The

Holy Bible

Catholic Edition

The World English Bible
Catholic Book Order

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The Good News According to Matthew

1 The book of the genealogy
of Jesus Christ,* the son of
David, the son of Abraham.
2 Abraham became the
father of Isaac. Isaac became
the father of Jacob. Jacob
became the father of Judah
and his brothers. 3 Judah
became the father of Perez
and Zerah by Tamar. Perez
became the father of Hezron.
Hezron became the father
of Ram. 4 Ram became
the father of Amminadab.
Amminadab became the
father of Nahshon. Nahshon
became the father of Salmon.
5 Salmon became the father
of Boaz by Rahab. Boaz
became the father of Obed
by Ruth. Obed became the fa-
ther of Jesse. 6 Jesse became
the father of King David.
David the king† became the
father of Solomon by her
who had been Uriah's wife.
7 Solomon became the father
of Rehoboam. Rehoboam
became the father of Abijah.
Abijah became the father of
Asa. 8 Asa became the father
of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat
became the father of Joram.
Joram became the father of
Uzziah. 9 Uzziah became the
father of Jotham. Jotham
became the father of Ahaz.
Ahaz became the father
of Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah
became the father of Man-
asseh. Manasseh became
the father of Amon. Amon
became the father of Josiah.
11 Josiah became the father of
Jechoniah and his brothers
at the time of the exile to
Babylon.

12 After the exile to Baby-
lon, Jechoniah became the fa-
ther of Shealtiel. Shealtiel
became the father of Zerub-
babel. 13 Zerubbabel became
the father of Abiud. Abiud
became the father of Eliakim.
Eliakim became the father of
Azor. 14 Azor became the fa-
ther of Zadok. Zadok became
the father of Achim. Achim
became the father of Eliud.
15 Eliud became the father of
Eleazar. Eleazar became the
father of Matthan. Matthan
became the father of Jacob.
16 Jacob became the father of
Joseph, the husband of Mary,
from whom was born Jesus,‡
who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations
from Abraham to David are
fourteen generations; from
David to the exile to Babylon
fourteen generations; and
from the carrying away
to Babylon to the Christ,
fourteen generations.

18 Now the birth of Jesus
Christ was like this: After his
mother, Mary, was engaged
to Joseph, before they came
together, she was found
pregnant by the Holy Spirit.
19 Joseph, her husband, being
a righteous man, and not
willing to make her a public
example, intended to put her
away secretly. 20 But when he
thought about these things,

* **1:1** Messiah (Hebrew) and Christ (Greek) both mean "Anointed One" † **1:6** NU omits "the king". ‡ **1:16** "Jesus" means "Salvation".

behold,§ an angel of the Lord
appeared to him in a dream,
saying, "Joseph, son of David,
don't be afraid to take to
yourself Mary as your wife,
for that which is conceived
in her is of the Holy Spirit.
21 She shall give birth to a son.
You shall name him Jesus,*
for it is he who shall save his
people from their sins."

22 Now all this has hap-
pened that it might be
fulfilled which was spoken
by the Lord through the
prophet, saying,

23 "Behold, the virgin shall be
with child,
and shall give birth to a
son.
They shall call his name Im-
manuel,"
which is, being inter-
preted, "God with us."✡

24 Joseph arose from his
sleep, and did as the angel
of the Lord commanded him,
and took his wife to him-
self; 25 and didn't know her
sexually until she had given
birth to her firstborn son. He
named him Jesus.

2

1 Now when Jesus was
born in Bethlehem of Judea
in the days of King Herod,
behold, wise men* from
the east came to Jerusalem,
saying, 2 "Where is he who is
born King of the Jews? For
we saw his star in the east,
and have come to worship
him." 3 When King Herod
heard it, he was troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him.
4 Gathering together all the
chief priests and scribes of
the people, he asked them
where the Christ would be
born. 5 They said to him,
"In Bethlehem of Judea, for
this is written through the
prophet,

6 'You Bethlehem, land of Ju-
dah,
are in no way least
among the princes of
Judah;
for out of you shall come a
governor
who shall shepherd my
people, Israel.' "✡

7 Then Herod secretly
called the wise men, and
learned from them exactly
what time the star appeared.
8 He sent them to Bethlehem,
and said, "Go and search
diligently for the young child.
When you have found him,
bring me word, so that I also
may come and worship him."

9 They, having heard the
king, went their way; and be-
hold, the star, which they saw
in the east, went before them
until it came and stood over
where the young child was.
10 When they saw the star,
they rejoiced with exceed-
ingly great joy. 11 They came
into the house and saw the
young child with Mary, his

§ **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. * **1:21** "Jesus" means "Salvation". ✡ **1:23** Isaiah 7:14 * **2:1** The word for "wise men" (magoi) can also mean teachers, scientists, physicians, astrologers, seers, interpreters of dreams, or sorcerers. ✡ **2:6** Micah 5:2

mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Opening their treasures, they offered to him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 Being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country another way.

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."

14 He arose and 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 by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called my son."✡

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked by the wise men, was exceedingly angry, and sent out and killed all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all the surrounding countryside, from two years old and under, according to the exact time which he had learned from the wise men. 17 Then that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying,

18 "A voice was heard in Ramah,
lamentation, weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she wouldn't be comforted,
because they are no more."✡

19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 20 "Arise and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel, for those who sought the young child's life are dead."

21 He arose and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in the place of his father, Herod, he was afraid to go there. Being warned in a dream, he withdrew into the region of Galilee, 23 and came and lived in a city called Nazareth; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophets that he will be called a Nazarene.

3

1 In those days, John the Baptizer came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, 2 "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by Isaiah the prophet, saying,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
make the way of the Lord ready!
Make his paths straight!"✡

✡ **2:15** Hosea 11:1 ✡ **2:18** Jeremiah 31:15 ✡ **3:3** Isaiah 40:3

4 Now John himself wore
clothing made of camel's hair
with a leather belt around
his waist. His food was lo-
custs and wild honey. 5 Then
people from Jerusalem, all
of Judea, and all the region
around the Jordan went out
to him. 6 They were baptized
by him in the Jordan, confess-
ing their sins.

7 But when he saw many of
the Pharisees and Sadducees
coming for his baptism, he
said to them, "You offspring
of vipers, who warned you
to flee from the wrath to
come? 8 Therefore produce
fruit worthy of repentance!
9 Don't think to yourselves,
'We have Abraham for our
father,' for I tell you that God
is able to raise up children to
Abraham from these stones.
10 Even now the ax lies at the
root of the trees. Therefore
every tree that doesn't pro-
duce good fruit is cut down,
and cast into the fire.

11 "I indeed baptize you
in water for repentance,
but he who comes after me
is mightier than I, whose
sandals I am not worthy to
carry. He will baptize you
in the Holy Spirit.* 12 His
winnowing fork is in his
hand, and he will thoroughly
cleanse his threshing floor.
He will gather his wheat into
the barn, but the chaff he will
burn up with unquenchable
fire."

13 Then Jesus came from
Galilee to the Jordan† to John,
to be baptized by him. 14 But
John would have hindered
him, saying, "I need to be
baptized by you, and you
come to me?"

15 But Jesus, answering,
said to him, **"Allow it
now, for this is the fitting
way for us to fulfill all
righteousness."** Then he
allowed him.

16 Jesus, when he was bap-
tized, went up directly from
the water: and behold, the
heavens were opened to him.
He saw the Spirit of God de-
scending as a dove, and com-
ing on him. 17 Behold, a
voice out of the heavens said,
"This is my beloved Son, with
whom I am well pleased."

4

1 Then Jesus was led up
by the Spirit into the wilder-
ness to be tempted by the
devil. 2 When he had fasted
forty days and forty nights,
he was hungry afterward.
3 The tempter came and said
to him, "If you are the Son
of God, command that these
stones become bread."

4 But he answered, **"It is
written, 'Man shall not live
by bread alone, but by ev-
ery word that proceeds out
of God's mouth.' "**✡

5 Then the devil took him
into the holy city. He set him
on the pinnacle of the temple,
6 and said to him, "If you are
the Son of God, throw your-
self down, for it is written,

* **3:11** TR and NU add "and with fire"

† **3:13** i.e., the Jordan River

✡ **4:4** Deuteronomy 8:3

'He will command his angels
concerning you,' and,
'On their hands they will bear
you up,
so that you don't dash
your foot against a
stone.' "✡
7 Jesus said to him, **"Again,
it is written, 'You shall not
test the Lord, your God.' "**✡
8 Again, the devil took him
to an exceedingly high moun-
tain, and showed him all the
kingdoms of the world and
their glory. 9 He said to him,
"I will give you all of these
things, if you will fall down
and worship me."
10 Then Jesus said to him,
**"Get behind me,* Satan!
For it is written, 'You shall
worship the Lord your
God, and you shall serve
him only.' "** ✡
11 Then the devil left him,
and behold, angels came and
served him.
12 Now when Jesus heard
that John was delivered up,
he withdrew into Galilee.
13 Leaving Nazareth, he came
and lived in Capernaum,
which is by the sea, in
the region of Zebulun and
Naphtali, 14 that it might be
fulfilled which was spoken
through Isaiah the prophet,
saying,
15 "The land of Zebulun and
the land of Naphtali,
toward the sea, beyond
the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles,
16 the people who sat in dark-
ness saw a great light;
to those who sat in the
region and shadow of
death,
to them light has
dawned."✡
17 From that time, Jesus be-
gan to preach, and to say,
**"Repent! For the Kingdom
of Heaven is at hand."**
18 Walking by the sea of
Galilee, he† saw two broth-
ers: Simon, who is called Pe-
ter, and Andrew, his brother,
casting a net into the sea; for
they were fishermen. 19 He
said to them, **"Come after
me, and I will make you
fishers for men."**
20 They immediately left
their nets and followed him.
21 Going on from there, he
saw two other brothers,
James the son of Zebedee,
and John his brother, in
the boat with Zebedee their
father, mending their nets.
He called them. 22 They
immediately left the boat and
their father, and followed
him.
23 Jesus went about in all
Galilee, teaching in their
synagogues, preaching the
Good News of the Kingdom,
and healing every disease
and every sickness among
the people. 24 The report
about him went out into all
Syria. They brought to him
all who were sick, afflicted
with various diseases and
torments, possessed with

✡ **4:6** Psalm 91:11-12 ✡ **4:7** Deuteronomy 6:16 * **4:10** TR and NU read "Go away" instead of "Get behind me" ✡ **4:10** Deuteronomy 6:13 ✡ **4:16** Isaiah 9:1-2 † **4:18** TR reads "Jesus" instead of "he"

demons, epileptics, and paralytics; and he healed them. 25 Great multitudes from Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan followed him.

5

1 Seeing the multitudes, he went up onto the mountain. When he had sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 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 those who mourn,**
for they shall be comforted.✡
5 **Blessed are the gentle,**
for they shall inherit the earth.*✡
6 **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for 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 children of God.
10 **Blessed are those who have been persecuted for righteousness' sake,**
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
11 **"Blessed are you when people reproach you, persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, for my sake.** 12 **Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

13 **"You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has lost its flavor, with what will it be salted? It is then good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under the feet of men.**

14 **You are the light of the world. A city located on a hill can't be hidden.** 15 **Neither do you light a lamp and put it under a measuring basket, but on a stand; and it shines to all who are in the house.** 16 **Even so, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.**

17 **"Don't think that I came to destroy the law or the prophets. I didn't come to destroy, but to fulfill.** 18 **For most certainly, I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not even one smallest letter† or one tiny pen stroke‡ shall in any way pass away from the law, until all things are accomplished.**

✡ **5:3** Isaiah 57:15; 66:2 ✡ **5:4** Isaiah 61:2; 66:10,13 * **5:5** or, land. ✡ **5:5** Psalm 37:11 † **5:18** literally, iota ‡ **5:18** or, serif

19 **Therefore, whoever shall break one of these least commandments and teach others to do so, shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven; but whoever shall do and teach them shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.** 20 **For I tell you that unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, there is no way you will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.**

21 **"You have heard that it was said to the ancient ones, 'You shall not murder;'✡ and 'Whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'** 22 **But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause § will be in danger of the judgment. Whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' * will be in danger of the council. Whoever says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of Gehenna.†**

23 **"If therefore you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your brother has anything against you,** 24 **leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.** 25 **Agree with your adversary quickly while you are with him on the way; lest perhaps the prosecutor deliver you to the judge, and the judge deliver you to the officer, and you be cast into prison.** 26 **Most certainly I tell you, you shall by no means get out of there until you have paid the last penny.‡**

27 **"You have heard that it was said, § 'You shall not commit adultery;'✡** 28 **but I tell you that everyone who gazes at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery with her already in his heart.** 29 **If your right eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it away from you. For it is more profitable for you that one of your members should perish than for your whole body to be cast into Gehenna.*** 30 **If your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off, and throw it away from you. For it is more profitable for you that one of your members should perish, than for your whole body to be cast into Gehenna.†**

31 **"It was also said, 'Whoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a**

✡ **5:21** Exodus 20:13 § **5:22** NU omits "without a cause". * **5:22** "Raca" is an Aramaic insult, related to the word for "empty" and conveying the idea of empty-headedness. † **5:22** or, Hell ‡ **5:26** literally, kodrantes. A kodrantes was a small copper coin worth about 2 lepta (widow's mites)—not enough to buy very much of anything. § **5:27** TR adds "to the ancients". ✡ **5:27** Exodus 20:14 * **5:29** or, Hell † **5:30** or, Hell ✡ **5:31** Deuteronomy 24:1

writing of divorce,'✡ 32 but I tell you that whoever puts away his wife, except for the cause of sexual immorality, makes her an adulteress; and whoever marries her when she is put away commits adultery.

33 "Again you have heard that it was said to the ancient ones, 'You shall not make false vows, but shall perform to the Lord your vows,'✡ 34 but I tell you, don't swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is the throne of God; 35 nor by the earth, for it is the footstool of his feet; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 Neither shall you swear by your head, for you can't make one hair white or black. 37 But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No.' Whatever is more than these is of the evil one.

38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'✡ 39 But I tell you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever strikes you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 If anyone sues you to take away your coat, let him have your cloak also. 41 Whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. 42 Give to him who asks you, and don't turn away him who desires to borrow from you.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor ✡ and hate your enemy.'‡ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? 47 If you only greet your friends, what more do you do than others? Don't even the tax collectors§ do the same? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

6

1 "Be careful that you don't do your charitable giving* before men, to be seen by them, or else you have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. 2 Therefore, when you do merciful deeds, don't sound a trumpet before

✡ **5:33** Numbers 30:2; Deuteronomy 23:21; Ecclesiastes 5:4 ✡ **5:38** Exodus 21:24; Leviticus 24:20; Deuteronomy 19:21 ✡ **5:43** Leviticus 19:18 ‡ **5:43** not in the Bible, but see Qumran Manual of Discipline Ix, 21-26 § **5:47** NU reads "Gentiles" instead of "tax collectors". * **6:1** NU reads "acts of righteousness" instead of "charitable giving"

yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may get glory from men. Most certainly I tell you, they have received their reward. 3 **But when you do merciful deeds, don't let your left hand know what your right hand does,** 4 **so that your merciful deeds may be in secret, then your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.**

5 **"When you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Most certainly, I tell you, they have received their reward.** 6 **But you, when you pray, enter into your inner room, and having shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.** 7 **In praying, don't use vain repetitions as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their much speaking.** 8 **Therefore don't be like them, for your Father knows what things you need before you ask him.** 9 **Pray like this:**

" 'Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
10 **Let your Kingdom come.**
Let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
11 **Give us today our daily bread.**
12 **Forgive us our debts,**
as we also forgive our debtors.
13 **Bring us not into temptation,**
but deliver us from the evil one.
For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.'†

14 **"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.** 15 **But if you don't forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

16 **"Moreover when you fast, don't be like the hypocrites, with sad faces. For they disfigure their faces that they may be seen by men to be fasting. Most certainly I tell you, they have received their reward.** 17 **But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,** 18 **so that you are not seen by men to be fasting, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father, who sees in secret, will reward you.**

19 **"Don't lay up treasures for yourselves on the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where**

† **6:13** NU omits "For yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

thieves break through and steal; 20 **but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consume, and where thieves don't break through and steal;** 21 **for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

22 **"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light.** 23 **But if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!**

24 **"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You can't serve both God and Mammon.** 25 **Therefore I tell you, don't be anxious for your life: what you will eat, or what you will drink; nor yet for your body, what you will wear. Isn't life more than food, and the body more than clothing?** 26 **See the birds of the sky, that they don't sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns. Your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you of much more value than they?**

27 **"Which of you by being anxious, can add one moment‡ to his lifespan?** 28 **Why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. They don't toil, neither do they spin,** 29 **yet I tell you that even Solomon in all his glory was not dressed like one of these.** 30 **But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today exists and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, won't he much more clothe you, you of little faith?**

31 **"Therefore don't be anxious, saying, 'What will we eat?', 'What will we drink?' or, 'With what will we be clothed?'** 32 **For the Gentiles seek after all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.** 33 **But seek first God's Kingdom and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well.** 34 **Therefore don't be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Each day's own evil is sufficient.**

7

1 **"Don't judge, so that you won't be judged.** 2 **For with whatever judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you.** 3 **Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye?** 4 **Or how will you**

‡ **6:27** literally, cubit

tell your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye,' and behold, the beam is in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite! First remove the beam out of your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck out of your brother's eye.

6 "Don't give that which is holy to the dogs, neither throw your pearls before the pigs, lest perhaps they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

7 "Ask, and it will be given you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened for you. 8 For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds. To him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or who is there among you who, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, who will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! 12 Therefore, whatever you desire for men to do to you, you shall also do to them; for this is the law and the prophets.

13 "Enter in by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter in by it. 14 How* narrow is the gate and the way is restricted that leads to life! There are few who find it.

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves. 16 By their fruits you will know them. Do you gather grapes from thorns or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree produces good fruit, but the corrupt tree produces evil fruit. 18 A good tree can't produce evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree produce good fruit. 19 Every tree that doesn't grow good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will tell me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, in your name cast out demons, and in your name do many mighty works?' 23 Then I will tell them, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you who work iniquity.'

24 "Everyone therefore

* **7:14** TR reads "Because" instead of "How"

who hears these words of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on a rock. 25 **The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it didn't fall, for it was founded on the rock.** 26 **Everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn't do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.** 27 **The rain came down, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell—and its fall was great."**

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the multitudes were astonished at his teaching, 29 for he taught them with authority, and not like the scribes.

8

1 When he came down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. 2 Behold, a leper came to him and worshiped him, saying, "Lord, if you want to, you can make me clean."

3 Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, **"I want to. Be made clean."** Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4 Jesus said to him, **"See that you tell nobody; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."**

5 When he came into Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking him for help, 6 saying, "Lord, my servant lies in the house paralyzed, grievously tormented."

7 Jesus said to him, **"I will come and heal him."**

8 The centurion answered, "Lord, I'm not worthy for you to come under my roof. Just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I am also a man under authority, having under myself soldiers. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and tell another, 'Come,' and he comes; and tell my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

10 When Jesus heard it, he marveled and said to those who followed, **"Most certainly I tell you, I haven't found so great a faith, not even in Israel.** 11 **I tell you that many will come from the east and the west, and will sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven,** 12 **but the children of the Kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."** 13 Jesus said to the centurion, **"Go your way. Let it be done for you as you have believed."** His servant was healed in that hour.

14 When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. 15 He touched her hand, and the fever left her. So she got up and served him.* 16 When evening came, they brought to him many

* **8:15** TR reads "them" instead of "him"

possessed with demons. He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."✡

18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes around him, he gave the order to depart to the other side.

19 A scribe came and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

20 Jesus said to him, **"The foxes have holes and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."**

21 Another of his disciples said to him, "Lord, allow me first to go and bury my father."

22 But Jesus said to him, **"Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."**

23 When he got into a boat, his disciples followed him. 24 Behold, a violent storm came up on the sea, so much that the boat was covered with the waves; but he was asleep. 25 The disciples came to him and woke him up, saying, "Save us, Lord! We are dying!"

26 He said to them, **"Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?"** Then he got up, rebuked the wind and the sea, and there was a great calm.

27 The men marveled, saying, "What kind of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

28 When he came to the other side, into the country of the Gergesenes,† two people possessed by demons met him there, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that nobody could pass that way. 29 Behold, they cried out, saying, "What do we have to do with you, Jesus, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" 30 Now there was a herd of many pigs feeding far away from them. 31 The demons begged him, saying, "If you cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of pigs."

32 He said to them, **"Go!"**

They came out and went into the herd of pigs; and behold, the whole herd of pigs rushed down the cliff into the sea and died in the water. 33 Those who fed them fled and went away into the city and told everything, including what happened to those who were possessed with demons. 34 Behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus. When they saw him, they begged that he would depart from their borders.

9

1 He entered into a boat and crossed over, and came into his own city. 2 Behold, they brought to him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a bed. Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic,

✡ **8:17** Isaiah 53:4 † **8:28** NU reads "Gadarenes"

“Son, cheer up! Your sins are forgiven you.”

3 Behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man blasphemes.”

4 Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, **“Why do you think evil in your hearts? 5 For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven;’ or to say, ‘Get up, and walk?’ 6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins—”** (then he said to the paralytic), **“Get up, and take up your mat, and go to your house.”**

7 He arose and departed to his house. 8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

9 As Jesus passed by from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax collection office. He said to him, **“Follow me.”** He got up and followed him. 10 As he sat in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw it, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

12 When Jesus heard it, he said to them, **“Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick do. 13 But you go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,’✡ for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”***

14 Then John’s disciples came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples don’t fast?”

15 Jesus said to them, **“Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. 16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch would tear away from the garment, and a worse hole is made. 17 Neither do people put new wine into old wine skins, or else the skins would burst, and the wine be spilled, and the skins ruined. No, they put new wine into fresh wine skins, and both are preserved.”**

18 While he told these things to them, behold, a ruler came and worshiped him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”

19 Jesus got up and followed him, as did his disciples. 20 Behold, a woman who had a discharge of blood for twelve years came behind him, and touched the fringe† of his garment; 21 for she said within herself, “If I just touch

✡ **9:13** Hosea 6:6 * **9:13** NU omits “to repentance”. † **9:20** or, tassel

his garment, I will be made well."
22 But Jesus, turning around and seeing her, said, **"Daughter, cheer up! Your faith has made you well."** And the woman was made well from that hour.
23 When Jesus came into the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd in noisy disorder, 24 he said to them, **"Make room, because the girl isn't dead, but sleeping."**
They were ridiculing him. 25 But when the crowd was sent out, he entered in, took her by the hand, and the girl arose. 26 The report of this went out into all that land.
27 As Jesus passed by from there, two blind men followed him, calling out and saying, "Have mercy on us, son of David!" 28 When he had come into the house, the blind men came to him. Jesus said to them, **"Do you believe that I am able to do this?"**
They told him, "Yes, Lord."
29 Then he touched their eyes, saying, **"According to your faith be it done to you."** 30 Then their eyes were opened. Jesus strictly commanded them, saying, **"See that no one knows about this."** 31 But they went out and spread abroad his fame in all that land.
32 As they went out, behold, a mute man who was demon possessed was brought to him. 33 When the demon was cast out, the mute man spoke. The multitudes marveled, saying, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!"
34 But the Pharisees said, "By the prince of the demons, he casts out demons."
35 Jesus went about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the Good News of the Kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them because they were harassed‡ and scattered, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, **"The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will send out laborers into his harvest."**

10

1 He called to himself his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every sickness. 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these. The first, Simon, who is called Peter; Andrew, his brother; James the son of Zebedee; John, his brother; 3 Philip; Bartholomew; Thomas; Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus; Lebbaeus, who

‡ **9:36** TR reads "weary" instead of "harassed" * **10:3** NU omits "Lebbaeus, who was also called"

was also called* Thaddaeus;
4 Simon the Zealot; and Judas
Iscariot, who also betrayed
him.

5 Jesus sent these twelve
out and commanded them,
saying, **"Don't go among
the Gentiles, and don't
enter into any city of the
Samaritans.** 6 **Rather, go
to the lost sheep of the
house of Israel.** 7 **As you
go, preach, saying, 'The
Kingdom of Heaven is at
hand!'** 8 **Heal the sick,
cleanse the lepers,† and
cast out demons. Freely
you received, so freely
give.** 9 **Don't take any
gold, silver, or brass in
your money belts.** 10 **Take
no bag for your journey,
neither two coats, nor
sandals, nor staff: for the
laborer is worthy of his
food.** 11 **Into whatever
city or village you enter,
find out who in it is worthy,
and stay there until you go
on.** 12 **As you enter into the
household, greet it.** 13 **If
the household is worthy,
let your peace come on
it, but if it isn't worthy,
let your peace return to
you.** 14 **Whoever doesn't
receive you or hear your
words, as you go out of
that house or that city,
shake the dust off your
feet.** 15 **Most certainly I
tell you, it will be more
tolerable for the land of
Sodom and Gomorrah in
the day of judgment than
for that city.**

16 **"Behold, I send you out
as sheep among wolves.
Therefore be wise as
serpents and harmless as
doves.** 17 **But beware of
men, for they will deliver
you up to councils, and in
their synagogues they will
scourge you.** 18 **Yes, and
you will be brought before
governors and kings for
my sake, for a testimony
to them and to the nations.**
19 **But when they deliver
you up, don't be anxious
how or what you will say,
for it will be given you in
that hour what you will
say.** 20 **For it is not you
who speak, but the Spirit
of your Father who speaks
in you.**

21 **"Brother will deliver
up brother to death, and
the father his child. Chil-
dren will rise up against
parents and cause them to
be put to death.** 22 **You will
be hated by all men for my
name's sake, but he who
endures to the end will be
saved.** 23 **But when they
persecute you in this city,
flee into the next, for most
certainly I tell you, you will
not have gone through the
cities of Israel until the Son
of Man has come.**

24 **"A disciple is not
above his teacher, nor a
servant above his lord.**
25 **It is enough for the
disciple that he be like his
teacher, and the servant
like his lord. If they have**

† **10:8** TR adds "raise the dead,"

called the master of the house Beelzebul,‡ how much more those of his household! 26 **Therefore don't be afraid of them, for there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known.** 27 **What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in the ear, proclaim on the housetops.** 28 **Don't be afraid of those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul. Rather, fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.§**

29 **"Aren't two sparrows sold for an assarion coin?* Not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will.** 30 **But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.** 31 **Therefore don't be afraid. You are of more value than many sparrows.** 32 **Everyone therefore who confesses me before men, I will also confess him before my Father who is in heaven.** 33 **But whoever denies me before men, I will also deny him before my Father who is in heaven.**

34 **"Don't think that I came to send peace on the earth. I didn't come to send peace, but a sword.** 35 **For I came to set a man at odds against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.** 36 **A man's foes will be those of his own household.✡** 37 **He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me isn't worthy of me.** 38 **He who doesn't take his cross and follow after me isn't worthy of me.** 39 **He who seeks his life will lose it; and he who loses his life for my sake will find it.**

40 **"He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives him who sent me.** 41 **He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward. He who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward.** 42 **Whoever gives one of these little ones just a cup of cold water to drink in the name of a disciple, most certainly I tell you, he will in no way lose his reward."**

11

1 When Jesus had finished directing his twelve disciples, he departed from there to teach and preach in their cities.

2 Now when John heard in the prison the works of

‡ **10:25** Literally, Lord of the Flies, or the devil § **10:28** or, Hell. * **10:29** An assarion is a small coin worth one tenth of a drachma or a sixteenth of a denarius. An assarion is approximately the wages of one half hour of agricultural labor. ✡ **10:36** Micah 7:6

Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you he who comes, or should we look for another?"

4 Jesus answered them, **"Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear,✡ the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.✡ 6 Blessed is he who finds no occasion for stumbling in me."**

7 As these went their way, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John, **"What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 But what did you go out to see? A man in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 But why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'✡ 11 Most certainly I tell you, among those who are born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptizer; yet he who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptizer until now, the Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.* 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 If you are willing to receive it, this is Elijah, who is to come. 15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**

16 **"But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces, who call to their companions 17 and say, 'We played the flute for you, and you didn't dance. We mourned for you, and you didn't lament.' 18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children."†**

20 Then he began to denounce the cities in which most of his mighty works had been done, because they didn't repent. 21 **"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon which were done in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I tell you,**

✡ **11:5** Isaiah 35:5 ✡ **11:5** Isaiah 61:1-4 ✡ **11:10** Malachi 3:1 * **11:12** or, plunder it. † **11:19** NU reads "actions" instead of "children"

it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. 23 **You, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, you will go down to Hades.** ‡ **For if the mighty works had been done in Sodom which were done in you, it would have remained until today.** 24 **But I tell you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment, than for you."**

25 At that time, Jesus answered, **"I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you hid these things from the wise and understanding, and revealed them to infants.** 26 **Yes, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in your sight.** 27 **All things have been delivered to me by my Father. No one knows the Son, except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father, except the Son and he to whom the Son desires to reveal him.**

28 **"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest.** 29 **Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you will find rest for your souls.** 30 **For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."**

12

1 At that time, Jesus went on the Sabbath day through the grain fields. His disciples were hungry and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. 2 But the Pharisees, when they saw it, said to him, "Behold, your disciples do what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath."

3 But he said to them, **"Haven't you read what David did when he was hungry, and those who were with him:** 4 **how he entered into God's house and ate the show bread, which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests?** ✡ 5 **Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath day the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless?** 6 **But I tell you that one greater than the temple is here.** 7 **But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,'** ✡ **you wouldn't have condemned the guiltless.** 8 **For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."**

9 He departed from there and went into their synagogue. 10 And behold, there was a man with a withered hand. They asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?" so that they might accuse him.

11 He said to them, **"What man is there among you**

‡ **11:23** or, Hell ✡ **12:4** 1 Samuel 21:3-6 ✡ **12:7** Hosea 6:6

who has one sheep, and if this one falls into a pit on the Sabbath day, won't he grab on to it and lift it out? 12 **Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day."** 13 Then he told the man, **"Stretch out your hand."** He stretched it out; and it was restored whole, just like the other. 14 But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how they might destroy him.

15 Jesus, perceiving that, withdrew from there. Great multitudes followed him; and he healed them all, 16 and commanded them that they should not make him known, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through 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 on him.
He will proclaim justice to the nations.
19 He will not strive, nor shout,
neither will anyone hear his voice in the streets.
20 He won't break a bruised reed.
He won't quench a smoking flax,
until he leads justice to victory.
21 In his name, the nations will hope."✡

22 Then one possessed by a demon, blind and mute, was brought to him; and he healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. 23 All the multitudes were amazed, and said, "Can this be the son of David?" 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This man does not cast out demons except by Beelzebul, the prince of the demons."

25 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said to them, **"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.** 26 **If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?** 27 **If I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.** 28 **But if I by the Spirit of God cast out demons, then God's Kingdom has come upon you.** 29 **Or how can one enter into the house of the strong man and plunder his goods, unless he first bind the strong man? Then he will plunder his house.**

30 **"He who is not with me is against me, and he who doesn't gather with me, scatters.** 31 **Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.** 32 **Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but**

✡ **12:21** Isaiah 42:1-4

whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age, or in that which is to come.

33 **"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by its fruit.** 34 **You offspring of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.** 35 **The good man out of his good treasure* brings out good things, and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings out evil things.** 36 **I tell you that every idle word that men speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.** 37 **For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."**

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

39 But he answered them, **"An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet.** 40 **For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the huge fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.** 41 **The men of Nineveh will stand up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, someone greater than Jonah is here.** 42 **The Queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, someone greater than Solomon is here.**

43 **"When an unclean spirit has gone out of a man, he passes through waterless places seeking rest, and doesn't find it.** 44 **Then he says, 'I will return into my house from which I came;' and when he has come back, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.** 45 **Then he goes and takes with himself seven other spirits more evil than he is, and they enter in and dwell there. The last state of that man becomes worse than the first. Even so will it be also to this evil generation."**

46 While he was yet speaking to the multitudes, behold, his mother and his brothers stood outside, seeking to speak to him. 47 One said to him, "Behold, your mother and your brothers stand outside, seeking to speak to you."

48 But he answered him who spoke to him, **"Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?"** 49 He stretched

* **12:35** TR adds "of the heart"

out his hand toward his disciples, and said, **"Behold, my mother and my brothers!** 50 **For whoever does the will of my Father who is in heaven, he is my brother, and sister, and mother."**

13

1 On that day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the seaside. 2 Great multitudes gathered to him, so that he entered into a boat and sat; and all the multitude stood on the beach. 3 He spoke to them many things in parables, saying, **"Behold, a farmer went out to sow.** 4 **As he sowed, some seeds fell by the roadside, and the birds came and devoured them.** 5 **Others fell on rocky ground, where they didn't have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of earth.** 6 **When the sun had risen, they were scorched. Because they had no root, they withered away.** 7 **Others fell among thorns. The thorns grew up and choked them.** 8 **Others fell on good soil and yielded fruit: some one hundred times as much, some sixty, and some thirty.** 9 **He who has ears to hear, let him hear."**

10 The disciples came, and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?"

11 He answered them, **"To you it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but it is not given to them.** 12 **For whoever has, to him will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever doesn't have, from him will be taken away even that which he has.** 13 **Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they don't see, and hearing, they don't hear, neither do they understand.** 14 **In them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says,**

'By hearing you will hear,
and will in no way understand;
Seeing you will see,
and will in no way perceive;
15 **for this people's heart has grown callous,**
their ears are dull of hearing,
and they have closed their eyes;
or else perhaps they might perceive with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and would turn again,
and I would heal them.'✡

16 **"But blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear.** 17 **For most certainly I tell you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see the things which you see, and didn't see them; and to hear the things**

✡ **13:15** Isaiah 6:9-10

which you hear, and didn't hear them.

18 **"Hear, then, the parable of the farmer.** 19 **When anyone hears the word of the Kingdom and doesn't understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown by the roadside.** 20 **What was sown on the rocky places, this is he who hears the word and immediately with joy receives it;** 21 **yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while. When oppression or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.** 22 **What was sown among the thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.** 23 **What was sown on the good ground, this is he who hears the word and understands it, who most certainly bears fruit and produces, some one hundred times as much, some sixty, and some thirty."**

24 He set another parable before them, saying, **"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field,** 25 **but while people slept, his enemy came and sowed darnel weeds* also among the wheat, and went away.** 26 **But when the blade sprang up and produced grain, then the darnel weeds appeared also.** 27 **The servants of the householder came and said to him, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where did these darnel weeds come from?'**

28 **"He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.'**

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and gather them up?'

29 **"But he said, 'No, lest perhaps while you gather up the darnel weeds, you root up the wheat with them.** 30 **Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the harvest time I will tell the reapers, "First, gather up the darnel weeds, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "**

31 He set another parable before them, saying, **"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took, and sowed in his field,** 32 **which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."**

33 He spoke another parable to them. **"The King-**

* **13:25** darnel is a weed grass (probably bearded darnel or lolium temulentum) that looks very much like wheat until it is mature, when the difference becomes very apparent. † **13:33** literally, three sata. Three sata is about 39 liters or a bit more than a bushel

dom of Heaven is like yeast which a woman took and hid in three measures† of meal, until it was all leavened."

34 Jesus spoke all these things in parables to the multitudes; and without a parable, he didn't speak to them, 35 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophet, saying,

"I will open my mouth in parables;
I will utter things hidden from the foundation of the world."✡

36 Then Jesus sent the multitudes away, and went into the house. His disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the darnel weeds of the field."

37 He answered them, **"He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,** 38 **the field is the world, the good seeds are the children of the Kingdom, and the darnel weeds are the children of the evil one.** 39 **The enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.** 40 **As therefore the darnel weeds are gathered up and burned with fire; so will it be at the end of this age.** 41 **The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will gather out of his Kingdom all things that cause stumbling and those who do iniquity,** 42 **and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.** 43 **Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**

44 **"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid. In his joy, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.**

45 **"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who is a merchant seeking fine pearls,** 46 **who having found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.**

47 **"Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered some fish of every kind,** 48 **which, when it was filled, fishermen drew up on the beach. They sat down and gathered the good into containers, but the bad they threw away.** 49 **So it will be in the end of the world.‡ The angels will come and separate the wicked from among the righteous,** 50 **and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."** 51 Jesus said to them, **"Have you understood all these things?"**

They answered him, "Yes, Lord."

✡ **13:35** Psalm 78:2 ‡ **13:49** or, end of the age.

52 He said to them, **"Therefore every scribe who has been made a disciple in the Kingdom of Heaven is like a man who is a householder, who brings out of his treasure new and old things."**

53 When Jesus had finished these parables, he departed from there. 54 Coming into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works? 55 Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother called Mary, and his brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?§ 56 Aren't all of his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all of these things?" 57 They were offended by him.

But Jesus said to them, **"A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country and in his own house."** 58 He didn't do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

14

1 At that time, Herod the tetrarch heard the report concerning Jesus, 2 and said to his servants, "This is John the Baptizer. He is risen from the dead. That is why these powers work in him." 3 For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. 4 For John said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." 5 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 came, the daughter of Herodias danced among them and pleased Herod. 7 Therefore he promised with an oath to give her whatever she should ask. 8 She, being prompted by her mother, said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptizer."

9 The king was grieved, but for the sake of his oaths and of those who sat at the table with him, he commanded it to be given, 10 and he sent and beheaded John in the prison. 11 His head was brought on a platter and given to the young lady; and she brought it to her mother. 12 His disciples came, took the body, and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus. 13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place apart. When the multitudes heard it, they followed him on foot from the cities.

14 Jesus went out, and he saw a great multitude. He had compassion on them and healed their sick. 15 When evening had come, his disciples came to him, saying, "This place is deserted, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages,

§ **13:55** or, Judah

and buy themselves food."
16 But Jesus said to them,
"They don't need to go away. You give them something to eat."
17 They told him, "We only have here five loaves and two fish."
18 He said, **"Bring them here to me."** 19 He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass; and he took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. 20 They all ate and were filled. They took up twelve baskets full of that which remained left over from the broken pieces. 21 Those who ate were about five thousand men, in addition to women and children.
22 Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of him to the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23 After he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into the mountain by himself to pray. When evening had come, he was there alone. 24 But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, distressed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. 25 In the fourth watch of the night,* Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.✡ 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It's a ghost!" and they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,
"Cheer up! It is I!† Don't be afraid."
28 Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the waters."
29 He said, **"Come!"**
Peter stepped down from the boat and walked on the waters to come to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was strong, he was afraid, and beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"
31 Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and said to him,
"You of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 When they got up into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 Those who were in the boat came and worshiped him, saying, "You are truly the Son of God!"
34 When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret. 35 When the people of that place recognized him, they sent into all that surrounding region and brought to him all who were sick; 36 and they begged him that they might just touch the fringe‡ of his garment. As many as touched it were made whole.

15

1 Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem, saying, 2 "Why do your disciples disobey the

* **14:25** The night was equally divided into four watches, so the fourth watch is approximately 3:00 a.m. to sunrise. ✡ **14:25** See Job 9:8 † **14:27** or, I AM! ‡ **14:36** or, tassel

tradition of the elders? For they don't wash their hands when they eat bread."

3 He answered them, **"Why do you also disobey the commandment of God because of your tradition?** 4 **For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,'✡ and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him be put to death.'✡** 5 **But you say, 'Whoever may tell his father or his mother, "Whatever help you might otherwise have gotten from me is a gift devoted to God," 6 he shall not honor his father or mother.' You have made the commandment of God void because of your tradition.** 7 **You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying,**

8 **'These people draw near**
to me with their mouth,
and honor me with their lips;
but their heart is far from me.
9 **And they worship me in vain,**
teaching as doctrine rules made by men.' "✡

10 He summoned the multitude, and said to them, **"Hear, and understand.** 11 **That which enters into the mouth doesn't defile the man; but that which proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."**

12 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?"

13 But he answered, **"Every plant which my heavenly Father didn't plant will be uprooted.** 14 **Leave them alone. They are blind guides of the blind. If the blind guide the blind, both will fall into a pit."**

15 Peter answered him, "Explain the parable to us."

16 So Jesus said, **"Do you also still not understand?** 17 **Don't you understand that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the belly and then out of the body?** 18 **But the things which proceed out of the mouth come out of the heart, and they defile the man.** 19 **For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, sexual sins, thefts, false testimony, and blasphemies.** 20 **These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands doesn't defile the man."**

21 Jesus went out from there and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Behold, a Canaanite woman came out from those borders and cried, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, you son of David! My daughter is severely possessed by a demon!"

23 But he answered her not a word.

✡ **15:4** Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16
✡ **15:4** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9
✡ **15:9** Isaiah 29:13

His disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away; for she cries after us."

24 But he answered, **"I wasn't sent to anyone but the lost sheep of the house of Israel."**

25 But she came and worshiped him, saying, "Lord, help me."

26 But he answered, **"It is not appropriate to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."**

27 But she said, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

28 Then Jesus answered her, **"Woman, great is your faith! Be it done to you even as you desire."** And her daughter was healed from that hour.

29 Jesus departed from there and came near to the sea of Galilee; and he went up on the mountain and sat there. 30 Great multitudes came to him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others, and they put them down at his feet. He healed them, 31 so that the multitude wondered when they saw the mute speaking, the injured healed, the lame walking, and the blind seeing —and they glorified the God of Israel.

32 Jesus summoned his disciples and said, **"I have compassion on the multitude, because they have continued with me now three days and have nothing to eat. I don't want to send them away fasting, or they might faint on the way."**

33 The disciples said to him, "Where could we get so many loaves in a deserted place as to satisfy so great a multitude?"

34 Jesus said to them, **"How many loaves do you have?"**

They said, "Seven, and a few small fish."

35 He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground; 36 and he took the seven loaves and the fish. He gave thanks and broke them, and gave to the disciples, and the disciples to the multitudes. 37 They all ate and were filled. They took up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left over. 38 Those who ate were four thousand men, in addition to women and children. 39 Then he sent away the multitudes, got into the boat, and came into the borders of Magdala.

16

1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing him, asked him to show them a sign from heaven. 2 But he answered them, **"When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' 3 In the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but you can't discern the**

signs of the times! 4 **An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and there will be no sign given to it, except the sign of the prophet Jonah."**

He left them and departed. 5 The disciples came to the other side and had forgotten to take bread. 6 Jesus said to them, **"Take heed and beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."**

7 They reasoned among themselves, saying, "We brought no bread."

8 Jesus, perceiving it, said, **"Why do you reason among yourselves, you of little faith, because you have brought no bread?** 9 **Don't you yet perceive or remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you took up,** 10 **or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many baskets you took up?** 11 **How is it that you don't perceive that I didn't speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."**

12 Then they understood that he didn't tell them to beware of the yeast of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

13 Now when Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, **"Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"**

14 They said, "Some say John the Baptizer, some, Elijah, and others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 He said to them, **"But who do you say that I am?"**

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

17 Jesus answered him, **"Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.** 18 **I also tell you that you are Peter,* and on this rock † I will build my assembly, and the gates of Hades‡ will not prevail against it.** 19 **I will give to you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven; and whatever you release on earth will have been released in heaven."** 20 Then he commanded the disciples that they should tell no one that he was Jesus the Christ.

21 From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.

22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord!

* **16:18** Peter's name, Petros in Greek, is the word for a specific rock or stone.

† **16:18** Greek, petra, a rock mass or bedrock. ‡ **16:18** or, Hell

This will never be done to you."

23 But he turned and said to Peter, **"Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, for you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of men."**

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, **"If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.** 25 **For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever will lose his life for my sake will find it.** 26 **For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what will a man give in exchange for his life?** 27 **For the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he will render to everyone according to his deeds.** 28 **Most certainly I tell you, there are some standing here who will in no way taste of death until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom."**

17

1 After six days, Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them up into a high mountain by themselves. 2 He was changed* before them. His face shone like the sun, and his garments became as white as the light. 3 Behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them talking with him.

4 Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, let's make three tents here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them. Behold, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him."

6 When the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces, and were very afraid. 7 Jesus came and touched them and said, **"Get up, and don't be afraid."** 8 Lifting up their eyes, they saw no one, except Jesus alone.

9 As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, **"Don't tell anyone what you saw, until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."**

10 His disciples asked him, saying, "Then why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

11 Jesus answered them, **"Elijah indeed comes first, and will restore all things;** 12 **but I tell you that Elijah has come already, and they didn't recognize him, but did to him whatever they wanted to. Even so the Son of Man will also suffer by them."** 13 Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them of John the Baptizer.

* **17:2** or, transfigured

14 When they came to
the multitude, a man came
to him, kneeling down to
him and saying, 15 "Lord,
have mercy on my son, for
he is epileptic and suffers
grievously; for he often falls
into the fire, and often into
the water. 16 So I brought him
to your disciples, and they
could not cure him."
17 Jesus answered, **"Faithless and perverse generation! How long will I be with you? How long will I bear with you? Bring him here to me."** 18 Jesus
rebuked the demon, and it
went out of him, and the boy
was cured from that hour.
19 Then the disciples came
to Jesus privately, and said,
"Why weren't we able to cast
it out?"
20 He said to them, **"Because of your unbelief. For most certainly I tell you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.** 21 **But this kind doesn't go out except by prayer and fasting."** †
22 While they were staying
in Galilee, Jesus said to them,
"The Son of Man is about to be delivered up into the hands of men, 23 **and they will kill him, and the third day he will be raised up."**
They were exceedingly
sorry.
24 When they had come
to Capernaum, those who
collected the didrachma
coins‡ came to Peter, and
said, "Doesn't your teacher
pay the didrachma?" 25 He
said, "Yes."
When he came into the
house, Jesus anticipated him,
saying, **"What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive toll or tribute? From their children, or from strangers?"**
26 Peter said to him, "From
strangers."
Jesus said to him, **"Therefore the children are exempt.** 27 **But, lest we cause them to stumble, go to the sea, cast a hook, and take up the first fish that comes up. When you have opened its mouth, you will find a stater coin.**§ **Take that, and give it to them for me and you."**

18

1 In that hour the disciples
came to Jesus, saying, "Who
then is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?"

† **17:21** NU omits verse 21. ‡ **17:24** A didrachma is a Greek silver coin worth 2 drachmas, about as much as 2 Roman denarii, or about 2 days' wages. It was commonly used to pay the half-shekel temple tax, because 2 drachmas were worth one half shekel of silver. A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces.

§ **17:27** A stater is a silver coin equivalent to four Attic or two Alexandrian drachmas, or a Jewish shekel: just exactly enough to cover the half-shekel temple tax for two people. A shekel is about 10 grams or about 0.35 ounces, usually in the form of a silver coin.

