tribu-
lation, and have washed their robes,
and made them white in the blood
of the Lamb. 15 Therefore are they
before the throne of God, and serve
him day and night in his temple: and
he that sitteth on the throne shall
dwell among them. 16 They shall
hunger no more, neither thirst any
more; neither shall the sun light on
them, nor any heat. 17 For the Lamb
which is in the midst of the throne
shall feed them, and shall lead them
unto living fountains of waters: and
God shall wipe away all tears from
their eyes.”

### The Seventh Seal & the Golden Censer

**8:1** And when he had opened
the seventh seal, there was silence
in heaven about the space of half
an hour. 2 And I saw the seven an-
gels which stood before God; and to
them were given seven trumpets. 3
And another angel came and stood
at the altar, having a golden censer;
and there was given unto him much
incense, that he should offer it with
the prayers of all saints upon the
golden altar which was before the
throne. 4 And the smoke of the in-
cense, which came with the prayers
of the saints, ascended up before
God out of the angel’s hand. 5 And
the angel took the censer, and filled
it with fire of the altar, and cast it
into the earth: and there were voic-
es, and thunderings, and lightnings,
and an earthquake.

### The Trumpets

6 And the seven angels which
had the seven trumpets prepared
themselves to sound.

7 The first angel sounded, and
there followed hail and fire mingled
with blood, and they were cast upon
the earth: and the third part of trees
was burnt up, and all green grass
was burnt up. 8 And the second an-
gel sounded, and as it were a great
mountain burning with fire was cast
into the sea: and the third part of
the sea became blood; 9 And the
third part of the creatures which
were in the sea, and had life, died;
and the third part of the ships were
destroyed. 10 And the third angel
sounded, and there fell a great star
from heaven, burning as it were a
lamp, and it fell upon the third part
of the rivers, and upon the fountains
of waters; 11 And the name of the
star is called Wormwood: and the
third part of the waters became
wormwood; and many men died
of the waters, because they were
made bitter. 12 And the fourth an-
gel sounded, and the third part of
the sun was smitten, and the third
part of the moon, and the third part
of the stars; so as the third part of
them was darkened, and the day
shone not for a third part of it, and
the night likewise.

13 And I beheld, and heard an
angel flying through the midst of
heaven, saying with a loud voice,
"Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters
of the earth by reason of the other
voices of the trumpet of the three
angels, which are yet to sound!"

**9:1** And the fifth angel sounded,
and I saw a star fall from heaven
unto the earth: and to him was given
the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And
he opened the bottomless pit; and
there arose a smoke out of the pit,
as the smoke of a great furnace; and
the sun and the air were darkened
by reason of the smoke of the pit. 3
And there came out of the smoke lo-
custs upon the earth: and unto them
was given power, as the scorpions
of the earth have power. 4 And it was
commanded them that they should
not hurt the grass of the earth, nei-
ther any green thing, neither any
tree; but only those men which have
not the seal of God in their fore-
heads. 5 And to them it was given
that they should not kill them, but
that they should be tormented five
months: and their torment was as
the torment of a scorpion, when he
striketh a man. 6 And in those days
shall men seek death, and shall not
find it; and shall desire to die, and
death shall flee from them. 7 And the
shapes of the locusts were like unto
horses prepared unto battle; and on
their heads were as it were crowns
like gold, and their faces were as the
faces of men. 8 And they had hair
as the hair of women, and their teeth
were as the teeth of lions. 9 And they
had breastplates, as it were breast-
plates of iron; and the sound of their
wings was as the sound of chariots
of many horses running to battle. 10
And they had tails like unto scorpi-
ons, and there were stings in their
tails: and their power was to hurt
men five months. 11 And they had a
king over them, which is the angel of
the bottomless pit, whose name in
the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but
in the Greek tongue hath his name
Apollyon. 12 One woe is past; and,
behold, there come two woes more
hereafter.

13 And the sixth angel sound-
ed, and I heard a voice from the
four horns of the golden altar which
is before God, 14 Saying to the
sixth angel which had the trumpet,
"Loose the four angels which are
bound in the great river Euphrates."

15 And the four angels were
loosed, which were prepared for
an hour, and a day, and a month,
and a year, for to slay the third part
of men. 16 And the number of the
army of the horsemen were two
hundred thousand thousand: and I
heard the number of them. 17 And
thus I saw the horses in the vision,
and them that sat on them, having
breastplates of fire, and of jacinth,
and brimstone: and the heads of the
horses were as the heads of lions;
and out of their mouths issued fire
and smoke and brimstone. 18 By
these three was the third part of
men killed, by the fire, and by the
smoke, and by the brimstone, which
issued out of their mouths. 19 For
their power is in their mouth, and
in their tails: for their tails were like
unto serpents, and had heads, and
with them they do hurt. 20 And the
rest of the men which were not killed
by these plagues yet repented not
of the works of their hands, that they



should not worship devils, and idols
of gold, and silver, and brass, and
stone, and of wood: which neither
can see, nor hear, nor walk: 21 Nei-
ther repented they of their murders,
nor of their sorceries, nor of their
fornication, nor of their thefts.

### The Angel and the Little Scroll

**10:1** And I saw another mighty
angel come down from heaven,
clothed with a cloud: and a rain-
bow was upon his head, and his
face was as it were the sun, and his
feet as pillars of fire: 2 And he had
in his hand a little book open: and
he set his right foot upon the sea,
and his left foot on the earth, 3 And
cried with a loud voice, as when a
lion roareth: and when he had cried,
seven thunders uttered their voices.
4 And when the seven thunders had
uttered their voices, I was about to
write: and I heard a voice from heav-
en saying unto me, "Seal up those
things which the seven thunders ut-
tered, and write them not."