2 Jesus called a little child
to himself, and set him in
the middle of them 3 and
said, **"Most certainly I
tell you, unless you turn
and become as little chil-
dren, you will in no way
enter into the Kingdom
of Heaven. 4 Whoever
therefore humbles him-
self as this little child is the
greatest in the Kingdom
of Heaven. 5 Whoever
receives one such little
child in my name receives
me, 6 but whoever causes
one of these little ones who
believe in me to stumble, it
would be better for him if a
huge millstone were hung
around his neck and that
he were sunk in the depths
of the sea.**

7 **"Woe to the world be-
cause of occasions of stum-
bling! For it must be that
the occasions come, but
woe to that person through
whom the occasion comes!
8 If your hand or your foot
causes you to stumble, cut
it off and cast it from you.
It is better for you to enter
into life maimed or crip-
pled, rather than having
two hands or two feet to be
cast into the eternal fire.
9 If your eye causes you to
stumble, pluck it out and
cast it from you. It is bet-
ter for you to enter into
life with one eye, rather
than having two eyes to be
cast into the Gehenna* of
fire. 10 See that you don't
despise one of these little
ones, for I tell you that in
heaven their angels always
see the face of my Father
who is in heaven. 11 For the
Son of Man came to save
that which was lost.†**

12 **"What do you think?
If a man has one hundred
sheep, and one of them
goes astray, doesn't he
leave the ninety-nine, go
to the mountains, and
seek that which has gone
astray? 13 If he finds
it, most certainly I tell
you, he rejoices over it
more than over the ninety-
nine which have not gone
astray. 14 Even so it is
not the will of your Father
who is in heaven that one
of these little ones should
perish.**

15 **"If your brother sins
against you, go, show him
his fault between you and
him alone. If he listens
to you, you have gained
back your brother. 16 But
if he doesn't listen, take
one or two more with you,
that at the mouth of two
or three witnesses every
word may be established.✡
17 If he refuses to listen
to them, tell it to the
assembly. If he refuses
to hear the assembly also,
let him be to you as a
Gentile or a tax collector.
18 Most certainly I tell
you, whatever things you
bind on earth will have
been bound in heaven,
and whatever things you
release on earth will have
been released in heaven.**

* **18:9** or, Hell † **18:11** NU omits verse 11. ✡ **18:16** Deuteronomy 19:15

19 **Again, assuredly I tell
you, that if two of you will
agree on earth concerning
anything that they will ask,
it will be done for them
by my Father who is in
heaven.** 20 **For where
two or three are gathered
together in my name, there
I am in the middle of
them."**
21 Then Peter came and
said to him, "Lord, how often
shall my brother sin against
me, and I forgive him? Until
seven times?"
22 Jesus said to him, **"I
don't tell you until seven
times, but, until seventy
times seven.** 23 **Therefore
the Kingdom of Heaven
is like a certain king who
wanted to settle accounts
with his servants.** 24 **When
he had begun to settle, one
was brought to him who
owed him ten thousand
talents.**‡ 25 **But because
he couldn't pay, his lord
commanded him to be
sold, with his wife, his
children, and all that he
had, and payment to be
made.** 26 **The servant
therefore fell down and
knelt before him, saying,
'Lord, have patience with
me, and I will repay you
all!'** 27 **The lord of that
servant, being moved with
compassion, released him
and forgave him the debt.**
28 **"But that servant went
out and found one of his
fellow servants who owed
him one hundred denarii,**§
**and he grabbed him and
took him by the throat, say-
ing, 'Pay me what you owe!'**
29 **"So his fellow servant
fell down at his feet and
begged him, saying, 'Have
patience with me, and I
will repay you!'** 30 **He
would not, but went and
cast him into prison until
he should pay back that
which was due.** 31 **So when
his fellow servants saw
what was done, they were
exceedingly sorry, and
came and told their lord
all that was done.** 32 **Then
his lord called him in and
said to him, 'You wicked
servant! I forgave you
all that debt because you
begged me.** 33 **Shouldn't
you also have had mercy
on your fellow servant,
even as I had mercy on
you?'** 34 **His lord was
angry, and delivered him
to the tormentors until he
should pay all that was due
to him.** 35 **So my heavenly
Father will also do to you,
if you don't each forgive
your brother from your
hearts for his misdeeds."**

19

1 When Jesus had finished
these words, he departed
from Galilee and came into
the borders of Judea beyond

‡ **18:24** Ten thousand talents (about 300 metric tons of silver) represents an extremely large sum of money, equivalent to about 60,000,000 denarii, where one denarius was typical of one day's wages for agricultural labor. § **18:28** 100 denarii was about one sixtieth of a talent, or about 500 grams (1.1 pounds) of silver.

the Jordan. 2 Great multitudes followed him, and he healed them there.

3 Pharisees came to him, testing him and saying, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason?"

4 He answered, **"Haven't you read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female,**✡ 5 **and said, 'For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh?'**✡ 6 **So that they are no more two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, don't let man tear apart."**

7 They asked him, "Why then did Moses command us to give her a certificate of divorce and divorce her?"

8 He said to them, **"Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it has not been so.** 9 **I tell you that whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and he who marries her when she is divorced commits adultery."**

10 His disciples said to him, "If this is the case of the man with his wife, it is not expedient to marry."

11 But he said to them, **"Not all men can receive this saying, but those to whom it is given.** 12 **For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the Kingdom of Heaven's sake. He who is able to receive it, let him receive it."**

13 Then little children were brought to him that he should lay his hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But Jesus said, **"Allow the little children, and don't forbid them to come to me; for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to ones like these."** 15 He laid his hands on them, and departed from there.

16 Behold, one came to him and said, "Good teacher, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?"

17 He said to him, **"Why do you call me good?*** **No one is good but one, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."**

18 He said to him, "Which ones?"

Jesus said, **" 'You shall not murder.' 'You shall not commit adultery.' 'You shall not steal.' 'You shall not offer false testimony.'** 19 **'Honor your father and your mother.'**✡ **And, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "**✡

✡ **19:4** Genesis 1:27 ✡ **19:5** Genesis 2:24 * **19:17** So MT and TR. NU reads "Why do you ask me about what is good?" ✡ **19:19** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20 ✡ **19:19** Leviticus 19:18

20 The young man said to
him, “All these things I have
observed from my youth.
What do I still lack?”
21 Jesus said to him, **“If you
want to be perfect, go, sell
what you have, and give to
the poor, and you will have
treasure in heaven; and
come, follow me.”** 22 But
when the young man heard
this, he went away sad, for
he was one who had great
possessions.
23 Jesus said to his disci-
ples, **“Most certainly I say
to you, a rich man will
enter into the Kingdom
of Heaven with difficulty.**
24 **Again I tell you, it is
easier for a camel to go
through a needle’s eye
than for a rich man to
enter into God’s Kingdom.”**
25 When the disciples
heard it, they were exceed-
ingly astonished, saying,
“Who then can be saved?”
26 Looking at them, Jesus
said, **“With men this is im-
possible, but with God all
things are possible.”**
27 Then Peter answered,
“Behold, we have left ev-
erything and followed you.
What then will we have?”
28 Jesus said to them, **“Most
certainly I tell you that
you who have followed
me, in the regeneration
when the Son of Man will
sit on the throne of his
glory, you also will sit on
twelve thrones, judging
the twelve tribes of Israel.**
29 **Everyone who has left
houses, or brothers, or sis-
ters, or father, or mother,
or wife, or children, or
lands, for my name’s sake,
will receive one hundred
times, and will inherit
eternal life.** 30 **But many
will be last who are first,
and first who are last.**

20

1 **“For the Kingdom of
Heaven is like a man
who was the master of
a household, who went
out early in the morning
to hire laborers for his
vineyard.** 2 **When he had
agreed with the laborers
for a denarius* a day, he
sent them into his vine-
yard.** 3 **He went out about
the third hour,† and saw
others standing idle in the
marketplace.** 4 **He said to
them, ‘You also go into the
vineyard, and whatever
is right I will give you.’
So they went their way.**
5 **Again he went out about
the sixth and the ninth
hour,‡ and did likewise.**
6 **About the eleventh hour§
he went out and found
others standing idle. He
said to them, ‘Why do you
stand here all day idle?’**
7 **“They said to him, ‘Be-
cause no one has hired us.’
“He said to them, ‘You
also go into the vineyard,**

* **20:2** A denarius is a silver Roman coin worth 1/25th of a Roman aureus. This was a common wage for a day of farm labor. † **20:3** Time was measured from sunrise to sunset, so the third hour would be about 9:00 a.m. ‡ **20:5** noon and 3:00 p.m. § **20:6** 5:00 p.m.

and you will receive whatever is right.'

8 **"When evening had come, the lord of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning from the last to the first.'** 9 **"When those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius.** 10 **When the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise each received a denarius.** 11 **When they received it, they murmured against the master of the household,** 12 **saying, 'These last have spent one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat!'**

13 **"But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Didn't you agree with me for a denarius?** 14 **Take that which is yours, and go your way. It is my desire to give to this last just as much as to you.** 15 **Isn't it lawful for me to do what I want to with what I own? Or is your eye evil, because I am good?'** 16 **So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen."**

17 As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, 18 **"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death,** 19 **and will hand him over to the Gentiles to mock, to scourge, and to crucify; and the third day he will be raised up."**

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking a certain thing of him. 21 He said to her, **"What do you want?"**

She said to him, "Command that these, my two sons, may sit, one on your right hand and one on your left hand, in your Kingdom."

22 But Jesus answered, **"You don't know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"**

They said to him, "We are able."

23 He said to them, **"You will indeed drink my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not mine to give, but it is for whom it has been prepared by my Father."**

24 When the ten heard it, they were indignant with the two brothers.

25 But Jesus summoned them, and said, **"You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.** 26 **It**

shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be* your servant. 27 **Whoever desires to be first among you shall be your bondservant,** 28 **even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

29 As they went out from Jericho, a great multitude followed him. 30 Behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, you son of David!" 31 The multitude rebuked them, telling them that they should be quiet, but they cried out even more, "Lord, have mercy on us, you son of David!"

32 Jesus stood still and called them, and asked, **"What do you want me to do for you?"**

33 They told him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened."

34 Jesus, being moved with compassion, touched their eyes; and immediately their eyes received their sight, and they followed him.

21

1 When they came near to Jerusalem and came to Bethsphage,* to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, **"Go into the village that is opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me.** 3 **If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and immediately he will send them."**

4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken through the prophet, saying,

5 "Tell the daughter of Zion,
behold, your King comes to you,
humble, and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey."✡

6 The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them, 7 and brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them; and he sat on them. 8 A very great multitude spread their clothes on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The multitudes who went in front of him, and those who followed, kept shouting, "Hosanna† to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" ✡

10 When he had come into Jerusalem, all the city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?"

* **20:26** TR reads "let him be" instead of "shall be" * **21:1** TR & NU read "Bethphage" instead of "Bethsphage" ✡ **21:5** Zechariah 9:9 † **21:9** "Hosanna" means "save us" or "help us, we pray". ✡ **21:9** Psalm 118:26

11 The multitudes said,
"This is the prophet, Jesus,
from Nazareth of Galilee."
12 Jesus entered into the
temple of God and drove out
all of those who sold and
bought in the temple, and
overthrew the money chang-
ers' tables and the seats of
those who sold the doves.
13 He said to them, **"It is
written, 'My house shall be
called a house of prayer,'✡
but you have made it a den
of robbers!"✡**
14 The lame and the blind
came to him in the temple,
and he healed them. 15 But
when the chief priests and
the scribes saw the wonder-
ful things that he did, and
the children who were cry-
ing in the temple and say-
ing, "Hosanna to the son of
David!" they were indignant,
16 and said to him, "Do you
hear what these are saying?"

Jesus said to them, **"Yes.
Did you never read, 'Out of
the mouth of children and
nursing babies, you have
perfected praise?' "✡**
17 He left them and went
out of the city to Bethany, and
camped there.
18 Now in the morning, as
he returned to the city, he
was hungry. 19 Seeing a fig
tree by the road, he came to
it and found nothing on it but
leaves. He said to it, **"Let
there be no fruit from you
forever!"**

Immediately the fig tree
withered away.
20 When the disciples saw
it, they marveled, saying,
"How did the fig tree imme-
diately wither away?"
21 Jesus answered them,
**"Most certainly I tell you,
if you have faith and don't
doubt, you will not only do
what was done to the fig
tree, but even if you told
this mountain, 'Be taken
up and cast into the sea,'
it would be done. 22 All
things, whatever you ask
in prayer, believing, you
will receive."**
23 When he had come into
the temple, the chief priests
and the elders of the peo-
ple came to him as he was
teaching, and said, "By what
authority do you do these
things? Who gave you this
authority?"
24 Jesus answered them,
**"I also will ask you one
question, which if you tell
me, I likewise will tell
you by what authority I
do these things. 25 The
baptism of John, where
was it from? From heaven
or from men?"**

They reasoned with them-
selves, saying, "If we say,
'From heaven,' he will ask
us, 'Why then did you not
believe him?' 26 But if we
say, 'From men,' we fear the
multitude, for all hold John
as a prophet." 27 They an-
swered Jesus, and said, "We
don't know."

He also said to them, **"Nei-
ther will I tell you by what**

✡ **21:13** Isaiah 56:7 ✡ **21:13** Jeremiah 7:11 ✡ **21:16** Psalm 8:2

authority I do these things.
28 **But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first, and said, 'Son, go work today in my vineyard.'**
29 **He answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind, and went.**
30 **He came to the second, and said the same thing. He answered, 'I'm going, sir,' but he didn't go.**
31 **Which of the two did the will of his father?"**

They said to him, "The first."

Jesus said to them, **"Most certainly I tell you that the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering into God's Kingdom before you.**
32 **For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn't believe him; but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. When you saw it, you didn't even repent afterward, that you might believe him.**
33 **"Hear another parable. There was a man who was a master of a household who planted a vineyard, set a hedge about it, dug a wine press in it, built a tower, leased it out to farmers, and went into another country.**
34 **When the season for the fruit came near, he sent his servants to the farmers to receive his fruit.**
35 **The farmers took his servants, beat one, killed another, and stoned another.**
36 **Again, he sent other servants more than the first; and they treated them the same way.**
37 **But afterward he sent to them his son, saying, 'They will respect my son.'**
38 **But the farmers, when they saw the son, said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and seize his inheritance.'**
39 **So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard, then killed him.**
40 **When therefore the lord of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those farmers?"**

41 They told him, "He will miserably destroy those miserable men, and will lease out the vineyard to other farmers who will give him the fruit in its season."

42 Jesus said to them, **"Did you never read in the Scriptures,**

'The stone which the builders rejected
was made the head of the corner.
This was from the Lord.
It is marvelous in our eyes'?✡

43 **"Therefore I tell you, God's Kingdom will be taken away from you and will be given to a nation producing its fruit.**
44 **He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but on whomever it will fall, it will scatter him as dust."**

45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his

✡ **21:42** Psalm 118:22-23

parables, they perceived that he spoke about them. 46 When they sought to seize him, they feared the multitudes, because they considered him to be a prophet.

22

1 Jesus answered and spoke to them again in parables, saying, 2 **"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a certain king, who made a wedding feast for his son, 3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. 4 Again he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner. My cattle and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding feast!" ' 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise; 6 and the rest grabbed his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. 7 When the king heard that, he was angry, and sent his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.**

8 **"Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited weren't worthy. 9 Go therefore to the intersections of the highways, and as many as you may find, invite to the wedding feast.' 10 Those servants went out into the highways and gathered together as many as they found, both bad and good. The wedding was filled with guests.**

11 **"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man who didn't have on wedding clothing, 12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here not wearing wedding clothing?' He was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and throw him into the outer darkness. That is where the weeping and grinding of teeth will be.' 14 For many are called, but few chosen."**

15 Then the Pharisees went and took counsel how they might entrap him in his talk. 16 They sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are honest, and teach the way of God in truth, no matter whom you teach; for you aren't partial to anyone. 17 Tell us therefore, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, **"Why do you test me, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the tax money."**

They brought to him a denarius.

20 He asked them, **“Whose is this image and inscription?”**

21 They said to him, “Caesar’s.”

Then he said to them, **“Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”**

22 When they heard it, they marveled, and left him and went away.

23 On that day Sadducees (those who say that there is no resurrection) came to him. They asked him, 24 saying, “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring* for his brother.’ 25 Now there were with us seven brothers. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother. 26 In the same way, the second also, and the third, to the seventh. 27 After them all, the woman died. 28 In the resurrection therefore, whose wife will she be of the seven? For they all had her.”

29 But Jesus answered them, **“You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.** 30 **For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like God’s angels in heaven.** 31 **But concerning the resurrection of the dead, haven’t you read that which was spoken to 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 When the multitudes heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

34 But the Pharisees, when they heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, gathered themselves together. 35 One of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, testing him. 36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?”

37 Jesus said to him, **“ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’✡** 38 **This is the first and great commandment.** 39 **A second likewise is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’✡** 40 **The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”**

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, 42 saying, **“What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?”**

They said to him, “Of David.”

43 He said to them, **“How then does David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying,**

44 **‘The Lord said to my Lord,**
sit on my right hand,

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* **22:24** or, seed ✡ **22:32** Exodus 3:6 ✡ **22:37** Deuteronomy 6:5 ✡ **22:39** Leviticus 19:18

until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet'?✡

45 **"If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?"**

46 No one was able to answer him a word, neither did any man dare ask him any more questions from that day forward.

23

1 Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to his disciples, 2 saying, **"The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat.** 3 **All things therefore whatever they tell you to observe, observe and do, but don't do their works; for they say, and don't do.** 4 **For they bind heavy burdens that are grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not lift a finger to help them.** 5 **But they do all their works to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries*** **broad and enlarge the fringes† of their garments,** 6 **and love the place of honor at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues,** 7 **the salutations in the marketplaces, and to be called 'Rabbi, Rabbi'‡ by men.** 8 **But you are not to be called 'Rabbi', for one is your teacher, the Christ, and all of you are brothers.** 9 **Call no man on the earth your father, for one is your Father, he who is in heaven.** 10 **Neither be called masters, for one is your master, the Christ.** 11 **But he who is greatest among you will be your servant.** 12 **Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.**

13 **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and as a pretense you make long prayers. Therefore you will receive greater condemnation.**

14 **"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against men; for you don't enter in yourselves, neither do you allow those who are entering in to enter.**§ 15 **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel around by sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of Gehenna*** **as yourselves.**

16 **"Woe to you, you blind**

✡ **22:44** Psalm 110:1 * **23:5** phylacteries (tefillin in Hebrew) are small leather pouches that some Jewish men wear on their forehead and arm in prayer. They are used to carry a small scroll with some Scripture in it. See Deuteronomy 6:8. † **23:5** or, tassels ‡ **23:7** NU omits the second "Rabbi". § **23:14** Some Greek texts reverse the order of verses 13 and 14, and some omit verse 13, numbering verse 14 as 13. NU omits verse 14. * **23:15** or, Hell

guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obligated.' 17 **You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold?** 18 **And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obligated?'** 19 **You blind fools! For which is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifies the gift?** 20 **He therefore who swears by the altar, swears by it and by everything on it.** 21 **He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by him who has been living† in it.** 22 **He who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God and by him who sits on it.**

23 **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin,‡ and have left undone the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith. But you ought to have done these, and not to have left the other undone.** 24 **You blind guides, who strain out a gnat, and swallow a camel!**

25 **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and unrighteousness.§** 26 **You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the platter, that its outside may become clean also.**

27 **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitened tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but inwardly are full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness.** 28 **Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.**

29 **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the tombs of the righteous,** 30 **and say, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we wouldn't have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.'** 31 **Therefore you testify to yourselves that you are children of those who killed the prophets.** 32 **Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers.** 33 **You serpents, you offspring of vipers, how will you escape the judgment of Gehenna?*** 34 **Therefore, behold, I send to you prophets, wise men, and scribes. Some of them you will**

† **23:21** NU reads "lives" ‡ **23:23** cumin is an aromatic seed from Cuminum cyminum, resembling caraway in flavor and appearance. It is used as a spice. § **23:25** TR reads "self-indulgence" instead of "unrighteousness" * **23:33** or, Hell

kill and crucify; and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city, 35 **that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zachariah son of Barachiah, whom you killed between the sanctuary and the altar.** 36 **Most certainly I tell you, all these things will come upon this generation.**

37 **"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I would have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you would not!** 38 **Behold, your house is left to you desolate.** 39 **For I tell you, you will not see me from now on, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' "**✡

24

1 Jesus went out from the temple, and was going on his way. His disciples came to him to show him the buildings of the temple. 2 But he answered them, **"You see all of these things, don't you? Most certainly I tell you, there will not be left here one stone on another, that will not be thrown down."**

3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?"

4 Jesus answered them, **"Be careful that no one leads you astray.** 5 **For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will lead many astray.** 6 **You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you aren't troubled, for all this must happen, but the end is not yet.** 7 **For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there will be famines, plagues, and earthquakes in various places.** 8 **But all these things are the beginning of birth pains.**

9 **"Then they will deliver you up to oppression and will kill you. You will be hated by all of the nations for my name's sake.** 10 **Then many will stumble, and will deliver up one another, and will hate one another.** 11 **Many false prophets will arise and will lead many astray.** 12 **Because iniquity will be multiplied, the love of many will grow cold.** 13 **But he who endures to the end will be saved.** 14 **This Good News of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.**

15 **"When, therefore, you**

✡ **23:39** Psalm 118:26 ✡ **24:15** Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11

see the abomination of desolation,✡ which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), 16 **then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.** 17 **Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take out the things that are in his house.** 18 **Let him who is in the field not return back to get his clothes.** 19 **But woe to those who are with child and to nursing mothers in those days!** 20 **Pray that your flight will not be in the winter nor on a Sabbath,** 21 **for then there will be great suffering,* such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever will be.** 22 **Unless those days had been shortened, no flesh would have been saved. But for the sake of the chosen ones, those days will be shortened.**

23 **"Then if any man tells you, 'Behold, here is the Christ!' or, 'There!' don't believe it.** 24 **For false christs and false prophets will arise, and they will show great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the chosen ones.**

25 **"Behold, I have told you beforehand.**

26 **"If therefore they tell you, 'Behold, he is in the wilderness,' don't go out; or 'Behold, he is in the inner rooms,' don't believe it.** 27 **For as the lightning flashes from the east, and is seen even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.** 28 **For wherever the carcass is, that is where the vultures† gather together.**

29 **"But immediately after the suffering‡ of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken;✡** 30 **and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky. Then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.** 31 **He will send out his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his chosen ones from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.**

32 **"Now from the fig tree learn this parable: When its branch has now become tender and produces its leaves, you know that the summer is near.** 33 **Even so you also, when you see all these things, know that he is near, even at the doors.** 34 **Most certainly I tell you, this generation§ will not**

* **24:21** or, oppression † **24:28** or, eagles ‡ **24:29** or, oppression ✡ **24:29** Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 § **24:34** The word for "generation" (genea) can also be translated as "race."

pass away until all these things are accomplished.
35 **Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.**
36 **"But no one knows of that day and hour, not even the angels of heaven,* but my Father only.**
37 **As the days of Noah were, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.**
38 **For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ship,**
39 **and they didn't know until the flood came and took them all away, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.**
40 **Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and one will be left.**
41 **Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and one will be left.**
42 **Watch therefore, for you don't know in what hour your Lord comes.**
43 **But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what watch of the night the thief was coming, he would have watched, and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.**
44 **Therefore also be ready, for in an hour that you don't expect, the Son of Man will come.**
45 **"Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his lord has set over his household, to give them their food in due season?**
46 **Blessed is that servant whom his lord finds doing so when he comes.**
47 **Most certainly I tell you that he will set him over all that he has.**
48 **But if that evil servant should say in his heart, 'My lord is delaying his coming,'**
49 **and begins to beat his fellow servants, and eat and drink with the drunkards,**
50 **the lord of that servant will come in a day when he doesn't expect it and in an hour when he doesn't know it,**
51 **and will cut him in pieces and appoint his portion with the hypocrites. That is where the weeping and grinding of teeth will be.**

25

1 **"Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.**
2 **Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.**
3 **Those who were foolish, when they took their lamps, took no oil with them,**
4 **but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.**
5 **Now while the bridegroom delayed, they all slumbered and slept.**
6 **But at midnight there was a cry, 'Behold! The bridegroom is coming! Come out to meet him!'**
7 **Then all those virgins arose,**

* **24:36** NU adds "nor the son"

**and trimmed their lamps.*
8 The foolish said to the
wise, 'Give us some of
your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9 But the wise
answered, saying, 'What if
there isn't enough for us
and you? You go rather
to those who sell, and buy
for yourselves.' 10 While
they went away to buy,
the bridegroom came, and
those who were ready went
in with him to the wedding
feast, and the door was
shut. 11 Afterward the
other virgins also came,
saying, 'Lord, Lord, open
to us.' 12 But he answered,
'Most certainly I tell you, I
don't know you.' 13 Watch
therefore, for you don't
know the day nor the hour
in which the Son of Man is
coming.**

**14 "For it is like a man
going into another coun-
try, who called his own
servants and entrusted his
goods to them. 15 To one
he gave five talents,† to
another two, to another
one, to each according
to his own ability. Then
he went on his journey.
16 Immediately he who
received the five talents
went and traded with
them, and made another
five talents. 17 In the same
way, he also who got the
two gained another two.
18 But he who received the
one talent went away and
dug in the earth and hid his
lord's money.**

**19 "Now after a long time
the lord of those servants
came, and settled accounts
with them. 20 He who
received the five talents
came and brought another
five talents, saying, 'Lord,
you delivered to me five
talents. Behold, I have
gained another five talents
in addition to them.'
21 "His lord said to him,
'Well done, good and faith-
ful servant. You have been
faithful over a few things,
I will set you over many
things. Enter into the joy of
your lord.'
22 "He also who got the
two talents came and said,
'Lord, you delivered to me
two talents. Behold, I have
gained another two talents
in addition to them.'
23 "His lord said to him,
'Well done, good and faith-
ful servant. You have been
faithful over a few things.
I will set you over many
things. Enter into the joy of
your lord.'
24 "He also who had re-
ceived the one talent came
and said, 'Lord, I knew you
that you are a hard man,
reaping where you didn't
sow, and gathering where
you didn't scatter. 25 I
was afraid, and went away**

* **25:7** The end of the wick of an oil lamp needs to be cut off periodically to avoid having it become clogged with carbon deposits. The wick height is also adjusted so that the flame burns evenly and gives good light without producing a lot of smoke.

† **25:15** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds (usually used to weigh silver unless otherwise specified)

and hid your talent in the earth. Behold, you have what is yours.'

26 **"But his lord answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant. You knew that I reap where I didn't sow, and gather where I didn't scatter.** 27 **You ought therefore to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received back my own with interest.** 28 **Take away therefore the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.** 29 **For to everyone who has will be given, and he will have abundance, but from him who doesn't have, even that which he has will be taken away.** 30 **Throw out the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**

31 **"But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.** 32 **Before him all the nations will be gathered, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.** 33 **He will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.** 34 **Then the King will tell those on his right hand, 'Come, blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;** 35 **for I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you took me in.** 36 **I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you visited me. I was in prison and you came to me.'**

37 **"Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink?** 38 **When did we see you as a stranger and take you in, or naked and clothe you?** 39 **When did we see you sick or in prison and come to you?'**

40 **"The King will answer them, 'Most certainly I tell you, because you did it to one of the least of these my brothers,‡ you did it to me.'** 41 **Then he will say also to those on the left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels;** 42 **for I was hungry, and you didn't give me food to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me no drink;** 43 **I was a stranger, and you didn't take me in; naked, and you didn't clothe me; sick, and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'**

‡ **25:40** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

44 **“Then they will also answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and didn’t help you?’**
45 **“Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Most certainly I tell you, because you didn’t do it to one of the least of these, you didn’t do it to me.’** 46 **These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”**

26

1 When Jesus had finished all these words, he said to his disciples, 2 **“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”**
3 Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas. 4 They took counsel together that they might take Jesus by deceit and kill him. 5 But they said, “Not during the feast, lest a riot occur among the people.”
6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, 7 a woman came to him having an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. 8 But when his disciples saw this, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? 9 For this ointment might have been sold for much and given to the poor.”
10 However, knowing this, Jesus said to them, **“Why do you trouble the woman? She has done a good work for me.** 11 **For you always have the poor with you, but you don’t always have me.** 12 **For in pouring this ointment on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial.** 13 **Most certainly I tell you, wherever this Good News is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of as a memorial of her.”**
14 Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests 15 and said, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him to you?” So they weighed out for him thirty pieces of silver. 16 From that time he sought opportunity to betray him.
17 Now on the first day of unleavened bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying to him, “Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?”
18 He said, **“Go into the city to a certain person, and tell him, ‘The Teacher says, “My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.” ’ ”**
19 The disciples did as Jesus commanded them, and they prepared the Passover.

20 Now when evening had
come, he was reclining at the
table with the twelve disci-
ples. 21 As they were eating,
he said, **“Most certainly I
tell you that one of you will
betray me.”**

22 They were exceedingly
sorrowful, and each began to
ask him, “It isn’t me, is it,
Lord?”

23 He answered, **“He who
dipped his hand with me
in the dish will betray me.**
24 **The Son of Man goes even
as it is written of him, but
woe to that man through
whom the Son of Man is be-
trayed! It would be better
for that man if he had not
been born.”**

25 Judas, who betrayed
him, answered, “It isn’t me,
is it, Rabbi?”

He said to him, **“You said
it.”**

26 As they were eating,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks
for* it, and broke it. He
gave to the disciples and
said, **“Take, eat; this is my
body.”** 27 He took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave to
them, saying, **“All of you
drink it,** 28 **for this is my
blood of the new covenant,
which is poured out for
many for the remission
of sins.** 29 **But I tell you
that I will not drink of this
fruit of the vine from now
on, until that day when I
drink it anew with you in
my Father’s Kingdom.”**

30 When they had sung a
hymn, they went out to the
Mount of Olives.

31 Then Jesus said to them,
**“All of you will be made
to stumble because of me
tonight, for it is written, ‘I
will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep of the flock
will be scattered.’**✡ 32 **But
after I am raised up, I
will go before you into
Galilee.”**

33 But Peter answered him,
“Even if all will be made to
stumble because of you, I will
never be made to stumble.”

34 Jesus said to him, **“Most
certainly I tell you that
tonight, before the rooster
crows, you will deny me
three times.”**

35 Peter said to him, “Even
if I must die with you, I will
not deny you.” All of the dis-
ciples also said likewise.

36 Then Jesus came with
them to a place called Geth-
semane, and said to his dis-
ciples, **“Sit here, while I go
there and pray.”** 37 He took
with him Peter and the two
sons of Zebedee, and began
to be sorrowful and severely
troubled. 38 Then he said to
them, **“My soul is exceed-
ingly sorrowful, even to
death. Stay here and watch
with me.”**

39 He went forward a little,
fell on his face, and prayed,
saying, **“My Father, if it is
possible, let this cup pass
away from me; neverthe-
less, not what I desire, but
what you desire.”**

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* **26:26** TR reads “blessed” instead of “gave thanks for” ✡ **26:31** Zechariah 13:7

40 He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, **"What, couldn't you watch with me for one hour?** 41 **Watch and pray, that you don't enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."**

42 Again, a second time he went away and prayed, saying, **"My Father, if this cup can't pass away from me unless I drink it, your desire be done."**

43 He came again and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. 44 He left them again, went away, and prayed a third time, saying the same words. 45 Then he came to his disciples and said to them, **"Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.** 46 **Arise, let's be going. Behold, he who betrays me is at hand."**

47 While he was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and elders of the people. 48 Now he who betrayed him had given them a sign, saying, "Whoever I kiss, he is the one. Seize him." 49 Immediately he came to Jesus, and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

50 Jesus said to him, **"Friend, why are you here?"**

Then they came and laid hands on Jesus, and took him. 51 Behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.

52 Then Jesus said to him, **"Put your sword back into its place, for all those who take the sword will die by the sword.** 53 **Or do you think that I couldn't ask my Father, and he would even now send me more than twelve legions of angels?** 54 **How then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must be so?"**

55 In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, **"Have you come out as against a robber with swords and clubs to seize me? I sat daily in the temple teaching, and you didn't arrest me.** 56 **But all this has happened that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled."**

Then all the disciples left him and fled.

57 Those who had taken Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were gathered together. 58 But Peter followed him from a distance to the court of the high priest, and entered in and sat with the officers, to see the end.

59 Now the chief priests, the elders, and the whole council sought false testimony against Jesus, that they might put him to death, 60 and they

found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward 61 and said, "This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.' "

62 The high priest stood up and said to him, "Have you no answer? What is this that these testify against you?" 63 But Jesus stayed silent. The high priest answered him, "I adjure you by the living God that you tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God."

64 Jesus said to him, **"You have said so. Nevertheless, I tell you, after this you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of the sky."**

65 Then the high priest tore his clothing, saying, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Behold, now you have heard his blasphemy. 66 What do you think?"

They answered, "He is worthy of death!" 67 Then they spat in his face and beat him with their fists, and some slapped him, 68 saying, "Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who hit you?"

69 Now Peter was sitting outside in the court, and a maid came to him, saying, "You were also with Jesus, the Galilean!"

70 But he denied it before them all, saying, "I don't know what you are talking about."

71 When he had gone out onto the porch, someone else saw him and said to those who were there, "This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth."

72 Again he denied it with an oath, "I don't know the man."

73 After a little while those who stood by came and said to Peter, "Surely you are also one of them, for your speech makes you known."

74 Then he began to curse and to swear, "I don't know the man!"

Immediately the rooster crowed. 75 Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said to him, **"Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."** Then he went out and wept bitterly.

27

1 Now when morning had come, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. 2 They bound him, led him away, and delivered him up to Pontius Pilate, the governor.

3 Then Judas, who betrayed him, when he saw that Jesus was condemned, felt remorse, and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 saying, "I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood."

But they said, "What is that to us? You see to it."

5 He threw down the pieces
of silver in the sanctuary
and departed. Then he went
away and hanged himself.
6 The chief priests took the
pieces of silver and said, “It’s
not lawful to put them into
the treasury, since it is the
price of blood.” 7 They took
counsel, and bought the pot-
ter’s field with them to bury
strangers in. 8 Therefore that
field has been called “The
Field of Blood” to this day.
9 Then that which was spo-
ken through Jeremiah* the
prophet was fulfilled, saying,
“They took the thirty pieces
of silver,
the price of him upon
whom a price had
been set,
whom some of the chil-
dren of Israel priced,
10 and they gave them for the
potter’s field,
as the Lord commanded
me.”✡
11 Now Jesus stood before
the governor; and the gover-
nor asked him, saying, “Are
you the King of the Jews?”
Jesus said to him, **“So you
say.”**
12 When he was accused
by the chief priests and
elders, he answered nothing.
13 Then Pilate said to him,
“Don’t you hear how many
things they testify against
you?”
14 He gave him no answer,
not even one word, so
that the governor marveled
greatly.
15 Now at the feast the
governor was accustomed
to release to the multitude
one prisoner whom they
desired. 16 They had then
a notable prisoner called
Barabbas. 17 When therefore
they were gathered together,
Pilate said to them, “Whom
do you want me to release to
you? Barabbas, or Jesus who
is called Christ?” 18 For he
knew that because of envy
they had delivered him up.
19 While he was sitting on
the judgment seat, his wife
sent to him, saying, “Have
nothing to do with that right-
eous man, for I have suf-
fered many things today in a
dream because of him.”
20 Now the chief priests
and the elders persuaded
the multitudes to ask for
Barabbas and destroy Jesus.
21 But the governor answered
them, “Which of the two do
you want me to release to
you?”
They said, “Barabbas!”
22 Pilate said to them,
“What then shall I do to Jesus
who is called Christ?”
They all said to him, “Let
him be crucified!”
23 But the governor said,
“Why? What evil has he
done?”
But they cried out exceed-
ingly, saying, “Let him be cru-
cified!”
24 So when Pilate saw that
nothing was being gained,
but rather that a disturbance

* **27:9** some manuscripts omit “Jeremiah” ✡ **27:10** Zechariah 11:12-13; Jeremiah 19:1-13; 32:6-9

was starting, he took water
and washed his hands before
the multitude, saying, "I am
innocent of the blood of this
righteous person. You see to
it."
25 All the people answered,
"May his blood be on us and
on our children!"
26 Then he released Barab-
bas to them, but Jesus he
flogged and delivered to be
crucified.
27 Then the governor's
soldiers took Jesus into the
Praetorium, and gathered
the whole garrison together
against him. 28 They stripped
him and put a scarlet robe
on him. 29 They braided
a crown of thorns and put
it on his head, and a reed
in his right hand; and they
kneeled down before him
and mocked him, saying,
"Hail, King of the Jews!"
30 They spat on him, and took
the reed and struck him on
the head. 31 When they had
mocked him, they took the
robe off him, and put his
clothes on him, and led him
away to crucify him.
32 As they came out, they
found a man of Cyrene, Si-
mon by name, and they com-
pelled him to go with them,
that he might carry his cross.
33 When they came to a place
called "Golgotha", that is to
say, "The place of a skull,"
34 they gave him sour wine†
to drink mixed with gall.‡
When he had tasted it, he
would not drink. 35 When
they had crucified him, they
divided his clothing among
them, casting lots,§ 36 and
they sat and watched him
there. 37 They set up over his
head the accusation against
him written, "THIS IS JESUS,
THE KING OF THE JEWS."
38 Then there were two rob-
bers crucified with him, one
on his right hand and one on
the left.
39 Those who passed by
blasphemed him, wagging
their heads 40 and saying,
"You who destroy the temple
and build it in three days,
save yourself! If you are the
Son of God, come down from
the cross!"
41 Likewise the chief
priests also mocking with
the scribes, the Pharisees,*
and the elders, said, 42 "He
saved others, but he can't
save himself. If he is the
King of Israel, let him come
down from the cross now,
and we will believe in him.
43 He trusts in God. Let God
deliver him now, if he wants
him; for he said, 'I am the
Son of God.' " 44 The robbers
also who were crucified with
him cast on him the same
reproach.
45 Now from the sixth
hour† there was darkness
over all the land until the
ninth hour.‡ 46 About the

† **27:34** or, vinegar ‡ **27:34** Gall is a bitter-tasting, dark green oil from a wormwood plant that is alcoholic in its effect. § **27:35** TR adds "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet: 'They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots;' " [see Psalm 22:18 and John 19:24]
* **27:41** TR omits "the Pharisees" † **27:45** noon ‡ **27:45** 3:00 p.m.

ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, **"Eli, Eli, lima§ sabachthani?"** That is, **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"**✡

47 Some of them who stood there, when they heard it, said, "This man is calling Elijah."

48 Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, put it on a reed, and gave him a drink. 49 The rest said, "Let him be. Let's see whether Elijah comes to save him."

50 Jesus cried again with a loud voice, and yielded up his spirit.

51 Behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom. The earth quaked and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; 53 and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection, they entered into the holy city and appeared to many.

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

55 Many women were there watching from afar, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, serving him. 56 Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

57 When evening had come, a rich man from Arimathaea named Joseph, who himself was also Jesus' disciple, came. 58 This man went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given up. 59 Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth 60 and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut out in the rock. Then he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. 61 Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.

62 Now on the next day, which was the day after the Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees were gathered together to Pilate, 63 saying, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise again.' 64 Command therefore that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest perhaps his disciples come at night and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He is risen from the dead;' and the last deception will be worse than the first."

65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard. Go, make it as secure as you can." 66 So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone.

§ **27:46** TR reads "lama" instead of "lima" ✡ **27:46** Psalm 22:1

28

1 Now after the Sabbath,
as it began to dawn on
the first day of the week,
Mary Magdalene and the
other Mary came to see the
tomb. 2 Behold, there was
a great earthquake, for an
angel of the Lord descended
from the sky and came
and rolled away the stone
from the door and sat on it.
3 His appearance was like
lightning, and his clothing
white as snow. 4 For fear of
him, the guards shook, and
became like dead men. 5 The
angel answered the women,
"Don't be afraid, for I know
that you seek Jesus, who has
been crucified. 6 He is not
here, for he has risen, just
like he said. Come, see the
place where the Lord was
lying. 7 Go quickly and tell his
disciples, 'He has risen from
the dead, and behold, he goes
before you into Galilee; there
you will see him.' Behold, I
have told you."

8 They departed quickly
from the tomb with fear
and great joy, and ran to
bring his disciples word.
9 As they went to tell his
disciples, behold, Jesus met
them, saying, **"Rejoice!"**

They came and took hold of
his feet, and worshiped him.

10 Then Jesus said to them,
**"Don't be afraid. Go tell my
brothers * that they should
go into Galilee, and there
they will see me."**

11 Now while they were
going, behold, some of the
guards came into the city and
told the chief priests all the
things that had happened.
12 When they were assem-
bled with the elders and had
taken counsel, they gave a
large amount of silver to the
soldiers, 13 saying, "Say that
his disciples came by night
and stole him away while we
slept. 14 If this comes to the
governor's ears, we will per-
suade him and make you free
of worry." 15 So they took the
money and did as they were
told. This saying was spread
abroad among the Jews, and
continues until today.

16 But the eleven disciples
went into Galilee, to the
mountain where Jesus had
sent them. 17 When they
saw him, they bowed down
to him; but some doubted.
18 Jesus came to them and
spoke to them, saying, **"All
authority has been given
to me in heaven and on
earth. 19 Go† and make
disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the
name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy
Spirit, 20 teaching them
to observe all things that I
commanded you. Behold, I
am with you always, even
to the end of the age."**
Amen.

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* **28:10** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." † **28:19** TR and NU add "therefore"

The Good News According to Mark

1 The beginning of the Good
News of Jesus Christ, the Son
of God.
2 As it is written in the
prophets,
"Behold,* I send my messen-
ger before your face,
who will prepare your
way before you:✡
3 the voice of one crying in the
wilderness,
'Make ready the way of
the Lord!
Make his paths straight!' "✡
4 John came baptizing† in
the wilderness and preach-
ing the baptism of repen-
tance for forgiveness of sins.
5 All the country of Judea
and all those of Jerusalem
went out to him. They were
baptized by him in the Jor-
dan river, confessing their
sins. 6 John was clothed with
camel's hair and a leather
belt around his waist. He
ate locusts and wild honey.
7 He preached, saying, "After
me comes he who is mightier
than I, the thong of whose
sandals I am not worthy to
stoop down and loosen. 8 I
baptized you in‡ water, but
he will baptize you in the
Holy Spirit."
9 In those days, Jesus came
from Nazareth of Galilee, and
was baptized by John in the
Jordan. 10 Immediately com-
ing up from the water, he
saw the heavens parting and
the Spirit descending on him
like a dove. 11 A voice came
out of the sky, "You are my
beloved Son, in whom I am
well pleased."
12 Immediately the Spirit
drove him out into the
wilderness. 13 He was there
in the wilderness forty days,
tempted by Satan. He was
with the wild animals; and
the angels were serving him.
14 Now after John was
taken into custody, Jesus
came into Galilee, preaching
the Good News of God's
Kingdom, 15 and saying,
**"The time is fulfilled, and
God's Kingdom is at hand!
Repent, and believe in the
Good News."**
16 Passing along by the sea
of Galilee, he saw Simon and
Andrew, the brother of Si-
mon, casting a net into the
sea, for they were fishermen.
17 Jesus said to them, **"Come
after me, and I will make
you into fishers for men."**
18 Immediately they left
their nets, and followed him.
19 Going on a little further
from there, he saw James the
son of Zebedee, and John his
brother, who were also in
the boat mending the nets.
20 Immediately he called

* **1:2** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ✡ **1:2** Malachi 3:1 ✡ **1:3** Isaiah 40:3 † **1:4** or, immersing ‡ **1:8** The Greek word (en) translated here as "in" could also be translated as "with" in some contexts.

them, and they left their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired servants, and went after him.

21 They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath day he entered into the synagogue and taught. 22 They were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as having authority, and not as the scribes. 23 Immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 24 saying, "Ha! What do we have to do with you, Jesus, you Nazarene? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God!"

25 Jesus rebuked him, saying, **"Be quiet, and come out of him!"**

26 The unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching? For with authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him!" 28 The report of him went out immediately everywhere into all the region of Galilee and its surrounding area.

29 Immediately, when they had come out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. 31 He came and took her by the hand and raised her up. The fever left her immediately,§ and she served them.

32 At evening, when the sun had set, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by demons. 33 All the city was gathered together at the door. 34 He healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons. He didn't allow the demons to speak, because they knew him.

35 Early in the morning, while it was still dark, he rose up and went out, and departed into a deserted place, and prayed there. 36 Simon and those who were with him searched for him. 37 They found him and told him, "Everyone is looking for you."

38 He said to them, **"Let's go elsewhere into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because I came out for this reason."** 39 He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out demons.

40 A leper came to him, begging him, kneeling down to him, and saying to him, "If you want to, you can make me clean."

41 Being moved with compassion, he stretched out his hand, and touched him, and said to him, **"I want to. Be made clean."** 42 When he

§ **1:31** NU omits "immediately".

had said this, immediately the leprosy departed from him and he was made clean. 43 He strictly warned him and immediately sent him out, 44 and said to him, **"See that you say nothing to anybody, but go show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing the things which Moses commanded, for a testimony to them."**

45 But he went out, and began to proclaim it much, and to spread about the matter, so that Jesus could no more openly enter into a city, but was outside in desert places. People came to him from everywhere.

2

1 When he entered again into Capernaum after some days, it was heard that he was at home. 2 Immediately many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even around the door; and he spoke the word to them. 3 Four people came, carrying a paralytic to him. 4 When they could not come near to him for the crowd, they removed the roof where he was. When they had broken it up, they let down the mat that the paralytic was lying on. 5 Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic, **"Son, your sins are forgiven you."**

6 But there were some of the scribes sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this man speak blasphemies like that? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

8 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, said to them, **"Why do you reason these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to tell the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven;' or to say, 'Arise, and take up your bed, and walk?' 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"**—he said to the paralytic — 11 **"I tell you, arise, take up your mat, and go to your house."**

12 He arose, and immediately took up the mat and went out in front of them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

13 He went out again by the seaside. All the multitude came to him, and he taught them. 14 As he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. He said to him, **"Follow me."** And he arose and followed him.

15 He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners sat down with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many, and they followed him. 16 The scribes and the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why is

it that he eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?"
17 When Jesus heard it, he said to them, **"Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."**
18 John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, and they came and asked him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples don't fast?"
19 Jesus said to them, **"Can the groomsmen fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they can't fast.** 20 **But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day.** 21 **No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, or else the patch shrinks and the new tears away from the old, and a worse hole is made.** 22 **No one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the skins, and the wine pours out, and the skins will be destroyed; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins."**
23 He was going on the Sabbath day through the grain fields; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of grain. 24 The Pharisees said to him, "Behold, why do they do that which is not lawful on the Sabbath day?"
25 He said to them, **"Did you never read what David did when he had need and was hungry—he, and those who were with him?** 26 **How he entered into God's house at the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the show bread, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests, and gave also to those who were with him?"**
27 He said to them, **"The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.** 28 **Therefore the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."**

3

1 He entered again into the synagogue, and there was a man there whose hand was withered. 2 They watched him, whether he would heal him on the Sabbath day, that they might accuse him. 3 He said to the man whose hand was withered, **"Stand up."**
4 He said to them, **"Is it lawful on the Sabbath day to do good or to do harm? To save a life or to kill?"** But they were silent. 5 When he had looked around at them with anger, being grieved at the hardening of their hearts, he said to the man, **"Stretch out your hand."** He stretched it out, and his hand was restored as healthy as the other. 6 The Pharisees went out, and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

7 Jesus withdrew to the sea
with his disciples; and a great
multitude followed him from
Galilee, from Judea, 8 from
Jerusalem, from Idumaea,
beyond the Jordan, and those
from around Tyre and Sidon.
A great multitude, hearing
what great things he did,
came to him. 9 He spoke
to his disciples that a little
boat should stay near him
because of the crowd, so
that they wouldn't press on
him. 10 For he had healed
many, so that as many as had
diseases pressed on him that
they might touch him. 11 The
unclean spirits, whenever
they saw him, fell down
before him and cried, "You
are the Son of God!" 12 He
sternly warned them that
they should not make him
known.
13 He went up into the
mountain and called to
himself those whom he
wanted, and they went to
him. 14 He appointed twelve,
that they might be with him,
and that he might send them
out to preach 15 and to have
authority to heal sicknesses
and to cast out demons:
16 Simon (to whom he gave
the name Peter); 17 James
the son of Zebedee; and
John, the brother of James,
(whom he called Boanerges,
which means, Sons of Thun-
der); 18 Andrew; Philip;
Bartholomew; Matthew;
Thomas; James, the son of
Alphaeus; Thaddaeus; Simon
the Zealot; 19 and Judas
Iscariot, who also betrayed
him.

Then he came into a
house. 20 The multitude came
together again, so that they
could not so much as eat
bread. 21 When his friends
heard it, they went out to
seize him; for they said, "He
is insane." 22 The scribes who
came down from Jerusalem
said, "He has Beelzebul,"
and, "By the prince of the
demons he casts out the
demons."

23 He summoned them and
said to them in parables,
"How can Satan cast out
Satan? 24 **If a kingdom is**
divided against itself, that
kingdom cannot stand.
25 **If a house is divided**
against itself, that house
cannot stand. 26 **If**
Satan has risen up against
himself, and is divided, he
can't stand, but has an end.
27 **But no one can enter into**
the house of the strong
man to plunder unless he
first binds the strong man;
then he will plunder his
house.

28 **"Most certainly I tell**
you, all sins of the descen-
dants of man will be for-
given, including their blas-
phemies with which they
may blaspheme; 29 **but**
whoever may blaspheme
against the Holy Spirit
never has forgiveness,
but is subject to eternal
condemnation."* 30 —
because they said, "He has an
unclean spirit."

* **3:29** NU reads, guilty of an eternal sin.

31 His mother and his
brothers came, and standing
outside, they sent to him,
calling him. 32 A multitude
was sitting around him, and
they told him, "Behold, your
mother, your brothers, and
your sisters† are outside
looking for you."
33 He answered them,
**"Who are my mother and
my brothers?"** 34 Looking
around at those who sat
around him, he said, **"Be-
hold, my mother and my
brothers! 35 For whoever
does the will of God is my
brother, my sister, and
mother."**

4

1 Again he began to teach
by the seaside. A great mul-
titude was gathered to him,
so that he entered into a
boat in the sea and sat down.
All the multitude were on
the land by the sea. 2 He
taught them many things in
parables, and told them in
his teaching, 3 **"Listen! Be-
hold, the farmer went out
to sow. 4 As he sowed,
some seed fell by the road,
and the birds* came and
devoured it. 5 Others
fell on the rocky ground,
where it had little soil, and
immediately it sprang up,
because it had no depth of
soil. 6 When the sun had
risen, it was scorched; and
because it had no root, it
withered away. 7 Others
fell among the thorns, and
the thorns grew up and
choked it, and it yielded no
fruit. 8 Others fell into the
good ground and yielded
fruit, growing up and in-
creasing. Some produced
thirty times, some sixty
times, and some one hun-
dred times as much."** 9 He
said, **"Whoever has ears to
hear, let him hear."**
10 When he was alone,
those who were around him
with the twelve asked him
about the parables. 11 He
said to them, **"To you is
given the mystery of God's
Kingdom, but to those who
are outside, all things are
done in parables, 12 that
'seeing they may see and
not perceive, and hearing
they may hear and not
understand, lest perhaps
they should turn again,
and their sins should be
forgiven them.' "**✡
13 He said to them, **"Don't
you understand this para-
ble? How will you under-
stand all of the parables?
14 The farmer sows the
word. 15 The ones by the
road are the ones where
the word is sown; and
when they have heard,
immediately Satan comes
and takes away the word
which has been sown in
them. 16 These in the
same way are those who
are sown on the rocky
places, who, when they
have heard the word,
immediately receive it
with joy. 17 They have
no root in themselves, but**

† **3:32** TR omits "your sisters" * **4:4** TR adds "of the air" ✡ **4:12** Isaiah 6:9-10

are short-lived. When oppression or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they stumble.
18 **Others are those who are sown among the thorns. These are those who have heard the word,** 19 **and the cares of this age, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.** 20 **Those which were sown on the good ground are those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit, some thirty times, some sixty times, and some one hundred times."**

21 He said to them, **"Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket † or under a bed? Isn't it put on a stand?**
22 **For there is nothing hidden except that it should be made known, neither was anything made secret but that it should come to light.** 23 **If any man has ears to hear, let him hear."**

24 He said to them, **"Take heed what you hear. With whatever measure you measure, it will be measured to you; and more will be given to you who hear.**
25 **For whoever has, to him more will be given; and he who doesn't have, even that which he has will be taken away from him."**

26 He said, **"God's Kingdom is as if a man should cast seed on the earth,**
27 **and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, though he doesn't know how.** 28 **For the earth bears fruit by itself: first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.** 29 **But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."**

30 He said, **"How will we liken God's Kingdom? Or with what parable will we illustrate it?** 31 **It's like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, though it is less than all the seeds that are on the earth,** 32 **yet when it is sown, grows up and becomes greater than all the herbs, and puts out great branches, so that the birds of the sky can lodge under its shadow."**

33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. 34 Without a parable he didn't speak to them; but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, **"Let's go over to the other side."** 36 Leaving the multitude, they took him with them, even as he was, in the boat. Other small boats were also with him.
37 A big wind storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that the boat was already filled. 38 He

† **4:21** literally, a modion, a dry measuring basket containing about a peck (about 9 liters)

himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and asked him, "Teacher, don't you care that we are dying?"

39 He awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, **"Peace! Be still!"** The wind ceased and there was a great calm. 40 He said to them, **"Why are you so afraid? How is it that you have no faith?"**

41 They were greatly afraid and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

5

1 They came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. 2 When he had come out of the boat, immediately a man with an unclean spirit met him out of the tombs. 3 He lived in the tombs. Nobody could bind him any more, not even with chains, 4 because he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him, and the fetters broken in pieces. Nobody had the strength to tame him. 5 Always, night and day, in the tombs and in the mountains, he was crying out, and cutting himself with stones. 6 When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and bowed down to him, 7 and crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have I to do with you, Jesus, you Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, don't torment me." 8 For he said to him, **"Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!"**

9 He asked him, **"What is your name?"**

He said to him, "My name is Legion, for we are many." 10 He begged him much that he would not send them away out of the country. 11 Now on the mountainside there was a great herd of pigs feeding. 12 All the demons begged him, saying, "Send us into the pigs, that we may enter into them."

13 At once Jesus gave them permission. The unclean spirits came out and entered into the pigs. The herd of about two thousand rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and they were drowned in the sea. 14 Those who fed the pigs fled, and told it in the city and in the country.

The people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 They came to Jesus, and saw him who had been possessed by demons sitting, clothed, and in his right mind, even him who had the legion; and they were afraid. 16 Those who saw it declared to them what happened to him who was possessed by demons, and about the pigs. 17 They began to beg him to depart from their region.

18 As he was entering into the boat, he who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 He didn't allow him, but said to him, **"Go to your house, to your friends, and**

tell them what great things the Lord has done for you and how he had mercy on you."

20 He went his way, and began to proclaim in Decapolis how Jesus had done great things for him, and everyone marveled.

21 When Jesus had crossed back over in the boat to the other side, a great multitude was gathered to him; and he was by the sea. 22 Behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, came; and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 and begged him much, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Please come and lay your hands on her, that she may be made healthy, and live."

24 He went with him, and a great multitude followed him, and they pressed upon him on all sides. 25 A certain woman who had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and had suffered many things by many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better, but rather grew worse, 27 having heard the things concerning Jesus, came up behind him in the crowd and touched his clothes. 28 For she said, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be made well." 29 Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction.

30 Immediately Jesus, perceiving in himself that the power had gone out from him, turned around in the crowd and asked, **"Who touched my clothes?"**

31 His disciples said to him, "You see the multitude pressing against you, and you say, 'Who touched me?' "

32 He looked around to see her who had done this thing. 33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had been done to her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.

34 He said to her, **"Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be cured of your disease."**

35 While he was still speaking, people came from the synagogue ruler's house, saying, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher any more?"

36 But Jesus, when he heard the message spoken, immediately said to the ruler of the synagogue, **"Don't be afraid, only believe."** 37 He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. 38 He came to the synagogue ruler's house, and he saw an uproar, weeping, and great wailing. 39 When he had entered in, he said to them, **"Why do you make an uproar and weep? The child is not dead, but is asleep."**

40 They ridiculed him. But he, having put them all out, took the father of the child, her mother, and those who were with him, and went in

where the child was lying. 41 Taking the child by the hand, he said to her, **"Talitha cumi!"** which means, being interpreted, **"Girl, I tell you, get up!"** 42 Immediately the girl rose up and walked, for she was twelve years old. They were amazed with great amazement. 43 He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and commanded that something should be given to her to eat.

6

1 He went out from there. He came into his own country, and his disciples followed him. 2 When the Sabbath had come, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many hearing him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things?" and, "What is the wisdom that is given to this man, that such mighty works come about by his hands? 3 Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James, Joses, Judah, and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" So they were offended at him.

4 Jesus said to them, **"A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his own relatives, and in his own house."** 5 He could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6 He marveled because of their unbelief.

He went around the villages teaching. 7 He called to himself the twelve, and began to send them out two by two; and he gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8 He commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a staff only: no bread, no wallet, no money in their purse, 9 but to wear sandals, and not put on two tunics. 10 He said to them, **"Wherever you enter into a house, stay there until you depart from there.** 11 **Whoever will not receive you nor hear you, as you depart from there, shake off the dust that is under your feet for a testimony against them. Assuredly, I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!"**

12 They went out and preached that people should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed many with oil who were sick and healed them. 14 King Herod heard this, for his name had become known, and he said, "John the Baptizer has risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." 15 But others said, "He is Elijah." Others said, "He is a prophet, or like one of the prophets." 16 But Herod, when he heard this, said, "This is John, whom I beheaded. He has risen from the dead." 17 For Herod himself had sent out and arrested John and bound

him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, for he had married her. 18 For John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 Herodias set herself against him and desired to kill him, but she couldn't, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he did many things, and he heard him gladly.

21 Then a convenient day came when Herod on his birthday made a supper for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. 22 When the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and those sitting with him. The king said to the young lady, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you." 23 He swore to her, "Whatever you ask of me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom."

24 She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?"

She said, "The head of John the Baptizer."

25 She came in immediately with haste to the king and requested, "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptizer on a platter."

26 The king was exceedingly sorry, but for the sake of his oaths and of his dinner guests, he didn't wish to refuse her. 27 Immediately the king sent out a soldier of his guard and commanded to bring John's head; and he went and beheaded him in the prison, 28 and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the young lady; and the young lady gave it to her mother.

29 When his disciples heard this, they came and took up his corpse and laid it in a tomb.

30 The apostles gathered themselves together to Jesus, and they told him all things, whatever they had done, and whatever they had taught. 31 He said to them, **"Come away into a deserted place, and rest awhile."** For there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat. 32 They went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. 33 They* saw them going, and many recognized him and ran there on foot from all the cities. They arrived before them and came together to him. 34 Jesus came out, saw a great multitude, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. 35 When it was late in the day, his disciples came to him and said, "This place is deserted, and it is late in

* **6:33** TR reads "The multitudes" instead of "They"

the day. 36 Send them away,
that they may go into the
surrounding country and
villages and buy themselves
bread, for they have nothing
to eat."

37 But he answered them,
**"You give them something
to eat."**

They asked him, "Shall we
go and buy two hundred
denarii† worth of bread and
give them something to eat?"

38 He said to them, **"How
many loaves do you have?
Go see."**

When they knew, they
said, "Five, and two fish."

39 He commanded them
that everyone should sit
down in groups on the green
grass. 40 They sat down in
ranks, by hundreds and by
fifties. 41 He took the five
loaves and the two fish; and
looking up to heaven, he
blessed and broke the loaves,
and he gave to his disciples
to set before them, and he
divided the two fish among
them all. 42 They all ate and
were filled. 43 They took up
twelve baskets full of broken
pieces and also of the fish.
44 Those who ate the loaves
were‡ five thousand men.

45 Immediately he made his
disciples get into the boat and
go ahead to the other side,
to Bethsaida, while he him-
self sent the multitude away.
46 After he had taken leave of
them, he went up the moun-
tain to pray.

47 When evening had come,
the boat was in the middle
of the sea, and he was alone
on the land. 48 Seeing them
distressed in rowing, for the
wind was contrary to them,
about the fourth watch of
the night he came to them,
walking on the sea; ✡ and
he would have passed by
them, 49 but they, when they
saw him walking on the sea,
supposed that it was a ghost,
and cried out; 50 for they all
saw him and were troubled.
But he immediately spoke
with them and said to them,
**"Cheer up! It is I!§ Don't
be afraid."** 51 He got into the
boat with them; and the wind
ceased, and they were very
amazed among themselves,
and marveled; 52 for they
hadn't understood about the
loaves, but their hearts were
hardened.

53 When they had crossed
over, they came to land at
Gennesaret and moored to
the shore. 54 When they
had come out of the boat,
immediately the people
recognized him, 55 and ran
around that whole region,
and began to bring those who
were sick on their mats to
where they heard he was.
56 Wherever he entered —
into villages, or into cities, or
into the country —they laid
the sick in the marketplaces
and begged him that they
might just touch the fringe*
of his garment; and as many

† **6:37** 200 denarii was about 7 or 8 months wages for an agricultural laborer.
‡ **6:44** TR adds "about" ✡ **6:48** See Job 9:8 § **6:50** or, "I AM!" * **6:56** or, tassel

as touched him were made well.

7

1 Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered together to him, having come from Jerusalem. 2 Now when they saw some of his disciples eating bread with defiled, that is unwashed, hands, they found fault. 3 (For the Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat unless they wash their hands and forearms, holding to the tradition of the elders. 4 They don't eat when they come from the marketplace unless they bathe themselves, and there are many other things which they have received to hold to: washings of cups, pitchers, bronze vessels, and couches.) 5 The Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why don't your disciples walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with unwashed hands?"

6 He answered them, **"Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,**

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me.
7 **They worship me in vain,**
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'✡

8 **"For you set aside the commandment of God, and hold tightly to the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things."** 9 He said to them, **"Full well do you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.** 10 **For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother;'**✡ **and, 'He who speaks evil of father or mother, let him be put to death.'**✡ 11 **But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever profit you might have received from me is Corban," ' "*** that is to say, given to God, 12 **"then you no longer allow him to do anything for his father or his mother,** 13 **making void the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down. You do many things like this."**

14 He called all the multitude to himself and said to them, **"Hear me, all of you, and understand.** 15 **There is nothing from outside of the man that going into him can defile him; but the things which proceed out of the man are those that defile the man.** 16 **If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!"**†

17 When he had entered into a house away from the multitude, his disciples asked him about the parable. 18 He said to them, **"Are you also without understanding? Don't you perceive that**

✡ **7:7** Isaiah 29:13 ✡ **7:10** Exodus 20:12; Deuteronomy 5:16 ✡ **7:10** Exodus 21:17; Leviticus 20:9 * **7:11** Corban is a Hebrew word for an offering devoted to God. † **7:16** NU omits verse 16.

whatever goes into the man from outside can't defile him, 19 **because it doesn't go into his heart, but into his stomach, then into the latrine, making all foods clean?"**‡ 20 He said, **"That which proceeds out of the man, that defiles the man.** 21 **For from within, out of the hearts of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, sexual sins, murders, thefts,** 22 **coveting, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, and foolishness.** 23 **All these evil things come from within and defile the man."**

24 From there he arose and went away into the borders of Tyre and Sidon. He entered into a house and didn't want anyone to know it, but he couldn't escape notice. 25 For a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit, having heard of him, came and fell down at his feet. 26 Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophoenician by race. She begged him that he would cast the demon out of her daughter. 27 But Jesus said to her, **"Let the children be filled first, for it is not appropriate to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."**

28 But she answered him, "Yes, Lord. Yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

29 He said to her, **"For this saying, go your way. The demon has gone out of your daughter."**

30 She went away to her house, and found the child having been laid on the bed, with the demon gone out.

31 Again he departed from the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and came to the sea of Galilee through the middle of the region of Decapolis. 32 They brought to him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech. They begged him to lay his hand on him. 33 He took him aside from the multitude privately and put his fingers into his ears; and he spat and touched his tongue. 34 Looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, **"Ephphatha!"** that is, **"Be opened!"** 35 Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was released, and he spoke clearly. 36 He commanded them that they should tell no one, but the more he commanded them, so much the more widely they proclaimed it. 37 They were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes even the deaf hear and the mute speak!"

8

1 In those days, when there was a very great multitude,

‡ **7:19** NU ends Jesus' direct quote and question after "latrine", ending the verse with "Thus he declared all foods clean.

and they had nothing to eat,
Jesus called his disciples to
himself and said to them,
2 **“I have compassion on
the multitude, because
they have stayed with me
now three days and have
nothing to eat.** 3 **If I send
them away fasting to their
home, they will faint on
the way, for some of them
have come a long way.”**

4 His disciples answered
him, “From where could one
satisfy these people with
bread here in a deserted
place?”

5 He asked them, **“How
many loaves do you have?”**

They said, “Seven.”

6 He commanded the
multitude to sit down on
the ground, and he took the
seven loaves. Having given
thanks, he broke them and
gave them to his disciples to
serve, and they served the
multitude. 7 They also had
a few small fish. Having
blessed them, he said to
serve these also. 8 They ate
and were filled. They took
up seven baskets of broken
pieces that were left over.
9 Those who had eaten were
about four thousand. Then
he sent them away.

10 Immediately he entered
into the boat with his disci-
ples and came into the re-
gion of Dalmanutha. 11 The
Pharisees came out and be-
gan to question him, seek-
ing from him a sign from
heaven and testing him. 12 He
sighed deeply in his spirit
and said, **“Why does this
generation* seek a sign?
Most certainly I tell you, no
sign will be given to this
generation.”**

13 He left them, and again
entering into the boat, de-
parted to the other side.
14 They forgot to take bread;
and they didn’t have more
than one loaf in the boat
with them. 15 He warned
them, saying, **“Take heed:
beware of the yeast of the
Pharisees and the yeast of
Herod.”**

16 They reasoned with one
another, saying, “It’s because
we have no bread.”

17 Jesus, perceiving it,
said to them, **“Why do you
reason that it’s because
you have no bread? Don’t
you perceive yet or under-
stand? Is your heart still
hardened?** 18 **Having eyes,
don’t you see? Having
ears, don’t you hear? Don’t
you remember?** 19 **When
I broke the five loaves
among the five thousand,
how many baskets full of
broken pieces did you take
up?”**

They told him, “Twelve.”

20 **“When the seven
loaves fed the four thou-
sand, how many baskets
full of broken pieces did
you take up?”**

They told him, “Seven.”

21 He asked them, **“Don’t
you understand yet?”**

* **8:12** The word translated “generation” here (genea) could also be translated “people”, “race”, or “family”.

22 He came to Bethsaida. They brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. 23 He took hold of the blind man by the hand, and brought him out of the village. When he had spat on his eyes, and laid his hands on him, he asked him if he saw anything.

24 He looked up, and said, "I see men, but I see them like walking trees."

25 Then again he laid his hands on his eyes. He looked intently, and was restored, and saw everyone clearly. 26 He sent him away to his house, saying, **"Don't enter into the village, nor tell anyone in the village."**

27 Jesus went out, with his disciples, into the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, **"Who do men say that I am?"**

28 They told him, "John the Baptizer, and others say Elijah, but others, one of the prophets."

29 He said to them, **"But who do you say that I am?"**

Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

30 He commanded them that they should tell no one about him. 31 He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke to them openly. Peter took him and began to rebuke him. 33 But he, turning around and seeing his disciples, rebuked Peter, and said, **"Get behind me, Satan! For you have in mind not the things of God, but the things of men."**

34 He called the multitude to himself with his disciples and said to them, **"Whoever wants to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; and whoever will lose his life for my sake and the sake of the Good News will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? 37 For what will a man give in exchange for his life? 38 For whoever will be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man also will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."**

9

1 He said to them, **"Most certainly I tell you, there are some standing here who will in no way taste death until they see God's Kingdom come with power."**

2 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, and brought them up onto a high mountain privately by themselves, and he was changed into another form in front of them. 3 His clothing became glistening, exceedingly white, like snow,

such as no launderer on earth can whiten them.
4 Elijah and Moses appeared to them, and they were talking with Jesus.

5 Peter answered Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let's make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 6 For he didn't know what to say, for they were very afraid.

7 A cloud came, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

8 Suddenly looking around, they saw no one with them any more, except Jesus only.

9 As they were coming down from the mountain, he commanded them that they should tell no one what things they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
10 They kept this saying to themselves, questioning what the "rising from the dead" meant.

11 They asked him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

12 He said to them, **"Elijah indeed comes first, and restores all things. How is it written about the Son of Man, that he should suffer many things and be despised?** 13 **But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they have also done to him whatever they wanted to, even as it is written about him."**

14 Coming to the disciples, he saw a great multitude around them, and scribes questioning them.
15 Immediately all the multitude, when they saw him, were greatly amazed, and running to him, greeted him. 16 He asked the scribes, **"What are you asking them?"**

17 One of the multitude answered, "Teacher, I brought to you my son, who has a mute spirit; 18 and wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they weren't able."

19 He answered him, **"Unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to me."**

20 They brought him to him, and when he saw him, immediately the spirit convulsed him and he fell on the ground, wallowing and foaming at the mouth.

21 He asked his father, **"How long has it been since this has been happening to him?"**

He said, "From childhood.
22 Often it has cast him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

23 Jesus said to him, **"If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."**

24 Immediately the father
of the child cried out with
tears, "I believe. Help my
unbelief!"
25 When Jesus saw that a
multitude came running to-
gether, he rebuked the un-
clean spirit, saying to him,
**"You mute and deaf spirit,
I command you, come out
of him, and never enter
him again!"**
26 After crying out and con-
vulsing him greatly, it came
out of him. The boy became
like one dead, so much that
most of them said, "He is
dead." 27 But Jesus took him
by the hand and raised him
up; and he arose.
28 When he had come into
the house, his disciples asked
him privately, "Why couldn't
we cast it out?"
29 He said to them, **"This
kind can come out by noth-
ing but by prayer and fast-
ing."**
30 They went out from
there and passed through
Galilee. He didn't want
anyone to know it, 31 for he
was teaching his disciples,
and said to them, **"The Son
of Man is being handed
over to the hands of men,
and they will kill him;
and when he is killed, on
the third day he will rise
again."**
32 But they didn't under-
stand the saying, and were
afraid to ask him.
33 He came to Capernaum,
and when he was in the
house he asked them, **"What
were you arguing among
yourselves on the way?"**
34 But they were silent, for
they had disputed with one
another on the way about
who was the greatest.
35 He sat down and called
the twelve; and he said to
them, **"If any man wants
to be first, he shall be last
of all, and servant of all."**
36 He took a little child and set
him in the middle of them.
Taking him in his arms, he
said to them, 37 **"Whoever
receives one such little
child in my name receives
me; and whoever receives
me, doesn't receive me,
but him who sent me."**
38 John said to him,
"Teacher, we saw someone
who doesn't follow us casting
out demons in your name;
and we forbade him, because
he doesn't follow us."
39 But Jesus said, **"Don't
forbid him, for there is no
one who will do a mighty
work in my name and be
able quickly to speak evil
of me.** 40 **For whoever
is not against us is on our
side.** 41 **For whoever will
give you a cup of water to
drink in my name because
you are Christ's, most cer-
tainly I tell you, he will in
no way lose his reward.**
42 **"Whoever will cause
one of these little ones who
believe in me to stumble,
it would be better for him
if he were thrown into the
sea with a millstone hung
around his neck.** 43 **If
your hand causes you to
stumble, cut it off. It is**

better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having your two hands to go into Gehenna, * **into the unquenchable fire,** 44 **'where their worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched.'** ✡† 45 **If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life lame, rather than having your two feet to be cast into Gehenna,** ‡ **into the fire that will never be quenched—** 46 **'where their worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched.'** § 47 **If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out. It is better for you to enter into God's Kingdom with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Gehenna* of fire,** 48 **'where their worm doesn't die, and the fire is not quenched.'** ✡ 49 **For everyone will be salted with fire, and every sacrifice will be seasoned with salt.** 50 **Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, with what will you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."**

10

1 He arose from there and came into the borders of Judea and beyond the Jordan. Multitudes came together to him again. As he usually did, he was again teaching them.

2 Pharisees came to him testing him, and asked him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

3 He answered, **"What did Moses command you?"**

4 They said, "Moses allowed a certificate of divorce to be written, and to divorce her."

5 But Jesus said to them, **"For your hardness of heart, he wrote you this commandment.** 6 **But from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female.**✡ 7 **For this cause a man will leave his father and mother, and will join to his wife,** 8 **and the two will become one flesh,**✡ **so that they are no longer two, but one flesh.** 9 **What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."**

10 In the house, his disciples asked him again about the same matter. 11 He said to them, **"Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her.** 12 **If a woman herself divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."**

13 They were bringing to him little children, that he should touch them, but the disciples rebuked those who were bringing them. 14 But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation and

* **9:43** or, Hell ✡ **9:44** Isaiah 66:24 † **9:44** NU omits verse 44. ‡ **9:45** or, Hell § **9:46** NU omits verse 46. * **9:47** or, Hell ✡ **9:48** Isaiah 66:24 ✡ **10:6** Genesis 1:27 ✡ **10:8** Genesis 2:24

said to them, **“Allow the little children to come to me! Don’t forbid them, for God’s Kingdom belongs to such as these.** 15 **Most certainly I tell you, whoever will not receive God’s Kingdom like a little child, he will in no way enter into it.”** 16 He took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

17 As he was going out into the way, one ran to him, knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”

18 Jesus said to him, **“Why do you call me good? No one is good except one — God.** 19 **You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not give false testimony,’ ‘Do not defraud,’ ‘Honor your father and mother.’ ”**✡

20 He said to him, “Teacher, I have observed all these things from my youth.”

21 Jesus looking at him loved him, and said to him, **“One thing you lack. Go, sell whatever you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me, taking up the cross.”**

22 But his face fell at that saying, and he went away sorrowful, for he was one who had great possessions.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, **“How difficult it is for those who have riches to enter into God’s Kingdom!”**

24 The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus answered again, **“Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter into God’s Kingdom!** 25 **It is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for a rich man to enter into God’s Kingdom.”**

26 They were exceedingly astonished, saying to him, “Then who can be saved?”

27 Jesus, looking at them, said, **“With men it is impossible, but not with God, for all things are possible with God.”**

28 Peter began to tell him, “Behold, we have left all and have followed you.”

29 Jesus said, **“Most certainly I tell you, there is no one who has left house, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or land, for my sake, and for the sake of the Good News,** 30 **but he will receive one hundred times more now in this time: houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land, with persecutions; and in the age to come eternal life.** 31 **But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”**

32 They were on the way, going up to Jerusalem; and Jesus was going in front of them, and they were amazed; and those who followed were afraid. He again took the

✡ **10:19** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20

twelve, and began to tell them the things that were going to happen to him. 33 **"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes. They will condemn him to death, and will deliver him to the Gentiles.** 34 **They will mock him, spit on him, scourge him, and kill him. On the third day he will rise again."**

35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came near to him, saying, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we will ask."

36 He said to them, **"What do you want me to do for you?"**

37 They said to him, "Grant to us that we may sit, one at your right hand and one at your left hand, in your glory."

38 But Jesus said to them, **"You don't know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"**

39 They said to him, "We are able."

Jesus said to them, **"You shall indeed drink the cup that I drink, and you shall be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with;** 40 **but to sit at my right hand and at my left hand is not mine to give, but for whom it has been prepared."**

41 When the ten heard it, they began to be indignant toward James and John.

42 Jesus summoned them and said to them, **"You know that they who are recognized as rulers over the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.** 43 **But it shall not be so among you, but whoever wants to become great among you shall be your servant.** 44 **Whoever of you wants to become first among you shall be bondservant of all.** 45 **For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

46 They came to Jericho. As he went out from Jericho with his disciples and a great multitude, the son of Timaeus, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the road. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, you son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Many rebuked him, that he should be quiet, but he cried out much more, "You son of David, have mercy on me!"

49 Jesus stood still and said, **"Call him."**

They called the blind man, saying to him, "Cheer up! Get up. He is calling you!"

50 He, casting away his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.

51 Jesus asked him, **“What do you want me to do for you?”**

The blind man said to him, “Rabboni,* that I may see again.”

52 Jesus said to him, **“Go your way. Your faith has made you well.”** Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the way.

11

1 When they came near to Jerusalem, to Bethsphage* and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples 2 and said to them, **“Go your way into the village that is opposite you. Immediately as you enter into it, you will find a young donkey tied, on which no one has sat. Untie him and bring him.** 3 **If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs him;’ and immediately he will send him back here.”**

4 They went away, and found a young donkey tied at the door outside in the open street, and they untied him. 5 Some of those who stood there asked them, “What are you doing, untying the young donkey?” 6 They said to them just as Jesus had said, and they let them go.

7 They brought the young donkey to Jesus and threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it. 8 Many spread their garments on the way, and others were cutting down branches from the trees and spreading them on the road. 9 Those who went in front and those who followed cried out, “Hosanna!† Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!✡ 10 Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

11 Jesus entered into the temple in Jerusalem. When he had looked around at everything, it being now evening, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

12 The next day, when they had come out from Bethany, he was hungry. 13 Seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came to see if perhaps he might find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 Jesus told it, **“May no one ever eat fruit from you again!”** and his disciples heard it.

15 They came to Jerusalem, and Jesus entered into the temple and began to throw out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and overthrew the money changers’ tables and the seats of those who sold the doves. 16 He would not allow

* **10:51** Rabboni is a transliteration of the Hebrew word for “great teacher.”

* **11:1** TR & NU read “Bethphage” instead of “Bethsphage” † **11:9** “Hosanna” means “save us” or “help us, we pray”. ✡ **11:9** Psalm 118:25-26

anyone to carry a container through the temple. 17 He taught, saying to them, **"Isn't it written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all the nations?'✡ But you have made it a den of robbers!"✡**

18 The chief priests and the scribes heard it, and sought how they might destroy him. For they feared him, because all the multitude was astonished at his teaching.

19 When evening came, he went out of the city. 20 As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away from the roots. 21 Peter, remembering, said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which you cursed has withered away."

22 Jesus answered them, **"Have faith in God.** 23 **For most certainly I tell you, whoever may tell this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and doesn't doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is happening, he shall have whatever he says.** 24 **Therefore I tell you, all things whatever you pray and ask for, believe that you have received them, and you shall have them.** 25 **Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father, who is in heaven, may also forgive you your transgressions.** 26 **But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your transgressions."‡**

27 They came again to Jerusalem, and as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders came to him, 28 and they began saying to him, "By what authority do you do these things? Or who gave you this authority to do these things?"

29 Jesus said to them, **"I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.** 30 **The baptism of John—was it from heaven, or from men? Answer me."**

31 They reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we should say, 'From heaven;' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 32 If we should say, 'From men' "—they feared the people, for all held John to really be a prophet. 33 They answered Jesus, "We don't know."

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

12

1 He began to speak to them in parables. **"A man planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a pit for the wine press, built a tower, rented it out to**

✡ **11:17** Isaiah 56:7 ✡ **11:17** Jeremiah 7:11 ‡ **11:26** NU omits verse 26.

a farmer, and went into another country. 2 **When it was time, he sent a servant to the farmer to get from the farmer his share of the fruit of the vineyard.** 3 **They took him, beat him, and sent him away empty.** 4 **Again, he sent another servant to them; and they threw stones at him, wounded him in the head, and sent him away shamefully treated.** 5 **Again he sent another, and they killed him, and many others, beating some, and killing some.** 6 **Therefore still having one, his beloved son, he sent him last to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'** 7 **But those farmers said among themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'** 8 **They took him, killed him, and cast him out of the vineyard.** 9 **What therefore will the lord of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the farmers, and will give the vineyard to others.** 10 **Haven't you even read this Scripture:**

'The stone which the builders rejected
was made the head of the corner.
11 **This was from the Lord.**
It is marvelous in our eyes'?"✡

12 They tried to seize him, but they feared the multitude; for they perceived that he spoke the parable against them. They left him and went away. 13 They sent some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to him, that they might trap him with words. 14 When they had come, they asked him, "Teacher, we know that you are honest, and don't defer to anyone; for you aren't partial to anyone, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? 15 Shall we give, or shall we not give?"

But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, **"Why do you test me? Bring me a denarius, that I may see it."**

16 They brought it.

He said to them, **"Whose is this image and inscription?"**

They said to him, "Caesar's."

17 Jesus answered them, **"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."**

They marveled greatly at him.

18 Some Sadducees, who say that there is no resurrection, came to him. They asked him, saying, 19 "Teacher, Moses wrote to us, 'If a man's brother dies and leaves a wife behind him, and leaves no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.'

✡ **12:11** Psalm 118:22-23

20 There were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and
dying left no offspring. 21 The
second took her, and died,
leaving no children behind
him. The third likewise;
22 and the seven took her and
left no children. Last of all
the woman also died. 23 In
the resurrection, when they
rise, whose wife will she be
of them? For the seven had
her as a wife."

24 Jesus answered them,
**"Isn't this because you are
mistaken, not knowing the
Scriptures nor the power
of God? 25 For when they
will rise from the dead,
they neither marry nor
are given in marriage, but
are like angels in heaven.
26 But about the dead, that
they are raised, haven't
you read in the book of
Moses about the Bush,
how God spoke to him,
saying, 'I am the God of
Abraham, the God of Isaac,
and the God of Jacob'?✡
27 He is not the God of the
dead, but of the living.
You are therefore badly
mistaken."**

28 One of the scribes came
and heard them questioning
together, and knowing that
he had answered them well,
asked him, "Which commandment is the greatest of
all?"

29 Jesus answered, **"The
greatest is: 'Hear, Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord
is one. 30 You shall love
the Lord your God with
all your heart, with all
your soul, with all your
mind, and with all your
strength.'✡ This is the first
commandment. 31 The
second is like this: 'You
shall love your neighbor
as yourself.'✡ There is
no other commandment
greater than these."**

32 The scribe said to him,
"Truly, teacher, you have
said well that he is one, and
there is none other but he;
33 and to love him with all
the heart, with all the understanding, all the soul, and
with all the strength, and to
love his neighbor as himself,
is more important than all
whole burnt offerings and
sacrifices."

34 When Jesus saw that he
answered wisely, he said to
him, **"You are not far from
God's Kingdom."**

No one dared ask him any
question after that. 35 Jesus
responded, as he taught in
the temple, **"How is it that
the scribes say that the
Christ is the son of David?
36 For David himself said in
the Holy Spirit,**

**'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies the footstool of
your feet." '✡**

37 **Therefore David himself calls him Lord, so how
can he be his son?"**

The common people heard
him gladly. 38 In his teaching he said to them, **"Beware
of the scribes, who like to**

✡ **12:26** Exodus 3:6 ✡ **12:30** Deuteronomy 6:4-5 ✡ **12:31** Leviticus 19:18
✡ **12:36** Psalm 110:1

walk in long robes, and to get greetings in the marketplaces, 39 **and to get the best seats in the synagogues and the best places at feasts,** 40 **those who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."**

41 Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and saw how the multitude cast money into the treasury. Many who were rich cast in much. 42 A poor widow came and she cast in two small brass coins,* which equal a quadrans coin.† 43 He called his disciples to himself and said to them, **"Most certainly I tell you, this poor widow gave more than all those who are giving into the treasury,** 44 **for they all gave out of their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, gave all that she had to live on."**

13

1 As he went out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Teacher, see what kind of stones and what kind of buildings!"

2 Jesus said to him, **"Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone on another, which will not be thrown down."**

3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 4 "Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are all about to be fulfilled?"

5 Jesus, answering, began to tell them, **"Be careful that no one leads you astray.** 6 **For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!'*** **and will lead many astray.**

7 **"When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, don't be troubled. For those must happen, but the end is not yet.** 8 **For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines and troubles. These things are the beginning of birth pains.**

9 **"But watch yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils. You will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony to them.** 10 **The Good News must first be preached to all the nations.** 11 **When they lead you away and deliver you up, don't be anxious beforehand or premeditate what you will say, but say whatever will be given you in that hour.**

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* **12:42** literally, lepta (or widow's mites). Lepta are very small brass coins worth half a quadrans each, which is a quarter of the copper assarion. Lepta are worth less than 1% of an agricultural worker's daily wages. † **12:42** A quadrans is a coin worth about 1/64 of a denarius. A denarius is about one day's wages for an agricultural laborer. * **13:6** or, "I AM!"

For it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

12 **"Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child. Children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.** 13 **You will be hated by all men for my name's sake, but he who endures to the end will be saved.**

14 **"But when you see the abomination of desolation,✡ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing where it ought not"** (let the reader understand), **"then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains,** 15 **and let him who is on the housetop not go down, nor enter in, to take anything out of his house.** 16 **Let him who is in the field not return back to take his cloak.** 17 **But woe to those who are with child and to those who nurse babies in those days!** 18 **Pray that your flight won't be in the winter.** 19 **For in those days there will be oppression, such as there has not been the like from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will be.** 20 **Unless the Lord had shortened the days, no flesh would have been saved; but for the sake of the chosen ones, whom he picked out, he shortened the days.** 21 **Then if anyone tells you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there!' don't believe it.** 22 **For false christs and false prophets will arise and will show signs and wonders, that they may lead astray, if possible, even the chosen ones.** 23 **But you watch.**

"Behold, I have told you all things beforehand. 24 **But in those days, after that oppression, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light,** 25 **the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken.✡** 26 **Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.** 27 **Then he will send out his angels, and will gather together his chosen ones from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the sky.**

28 **"Now from the fig tree, learn this parable. When the branch has now become tender and produces its leaves, you know that the summer is near;** 29 **even so you also, when you see these things coming to pass, know that it is near, at the doors.** 30 **Most certainly I say to you, this generation† will not pass away until all these things happen.** 31 **Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words**

✡ **13:14** Daniel 9:17; 11:31; 12:11 ✡ **13:25** Isaiah 13:10; 34:4 † **13:30** The word translated "generation" (genea) could also be translated "race", "family", or "people".

will not pass away.
32 **"But of that day or that hour no one knows —not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.** 33 **Watch, keep alert, and pray; for you don't know when the time is.**
34 **"It is like a man traveling to another country, having left his house and given authority to his servants, and to each one his work, and also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch.** 35 **Watch therefore, for you don't know when the lord of the house is coming—whether at evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning;** 36 **lest, coming suddenly, he might find you sleeping.** 37 **What I tell you, I tell all: Watch!"**

14

1 It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might seize him by deception and kill him. 2 For they said, "Not during the feast, because there might be a riot among the people."

3 While he was at Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster jar of ointment of pure nard—very costly. She broke the jar and poured it over his head. 4 But there were some who were indignant among themselves, saying, "Why has this ointment been wasted? 5 For this might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii* and given to the poor." So they grumbled against her.

6 But Jesus said, **"Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for me.** 7 **For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want to, you can do them good; but you will not always have me.** 8 **She has done what she could. She has anointed my body beforehand for the burying.** 9 **Most certainly I tell you, wherever this Good News may be preached throughout the whole world, that which this woman has done will also be spoken of for a memorial of her."**

10 Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went away to the chief priests, that he might deliver him to them. 11 They, when they heard it, were glad, and promised to give him money. He sought how he might conveniently deliver him.

12 On the first day of unleavened bread, when they sacrificed the Passover, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare that you may eat the Passover?"

13 He sent two of his disciples and said to them,

* **14:5** 300 denarii was about a year's wages for an agricultural laborer.

"Go into the city, and there a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him, 14 **and wherever he enters in, tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" '** 15 **He will himself show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Get ready for us there."**

16 His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found things as he had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

17 When it was evening he came with the twelve. 18 As they sat and were eating, Jesus said, **"Most certainly I tell you, one of you will betray me—he who eats with me."**

19 They began to be sorrowful, and to ask him one by one, "Surely not I?" And another said, "Surely not I?"

20 He answered them, **"It is one of the twelve, he who dips with me in the dish.** 21 **For the Son of Man goes as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born."**

22 As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had blessed it, he broke it and gave to them, and said, **"Take, eat. This is my body."**

23 He took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave to them. They all drank of it. 24 He said to them, **"This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many.** 25 **Most certainly I tell you, I will no more drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in God's Kingdom."** 26 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

27 Jesus said to them, **"All of you will be made to stumble because of me tonight, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'**✡ 28 **However, after I am raised up, I will go before you into Galilee."**

29 But Peter said to him, "Although all will be offended, yet I will not."

30 Jesus said to him, **"Most certainly I tell you that you today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times."**

31 But he spoke all the more, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." They all said the same thing.

32 They came to a place which was named Gethsemane. He said to his disciples, **"Sit here while I pray."** 33 He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be greatly troubled and distressed. 34 He said

✡ **14:27** Zechariah 13:7

to them, **“My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch.”**
35 He went forward a little, and fell on the ground,
and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass away from him. 36 He said,
“Abba,† Father, all things are possible to you. Please remove this cup from me. However, not what I desire, but what you desire.”
37 He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter,
“Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn’t you watch one hour? 38 **Watch and pray, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”**
39 Again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40 Again he returned and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they didn’t know what to answer him. 41 He came the third time and said to them,
“Sleep on now, and take your rest. It is enough. The hour has come. Behold, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 **Arise! Let’s get going. Behold, he who betrays me is at hand.”**
43 Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, came —and with him a multitude with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. 44 Now he who betrayed him had given them a sign, saying, “Whomever I will kiss, that is he. Seize him, and lead him away safely.”
45 When he had come, immediately he came to him and said, “Rabbi! Rabbi!” and kissed him. 46 They laid their hands on him and seized him. 47 But a certain one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear.
48 Jesus answered them,
“Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to seize me? 49 **I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and you didn’t arrest me. But this is so that the Scriptures might be fulfilled.”**
50 They all left him, and fled. 51 A certain young man followed him, having a linen cloth thrown around himself over his naked body. The young men grabbed him,
52 but he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.
53 They led Jesus away to the high priest. All the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes came together with him.
54 Peter had followed him from a distance, until he came into the court of the high priest. He was sitting with the officers, and warming himself in the light of the fire. 55 Now the chief priests and the whole council

† **14:36** Abba is a Greek spelling for the Aramaic word for “Father” or “Daddy” used in a familiar, respectful, and loving way.

sought witnesses against Jesus to put him to death, and found none. 56 For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony didn't agree with each other. 57 Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, 58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.' " 59 Even so, their testimony didn't agree.

60 The high priest stood up in the middle, and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it which these testify against you?" 61 But he stayed quiet, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"

62 Jesus said, **"I am. You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of the sky."**

63 The high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need have we of witnesses? 64 You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?" They all condemned him to be worthy of death. 65 Some began to spit on him, and to cover his face, and to beat him with fists, and to tell him, "Prophesy!" The officers struck him with the palms of their hands.

66 As Peter was in the courtyard below, one of the maids of the high priest came, 67 and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You were also with the Nazarene, Jesus!"

68 But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you are saying." He went out on the porch, and the rooster crowed.

69 The maid saw him and began again to tell those who stood by, "This is one of them." 70 But he again denied it. After a little while again those who stood by said to Peter, "You truly are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it." 71 But he began to curse and to swear, "I don't know this man of whom you speak!"

72 The rooster crowed the second time. Peter remembered the words that Jesus said to him, **"Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times."** When he thought about that, he wept.

15

1 Immediately in the morning the chief priests, with the elders, scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation, bound Jesus, carried him away, and delivered him up to Pilate. 2 Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

He answered, **"So you say."**

3 The chief priests accused him of many things. 4 Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer? See how many

things they testify against you!"

5 But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate marveled.

6 Now at the feast he used to release to them one prisoner, whomever they asked of him. 7 There was one called Barabbas, bound with his fellow insurgents, men who in the insurrection had committed murder. 8 The multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do as he always did for them. 9 Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" 10 For he perceived that for envy the chief priests had delivered him up. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the multitude, that he should release Barabbas to them instead. 12 Pilate again asked them, "What then should I do to him whom you call the King of the Jews?"

13 They cried out again, "Crucify him!"

14 Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?"

But they cried out exceedingly, "Crucify him!"

15 Pilate, wishing to please the multitude, released Barabbas to them, and handed over Jesus, when he had flogged him, to be crucified.

16 The soldiers led him away within the court, which is the Praetorium; and they called together the whole cohort. 17 They clothed him with purple; and weaving a crown of thorns, they put it on him. 18 They began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 19 They struck his head with a reed and spat on him, and bowing their knees, did homage to him. 20 When they had mocked him, they took the purple cloak off him, and put his own garments on him. They led him out to crucify him.

21 They compelled one passing by, coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to go with them that he might bear his cross. 22 They brought him to the place called Golgotha, which is, being interpreted, "The place of a skull." 23 They offered him wine mixed with myrrh to drink, but he didn't take it.