5 And the angel which I saw
stand upon the sea and upon the
earth lifted up his hand to heaven,
6 And sware by him that liveth for
ever and ever, who created heaven,
and the things that therein are, and
the earth, and the things that there-
in are, and the sea, and the things
which are therein, that there should
be time no longer: 7 But in the days
of the voice of the seventh angel,
when he shall begin to sound, the
mystery of God should be finished,
as he hath declared to his servants
the prophets. 8 And the voice which
I heard from heaven spake unto me
again, and said, "Go and take the lit-
tle book which is open in the hand of
the angel which standeth upon the
sea and upon the earth."

9 And I went unto the angel, and
said unto him, "Give me the little
book."

And he said unto me, "Take
it, and eat it up; and it shall make
thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy
mouth sweet as honey."

10 And I took the little book out
of the angel's hand, and ate it up;
and it was in my mouth sweet as
honey: and as soon as I had eaten
it, my belly was bitter. 11 And he
said unto me, "Thou must prophesy
again before many peoples, and na-
tions, and tongues, and kings."

### The Two Witnesses

**11:1** And there was given me a
reed like unto a rod: and the angel
stood, saying, "Rise, and measure
the temple of God, and the altar, and
them that worship therein. 2 But the
court which is without (outside) the
temple leave out, and measure it
not; for it is given unto the Gentiles:
and the holy city shall they tread
under foot forty and two months. 3
And I will give power unto my two
witnesses, and they shall prophesy
a thousand two hundred and three-
score days, clothed in sackcloth." 4
These are the two olive trees, and
the two candlesticks standing be-
fore the God of the earth. 5 And if
any man will hurt them, fire proceed-
eth out of their mouth, and devo-
ureth their enemies: and if any man
will hurt them, he must in this man-
ner be killed. 6 These have power to
shut heaven, that it rain not in the
days of their prophecy: and have
power over waters to turn them to

blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. 7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. 8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. 9 And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. 10 And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. 11 And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. 12 And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, “Come up hither.”

And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. 13 And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven. 14 The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

### The Seventh Trumpet

15 And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, 17 Saying, “We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.”

18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth. 19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

### The Woman and the Dragon

**12:1** And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: 2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her



child as soon as it was born. 5 And she brought forth a man child (boy), who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.” 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. 13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was wroth (angry) with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

### The Beast out of the Sea

**13:1** And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, “Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”

5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blas-

pheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. 8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. 9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. 10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

### The Beast out of the Earth

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. 12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

### The Lamb and the 144,000

**14:1** And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion (Zion), and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. 4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no guile (deceit): for they are without fault before the throne of God.

### The Three Angels

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, "Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

8 And there followed another angel, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." 12 Here is the patience (endurance) of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. 13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, "Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."



### Harvesting the Earth and Trampling the Winepress

14 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, "Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe."

16 And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped. 17 And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe."

19 And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.

### Seven Angels With Seven Plagues

**15:1** And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. 2 And I saw as it

were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. 3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. 4 Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest."

5 And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: 6 And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. 7 And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. 8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

### The Seven Bowls of God's Wrath

**16:1** And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go your ways, and pour out the vials (bowls) of the wrath of God upon the earth." 2 And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. 3 And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. 4 And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. 5 And I heard the angel of the waters say, "Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. 6 For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy."

7 And I heard another out of the altar say, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments."

8 And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. 9 And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory.

10 And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, 11 And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.

12 And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 13 And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. 14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments (clothes), lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. 16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

17 And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "It is done."

18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. 19 And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. 20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. 21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

### Babylon, the Prostitute on the Beast

**17:1** And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials (bowls), and talked with me, saying unto me, "Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: 5 And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration(astonishment)."

7 And the angel said unto me, "Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. 8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition (destruction): and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."

9 "And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are

seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. 10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space (little while). 11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition (destruction).

12 “And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. 13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.”

15 And he saith unto me, “The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. 16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. 17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. 18 And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”

### Lament Over Fallen Babylon

**18:1** And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed (become) rich through the abundance of her delicacies (luxuries).

### Warning to Escape Babylon’s Judgment

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, “Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. 5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. 6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double (pay her double) according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. 7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously (luxuriously), so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, ‘I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.’ 8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

### Threefold Woe Over Babylon’s Fall

9 “And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously (luxuriously) with her, shall bewail (mourn) her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, 10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.’

11 “And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: 12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, 13 And cinnamon, and odours (incense), and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

14 “And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. 15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, 16 And saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!’ 17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, 18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What city is like unto this great city!’19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. 20 Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.”

### The Finality of Babylon’s Doom

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, “Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.” 22 And the voice of harpers (harp players), and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; 23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. 24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

### Threefold Hallelujah Over Babylon’s Fall

**19:1** And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, “Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: 2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the

great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand." 3 And again they said, "Alleluia." And her smoke rose up for ever and ever. 4 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, "Amen; Alleluia." 5 And a voice came out of the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great." 6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. 7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." 9 And he saith unto me, "Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he saith unto me, "These are the true sayings of God." 10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, "See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

### The Heavenly Warrior Defeats the Beast

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture (robe)dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls (birds) that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great."

19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning



with brimstone. 21 And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

### The Thousand Years

**20:1** And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

### The Judgment of Satan

7 And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, 8 And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. 9 And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed (surrounded) the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

### The Judgment of the Dead

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

### A New Heaven and a New Earth

**21:1** And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed

away; and there was no more sea. 2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." 4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. 5 And he that sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And he said unto me, "Write: for these words are true and faithful."

6 And he said unto me, "It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." 7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. 8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

### The New Jerusalem, the Bride of the Lamb

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials (bowls) full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, "Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife." 10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: 13 On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. 14 And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. 15 And he that talked with me had a golden reed to measure the city, and the gates thereof, and the wall thereof. 16 And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. 17 And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. 18 And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. 19 And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones. The first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, a chalcedony; the fourth, an emerald; 20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, a topaz; the tenth, a chrysoprasus; the eleventh, a jacinth; the twelfth, an amethyst.