24 Crucifying him, they parted his garments among them, casting lots on them, what each should take. 25 It was the third hour* when they crucified him. 26 The superscription of his accusation was written over him: "THE KING OF THE JEWS." 27 With him they crucified two robbers, one on his right hand, and one on his left. 28 The Scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was counted with transgressors."†

29 Those who passed by blasphemed him, wagging their heads and saying, "Ha! You who destroy the temple

* **15:25** 9:00 a.m. † **15:28** NU omits verse 28.

and build it in three days,
30 save yourself, and come
down from the cross!"
31 Likewise, also the chief
priests mocking among
themselves with the scribes
said, "He saved others. He
can't save himself. 32 Let
the Christ, the King of Israel,
now come down from the
cross, that we may see and
believe him."‡ Those who
were crucified with him also
insulted him.
33 When the sixth hour§
had come, there was dark-
ness over the whole land un-
til the ninth hour.* 34 At the
ninth hour Jesus cried with
a loud voice, saying, **"Eloi,
Eloi, lama sabachthani?"**
which is, being interpreted,
**"My God, my God, why
have you forsaken me?"** ✡
35 Some of those who stood
by, when they heard it, said,
"Behold, he is calling Elijah."
36 One ran, and filling a
sponge full of vinegar, put
it on a reed and gave it to
him to drink, saying, "Let him
be. Let's see whether Elijah
comes to take him down."
37 Jesus cried out with
a loud voice, and gave up
the spirit. 38 The veil of
the temple was torn in two
from the top to the bottom.
39 When the centurion, who
stood by opposite him, saw
that he cried out like this and
breathed his last, he said,
"Truly this man was the Son
of God!"
40 There were also women
watching from afar, among
whom were both Mary Mag-
dalene and Mary the mother
of James the less and of Joses,
and Salome; 41 who, when he
was in Galilee, followed him
and served him; and many
other women who came up
with him to Jerusalem.
42 When evening had now
come, because it was the
Preparation Day, that is,
the day before the Sabbath,
43 Joseph of Arimathaea, a
prominent council member
who also himself was looking
for God's Kingdom, came.
He boldly went in to Pilate,
and asked for Jesus' body.
44 Pilate was surprised to
hear that he was already
dead; and summoning the
centurion, he asked him
whether he had been dead
long. 45 When he found
out from the centurion, he
granted the body to Joseph.
46 He bought a linen cloth,
and taking him down, wound
him in the linen cloth and
laid him in a tomb which
had been cut out of a rock.
He rolled a stone against the
door of the tomb. 47 Mary
Magdalene and Mary the
mother of Joses, saw where
he was laid.

16

1 When the Sabbath was
past, Mary Magdalene, and
Mary the mother of James,
and Salome bought spices,
that they might come and
anoint him. 2 Very early on
the first day of the week, they

‡ **15:32** TR omits "him" § **15:33** or, noon * **15:33** 3:00 p.m. ✡ **15:34** Psalm 22:1

came to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 They were saying among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" 4 for it was very big. Looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back.

5 Entering into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. 6 He said to them, "Don't be amazed. You seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him! 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He goes before you into Galilee. There you will see him, as he said to you.' "

8 They went out,* and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had come on them. They said nothing to anyone; for they were afraid.†

9 ‡Now when he had risen early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. 10 She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they disbelieved.

12 After these things he was revealed in another form to two of them as they walked, on their way into the country. 13 They went away and told it to the rest. They didn't believe them, either.

14 Afterward he was revealed to the eleven themselves as they sat at the table; and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they didn't believe those who had seen him after he had risen. 15 He said to them, **"Go into all the world and preach the Good News to the whole creation. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who disbelieves will be condemned. 17 These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new languages; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it will in no way hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."**

19 So then the Lord,§ after he had spoken to them, was received up into heaven and

* **16:8** TR adds "quickly" † **16:8** One isolated manuscript omits verses 9-20 but adds this "short ending of Mark" to the end of verse 8: They told all that had been commanded them briefly to those around Peter. After that, Jesus himself sent them out, from east to west, with the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. ‡ **16:9** NU includes the text of verses 9-20, but mentions in a footnote that a few manuscripts omitted it. The translators of the World English Bible regard Mark 16:9-20 as reliable based on an overwhelming majority of textual evidence, including not only the authoritative Greek Majority Text New Testament, but also the TR and many of the manuscripts cited in the NU text. § **16:19** NU adds "Jesus"

sat down at the right hand of God. 20 They went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that followed. Amen.

The Good News According to Luke

1 Since many have undertaken to set in order a
narrative concerning those
matters which have been
fulfilled among us, 2 even
as those who from the be-
ginning were eyewitnesses
and servants of the word
delivered them to us, 3 it
seemed good to me also,
having traced the course of
all things accurately from the
first, to write to you in order,
most excellent Theophilus;
4 that you might know the
certainty concerning the
things in which you were
instructed.

5 There was in the days
of Herod, the king of Judea,
a certain priest named
Zacharias, of the priestly
division of Abijah. He had
a wife of the daughters of
Aaron, and her name was
Elizabeth. 6 They were
both righteous before God,
walking blamelessly in all
the commandments and
ordinances of the Lord. 7 But
they had no child, because
Elizabeth was barren, and
they both were well ad-
vanced in years.

8 Now while he executed
the priest's office before God
in the order of his division
9 according to the custom of
the priest's office, his lot was
to enter into the temple of
the Lord and burn incense.
10 The whole multitude of the
people were praying outside
at the hour of incense.

11 An angel of the Lord
appeared to him, standing
on the right side of the altar
of incense. 12 Zacharias was
troubled when he saw him,
and fear fell upon him. 13 But
the angel said to him, "Don't
be afraid, Zacharias, because
your request has been heard.
Your wife, Elizabeth, will
bear you a son, and you shall
call his name John. 14 You will
have joy and gladness, and
many will rejoice at his birth.
15 For he will be great in the
sight of the Lord, and he will
drink no wine nor strong
drink. He will be filled with
the Holy Spirit, even from his
mother's womb. 16 He will
turn many of the children of
Israel to the Lord their God.
17 He will go before him in the
spirit and power of Elijah, 'to
turn the hearts of the fathers
to the children,'✡ and the
disobedient to the wisdom of
the just; to prepare a people
prepared for the Lord."

18 Zacharias said to the an-
gel, "How can I be sure of
this? For I am an old man,
and my wife is well advanced
in years."

19 The angel answered him,
"I am Gabriel, who stands
in the presence of God. I
was sent to speak to you and
to bring you this good news.
20 Behold,* you will be silent

✡ **1:17** Malachi 4:6 * **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

and not able to speak until the day that these things will happen, because you didn't believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time."

21 The people were waiting for Zacharias, and they marveled that he delayed in the temple. 22 When he came out, he could not speak to them. They perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple. He continued making signs to them, and remained mute. 23 When the days of his service were fulfilled, he departed to his house. 24 After these days Elizabeth his wife conceived, and she hid herself five months, saying, 25 "Thus has the Lord done to me in the days in which he looked at me, to take away my reproach among men."

26 Now in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man whose name was Joseph, of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 Having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, you highly favored one! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!"

29 But when she saw him, she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered what kind of salutation this might be. 30 The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him 'Jesus.' 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom."

34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, seeing I am a virgin?"

35 The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore also the holy one who is born from you will be called the Son of God. 36 Behold, Elizabeth your relative also has conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing spoken by God is impossible."†

38 Mary said, "Behold, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

39 Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah, 40 and entered into the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was

† **1:37** or, "For everything spoken by God is possible."

filled with the Holy Spirit.
42 She called out with a loud
voice and said, “Blessed are
you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your
womb! 43 Why am I so
favored, that the mother of
my Lord should come to me?
44 For behold, when the voice
of your greeting came into
my ears, the baby leaped in
my womb for joy! 45 Blessed
is she who believed, for
there will be a fulfillment of
the things which have been
spoken to her from the Lord!”

46 Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord.
47 My spirit has rejoiced
in God my Savior,
48 for he has looked at the
humble state of his ser-
vant.
For behold, from now on, all
generations will call
me blessed.
49 For he who is mighty
has done great things
for me.
Holy is his name.
50 His mercy is for gener-
ations and generations
on those who fear him.
51 He has shown strength
with his arm.
He has scattered the
proud in the imagina-
tion of their hearts.
52 He has put down princes
from their thrones,
and has exalted the
lowly.
53 He has filled the hungry
with good things.
He has sent the rich away
empty.
54 He has given help to
Israel, his servant, that
he might remember
mercy,
55 as he spoke to our fa-
thers,
to Abraham and his off-
spring‡ forever.”

56 Mary stayed with her
about three months, and
then returned to her house.

57 Now the time that Eliz-
abeth should give birth was
fulfilled, and she gave birth
to a son. 58 Her neighbors
and her relatives heard that
the Lord had magnified his
mercy toward her, and they
rejoiced with her. 59 On
the eighth day, they came
to circumcise the child; and
they would have called him
Zacharias, after the name of
his father. 60 His mother an-
swered, “Not so; but he will
be called John.”

61 They said to her, “There
is no one among your rel-
atives who is called by this
name.” 62 They made signs
to his father, what he would
have him called.

63 He asked for a writing
tablet, and wrote, “His name
is John.”

They all marveled. 64 His
mouth was opened immedi-
ately and his tongue freed,
and he spoke, blessing God.
65 Fear came on all who lived
around them, and all these
sayings were talked about
throughout all the hill coun-
try of Judea. 66 All who
heard them laid them up in
their heart, saying, “What

‡ **1:55** or, seed

then will this child be?" The hand of the Lord was with him.
67 His father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying,
68 "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people;
69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David
70 (as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets who have been from of old),
71 salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;
72 to show mercy toward our fathers,
to remember his holy covenant,
73 the oath which he swore to Abraham our father,
74 to grant to us that we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies,
should serve him without fear,
75 in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life.
76 And you, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways,
77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the remission of their sins,
78 because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the dawn from on high will visit us,
79 to shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death;
to guide our feet into the way of peace."
80 The child was growing and becoming strong in spirit, and was in the desert until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

2

1 Now in those days, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. 2 This was the first enrollment made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to enroll themselves, everyone to his own city. 4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to David's city, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, 5 to enroll himself with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him as wife, being pregnant.

6 While they were there, the day had come for her to give birth. 7 She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a feeding trough, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 There were shepherds in the same country staying in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock. 9 Behold, an angel

of the Lord stood by them,
and the glory of the Lord
shone around them, and
they were terrified. 10 The
angel said to them, "Don't
be afraid, for behold, I bring
you good news of great joy
which will be to all the
people. 11 For there is born
to you today, in David's city,
a Savior, who is Christ* the
Lord. 12 This is the sign to
you: you will find a baby
wrapped in strips of cloth,
lying in a feeding trough."
13 Suddenly, there was with
the angel a multitude of the
heavenly army praising God
and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest,
on earth peace, good will toward men."

15 When the angels went
away from them into the sky,
the shepherds said to one
another, "Let's go to Bethlehem, now, and see this thing
that has happened, which the
Lord has made known to us."
16 They came with haste and
found both Mary and Joseph,
and the baby was lying in the
feeding trough. 17 When they
saw it, they publicized widely
the saying which was spoken
to them about this child. 18 All
who heard it wondered at the
things which were spoken to
them by the shepherds. 19 But
Mary kept all these sayings,
pondering them in her heart.
20 The shepherds returned,
glorifying and praising God
for all the things that they
had heard and seen, just as it
was told them.

21 When eight days were
fulfilled for the circumcision
of the child, his name was
called Jesus, which was given
by the angel before he was
conceived in the womb.

22 When the days of their
purification according to the
law of Moses were fulfilled,
they brought him up to
Jerusalem to present him to
the Lord 23 (as it is written in
the law of the Lord, "Every
male who opens 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 pigeons."✡

25 Behold, there was a
man in Jerusalem whose
name was Simeon. This man
was righteous and devout,
looking for the consolation
of Israel, and the Holy Spirit
was on him. 26 It had been
revealed to him by the Holy
Spirit that he should not see
death before he had seen the
Lord's Christ.† 27 He came
in the Spirit into the temple.
When the parents brought
in the child, Jesus, that they
might do concerning him
according to the custom of
the law, 28 then he received
him into his arms and
blessed God, and said,

29 "Now you are releasing
your servant, Master,

* **2:11** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ✡ **2:23** Exodus 13:2,12 ✡ **2:24** Leviticus 12:8 † **2:26** "Christ" (Greek) and "Messiah" (Hebrew) both mean "Anointed One"

according to your word,
in peace;
30 for my eyes have seen your
salvation,
31 which you have pre-
pared before the face
of all peoples;
32 a light for revelation to the
nations,
and the glory of your
people Israel."

33 Joseph and his mother were marveling at the things which were spoken concerning him. 34 Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary, his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which is spoken against. 35 Yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

36 There was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher (she was of a great age, having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, 37 and she had been a widow for about eighty-four years), who didn't depart from the temple, worshiping with fastings and petitions night and day. 38 Coming up at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem.

39 When they had accomplished all things that were according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. 40 The child was growing, and was becoming strong in spirit, being filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

41 His parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast; 43 and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and his mother didn't know it, 44 but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey; and they looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances. 45 When they didn't find him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the middle of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. 47 All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When they saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Behold, your father and I were anxiously looking for you."

49 He said to them, **"Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"** 50 They didn't understand the saying which

he spoke to them. 51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was subject to them, and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

3

1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness. 3 He came into all the region around the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for remission of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
'Make ready the way of the Lord.
Make his paths straight.
5 Every valley will be filled.
Every mountain and hill will be brought low.
The crooked will become straight,
and the rough ways smooth.
6 All flesh will see God's salvation.' "✡

7 He said therefore to the multitudes who went out to be baptized by him, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore produce fruits worthy of repentance, and don't begin to say among yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father;' for I tell you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones! 9 Even now the ax also lies at the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

10 The multitudes asked him, "What then must we do?"

11 He answered them, "He who has two coats, let him give to him who has none. He who has food, let him do likewise."

12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they said to him, "Teacher, what must we do?"

13 He said to them, "Collect no more than that which is appointed to you."

14 Soldiers also asked him, saying, "What about us? What must we do?"

He said to them, "Extort from no one by violence, neither accuse anyone wrongfully. Be content with your wages."

15 As the people were in expectation, and all men reasoned in their hearts concerning John, whether perhaps he was the Christ, 16 John answered them all, "I indeed baptize you with water, but he comes who

✡ **3:6** Isaiah 40:3-5

is mightier than I, the strap
of whose sandals I am not
worthy to loosen. He will
baptize you in the Holy Spirit
and fire. 17 His winnowing
fan is in his hand, and he
will thoroughly cleanse his
threshing floor, and will
gather the wheat into his
barn; but he will burn up
the chaff with unquenchable
fire."

18 Then with many other
exhortations he preached
good news to the people,
19 but Herod the tetrarch,*
being reproved by him for
Herodias, his brother's† wife,
and for all the evil things
which Herod had done,
20 added this also to them
all, that he shut up John in
prison.

21 Now when all the peo-
ple were baptized, Jesus also
had been baptized and was
praying. The sky was opened,
22 and the Holy Spirit de-
scended in a bodily form like
a dove on him; and a voice
came out of the sky, saying
"You are my beloved Son. In
you I am well pleased."

23 Jesus himself, when he
began to teach, was about
thirty years old, being the son
(as was supposed) of Joseph,
the son of Heli, 24 the son of
Matthat, the son of Levi, the
son of Melchi, the son of Jan-
nai, the son of Joseph, 25 the
son of Mattathias, the son of
Amos, the son of Nahum, the
son of Esli, the son of Naggai,
26 the son of Maath, the son
of Mattathias, the son of Se-
mein, the son of Joseph, the
son of Judah, 27 the son of
Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the
son of Zerubbabel, the son
of Shealtiel, the son of Neri,
28 the son of Melchi, the son
of Addi, the son of Cosam, the
son of Elmodam, the son of
Er, 29 the son of Jose, the son
of Eliezer, the son of Jorim,
the son of Matthat, the son
of Levi, 30 the son of Simeon,
the son of Judah, the son of
Joseph, the son of Jonan, the
son of Eliakim, 31 the son
of Melea, the son of Menan,
the son of Mattatha, the son
of Nathan, the son of David,
32 the son of Jesse, the son
of Obed, the son of Boaz, the
son of Salmon, the son of
Nahshon, 33 the son of Am-
minadab, the son of Aram,‡
the son of Hezron, the son
of Perez, the son of Judah,
34 the son of Jacob, the son
of Isaac, the son of Abraham,
the son of Terah, the son of
Nahor, 35 the son of Serug, the
son of Reu, the son of Peleg,
the son of Eber, the son of
Shelah, 36 the son of Cainan,
the son of Arphaxad, the son
of Shem, the son of Noah,
the son of Lamech, 37 the
son of Methuselah, the son of
Enoch, the son of Jared, the
son of Mahalaleel, the son of
Cainan, 38 the son of Enos, the
son of Seth, the son of Adam,
the son of God.

* **3:19** a tetrarch is one of four governors of a province † **3:19** TR reads "brother Philip's" instead of "brother's" ‡ **3:33** NU reads "Admin, the son of Arni" instead of "Aram"

4

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. He ate nothing in those days. Afterward, when they were completed, he was hungry.

3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."

4 Jesus answered him, saying, **"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.' "**✡

5 The devil, leading him up on a high mountain, showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 The devil said to him, "I will give you all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I want. 7 If you therefore will worship before me, it will all be yours."

8 Jesus answered him, **"Get behind me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and you shall serve him only.' "**✡

9 He led him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, cast yourself down from here, 10 for it is written,

'He will put his angels in charge of you, to guard you;'

11 and,

'On their hands they will bear you up,
lest perhaps you dash your foot against a stone.' "✡

12 Jesus answering, said to him, **"It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.' "**✡

13 When the devil had completed every temptation, he departed from him until another time.

14 Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, and news about him spread through all the surrounding area. 15 He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

16 He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. He entered, as was his custom, into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 The book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He opened the book, and found the place where it was written,

18 **"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to heal the broken hearted,***
to proclaim release to the captives,**

✡ **4:4** Deuteronomy 8:3 ✡ **4:8** Deuteronomy 6:13 ✡ **4:11** Psalm 91:11-12
✡ **4:12** Deuteronomy 6:16 * **4:18** NU omits "to heal the broken hearted"

recovering of sight to the blind,
to deliver those who are crushed,
19 **and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."**✡

20 He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 He began to tell them, **"Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."**

22 All testified about him and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth; and they said, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

23 He said to them, **"Doubtless you will tell me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done at Capernaum, do also here in your hometown.' "** 24 He said, **"Most certainly I tell you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.** 25 **But truly I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land.** 26 **Elijah was sent to none of them, except to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.** 27 **There were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed, except Naaman, the Syrian."**

28 They were all filled with wrath in the synagogue as they heard these things. 29 They rose up, threw him out of the city, and led him to the brow of the hill that their city was built on, that they might throw him off the cliff. 30 But he, passing through the middle of them, went his way.

31 He came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. He was teaching them on the Sabbath day, 32 and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word was with authority. 33 In the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon; and he cried out with a loud voice, 34 saying, "Ah! what have we to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God!"

35 Jesus rebuked him, saying, **"Be silent and come out of him!"** When the demon had thrown him down in the middle of them, he came out of him, having done him no harm.

36 Amazement came on all and they spoke together, one with another, saying, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" 37 News about him went out into every place of the surrounding region.

✡ **4:19** Isaiah 61:1-2

38 He rose up from the
synagogue and entered into
Simon's house. Simon's
mother-in-law was afflicted
with a great fever, and they
begged him to help her. 39 He
stood over her and rebuked
the fever, and it left her.
Immediately she rose up and
served them. 40 When the
sun was setting, all those who
had any sick with various
diseases brought them to
him; and he laid his hands
on every one of them, and
healed them. 41 Demons also
came out of many, crying
out and saying, "You are
the Christ, the Son of God!"
Rebuking them, he didn't
allow them to speak, because
they knew that he was the
Christ.
42 When it was day, he
departed and went into an
uninhabited place and the
multitudes looked for him,
and came to him, and held on
to him, so that he wouldn't go
away from them. 43 But he
said to them, **"I must preach
the good news of God's
Kingdom to the other cities
also. For this reason I
have been sent."** 44 He was
preaching in the synagogues
of Galilee.

5

1 Now while the multitude
pressed on him and heard
the word of God, he was
standing by the lake of Gen-
nesaret. 2 He saw two boats
standing by the lake, but the
fishermen had gone out of
them and were washing their
nets. 3 He entered into one
of the boats, which was Si-
mon's, and asked him to put
out a little from the land. He
sat down and taught the mul-
titudes from the boat.
4 When he had finished
speaking, he said to Simon,
**"Put out into the deep and
let down your nets for a
catch."**
5 Simon answered him,
"Master, we worked all night
and caught nothing; but at
your word I will let down
the net." 6 When they had
done this, they caught a great
multitude of fish, and their
net was breaking. 7 They
beckoned to their partners
in the other boat, that they
should come and help them.
They came and filled both
boats, so that they began to
sink. 8 But Simon Peter, when
he saw it, fell down at Jesus'
knees, saying, "Depart from
me, for I am a sinful man,
Lord." 9 For he was amazed,
and all who were with him, at
the catch of fish which they
had caught; 10 and so also
were James and John, sons of
Zebedee, who were partners
with Simon.
Jesus said to Simon, **"Don't
be afraid. From now on
you will be catching people
alive."**
11 When they had brought
their boats to land, they left
everything, and followed
him.
12 While he was in one of
the cities, behold, there was
a man full of leprosy. When
he saw Jesus, he fell on his
face and begged him, saying,

"Lord, if you want to, you can make me clean."

13 He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, **"I want to. Be made clean."**

Immediately the leprosy left him. 14 He commanded him to tell no one, **"But go your way and show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing according to what Moses commanded, for a testimony to them."**

15 But the report concerning him spread much more, and great multitudes came together to hear and to be healed by him of their infirmities. 16 But he withdrew himself into the desert and prayed.

17 On one of those days, he was teaching; and there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by who had come out of every village of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. The power of the Lord was with him to heal them. 18 Behold, men brought a paralyzed man on a cot, and they sought to bring him in to lay before Jesus. 19 Not finding a way to bring him in because of the multitude, they went up to the housetop and let him down through the tiles with his cot into the middle before Jesus. 20 Seeing their faith, he said to him, **"Man, your sins are forgiven you."**

21 The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

22 But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, answered them, **"Why are you reasoning so in your hearts? 23 Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk?' 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,"** he said to the paralyzed man, **"I tell you, arise, take up your cot, and go to your house."**

25 Immediately he rose up before them, and took up that which he was laying on, and departed to his house, glorifying God. 26 Amazement took hold on all, and they glorified God. They were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

27 After these things he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax office, and said to him, **"Follow me!"**

28 He left everything, and rose up and followed him. 29 Levi made a great feast for him in his house. There was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were reclining with them. 30 Their scribes and the Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?"

31 Jesus answered them, **"Those who are healthy have no need for a physician, but those who are**

sick do. 32 **I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."**

33 They said to him, "Why do John's disciples often fast and pray, likewise also the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink?"

34 He said to them, **"Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them?** 35 **But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them. Then they will fast in those days."**

36 He also told a parable to them. **"No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old garment, or else he will tear the new, and also the piece from the new will not match the old.** 37 **No one puts new wine into old wine skins, or else the new wine will burst the skins, and it will be spilled and the skins will be destroyed.** 38 **But new wine must be put into fresh wine skins, and both are preserved.** 39 **No man having drunk old wine immediately desires new, for he says, 'The old is better.' "**

6

1 Now on the second Sabbath after the first, he was going through the grain fields. His disciples plucked the heads of grain and ate, rubbing them in their hands. 2 But some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why do you do that which is not lawful to do on the Sabbath day?"

3 Jesus, answering them, said, **"Haven't you read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him,** 4 **how he entered into God's house, and took and ate the show bread, and gave also to those who were with him, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests alone?"** 5 He said to them, **"The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."**

6 It also happened on another Sabbath that he entered into the synagogue and taught. There was a man there, and his right hand was withered. 7 The scribes and the Pharisees watched him, to see whether he would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against him. 8 But he knew their thoughts; and he said to the man who had the withered hand, **"Rise up and stand in the middle."** He arose and stood. 9 Then Jesus said to them, **"I will ask you something: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good, or to do harm? To save a life, or to kill?"** 10 He looked around at them all, and said to the man, **"Stretch out your hand."** He did, and his hand was restored as sound as the other. 11 But they were filled with rage, and talked with one another about what they might do to Jesus.

12 In these days, he went out to the mountain to pray, and he continued all night in

prayer to God. 13 When it
was day, he called his dis-
ciples, and from them he
chose twelve, whom he also
named apostles: 14 Simon,
whom he also named Peter;
Andrew, his brother; James;
John; Philip; Bartholomew;
15 Matthew; Thomas; James
the son of Alphaeus; Simon
who was called the Zealot;
16 Judas the son of James; and
Judas Iscariot, who also be-
came a traitor.

17 He came down with
them and stood on a level
place, with a crowd of his
disciples and a great number
of the people from all Judea
and Jerusalem and the sea
coast of Tyre and Sidon, who
came to hear him and to
be healed of their diseases,
18 as well as those who were
troubled by unclean spirits;
and they were being healed.
19 All the multitude sought to
touch him, for power came
out of him and healed them
all.

20 He lifted up his eyes to
his disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are
poor,
for God's Kingdom is
yours.
21 **Blessed are you who**
hunger now,
for you will be filled.
Blessed are you who weep
now,
for you will laugh.
22 **Blessed are you when**
men hate you, and
when they exclude
and mock you, and
throw out your name
as evil, for the Son of
Man's sake.
23 **Rejoice in that day**
and leap for joy, for
behold, your reward
is great in heaven,
for their fathers did
the same thing to the
prophets.

24 **"But woe to you who are**
rich!
For you have received
your consolation.
25 **Woe to you, you who are**
full now,
for you will be hungry.
Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and
weep.
26 **Woe,* when† men speak**
well of you,
for their fathers did
the same thing to the
false prophets.

27 **"But I tell you who**
hear: love your enemies,
do good to those who hate
you, 28 **bless those who**
curse you, and pray for
those who mistreat you.
29 **To him who strikes you**
on the cheek, offer also the
other; and from him who
takes away your cloak,
don't withhold your coat
also. 30 **Give to everyone**
who asks you, and don't
ask him who takes away
your goods to give them
back again.

31 **"As you would like peo-**
ple to do to you, do exactly
so to them.

* **6:26** TR adds "to you" † **6:26** TR adds "all"

32 **"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.** 33 **If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.** 34 **If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive back as much.** 35 **But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing back; and your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind toward the unthankful and evil.**

36 **"Therefore be merciful,**
even as your Father is also merciful.
37 **Don't judge,**
and you won't be judged.
Don't condemn,
and you won't be condemned.
Set free,
and you will be set free.

38 **"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be given to you.‡ For with the same measure you measure it will be measured back to you."**

39 He spoke a parable to them. **"Can the blind guide the blind? Won't they both fall into a pit?** 40 **A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.** 41 **Why do you see the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye, but don't consider the beam that is in your own eye?** 42 **Or how can you tell your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck of chaff that is in your eye,' when you yourself don't see the beam that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye.**

43 **"For there is no good tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces good fruit.** 44 **For each tree is known by its own fruit. For people don't gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush.** 45 **The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings out that which is good, and the evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings out that which is evil, for out of the abundance of the heart, his mouth speaks.**

46 **"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and don't do the things which I say?** 47 **Everyone who comes to me, and hears my words and does them, I will show**

‡ **6:38** literally, into your bosom.

you who he is like. 48 **He is like a man building a house, who dug and went deep and laid a foundation on the rock. When a flood arose, the stream broke against that house, and could not shake it, because it was founded on the rock.** 49 **But he who hears and doesn't do, is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream broke, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great."**

7

1 After he had finished speaking in the hearing of the people, he entered into Capernaum. 2 A certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and at the point of death. 3 When he heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and save his servant. 4 When they came to Jesus, they begged him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy for you to do this for him, 5 for he loves our nation, and he built our synagogue for us." 6 Jesus went with them. When he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying to him, "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. 7 Therefore I didn't even think myself worthy to come to you; but say the word, and my servant will be healed. 8 For I also am a man placed under authority, having under myself soldiers. I tell this one, 'Go!' and he goes; and to another, 'Come!' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

9 When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude who followed him, **"I tell you, I have not found such great faith, no, not in Israel."** 10 Those who were sent, returning to the house, found that the servant who had been sick was well.

11 Soon afterwards, he went to a city called Nain. Many of his disciples, along with a great multitude, went with him. 12 Now when he came near to the gate of the city, behold, one who was dead was carried out, the only born* son of his mother, and she was a widow. Many people of the city were with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, **"Don't cry."** 14 He came near and touched the coffin, and the bearers stood still. He said, **"Young man, I tell you, arise!"** 15 He who was dead sat up and began to speak. Then he gave him to his mother.

16 Fear took hold of all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and, "God has

* **7:12** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".

visited his people!" 17 This report went out concerning him in the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

18 The disciples of John told him about all these things. 19 John, calling to himself two of his disciples, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are you the one who is coming, or should we look for another?" 20 When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptizer has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you he who comes, or should we look for another?' "

21 In that hour he cured many of diseases and plagues and evil spirits; and to many who were blind he gave sight. 22 Jesus answered them, **"Go and tell John the things which you have seen and heard: that the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 23 Blessed is he who finds no occasion for stumbling in me."**

24 When John's messengers had departed, he began to tell the multitudes about John, **"What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 25 But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are gorgeously dressed and live delicately are in kings' courts. 26 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet. 27 This is he of whom it is written,**

'Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.'✡

28 "For I tell you, among those who are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptizer; yet he who is least in God's Kingdom is greater than he."

29 When all the people and the tax collectors heard this, they declared God to be just, having been baptized with John's baptism. 30 But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the counsel of God, not being baptized by him themselves.

31 † **"To what then should I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? 32 They are like children who sit in the marketplace and call to one another, saying, 'We piped to you, and you didn't dance. We mourned, and you didn't weep.' 33 For John the Baptizer came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'**

✡ **7:27** Malachi 3:1 † **7:31** TR adds "But the Lord said,"

35 **Wisdom is justified by all her children."**

36 One of the Pharisees invited him to eat with him. He entered into the Pharisee's house and sat at the table. 37 Behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that he was reclining in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. 38 Standing behind at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears, and she wiped them with the hair of her head, kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "This man, if he were a prophet, would have perceived who and what kind of woman this is who touches him, that she is a sinner."

40 Jesus answered him, **"Simon, I have something to tell you."**

He said, "Teacher, say on."

41 **"A certain lender had two debtors. The one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.** 42 **When they couldn't pay, he forgave them both. Which of them therefore will love him most?"**

43 Simon answered, "He, I suppose, to whom he forgave the most."

He said to him, **"You have judged correctly."** 44 Turning to the woman, he said to Simon, **"Do you see this woman? I entered into your house, and you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head.** 45 **You gave me no kiss, but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss my feet.** 46 **You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.** 47 **Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."** 48 He said to her, **"Your sins are forgiven."**

49 Those who sat at the table with him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

50 He said to the woman, **"Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."**

8

1 Soon afterwards, he went about through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of God's Kingdom. With him were the twelve, 2 and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; 3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuzas, Herod's steward; Susanna; and many others who served them* from their possessions.

4 When a great multitude came together and people from every city were coming to him, he spoke by a parable:

5 **"The farmer went out to**

* **8:3** TR reads "him" instead of "them"

sow his seed. As he sowed, some fell along the road, and it was trampled under foot, and the birds of the sky devoured it. 6 **Other seed fell on the rock, and as soon as it grew, it withered away, because it had no moisture.** 7 **Other fell amid the thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it.** 8 **Other fell into the good ground and grew and produced one hundred times as much fruit."** As he said these things, he called out, **"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"**

9 Then his disciples asked him, "What does this parable mean?"

10 He said, **"To you it is given to know the mysteries of God's Kingdom, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'**✡

11 **"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.** 12 **Those along the road are those who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, that they may not believe and be saved.** 13 **Those on the rock are they who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; but these have no root. They believe for a while, then fall away in time of temptation.** 14 **What fell among the thorns, these are those who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life; and they bring no fruit to maturity.** 15 **Those in the good ground, these are those who with an honest and good heart, having heard the word, hold it tightly, and produce fruit with perseverance.**

16 **"No one, when he has lit a lamp, covers it with a container or puts it under a bed; but puts it on a stand, that those who enter in may see the light.** 17 **For nothing is hidden that will not be revealed, nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light.** 18 **Be careful therefore how you hear. For whoever has, to him will be given; and whoever doesn't have, from him will be taken away even that which he thinks he has."**

19 His mother and brothers came to him, and they could not come near him for the crowd. 20 Some people told him, "Your mother and your brothers stand outside, desiring to see you."

21 But he answered them, **"My mother and my brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it."**

22 Now on one of those days, he entered into a boat, himself and his disciples, and he said to them, **"Let's go over to the other side of the lake."** So they launched

✡ **8:10** Isaiah 6:9

out. 23 But as they sailed, he
fell asleep. A wind storm
came down on the lake,
and they were taking on
dangerous amounts of water.
24 They came to him and
awoke him, saying, “Master,
Master, we are dying!” He
awoke and rebuked the
wind and the raging of the
water; then they ceased,
and it was calm.✡ 25 He
said to them, **“Where is
your faith?”** Being afraid,
they marveled, saying to one
another, “Who is this then,
that he commands even the
winds and the water, and
they obey him?”

26 Then they arrived at the
country of the Gadarenes,
which is opposite Galilee.
27 When Jesus stepped
ashore, a certain man out
of the city who had demons
for a long time met him. He
wore no clothes, and didn’t
live in a 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 do I have
to do with you, Jesus, you
Son of the Most High God? I
beg you, don’t torment me!”
29 For Jesus was commanding
the unclean spirit to come out
of the man. For the unclean
spirit had often seized the
man. He was kept under
guard and bound with chains
and fetters. Breaking the
bonds apart, he was driven
by the demon into the desert.

30 Jesus asked him, **“What
is your name?”**

He said, “Legion,” for many
demons had entered into
him. 31 They begged him that
he would not command them
to go into the abyss.

32 Now there was there a
herd of many pigs feeding
on the mountain, and they
begged him that he would al-
low them to enter into those.
Then he allowed them. 33 The
demons came out of the man
and entered into the pigs, and
the herd rushed down the
steep bank into the lake and
were drowned.

34 When those who fed
them saw what had hap-
pened, they fled and told it
in the city and in the country.

35 People went out to see
what had happened. They
came to Jesus and found the
man from whom the demons
had gone out, sitting at Jesus’
feet, clothed and in his right
mind; and they were afraid.
36 Those who saw it told
them how he who had been
possessed by demons was
healed. 37 All the people of
the surrounding country of
the Gadarenes asked him to
depart from them, for they
were very much afraid. Then
he entered into the boat and
returned. 38 But the man
from whom the demons had
gone out begged him that
he might go with him, but
Jesus sent him away, saying,
39 **“Return to your house,
and declare what great
things God has done for
you.”** He went his way,
proclaiming throughout the

✡ **8:24** See Psalm 107:29

whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

40 When Jesus returned,
the multitude welcomed
him, for they were all waiting
for him. 41 Behold, a man
named Jairus came. He was
a ruler of the synagogue.
He fell down at Jesus' feet
and begged him to come into
his house, 42 for he had an
only born† daughter, about
twelve years of age, and
she was dying. But as he
went, the multitudes pressed
against him. 43 A woman
who had a flow of blood for
twelve years, who had spent
all her living on physicians
and could not be healed by
any, 44 came behind him and
touched the fringe‡ of his
cloak. Immediately the flow
of her blood stopped.

45 Jesus said, **"Who touched me?"**

When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes press and jostle you, and you say, **'Who touched me?'"**

46 But Jesus said, **"Someone did touch me, for I perceived that power has gone out of me."** 47 When the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him declared to him in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately. 48 He said to her, **"Daughter, cheer up. Your faith has made you well. Go in peace."**

49 While he still spoke, one from the ruler of the synagogue's house came, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Don't trouble the Teacher."

50 But Jesus hearing it, answered him, **"Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be healed."**

51 When he came to the house, he didn't allow anyone to enter in, except Peter, John, James, the father of the child, and her mother. 52 All were weeping and mourning her, but he said, **"Don't weep. She isn't dead, but sleeping."**

53 They were ridiculing him, knowing that she was dead. 54 But he put them all outside, and taking her by the hand, he called, saying, **"Child, arise!"** 55 Her spirit returned, and she rose up immediately. He commanded that something be given to her to eat. 56 Her parents were amazed, but he commanded them to tell no one what had been done.

9

1 He called the twelve* together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. 2 He sent them out to preach God's Kingdom and to heal the sick. 3 He said

† **8:42** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". ‡ **8:44** or, tassel

* **9:1** TR reads "his twelve disciples" instead of "the twelve"

to them, **“Take nothing for your journey —no staffs, nor wallet, nor bread, nor money. Don’t have two tunics each.** 4 **Into whatever house you enter, stay there, and depart from there.** 5 **As many as don’t receive you, when you depart from that city, shake off even the dust from your feet for a testimony against them.”**

6 They departed and went throughout the villages, preaching the Good News and healing everywhere.

7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by him; and he was very perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead, 8 and by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the old prophets had risen again. 9 Herod said, “I beheaded John, but who is this about whom I hear such things?” He sought to see him.

10 The apostles, when they had returned, told him what things they had done.

He took them and withdrew apart to a desert region of† a city called Bethsaida. 11 But the multitudes, perceiving it, followed him. He welcomed them, spoke to them of God’s Kingdom, and he cured those who needed healing. 12 The day began to wear away; and the twelve came and said to him, “Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and farms and lodge and get food, for we are here in a deserted place.”

13 But he said to them, **“You give them something to eat.”**

They said, “We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we should go and buy food for all these people.” 14 For they were about five thousand men.

He said to his disciples, **“Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each.”** 15 They did so, and made them all sit down. 16 He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to the sky, he blessed them, broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude. 17 They ate and were all filled. They gathered up twelve baskets of broken pieces that were left over.

18 As he was praying alone, the disciples were near him, and he asked them, **“Who do the multitudes say that I am?”**

19 They answered, “ ‘John the Baptizer,’ but others say, ‘Elijah,’ and others, that one of the old prophets has risen again.”

20 He said to them, **“But who do you say that I am?”**

Peter answered, “The Christ of God.”

21 But he warned them and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, **“The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by**

† **9:10** NU omits “a desert region of”.

the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and the third day be raised up."

23 He said to all, **"If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross,‡ and follow me.** 24 **For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever will lose his life for my sake will save it.** 25 **For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits his own self?** 26 **For whoever will be ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory, and the glory of the Father, and of the holy angels.** 27 **But I tell you the truth: There are some of those who stand here who will in no way taste of death until they see God's Kingdom."**

28 About eight days after these sayings, he took with him Peter, John, and James, and went up onto the mountain to pray. 29 As he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became white and dazzling. 30 Behold, two men were talking with him, who were Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure,§ which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they were fully awake, they saw his glory, and the two men who stood with him. 33 As they were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let's make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not knowing what he said.

34 While he said these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered into the cloud. 35 A voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!" 36 When the voice came, Jesus was found alone. They were silent, and told no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.

37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great multitude met him. 38 Behold, a man from the crowd called out, saying, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only born* child. 39 Behold, a spirit takes him, he suddenly cries out, and it convulses him so that he foams; and it hardly departs from him, bruising him severely. 40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, and they couldn't."

41 Jesus answered, **"Faithless and perverse genera-**

‡ **9:23** TR, NU add "daily" § **9:31** literally, "exodus" * **9:38** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".

tion, how long shall I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here."

42 While he was still coming, the demon threw him down and convulsed him violently. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. 43 They were all astonished at the majesty of God.

But while all were marveling at all the things which Jesus did, he said to his disciples, 44 **"Let these words sink into your ears, for the Son of Man will be delivered up into the hands of men."** 45 But they didn't understand this saying. It was concealed from them, that they should not perceive it, and they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

46 An argument arose among them about which of them was the greatest. 47 Jesus, perceiving the reasoning of their hearts, took a little child, and set him by his side, 48 and said to them, **"Whoever receives this little child in my name receives me. Whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For whoever is least among you all, this one will be great."**

49 John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we forbade him, because he doesn't follow with us."

50 Jesus said to him, **"Don't forbid him, for he who is not against us is for us."**

51 It came to pass, when the days were near that he should be taken up, he intently set his face to go to Jerusalem 52 and sent messengers before his face. They went and entered into a village of the Samaritans, so as to prepare for him. 53 They didn't receive him, because he was traveling with his face set toward Jerusalem. 54 When his disciples, James and John, saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from the sky and destroy them, just as Elijah did?"

55 But he turned and rebuked them, **"You don't know of what kind of spirit you are.** 56 **For the Son of Man didn't come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."**

They went to another village. 57 As they went on the way, a certain man said to him, "I want to follow you wherever you go, Lord."

58 Jesus said to him, **"The foxes have holes and the birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."**

59 He said to another, **"Follow me!"**

But he said, "Lord, allow me first to go and bury my father."

60 But Jesus said to him, **"Leave the dead to bury their own dead, but you go and announce God's Kingdom."**

61 Another also said, "I want to follow you, Lord, but

first allow me to say goodbye to those who are at my house."
62 But Jesus said to him, **"No one, having put his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for God's Kingdom."**

10

1 Now after these things, the Lord also appointed seventy others, and sent them two by two ahead of him* into every city and place where he was about to come. 2 Then he said to them, **"The harvest is indeed plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore to the Lord of the harvest, that he may send out laborers into his harvest. 3 Go your ways. Behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. 4 Carry no purse, nor wallet, nor sandals. Greet no one on the way. 5 Into whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house.' 6 If a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. 7 Remain in that same house, eating and drinking the things they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Don't go from house to house. 8 Into whatever city you enter and they receive you, eat the things that are set before you. 9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'God's Kingdom has come near to you.' 10 But into whatever city you enter and they don't receive you, go out into its streets and say, 11 'Even the dust from your city that clings to us, we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that God's Kingdom has come near to you.' 12 I tell you, it will be more tolerable in that day for Sodom than for that city.**

13 **"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon which were done in you, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. 14 But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment than for you. 15 You, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades. † 16 Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me. Whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me."**
17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"
18 He said to them, **"I saw Satan having fallen like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I give you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions,**

* **10:1** literally, "before his face" † **10:15** Hades is the lower realm of the dead, or Hell.

and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will in any way hurt you. 20 **Nevertheless, don't rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."**

21 In that same hour, Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit, and said, **"I thank you, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in your sight."**

22 Turning to the disciples, he said, **"All things have been delivered to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is, except the Father, and who the Father is, except the Son, and he to whomever the Son desires to reveal him."**

23 Turning to the disciples, he said privately, **"Blessed are the eyes which see the things that you see,** 24 **for I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see the things which you see, and didn't see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and didn't hear them."**

25 Behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 He said to him, **"What is written in the law? How do you read it?"**

27 He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind;✡ and your neighbor as yourself."✡

28 He said to him, **"You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live."**

29 But he, desiring to justify himself, asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?"

30 Jesus answered, **"A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who both stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.** 31 **By chance a certain priest was going down that way. When he saw him, he passed by on the other side.** 32 **In the same way a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.** 33 **But a certain Samaritan, as he traveled, came where he was. When he saw him, he was moved with compassion,** 34 **came to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.** 35 **On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the host, and said to him, 'Take care of**

✡ **10:27** Deuteronomy 6:5 ✡ **10:27** Leviticus 19:18

him. Whatever you spend beyond that, I will repay you when I return.' 36 **Now which of these three do you think seemed to be a neighbor to him who fell among the robbers?"**

37 He said, "He who showed mercy on him."

Then Jesus said to him, **"Go and do likewise."**

38 As they went on their way, he entered into a certain village, and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard his word. 40 But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she came up to him, and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister left me to serve alone? Ask her therefore to help me."

41 Jesus answered her, **"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,** 42 **but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her."**

11

1 When he finished praying in a certain place, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

2 He said to them, **"When you pray, say,**

'Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come.
May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
3 **Give us day by day our daily bread.**
4 **Forgive us our sins,**
for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
Bring us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.' "

5 He said to them, **"Which of you, if you go to a friend at midnight and tell him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,** 6 **for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him,'** 7 **and he from within will answer and say, 'Don't bother me. The door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give it to you'?** 8 **I tell you, although he will not rise and give it to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence, he will get up and give him as many as he needs.**

9 **"I tell you, keep asking, and it will be given you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened to you.** 10 **For everyone who asks receives. He who seeks finds. To him who knocks it will be opened.**

11 **"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he won't**

give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? 12 **Or if he asks for an egg, he won't give him a scorpion, will he?** 13 **If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"**

14 He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke; and the multitudes marveled. 15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of the demons." 16 Others, testing him, sought from him a sign from heaven. 17 But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, **"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation. A house divided against itself falls.** 18 **If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul.** 19 **But if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your children cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges.** 20 **But if I by God's finger cast out demons, then God's Kingdom has come to you.**

21 **"When the strong man, fully armed, guards his own dwelling, his goods are safe.** 22 **But when someone stronger attacks him and overcomes him, he takes from him his whole armor in which he trusted, and divides his plunder.**

23 **"He who is not with me is against me. He who doesn't gather with me scatters.**

24 **The unclean spirit, when he has gone out of the man, passes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will turn back to my house from which I came out.'** 25 **When he returns, he finds it swept and put in order.** 26 **Then he goes and takes seven other spirits more evil than himself, and they enter in and dwell there. The last state of that man becomes worse than the first."**

27 It came to pass, as he said these things, a certain woman out of the multitude lifted up her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts which nursed you!"

28 But he said, **"On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and keep it."**

29 When the multitudes were gathering together to him, he began to say, **"This is an evil generation. It seeks after a sign. No sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet.** 30 **For even as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so the Son of Man will also be to this generation.** 31 **The Queen of the South will rise up**

in the judgment with the men of this generation and will condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, one greater than Solomon is here. 32 **The men of Nineveh will stand up in the judgment with this generation, and will condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, one greater than Jonah is here.**

33 **"No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a cellar or under a basket, but on a stand, that those who come in may see the light.** 34 **The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore when your eye is good, your whole body is also full of light; but when it is evil, your body also is full of darkness.** 35 **Therefore see whether the light that is in you isn't darkness.** 36 **If therefore your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly full of light, as when the lamp with its bright shining gives you light."**

37 Now as he spoke, a certain Pharisee asked him to dine with him. He went in and sat at the table. 38 When the Pharisee saw it, he marveled that he had not first washed himself before dinner. 39 The Lord said to him, **"Now you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and of the platter, but your inward part is full of extortion and wickedness.** 40 **You foolish ones, didn't he who made the outside make the inside also?** 41 **But give for gifts to the needy those things which are within, and behold, all things will be clean to you.** 42 **But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe the mint and rue and every herb, but you bypass justice and God's love. You ought to have done these, and not to have left the other undone.** 43 **Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the best seats in the synagogues and the greetings in the marketplaces.** 44 **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like hidden graves, and the men who walk over them don't know it."**

45 One of the lawyers answered him, "Teacher, in saying this you insult us also."

46 He said, **"Woe to you lawyers also! For you load men with burdens that are difficult to carry, and you yourselves won't even lift one finger to help carry those burdens.** 47 **Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.** 48 **So you testify and consent to the works of your fathers. For they killed them, and you build their tombs.** 49 **Therefore also the wisdom of God said, 'I will send to them prophets and apostles; and some of them they will kill 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 to the blood of Zachariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary.' Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation.** 52 **Woe to you lawyers! For you took away the key of knowledge. You didn't enter in yourselves, and those who were entering in, you hindered."**

53 As he said these things to them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to be terribly angry, and to draw many things out of him, 54 lying in wait for him, and seeking to catch him in something he might say, that they might accuse him.

12

1 Meanwhile, when a multitude of many thousands had gathered together, so much so that they trampled on each other, he began to tell his disciples first of all, **"Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.** 2 **But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.** 3 **Therefore whatever you have said in the darkness will be heard in the light. What you have spoken in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.**

4 **"I tell you, my friends, don't be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.** 5 **But I will warn you whom you should fear. Fear him who after he has killed, has power to cast into Gehenna.*** **Yes, I tell you, fear him.**

6 **"Aren't five sparrows sold for two assaria coins†? Not one of them is forgotten by God.** 7 **But the very hairs of your head are all counted. Therefore don't be afraid. You are of more value than many sparrows.**

8 **"I tell you, everyone who confesses me before men, the Son of Man will also confess before the angels of God;** 9 **but he who denies me in the presence of men will be denied in the presence of God's angels.** 10 **Everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but those who blaspheme against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.** 11 **When they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers, and the authorities, don't be anxious how or what you will answer or what you will say;** 12 **for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that same hour what you must say."**

* **12:5** or, Hell † **12:6** An assarion was a small copper coin worth about an hour's wages for an agricultural laborer.

13 One of the multitude
said to him, "Teacher, tell
my brother to divide the
inheritance with me."
14 But he said to him, **"Man,
who made me a judge or
an arbitrator over you?"**
15 He said to them, **"Beware!
Keep yourselves from cov-
etousness, for a man's life
doesn't consist of the abun-
dance of the things which
he possesses."**
16 He spoke a parable to
them, saying, **"The ground
of a certain rich man pro-
duced abundantly.** 17 **He
reasoned within himself,
saying, 'What will I do, be-
cause I don't have room to
store my crops?'** 18 **He
said, 'This is what I will
do. I will pull down my
barns, build bigger ones,
and there I will store all my
grain and my goods.** 19 **I
will tell my soul, "Soul, you
have many goods laid up
for many years. Take your
ease, eat, drink, and be
merry." '**
20 **"But God said to him,
'You foolish one, tonight
your soul is required of
you. The things which you
have prepared —whose
will they be?'** 21 **So is he
who lays up treasure for
himself, and is not rich
toward God."**
22 He said to his disciples,
**"Therefore I tell you, don't
be anxious for your life,
what you will eat, nor
yet for your body, what
you will wear.** 23 **Life
is more than food, and
the body is more than
clothing.** 24 **Consider the
ravens: they don't sow,
they don't reap, they have
no warehouse or barn,
and God feeds them. How
much more valuable are
you than birds!** 25 **Which
of you by being anxious
can add a cubit‡ to his
height?** 26 **If then you
aren't able to do even the
least things, why are you
anxious about the rest?**
27 **Consider the lilies, how
they grow. They don't toil,
neither do they spin; yet
I tell you, even Solomon
in all his glory was not
arrayed like one of these.**
28 **But if this is how God
clothes the grass in the
field, which today exists
and tomorrow is cast into
the oven, how much more
will he clothe you, O you of
little faith?**
29 **"Don't seek what you
will eat or what you will
drink; neither be anxious.**
30 **For the nations of the
world seek after all of
these things, but your
Father knows that you
need these things.** 31 **But
seek God's Kingdom, and
all these things will be
added to you.**
32 **"Don't be afraid, little
flock, for it is your Father's
good pleasure to give you
the Kingdom.** 33 **Sell
what you have and give**

‡ **12:25** A cubit is the length from the tip of the middle finger to the elbow on a man's arm, or about 18 inches or 46 centimeters.

gifts to the needy. Make for yourselves purses which don't grow old, a treasure in the heavens that doesn't fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. 34 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

35 **"Let your waist be dressed and your lamps burning.** 36 **Be like men watching for their lord when he returns from the wedding feast, that when he comes and knocks, they may immediately open to him.** 37 **Blessed are those servants whom the lord will find watching when he comes. Most certainly I tell you that he will dress himself, make them recline, and will come and serve them.** 38 **They will be blessed if he comes in the second or third watch and finds them so.** 39 **But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what hour the thief was coming, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.** 40 **Therefore be ready also, for the Son of Man is coming in an hour that you don't expect him."**

41 Peter said to him, "Lord, are you telling this parable to us, or to everybody?"

42 The Lord said, **"Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom his lord will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the right times?** 43 **Blessed is that servant whom his lord will find doing so when he comes.** 44 **Truly I tell you that he will set him over all that he has.** 45 **But if that servant says in his heart, 'My lord delays his coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, and to eat and drink and to be drunken,** 46 **then the lord of that servant will come in a day when he isn't expecting him and in an hour that he doesn't know, and will cut him in two, and place his portion with the unfaithful.** 47 **That servant who knew his lord's will, and didn't prepare nor do what he wanted, will be beaten with many stripes,** 48 **but he who didn't know, and did things worthy of stripes, will be beaten with few stripes. To whomever much is given, of him will much be required; and to whom much was entrusted, of him more will be asked.**

49 **"I came to throw fire on the earth. I wish it were already kindled.** 50 **But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!** 51 **Do you think that I have come to give peace in the earth? I tell you, no, but rather division.** 52 **For from now on, there will be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three.**

53 **They will be divided,
father against son, and
son against father; mother
against daughter, and
daughter against her
mother; mother-in-law
against her daughter-in-
law, and daughter-in-law
against her mother-in-
law."** ✡
54 He said to the multitudes
also, **"When you see a
cloud rising from the west,
immediately you say, 'A
shower is coming,' and so
it happens.** 55 **When a
south wind blows, you say,
'There will be a scorching
heat,' and it happens.**
56 **You hypocrites! You
know how to interpret the
appearance of the earth
and the sky, but how is it
that you don't interpret
this time?**
57 **"Why don't you judge
for yourselves what is
right?** 58 **For when you are
going with your adversary
before the magistrate, try
diligently on the way to
be released from him, lest
perhaps he drag you to
the judge, and the judge
deliver you to the officer,
and the officer throw you
into prison.** 59 **I tell you,
you will by no means get
out of there until you have
paid the very last penny.**§**"**

13

1 Now there were some
present at the same time who
told him about the Galileans
whose blood Pilate had
mixed with their sacrifices.
2 Jesus answered them,
**"Do you think that these
Galileans were worse
sinners than all the other
Galileans, because they
suffered such things?** 3 **I
tell you, no, but unless you
repent, you will all perish
in the same way.** 4 **Or
those eighteen on whom
the tower in Siloam fell
and killed them —do you
think that they were worse
offenders than all the men
who dwell in Jerusalem?**
5 **I tell you, no, but, unless
you repent, you will all
perish in the same way."**
6 He spoke this parable. **"A
certain man had a fig tree
planted in his vineyard,
and he came seeking fruit
on it and found none.** 7 **He
said to the vine dresser,
'Behold, these three years
I have come looking for
fruit on this fig tree, and
found none. Cut it down!
Why does it waste the soil?'**
8 **He answered, 'Lord, leave
it alone this year also, until
I dig around it and fertilize
it.** 9 **If it bears fruit, fine;
but if not, after that, you
can cut it down.' "**
10 He was teaching in one
of the synagogues on the Sab-
bath day. 11 Behold, there
was a woman who had a
spirit of infirmity eighteen

✡ **12:53** Micah 7:6 § **12:59** literally, lepton. A lepton is a very small brass Jewish coin worth half a Roman quadrans each, which is worth a quarter of the copper assarion. Lepta are worth less than 1% of an agricultural worker's daily wages.

years. She was bent over and could in no way straighten herself up. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, **"Woman, you are freed from your infirmity."** 13 He laid his hands on her, and immediately she stood up straight and glorified God.

14 The ruler of the synagogue, being indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the multitude, "There are six days in which men ought to work. Therefore come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day!"

15 Therefore the Lord answered him, **"You hypocrites! Doesn't each one of you free his ox or his donkey from the stall on the Sabbath and lead him away to water? 16 Ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham whom Satan had bound eighteen long years, be freed from this bondage on the Sabbath day?"**

17 As he said these things, all his adversaries were disappointed; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

18 He said, **"What is God's Kingdom like? To what shall I compare it? 19 It is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and put in his own garden. It grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the sky live in its branches."**

20 Again he said, **"To what shall I compare God's Kingdom? 21 It is like yeast, which a woman took and hid in three measures * of flour, until it was all leavened."**

22 He went on his way through cities and villages, teaching, and traveling on to Jerusalem. 23 One said to him, "Lord, are they few who are saved?"

He said to them, 24 **"Strive to enter in by the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will seek to enter in and will not be able. 25 When once the master of the house has risen up and has shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' then he will answer and tell you, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' 26 Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' 27 He will say, 'I tell you, I don't know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity.' 28 There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets in God's Kingdom, and yourselves being thrown outside. 29 They**

* **13:21** literally, three sata. 3 sata is about 39 liters or a bit more than a bushel.

will come from the east, west, north, and south, and will sit down in God's Kingdom. 30 **Behold, there are some who are last who will be first, and there are some who are first who will be last."**

31 On that same day, some Pharisees came, saying to him, "Get out of here and go away, for Herod wants to kill you."

32 He said to them, **"Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I complete my mission.** 33 **Nevertheless I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the next day, for it can't be that a prophet would perish outside of Jerusalem.'**

34 **"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, like a hen gathers her own brood under her wings, and you refused!** 35 **Behold, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' "** ✡

14

1 When he went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees on a Sabbath to eat bread, they were watching him. 2 Behold, a certain man who had dropsy was in front of him. 3 Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, **"Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"**

4 But they were silent.

He took him, and healed him, and let him go. 5 He answered them, **"Which of you, if your son* or an ox fell into a well, wouldn't immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?"**

6 They couldn't answer him regarding these things.

7 He spoke a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the best seats, and said to them, 8 **"When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, don't sit in the best seat, since perhaps someone more honorable than you might be invited by him,** 9 **and he who invited both of you would come and tell you, 'Make room for this person.' Then you would begin, with shame, to take the lowest place.** 10 **But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes, he may tell you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.** 11 **For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever**

✡ **13:35** Psalm 118:26 * **14:5** TR reads "donkey" instead of "son"

humbles himself will be exalted."

12 He also said to the one who had invited him, **"When you make a dinner or a supper, don't call your friends, nor your brothers, nor your kinsmen, nor rich neighbors, or perhaps they might also return the favor, and pay you back.** 13 **But when you make a feast, ask the poor, the maimed, the lame, or the blind;** 14 **and you will be blessed, because they don't have the resources to repay you. For you will be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous."**

15 When one of those who sat at the table with him heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is he who will feast in God's Kingdom!"

16 But he said to him, **"A certain man made a great supper, and he invited many people.** 17 **He sent out his servant at supper time to tell those who were invited, 'Come, for everything is ready now.'** 18 **They all as one began to make excuses.**

"The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please have me excused.'

19 **"Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go try them out. Please have me excused.'**

20 **"Another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I can't come.'**

21 **"That servant came, and told 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 the poor, maimed, blind, and lame.'**

22 **"The servant said, 'Lord, it is done as you commanded, and there is still room.'**

23 **"The lord said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.** 24 **For I tell you that none of those men who were invited will taste of my supper.' "**

25 Now great multitudes were going with him. He turned and said to them, 26 **"If anyone comes to me, and doesn't disregard† his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he can't be my disciple.** 27 **Whoever doesn't bear his own cross and come after me, can't be my disciple.** 28 **For which of you, desiring to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and count the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it?** 29 **Or perhaps, when he has laid a foundation and isn't able to finish, everyone who sees begins to mock him,** 30 **saying, 'This man began to build and wasn't**

† **14:26** or, hate

able to finish.’ 31 **Or what king, as he goes to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?** 32 **Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an envoy and asks for conditions of peace.** 33 **So therefore, whoever of you who doesn’t renounce all that he has, he can’t be my disciple.**

34 **“Salt is good, but if the salt becomes flat and tasteless, with what do you season it?** 35 **It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile. It is thrown out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”**

15

1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming close to him to hear him. 2 The Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, “This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.”

3 He told them this parable: 4 **“Which of you men, if you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them, wouldn’t leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that was lost, until he found it?** 5 **When he has found it, he carries it on his shoulders, rejoicing.** 6 **When he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’** 7 **I tell you that even so there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents, than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.**

8 **“Or what woman, if she had ten drachma* coins, if she lost one drachma coin, wouldn’t light a lamp, sweep the house, and seek diligently until she found it?** 9 **When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the drachma which I had lost!’** 10 **Even so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner repenting.”**

11 He said, **“A certain man had two sons.** 12 **The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of your property.’ So he divided his livelihood between them.** 13 **Not many days after, the younger son gathered all of this together and traveled into a far country. There he wasted his property with riotous living.** 14 **When he had spent all of it, there arose a severe famine in that country, and he began to be in need.** 15 **He went and joined himself to**

* **15:8** A drachma coin was worth about 2 days wages for an agricultural laborer.

one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed pigs. 16 **He wanted to fill his belly with the pods that the pigs ate, but no one gave him any.** 17 **But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough to spare, and I'm dying with hunger!** 18 **I will get up and go to my father, and will tell him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight.** 19 **I am no more worthy to be called your son. Make me as one of your hired servants." '**

20 **"He arose and came to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion, and ran, fell on his neck, and kissed him.** 21 **The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'**

22 **"But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.** 23 **Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let's eat and celebrate;** 24 **for this, my son, was dead and is alive again. He was lost and is found.' Then they began to celebrate.**

25 **"Now his elder son was in the field. As he came near to the house, he heard music and dancing.** 26 **He called one of the servants to him and asked what was going on.** 27 **He said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and healthy.'** 28 **But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and begged him.** 29 **But he answered his father, 'Behold, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed a commandment of yours, but you never gave me a goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.** 30 **But when this your son came, who has devoured your living with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.'**

31 **"He said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.** 32 **But it was appropriate to celebrate and be glad, for this, your brother, was dead, and is alive again. He was lost, and is found.' "**

16

1 He also said to his disciples, **"There was a certain rich man who had a manager. An accusation was made to him that this man was wasting his possessions.** 2 **He called him, and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give an accounting of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'**

3 **"The manager said within himself, 'What will**

I do, seeing that my lord is taking away the management position from me? I don't have strength to dig. I am ashamed to beg.
4 I know what I will do, so that when I am removed from management, they may receive me into their houses.'
5 Calling each one of his lord's debtors to him, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe to my lord?'
6 He said, 'A hundred batos* of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'
7 Then he said to another, 'How much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred cors† of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

8 "His lord commended the dishonest manager because he had done wisely, for the children of this world are, in their own generation, wiser than the children of the light.
9 I tell you, make for yourselves friends by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when you fail, they may receive you into the eternal tents.
10 He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much. He who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.
11 If therefore you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?
12 If you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?
13 No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other; or else he will hold to one and despise the other. You aren't able to serve God and Mammon."‡
14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they scoffed at him.
15 He said to them, **"You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts. For that which is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.**

16 "The law and the prophets were until John. From that time the Good News of God's Kingdom is preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.
17 But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tiny stroke of a pen in the law to fall.

18 "Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery. He who marries one who is divorced from a husband commits adultery.

19 "Now there was a certain rich man, and he was clothed in purple and fine linen, living in luxury every day.
20 A certain

* **16:6** 100 batos is about 395 liters or 104 U. S. gallons. † **16:7** 100 cors = about 2,110 liters or 600 bushels. ‡ **16:13** "Mammon" refers to riches or a false god of wealth.

beggar, named Lazarus, was taken to his gate, full of sores, 21 **and desiring to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. Yes, even the dogs came and licked his sores.** 22 **The beggar died, and he was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.** 23 **In Hades,**§ **he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far off, and Lazarus at his bosom.** 24 **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 in anguish in this flame.'**

25 **"But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that you, in your lifetime, received your good things, and Lazarus, in the same way, bad things. But here he is now comforted and you are in anguish.** 26 **Besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, that those who want to pass from here to you are not able, and that no one may cross over from there to us.'**

27 **"He said, 'I ask you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house—** 28 **for I have five brothers—that he may testify to them, so they won't also come into this place of torment.'**

29 **"But Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.'**

30 **"He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'**

31 **"He said to him, 'If they don't listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if one rises from the dead.' "**

17

1 He said to the disciples, **"It is impossible that no occasions of stumbling should come, but woe to him through whom they come!** 2 **It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, rather than that he should cause one of these little ones to stumble.** 3 **Be careful. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive him.** 4 **If he sins against you seven times in the day, and seven times returns, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."**

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

6 The Lord said, **"If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you would tell this sycamore tree, 'Be uprooted and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.** 7 **But who is there among you, having a servant plowing**

§ **16:23** or, Hell

or keeping sheep, that will say when he comes in from the field, 'Come immediately and sit down at the table'? 8 Wouldn't he rather tell him, 'Prepare my supper, clothe yourself properly, and serve me while I eat and drink. Afterward you shall eat and drink'? 9 Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded? I think not. 10 Even so you also, when you have done all the things that are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy servants. We have done our duty.' "

11 As he was on his way to Jerusalem, he was passing along the borders of Samaria and Galilee. 12 As he entered into a certain village, ten men who were lepers met him, who stood at a distance. 13 They lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

14 When he saw them, he said to them, **"Go and show yourselves to the priests."** As they went, they were cleansed. 15 One of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice. 16 He fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks; and he was a Samaritan.

17 Jesus answered, **"Weren't the ten cleansed? But where are the nine? 18 Were there none found who returned to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"** 19 Then he said to him, **"Get up, and go your way. Your faith has healed you."**

20 Being asked by the Pharisees when God's Kingdom would come, he answered them, **"God's Kingdom doesn't come with observation; 21 neither will they say, 'Look, here!' or, 'Look, there!' for behold, God's Kingdom is within you."**

22 He said to the disciples, **"The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. 23 They will tell you, 'Look, here!' or 'Look, there!' Don't go away or follow after them, 24 for as the lightning, when it flashes out of one part under the sky, shines to another part under the sky, so will the Son of Man be in his day. 25 But first, he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. 26 As it was in the days of Noah, even so it will also be in the days of the Son of Man. 27 They ate, they drank, they married, and they were given in marriage until the day that Noah entered into the ship, and the flood came and destroyed them all. 28 Likewise, even as it was in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but**

in the day that Lot went out from Sodom, it rained fire and sulfur from the sky and destroyed them all. 30 **It will be the same way in the day that the Son of Man is revealed.** 31 **In that day, he who will be on the housetop and his goods in the house, let him not go down to take them away. Let him who is in the field likewise not turn back.** 32 **Remember Lot's wife!** 33 **Whoever seeks to save his life loses it, but whoever loses his life preserves it.** 34 **I tell you, in that night there will be two people in one bed. One will be taken and the other will be left.** 35 **There will be two grinding grain together. One will be taken and the other will be left."** 36 *

37 They, answering, asked him, "Where, Lord?"

He said to them, **"Where the body is, there the vultures will also be gathered together."**

18

1 He also spoke a parable to them that they must always pray and not give up, 2 saying, **"There was a judge in a certain city who didn't fear God and didn't respect man.** 3 **A widow was in that city, and she often came to him, saying, 'Defend me from my adversary!'** 4 **He wouldn't for a while; but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man,** 5 **yet because this widow bothers me, I will defend her, or else she will wear me out by her continual coming.' "**

6 The Lord said, **"Listen to what the unrighteous judge says.** 7 **Won't God avenge his chosen ones who are crying out to him day and night, and yet he exercises patience with them?** 8 **I tell you that he will avenge them quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"**

9 He also spoke this parable to certain people who were convinced of their own righteousness, and who despised all others: 10 **"Two men went up into the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector.** 11 **The Pharisee stood and prayed by himself like this: 'God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men: extortionists, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.** 12 **I fast twice a week. I give tithes of all that I get.'** 13 **But the tax collector, standing far away, wouldn't even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat 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**

* **17:36** Some Greek manuscripts add: "Two will be in the field: the one taken, and the other left."

everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

15 They were also bringing their babies to him, that he might touch them. But when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. 16 Jesus summoned them, saying, **"Allow the little children to come to me, and don't hinder them, for God's Kingdom belongs to such as these. 17 Most certainly, I tell you, whoever doesn't receive God's Kingdom like a little child, he will in no way enter into it."**

18 A certain ruler asked him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

19 Jesus asked him, **"Why do you call me good? No one is good, except one: God. 20 You know the commandments: 'Don't commit adultery,' 'Don't murder,' 'Don't steal,' 'Don't give false testimony,' 'Honor your father and your mother.' "**✡

21 He said, "I have observed all these things from my youth up."

22 When Jesus heard these things, he said to him, **"You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."**

23 But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was very rich.

24 Jesus, seeing that he became very sad, said, **"How hard it is for those who have riches to enter into God's Kingdom! 25 For it is easier for a camel to enter in through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter into God's Kingdom."**

26 Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?"

27 But he said, **"The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."**

28 Peter said, "Look, we have left everything and followed you."

29 He said to them, **"Most certainly I tell you, there is no one who has left house, or wife, or brothers, or parents, or children, for God's Kingdom's sake, 30 who will not receive many times more in this time, and in the world to come, eternal life."**

31 He took the twelve aside and said to them, **"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all the things that are written through the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be completed. 32 For he will be delivered up to the Gentiles, will be mocked, treated shamefully, and spit on. 33 They will scourge and kill him. On the third day, he will rise again."**

✡ **18:20** Exodus 20:12-16; Deuteronomy 5:16-20

34 They understood none of
these things. This saying was
hidden from them, and they
didn't understand the things
that were said.
35 As he came near Jericho,
a certain blind man sat by the
road, begging. 36 Hearing a
multitude going by, he asked
what this meant. 37 They told
him that Jesus of Nazareth
was passing by. 38 He cried
out, "Jesus, you son of David,
have mercy on me!" 39 Those
who led the way rebuked
him, that he should be quiet;
but he cried out all the more,
"You son of David, have
mercy on me!"
40 Standing still, Jesus com-
manded him to be brought
to him. When he had come
near, he asked him, 41 **"What
do you want me to do?"**
He said, "Lord, that I may
see again."
42 Jesus said to him, **"Re-
ceive your sight. Your
faith has healed you."**
43 Immediately he received
his sight and followed him,
glorifying God. All the peo-
ple, when they saw it, praised
God.

19

1 He entered and was pass-
ing through Jericho. 2 There
was a man named Zaccha-
eus. He was a chief tax
collector, and he was rich.
3 He was trying to see who
Jesus was, and couldn't be-
cause of the crowd, because
he was short. 4 He ran on
ahead and climbed up into a
sycamore tree to see him, for
he was going to pass that way.
5 When Jesus came to the
place, he looked up and saw
him, and said to him, **"Zac-
chaeus, hurry and come
down, for today I must stay
at your house."** 6 He
hurried, came down, and re-
ceived him joyfully. 7 When
they saw it, they all mur-
mured, saying, "He has gone
in to lodge with a man who is
a sinner."
8 Zacchaeus stood and said
to the Lord, "Behold, Lord,
half of my goods I give to the
poor. If I have wrongfully
exacted anything of anyone, I
restore four times as much."
9 Jesus said to him, **"Today,
salvation has come to this
house, because he also is a
son of Abraham. 10 For the
Son of Man came to seek
and to save that which was
lost."**
11 As they heard these
things, he went on and
told a parable, because he
was near Jerusalem, and
they supposed that God's
Kingdom would be revealed
immediately. 12 He said
therefore, **"A certain no-
bleman went into a far
country to receive for
himself a kingdom and to
return. 13 He called ten
servants of his and gave
them ten mina coins, *
and told them, 'Conduct
business until I come.'
14 But his citizens hated
him, and sent an envoy**

* **19:13** 10 minas was more than 3 years' wages for an agricultural laborer.

after him, saying, 'We don't want this man to reign over us.'

15 **"When he had come back again, having received the kingdom, he commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by conducting business.** 16 **The first came before him, saying, 'Lord, your mina has made ten more minas.'**

17 **"He said to him, 'Well done, you good servant! Because you were found faithful with very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.'**

18 **"The second came, saying, 'Your mina, Lord, has made five minas.'**

19 **"So he said to him, 'And you are to be over five cities.'**

20 **Another came, saying, 'Lord, behold, your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief,** 21 **for I feared you, because you are an exacting man. You take up that which you didn't lay down, and reap that which you didn't sow.'**

22 **"He said to him, 'Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant! You knew that I am an exacting man, taking up that which I didn't lay down and reaping that which I didn't sow.** 23 **Then why didn't you deposit my money in the bank, and at my coming, I might have earned interest on it?'** 24 **He said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to him who has the ten minas.'**

25 **"They said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!'** 26 **'For I tell you that to everyone who has, will more be given; but from him who doesn't have, even that which he has will be taken away from him.** 27 **But bring those enemies of mine who didn't want me to reign over them here, and kill them before me.' "** 28 Having said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

29 When he came near to Bethsphage† and Bethany, at the mountain that is called Olivet, he sent two of his disciples, 30 saying, **"Go your way into the village on the other side, in which, as you enter, you will find a colt tied, which no man has ever sat upon. Untie it and bring it.** 31 **If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say to him: 'The Lord needs it.' "**

32 Those who were sent went away and found things just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They said, "The Lord needs it." 35 Then they brought it to Jesus. They threw their

† **19:29** TR, NU read "Bethpage" instead of "Bethsphage"

cloaks on the colt and sat Jesus on them. 36 As he went, they spread their cloaks on the road.

37 As he was now getting near, 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 which they had seen, 38 saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! ✡ Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest!"

39 Some of the Pharisees from the multitude said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

40 He answered them, **"I tell you that if these were silent, the stones would cry out."**

41 When he came near, he saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, **"If you, even you, had known today the things which belong to your peace! But now, they are hidden from your eyes.** 43 **For the days will come on you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, surround you, hem you in on every side,** 44 **and will dash you and your children within you to the ground. They will not leave in you one stone on another, because you didn't know the time of your visitation."**

45 He entered into the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in it, 46 saying to them, **"It is written, 'My house is a house of prayer,' ✡ but you have made it a 'den of robbers'!"** ✡

47 He was teaching daily in the temple, but the chief priests, the scribes, and the leading men among the people sought to destroy him. 48 They couldn't find what they might do, for all the people hung on to every word that he said.

20

1 On one of those days, as he was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the Good News, the* priests and scribes came to him with the elders. 2 They asked him, "Tell us: by what authority do you do these things? Or who is giving you this authority?"

3 He answered them, **"I also will ask you one question. Tell me:** 4 **the baptism of John, was it from heaven, or from men?"**

5 They reasoned with themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why didn't you believe him?' 6 But if we say, 'From men,' all the people will stone us, for they are persuaded that John was a prophet." 7 They answered that they didn't know where it was from.

8 Jesus said to them, **"Neither will I tell you by**

✡ **19:38** Psalm 118:26 ✡ **19:46** Isaiah 56:7 ✡ **19:46** Jeremiah 7:11 * **20:1** TR adds "chief"

what authority I do these things."

9 He began to tell the people this parable: **"A † man planted a vineyard and rented it out to some farmers, and went into another country for a long time.** 10 **At the proper season, he sent a servant to the farmers to collect his share of the fruit of the vineyard. But the farmers beat him and sent him away empty.** 11 **He sent yet another servant, and they also beat him and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty.** 12 **He sent yet a third, and they also wounded him and threw him out.** 13 **The lord of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. It may be that seeing him, they will respect him.'**

14 **"But when the farmers saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.'** 15 **Then they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What therefore will the lord of the vineyard do to them?** 16 **He will come and destroy these farmers, and will give the vineyard to others."**

When they heard that, they said, "May that never be!"

17 But he looked at them and said, **"Then what is this that is written,**

'The stone which the builders rejected
was made the chief cornerstone?' ✡
18 **Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces,**
but it will crush whomever it falls on to dust."

19 The chief priests and the scribes sought to lay hands on him that very hour, but they feared the people—for they knew he had spoken this parable against them. 20 They watched him and sent out spies, who pretended to be righteous, that they might trap him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the power and authority of the governor. 21 They asked him, "Teacher, we know that you say and teach what is right, and aren't partial to anyone, but truly teach the way of God. 22 Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

23 But he perceived their craftiness, and said to them, **"Why do you test me?** 24 **Show me a denarius. Whose image and inscription are on it?"**

They answered, "Caesar's."

25 He said to them, **"Then give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."**

26 They weren't able to trap him in his words before the people. They marveled at his answer and were silent. 27 Some of the Sadducees

† **20:9** NU (in brackets) and TR add "certain" ✡ **20:17** Psalm 118:22

came to him, those who deny that there is a resurrection. 28 They asked him, "Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a man's brother dies having a wife, and he is childless, his brother should take the wife and raise up children for his brother. 29 There were therefore seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died childless. 30 The second took her as wife, and he died childless. 31 The third took her, and likewise the seven all left no children, and died. 32 Afterward the woman also died. 33 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them will she be? For the seven had her as a wife."

34 Jesus said to them, **"The children of this age marry and are given in marriage. 35 But those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. 36 For they can't die any more, for they are like the angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. 37 But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed at the bush, when he called the Lord 'The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'** ✡ **38 Now he is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all are alive to him."**

39 Some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you speak well." 40 They didn't dare to ask him any more questions.

41 He said to them, **"Why do they say that the Christ is David's son? 42 David himself says in the book of Psalms,**

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand,
43 until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet." ' ✡

44 **"David therefore calls him Lord, so how is he his son?"**

45 In the hearing of all the people, he said to his disciples, 46 **"Beware of those scribes who like to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts; 47 who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."**

21

1 He looked up and saw the rich people who were putting their gifts into the treasury. 2 He saw a certain poor widow casting in two small brass coins.* 3 He said, **"Truly I tell you, this poor widow put in more than all of them, 4 for all these put in gifts for God from their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, put in all that she had to live on."**

5 As some were talking about the temple and how it

✡ **20:37** Exodus 3:6 ✡ **20:43** Psalm 110:1 * **21:2** literally, "two lepta." 2 lepta was about 1% of a day's wages for an agricultural laborer.

was decorated with beautiful stones and gifts, he said, 6 **"As for these things which you see, the days will come in which there will not be left here one stone on another that will not be thrown down."**

7 They asked him, "Teacher, so when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are about to happen?"

8 He said, **"Watch out that you don't get led astray, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he†,' and, 'The time is at hand.' Therefore don't follow them.** 9 **When you hear of wars and disturbances, don't be terrified, for these things must happen first, but the end won't come immediately."**

10 Then he said to them, **"Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.** 11 **There will be great earthquakes, famines, and plagues in various places. There will be terrors and great signs from heaven.** 12 **But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you up to synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for my name's sake.** 13 **It will turn out as a testimony for you.** 14 **Settle it therefore in your hearts not to meditate beforehand how to answer,** 15 **for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to withstand or to contradict.** 16 **You will be handed over even by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends. They will cause some of you to be put to death.** 17 **You will be hated by all men for my name's sake.** 18 **And not a hair of your head will perish.**

19 **"By your endurance you will win your lives.**

20 **"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is at hand.** 21 **Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let those who are in the middle of her depart. Let those who are in the country not enter therein.** 22 **For these are days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.** 23 **Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who nurse infants in those days! For there will be great distress in the land and wrath to this people.** 24 **They will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled down by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.**

25 **"There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars; and on the earth anxiety of nations, in perplexity**

† **21:8** or, I AM

for the roaring of the sea and the waves; 26 **men fainting for fear and for expectation of the things which are coming on the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.** 27 **Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.** 28 **But when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near."**

29 He told them a parable. **"See the fig tree and all the trees.** 30 **When they are already budding, you see it and know by your own selves that the summer is already near.** 31 **Even so you also, when you see these things happening, know that God's Kingdom is near.** 32 **Most certainly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things are accomplished.** 33 **Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away.**

34 **"So be careful, or your hearts will be loaded down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that day will come on you suddenly.** 35 **For it will come like a snare on all those who dwell on the surface of all the earth.** 36 **Therefore be watchful all the time, praying that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will happen, and to stand before the Son of Man."**

37 Every day Jesus was teaching in the temple, and every night he would go out and spend the night on the mountain that is called Olivet. 38 All the people came early in the morning to him in the temple to hear him.

22

1 Now the feast of unleavened bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. 2 The chief priests and the scribes sought how they might put him to death, for they feared the people.

3 Satan entered into Judas, who was also called Iscariot, who was counted with the twelve. 4 He went away and talked with the chief priests and captains about how he might deliver him to them. 5 They were glad, and agreed to give him money. 6 He consented and sought an opportunity to deliver him to them in the absence of the multitude.

7 The day of unleavened bread came, on which the Passover must be sacrificed. 8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, **"Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat."**

9 They said to him, "Where do you want us to prepare?"

10 He said to them, **"Behold, when you have entered into the city, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him into the house which he enters.** 11 **Tell the master**

of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ' 12 **He will show you a large, furnished upper room. Make preparations there."**

13 They went, found things as Jesus had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

14 When the hour had come, he sat down with the twelve apostles. 15 He said to them, **"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer,** 16 **for I tell you, I will no longer by any means eat of it until it is fulfilled in God's Kingdom."** 17 He received a cup, and when he had given thanks, he said, **"Take this and share it among yourselves,** 18 **for I tell you, I will not drink at all again from the fruit of the vine, until God's Kingdom comes."**

19 He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke and gave it to them, saying, **"This is my body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."** 20 Likewise, he took the cup after supper, saying, **"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.** 21 **But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table.** 22 **The Son of Man indeed goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man through whom he is betrayed!"**

23 They began to question among themselves which of them it was who would do this thing.

24 A dispute also arose among them, which of them was considered to be greatest. 25 He said to them, **"The kings of the nations lord it over them, and those who have authority over them are called 'benefactors.'** 26 **But not so with you. Rather, the one who is greater among you, let him become as the younger, and one who is governing, as one who serves.** 27 **For who is greater, one who sits at the table, or one who serves? Isn't it he who sits at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.**

28 **"But you are those who have continued with me in my trials.** 29 **I confer on you a kingdom, even as my Father conferred on me,** 30 **that you may eat and drink at my table in my Kingdom. You will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."**

31 The Lord said, **"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have all of you, that he might sift you as wheat,** 32 **but I prayed for you, that your faith wouldn't fail. You, when once you have turned**

* **22:32** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

again, establish your brothers."*
33 He said to him, "Lord, I
am ready to go with you both
to prison and to death!"
34 He said, **"I tell you,
Peter, the rooster will by
no means crow today until
you deny that you know me
three times."**
35 He said to them, **"When
I sent you out without
purse, bag, and sandals,
did you lack anything?"**
They said, "Nothing."
36 Then he said to them,
**"But now, whoever has
a purse, let him take
it, and likewise a bag.
Whoever has none, let him
sell his cloak, and buy a
sword.** 37 **For I tell you
that this which is written
must still be fulfilled in
me: 'He was counted with
transgressors.'✡ For that
which concerns me is
being fulfilled."**
38 They said, "Lord, behold,
here are two swords."
He said to them, **"That is
enough."**
39 He came out and went, as
his custom was, to the Mount
of Olives. His disciples also
followed him. 40 When he
was at the place, he said to
them, **"Pray that you don't
enter into temptation."**
41 He was withdrawn from
them about a stone's throw,
and he knelt down and
prayed, 42 saying, **"Father,
if you are willing, remove
this cup from me. Never-
theless, not my will, but
yours, be done."**
43 An angel from heaven
appeared to him, strengthen-
ing him. 44 Being in agony,
he prayed more earnestly.
His sweat became like great
drops of blood falling down
on the ground.
45 When he rose up from
his prayer, he came to the
disciples and found them
sleeping because of grief,
46 and said to them, **"Why do
you sleep? Rise and pray
that you may not enter into
temptation."**
47 While he was still speak-
ing, a crowd appeared. He
who was called Judas, one of
the twelve, was leading them.
He came near to Jesus to kiss
him. 48 But Jesus said to him,
**"Judas, do you betray the
Son of Man with a kiss?"**
49 When those who were
around him saw what was
about to happen, they said to
him, "Lord, shall we strike
with the sword?" 50 A certain
one of them struck the ser-
vant of the high priest, and
cut off his right ear.
51 But Jesus answered, **"Let
me at least do this"**—and he
touched his ear and healed
him. 52 Jesus said to the
chief priests, captains of the
temple, and elders, who had
come against him, **"Have
you come out as against a
robber, with swords and
clubs?** 53 **When I was with
you in the temple daily,
you didn't stretch out your
hands against me. But
this is your hour, and the
power of darkness."**

✡ **22:37** Isaiah 53:12

54 They seized him and led
him away, and brought him
into the high priest's house.
But Peter followed from a
distance. 55 When they had
kindled a fire in the mid-
dle of the courtyard and had
sat down together, Peter sat
among them. 56 A certain ser-
vant girl saw him as he sat in
the light, and looking intently
at him, said, "This man also
was with him."
57 He denied Jesus, saying,
"Woman, I don't know him."
58 After a little while some-
one else saw him and said,
"You also are one of them!"
But Peter answered, "Man,
I am not!"
59 After about one hour
passed, another confidently
affirmed, saying, "Truly this
man also was with him, for
he is a Galilean!"
60 But Peter said, "Man,
I don't know what you are
talking about!" Immediately,
while he was still speaking, a
rooster crowed. 61 The Lord
turned and looked at Peter.
Then Peter remembered the
Lord's word, how he said to
him, **"Before the rooster
crows you will deny me
three times."** 62 He went
out, and wept bitterly.
63 The men who held Jesus
mocked him and beat him.
64 Having blindfolded him,
they struck him on the face
and asked him, "Prophesy!
Who is the one who struck
you?" 65 They spoke many
other things against him, in-
sulting him.
66 As soon as it was day,
the assembly of the elders
of the people were gathered
together, both chief priests
and scribes, and they led him
away into their council, say-
ing, 67 "If you are the Christ,
tell us."
But he said to them, **"If I
tell you, you won't believe,**
68 **and if I ask, you will in no
way answer me or let me
go.** 69 **From now on, the
Son of Man will be seated
at the right hand of the
power of God."**
70 They all said, "Are you
then the Son of God?"
He said to them, **"You say
it, because I am."**
71 They said, "Why do we
need any more witness? For
we ourselves have heard
from his own mouth!"

23

1 The whole company of
them rose up and brought
him before Pilate. 2 They
began to accuse him, say-
ing, "We found this man per-
verting the nation, forbid-
ding paying taxes to Caesar,
and saying that he himself is
Christ, a king."
3 Pilate asked him, "Are you
the King of the Jews?"
He answered him, **"So you
say."**
4 Pilate said to the chief
priests and the multitudes,
"I find no basis for a charge
against this man."
5 But they insisted, saying,
"He stirs up the people, teach-
ing throughout all Judea, be-
ginning from Galilee even to
this place."
6 But when Pilate heard
Galilee mentioned, he asked

if the man was a Galilean. 7 When he found out that he was in Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem during those days.

8 Now when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceedingly glad, for he had wanted to see him for a long time, because he had heard many things about him. He hoped to see some miracle done by him. 9 He questioned him with many words, but he gave no answers. 10 The chief priests and the scribes stood, vehemently accusing him. 11 Herod with his soldiers humiliated him and mocked him. Dressing him in luxurious clothing, they sent him back to Pilate. 12 Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before that they were enemies with each other.

13 Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, 14 and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one that perverts the people, and behold, having examined him before you, I found no basis for a charge against this man concerning those things of which you accuse him. 15 Neither has Herod, for I sent you to him, and see, nothing worthy of death has been done by him. 16 I will therefore chastise him and release him."

17 Now he had to release one prisoner to them at the feast.* 18 But they all cried out together, saying, "Away with this man! Release to us Barabbas!"— 19 one who was thrown into prison for a certain revolt in the city, and for murder.

20 Then Pilate spoke to them again, wanting to release Jesus, 21 but they shouted, saying, "Crucify! Crucify him!"

22 He said to them the third time, "Why? What evil has this man done? I have found no capital crime in him. I will therefore chastise him and release him." 23 But they were urgent with loud voices, asking that he might be crucified. Their voices and the voices of the chief priests prevailed. 24 Pilate decreed that what they asked for should be done. 25 He released him who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus up to their will.

26 When they led him away, they grabbed one Simon of Cyrene, coming from the country, and laid the cross on him to carry it after Jesus. 27 A great multitude of the people followed him, including women who also mourned and lamented him. 28 But Jesus, turning to them, said, **"Daughters of Jerusalem, don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.** 29 **For behold, the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren,**

* **23:17** NU omits verse 17.

the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' 30 **Then they will begin to tell the mountains, 'Fall on us!' and tell the hills, 'Cover us.'**✡ 31 **For if they do these things in the green tree, what will be done in the dry?"**

32 There were also others, two criminals, led with him to be put to death. 33 When they came to the place that is called "The Skull", they crucified him there with the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.

34 Jesus said, **"Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."**

Dividing his garments among them, they cast lots. 35 The people stood watching. The rulers with them also scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, his chosen one!"

36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming to him and offering him vinegar, 37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

38 An inscription was also written over him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

39 One of the criminals who was hanged insulted him, saying, "If you are the Christ, save yourself and us!"

40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Don't you even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." 42 He said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

43 Jesus said to him, **"Assuredly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."**

44 It was now about the sixth hour,† and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour.‡ 45 The sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, **"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"** Having said this, he breathed his last.

47 When the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous man." 48 All the multitudes that came together to see this, when they saw the things that were done, returned home beating their breasts. 49 All his acquaintances and the women who followed with him from Galilee stood at a distance, watching these things.

50 Behold, there was a man named Joseph, who was a member of the council, a good and righteous man 51 (he had not consented to their counsel and deed), from Arimathaea, a city of the

✡ **23:30** Hosea 10:8 † **23:44** Time was counted from sunrise, so the sixth hour was about noon. ‡ **23:44** 3:00 p.m.

Jews, who was also waiting for God's Kingdom. 52 This man went to Pilate, and asked for Jesus' body. 53 He took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb that was cut in stone, where no one had ever been laid. 54 It was the day of the Preparation, and the Sabbath was drawing near. 55 The women who had come with him out of Galilee followed after, and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. 56 They returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

24

1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they and some others came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb. 3 They entered in, and didn't find the Lord Jesus' body. 4 While they were greatly perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling clothing. 5 Becoming terrified, they bowed their faces down to the earth.

The men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He isn't here, but is risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee, 7 saying that the Son of Man must be delivered up into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and the third day rise again?"

8 They remembered his words, 9 returned from the tomb, and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now they were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them told these things to the apostles. 11 These words seemed to them to be nonsense, and they didn't believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb. Stooping and looking in, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he departed to his home, wondering what had happened.

13 Behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was sixty stadia* from Jerusalem. 14 They talked with each other about all of these things which had happened. 15 While they talked and questioned together, Jesus himself came near, and went with them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 He said to them, **"What are you talking about as you walk, and are sad?"**

18 One of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who doesn't know the things which have happened there in these days?"

* **24:13** 60 stadia = about 11 kilometers or about 7 miles.

19 He said to them, **“What things?”**

They said to him, “The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who 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 up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we were hoping that it was he who would redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. 22 Also, certain women of our company amazed us, having arrived early at the tomb; 23 and when they didn’t find his body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. 24 Some of us went to the tomb and found it just like the women had said, but they didn’t see him.”

25 He said to them, **“Foolish people, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Didn’t the Christ have to suffer these things and to enter into his glory?”** 27 Beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, he explained to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 They came near to the village where they were going, and he acted like he would go further.

29 They urged him, saying, “Stay with us, for it is almost evening, and the day is almost over.”

He went in to stay with them. 30 When he had sat down at the table with them, he took the bread and gave thanks. Breaking it, he gave it to them. 31 Their eyes were opened and they recognized him; then he vanished out of their sight. 32 They said to one another, “Weren’t our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us along the way, and while he opened the Scriptures to us?” 33 They rose up that very hour, returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and those who were with them, 34 saying, “The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” 35 They related the things that happened along the way, and how he was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

36 As they said these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, **“Peace be to you.”**

37 But they were terrified and filled with fear, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

38 He said to them, **“Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is truly me. Touch me and see, for a spirit doesn’t have flesh and bones, as you see that I have.”** 40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While

they still didn't believe for
joy, and wondered, he said
to them, **"Do you have any-
thing here to eat?"**
42 They gave him a piece of
a broiled fish and some hon-
eycomb. 43 He took them, and
ate in front of them. 44 He
said to them, **"This is what
I told you while I was still
with you, that all things
which are written in the
law of Moses, the prophets,
and the psalms concerning
me must be fulfilled."**
45 Then he opened their
minds, that they might
understand the Scriptures.
46 He said to them, **"Thus it
is written, and thus it was
necessary for the 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 to
all the nations, beginning
at Jerusalem.** 48 **You are
witnesses of these things.**
49 **Behold, I send out the
promise of my Father on
you. But wait in the city
of Jerusalem until you are
clothed with power from
on high."**
50 He led them out as far
as Bethany, and he lifted up
his hands and blessed them.
51 While he blessed them,
he withdrew from them and
was carried up into heaven.
52 They worshiped him and
returned to Jerusalem with
great joy, 53 and were contin-
ually in the temple, praising
and blessing God. Amen.

The Good News According to John

1 In the beginning was the
Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was
God. 2 The same was in the
beginning with God. 3 All
things were made through
him. Without him, noth-
ing was made that has been
made. 4 In him was life, and
the life was the light of men.
5 The light shines in the dark-
ness, and the darkness hasn't
overcome* it.
6 There came a man sent
from God, whose name was
John. 7 The same came as
a witness, that he might tes-
tify about the light, that all
might believe through him.
8 He was not the light, but
was sent that he might tes-
tify about the light. 9 The
true light that enlightens ev-
eryone was coming into the
world.
10 He was in the world, and
the world was made through
him, and the world didn't
recognize him. 11 He came to
his own, and those who were
his own didn't receive him.
12 But as many as received
him, to them he gave the
right to become God's chil-
dren, to those who believe in
his name: 13 who were born,
not of blood, nor of the will
of the flesh, nor of the will of
man, but of God.
14 The Word became flesh
and lived among us. We
saw his glory, such glory
as of the only born† Son
of the Father, full of grace
and truth. 15 John testified
about him. He cried out,
saying, "This was he of whom
I said, 'He who comes after
me has surpassed me, for he
was before me.' " 16 From
his fullness we all received
grace upon grace. 17 For
the law was given through
Moses. Grace and truth
were realized through Jesus
Christ.‡ 18 No one has seen
God at any time. The only
born§ Son,* who is in the
bosom of the Father, has
declared him.
19 This is John's testimony,
when the Jews sent priests
and Levites from Jerusalem
to ask him, "Who are you?"
20 He declared, and didn't
deny, but he declared, "I am
not the Christ."
21 They asked him, "What
then? Are you Elijah?"
He said, "I am not.
"Are you the prophet?"
He answered, "No."
22 They said therefore to
him, "Who are you? Give
us an answer to take back to

* **1:5** The word translated "overcome" (κατέλαβεν) can also be translated "comprehended." It refers to getting a grip on an enemy to defeat him. † **1:14** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενους", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". ‡ **1:17** "Christ" means "Anointed One". § **1:18** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". * **1:18** NU reads "God"

those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

23 He said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'✡ as Isaiah the prophet said."

24 The ones who had been sent were from the Pharisees. 25 They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"

26 John answered them, "I baptize in water, but among you stands one whom you don't know. 27 He is the one who comes after me, who is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I'm not worthy to loosen." 28 These things were done in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

29 The next day, he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold,† the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who is preferred before me, for he was before me.' 31 I didn't know him, but for this reason I came baptizing in water, that he would be revealed to Israel." 32 John testified, saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending like a dove out of heaven, and it remained on him. 33 I didn't recognize him, but he who sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'On whomever you will see the Spirit descending and remaining on him is he who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.' 34 I have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

35 Again, the next day, John was standing with two of his disciples, 36 and he looked at Jesus as he walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" 37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, **"What are you looking for?"**

They said to him, "Rabbi" (which is to say, being interpreted, Teacher), "where are you staying?"