21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.

22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. 25 And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. 26 And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. 27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

### Eden Restored

**22:1** And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: 4 And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

### John and the Angel

6 And he said unto me, "These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. 7 Behold, I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book." 8 And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things."

9 Then saith he unto me, "See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God."

10 And he saith unto me, "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. 11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

### Epilogue: Invitation and Warning

12 "And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. 13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. 14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idol-

aters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let him that heareth say, “Come.” And let him that is athirst (thirsty) come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

20 He which testifieth these things saith, “Surely I come quickly. Amen.” Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

21 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Matt. 1 What does “Immanuel” mean? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 2 What important visitors did Jesus have when He was very young? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 3 What did John the Baptist wear? What did he eat? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 4 Who took Jesus to the highest point of the temple in Jerusalem? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 5:1-26 What will happen to people who make peace? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 5:27-48 What should you do if someone hits you on the cheek? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 6: What part of the body is like a lamp? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 7 According to Jesus, what sort of man sees his house fall when the winds beat against it? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 8 Where did the demons beg Jesus to send them? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 9:1-17 What was Matthew’s occupation before Jesus called him to be one of His disciples? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 9:18-38 What little girl did Jesus raise from the dead after telling people she was only asleep? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 10:1-23 Name the 12 disciples? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 10:24-42 Two sparrows are sold for how much money? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 11 What will Jesus give to people who are weary and burdened? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 12:1-21 What did Jesus disciples do that was illegal on the Sabbath? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 12:22-50 How can you recognize a good tree from a bad tree? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 13:1-32 What will happen to the weeds that were planted with the wheat? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 13:33-58 Why did Jesus do only a few miracles in Nazareth? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Matt. 14:1-21 Whose entrancing dance proved fatal for John the Baptist? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 14:22-36 What two people walked on water in the midst of a storm? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 15:1-20 Evil comes from what part of the body? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 15:21-39 How many loaves of bread did Jesus feed to 4000 people? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 16 What was Peter's father's name? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 17 What did Peter find with a coin in its mouth? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 18:1-20 What is the three-step process you must you go through if someone treats you wrong? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 18:21-35 How many times should you forgive your brother? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 19:1-15 What did Jesus say was the only basis for divorce? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 19:16-30 What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 20:1-16 Why did some of the workers complain to the owner? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 20:17-34 What is the secret to greatness? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 21 Why didn't the Pharisees arrest Jesus even though they wanted to? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt.22:1-22 Whose picture was on the coin that was brought to Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 22:23-46 What is the greatest commandment? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 23:1-22 What will happen to the person who exalts himself? Humbles himself? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 23:23-39 According to Jesus, what small insects are removed by the Pharisees? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 24:1-22 What will happen before the end of the world? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Matt. 24:23-51 Who knows when the end of the world will be? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 25:1-30 What did the 5 foolish women forget? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 25:31-46 On which side will the goats be put? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 26:1-19 What was Judas given to betray Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 26:20-54 To what garden did Jesus bring HIs disciples for prayer? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 26:55-75 What crime was Jesus charged with? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 27:1-31 What was done with the money Judas was paid for betraying Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 27:32-66 Simon, the man who carried Jesus' cross, was from where? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Matt. 28 Who bribed the guards at Jesus' tomb to say that the disciples had stolen the body? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 1:1-22 Who ate locusts in the wilderness? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 1:23-45 What disciple's mother-in-law was healed of a fever by Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 2 The Sabbath was made for what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 3:1-21 Who were the "sons of thunder"? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 3:22-35 Who are Jesus' brothers and sisters? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 4:1-20 What does the thorny soil represent in the story Jesus told? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 4:21-43 In what part of the boat was Jesus sleeping? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 5:1-20 Who screamed in a loud voice, asking Jesus not to punish him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 5:21-43 What made the sick woman well? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Mark 6:1-32 Who arranged to have the head of John the Baptist cut off? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 6:33-58 When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water, what did they think He was? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Mark 7:1-13 Why did Jesus call the Pharisees hypocrites? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 7:14-37 What did Jesus do to heal the deaf Man? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 8:1-21 When Jesus fed the 5000 people, how many baskets of leftover pieces were collected? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 8:22-38 What did the blind man of Bethsaida say people looked like when Jesus healed him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 9:1-29 Who was with Jesus when His appearance changed? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 9:30-50 What would be worse than being tossed in the sea with a millstone around your neck? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 10:1-31 Why did Moses allow divorce? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark10: 32-52 Who requested special places for themselves in Jesus' kingdom? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 11:1-19 What did the people shout as Jesus came riding into Jerusalem? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 11:20-33 Why didn't Jesus tell the elders whose authority He acted by? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 12:1-27 Will there be marriage in heaven? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 12:28-44 What did the widow give as an offering? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 13:1-13 What are some things that will happen when the end is near? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 13:14-37 Heaven and earth will pass away. What will remain? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 14:1-25 Why were some of the guests upset when the womananointed Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 14:26-50 What three disciples did Jesus take farther into Gethsemane to pray? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Mark 15:1-26 What plant was given to Jesus as a mock crown by the Roman soldiers? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Mark 16 What three women came early on Sunday to anoint Jesus' body with spices? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 1:1-23 What priest was made mute because he did not bev lieve the prophecy given by an angel? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 1:24-56 What did Elizabeth's baby do when Mary greeted her? Verse: _____: : |
| | ❑ Luke 1:57-80 When did Zechariah get his speech back? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 2:1-24 Why did Joseph go to Nazareth? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 2:25-52 What old man took the baby Jesus into his arms at the temple? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 3 What did John the Baptist call the crowd that came to hear him? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 4:1-32 In what city was Jesus almost thrown off a cliff by an angry mob? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 4:33-44 What was the problem with Simon's mother-in-law? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 5:1-16 Which three of the 12 disciples did Jesus call after blessing them? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Luke 5:17-39 Who made a feast for Jesus that was attended by many tax collectors? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 6:1-26 Name the 12 Apostles? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 6:27-49 You can build your house (or your life) on one of what two options? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 7:1-30 What did the dead boy do when Jesus raised him to life? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 7:31-50 In whose house was Jesus when a sinful woman anointed Him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 8:1-21 How many demons did Mary Magdalene once have? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 8:22-56 According to Jesus, this person was not dead, but only sleeping. Who was it? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Luke 9:1-36 What instructions did Jesus give to the 12 disciples? Verse: _____ |
| | Luke 9:37-62 Who is not fit for God's kingdom? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 10:1-24 Jesus compares the fall of Satan to what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 10;25-42 Who sat at Jesus' feet while her sister was busy? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 11:1-28 What happens when an evil spirit comes out of a man? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 11:29-54 What people did Jesus refer to as graves? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 12:1-34 What insect destroys the treasures we store up on earth? Verse: _____ |