39 He said to them, **"Come and see."**

They came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about the tenth hour.‡ 40 One of the two who heard John and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 He first found his own brother, Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah!" (which is, being interpreted, Christ§). 42 He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, **"You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas"** (which is by interpretation, Peter).*

✡ **1:23** Isaiah 40:3 † **1:29** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ‡ **1:39** 4:00 p.m. § **1:41** "Messiah" (Hebrew) and "Christ" (Greek) both mean "Anointed One". * **1:42** "Cephas" (Aramaic) and "Peter" (Greek) both mean "Rock".

43 On the next day, he was
determined to go out into
Galilee, and he found Philip.
Jesus said to him, **"Follow
me."** 44 Now Philip was
from Bethsaida, the city of
Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip
found Nathanael, and said to
him, "We have found him of
whom Moses in the law and
also the prophets, wrote: Je-
sus of Nazareth, the son of
Joseph."

46 Nathanael said to him,
"Can any good thing come out
of Nazareth?"

Philip said to him, "Come
and see."

47 Jesus saw Nathanael
coming to him, and said
about him, **"Behold, an
Israelite indeed, in whom
is no deceit!"**

48 Nathanael said to him,
"How do you know me?"

Jesus answered him, **"Be-
fore Philip called you,
when you were under the
fig tree, I saw you."**

49 Nathanael answered
him, "Rabbi, you are the
Son of God! You are King of
Israel!"

50 Jesus answered him,
**"Because I told you, 'I
saw you underneath the
fig tree,' do you believe?
You will see greater things
than these!"** 51 He said
to him, **"Most certainly, I
tell you all, hereafter you
will see heaven opened,
and the angels of God
ascending and descending
on the Son of Man."**

2

1 The third day, there was a
wedding in Cana of Galilee.
Jesus' mother was there.
2 Jesus also was invited, with
his disciples, to the wedding.
3 When the wine ran out,
Jesus' mother said to him,
"They have no wine."

4 Jesus said to her,
**"Woman, what does that
have to do with you and
me? My hour has not yet
come."**

5 His mother said to the ser-
vants, "Whatever he says to
you, do it."

6 Now there were six water
pots of stone set there after
the Jews' way of purifying,
containing two or three me-
tretes* apiece. 7 Jesus said to
them, **"Fill the water pots
with water."** So they filled
them up to the brim. 8 He said
to them, **"Now draw some
out, and take it to the ruler
of the feast."** So they took it.
9 When the ruler of the feast
tasted the water now become
wine, and didn't know where
it came from (but the ser-
vants who had drawn the wa-
ter knew), the ruler of the
feast called the bridegroom
10 and said to him, "Everyone
serves the good wine first,
and when the guests have
drunk freely, then that which
is worse. You have kept the
good wine until now!" 11 This
beginning of his signs Jesus
did in Cana of Galilee, and
revealed his glory; and his
disciples believed in him.

* **2:6** 2 to 3 metretes is about 20 to 30 U. S. Gallons, or 75 to 115 liters.

12 After this, he went down
to Capernaum, he, and his
mother, his brothers, and his
disciples; and they stayed
there a few days.

13 The Passover of the Jews
was at hand, and Jesus went
up to Jerusalem. 14 He found
in the temple those who sold
oxen, sheep, and doves, and
the changers of money sit-
ting. 15 He made a whip of
cords and drove all out of
the temple, both the sheep
and the oxen; and he poured
out the changers' money and
overthrew their tables. 16 To
those who sold the doves, he
said, **"Take these things out
of here! Don't make my
Father's house a market-
place!"** 17 His disciples re-
membered that it was writ-
ten, "Zeal for your house will
eat me up."✡

18 The Jews therefore an-
swered him, "What sign do
you show us, seeing that you
do these things?"

19 Jesus answered them,
**"Destroy this temple, and
in three days I will raise it
up."**

20 The Jews therefore said,
"It took forty-six years to
build this temple! Will
you raise it up in three
days?" 21 But he spoke of the
temple of his body. 22 When
therefore he was raised
from the dead, his disciples
remembered that he said
this, and they believed the
Scripture and the word
which Jesus had said.

23 Now when he was in
Jerusalem at the Passover,
during the feast, many be-
lieved in his name, observing
his signs which he did. 24 But
Jesus didn't entrust himself
to them, because he knew
everyone, 25 and because he
didn't need for anyone to tes-
tify concerning man; for he
himself knew what was in
man.

3

1 Now there was a man of
the Pharisees named Nicode-
mus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 He
came to Jesus by night and
said to him, "Rabbi, we know
that you are a teacher come
from God, for no one can do
these signs that you do, un-
less God is with him."

3 Jesus answered him,
**"Most certainly I tell you,
unless one is born anew,
* he can't see God's King-
dom."**

4 Nicodemus said to him,
"How can a man be born
when he is old? Can he
enter a second time into
his mother's womb and be
born?"

5 Jesus answered, **"Most
certainly I tell you, unless
one is born of water and
Spirit, he can't enter into
God's Kingdom.** 6 **That
which is born of the flesh is
flesh. That which is born of
the Spirit is spirit.** 7 **Don't
marvel that I said to you,
'You must be born anew.'**

✡ **2:17** Psalm 69:9 * **3:3** The word translated "anew" here and in John 3:7 (ἄνωθεν) also means "again" and "from above". † **3:8** The same Greek word (πνεῦμα) means wind, breath, and spirit.

8 **The wind† blows where it wants to, and you hear its sound, but don't know where it comes from and where it is going. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."**

9 Nicodemus answered him, "How can these things be?"

10 Jesus answered him, **"Are you the teacher of Israel, and don't understand these things? 11 Most certainly I tell you, we speak that which we know and testify of that which we have seen, and you don't receive our witness. 12 If I told you earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended out of heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven. 14 As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only born‡ Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through him. 18 He who believes in him is not judged. He who doesn't believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only born Son of God. 19 This is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light, for their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does evil hates the light and doesn't come to the light, lest his works would be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his works may be revealed, that they have been done in God."**

22 After these things, Jesus came with his disciples into the land of Judea. He stayed there with them and baptized. 23 John also was baptizing in Enon near Salim, because there was much water there. They came and were baptized; 24 for John was not yet thrown into prison. 25 Therefore a dispute arose on the part of John's disciples with some Jews about purification. 26 They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified, behold, he baptizes, and everyone is coming to him."

27 John answered, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven. 28 You yourselves testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been

‡ **3:16** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only".

sent before him.' 29 He who
has the bride is the bride-
groom; but the friend of the
bridegroom, who stands and
hears him, rejoices greatly
because of the bridegroom's
voice. Therefore my joy is
made full. 30 He must in-
crease, but I must decrease.
31 "He who comes from
above is above all. He who is
from the earth belongs to the
earth and speaks of the earth.
He who comes from heaven
is above all. 32 What he has
seen and heard, of that he
testifies; and no one receives
his witness. 33 He who has
received his witness has set
his seal to this, that God is
true. 34 For he whom God
has sent speaks the words of
God; for God gives the Spirit
without measure. 35 The
Father loves the Son, and has
given all things into his hand.
36 One who believes in the
Son has eternal life, but one
who disobeys§ the Son won't
see life, but the wrath of God
remains on him."

4

1 Therefore when the Lord
knew that the Pharisees had
heard that Jesus was making
and baptizing more disciples
than John 2 (although Jesus
himself didn't baptize, but
his disciples), 3 he left Judea
and departed into Galilee.
4 He needed to pass through
Samaria. 5 So he came to a
city of Samaria called Sychar,
near the parcel of ground
that Jacob gave to his son
Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was
there. Jesus therefore, being
tired from his journey, sat
down by the well. It was
about the sixth hour.*
7 A woman of Samaria
came to draw water. Jesus
said to her, **"Give me a
drink."** 8 For his disciples
had gone away into the city
to buy food.
9 The Samaritan woman
therefore said to him, "How
is it that you, being a Jew,
ask for a drink from me, a
Samaritan woman?" (For
Jews have no dealings with
Samaritans.)
10 Jesus answered her, **"If
you knew the gift of God,
and who it is who says to
you, 'Give me a drink,' you
would have asked him, and
he would have given you
living water."**
11 The woman said to him,
"Sir, you have nothing to
draw with, and the well is
deep. So where do you get
that living water? 12 Are you
greater than our father Ja-
cob, who gave us the well
and drank from it himself, as
did his children and his live-
stock?"
13 Jesus answered her,
**"Everyone who drinks of
this water will thirst again,
14 but whoever drinks
of the water that I will
give him will never thirst
again; but the water that I
will give him will become
in him a well of water
springing up to eternal
life."**

§ **3:36** The same word can be translated "disobeys" or "disbelieves" in this context. * **4:6** noon

15 The woman said to him,
“Sir, give me this water, so
that I don’t get thirsty, nei-
ther come all the way here to
draw.”
16 Jesus said to her, **“Go,
call your husband, and
come here.”**
17 The woman answered, “I
have no husband.”
Jesus said to her, **“You said
well, ‘I have no husband,’**
18 **for you have had five
husbands; and he whom
you now have is not your
husband. This you have
said truly.”**
19 The woman said to him,
“Sir, I perceive that you are
a prophet. 20 Our fathers
worshiped in this mountain,
and you Jews say that in
Jerusalem is the place where
people ought to worship.”
21 Jesus said to her,
**“Woman, believe me,
the hour is coming when
neither in this mountain
nor in Jerusalem will you
worship the Father.** 22 **You
worship that which you
don’t know. We worship
that which we know; for
salvation is from the Jews.**
23 **But the hour comes,
and now is, when the true
worshipers will worship
the Father in spirit and
truth, for the Father seeks
such to be his worshipers.**
24 **God is spirit, and those
who worship him must
worship in spirit and
truth.”**
25 The woman said to him,
“I know that Messiah is com-
ing, he who is called Christ.†
When he has come, he will
declare to us all things.”
26 Jesus said to her, **“I am
he, the one who speaks to
you.”**
27 Just then, his disciples
came. They marveled that he
was speaking with a woman;
yet no one said, “What are
you looking for?” or, “Why
do you speak with her?” 28 So
the woman left her water pot,
went away into the city, and
said to the people, 29 “Come,
see a man who told me every-
thing that I have done. Can
this be the Christ?” 30 They
went out of the city, and were
coming to him.
31 In the meanwhile, the
disciples urged him, saying,
“Rabbi, eat.”
32 But he said to them, **“I
have food to eat that you
don’t know about.”**
33 The disciples therefore
said to one another, “Has
anyone brought him some-
thing to eat?”
34 Jesus said to them, **“My
food is to do the will of him
who sent me and to accom-
plish his work.** 35 **Don’t
you say, ‘There are yet four
months until the harvest?’
Behold, I tell you, lift up
your eyes and look at the
fields, that they are white
for harvest already.** 36 **He
who reaps receives wages
and gathers fruit to eter-
nal life, that both he who**

† **4:25** “Messiah” (Hebrew) and “Christ” (Greek) both mean “Anointed One”.

sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. 37 **For in this the saying is true, 'One sows, and another reaps.'** 38 **I sent you to reap that for which you haven't labored. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."**

39 From that city many of the Samaritans believed in him because of the word of the woman, who testified, "He told me everything that I have done." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed there two days. 41 Many more believed because of his word. 42 They said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of your speaking; for we have heard for ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

43 After the two days he went out from there and went into Galilee. 44 For Jesus himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. 45 So when he came into Galilee, the Galileans received him, having seen all the things that he did in Jerusalem at the feast, for they also went to the feast. 46 Jesus came therefore again to Cana of Galilee, where he made the water into wine. There was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to him and begged him that he would come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48 Jesus therefore said to him, **"Unless you see signs and wonders, you will in no way believe."**

49 The nobleman said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

50 Jesus said to him, **"Go your way. Your son lives."** The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. 51 As he was going down, his servants met him and reported, saying "Your child lives!" 52 So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. They said therefore to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour,‡ the fever left him." 53 So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, **"Your son lives."** He believed, as did his whole house. 54 This is again the second sign that Jesus did, having come out of Judea into Galilee.

5

1 After these things, there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now in Jerusalem by the sheep gate, there is a pool, which is called in Hebrew, "Bethesda", having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of those who were sick, blind, lame, or paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; 4 for an angel went down at certain times into the pool

‡ **4:52** 1:00 p.m.

and stirred up the water. Whoever stepped in first after the stirring of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.* 5 A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had been sick for a long time, he asked him, **"Do you want to be made well?"**

7 The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I'm coming, another steps down before me."

8 Jesus said to him, **"Arise, take up your mat, and walk."**

9 Immediately, the man was made well, and took up his mat and walked.

Now that day was a Sabbath. 10 So the Jews said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath. It is not lawful for you to carry the mat."

11 He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, **'Take up your mat and walk.'"**

12 Then they asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, **'Take up your mat and walk'**?"

13 But he who was healed didn't know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a crowd being in the place.

14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, **"Behold, you are made well. Sin no more, so that nothing worse happens to you."**

15 The man went away, and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. 16 For this cause the Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill him, because he did these things on the Sabbath. 17 But Jesus answered them, **"My Father is still working, so I am working, too."**

18 For this cause therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill him, because he not only broke the Sabbath, but also called God his own Father, making himself equal with God. 19 Jesus therefore answered them, **"Most certainly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father doing. For whatever things he does, these the Son also does likewise.** 20 **For the Father has affection for the Son, and shows him all things that he himself does. He will show him greater works than these, that you may marvel.** 21 **For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom he desires.** 22 **For the Father judges no one, but he has given all judgment to the Son,** 23 **that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who doesn't honor the Son doesn't honor the Father who sent him.**

24 **"Most certainly I tell you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal**

* **5:4** NU omits from "waiting" in verse 3 to the end of verse 4.

life, and doesn't come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. 25 **Most certainly I tell you, the hour comes, and now is, when the dead will hear the Son of God's voice; and those who hear will live.** 26 **For as the Father has life in himself, even so he gave to the Son also to have life in himself.** 27 **He also gave him authority to execute judgment, because he is a son of man.** 28 **Don't marvel at this, for the hour comes in which all who are in the tombs will hear his voice** 29 **and will come out; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.** 30 **I can of myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is righteous, because I don't seek my own will, but the will of my Father who sent me.**

31 **"If I testify about myself, my witness is not valid.** 32 **It is another who testifies about me. I know that the testimony which he testifies about me is true.** 33 **You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth.** 34 **But the testimony which I receive is not from man. However, I say these things that you may be saved.** 35 **He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.** 36 **But the testimony which I have is greater than that of John; for the works which the Father gave me to accomplish, the very works that I do, testify about me, that the Father has sent me.** 37 **The Father himself, who sent me, has testified about me. You have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his form.** 38 **You don't have his word living in you, because you don't believe him whom he sent.**

39 **"You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and these are they which testify about me.** 40 **Yet you will not come to me, that you may have life.** 41 **I don't receive glory from men.** 42 **But I know you, that you don't have God's love in yourselves.** 43 **I have come in my Father's name, and you don't receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him.** 44 **How can you believe, who receive glory from one another, and you don't seek the glory that comes from the only God?**

45 **"Don't think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you, even Moses, on whom you have set your hope.** 46 **For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote about me.** 47 **But if you don't believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"**

6

1 After these things, Jesus
went away to the other side
of the sea of Galilee, which
is also called the Sea of
Tiberias. 2 A great multitude
followed him, because they
saw his signs which he did on
those who were sick. 3 Jesus
went up into the mountain,
and he sat there with his
disciples. 4 Now the Passover,
the feast of the Jews, was
at hand. 5 Jesus therefore,
lifting up his eyes and seeing
that a great multitude was
coming to him, said to Philip,
**"Where are we to buy
bread, that these may
eat?"** 6 He said this to test
him, for he himself knew
what he would do.

7 Philip answered him,
"Two hundred denarii* worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one
of them may receive a little."

8 One of his disciples, An-
drew, Simon Peter's brother,
said to him, 9 "There is a
boy here who has five barley
loaves and two fish, but what
are these among so many?"

10 Jesus said, **"Have the
people sit down."** Now
there was much grass in
that place. So the men sat
down, in number about five
thousand. 11 Jesus took the
loaves, and having given
thanks, he distributed to the
disciples, and the disciples
to those who were sitting
down, likewise also of the
fish as much as they desired.
12 When they were filled,
he said to his disciples,
**"Gather up the broken
pieces which are left over,
that nothing be lost."** 13 So
they gathered them up, and
filled twelve baskets with
broken pieces from the five
barley loaves, which were
left over by those who had
eaten. 14 When therefore the
people saw the sign which
Jesus did, they said, "This is
truly the prophet who comes
into the world." 15 Jesus
therefore, perceiving that
they were about to come and
take him by force to make
him king, withdrew again to
the mountain by himself.

16 When evening came, his
disciples went down to the
sea. 17 They entered into the
boat, and were going over the
sea to Capernaum. It was
now dark, and Jesus had not
come to them. 18 The sea was
tossed by a great wind blow-
ing. 19 When therefore they
had rowed about twenty-five
or thirty stadia,† they saw Je-
sus walking on the sea✡ and
drawing near to the boat; and
they were afraid. 20 But he
said to them, **"It is I.‡ Don't
be afraid."** 21 They were
willing therefore to receive
him into the boat. Immedi-
ately the boat was at the land
where they were going.

* **6:7** A denarius was a silver coin worth about a day's wages for an agricultural laborer, so 200 denarii would be between 6 and 7 month's pay. † **6:19** 25 to 30 stadia is about 5 to 6 kilometers or about 3 to 4 miles ✡ **6:19** See Job 9:8 ‡ **6:20** or, I AM

22 On the next day, the
multitude that stood on the
other side of the sea saw
that there was no other
boat there, except the one
in which his disciples had
embarked, and that Jesus
hadn't entered with his
disciples into the boat, but
his disciples had gone away
alone. 23 However, boats
from Tiberias came near to
the place where they ate the
bread after the Lord had
given thanks. 24 When the
multitude therefore saw that
Jesus wasn't there, nor his
disciples, they themselves
got into the boats and came
to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.
25 When they found him on
the other side of the sea, they
asked him, "Rabbi, when did
you come here?"

26 Jesus answered them,
**"Most certainly I tell you,
you seek me, not because
you saw signs, but because
you ate of the loaves and
were filled. 27 Don't
work for the food which
perishes, but for the food
which remains to eternal
life, which the Son of
Man will give to you. For
God the Father has sealed
him."**

28 They said therefore to
him, "What must we do, that
we may work the works of
God?"

29 Jesus answered them,
**"This is the work of God,
that you believe in him
whom he has sent."**

30 They said therefore to
him, "What then do you do
for a sign, that we may see
and believe you? What work
do you do? 31 Our fathers
ate the manna in the wilder-
ness. As it is written, 'He gave
them bread out of heaven§ to
eat.' "✡

32 Jesus therefore said to
them, **"Most certainly, I tell
you, it wasn't Moses who
gave you the bread out
of heaven, but my Father
gives you the true bread
out of heaven. 33 For
the bread of God is that
which comes down out of
heaven and gives life to the
world."**

34 They said therefore to
him, "Lord, always give us
this bread."

35 Jesus said to them, **"I am
the bread of life. Who-
ever comes to me will not
be hungry, and whoever
believes in me will never
be thirsty. 36 But I told
you that you have seen me,
and yet you don't believe.
37 All those whom the Fa-
ther gives me will come to
me. He who comes to me
I will in no way throw out.
38 For I have come down
from heaven, not to do my
own will, but the will of
him who sent me. 39 This
is the will of my Father
who sent me, that of all he
has given to me I should
lose nothing, but should
raise him up at the last
day. 40 This is the will of
the one who sent me, that**

§ **6:31** Greek and Hebrew use the same word for "heaven", "the heavens", "the sky", and "the air". ✡ **6:31** Exodus 16:4; Nehemiah 9:15; Psalm 78:24-25

everyone who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

41 The Jews therefore murmured concerning him, because he said, **"I am the bread which came down out of heaven."** 42 They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How then does he say, **'I have come down out of heaven?' "**

43 Therefore Jesus answered them, **"Don't murmur among yourselves.** 44 **No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up in the last day.** 45 **It is written in the prophets, 'They will all be taught by God.'** ✡ **Therefore everyone who hears from the Father and has learned, comes to me.** 46 **Not that anyone has seen the Father, except he who is from God. He has seen the Father.** 47 **Most certainly, I tell you, he who believes in me has eternal life.** 48 **I am the bread of life.** 49 **Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and they died.** 50 **This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, that anyone may eat of it and not die.** 51 **I am the living bread which came down out of heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. Yes, the bread which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."**

52 The Jews therefore contended with one another, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

53 Jesus therefore said to them, **"Most certainly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you don't have life in yourselves.** 54 **He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.** 55 **For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.** 56 **He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I in him.** 57 **As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on me will also live because of me.** 58 **This is the bread which came down out of heaven —not as our fathers ate the manna and died. He who eats this bread will live forever."** 59 He said these things in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum.

60 Therefore many of his disciples, when they heard this, said, "This is a hard saying! Who can listen to it?"

61 But Jesus knowing in himself that his disciples murmured at this, said to them, **"Does this cause you to stumble?** 62 **Then what if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?** 63 **It is the spirit who gives life. The flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to**

✡ **6:45** Isaiah 54:13

you are spirit, and are life.
64 **But there are some of you who don't believe."** For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who didn't believe, and who it was who would betray him.
65 He said, **"For this cause I have said to you that no one can come to me, unless it is given to him by my Father."**

66 At this, many of his disciples went back and walked no more with him.
67 Jesus said therefore to the twelve, **"You don't also want to go away, do you?"**

68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words of eternal life.
69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

70 Jesus answered them, **"Didn't I choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?"**
71 Now he spoke of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, for it was he who would betray him, being one of the twelve.

7

1 After these things, Jesus was walking in Galilee, for he wouldn't walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill him.
2 Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was at hand.
3 His brothers therefore said to him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that your disciples also may see your works which you do.
4 For no one does anything in secret while he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, reveal yourself to the world."
5 For even his brothers didn't believe in him.

6 Jesus therefore said to them, **"My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready.**
7 **The world can't hate you, but it hates me, because I testify about it, that its works are evil.**
8 **You go up to the feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, because my time is not yet fulfilled."**

9 Having said these things to them, he stayed in Galilee.
10 But when his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly, but as it were in secret.
11 The Jews therefore sought him at the feast, and said, "Where is he?"
12 There was much murmuring among the multitudes concerning him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others said, "Not so, but he leads the multitude astray."
13 Yet no one spoke openly of him for fear of the Jews.
14 But when it was now the middle of the feast, Jesus went up into the temple and taught.
15 The Jews therefore marveled, saying, "How does this man know letters, having never been educated?"

16 Jesus therefore answered them, **"My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me.**
17 **If anyone desires to do his will, he will know about the teaching, whether it is from**

God or if I am speaking from myself. 18 **He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory, but he who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.** 19 **Didn't Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill me?"**

20 The multitude answered, "You have a demon! Who seeks to kill you?"

21 Jesus answered them, **"I did one work and you all marvel because of it.** 22 **Moses has given you circumcision (not that it is of Moses, but of the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a boy.** 23 **If a boy receives circumcision on the Sabbath, that the law of Moses may not be broken, are you angry with me because I made a man completely healthy on the Sabbath?** 24 **Don't judge according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment."**

25 Therefore some of them of Jerusalem said, "Isn't this he whom they seek to kill? 26 Behold, he speaks openly, and they say nothing to him. Can it be that the rulers indeed know that this is truly the Christ? 27 However, we know where this man comes from, but when the Christ comes, no one will know where he comes from."

28 Jesus therefore cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, **"You both know me, and know where I am from. I have not come of myself, but he who sent me is true, whom you don't know.** 29 **I know him, because I am from him, and he sent me."**

30 They sought therefore to take him; but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come. 31 But of the multitude, many believed in him. They said, "When the Christ comes, he won't do more signs than those which this man has done, will he?" 32 The Pharisees heard the multitude murmuring these things concerning him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to arrest him.

33 Then Jesus said, **"I will be with you a little while longer, then I go to him who sent me.** 34 **You will seek me and won't find me. You can't come where I am."**

35 The Jews therefore said among themselves, "Where will this man go that we won't find him? Will he go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? 36 What is this word that he said, **'You will seek me, and won't find me;'** and **'Where I am, you can't come'**?"

37 Now on the last and greatest day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, **"If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink!** 38 **He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, from within him will flow rivers of living water."** 39 But he said this about the

Spirit, which those believing in him were to receive. For the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus wasn't yet glorified.

40 Many of the multitude therefore, when they heard these words, said, "This is truly the prophet." 41 Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "What, does the Christ come out of Galilee? 42 Hasn't the Scripture said that the Christ comes of the offspring* of David, ✡ and from Bethlehem,✡ the village where David was?" 43 So a division arose in the multitude because of him. 44 Some of them would have arrested him, but no one laid hands on him. 45 The officers therefore came to the chief priests and Pharisees; and they said to them, "Why didn't you bring him?"

46 The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!"

47 The Pharisees therefore answered them, "You aren't also led astray, are you? 48 Have any of the rulers or any of the Pharisees believed in him? 49 But this multitude that doesn't know the law is cursed."

50 Nicodemus (he who came to him by night, being one of them) said to them, 51 "Does our law judge a man unless it first hears from him personally and knows what he does?"

52 They answered him, "Are you also from Galilee? Search and see that no prophet has arisen out of Galilee."✡

53 Everyone went to his own house,

8

1 but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

2 Now very early in the morning, he came again into the temple, and all the people came to him. He sat down and taught them. 3 The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman taken in adultery. Having set her in the middle, 4 they told him, "Teacher, we found this woman in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now in our law, Moses commanded us to stone such women.✡ What then do you say about her?" 6 They said this testing him, that they might have something to accuse him of.

But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger. 7 But when they continued asking him, he looked up and said to them, **"He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone at her."** 8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground with his finger.

9 They, when they heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning from the oldest, even to the last. Jesus was left alone with the woman where she was, in the middle.

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* **7:42** or, seed ✡ **7:42** 2 Samuel 7:12 ✡ **7:42** Micah 5:2 ✡ **7:52** See Isaiah 9:1; Matthew 4:13-16 ✡ **8:5** Leviticus 20:10; Deuteronomy 22:22

10 Jesus, standing up, saw her
and said, **“Woman, where
are your accusers? Did no
one condemn you?”**
11 She said, “No one, Lord.”
Jesus said, **“Neither do I
condemn you. Go your
way. From now on, sin no
more.”***
12 Again, therefore, Jesus
spoke to them, saying, **“I am
the light of the world.✡ He
who follows me will not
walk in the darkness, but
will have the light of life.”**
13 The Pharisees therefore
said to him, “You testify
about yourself. Your testi-
mony is not valid.”
14 Jesus answered them,
**“Even if I testify about
myself, my testimony is
true, for I know where I
came from, and where I
am going; but you don’t
know where I came from,
or where I am going.** 15 **You
judge according to the
flesh. I judge no one.**
16 **Even if I do judge, my
judgment is true, for I am
not alone, but I am with the
Father who sent me.** 17 **It’s
also written in your law
that the testimony of two
people is valid.✡** 18 **I am one
who testifies about myself,
and the Father who sent
me testifies about me.”**
19 They said therefore to
him, “Where is your Father?”
Jesus answered, **“You
know neither me nor my
Father. If you knew me,
you would know my Father
also.”** 20 Jesus spoke these
words in the treasury, as he
taught in the temple. Yet no
one arrested him, because
his hour had not yet come.
21 Jesus said therefore again
to them, **“I am going away,
and you will seek me,
and you will die in your
sins. Where I go, you can’t
come.”**
22 The Jews therefore said,
“Will he kill himself, because
he says, **‘Where I am going,
you can’t come’**?”
23 He said to them, **“You
are from beneath. I am
from above. You are of
this world. I am not of this
world.** 24 **I said therefore
to you that you will die in
your sins; for unless you
believe that I am† he, you
will die in your sins.”**
25 They said therefore to
him, “Who are you?”
Jesus said to them, **“Just
what I have been saying
to you from the beginning.**
26 **I have many things to
speak and to judge con-
cerning you. However, he
who sent me is true; and
the things which I heard
from him, these I say to the
world.”**
27 They didn’t understand
that he spoke to them about
the Father. 28 Jesus there-
fore said to them, **“When
you have lifted up the Son**

* **8:11** NU includes John 7:53–John 8:11, but puts brackets around it to indicate that the textual critics had less confidence that this was original. ✡ **8:12** Isaiah 60:1 ✡ **8:17** Deuteronomy 17:6; 19:15 † **8:24** or, I AM

of Man, then you will know that I am he, and I do nothing of myself, but as my Father taught me, I say these things. 29 **He who sent me is with me. The Father hasn't left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him."**

30 As he spoke these things, many believed in him. 31 Jesus therefore said to those Jews who had believed him, **"If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples.** 32 **You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."** ✡

33 They answered him, "We are Abraham's offspring, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How do you say, **'You will be made free'**?"

34 Jesus answered them, **"Most certainly I tell you, everyone who commits sin is the bondservant of sin.** 35 **A bondservant doesn't live in the house forever. A son remains forever.** 36 **If therefore the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.** 37 **I know that you are Abraham's offspring, yet you seek to kill me, because my word finds no place in you.** 38 **I say the things which I have seen with my Father; and you also do the things which you have seen with your father."**

39 They answered him, "Our father is Abraham."

Jesus said to them, **"If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham.** 40 **But now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham didn't do this.** 41 **You do the works of your father."**

They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father, God."

42 Therefore Jesus said to them, **"If God were your father, you would love me, for I came out and have come from God. For I haven't come of myself, but he sent me.** 43 **Why don't you understand my speech? Because you can't hear my word.** 44 **You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and doesn't stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks on his own; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.** 45 **But because I tell the truth, you don't believe me.** 46 **Which of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?** 47 **He who is of God hears the words of God. For this cause you don't hear, because you are not of God."**

48 Then the Jews answered him, "Don't we say well that

✡ **8:32** Psalm 119:45

you are a Samaritan, and have a demon?"

49 Jesus answered, **"I don't have a demon, but I honor my Father and you dishonor me.** 50 **But I don't seek my own glory. There is one who seeks and judges.** 51 **Most certainly, I tell you, if a person keeps my word, he will never see death."**

52 Then the Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, as did the prophets; and you say, **'If a man keeps my word, he will never taste of death.'** 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died. Who do you make yourself out to be?"

54 Jesus answered, **"If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say that he is our God.** 55 **You have not known him, but I know him. If I said, 'I don't know him,' I would be like you, a liar. But I know him and keep his word.** 56 **Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day. He saw it and was glad."**

57 The Jews therefore said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old! Have you seen Abraham?"

58 Jesus said to them, **"Most certainly, I tell you, before Abraham came into existence, I AM.**✡**"**

59 Therefore they took up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple, having gone through the middle of them, and so passed by.

9

1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 Jesus answered, **"This man didn't sin, nor did his parents, but that the works of God might be revealed in him.** 4 **I must work the works of him who sent me while it is day. The night is coming, when no one can work.** 5 **While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."** 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground, made mud with the saliva, anointed the blind man's eyes with the mud, 7 and said to him, **"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam"** (which means "Sent"). So he went away, washed, and came back seeing.

8 Therefore the neighbors and those who saw that he was blind before said, "Isn't this he who sat and begged?" 9 Others were saying, "It is he." Still others were saying, "He looks like him."

He said, "I am he."

10 They therefore were asking him, "How were your eyes opened?"

11 He answered, "A man called Jesus made mud,

✡ **8:58** Exodus 3:14

anointed my eyes, and said to me, **'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.'** So I went away and washed, and I received sight."

12 Then they asked him, "Where is he?"

He said, "I don't know."

13 They brought him who had been blind to the Pharisees. 14 It was a Sabbath when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 Again therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and I see."

16 Some therefore of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he doesn't keep the Sabbath."

Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" So there was division among them.

17 Therefore they asked the blind man again, "What do you say about him, because he opened your eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

18 The Jews therefore didn't believe concerning him, that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight, 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, whom you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

20 His parents answered them, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but how he now sees, we don't know; or who opened his eyes, we don't know. He is of age. Ask him. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said these things because they feared the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if any man would confess him as Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age. Ask him."

24 So they called the man who was blind a second time, and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."

25 He therefore answered, "I don't know if he is a sinner. One thing I do know: that though I was blind, now I see."

26 They said to him again, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

27 He answered them, "I told you already, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You don't also want to become his disciples, do you?"

28 They insulted him and said, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses. But as for this man, we don't know where he comes from."

30 The man answered them, "How amazing! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, he listens to him.✡ 32 Since the world began it has never

✡ **9:31** Psalm 66:18; Proverbs 15:29; 28:9

been heard of that anyone
opened the eyes of someone
born blind. 33 If this man
were not from God, he could
do nothing."
34 They answered him,
"You were altogether born in
sins, and do you teach us?"
Then they threw him out.
35 Jesus heard that they had
thrown him out, and finding
him, he said, **"Do you be-
lieve in the Son of God?"**
36 He answered, "Who is
he, Lord, that I may believe in
him?"
37 Jesus said to him, **"You
have both seen him, and it
is he who speaks with you."**
38 He said, "Lord, I believe!"
and he worshiped him.
39 Jesus said, **"I came into
this world for judgment,
that those who don't see
may see; and that those
who see may become
blind."**
40 Those of the Pharisees
who were with him heard
these things, and said to him,
"Are we also blind?"
41 Jesus said to them, **"If
you were blind, you would
have no sin; but now you
say, 'We see.' Therefore
your sin remains.**

10

1 **"Most certainly, I tell
you, one who doesn't enter
by the door into the sheep
fold, but climbs up some
other way, is a thief and
a robber. 2 But one who
enters in by the door is
the shepherd of the sheep.
3 The gatekeeper opens
the gate for him, and the
sheep listen to his voice.
He calls his own sheep
by name and leads them
out. 4 Whenever he brings
out his own sheep, he
goes before them; and the
sheep follow him, for they
know his voice. 5 They
will by no means follow a
stranger, but will flee from
him; for they don't know
the voice of strangers."**
6 Jesus spoke this parable
to them, but they didn't
understand what he was
telling them.
7 Jesus therefore said to
them again, **"Most cer-
tainly, I tell you, I am
the sheep's door. 8 All
who came before me are
thieves and robbers, but
the sheep didn't listen to
them. 9 I am the door. If
anyone enters in by me,
he will be saved, and will
go in and go out and will
find pasture. 10 The thief
only comes to steal, kill,
and destroy. I came that
they may have life, and
may have it abundantly.**
11 **"I am the good shep-
herd.✡ The good shepherd
lays down his life for the
sheep. 12 He who is a
hired hand, and not a
shepherd, who doesn't
own the sheep, sees the
wolf coming, leaves the
sheep, and flees. The wolf
snatches the sheep and
scatters them. 13 The**

✡ **10:11** Isaiah 40:11; Ezekiel 34:11-12,15,22

hired hand flees because he is a hired hand and doesn't care for the sheep.
14 **I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and I'm known by my own;** 15 **even as the Father knows me, and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep.**
16 **I have other sheep which are not of this fold.**✡ **I must bring them also, and they will hear my voice. They will become one flock with one shepherd.**
17 **Therefore the Father loves me, because I lay down my life,** ✡ **that I may take it again.** 18 **No one takes it away from me, but I lay it down by myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. I received this commandment from my Father."**

19 Therefore a division arose again among the Jews because of these words.
20 Many of them said, "He has a demon and is insane! Why do you listen to him?"
21 Others said, "These are not the sayings of one possessed by a demon. It isn't possible for a demon to open the eyes of the blind, is it?"✡

22 It was the Feast of the Dedication* at Jerusalem.
23 It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in Solomon's porch.
24 The Jews therefore came around him and said to him, "How long will you hold us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered them, **"I told you, and you don't believe. The works that I do in my Father's name, these testify about me.** 26 **But you don't believe, because you are not of my sheep, as I told you.** 27 **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.** 28 **I give eternal life to them. They will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.** 29 **My Father who has given them to me is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand.** 30 **I and the Father are one."**

31 Therefore the Jews took up stones again to stone him.
32 Jesus answered them, **"I have shown you many good works from my Father. For which of those works do you stone me?"**

33 The Jews answered him, "We don't stone you for a good work, but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God."

34 Jesus answered them, **"Isn't it written in your law, 'I said, you are gods?'**✡
35 **If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture can't be broken),** 36 **do**

✡ **10:16** Isaiah 56:8 ✡ **10:17** Isaiah 53:7-8 ✡ **10:21** Exodus 4:11 * **10:22** The "Feast of the Dedication" is the Greek name for "Hanukkah", a celebration of the rededication of the Temple. ✡ **10:34** Psalm 82:6

you say of him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You blaspheme,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God?' 37 **If I don't do the works of my Father, don't believe me.** 38 **But if I do them, though you don't believe me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."**

39 They sought again to seize him, and he went out of their hand. 40 He went away again beyond the Jordan into the place where John was baptizing at first, and he stayed there. 41 Many came to him. They said, "John indeed did no sign, but everything that John said about this man is true." 42 Many believed in him there.

11

1 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus from Bethany, of the village of Mary and her sister, Martha. 2 It was that Mary who had anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. 3 The sisters therefore sent to him, saying, "Lord, behold, he for whom you have great affection is sick."

4 But when Jesus heard it, he said, **"This sickness is not to death, but for the glory of God, that God's Son may be glorified by it."** 5 Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus. 6 When therefore he heard that he was sick, he stayed two days in the place where he was. 7 Then after this he said to the disciples, **"Let's go into Judea again."**

8 The disciples asked him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone you. Are you going there again?"

9 Jesus answered, **"Aren't there twelve hours of daylight? If a man walks in the day, he doesn't stumble, because he sees the light of this world.** 10 **But if a man walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light isn't in him."** 11 He said these things, and after that, he said to them, **"Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going so that I may awake him out of sleep."**

12 The disciples therefore said, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."

13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he spoke of taking rest in sleep. 14 So Jesus said to them plainly then, **"Lazarus is dead.** 15 **I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe. Nevertheless, let's go to him."**

16 Thomas therefore, who is called Didymus,* said to his fellow disciples, "Let's also go, that we may die with him."

17 So when Jesus came, he found that he had been in the tomb four days already.

* **11:16** "Didymus" means "Twin".

18 Now Bethany was near
Jerusalem, about fifteen
stadia† away. 19 Many of the
Jews had joined the women
around Martha and Mary,
to console them concerning
their brother. 20 Then when
Martha heard that Jesus was
coming, she went and met
him, but Mary stayed in the
house. 21 Therefore Martha
said to Jesus, "Lord, if you
would have been here, my
brother wouldn't have died.
22 Even now I know that
whatever you ask of God, God
will give you."

23 Jesus said to her, **"Your brother will rise again."**

24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, **"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will still live, even if he dies. 26 Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"**

27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, he who comes into the world."

28 When she had said this, she went away and called Mary, her sister, secretly, saying, "The Teacher is here and is calling you."

29 When she heard this, she arose quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was in the place where Martha met him. 31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house and were consoling her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, "She is going to the tomb to weep there."

32 Therefore when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you would have been here, my brother wouldn't have died."

33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews weeping who came with her, he groaned in the spirit and was troubled, 34 and said, **"Where have you laid him?"**

They told him, "Lord, come and see."

35 Jesus wept.

36 The Jews therefore said, "See how much affection he had for him!" 37 Some of them said, "Couldn't this man, who opened the eyes of him who was blind, have also kept this man from dying?"

38 Jesus therefore, again groaning in himself, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, **"Take away the stone."**

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

40 Jesus said to her, **"Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see God's glory?"**

† **11:18** 15 stadia is about 2.8 kilometers or 1.7 miles

41 So they took away the
stone from the place where
the dead man was lying.‡ Je-
sus lifted up his eyes and
said, **“Father, I thank you
that you listened to me.**
42 **I know that you always
listen to me, but because
of the multitude standing
around I said this, that
they may believe that you
sent me.”** 43 When he had
said this, he cried with a loud
voice, **“Lazarus, come out!”**
44 He who was dead came
out, bound hand and foot
with wrappings, and his face
was wrapped around with a
cloth.

Jesus said to them, **“Free
him, and let him go.”**

45 Therefore many of the
Jews who came to Mary and
saw what Jesus did believed
in him. 46 But some of them
went away to the Pharisees
and told them the things
which Jesus had done. 47 The
chief priests therefore and
the Pharisees gathered a
council, and said, “What are
we doing? For this man does
many signs. 48 If we leave
him alone like this, everyone
will believe in him, and the
Romans will come and take
away both our place and our
nation.”

49 But a certain one of
them, Caiaphas, being high
priest that year, said to them,
“You know nothing at all,
50 nor do you consider that
it is advantageous for us
that one man should die
for the people, and that the
whole nation not perish.”
51 Now he didn’t say this of
himself, but being high priest
that year, he prophesied
that Jesus would die for the
nation, 52 and not for the
nation only, but that he might
also gather together into one
the children of God who
are scattered abroad. 53 So
from that day forward they
took counsel that they might
put him to death. 54 Jesus
therefore walked no more
openly among the Jews, but
departed from there into the
country near the wilderness,
to a city called Ephraim.
He stayed there with his
disciples.

55 Now the Passover of the
Jews was at hand. Many
went up from the country
to Jerusalem before the
Passover, to purify them-
selves. 56 Then they sought
for Jesus and spoke with
one another as they stood
in the temple, “What do you
think—that he isn’t coming
to the feast at all?” 57 Now
the chief priests and the
Pharisees had commanded
that if anyone knew where
he was, he should report it,
that they might seize him.

12

1 Then, six days before
the Passover, Jesus came
to Bethany, where Lazarus
was, who had been dead,
whom he raised from the
dead. 2 So they made him
a supper there. Martha

‡ **11:41** NU omits “from the place where the dead man was lying.”

served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with him. 3 Therefore Mary took a pound* of ointment of pure nard, very precious, and anointed Jesus's feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment.

4 Then Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of his disciples, who would betray him, said, 5 "Why wasn't this ointment sold for three hundred denarii† and given to the poor?" 6 Now he said this, not because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and having the money box, used to steal what was put into it.

7 But Jesus said, **"Leave her alone. She has kept this for the day of my burial.** 8 **For you always have the poor with you, but you don't always have me."**

9 A large crowd therefore of the Jews learned 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 conspired to put Lazarus to death also, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

12 On the next day a great multitude had come to the feast. When they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 they took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet him, and cried out, "Hosanna!‡ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,✡ the King of Israel!"

14 Jesus, having found a young donkey, sat on it. As it is written, 15 "Don't be afraid, daughter of Zion. Behold, your King comes, sitting on a donkey's colt."✡ 16 His disciples didn't understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about him, and that they had done these things to him. 17 The multitude therefore that was with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead was testifying about it. 18 For this cause also the multitude went and met him, because they heard that he had done this sign. 19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "See how you accomplish nothing. Behold, the world has gone after him."

20 Now there were certain Greeks among those who went up to worship at the feast. 21 Therefore, these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we want to see Jesus." 22 Philip came and told Andrew, and

* **12:3** a Roman pound of 12 ounces, or about 340 grams † **12:5** 300 denarii was about a year's wages for an agricultural laborer. ‡ **12:13** "Hosanna" means "save us" or "help us, we pray". ✡ **12:13** Psalm 118:25-26 ✡ **12:15** Zechariah 9:9

in turn, Andrew came with Philip, and they told Jesus.

23 Jesus answered them, **"The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.** 24 **Most certainly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains by itself alone. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.** 25 **He who loves his life will lose it. He who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life.** 26 **If anyone serves me, let him follow me. Where I am, there my servant will also be. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.**

27 **"Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say? 'Father, save me from this time?' But I came to this time for this cause.** 28 **Father, glorify your name!"**

Then a voice came out of the sky, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."

29 Therefore the multitude who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

30 Jesus answered, **"This voice hasn't come for my sake, but for your sakes.** 31 **Now is the judgment of this world. Now the prince of this world will be cast out.** 32 **And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."** 33 But he said this, signifying by what kind of death he should die.

34 The multitude answered him, "We have heard out of the law that the Christ remains forever.✡ How do you say, **'The Son of Man must be lifted up?'** Who is this Son of Man?"

35 Jesus therefore said to them, **"Yet a little while the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, that darkness doesn't overtake you. He who walks in the darkness doesn't know where he is going.** 36 **While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become children of light."** Jesus said these things, and he departed and hid himself from them. 37 But though he had done so many signs before them, yet they didn't believe in him, 38 that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

"Lord, who has believed our report?
To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"✡

39 For this cause they couldn't believe, for Isaiah said again:

40 "He has blinded their eyes
and he hardened their heart,
lest they should see with their eyes,
and perceive with their heart,
and would turn,

✡ **12:34** Isaiah 9:7; Daniel 2:44; See Isaiah 53:8 ✡ **12:38** Isaiah 53:1 ✡ **12:40** Isaiah 6:10

and I would heal them."✡
41 Isaiah said these things
when he saw his glory,
and spoke of him. ✡
42 Nevertheless, even many
of the rulers believed in him,
but because of the Pharisees
they didn't confess it, so that
they wouldn't be put out of
the synagogue, 43 for they
loved men's praise more than
God's praise.
44 Jesus cried out and said,
"Whoever believes in me,
believes not in me, but in
him who sent me. 45 **He**
who sees me sees him who
sent me. 46 **I have come**
as a light into the world,
that whoever believes in
me may not remain in the
darkness. 47 **If anyone**
listens to my sayings and
doesn't believe, I don't
judge him. For I came not
to judge the world, but to
save the world. 48 **He who**
rejects me, and doesn't
receive my sayings, has
one who judges him. The
word that I spoke will
judge him in the last day.
49 **For I spoke not from**
myself, but the Father
who sent me gave me a
commandment, what I
should say and what I
should speak. 50 **I know**
that his commandment is
eternal life. The things
therefore which I speak,
even as the Father has said
to me, so I speak."

13

1 Now before the feast of
the Passover, Jesus, knowing
that his time had come that
he would depart from this
world to the Father, having
loved his own who were in
the world, he loved them to
the end. 2 During supper, the
devil having already put into
the heart of Judas Iscariot,
Simon's son, to betray him,
3 Jesus, knowing that the Fa-
ther had given all things into
his hands, and that he came
from God and was going to
God, 4 arose from supper, and
laid aside his outer garments.
He took a towel and wrapped
a towel around his waist.
5 Then he poured water into
the basin, and began to wash
the disciples' feet and to wipe
them with the towel that was
wrapped around him. 6 Then
he came to Simon Peter. He
said to him, "Lord, do you
wash my feet?"
7 Jesus answered him,
"You don't know what I am
doing now, but you will
understand later."
8 Peter said to him, "You
will never wash my feet!"
Jesus answered him, **"If I**
don't wash you, you have
no part with me."
9 Simon Peter said to him,
"Lord, not my feet only, but
also my hands and my head!"
10 Jesus said to him, **"Some-**
one who has bathed only
needs to have his feet
washed, but is completely
clean. You are clean, but
not all of you." 11 For he
knew him who would betray
him; therefore he said, **"You**
are not all clean." 12 So

✡ **12:41** Isaiah 6:1

when he had washed their feet, put his outer garment back on, and sat down again, he said to them, **"Do you know what I have done to you?** 13 **You call me, 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' You say so correctly, for so I am.** 14 **If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.** 15 **For I have given you an example, that you should also do as I have done to you.** 16 **Most certainly I tell you, a servant is not greater than his lord, neither is one who is sent greater than he who sent him.** 17 **If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.** 18 **I don't speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with me has lifted up his heel against me.'**✡ 19 **From now on, I tell you before it happens, that when it happens, you may believe that I am he.** 20 **Most certainly I tell you, he who receives whomever I send, receives me; and he who receives me, receives him who sent me."**

21 When Jesus had said this, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, **"Most certainly I tell you that one of you will betray me."**

22 The disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom he spoke. 23 One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was at the table, leaning against Jesus' breast. 24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, and said to him, "Tell us who it is of whom he speaks."

25 He, leaning back, as he was, on Jesus' breast, asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

26 Jesus therefore answered, **"It is he to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it."** So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. 27 After the piece of bread, then Satan entered into him.

Then Jesus said to him, **"What you do, do quickly."**

28 Now nobody at the table knew why he said this to him. 29 For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus said to him, "Buy what things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. 30 Therefore having received that morsel, he went out immediately. It was night.

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, **"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him.** 32 **If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and he will glorify him immediately.** 33 **Little children, I will be with you**

✡ **13:18** Psalm 41:9

a little while longer. You will seek me, and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you can't come,' so now I tell you. 34 **A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also love one another.** 35 **By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."**

36 Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?"

Jesus answered, **"Where I am going, you can't follow now, but you will follow afterwards."**

37 Peter said to him, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."

38 Jesus answered him, **"Will you lay down your life for me? Most certainly I tell you, the rooster won't crow until you have denied me three times.**

14

1 **"Don't let your heart be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me.** 2 **In my Father's house are many homes. If it weren't so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you.** 3 **If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will receive you to myself; that where I am, you may be there also.** 4 **You know where I go, and you know the way."**

5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

6 Jesus said to him, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.** 7 **If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on, you know him and have seen him."**

8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us."

9 Jesus said to him, **"Have I been with you such a long time, and do you not know me, Philip? He who has seen me has seen the Father. How do you say, 'Show us the Father?'** 10 **Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I tell you, I speak not from myself; but the Father who lives in me does his 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 **Most certainly I tell you, he who believes in me, the works that I do, he will do also; and he will do greater works than these, because I am going to my Father.** 13 **Whatever you will ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.** 14 **If you will ask anything in my name, I will do it.** 15 **If you love me, keep my**

commandments. 16 **I will pray to the Father, and he will give you another Counselor,** * **that he may be with you forever:** 17 **the Spirit of truth, whom the world can't receive, for it doesn't see him and doesn't know him. You know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.** 18 **I will not leave you orphans. I will come to you.** 19 **Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more; but you will see me. Because I live, you will live also.** 20 **In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.** 21 **One who has my commandments and keeps them, that person is one who loves me. One who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him, and will reveal myself to him."**

22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, what has happened that you are about to reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?"

23 Jesus answered him, **"If a man loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.** 24 **He who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word which you hear isn't mine, but the Father's who sent me.**

25 **"I have said these things to you while still living with you.** 26 **But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things, and will remind you of all that I said to you.** 27 **Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, I give to you. Don't let your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful.** 28 **You heard how I told you, 'I am going away, and I will come back to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced because I said 'I am going to my Father;' for the Father is greater than I.** 29 **Now I have told you before it happens so that when it happens, you may believe.** 30 **I will no more speak much with you, for the prince of the world comes, and he has nothing in me.** 31 **But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father commanded me, even so I do. Arise, let's go from here.**

15

1 **"I am the true vine, and my Father is the farmer.** 2 **Every branch in me that doesn't bear fruit, he takes away. Every branch that bears fruit, he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.** 3 **You are already pruned clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.** 4 **Remain in me, and**

* **14:16** Greek παρακλητον: Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, and Comforter.

I in you. As the branch can't bear fruit by itself unless it remains in the vine, so neither can you, unless you remain in me.
5 I am the vine. You are the branches. He who remains in me and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
6 If a man doesn't remain in me, he is thrown out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned.
7 If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, you will ask whatever you desire, and it will be done for you.

8 "In this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; and so you will be my disciples.
9 Even as the Father has loved me, I also have loved you. Remain in my love.
10 If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, even as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.
11 I have spoken these things to you, that my joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be made full.

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you.
13 Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.
14 You are my friends if you do whatever I command you.
15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant doesn't know what his lord does. But I have called you friends, for everything that I heard from my Father, I have made known to you.
16 You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever you will ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

17 "I command these things to you, that you may love one another.
18 If the world hates you, you know that it has hated me before it hated you.
19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. But because you are not of the world, since I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
20 Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his lord.'✡ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours.
21 But they will do all these things to you for my name's sake, because they don't know him who sent me.
22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have had sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin.
23 He who hates me, hates my Father also.
24 If I hadn't done among them

✡ **15:20** John 13:16

the works which no one else did, they wouldn't have had sin. But now they have seen and also hated both me and my Father.
25 **But this happened so that the word may be fulfilled which was written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.'**✡

26 **"When the Counselor*
has come, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will testify about me.**
27 **You will also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.**

16

1 **"I have said these things to you so that you wouldn't be caused to stumble.**
2 **They will put you out of the synagogues. Yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers service to God.**
3 **They will do these things* because they have not known the Father nor me.**
4 **But I have told you these things so that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you about them. I didn't tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.**
5 **But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'**
6 **But because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart.**
7 **Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I don't go away, the Counselor won't come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.**
8 **When he has come, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment;**
9 **about sin, because they don't believe in me;**
10 **about righteousness, because I am going to my Father, and you won't see me any more;**
11 **about judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged.**

12 **"I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now.**
13 **However, when he, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth, for he will not speak from himself; but whatever he hears, he will speak. He will declare to you things that are coming.**
14 **He will glorify me, for he will take from what is mine and will declare it to you.**
15 **All things that the Father has are mine; therefore I said that he takes† of mine and will declare it to you.**

16 **"A little while, and you will not see me. Again a little while, and you will see me."**

✡ **15:25** Psalm 35:19; 69:4 * **15:26** Greek Parakletos: Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, and Comforter. * **16:3** TR adds "to you" † **16:15** TR reads "will take" instead of "takes"

17 Some of his disciples
therefore said to one an-
other, "What is this that he
says to us, **'A little while,
and you won't see me, and
again a little while, and
you will see me;'** and, **'Be-
cause I go to the Father'**?"
18 They said therefore, "What
is this that he says, **'A little
while'**? We don't know what
he is saying."
19 Therefore Jesus per-
ceived that they wanted to
ask him, and he said to them,
**"Do you inquire among
yourselves concerning
this, that I said, 'A little
while, and you won't see
me, and again a little
while, and you will see
me?' 20 Most certainly
I tell you that you will
weep and lament, but the
world will rejoice. You
will be sorrowful, but
your sorrow will be turned
into joy. 21 A woman,
when she gives birth, has
sorrow because her time
has come. But when she
has delivered the child,
she doesn't remember the
anguish any more, for the
joy that a human being
is born into the world.
22 Therefore you now have
sorrow, but I will see you
again, and your heart will
rejoice, and no one will
take your joy away from
you.**
23 **"In that day you will
ask me no questions. Most
certainly I tell you, what-
ever you may ask of the Fa-
ther in my name, he will
give it to you. 24 Until now,
you have asked nothing in
my name. Ask, and you will
receive, that your joy may
be made full.**
25 **"I have spoken these
things to you in figures
of speech. But the time
is coming when I will
no more speak to you in
figures of speech, but will
tell you plainly about the
Father. 26 In that day
you will ask in my name;
and I don't say to you that
I will pray to the Father
for you, 27 for the Father
himself loves you, because
you have loved me, and
have believed that I came
from God. 28 I came from
the Father and have come
into the world. Again, I
leave the world and go to
the Father."**
29 His disciples said to
him, "Behold, now you are
speaking plainly, and using
no figures of speech. 30 Now
we know that you know all
things, and don't need for
anyone to question you. By
this we believe that you came
from God."
31 Jesus answered them,
**"Do you now believe?
32 Behold, the time is
coming, yes, and has now
come, that you will be
scattered, everyone to his
own place, and you will
leave me alone. Yet I am
not alone, because the
Father is with me. 33 I
have told you these things,
that in me you may have
peace. In the world you**

have trouble; but cheer up! I have overcome the world."

17

1 Jesus said these things,
then lifting up his eyes to
heaven, he said, **"Father,
the time has come. Glo-
rify your Son, that your
Son may also glorify you;
2 even as you gave him au-
thority over all flesh, so
he will give eternal life to
all whom you have given
him. 3 This is eter-
nal life, that they should
know you, the only true
God, and him whom you
sent, Jesus Christ. 4 I
glorified you on the earth.
I have accomplished the
work which you have given
me to do. 5 Now, Father,
glorify me with your own
self with the glory which
I had with you before the
world existed.**
6 **"I revealed your name
to the people whom you
have given me out of the
world. They were yours,
and you have given them
to me. They have kept
your word. 7 Now they
have known that all things
whatever you have given
me are from you, 8 for
the words which you have
given me I have given to
them; and they received
them, and knew for sure
that I came from you. They
have believed that you
sent me. 9 I pray for them.
I don't pray for the world,
but for those whom you
have given me, for they
are yours. 10 All things
that are mine are yours,
and yours are mine, and I
am glorified in them. 11 I
am no more in the world,
but these are in the world,
and I am coming to you.
Holy Father, keep them
through your name which
you have given me, that
they may be one, even as
we are. 12 While I was
with them in the world, I
kept them in your name.
I have kept those whom
you have given me. None
of them is lost except the
son of destruction, that
the Scripture might be
fulfilled. 13 But now I
come to you, and I say
these things in the world,
that they may have my joy
made full in themselves.
14 I have given them your
word. The world hated
them because they are not
of the world, even as I am
not of the world. 15 I
pray not that you would
take them from the world,
but that you would keep
them from the evil one.
16 They are not of the
world, even as I am not
of the world. 17 Sanctify
them in your truth. Your
word is truth.✡ 18 As you
sent me into the world,
even so I have sent them
into the world. 19 For their
sakes I sanctify myself,
that they themselves also
may be sanctified in truth.**

✡ **17:17** Psalm 119:142

20 **“Not for these only do I pray, but for those also who will believe in me through their word,** 21 **that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that you sent me.** 22 **The glory which you have given me, I have given to them, that they may be one, even as we are one,** 23 **I in them, and you in me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that you sent me and loved them, even as you loved me.** 24 **Father, I desire that they also whom you have given me be with me where I am, that they may see my glory which you have given me, for you loved me before the foundation of the world.** 25 **Righteous Father, the world hasn’t known you, but I knew you; and these knew that you sent me.** 26 **I made known to them your name, and will make it known; that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and I in them.”**

18

1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples over the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, into which he and his disciples entered. 2 Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. 3 Judas then, having taken a detachment of soldiers and officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. 4 Jesus therefore, knowing all the things that were happening to him, went out and said to them, **“Who are you looking for?”**

5 They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

Jesus said to them, **“I am he.”**

Judas also, who betrayed him, was standing with them. 6 When therefore he said to them, **“I am he,”** they went backward and fell to the ground.

7 Again therefore he asked them, **“Who are you looking for?”**

They said, “Jesus of Nazareth.”

8 Jesus answered, **“I told you that I am he. If therefore you seek me, let these go their way,”** 9 that the word might be fulfilled which he spoke, **“Of those whom you have given me, I have lost none.”**✡

10 Simon Peter therefore, having a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant’s name was Malchus. 11 Jesus therefore said to Peter, **“Put the sword into its sheath. The cup which the Father has given me, shall I not surely drink it?”**

✡ **18:9** John 6:39

12 So the detachment, the
commanding officer, and the
officers of the Jews seized Je-
sus and bound him, 13 and
led him to Annas first, for
he was father-in-law to Ca-
iaphas, who was high priest
that year. 14 Now it was Ca-
iaphas who advised the Jews
that it was expedient that one
man should perish for the
people.

15 Simon Peter followed Je-
sus, as did another disciple.
Now that disciple was known
to the high priest, and en-
tered in with Jesus into the
court of the high priest; 16 but
Peter was standing at the
door outside. So the other
disciple, who was known to
the high priest, went out and
spoke to her who kept the
door, and brought in Peter.
17 Then the maid who kept
the door said to Peter, "Are
you also one of this man's dis-
ciples?"

He said, "I am not."

18 Now the servants and the
officers were standing there,
having made a fire of coals,
for it was cold. They were
warming themselves. Peter
was with them, standing and
warming himself.

19 The high priest therefore
asked Jesus about his disci-
ples and about his teaching.

20 Jesus answered him, **"I
spoke openly to the world.
I always taught in syna-
gogues and in the temple,
where the Jews always
meet. I said nothing in
secret.** 21 **Why do you ask
me? Ask those who have
heard me what I said to
them. Behold, they know
the things which I said."**

22 When he had said this,
one of the officers stand-
ing by slapped Jesus with
his hand, saying, "Do you
answer the high priest like
that?"

23 Jesus answered him, **"If I
have spoken evil, testify of
the evil; but if well, why do
you beat me?"**

24 Annas sent him bound to
Caiaphas, the high priest.

25 Now Simon Peter was
standing and warming him-
self. They said therefore to
him, "You aren't also one of
his disciples, are you?"

He denied it and said, "I am
not."

26 One of the servants of the
high priest, being a relative
of him whose ear Peter had
cut off, said, "Didn't I see you
in the garden with him?"

27 Peter therefore denied it
again, and immediately the
rooster crowed.

28 They led Jesus therefore
from Caiaphas into the Prae-
torium. It was early, and
they themselves didn't en-
ter into the Praetorium, that
they might not be defiled,
but might eat the Passover.
29 Pilate therefore went out to
them and said, "What accusa-
tion do you bring against this
man?"

30 They answered him, "If
this man weren't an evildoer,
we wouldn't have delivered
him up to you."

31 Pilate therefore said to
them, "Take him yourselves,

and judge him according to your law."

Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is illegal for us to put anyone to death," 32 that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spoke, signifying by what kind of death he should die.

33 Pilate therefore entered again into the Praetorium, called Jesus, and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

34 Jesus answered him, **"Do you say this by yourself, or did others tell you about me?"**

35 Pilate answered, "I'm not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered you to me. What have you done?"

36 Jesus answered, **"My Kingdom is not of this world. If my Kingdom were of this world, then my servants would fight, that I wouldn't be delivered to the Jews. But now my Kingdom is not from here."**

37 Pilate therefore said to him, "Are you a king then?"

Jesus answered, **"You say that I am a king. For this reason I have been born, and for this reason I have come into the world, that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."**

38 Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

When he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no basis for a charge against him. 39 But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Therefore, do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

40 Then they all shouted again, saying, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

19

1 So Pilate then took Jesus and flogged him. 2 The soldiers twisted thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple garment. 3 They kept saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and they kept slapping him.

4 Then Pilate went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I bring him out to you, that you may know that I find no basis for a charge against him."

5 Jesus therefore came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment. Pilate said to them, "Behold, the man!"

6 When therefore the chief priests and the officers saw him, they shouted, saying, "Crucify! Crucify!"

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no basis for a charge against 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 therefore Pilate heard this saying, he was more afraid. 9 He entered into the Praetorium again,

and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 Pilate therefore said to him, "Aren't you speaking to me? Don't you know that I have power to release you and have power to crucify you?"

11 Jesus answered, **"You would have no power at all against me, unless it were given to you from above. Therefore he who delivered me to you has greater sin."**

12 At this, Pilate was seeking to release him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you release this man, you aren't Caesar's friend! Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar!"

13 When Pilate therefore heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called "The Pavement", but in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." 14 Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, at about the sixth hour.* He said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"

15 They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?"

The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!"

16 So then he delivered him to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led him away. 17 He went out, bearing his cross, to the place called "The Place of a Skull", which is called in Hebrew, "Golgotha", 18 where they crucified him, and with him two others, on either side one, and Jesus in the middle. 19 Pilate wrote a title also, and put it on the cross. There was written, "JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS." 20 Therefore many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. 21 The chief priests of the Jews therefore said to Pilate, "Don't write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, '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 the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top throughout. 24 Then they said to one another, "Let's not tear it, but cast lots for it to decide whose it will be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled, which says,

"They parted my garments among them.
They cast lots for my clothing."✡

Therefore the soldiers did these things.

* **19:14** "the sixth hour" would have been 6:00 a.m. according to the Roman timekeeping system, or noon for the Jewish timekeeping system in use, then.
✡ **19:24** Psalm 22:18

25 But standing by Jesus'
cross were his mother, his
mother's sister, Mary the
wife of Clopas, and Mary
Magdalene. 26 Therefore
when Jesus saw his mother,
and the disciple whom he
loved standing there, he said
to his mother, **"Woman, be-
hold, your son!"** 27 Then he
said to the disciple, **"Behold,
your mother!"** From that
hour, the disciple took her to
his own home.

28 After this, Jesus, seeing†
that all things were now
finished, that the Scripture
might be fulfilled, said, **"I
am thirsty!"** 29 Now a vessel
full of vinegar was set there;
so they put a sponge full of
the vinegar on hyssop, and
held it at his mouth. 30 When
Jesus therefore had received
the vinegar, he said, **"It is
finished!"** Then he bowed
his head and gave up his
spirit.

31 Therefore the Jews,
because it was the Prepara-
tion Day, so that the bodies
wouldn't remain on the cross
on the Sabbath (for that
Sabbath was a special one),
asked of Pilate that their legs
might be broken and that
they might be taken away.
32 Therefore the soldiers
came and broke the legs of
the first and of the other who
was crucified with him; 33 but
when they came to Jesus
and saw that he was already
dead, they didn't break his
legs. 34 However, one of the
soldiers pierced his side with
a spear, and immediately
blood and water came out.
35 He who has seen has
testified, and his testimony
is true. He knows that he
tells the truth, that you may
believe. 36 For these things
happened that the Scripture
might be fulfilled, "A bone
of him will not be broken."✡
37 Again another Scripture
says, "They will look on him
whom they pierced."✡

38 After these things,
Joseph of Arimathaea, being
a disciple of Jesus, but
secretly for fear of the Jews,
asked of Pilate that he might
take away Jesus' body. Pilate
gave him permission. He
came therefore and took
away his body. 39 Nicodemus,
who at first came to Jesus by
night, also came bringing a
mixture of myrrh and aloes,
about a hundred Roman
pounds.‡ 40 So they took
Jesus' body, and bound it in
linen cloths with the spices,
as the custom of the Jews is
to bury. 41 Now in the place
where he was crucified there
was a garden. In the garden
was a new tomb in which
no man had ever yet been
laid. 42 Then, because of the
Jews' Preparation Day (for
the tomb was near at hand),
they laid Jesus there.

† **19:28** NU, TR read "knowing" instead of "seeing" ✡ **19:36** Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12; Psalm 34:20 ✡ **19:37** Zechariah 12:10 ‡ **19:39** 100 Roman pounds of 12 ounces each, or about 72 pounds, or 33 Kilograms.

20

1 Now on the first day of
the week, Mary Magdalene
went early, while it was
still dark, to the tomb, and
saw that the stone had been
taken away from the tomb.
2 Therefore she ran and came
to Simon Peter and to the
other disciple whom Jesus
loved, and said to them,
"They have taken away the
Lord out of the tomb, and we
don't know where they have
laid him!"
3 Therefore Peter and the
other disciple went out, and
they went toward the tomb.
4 They both ran together. The
other disciple outran Peter
and came to the tomb first.
5 Stooping and looking in,
he saw the linen cloths ly-
ing there; yet he didn't enter
in. 6 Then Simon Peter came,
following him, and entered
into the tomb. He saw the
linen cloths lying, 7 and the
cloth that had been on his
head, not lying with the linen
cloths, but rolled up in a place
by itself. 8 So then the other
disciple who came first to the
tomb also entered in, and he
saw and believed. 9 For as yet
they didn't know the Scrip-
ture, that he must rise from
the dead. 10 So the disciples
went away again to their own
homes.
11 But Mary was standing
outside at the tomb weeping.
So as she wept, she stooped
and looked into the tomb,
12 and she saw two angels in
white sitting, one at the head
and one at the feet, where
the body of Jesus had lain.
13 They asked her, "Woman,
why are you weeping?"

She said to them, "Because
they have taken away my
Lord, and I don't know where
they have laid him." 14 When
she had said this, she turned
around and saw Jesus stand-
ing, and didn't know that it
was Jesus.
15 Jesus said to her,
**"Woman, why are you
weeping? Who are you
looking for?"**

She, supposing him to be
the gardener, said to him,
"Sir, if you have carried him
away, tell me where you have
laid him, and I will take him
away."
16 Jesus said to her,
"Mary."

She turned and said to him,
"Rabboni!"* which is to say,
"Teacher!"†
17 Jesus said to her, **"Don't
hold me, for I haven't yet
ascended to my Father; but
go to my brothers and tell
them, 'I am ascending to
my Father and your Fa-
ther, to my God and your
God.' "**
18 Mary Magdalene came
and told the disciples that
she had seen the Lord, and
that he had said these things
to her. 19 When therefore
it was evening on that day,
the first day of the week,
and when the doors were
locked where the disciples
were assembled, for fear of

* **20:16** Rabboni is a transliteration of the Hebrew word for "great teacher."
† **20:16** or, Master

the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the middle and said to them, **"Peace be to you."**

20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus therefore said to them again, **"Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you."** 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, **"Receive the Holy Spirit!** 23 **If you forgive anyone's sins, they have been forgiven them. If you retain anyone's sins, they have been retained."**

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus,‡ wasn't with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

26 After eight days, again his disciples were inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, the doors being locked, and stood in the middle, and said, **"Peace be to you."** 27 Then he said to Thomas, **"Reach here your finger, and see my hands. Reach here your hand, and put it into my side. Don't be unbelieving, but believing."**

28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said to him, **"Because you have seen me,§ you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."**

30 Therefore Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

21

1 After these things, Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias. He revealed himself this way. 2 Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus,* Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I'm going fishing."

They told him, "We are also coming with you." They immediately went out and entered into the boat. That night, they caught nothing. 4 But when day had already come, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples didn't know that it was Jesus. 5 Jesus therefore said to them, **"Children, have you anything to eat?"**

They answered him, "No."

6 He said to them, **"Cast the net on the right side of**

‡ **20:24** or, Twin § **20:29** TR adds "Thomas," * **21:2** or, Twin

the boat, and you will find some."

They cast it therefore, and now they weren't able to draw it in for the multitude of fish. 7 That disciple therefore whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!"

So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked), and threw himself into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from the land, but about two hundred cubits† away), dragging the net full of fish. 9 So when they got out on the land, they saw a fire of coals there, with fish and bread laid on it. 10 Jesus said to them, **"Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."**

11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land, full of one hundred fifty-three great fish. Even though there were so many, the net wasn't torn.

12 Jesus said to them, **"Come and eat breakfast!"**

None of the disciples dared inquire of him, "Who are you?" knowing that it was the Lord.

13 Then Jesus came and took the bread, gave it to them, and the fish likewise. 14 This is now the third time that Jesus was revealed to his disciples after he had risen from the dead. 15 So when they had eaten their breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, **"Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me more than these?"**

He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I have affection for you."

He said to him, **"Feed my lambs."** 16 He said to him again a second time, **"Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me?"**

He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I have affection for you."

He said to him, **"Tend my sheep."** 17 He said to him the third time, **"Simon, son of Jonah, do you have affection for me?"**

Peter was grieved because he asked him the third time, **"Do you have affection for me?"** He said to him, "Lord, you know everything. You know that I have affection for you."

Jesus said to him, **"Feed my sheep.** 18 **Most certainly I tell you, when you were young, you dressed yourself and walked where you wanted to. But when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you don't want to go."**

19 Now he said this, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. When he had said this, he said to him, **"Follow me."**

20 Then Peter, turning around, saw a disciple following. This was the disciple whom Jesus loved, the one

† **21:8** 200 cubits is about 100 yards or about 91 meters

who had also leaned on Jesus' breast at the supper and asked, "Lord, who is going to betray you?" 21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?"
22 Jesus said to him, **"If I desire that he stay until I come, what is that to you? You follow me."** 23 This saying therefore went out among the brothers‡ that this disciple wouldn't die. Yet Jesus didn't say to him that he wouldn't die, but, **"If I desire that he stay until I come, what is that to you?"**
24 This is the disciple who testifies about these things, and wrote these things. We know that his witness is true.
25 There are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they would all be written, I suppose that even the world itself wouldn't have room for the books that would be written.

‡ **21:23** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

The Acts of the Apostles

1 The first book I wrote,
Theophilus, concerned all
that Jesus began both to do
and to teach, 2 until the day
in which he was received
up, after he had given com-
mandment through the Holy
Spirit to the apostles whom
he had chosen. 3 To these
he also showed himself alive
after he suffered, by many
proofs, appearing to them
over a period of forty days
and speaking about God's
Kingdom. 4 Being assembled
together with them, he
commanded them, **"Don't
depart from Jerusalem,
but wait for the promise
of the Father, which you
heard from me.** 5 **For John
indeed baptized in water,
but you will be baptized in
the Holy Spirit not many
days from now."**

6 Therefore, when they had
come together, they asked
him, "Lord, are you now
restoring the kingdom to
Israel?"

7 He said to them, **"It isn't
for you to know times or
seasons which the Father
has set within his own au-
thority.** 8 **But you will
receive power when the
Holy Spirit has come upon
you. You will be witnesses
to me in Jerusalem, in all
Judea and Samaria, and to
the uttermost parts of the
earth."**

9 When he had said these
things, as they were look-
ing, he was taken up, and
a cloud received him out of
their sight. 10 While they
were looking steadfastly into
the sky as he went, behold,*
two men stood by them in
white clothing, 11 who also
said, "You men of Galilee,
why do you stand looking
into the sky? This Jesus, who
was received up from you
into the sky, will come back
in the same way as you saw
him going into the sky."

12 Then they returned to
Jerusalem from the moun-
tain called Olivet, which is
near Jerusalem, a Sabbath
day's journey away. 13 When
they had come in, they went
up into the upper room
where they were staying,
that is Peter, John, James,
Andrew, Philip, Thomas,
Bartholomew, Matthew,
James the son of Alphaeus,
Simon the Zealot, and Judas
the son of James. 14 All these
with one accord continued
steadfastly in prayer and
supplication, along with
the women and Mary the
mother of Jesus, and with his
brothers.

15 In these days, Peter
stood up in the middle of the
disciples (and the number
of names was about one
hundred twenty), and said,
16 "Brothers, it was necessary

* **1:10** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

that this Scripture should be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who was guide to those who took Jesus. 17 For he was counted with us, and received his portion in this ministry. 18 Now this man obtained a field with the reward for his wickedness; and falling headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines gushed out. 19 It became known to everyone who lived in Jerusalem that in their language that field was called 'Akeldama,' that is, 'The field of blood.' 20 For it is written in the book of Psalms,

'Let his habitation be made desolate.
Let no one dwell in it;'✡

and,

'Let another take his office.'✡

21 "Of the men therefore who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John to the day that he was received up from us, of these one must become a witness with us of his resurrection."

23 They put forward two: Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 They prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas fell away, that he might go to his own place." 26 They drew lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was counted with the eleven apostles.

2

1 Now when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 Suddenly there came from the sky a sound like the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 Tongues like fire appeared and were distributed to them, and one sat on each of them. 4 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.

5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under the sky. 6 When this sound was heard, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because everyone heard them speaking in his own language. 7 They were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Behold, aren't all these who speak Galileans? 8 How do we hear, everyone in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, 10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt,

✡ **1:20** Psalm 69:25 ✡ **1:20** Psalm 109:8

the parts of Libya around
Cyrene, visitors from Rome,
both Jews and proselytes,
11 Cretans and Arabians—we
hear them speaking in our
languages the mighty works
of God!" 12 They were all
amazed and were perplexed,
saying to one another, "What
does this mean?" 13 Others,
mocking, said, "They are
filled with new wine."

14 But Peter, standing up
with the eleven, lifted up his
voice and spoke out to them,
"You men of Judea and all you
who dwell at Jerusalem, let
this be known to you, and
listen to my words. 15 For
these aren't drunken, as you
suppose, seeing it is only the
third hour of the day.* 16 But
this is what has been spoken
through the prophet Joel:

17 'It will be in the last days,
says God,
that I will pour out my
Spirit on all flesh.
Your sons and your daugh-
ters will prophesy.
Your young men will see
visions.
Your old men will dream
dreams.
18 Yes, and on my servants
and on my handmaid-
ens in those days,
I will pour out my Spirit,
and they will proph-
esy.
19 I will show wonders in the
sky above,
and signs on the earth
beneath:
blood, and fire, and bil-
lows of smoke.
20 The sun will be turned into
darkness,
and the moon into blood,
before the great and glo-
rious day of the Lord
comes.
21 It will be that whoever will
call on the name of the
Lord will be saved.'✡

22 "Men of Israel, hear
these words! Jesus of
Nazareth, a man approved
by God to you by mighty
works and wonders and
signs which God did by him
among you, even as you
yourselves know, 23 him,
being delivered up by the
determined counsel and
foreknowledge of God, you
have taken by the hand of
lawless men, crucified and
killed; 24 whom God raised
up, having freed him from
the agony of death, because
it was not possible that he
should be held by it. 25 For
David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before
my face,
for he is on my right
hand, that I should not
be moved.
26 Therefore my heart was
glad, and my tongue
rejoiced.
Moreover my flesh also
will dwell in hope,
27 because you will not leave
my soul in Hades,†
neither will you allow
your Holy One to see
decay.

* **2:15** about 9:00 a.m. ✡ **2:21** Joel 2:28-32 † **2:27** or, Hell

28 You made known to me the ways of life.
You will make me full of gladness with your presence.'✡

29 "Brothers, I may tell you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, he would raise up the Christ‡ to sit on his throne, 31 he foreseeing this, spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that his soul wasn't left in Hades,§ and his flesh didn't see decay. 32 This Jesus God raised up, to which we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you now see and hear. 34 For David didn't ascend into the heavens, but he says himself,

'The Lord said to my Lord,
"Sit by my right hand
35 until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." '✡

36 "Let all the house of Israel therefore know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself." 40 With many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!"

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. There were added that day about three thousand souls. 42 They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and prayer. 43 Fear came on every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. 44 All who believed were together, and had all things in common. 45 They sold their possessions and goods, and distributed them to all, according as anyone had need. 46 Day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. The Lord added to the assembly day by day those who were

✡ **2:28** Psalm 16:8-11 ‡ **2:30** "Christ" means "Anointed One". § **2:31** or, Hell ✡ **2:35** Psalm 110:1

being saved.

3

1 Peter and John were going
up into the temple at the hour
of prayer, the ninth hour.* 2 A
certain man who was lame
from his mother's womb was
being carried, whom they
laid daily at the door of the
temple which is called Beau-
tiful, to ask gifts for the needy
of those who entered into the
temple. 3 Seeing Peter and
John about to go into the tem-
ple, he asked to receive gifts
for the needy. 4 Peter, fas-
tening his eyes on him, with
John, said, "Look at us." 5 He
listened to them, expecting
to receive something from
them. 6 But Peter said, "I have
no silver or gold, but what
I have, that I give you. In
the name of Jesus Christ of
Nazareth, get up and walk!"
7 He took him by the right
hand and raised him up. Im-
mediately his feet and his an-
kle bones received strength.
8 Leaping up, he stood and
began to walk. He entered
with them into the temple,
walking, leaping, and prais-
ing God. 9 All the people
saw him walking and prais-
ing God. 10 They recognized
him, that it was he who used
to sit begging for gifts for
the needy at the Beautiful
Gate of the temple. They
were filled with wonder and
amazement at what had hap-
pened to him. 11 As the lame
man who was healed held
on to Peter and John, all the
people ran together to them
in the porch that is called
Solomon's, greatly wonder-
ing.

12 When Peter saw it, he
responded to the people,
"You men of Israel, why do
you marvel at this man?
Why do you fasten your
eyes on us, as though by
our own power or godliness
we had made him walk?
13 The God of Abraham, Isaac,
and Jacob, the God of our
fathers, has glorified his
Servant Jesus, whom you
delivered up and denied in
the presence of Pilate, when
he had determined to release
him. 14 But you denied the
Holy and Righteous One and
asked for a murderer to be
granted to you, 15 and killed
the Prince of life, whom
God raised from the dead,
to which we are witnesses.
16 By faith in his name, his
name has made this man
strong, whom you see and
know. Yes, the faith which
is through him has given him
this perfect soundness in the
presence of you all.

17 "Now, brothers,† I know
that you did this in ignor-
ance, as did also your rulers.
18 But the things which God
announced by the mouth of
all his prophets, that Christ
should suffer, he thus ful-
filled.

19 "Repent therefore, and
turn again, that your sins

* **3:1** 3:00 p.m. † **3:17** The word for "brothers" here may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

may be blotted out, so that
there may come times of
refreshing from the presence
of the Lord, 20 and that
he may send Christ Jesus,
who was ordained for you
before, 21 whom heaven
must receive until the times
of restoration of all things,
which God spoke long ago
by the mouth of his holy
prophets. 22 For Moses
indeed said to the fathers,
'The Lord God will raise
up a prophet for you from
among your brothers, like
me. You shall listen to him in
all things whatever he says to
you. 23 It will be that every
soul that will not listen to
that prophet will be utterly
destroyed from among the
people.'✡ 24 Yes, and all the
prophets from Samuel and
those who followed after, as
many as have spoken, also
told of these days. 25 You are
the children of the prophets,
and of the covenant which
God made with our fathers,
saying to Abraham, 'All the
families of the earth will
be blessed through your
offspring.'‡✡ 26 God, having
raised up his servant Jesus,
sent him to you first to
bless you, in turning away
every one of you from your
wickedness."

4

1 As they spoke to the
people, the priests and
the captain of the temple
and the Sadducees came to
them, 2 being upset because
they taught the people and
proclaimed in Jesus the
resurrection from the dead.
3 They laid hands on them,
and put them in custody
until the next day, for it was
now evening. 4 But many of
those who heard the word
believed, and the number of
the men came to be about five
thousand.

5 In the morning, their
rulers, elders, and scribes
were gathered together in
Jerusalem. 6 Annas the high
priest was there, with Ca-
iaphas, John, Alexander, and
as many as were relatives of
the high priest. 7 When they
had stood Peter and John
in the middle of them, they
inquired, "By what power, or
in what name, have you done
this?"

8 Then Peter, filled with
the Holy Spirit, said to them,
"You rulers of the people and
elders of Israel, 9 if we are ex-
amined today concerning a
good deed done to a crippled
man, by what means this
man has been healed, 10 may
it be known to you all, and to
all the people of Israel, that
in the name of Jesus Christ of
Nazareth, whom you cruci-
fied, whom God raised from
the dead, this man stands
here before you whole in
him. 11 He is 'the stone which
was regarded as worthless by
you, the builders, which has
become the head of the cor-
ner.'✡ 12 There is salvation

✡ **3:23** Deuteronomy 18:15,18-19 ‡ **3:25** or, seed ✡ **3:25** Genesis 22:18; 26:4
✡ **4:11** Psalm 118:22

in no one else, for there is
no other name under heaven
that is given among men, by
which we must be saved!"
13 Now when they saw
the boldness of Peter and
John, and had perceived
that they were unlearned
and ignorant men, they
marveled. They recognized
that they had been with
Jesus. 14 Seeing the man
who 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? Because indeed a
notable miracle has been
done through them, as can be
plainly seen by all who dwell
in Jerusalem, and we can't
deny it. 17 But so that this
spreads no further among
the people, let's threaten
them, that from now on they
don't speak to anyone in this
name." 18 They called them,
and commanded them not to
speak at all nor teach in the
name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John an-
swered them, "Whether it is
right in the sight of God to
listen to you rather than to
God, judge for yourselves,
20 for we can't help telling
the things which we saw and
heard."

21 When they had further
threatened them, they let
them go, finding no way
to punish them, because of
the people; for everyone
glorified God for that which
was done. 22 For the man on
whom this miracle of healing
was performed was more
than forty years old.

23 Being let go, they came
to their own company and
reported all that the chief
priests and the elders had
said to them. 24 When they
heard it, they lifted up their
voice to God with one accord
and said, "O Lord, you are
God, who made the heaven,
the earth, the sea, and all
that is in them; 25 who by the
mouth of your servant David,
said,

'Why do the nations rage,
and the peoples plot a
vain thing?
26 The kings of the earth take
a stand,
and the rulers plot to-
gether,
against the Lord, and
against his Christ.'*✡

27 "For truly,† both Herod
and Pontius Pilate, with the
Gentiles and the people of Is-
rael, were gathered together
against your holy servant Je-
sus, whom you anointed, 28 to
do whatever your hand and
your counsel foreordained to
happen. 29 Now, Lord, look
at their threats, and grant
to your servants to speak
your word with all boldness,
30 while you stretch out your
hand to heal; and that signs

* **4:26** Christ (Greek) and Messiah (Hebrew) both mean Anointed One. ✡ **4:26** Psalm 2:1-2 † **4:27** nu adds "in this city,"

and wonders may be done through the name of your holy Servant Jesus."

31 When they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were gathered together. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

32 The multitude of those who believed were of one heart and soul. Not one of them claimed that anything of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. 33 With great power, the apostles gave their testimony of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Great grace was on them all. 34 For neither was there among them any who lacked, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, 35 and laid them at the apostles' feet; and distribution was made to each, according as anyone had need.

36 Joses, who by the apostles was also called Barnabas (which is, being interpreted, Son of Encouragement), a Levite, a man of Cyprus by race, 37 having a field, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

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 aware of it, then brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 While you kept it, didn't it remain your own? After it was sold, wasn't it in your power? How is it that you have conceived this thing in your heart? You haven't lied to men, but to God."

5 Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and died. Great fear came on all who heard these things. 6 The young men arose and wrapped him up, and they carried him out and buried him. 7 About three hours later, his wife, not knowing what had happened, came in. 8 Peter answered her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much."

She said, "Yes, for so much."

9 But Peter asked her, "How is it that you have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

10 She fell down immediately at his feet and died. The young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her by her husband. 11 Great fear came on the whole assembly, and on all who heard these things.

12 By the hands of the apostles many signs and

wonders were done among
the people. They were all
with one accord in Solomon's
porch. 13 None of the rest
dared to join them; however,
the people honored them.
14 More believers were added
to the Lord, multitudes
of both men and women.
15 They even carried out the
sick into the streets and laid
them on cots and mattresses,
so that as Peter came by,
at least his shadow might
overshadow some of them.
16 The multitude also came
together from the cities
around Jerusalem, bringing
sick people and those who
were tormented by unclean
spirits; and they were all
healed.

17 But the high priest rose
up, and all those who were
with him (which is the sect
of the Sadducees), and they
were filled with jealousy
18 and laid hands on the
apostles, then put them in
public custody. 19 But an
angel of the Lord opened the
prison doors by night, and
brought them out and said,
20 "Go stand and speak in the
temple to the people all the
words of this life."

21 When they heard this,
they entered into the temple
about daybreak and taught.
But the high priest and those
who were with him came and
called the council together,
with all the senate of the
children of Israel, and sent
to the prison to have them
brought. 22 But the officers
who came didn't find them
in the prison. They returned
and reported, 23 "We found
the prison shut and locked,
and the guards standing be-
fore the doors, but when we
opened them, we found no
one inside!"

24 Now when the high
priest, the captain of the
temple, and the chief priests
heard these words, they were
very perplexed about them
and what might become
of this. 25 One came and
told them, "Behold, the men
whom you put in prison are
in the temple, standing and
teaching the people." 26 Then
the captain went with the
officers, and brought them
without violence, for they
were afraid that the people
might stone them.

27 When they had brought
them, they set them before
the council. The high priest
questioned them, 28 saying,
"Didn't we strictly command
you not to teach in this
name? Behold, you have
filled Jerusalem with your
teaching, and intend to bring
this man's blood on us."

29 But Peter and the apos-
tles answered, "We must
obey God rather than men.
30 The God of our fathers
raised up Jesus, whom you
killed, hanging him on a tree.
31 God exalted him with his
right hand to be a Prince and
a Savior, to give repentance
to Israel, and remission of
sins. 32 We are his witnesses
of these things; and so also
is the Holy Spirit, whom God
has given to those who obey
him."

33 But they, when they
heard this, were cut to the
heart, and were determined
to kill them. 34 But one stood
up in the council, a Pharisee
named Gamaliel, a teacher
of the law, honored by all
the people, and commanded
to put the apostles out for
a little while. 35 He said to
them, "You men of Israel,
be careful concerning these
men, what you are about to
do. 36 For before these days
Theudas rose up, making
himself out to be somebody;
to whom a number of men,
about four hundred, joined
themselves. He was slain;
and all, as many as obeyed
him, were dispersed and
came to nothing. 37 After
this man, Judas of Galilee
rose up in the days of the
enrollment, and drew away
some people after him. He
also perished, and all, as
many as obeyed him, were
scattered abroad. 38 Now
I tell you, withdraw from
these men and leave them
alone. For if this counsel or
this work is of men, it will be
overthrown. 39 But if it is of
God, you will not be able to
overthrow it, and you would
be found even to be fighting
against God!"

40 They agreed with him.
Summoning the apostles,
they beat them and com-
manded them not to speak
in the name of Jesus, and let
them go. 41 They therefore
departed from the presence
of the council, rejoicing that
they were counted worthy
to suffer dishonor for Jesus'
name.

42 Every day, in the
temple and at home, they
never stopped teaching and
preaching Jesus, the Christ.

6

1 Now in those days, when
the number of the disciples
was multiplying, a complaint
arose from the Hellenists*
against the Hebrews, be-
cause their widows were
neglected in the daily service.
2 The twelve summoned the
multitude of the disciples
and said, "It is not appro-
priate for us to forsake the
word of God and serve tables.
3 Therefore, select from
among you, brothers, seven
men of good report, full of the
Holy Spirit and of wisdom,
whom we may appoint over
this business. 4 But we
will continue steadfastly in
prayer and in the ministry of
the word."

5 These words pleased the
whole multitude. They chose
Stephen, a man full of faith
and of the Holy Spirit, Philip,
Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon,
Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a
proselyte of Antioch, 6 whom
they set before the apostles.
When they had prayed, they
laid their hands on them.

7 The word of God in-
creased and the number of
the disciples greatly multi-
plied in Jerusalem. A great

* **6:1** The Hellenists used Greek language and culture, even though they were also of Hebrew descent.

company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

8 Stephen, full of faith and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. 9 But some of those who were of the synagogue called "The Libertines", and of the Cyrenians, of the Alexandrians, and of those of Cilicia and Asia arose, disputing with Stephen. 10 They weren't able to withstand the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke. 11 Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." 12 They stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes, and came against him and seized him, then brought him in to the council, 13 and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops speaking blasphemous words against this holy place and the law. 14 For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." 15 All who sat in the council, fastening their eyes on him, saw his face like it was the face of an angel.

7

1 The high priest said, "Are these things so?"

2 He said, "Brothers and fathers, listen. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, 3 and said to him, 'Get out of your land and away from your relatives, and come into a land which I will show you.'✡ 4 Then he came out of the land of the Chaldaeans and lived in Haran. From there, when his father was dead, God moved him into this land where you are now living. 5 He gave him no inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on. He promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his offspring after him, when he still had no child. 6 God spoke in this way: that his offspring would live as aliens in a strange land, and that they would be enslaved and mistreated for four hundred years. 7 'I will judge the nation to which they will be in bondage,' said God, 'and after that they will come out and serve me in this place.'✡ 8 He gave him the covenant of circumcision. So Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day. Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob became the father of the twelve patriarchs.

9 "The patriarchs, moved with jealousy against Joseph, sold him into Egypt. God was with him 10 and delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favor and wisdom before Pharaoh, king of Egypt. He made him governor over Egypt and all his house. 11 Now a famine

✡ **7:3** Genesis 12:1 ✡ **7:7** Genesis 15:13-14

came over all the land of Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction. Our fathers found no food. 12 But when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent out our fathers the first time. 13 On the second time Joseph was made known to his brothers, and Joseph's family was revealed to Pharaoh. 14 Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his father and all his relatives, seventy-five souls. 15 Jacob went down into Egypt and he died, himself and our fathers; 16 and they were brought back to Shechem and laid in the tomb that Abraham bought for a price in silver from the children of Hamor of Shechem.

17 "But as the time of the promise came close which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt, 18 until there arose a different king who didn't know Joseph. 19 The same took advantage of our race and mistreated our fathers, and forced them to abandon their babies, so that they wouldn't stay alive. 20 At that time Moses was born, and was exceedingly handsome to God. He was nourished three months in his father's house. 21 When he was abandoned, Pharaoh's daughter took him up and reared him as her own son. 22 Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians. He was mighty in his words and works. 23 But when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers,* the children of Israel. 24 Seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him and avenged him who was oppressed, striking the Egyptian. 25 He supposed that his brothers understood that God, by his hand, was giving them deliverance; but they didn't understand.