| | Luke 12:35-59 Did Jesus come to earth to bring peace or division? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 13:1-21 What does a mustard seed become? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 13:22-35 What king was referred to by Jesus as "that fox"? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 14:1-24 Whom should you invite to a banquet? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 14:25-35 What is required of Jesus' followers? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 15:1-10 The woman in Jesus' parable lost one silver coin. How many did she have originally? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 15:11-32 Which of the two sons did not know how much his father loved him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 16:1-18 You cannot serve both God and what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 16:19-31 Who in a parable was carried by angels to Abraham? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 17:1-19 When Jesus healed 10 lepers, how many came back to thank Him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 17:20-37 Where is the kingdom of God? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Luke 18:1-17 Who was the opposite of the humble tax collector? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 18:18-43 What is easier than a rich man entering the kingdom of God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 19:1-28 What tax collector climbed a tree to see Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 19:29-48 Where did Jesus weep over Jerusalem? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 20:1-26 What does Jesus say about paying government taxes: Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 20:27-47 What religious group in Israel did not believe in the resurrection? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 21:1-19 Why did a widow's small offering earn Jesus' attention? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 21:20-36 To what does Jesus compare the nearness of the kingdom of God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 22:1-30 What is another name for the Feast of Unleavened Bread? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 22:31-53 Who betrayed Jesus with a kiss? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 22:54-71 What did Peter do after he disowned Jesus three times? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 23:1-26 Who wanted to see miracles when Jesus was brought to him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 23:27-38 For whom did Jesus tell the women to cry? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 23:39-56 At the crucifixion, who asked Jesus to remember him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 24:1-35 What day of the week did the women take the spices to the tomb? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Luke 24:36-53 What did Jesus eat after His resurrection to prove He was not a ghost? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 1:1-28 Who were the three people that the priests and Levites guessed John the Baptist to be? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 1:29-51 What bird symbolizes the Holy Spirit? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ John 2 What was the first miracle Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 3:1-21 What did Jesus tell Nicodemus a man must do in order to have eternal life? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 3:22-36 What will you have if you believe in the Son? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 4:1-26 Where did the Samaritans worship? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 4:27-54 Why did many Samaritans believe in Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 5:1-24 What did Jesus do in Jerusalem on the Sabbath day that caused the Jews to persecute Him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 5:25-47 Who was the lamp? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 6;1-21 Jesus fed 5,000 people with what food? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 6:22-44 What is bread from heaven? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 6:45-71 How many disciples stayed with Jesus after His teaching about the bread of life? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 7:1-31 Did Jesus go to the Feast of Tabernacles in public or in secret? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 7:32-53 Who set out to arrest Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 8:1-20 How did Jesus respond to the law that commands stoning an adulterous woman? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 8:21-36 What will the truth do for you? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 8:37-59 Who is the father of lies? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 9:1-23 How did the blind man receive his sight? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 9:24-41 How many times did the Pharisees bring in the healed blind man for questioning? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 10:1-21 What animal does Jesus use to explain His care for HIs people? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ John 10:22-42 Why did the people want to stone Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 11:1-17 How many days had Lazarus been dead before Jesus arrived? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 11:18-44 To what woman did Jesus declare, “I am the resurrection and the life”? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 11:45-57 Who was out to kill Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 12:1-19 What did Mary do that Judas Iscariot objected to? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 12:20-50 What must happen to a seed so it can produce more seeds? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 13:1-17 What did Jesus do for His disciples before the Passover feast to prove His love for them? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 13:18-38 Who betrayed Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 14 According to Jesus, who would teach His followers all they needed to know? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 15 What evidence proves that you are a disciple of Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 16:1-15 Who will guide the disciples into all truth after Jesus dies? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 16:16-33 When will the disciples’ grief turn to joy? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 17 How does Jesus bring glory to God on earth? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 18:1-24 Who was Maichus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 18:25-40 What sin fulfilled Jesus’ prophecy that Peter would deny Him three times? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 19:1-22 What notice did Pilate have fastened to the cross? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 19:23-42 What plant was used to lift up a sponge to the dying Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ John 20 What disciple outran Peter to Jesus’ tomb? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ John 21 How many fish did the disciple catch? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 1 Who succeeded Judas Iscariot as an apostle? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 2:1-13 What happened on the day of Pentecost to the disciples as the Holy Spirit filled them? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Act 2:14-47 How many people were baptized on the day of Pentecost? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 3 Peter had no silver or gold. How did he help the lame man? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 4:1-22 What two apastles were put into prison in Jerusalem for teaching the people? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 4:23-37 What was Barnabas' original name? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 5:1-16 What New Testament man did Satan provoke to lie to the Holy Spirit? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 5:17-42 Who was Gamaliel? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 6 What was the first church to appoint deacons? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 7:1-19 Who was Abraham's grandson? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 7:20-43 How old was Moses when he fled Egypt? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 7:44-60 What were Stephen's dying words? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 8:1-25 Who began to persecute the church? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 8:26-40 What Old Testament book did Phillip explain to the Ethiopian? Verse: _____ |
| | Acts 9:1-22 What happened when Ananias placed his hands on Saul? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 9:23-43 What woman did Peter raise from the dead? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 10:1-23 What Roman soldier did Peter lead to Christ? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Acts 10:24-48 What was Peter's other name? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 11 Where were believers first called Christians? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 12 Who was the mother of John Mark? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 13:1-23 What hard-working companion of Paul was called an apostle? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 13:24-52 Why did Paul and Barnabas shake the dust off their feet at Pisidian Antioch? Verse: _____ |
| | vActs 14 What happened to Paul at Lystra? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 15:1-21 Who offered a compromise at the council meeting in Jersusalem? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 15:22-51 What were Gentile believers required to abstain from? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 16:1-15 What wealthy woman made her living selling purple dye? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 16:16-40 Why were those who had beaten and imprisoned Paul and Silas nervous? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 17:1-15 What Christians examined the Scriptures every day to see if Paul was telling the truth?Verse: _____ |
| | Acts 17:16-34 Where did Paul see an altar inscribed "To an Unknown God"? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 18 Who was Aquila's wife? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 19:1-20 In what city is found the school or lecture hall of Tyrannus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 19:21-41 Which goddess had a notorious temple at Ephesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 20:1-16 Who fell asleep during Paul's sermon and was later raised from the dead by Paul? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 20:17-38 Paul endures hardships to complete what task? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 21:1-14 Who took Paul's belt and used it to tie his own hands and feet? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Acts 21:15-40 Paul was from what city?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 22: What famous Rabbi was Paul's teacher?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 23:1-11 The Pharisees and the Sadducees do not agree on what issues? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 23:12-35 How many men were assigned to guard Paul as he traveled to Caesarea? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 24 How long was Paul a prisoner in Caesarea?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 25 Why was Festus going to send Paul to Rome?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 26: Who did Paul try to convert while giving his defense?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 27:1-26 What was the name of the centurion assigned to get Paul to Rome? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 27:27-44 How many were on board the doomed ship?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 28:1-15 What venomous creature bit Paul on the hand but did not harm him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Acts 28:16-32 What were Paul's accommodations in Rome?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 1 Why does no one have an excuse not to know about God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 2 For Gentiles, where is the law written?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 3 How many are righteous?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 4 Why did God consider Abraham righteous?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 5 What does suffering produce? What does character produce? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 6 What is the result of sin?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 7 For how long is a wife bound to her husband?<br>Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Romans 8:1-17 What name does the Spirit let us call God?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 8:18-39 Who makes intercession for the Saints?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 9 Whose unbelief caused the author's unceasing anguish? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 10 What does your mouth confess and your heart believe for salvation? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 11:1-24 What does the grafting of the olive tree symbolize? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 11:25-38 Why was Israel hardened?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 12 How should you treat a hungry enemy?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 13 Who establishes authorities?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 14 Whose account will you give before God?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 15:1-13 Why were the Scriptures written?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 15:14-33 What country would be Paul's destination when he stopped in Rome? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Romans 16 What two Christians risked their lives for Paul?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 1 What is a stumbling block to the Jews?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 2 Christians have the mind of whom?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 3 What tests the quality of each person's work?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 4 Who was Paul's second in command?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 5 Who is the Passover Lamb?<br>Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 6 What is a temple of the Holy Spirit?<br>Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 7:1-24 Is it better to marry or to burn with passion? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 7:25-40 What will those who marry face? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 8: What does knowledge sometimes do? What about love? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 9 What is the runner after? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 10:1-13 When you are tempted,what will God give you? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1Cor.10:14-33 What is the one bread or loaf? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 11:1-16 Why should we follow the example of the writer, Paul? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 11:17-34 What did Jesus say about the cup of wine? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 12 How has God arranged the parts of the body? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 13 What are the three gifts that last? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 14:1-20 What is the purpose of prophecy? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 14:21-40 If two or three people want to speak, what should they do? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor 15:1-32 What is the last enemy that must be destroyed? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 15:33-58 What work is not in vain? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Cor. 16 What did Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaieus deserve? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor. 1 Who wrote this letter to the Corinthians? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 2-3 Who takes the veil away? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 4 Where do we keep the treasure of God's light? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ 2 Cor 5 In what tent do we live? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 6 What does Paul(the author) say about marrying an unbe liever? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 7 Godly sorrow leads to what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 8 Who was one of Paul's closest partners in the work of the Lord? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor. 9 Why might God make you rich? Verse: _____: |
| | 2 Cor. 10 When is boasting okay? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 11:1-15 Paul (the author) was not a great speaker, but he had what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor 11:16-33 How many times was the author (Paul) whipped? Shipwrecked? Stoned? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor. 12 How many times did the author (Paul) ask the Lord to take away his thorn? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Cor. 13 How were the Corinthians supposed to greet one another? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Gal. 1 Which brother of Jesus does Paul name? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Gal. 2 Whom did Paul oppose when he met him in Antioch? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Gal. 3 Can people receive the Holy Spirit by keeping the law? Verse: _____: |
| | ❑ Gal 4 What does the Spirit allow us to call God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Gal 5 Name the nine fruits of the Spirits? Verse: _____ |
| | Gal 6 What will we reap if we don't give up? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Eph. 1 Who wrote this book? To whom did he write? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Eph 2 If Christ makes us alive, what makes us dead? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Eph 3 Where is Christ's power? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Eph 4 What is the purpose of a pastor? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Eph 5 How should we handle opportunities for doing good? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Eph 6 What are the six pieces of the armor of God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Phil 1 Who wrote this book with Paul? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Phil 2 What servant of Paul's almost dies serving the Lord? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Phil 3 What must one do to press on toward the goal? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Phil 4 What kinds of things should we think about? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Col 1 How does Paul describe Christ? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Col. 2 From what has Christ set us free? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Col 3 You work for whom? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Col 4 Where is Paul as he writes this letter to the Colossians? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Thes. 1 What two men helped Paul write this book? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Thes. 2 Who was Paul's glory? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Thes 3 What kind of report did Timothy give about how it was going for the Thessalonians? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Thes.4 Why is it important to take responsibility for your own life? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Thes. 5 What will come like a thief in the night? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Thes. 1 What three people wrote this letter to the Thessalonians? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ 2 Thes. 2 What will God use from His mouth to destroy and overthrow the lawless? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Thes. 3 What can't people do if they don't work? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 1 Who is the law made for; the righteous or the lawbreakers? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 2 Who is the mediator between God and men? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 3 What are some ways someone can show he is a good leader? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 4 Why is spiritual exercise better than physical exercise? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 5 How many witnesses must accuse someone before the accusation is taken seriously? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Tim 6 What kind of love is the root of all kinds of evil? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Tim 1 Who was Timothy's grandmother? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Tim 2 Paul encourages Timothy to endure hardship like whom? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Tim 3 What is Scripture useful for? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Tim 4 What will Paul receive for finishing the race? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Titus 1 Why did Paul leave Titus on the island of Crete? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Titus 2 What one word should you say to ungodliness and worldly passions? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Titus 3 How many times should you warn a toublemaker before having nothing to do with him? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Philemon What was the name of Philemon's runaway slave who returned to him for forgiveness? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrew 1 How long will God's throne last? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 2 What did Jesus do that elevated Him above the angels? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Hebrews 3 What type of building is the believer? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 4 God's Word is compared to the sharpness of what weapon? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 5 If you've been a Christian for a long time, what should you be doing? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 6 God confirms His purpose with what? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 7 What priest in the Bible is mentioned as having no mother or father? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 8 In what two places will God put His laws? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 9 What does a priest sprinkle on the tabernacle? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 10:1-25 What window decoration in the Most Holy Place is compared to the body of Jesus? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 10:26-39 What do people who deliberately sin forfeit? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 11:1-19 What is faith? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 11:20-40 Did all of the faithful people in the author's examples receive what they were promised? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 12 What athletic activity is compared to the life one should live as a Christian? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Hebrews 13 Without even knowing it, whom have some people entertained?Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ James 1 What two things should you be slow to do? What one thing should you be quick to do? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ James 2 What is the royal law found in the Bible? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ James 3 What animal is compared to the tongue? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ James 4 What form of water is compared to one's life? Verse: _____ : |
| | ❑ James 5 Who, according to James, should anoint the sick believer with oil? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ 1 Peter 1 What fragile part of nature does Peter compare to man? Verse: _____ |
| | 1 Peter 2 People are compared to what barn animal? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Peter 3 With what should you repay evil? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Peter 4 If we suffer for being a Christian, how should we react? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 Peter 5 Who will appear and give to everyone a crown that will never fade away? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Peter 1 What disability do you have if you do's strive to make your self useful for God's work? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Peter 2 What animal spoke in order to reprimand the wicked prophet? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 Peter 3 How many years are compared to one day with the Lord? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 John 1 If we claim we have no sin, what are we doing to our selves? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 John 2 John lists many reasons for writing this letter, How many times does he, "I write to you...because? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 John 3 In what two ways should we love others? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 John 4 Why can't a person who doesn't know love, know God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 1 John 5 What are the three things that testify that Jesus is the Son of God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 2 John How should people respond to traveling teachers who do not bring Jesus' teachings? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ 3 John John commends his friend Gaius for what behavior? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Jude Who disputed with Satan over Moses' body? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 1 How many times does the author (John) use the number seven? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 2 The seven letters have been written for whom? Verse: _____ |

| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Rev. 3 What church was neither hot nor cold? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 4 What has a rainbow encircling it, and lighting and thunder coming from it? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 5 Who will open the book with the seven seals? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 6 What animal appeared in four different colors? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 7 How many people were sealed as servants of God? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 8 How long was there silence in heaven after the seventh seal was opened? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 9 What insects were given power to torture but not kill? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 10 What did the angel ask the author (John) to do with the little scroll? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 11 What natural disaster killed 7,000 enemies of God's witnesses? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 12 What red creature pursued the woman who bore a son? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 13 What number is the mark of the beast? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 14 Who was able to learn the song sung and played in heaven? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 15 How many angels accompanied the last seen plagues? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 16 What container holds God's wrath on the earth? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 17 Who sits on a scarlet beast covered with blasphemous names? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 18 What great and powerful city is consumed by fire and brought to ruin? Verse: _____ |
| | Rev. 19 What two names are given to the rider on the white horse form heaven? Verse: _____ |
| | Rev. 20 Where is the place reserved for those names are not in the book of life? Verse: _____ |



| Date | Bible Reading * Questions: (Write answer & verse where it is found) |
|---|---|
| | ❑ Rev. 21 What new, magnificent, Holy City comes down from heaven? Verse: _____ |
| | ❑ Rev. 22 What is the last thing shown to the author (John)? Verse: _____ |
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# What The New Testament Says About…

**Acceptance**

John 6:37; Romans 12:3, 6; Ephesians 1:5; 3:20

**Angels/Demons**

Matthew 10:1; 28:18; 22:30; Mark 1:13; Luke 4:41; 7:21; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Ephesians 6:10-18; Hebrews 1:3-4; 13:2; 1 Peter 1:12; Revelation 12:11

**Church**

Acts 2:41; Romans 8:17; 12:5; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Ephesians 5:25; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 2:11-12; 10:24-25

**Courage**

Acts 4:13-31; Ephesians 6:10-18

**Covenant**

Matthew 26:26-28; 2 Corinthians 3:5-6; Hebrews 8:6-7; 13; 9:15; 12:22, 24

**Death**

John 11:25; 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:54; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Philippians 1:21; 3:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:10

**Discipleship**

Matthew 10:24-25; 10:38-39, 42; 12:49; 28:19-20; John 8:31-32; 14:15

**Divorce**

Matthew 5:32; 19:3-6, 9; 1 Corinthians 7:10-13

**Drinking and Drugs**

Luke 4:18-36; John 8:36; Romans 6:11-13; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 10:13; Ephesians 5:18

**Eternity**

John 3:16; 4:14; 10:27-28; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:54-55; Hebrews 13:8; Revelation 21:1, 3; 22:5

**Faith**

Matthew 17:20; Mark 11:22-26; Romans 1:17; 5:1-2; 10:8-11, 17; Hebrews 11; 12:2; 1 Peter 1:6-9

**Financial Difficulties**

Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:19; 1 Timothy 6:10; 1 John 5:14-15

**Forgiveness**

Matthew 6:14-15; 18:21-22; Luke 6:37-38; 11:4; 23:34; John 8:11; Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 1:13-14; 2:13; Hebrews 10:18; 1 John 1:9

**Giving**

Matthew 6:3-4; 25:40; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

**Godliness**

1 Timothy 4:7-8; 6:6, 11; 2 Timothy 3:12; 2 Peter 1:5-8

**God's Love**

John 3:16; 15:13-16; Romans 5:8; 8:38-39; Ephesians 3:16-19; 5:1-2; Hebrews 12:6; 1 John 3:1; 4:9-18

**God's Power**

Mark 14:60-62; John 2:18-22; Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 3:20-21; Colossians 2:11-12; 2 Peter 1:3

**God's Will**

Matthew 6:10; 12:50; Mark 14:36; John 4:34; 6:38-40; 1 John 2:17; 5:14; Romans 12:2

**God's Word**

2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:21



**Grace**

John 1:14-18; Acts 15:11; Romans 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Ephesians 1:3-7; 2:4-9; Titus 2:11-13; Hebrews 4:15-16

**Gratitude**

1 Thessalonians 5:18; Colossians 3:17

**Happiness**

Matthew 5:11-12; Luke 2:10-11; Philippians 4:4; 1 Peter 1:8-9

**Healing**

Matthew 18:19; 2 Corinthians 12:7-9; James 1:6; 5:13-16

**Heaven**

1 Corinthians 15:55, 57; 2 Corinthians 5:6-8; Philippians 1:21-24; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 21

**Hell**

Matthew 5:22; 10:28; Mark 9:44; Luke 16:23-24; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:10-15

**Honesty**

Acts 24:16; Ephesians 4:25, 28; 1 Timothy 1:5; Titus 2:7

**Honor**

John 12:26; Romans 12:17; 1 Peter 2:17

**Hope**

Romans 15:13; Colossians 1:3-5, 27; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; Hebrews 11:1

**Hospitality**

Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9

**Identity**

1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 4:6-7; Ephesians 2:19

**Immorality**

John 8:11; 1 Corinthians 6:13-20; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 1 John 1:9

**Joy**

Luke 15:7; John 15:11; Romans 5:11; Galatians 5:22; Philippians 4:4

**Judgment**

Matthew 12:36; John 5:24; Romans 8:1; 1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:12-13

**Justification**

Romans 3:24; 5:1; Galatians 2:16, 21; 3:11; 2 Corinthians 5:21

**Love**

Matthew 22:37-40; John 13:34-35; 14:21-24; 15:13; Romans 12:9-10; 1 Corinthians 13; 1 John 3:14; 4:11-21; 5:2

**Marriage**

Matthew 19:3-6; 1 Corinthians 7:2-5; Ephesians 5:22-32; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 3:1-7

**Mercy**

Matthew 5:7; Luke 6:36; 10:30-35; Romans 9:15; Colossians 3:12; James 2:13

**Money**

Matthew 6:24; Luke 6:38; 12:15; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 1 Timothy 6:7-9; Hebrews 13:5

**Occult**

Galatians 5:19-21; 2 Timothy 3:1-15; Revelation 21:8

**Patience**

Romans 5:3-5; 8:25; 12:12; Galatians 5:19-21; Philippians 4:11; Hebrews 10:35-36; James

**Peace**

John 14:27; 16:33; Romans 5:1; 8:6; 14:17-19; Philippians 4:6-7; Colossians 3:15

**Persecution/Suffering**

Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:18-20; Romans 8:35-39; 2 Corinthians 12:10; 2 Timothy 3:12; James 1:12; 1 Peter 4:12-14; Revelation 2:10

**Perseverance**

Mark 13:13; 1 Corinthians 15:58; Galatians 6:9; Philippians 3:14; Colossians 1:23; 2 Thessalonians 3:13; 2 Timothy 4:7; Hebrews 10:23; 12:1-2; James 1:25

**Prayer**

Matthew 6:6-7; 7:7; 26:39; Mark 11:24; John 14:13-14; 15:7; Romans 8:26; Ephesians 3:12; 6:18; Philippians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; 1 Timothy 2:8; Hebrews 4:16; James 5:16

**Pride**

James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5-7

**Purity**

Matthew 5:8; 1 Corinthians 6:18; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 3:5; 1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:22; Titus 1:15; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Peter 1:22

**Salvation**

John 1:12; 3:3, 16; 14:6; Acts 2:21; Romans 3:23; 6:23; 10:9, 13; Ephesians 2:8; Hebrews 9:22

**Satan**

Luke 10:18; 13:16; John 8:44; 2 Corinthians 4:4; 11:3; Ephesians 6:11-18; James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-9; Revelation 12:9-10

**Sexual Perversion**

Romans 1:27-32; 12:2; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 10:13; Ephesians 4:22-24; 5:3-5; Hebrews 13:4

**Sharing Faith**

Matthew 28:19; Romans 10:15; 2 Timothy 4:2; 1 Peter 3:15

**Sin**

John 6:37; Acts 10:43; 13:38-39; Romans 6:12-14; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 3:5; James 1:14; 1 John 1:7-9

**Strength**

Romans 5:6; 2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Ephesians 3:16; 6:10; Philippians 4:13

**Truth**

John 4:24; 8:31-32; 14:6; 16:13; Ephesians 6:14; Philippians 4:8; 2 Timothy 2:15

**Unity**

John 17:20-21; Acts 4:32; Romans 12:16; 14:19; 15:5-6; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:4-6; Philippians 1:27; 1 Peter 3:8

**Victory Over Sin**

Matthew 6:13; John 16:33; Romans 8:37; 1 John 4:4; 5:4

**Work**

Acts 20:35; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-8



# Ministry Details

## Truckers Chapels

ACT Association of Christian Truckers
www.acti70.org 618-477-3737
I70 Exit #68, 1366 US HWY 40, Brownstown, IL 62418
Chapel, Free Services including Parking, Laundry, Showers, Lounge. Open 24 Hrs

Trans/Mid-America, Inc.
www.tmanetwork.com 800-228-7577
Email: Operations@tmamail.net
14655 California Street, Omaha, NE 68154
Truck permits Truckstop Directory with Chapel Locations across North America. Contact us to receive a free directory.

Truck Stop Ministries, Inc
www.truckstopministries.org
Email: tmi@truckstopministries.org 770-775-2100
I75 Exit 201, 131 Truck Stop Way, Jackson, GA 30233
Trucker's Prayer Line: 1-800-248-8662
Chapels across the US.

## Other Trucking Ministries

www.pgtmin.org 571-522-PGTM (7486)
Email: pgtmin@gmail.com
PO Box 42, Eolia MO 63344
We are focused on promoting a strong relationship with Jesus Christ, through Teaching, Podcast, Video-cast, and our Internet Radio Station: PGTM Word Radio.

Good News Distribution
www.goodnewsdistribution.com 616-262-6081
Email: john@goodnewsdistribution.com
PO Box 224, Grandville, MI 49468
Providing free Bibles, CDs, and other Christian resources to the traveling public.

www.channel21ministries.com 618-383-2107
Email: channel21ministry@gmail.com
PO Box 451 Wayne City, IL 62895
Placing Chaplains in the workplace that will encourage and lift up fellow drivers. Taking the gospel to the drivers on the Road and in the Cab.

## Ministry Details
## Other Trucking Ministries

Lonesome Road Ministries
www.lonesomeroad.org - 618-383-2107
gary.lonesomeroad@gmail.com
107 Sycamore, Keenes, IL 62851
Sharing encouraging positive, uplifting music and stories 24 hours a day



Treasured Words Outreach - 863-594-4232
treasureswordsoutreach@gmail.com Treasured Words Outreach: A Journey of Hope Offering devotionals to inspire and uplift truckers on their journeys. www.treasuredwordsoutreach.com

Transformers Outreach Ministries
Chaplain Bill Blackmon - 337-353-2746
www.transformersoutreach.org
transformersoutreach@yahoo.com
2322 Anthony Road, Florien, LA 71429
Listen to “Victory N Truckin” show on www.lonesomeroadradio.com @ noon and midnight EST, Monday - Friday

## Devotionals

Our Daily Bread www.ourdailybread.org
616-974-2210 PO Box 2222, Grand Rapids, MI 49501 Helping you connect with God. Every Day. Everyway. Facebook, APP or Print, Instagram

My Utmost For His Highest www.utmost.org
Our Daily Bread Ministries - 616-974-2210
PO Box 2222, Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Timeless devotional sent using the APP or Subscribe to the email.

In Touch Ministries www.intouch.org
800-789-1473 P.O. Box 79000, Atlanta, GA
Audio / Podcast Ministries



## Audio / Podcast Ministries

Lonesome Road Ministries 618-383-2107
www.lonesomeroad.org
gary.lonesomeroad@gmail.com PO Box 451, Wayne City, IL 62895 Radio, TV, Podcast, CD Ministry, YouTube, and websites for sharing encouraging stories and programs.




The Highway Shepherd Ministry 919-894-7783
www.highwayshepherd.org
email;drbilly418@gmail.com 418 Grace Road, Benson, NC 27504 We place FREE CDs of Gospel preaching and singing in truck and travel stops throughout the country.

Power of God Trucking Ministries 571-522-7486
www.Pgtmin.org email;Pgtmin@gmail.com
PO Box 42, Eolia MO 63344 We share the Gospel by providing 24-hour ministry media through PGTM Word Radio, Podcast, Videocast, Sunday Trucker Church Videos, and our YouTube channel.

## Other Ministries




Truckers Prayer Line 971-379-9755
www.truckersprayerline.com email;
truckin483@yahoo.com Daily Bible Study and prayer time to equip and encourage.
Join us at 9 Central Time Monday - Friday




Voice of Believers www.voiceofbeliever.org
admin@voiceofbeliever.org
Christian testimonies told by believers from their personal experiences.




The Lords Roundtable 440-541-1042
www.thelordsroundtable.com
email;steve@thelordsroundtable.com
Sound preaching, and testimonies of born again believers through JESUS CHRIST.

## Notes

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**www.BarkleyMusicandMedia.com**
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**Email:** *office@BarkleyMusicandMedia.com*

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www.starfishchildrenshomes.com
Our Vision is Simple
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## Trucker Chapels

ACT
Association of Christian Truckers

## Other Trucking Ministries

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GOOD NEWS
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Channel 21 Ministries
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LONESOME ROAD MINISTRIES
Church On The Road

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BARKLEY MUSIC AND MEDIA
BMM
www.BarkleyMusicandMedia.com

Highway Shepherd Ministries

PGTM Word Radio

## Other Ministries

Truckers Prayer Line

Voice of Believer.org

The LORDS Roundtable

see pages 427 through 430 for more information on these Ministries