26 "The day following, he appeared to them as they fought, and urged them to be at peace again, saying, 'Sirs, you are brothers. Why do you wrong one another?' 27 But he who did his neighbor wrong pushed him away, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? 28 Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?'✡ 29 Moses fled at this saying, and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

30 "When forty years were fulfilled, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush. 31 When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight. As he came close to see, the voice of the Lord came to him, 32 'I am the God of your fathers: the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'✡ Moses trembled and dared not look. 33 The Lord said to him, 'Take off your sandals,

* **7:23** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ✡ **7:28** Exodus 2:14 ✡ **7:32** Exodus 3:6

for the place where you stand
is holy ground. 34 I have
surely seen the affliction
of my people who are in
Egypt, and have heard their
groaning. I have come down
to deliver them. Now come, I
will send you into Egypt.'✡

35 "This Moses whom they
refused, saying, 'Who made
you a ruler and a judge?'—
God has sent him as both
a ruler and a deliverer by
the hand of the angel who
appeared to him in the bush.
36 This man led them out,
having worked wonders and
signs in Egypt, in the Red
Sea, and in the wilderness
for forty years. 37 This is
that Moses who said to the
children of Israel, 'The Lord
our God will raise up a
prophet for you from among
your brothers, like me.'†✡
38 This is he who was in the
assembly in the wilderness
with the angel that spoke to
him on Mount Sinai, and with
our fathers, who received
living revelations to give to
us, 39 to whom our fathers
wouldn't be obedient, but
rejected him and turned
back in their hearts to Egypt,
40 saying to Aaron, 'Make us
gods that will go before us,
for as for this Moses who led
us out of the land of Egypt, we
don't know what has become
of him.'✡ 41 They made a calf
in those days, and brought
a sacrifice to the idol, and
rejoiced in the works of their
hands. 42 But God turned
away and gave them up to
serve the army of the sky,‡
as it is written in the book of
the prophets,

'Did you offer to me slain animals and sacrifices
forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?
43 You took up the tabernacle of Moloch,
the star of your god Rephan,
the figures which you made to worship,
so I will carry you away✡ beyond Babylon.'

44 "Our fathers had the
tabernacle of the testimony
in the wilderness, even as
he who spoke to Moses
commanded him to make
it according to the pattern
that he had seen; 45 which
also our fathers, in their
turn, brought in with Joshua
when they entered into the
possession of the nations
whom God drove out before
the face of our fathers to
the days of David, 46 who
found favor in the sight of
God, and asked to find a
habitation for the God of
Jacob. 47 But Solomon built
him a house. 48 However, the
Most High doesn't dwell in
temples made with hands, as
the prophet says,

49 'heaven is my throne,
and the earth a footstool
for my feet.

✡ **7:34** Exodus 3:5,7-8,10 † **7:37** TR adds "You shall listen to him." ✡ **7:37** Deuteronomy 18:15 ✡ **7:40** Exodus 32:1 ‡ **7:42** This idiom could also be translated "host of heaven", or "angelic beings", or "heavenly bodies." ✡ **7:43** Amos 5:25-27

What kind of house will you
build me?' says the
Lord.
'Or what is the place of
my rest?
50 Didn't my hand make all
these things?'✡
51 "You stiff-necked and
uncircumcised in heart and
ears, you always resist the
Holy Spirit! As your fathers
did, so you do. 52 Which of the
prophets didn't your fathers
persecute? They killed those
who foretold the coming
of the Righteous One, of
whom you have now become
betrayers and murderers.
53 You received the law as it
was ordained by angels, and
didn't keep it!"

54 Now when they heard
these things, they were cut to
the heart, and they gnashed
at him with their teeth. 55 But
he, being full of the Holy
Spirit, looked up steadfastly
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 at
the right hand of God!"

57 But they cried out with a
loud voice and stopped their
ears, then rushed at him with
one accord. 58 They threw
him out of the city and stoned
him. The witnesses placed
their garments at the feet of
a young man named Saul.
59 They stoned Stephen as he
called out, saying, "Lord Je-
sus, receive my spirit!" 60 He
kneeled down and cried with
a loud voice, "Lord, don't
hold this sin against them!"
When he had said this, he fell
asleep.

8

1 Saul was consenting to
his death. A great perse-
cution arose against the
assembly which was in
Jerusalem in that day. They
were all scattered abroad
throughout the regions of
Judea and Samaria, except
for the apostles. 2 Devout
men buried Stephen and
lamented greatly over him.
3 But Saul ravaged the as-
sembly, entering into every
house and dragged both
men and women off to
prison. 4 Therefore those
who were scattered abroad
went around preaching the
word. 5 Philip went down to
the city of Samaria and pro-
claimed to them the Christ.
6 The multitudes listened
with one accord to the things
that were spoken by Philip
when they heard and saw
the signs which he did. 7 For
unclean spirits came out of
many of those who had them.
They came out, crying with a
loud voice. Many who had
been paralyzed and lame
were healed. 8 There was
great joy in that city.

9 But there was a certain
man, Simon by name, who
used to practice sorcery in
the city and amazed the
people of Samaria, making
himself out to be some great

✡ **7:50** Isaiah 66:1-2

one, 10 to whom they all
listened, from the least to
the greatest, saying, "This
man is that great power
of God." 11 They listened
to him because for a long
time he had amazed them
with his sorceries. 12 But
when they believed Philip
preaching good news con-
cerning God's Kingdom and
the name of Jesus Christ,
they were baptized, both
men and women. 13 Simon
himself also believed. Being
baptized, he continued with
Philip. Seeing signs and great
miracles occurring, he was
amazed.

14 Now when the apostles
who were at Jerusalem heard
that Samaria had received
the word of God, they sent
Peter and John to them,
15 who, when they had come
down, prayed for them,
that they might receive the
Holy Spirit; 16 for as yet
he had fallen on none of
them. They had only been
baptized in the name of
Christ Jesus. 17 Then they
laid their hands on them,
and they received the Holy
Spirit. 18 Now when Simon
saw that the Holy Spirit was
given through the laying
on of the apostles' hands,
he offered them money,
19 saying, "Give me also this
power, that whomever I lay
my hands on may receive
the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter
said to him, "May your silver
perish with you, because you
thought you could obtain
the gift of God with money!
21 You have neither part
nor lot in this matter, for
your heart isn't right before
God. 22 Repent therefore
of this, your wickedness,
and ask God if perhaps the
thought of your heart may
be forgiven you. 23 For I see
that you are in the poison
of bitterness and in the
bondage of iniquity."

24 Simon answered, "Pray
for me to the Lord, that none
of the things which you have
spoken happen to me."

25 They therefore, when
they had testified and spo-
ken the word of the Lord,
returned to Jerusalem, and
preached the Good News
to many villages of the
Samaritans.

26 Then an angel of the
Lord spoke to Philip, say-
ing, "Arise, and go toward
the south to the way that
goes down from Jerusalem to
Gaza. This is a desert."

27 He arose and went; and
behold, there was a man of
Ethiopia, a eunuch of great
authority under Candace,
queen of the Ethiopians, who
was over all her treasure,
who had come to Jerusalem
to worship. 28 He was
returning and sitting in his
chariot, and was reading the
prophet Isaiah.

29 The Spirit said to Philip,
"Go near, and join yourself to
this chariot."

30 Philip ran to him, and
heard him reading Isaiah the
prophet, and said, "Do you

understand what you are reading?"

31 He said, "How can I, unless someone explains it to me?" He begged Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture which he was reading was this,

"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter.
As a lamb before his shearer is silent,
so he doesn't open his mouth.
33 In his humiliation, his judgment was taken away.
Who will declare His generation?
For his life is taken from the earth."✡

34 The eunuch answered Philip, "Who is the prophet talking about? About himself, or about someone else?"

35 Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture, preached to him about Jesus. 36 As they went on the way, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Behold, here is water. What is keeping me from being baptized?"

37 * 38 He commanded the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, and the eunuch didn't see him any more, for he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. Passing through, he preached the Good News to all the cities until he came to Caesarea.

9

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked for letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 As he traveled, he got close to Damascus, and suddenly a light from the sky shone around him. 4 He fell on the earth, and heard a voice saying to him, **"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"**

5 He said, "Who are you, Lord?"

The Lord said, **"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.*** 6 **But† rise up and enter into the city, then you will be told what you must do."**

7 The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the sound, but seeing no one. 8 Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened, he saw no one. They led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 He was without sight for three days, and neither ate nor drank.

✡ **8:33** Isaiah 53:7,8 * **8:37** TR adds Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." He answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." * **9:5** TR adds "It's hard for you to kick against the cattle prods." † **9:6** TR omits "But"

10 Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, **"Ananias!"**

He said, "Behold, it's me, Lord."

11 The Lord said to him, **"Arise and go to the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judah‡ for one named Saul, a man of Tarsus. For behold, he is praying,** 12 **and in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and laying his hands on him, that he might receive his sight."**

13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he did to your saints at Jerusalem. 14 Here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name."

15 But the Lord said to him, **"Go your way, for he is my chosen vessel to bear my name before the nations and kings, and the children of Israel.** 16 **For I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name's sake."**

17 Ananias departed and entered into the house. Laying his hands on him, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord, who appeared to you on the road by which you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he received his sight. He arose and was baptized. 19 He took food and was strengthened.

Saul stayed several days with the disciples who were at Damascus. 20 Immediately in the synagogues he proclaimed the Christ, that he is the Son of God. 21 All who heard him were amazed, and said, "Isn't this he who in Jerusalem made havoc of those who called on this name? And he had come here intending to bring them bound before the chief priests!"

22 But Saul increased more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived at Damascus, proving that this is the Christ. 23 When many days were fulfilled, the Jews conspired together to kill him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They watched the gates both day and night that they might kill him, 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through the wall, lowering him in a basket.

26 When Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join himself to the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles, and declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name

‡ **9:11** or, Judas § **9:28** TR and NU add "and going out"

of Jesus. 28 He was with them entering into§ Jerusalem, 29 preaching boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus.* He spoke and disputed against the Hellenists,† but they were seeking to kill him. 30 When the brothers‡ knew it, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

31 So the assemblies throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were built up. They were multiplied, walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

32 As Peter went throughout all those parts, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda. 33 There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years because he was paralyzed. 34 Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and make your bed!" Immediately he arose. 35 All who lived at Lydda and in Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which when translated means Dorcas.§ This woman was full of good works and acts of mercy which she did. 37 In those days, she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. 38 As Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men* to him, imploring him not to delay in coming to them. 39 Peter got up and went with them. When he had come, they brought him into the upper room. All the widows stood by him weeping, and showing the tunics and other garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them. 40 Peter sent them all out, and knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body, he said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up. 41 He gave her his hand and raised her up. Calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. 42 This became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43 He stayed many days in Joppa with a tanner named Simon.

10

1 Now there was a certain man in Caesarea, Cornelius by name, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, 2 a devout man, and one who feared God with all his house, who gave gifts for the needy generously to the people, and always prayed to

* **9:29** TR and NU omit "Jesus" and reverse the order of verses 28 & 29. † **9:29** The Hellenists were Hebrews who used Greek language and culture. ‡ **9:30** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **9:36** "Dorcas" is Greek for "Gazelle." * **9:38** Reading from NU, TR; MT omits "two men" * **10:3** 3:00 p.m.

God. 3 At about the ninth hour of the day,* he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God coming to him and saying to him, "Cornelius!"

4 He, fastening his eyes on him and being frightened, said, "What is it, Lord?"

He said to him, "Your prayers and your gifts to the needy have gone up for a memorial before God. 5 Now send men to Joppa, and get Simon, who is also called Peter. 6 He is staying with a tanner named Simon, whose house is by the seaside.†

7 When the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier of those who waited on him continually. 8 Having explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

9 Now on the next day as they were on their journey and got close to the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray at about noon. 10 He became hungry and desired to eat, but while they were preparing, he fell into a trance. 11 He saw heaven opened and a certain container descending to him, like a great sheet let down by four corners on the earth, 12 in which were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the sky. 13 A voice came to him, **"Rise, Peter, kill and eat!"**

14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

15 A voice came to him again the second time, **"What God has cleansed, you must not call unclean."** 16 This was done three times, and immediately the thing was received up into heaven.

17 Now while Peter was very perplexed in himself what the vision which he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood before the gate, 18 and called and asked whether Simon, who was also called Peter, was lodging there. 19 While Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three‡ men seek you. 20 But arise, get down, and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."

21 Peter went down to the men, and said, "Behold, I am he whom you seek. Why have you come?"

22 They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, and well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say." 23 So he called them in and provided a place to stay.

On the next day Peter arose and went out with them,

† **10:6** TR adds "This one will tell you what it is necessary for you to do." ‡ **10:19** Reading from TR and NU. MT omits "three"

and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. 24 On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. 26 But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man." 27 As he talked with him, he went in and found many gathered together. 28 He said to them, "You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean. 29 Therefore I also came without complaint when I was sent for. I ask therefore, why did you send for me?"

30 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, your prayer is heard, and your gifts to the needy are remembered in the sight of God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and summon Simon, who is also called Peter. He is staying in the house of a tanner named Simon, by the seaside. When he comes, he will speak to you.' 33 Therefore I sent to you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now therefore we are all here present in the sight of God to hear all things that have been commanded you by God."

34 Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I perceive that God doesn't show favoritism; 35 but in every nation he who fears him and works righteousness is acceptable to him. 36 The word which he sent to the children of Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ —he is Lord of all— 37 you yourselves know what happened, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached; 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39 We are witnesses of everything he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem; whom they also* killed, hanging him on a tree. 40 God raised him up the third day and gave him to be revealed, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen before by God, to us, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that this is he who is appointed

§ **10:30** 3:00 p.m. * **10:39** TR omits "also"

by God as the Judge of the
living and the dead. 43 All
the prophets testify about
him, that through his name
everyone who believes in
him will receive remission of
sins."
44 While Peter was still
speaking these words, the
Holy Spirit fell on all those
who heard the word. 45 They
of the circumcision who
believed were amazed, as
many as came with Peter,
because the gift of the Holy
Spirit was also poured out
on the Gentiles. 46 For they
heard them speaking in other
languages and magnifying
God.
Then Peter answered,
47 "Can anyone forbid these
people from being baptized
with water? They have
received the Holy Spirit just
like us." 48 He commanded
them to be baptized in the
name of Jesus Christ. Then
they asked him to stay some
days.

11

1 Now the apostles and
the brothers* who were in
Judea heard that the Gentiles
had also received the word
of God. 2 When Peter had
come up to Jerusalem, those
who were of the circumci-
sion contended with him,
3 saying, "You went in to
uncircumcised men and ate
with them!"
4 But Peter began, and
explained to them in order,
saying, 5 "I was in the city
of Joppa praying, and in a
trance I saw a vision: a cer-
tain container descending,
like it was a great sheet let
down from heaven by four
corners. It came as far as me.
6 When I had looked intently
at it, I considered, and saw
the four-footed animals of
the earth, wild animals,
creeping things, and birds of
the sky. 7 I also heard a voice
saying to me, **'Rise, Peter,
kill and eat!'** 8 But I said,
'Not so, Lord, for nothing
unholy or unclean has ever
entered into my mouth.' 9 But
a voice answered me the
second time out of heaven,
**'What God has cleansed,
don't you call unclean.'**
10 This was done three times,
and all were drawn up again
into heaven. 11 Behold,
immediately three men stood
before the house where I
was, having been sent from
Caesarea to me. 12 The Spirit
told me to go with them with-
out discriminating. These six
brothers also accompanied
me, and we entered into the
man's house. 13 He told us
how he had seen the angel
standing in his house and
saying to him, 'Send to Joppa
and get Simon, who is called
Peter, 14 who will speak to
you words by which you
will be saved, you and all
your house.' 15 As I began
to speak, the Holy Spirit fell
on them, even as on us at the
beginning. 16 I remembered
the word of the Lord, how he

* **11:1** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

said, **'John indeed baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.'** 17 If then God gave to them the same gift as us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, that I could withstand God?"

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life!"

19 They therefore who were scattered abroad by the oppression that arose about Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews only. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists,† preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. 22 The report concerning them came to the ears of the assembly which was in Jerusalem. They sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch, 23 who, when he had come, and had seen the grace of God, was glad. He exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they should remain near to the Lord. 24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and many people were added to the Lord.

25 Barnabas went out to Tarsus to look for Saul. 26 When he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they were gathered together with the assembly, and taught many people. The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

27 Now in these days, prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 One of them named Agabus stood up and indicated by the Spirit that there should be a great famine all over the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius. 29 As any of the disciples had plenty, each determined to send relief to the brothers who lived in Judea; 30 which they also did, sending it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

12

1 Now about that time, King Herod stretched out his hands to oppress some of the assembly. 2 He killed James, the brother of John, with the sword. 3 When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This was during the days of unleavened bread. 4 When he had arrested him, he put him in prison and delivered him to four squads of four soldiers each to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. 5 Peter therefore was kept in the prison, but constant prayer was made by

† **11:20** A Hellenist is someone who keeps Greek customs and culture.

the assembly to God for him.
6 The same night when Herod
was about to bring him out,
Peter was sleeping between
two soldiers, bound with two
chains. Guards in front of the
door kept the prison.

7 And behold, an angel of
the Lord stood by him, and
a light shone in the cell. He
struck Peter on the side and
woke him up, saying, "Stand
up quickly!" His chains fell
off his hands. 8 The angel said
to him, "Get dressed and put
on your sandals." He did so.
He said to him, "Put on your
cloak and follow me." 9 And
he went out and followed
him. He didn't know that
what was being done by the
angel was real, but thought
he saw a vision. 10 When
they were past the first and
the second guard, they came
to the iron gate that leads
into the city, which opened to
them by itself. They went out
and went down one street,
and immediately the angel
departed from him.

11 When Peter had come
to himself, he said, "Now
I truly know that the Lord
has sent out his angel and
delivered me out of the
hand of Herod, and from
everything the Jewish people
were expecting." 12 Thinking
about that, he came to the
house of Mary, the mother
of John who was called Mark,
where many were gathered
together and were praying.
13 When Peter knocked at the
door of the gate, a servant
girl named Rhoda came
to answer. 14 When she
recognized Peter's voice, she
didn't open the gate for joy,
but ran in and reported that
Peter was standing in front of
the gate.

15 They said to her, "You
are crazy!" But she insisted
that it was so. They said, "It
is his angel." 16 But Peter
continued knocking. When
they had opened, they saw
him and were amazed. 17 But
he, beckoning to them with
his hand to be silent, de-
clared to them how the Lord
had brought him out of the
prison. He said, "Tell these
things to James and to the
brothers." Then he departed
and went to another place.

18 Now as soon as it was
day, there was no small stir
among the soldiers about
what had become of Peter.
19 When Herod had sought
for him and didn't find him,
he examined the guards,
then commanded that they
should be put to death. He
went down from Judea to
Caesarea, and stayed there.

20 Now Herod was very
angry with the people of
Tyre and Sidon. They came
with one accord to him and,
having made Blastus, the
king's personal aide, their
friend, they asked for peace,
because their country de-
pended on the king's country
for food. 21 On an appointed
day, Herod dressed himself
in royal clothing, sat on the
throne, and gave a speech to
them. 22 The people shouted,

"The voice of a god, and not of a man!" 23 Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he didn't give God the glory. Then he was eaten by worms and died.

24 But the word of God grew and multiplied. 25 Barnabas and Saul returned to* Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their service, also taking with them John who was called Mark.

13

1 Now in the assembly that was at Antioch there were some prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they served the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Separate Barnabas and Saul for me, for the work to which I have called them."

3 Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. 4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia. From there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they were at Salamis, they proclaimed God's word in the Jewish synagogues. They also had John as their attendant. 6 When they had gone through the island to Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar Jesus, 7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of understanding. This man summoned Barnabas and Saul, and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fastened his eyes on him 10 and said, "You son of the devil, full of all deceit and all cunning, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? 11 Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is on you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sun for a season!"

Immediately a mist and darkness fell on him. He went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

13 Now Paul and his company set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John departed from them and returned to Jerusalem. 14 But they, passing on from Perga, came to Antioch of Pisidia. They went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. 15 After the reading of the law and the prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of

* **12:25** TR reads "from" instead of "to"

exhortation for the people, speak."

16 Paul stood up, and gesturing with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen. 17 The God of this people* chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they stayed as aliens in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm, he led them out of it. 18 For a period of about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. 19 When he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land for an inheritance for about four hundred fifty years. 20 After these things, he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. 21 Afterward they asked for a king, and God gave to them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 When he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, to whom he also testified, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' 23 From this man's offspring, God has brought salvation† to Israel according to his promise, 24 before his coming, when John had first preached the baptism of repentance to Israel.‡ 25 As John was fulfilling his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. But behold, one comes after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.'

26 "Brothers, children of the stock of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, the word of this salvation is sent out to you. 27 For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they didn't know him, nor the voices of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. 28 Though they found no cause for death, they still asked Pilate to have him killed. 29 When they had fulfilled all things that were written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead, 31 and he was seen for many days by those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses to the people. 32 We bring you good news of the promise made to the fathers, 33 that God has fulfilled this to us, their children, in that he raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second psalm,

'You are my Son.
Today I have become your father.'✡

34 "Concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he has spoken thus: 'I will give you the holy

* **13:17** TR, NU add "Israel" † **13:23** TR, NU read "a Savior, Jesus" instead of "salvation" ‡ **13:24** TR, NU read "to all the people of Israel" instead of "to Israel"
✡ **13:33** Psalm 2:7 ✡ **13:34** Isaiah 55:3

and sure blessings of David.'✡
35 Therefore he says also in
another psalm, 'You will not
allow your Holy One to see
decay.'✡ 36 For David, after
he had in his own generation
served the counsel of God,
fell asleep, was laid with
his fathers, and saw decay.
37 But he whom God raised
up saw no decay. 38 Be it
known to you therefore,
brothers,§ that through this
man is proclaimed to you
remission of sins; 39 and by
him everyone who believes
is justified from all things,
from which you could not be
justified by the law of Moses.
40 Beware therefore, lest that
come on you which is spoken
in the prophets:
41 'Behold, you scoffers!
Wonder and perish,
for I work a work in your
days,
a work which you will in
no way believe, if one
declares it to you.' " ✡
42 So when the Jews went
out of the synagogue, the
Gentiles begged that these
words might be preached
to them the next Sabbath.
43 Now when the synagogue
broke up, many of the Jews
and of the devout proselytes
followed Paul and Barnabas;
who, speaking to them, urged
them to continue in the grace
of God.
44 The next Sabbath, almost
the whole city was gathered
together to hear the word of
God. 45 But when the Jews
saw the multitudes, they
were filled with jealousy,
and contradicted the things
which were spoken by Paul,
and blasphemed.
46 Paul and Barnabas spoke
out boldly, and said, "It was
necessary that God's word
should be spoken to you first.
Since indeed you thrust it
from yourselves, and judge
yourselves unworthy of eter-
nal life, behold, we turn to
the Gentiles. 47 For so has the
Lord commanded us, saying,

'I have set you as a light for
the Gentiles,
that you should bring
salvation to the ut-
termost parts of the
earth.' " ✡

48 As the Gentiles heard
this, they were glad and
glorified the word of God. As
many as were appointed to
eternal life believed. 49 The
Lord's word was spread
abroad throughout all the
region. 50 But the Jews stirred
up the devout and prominent
women and the chief men
of the city, and stirred up
a persecution against Paul
and Barnabas, and threw
them out of their borders.
51 But they shook off the dust
of their feet against them,
and came to Iconium. 52 The
disciples were filled with joy
and with the Holy Spirit.

✡ **13:35** Psalm 16:10 § **13:38** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ✡ **13:41** Habakkuk 1:5 ✡ **13:47** Isaiah 49:6

14

1 In Iconium, they entered
together into the synagogue
of the Jews, and so spoke
that a great multitude both of
Jews and of Greeks believed.
2 But the disbelieving* Jews
stirred up and embittered the
souls of the Gentiles against
the brothers. 3 Therefore
they stayed there a long time,
speaking boldly in the Lord,
who testified to the word of
his grace, granting signs and
wonders to be done by their
hands. 4 But the multitude
of the city was divided.
Part sided with the Jews
and part with the apostles.
5 When some of both the
Gentiles and the Jews, with
their rulers, made a violent
attempt to mistreat and stone
them, 6 they became aware
of it and fled to the cities
of Lycaonia, Lystra, Derbe,
and the surrounding region.
7 There they preached the
Good News.

8 At Lystra a certain man
sat, impotent in his feet, a
cripple from his mother's
womb, who never had
walked. 9 He was listening
to Paul speaking, who,
fastening eyes on him and
seeing that he had faith to
be made whole, 10 said with
a loud voice, "Stand upright
on your feet!" He leaped
up and walked. 11 When
the multitude saw what Paul
had done, they lifted up their
voice, saying in the language
of Lycaonia, "The gods have
come down to us in the
likeness of men!" 12 They
called Barnabas "Jupiter",
and Paul "Mercury", because
he was the chief speaker.
13 The priest of Jupiter,
whose temple was in front of
their city, brought oxen and
garlands to the gates, and
would have made a sacrifice
along with the multitudes.

14 But when the apostles,
Barnabas and Paul, heard of
it, they tore their clothes and
sprang into the multitude,
crying out, 15 "Men, why are
you doing these things? We
also are men of the same na-
ture as you, and bring you
good news, that you should
turn from these vain things
to the living God, who made
the sky, the earth, the sea,
and all that is in them; 16 who
in the generations gone by al-
lowed all the nations to walk
in their own ways. 17 Yet he
didn't leave himself without
witness, in that he did good
and gave you† rains from the
sky and fruitful seasons, fill-
ing our hearts with food and
gladness."

18 Even saying these things,
they hardly stopped the mul-
titudes from making a sacri-
fice to them. 19 But some Jews
from Antioch and Iconium
came there, and having per-
suaded the multitudes, they
stoned Paul and dragged him
out of the city, supposing that
he was dead.

20 But as the disciples stood
around him, he rose up, and

* **14:2** or, disobedient † **14:17** TR reads "us" instead of "you"

entered into the city. On the next day he went out with Barnabas to Derbe.
21 When they had preached the Good News to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that through many afflictions we must enter into God's Kingdom. 23 When they had appointed elders for them in every assembly, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord on whom they had believed.
24 They passed through Pisidia and came to Pamphylia. 25 When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, from where they had been committed to the grace of God for the work which they had fulfilled. 27 When they had arrived and had gathered the assembly together, they reported all the things that God had done with them, and that he had opened a door of faith to the nations. 28 They stayed there with the disciples for a long time.

15

1 Some men came down from Judea and taught the brothers,* "Unless you are circumcised after the custom of Moses, you can't be saved." 2 Therefore when Paul and Barnabas had no small discord and discussion with them, they appointed Paul, Barnabas, and some others of them to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders about this question. 3 They, being sent on their way by the assembly, passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles. They caused great joy to all the brothers. 4 When they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the assembly and the apostles and the elders, and they reported everything that God had done with them.
5 But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses."
6 The apostles and the elders were gathered together to see about this matter. 7 When there had been much discussion, Peter rose up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that a good while ago God made a choice among you that by my mouth the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. 8 God, who knows the heart, testified about them, giving them the Holy Spirit, just like he did to us. 9 He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith. 10 Now therefore

* **15:1** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

why do you tempt God, that you should put a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus,† just as they are."

12 All the multitude kept silence, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul reporting what signs and wonders God had done among the nations through them. 13 After they were silent, James answered, "Brothers, listen to me. 14 Simeon has reported how God first visited the nations to take out of them a people for his name. 15 This agrees with the words of the prophets. As it is written,

16 'After these things I will return.
I will again build the tabernacle of David, which has fallen.
I will again build its ruins.
I will set it up 17 that the rest of men may seek after the Lord:
all the Gentiles who are called by my name,
says the Lord, who does all these things.'✡

18 "All of God's works are known to him from eternity. 19 Therefore my judgment is that we don't trouble those from among the Gentiles who turn to God, 20 but that we write to them that they abstain from the pollution of idols, from sexual immorality, from what is strangled, and from blood. 21 For Moses from generations of old has in every city those who preach him, being read in the synagogues every Sabbath."

22 Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole assembly, to choose men out of their company, and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, chief men among the brothers.‡ 23 They wrote these things by their hand:

"The apostles, the elders, and the brothers, to the brothers who are of the Gentiles in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia: greetings. 24 Because we have heard that some who went out from us have troubled you with words, unsettling your souls, saying, 'You must be circumcised and keep the law,' to whom we gave no commandment; 25 it seemed good to us, having come to one accord, to choose out men and send them to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, 26 men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. 27 We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who themselves will also tell you the same things by word of mouth. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay no greater burden on you than these necessary things: 29 that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols, from blood, from

† **15:11** TR adds "Christ" ✡ **15:17** Amos 9:11-12 ‡ **15:22** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

things strangled, and from sexual immorality, from which if you keep yourselves, it will be well with you. Farewell."
30 So, when they were sent off, they came to Antioch. Having gathered the multitude together, they delivered the letter. 31 When they had read it, they rejoiced over the encouragement. 32 Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, encouraged the brothers with many words and strengthened them. 33 After they had spent some time there, they were dismissed in peace from the brothers to the apostles. 34 § 35 But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word of the Lord, with many others also.
36 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let's return now and visit our brothers in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, to see how they are doing." 37 Barnabas planned to take John, who was called Mark, with them also. 38 But Paul didn't think that it was a good idea to take with them someone who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia, and didn't go with them to do the work. 39 Then the contention grew so sharp that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and went out, being commended by the brothers to the grace of God. 41 He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the assemblies.

16

1 He came to Derbe and Lystra; and behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewess who believed, but his father was a Greek. 2 The brothers who were at Lystra and Iconium gave a good testimony about him. 3 Paul wanted to have him go out with him, and he took and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. 4 As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered the decrees to them to keep which had been ordained by the apostles and elders who were at Jerusalem. 5 So the assemblies were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily.
6 When they had gone through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. 7 When they had come opposite Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit didn't allow them. 8 Passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night. There was a man of Macedonia standing, begging him and saying, "Come over

§ **15:34** Some manuscripts add: But it seemed good to Silas to stay there.

into Macedonia and help us."
10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go out to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the Good News to them. 11 Setting sail therefore from Troas, we made a straight course to Samothrace, and the day following to Neapolis; 12 and from there to Philippi, which is a city of Macedonia, the foremost of the district, a Roman colony. We were staying some days in this city.

13 On the Sabbath day we went outside of the city by a riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. 14 A certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, one who worshiped God, heard us. The Lord opened her heart to listen to the things which were spoken by Paul. 15 When she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." So she persuaded us.

16 As we were going to prayer, a certain girl having a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much gain by fortune telling. 17 Following Paul and us, she cried out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!" 18 She was doing this for many days.

But Paul, becoming greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" It came out that very hour. 19 But when her masters saw that the hope of their gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. 20 When they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men, being Jews, are agitating our city 21 and advocate customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans."

22 The multitude rose up together against them and the magistrates tore their clothes from them, then commanded them to be beaten with rods. 23 When they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. 24 Having received such a command, he threw them into the inner prison and secured their feet in the stocks.

25 But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were loosened. 27 The jailer, being roused out of sleep and seeing the prison doors open, drew his sword

and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, "Don't harm yourself, for we are all here!"
29 He called for lights, sprang in, fell down trembling before Paul and Silas, 30 brought them out, and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
31 They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 They spoke the word of the Lord to him, and to all who were in his house.
33 He took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes, and was immediately baptized, he and all his household. 34 He brought them up into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly with all his household, having believed in God.
35 But when it was day, the magistrates sent the sergeants, saying, "Let those men go."
36 The jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The magistrates have sent to let you go; now therefore come out and go in peace."
37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us publicly without a trial, men who are Romans, and have cast us into prison! Do they now release us secretly? No, most certainly, but let them come themselves and bring us out!"
38 The sergeants reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans, 39 and they came and begged them. When they had brought them out, they asked them to depart from the city. 40 They went out of the prison and entered into Lydia's house. When they had seen the brothers, they encouraged them, then departed.

17

1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. 2 Paul, as was his custom, went in to them; and for three Sabbath days reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."
4 Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas: of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and not a few of the chief women. 5 But the unpersuaded Jews took along* some wicked men from the marketplace and gathering a crowd, set the city in an uproar. Assaulting

* **17:5** TR reads "And the Jews who were unpersuaded, becoming envious and taking along" instead of "But the unpersuaded Jews took along"

the house of Jason, they sought to bring them out to the people. 6 When they didn't find them, they dragged Jason and certain brothers† before the rulers of the city, crying, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here also, 7 whom Jason has received. These all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus!" 8 The multitude and the rulers of the city were troubled when they heard these things. 9 When they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

10 The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Beroea. When they arrived, they went into the Jewish synagogue.

11 Now these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so. 12 Many of them therefore believed; also of the prominent Greek women, and not a few men. 13 But when the Jews of Thessalonica had knowledge that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Beroea also, they came there likewise, agitating the multitudes. 14 Then the brothers immediately sent out Paul to go as far as to the sea, and Silas and Timothy still stayed there. 15 But those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens. Receiving a commandment to Silas and Timothy that they should come to him very quickly, they departed.

16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw the city full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who met him. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also‡ were conversing with him. Some said, "What does this babbler want to say?"

Others said, "He seems to be advocating foreign deities," because he preached Jesus and the resurrection.

19 They took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is, which you are speaking about? 20 For you bring certain strange things to our ears. We want to know therefore what these things mean." 21 Now all the Athenians and the strangers living there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing.

22 Paul stood in the middle of the Areopagus and

† **17:6** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may be also correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **17:18** TR omits "also"

said, “You men of Athens,
I perceive that you are
very religious in all things.
23 For as I passed along and
observed the objects of your
worship, I also found an
altar with this inscription:
‘TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.’
What therefore you worship
in ignorance, I announce to
you. 24 The God who made
the world and all things in
it, he, being Lord of heaven
and earth, doesn’t dwell in
temples made with hands.
25 He isn’t served by men’s
hands, as though he needed
anything, seeing he himself
gives to all life and breath
and all things. 26 He made
from one blood every nation
of men to dwell on all the
surface of the earth, hav-
ing determined appointed
seasons and the boundaries
of their dwellings, 27 that
they should seek the Lord,
if perhaps they might reach
out for him and find him,
though he is not far from
each one of us. 28 ‘For in him
we live, move, and have our
being.’ As some of your own
poets have said, ‘For we are
also his offspring.’ 29 Being
then the offspring of God, we
ought not to think that the
Divine Nature is like gold, or
silver, or stone, engraved by
art and design of man. 30 The
times of ignorance therefore
God overlooked. But now
he commands that all people
everywhere should repent,
31 because he has appointed
a day in which he will judge
the world in righteousness
by the man whom he has
ordained; of which he has
given assurance to all men, in
that he has raised him from
the dead.”

32 Now when they heard
of the resurrection of the
dead, some mocked; but oth-
ers said, “We want to hear
you again concerning this.”

33 Thus Paul went out from
among them. 34 But certain
men joined with him and be-
lieved, including Dionysius
the Areopagite, and a woman
named Damaris, and others
with them.

18

1 After these things Paul
departed from Athens and
came to Corinth. 2 He found
a certain Jew named Aquila,
a man of Pontus by race,
who had recently come from
Italy with his wife Priscilla,
because Claudius had com-
manded all the Jews to de-
part from Rome. He came to
them, 3 and because he prac-
ticed the same trade, he lived
with them and worked, for
by trade they were tent mak-
ers. 4 He reasoned in the syn-
agogue every Sabbath and
persuaded Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy
came down from Macedonia,
Paul was compelled by the
Spirit, testifying to the Jews
that Jesus was the Christ.
6 When they opposed him
and blasphemed, he shook
out his clothing and said
to them, “Your blood be on
your own heads! I am clean.

From now on, I will go to the Gentiles!”

7 He departed there and
went into the house of a
certain man named Justus,
one who worshiped God,
whose house was next door
to the synagogue. 8 Crispus,
the ruler of the synagogue,
believed in the Lord with
all his house. Many of
the Corinthians, when they
heard, believed and were
baptized. 9 The Lord said
to Paul in the night by a
vision, **“Don’t be afraid, but
speak and don’t be silent;
10 for I am with you, and
no one will attack you to
harm you, for I have many
people in this city.”**

11 He lived there a year
and six months, teaching
the word of God among
them. 12 But when Gallio
was proconsul of Achaia, the
Jews with one accord rose
up against Paul and brought
him before the judgment
seat, 13 saying, “This man
persuades men to worship
God contrary to the law.”

14 But when Paul was about
to open his mouth, Gallio
said to the Jews, “If indeed
it were a matter of wrong or
of wicked crime, you Jews, it
would be reasonable that I
should bear with you; 15 but
if they are questions about
words and names and your
own law, look to it your-
selves. For I don’t want to
be a judge of these matters.”
16 So he drove them from the
judgment seat.

17 Then all the Greeks
seized Sosthenes, the ruler of
the synagogue, and beat him
before the judgment seat.
Gallio didn’t care about any
of these things.

18 Paul, having stayed after
this many more days, took
his leave of the brothers,*
and sailed from there for
Syria, together with Priscilla
and Aquila. He shaved his
head in Cenchreae, for he
had a vow. 19 He came to
Ephesus, and he left them
there; but he himself entered
into the synagogue and rea-
soned with the Jews. 20 When
they asked him to stay with
them a longer time, he de-
clined; 21 but taking his leave
of them, he said, “I must by
all means keep this coming
feast in Jerusalem, but I will
return again to you if God
wills.” Then he set sail from
Ephesus.

22 When he had landed
at Caesarea, he went up
and greeted the assembly,
and went down to Antioch.
23 Having spent some time
there, he departed and
went through the region of
Galatia and Phrygia, in order,
establishing all the disciples.
24 Now a certain Jew named
Apollos, an Alexandrian by
race, an eloquent man, came
to Ephesus. He was mighty
in the Scriptures. 25 This
man had been instructed in

* **18:18** The word for “brothers” here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated “brothers and sisters” or “siblings.”

the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, although he knew only the baptism of John. 26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside, and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

27 When he had determined to pass over into Achaia, the brothers encouraged him; and wrote to the disciples to receive him. When he had come, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; 28 for he powerfully refuted the Jews, publicly showing by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

19

1 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul, having passed through the upper country, came to Ephesus and found certain disciples. 2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

They said to him, "No, we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

3 He said, "Into what then were you baptized?"

They said, "Into John's baptism."

4 Paul said, "John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Christ Jesus."*

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke with other languages and prophesied. 7 They were about twelve men in all.

8 He entered into the synagogue and spoke boldly for a period of three months, reasoning and persuading about the things concerning God's Kingdom.

9 But when some were hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and separated the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus. 10 This continued for two years, so that all those who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

11 God worked special miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were carried away from his body to the sick, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out. 13 But some of the itinerant Jews, exorcists, took on themselves to invoke over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches." 14 There were seven sons of one Sceva, a

* **19:4** NU omits Christ.

Jewish chief priest, who did this.

15 The evil spirit answered,
"Jesus I know, and Paul I
know, but who are you?"
16 The man in whom the
evil spirit was leaped on
them, overpowered them,
and prevailed against them,
so that they fled out of that
house naked and wounded.
17 This became known to all,
both Jews and Greeks, who
lived at Ephesus. Fear fell on
them all, and the name of the
Lord Jesus was magnified.
18 Many also of those who had
believed came, confessing
and declaring their deeds.
19 Many of those who prac-
ticed magical arts brought
their books together and
burned them in the sight
of all. They counted their
price, and found it to be fifty
thousand pieces of silver.†
20 So the word of the Lord
was growing and becoming
mighty.

21 Now after these things
had ended, Paul determined
in the Spirit, when he had
passed through Macedo-
nia and Achaia, to go to
Jerusalem, saying, "After I
have been there, I must also
see Rome."

22 Having sent into Mace-
donia two of those who
served him, Timothy and
Erastus, he himself stayed in
Asia for a while. 23 About that
time there arose no small
disturbance concerning
the Way. 24 For a certain
man named Demetrius,
a silversmith who made
silver shrines of Artemis,
brought no little business to
the craftsmen, 25 whom he
gathered together with the
workmen of like occupation,
and said, "Sirs, you know that
by this business we have our
wealth. 26 You see and hear
that not at Ephesus alone, but
almost throughout all Asia,
this Paul has persuaded and
turned away many people,
saying that they are no gods
that are made with hands.
27 Not only is there danger
that this our trade come into
disrepute, but also that the
temple of the great goddess
Artemis will be counted as
nothing and her majesty
destroyed, whom all Asia and
the world worships."

28 When they heard this
they were filled with anger,
and cried out, saying, "Great
is Artemis of the Ephesians!"
29 The whole city was filled
with confusion, and they
rushed with one accord into
the theater, having seized
Gaius and Aristarchus, men
of Macedonia, Paul's com-
panions in travel. 30 When
Paul wanted to enter in to the
people, the disciples didn't
allow him. 31 Certain also
of the Asiarchs, being his
friends, sent to him and
begged him not to venture
into the theater. 32 Some
therefore cried one thing,

† **19:19** The 50,000 pieces of silver here probably referred to 50,000 drachmas. If so, the value of the burned books was equivalent to about 160 man-years of wages for agricultural laborers

and some another, for the assembly was in confusion. Most of them didn't know why they had come together. 33 They brought Alexander out of the multitude, the Jews putting him forward. Alexander beckoned with his hand, and would have made a defense to the people. 34 But when they perceived that he was a Jew, all with one voice for a time of about two hours cried out, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

35 When the town clerk had quieted the multitude, he said, "You men of Ephesus, what man is there who doesn't know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great goddess Artemis, and of the image which fell down from Zeus? 36 Seeing then that these things can't be denied, you ought to be quiet and to do nothing rash. 37 For you have brought these men here, who are neither robbers of temples nor blasphemers of your goddess. 38 If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen who are with him have a matter against anyone, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. Let them press charges against one another. 39 But if you seek anything about other matters, it will be settled in the regular assembly. 40 For indeed we are in danger of being accused concerning today's riot, there being no cause. Concerning it, we wouldn't be able to give an account of this commotion." 41 When he had thus spoken, he dismissed the assembly.

20

1 After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, took leave of them, and departed to go into Macedonia. 2 When he had gone through those parts and had encouraged them with many words, he came into Greece. 3 When he had spent three months there, and a plot was made against him by Jews as he was about to set sail for Syria, he determined to return through Macedonia. 4 These accompanied him as far as Asia: Sopater of Beroea, Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, Gaius of Derbe, Timothy, and Tychicus and Trophimus of Asia. 5 But these had gone ahead, and were waiting for us at Troas. 6 We sailed away from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and came to them at Troas in five days, where we stayed seven days.

7 On the first day of the week, when the disciples were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day; and continued his speech until midnight. 8 There were many lights in the upper room where we* were gathered together. 9 A

* **20:8** TR reads "they" instead of "we"

certain young man named Eutychus sat in the window, weighed down with deep sleep. As Paul spoke still longer, being weighed down by his sleep, he fell down from the third floor and was taken up dead. 10 Paul went down and fell upon him, and embracing him said, "Don't be troubled, for his life is in him."

11 When he had gone up, had broken bread and eaten, and had talked with them a long while, even until break of day, he departed. 12 They brought the boy in alive, and were greatly comforted.

13 But we, going ahead to the ship, set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul aboard there; for he had so arranged, intending himself to go by land. 14 When he met us at Assos, we took him aboard and came to Mitylene. 15 Sailing from there, we came the following day opposite Chios. The next day we touched at Samos and stayed at Trogyllium, and the day after we came to Miletus. 16 For Paul had determined to sail past Ephesus, that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if it were possible for him, to be in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost.

17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to himself the elders of the assembly. 18 When they had come to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you all the time, 19 serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears, and with trials which happened to me by the plots of the Jews; 20 how I didn't shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, teaching you publicly and from house to house, 21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus.† 22 Now, behold, I go bound by the Spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there; 23 except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions wait for me. 24 But these things don't count; nor do I hold my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to fully testify to the Good News of the grace of God.

25 "Now, behold, I know that you all, among whom I went about preaching God's Kingdom, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you today that I am clean from the blood of all men, 27 for I didn't shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. 28 Take heed, therefore, to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the assembly of

† **20:21** TR adds "Christ" ‡ **20:28** TR, NU omit "the Lord and"

the Lord and‡ God which he purchased with his own blood. 29 For I know that after my departure, vicious wolves will enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Men will arise from among your own selves, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, remembering that for a period of three years I didn't cease to admonish everyone night and day with tears. 32 Now, brothers,§ I entrust you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33 I coveted no one's silver, gold, or clothing. 34 You yourselves know that these hands served my necessities, and those who were with me. 35 In all things I gave you an example, that so laboring you ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, **'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"**

36 When he had spoken these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. 37 They all wept freely, and fell on Paul's neck and kissed him, 38 sorrowing most of all because of the word which he had spoken, that they should see his face no more. Then they accompanied him to the ship.

21

1 When we had departed from them and had set sail, we came with a straight course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. 2 Having found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail. 3 When we had come in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left hand, we sailed to Syria and landed at Tyre, for the ship was there to unload her cargo. 4 Having found disciples, we stayed there seven days. These said to Paul through the Spirit that he should not go up to Jerusalem. 5 When those days were over, we departed and went on our journey. They all, with wives and children, brought us on our way until we were out of the city. Kneeling down on the beach, we prayed. 6 After saying goodbye to each other, we went on board the ship, and they returned home again.

7 When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais. We greeted the brothers and stayed with them one day. 8 On the next day, we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea.

We entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. 9 Now this man had four virgin

§ **20:32** The word for "brothers" here and where the context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

daughters who prophesied.
10 As we stayed there some
days, a certain prophet
named Agabus came down
from Judea. 11 Coming to
us and taking Paul's belt,
he bound his own feet and
hands, and said, "The Holy
Spirit says: 'So the Jews at
Jerusalem will bind the man
who owns this belt, and will
deliver him into the hands of
the Gentiles.' "
12 When we heard these
things, both we and the
people of that place begged
him not to go up to Jerusalem.
13 Then Paul answered,
"What are you doing, weep-
ing and breaking my heart?
For I am ready not only to
be bound, but also to die at
Jerusalem for the name of the
Lord Jesus."
14 When he would not
be persuaded, we ceased,
saying, "The Lord's will be
done."
15 After these days we took
up our baggage and went up
to Jerusalem. 16 Some of
the disciples from Caesarea
also went with us, bringing
one Mnason of Cyprus, an
early disciple, with whom we
would stay.
17 When we had come
to Jerusalem, the brothers
received us gladly. 18 The
day following, Paul went
in with us to James; and
all the elders were present.
19 When he had greeted
them, he reported one by one
the things which God had
worked among the Gentiles
through his ministry. 20 They,
when they heard it, glorified
God. They said to him, "You
see, brother, how many
thousands there are among
the Jews of those who have
believed, and they are all
zealous for the law. 21 They
have been informed about
you, that you teach all the
Jews who are among the
Gentiles to forsake Moses,
telling them not to circum-
cise their children and not
to walk after the customs.
22 What then? The assembly
must certainly meet, for they
will hear that you have come.
23 Therefore do what we tell
you. We have four men who
have taken a vow. 24 Take
them and purify yourself
with them, and pay their
expenses for them, that they
may shave their heads. Then
all will know that there is
no truth in the things that
they have been informed
about you, but that you
yourself also walk keeping
the law. 25 But concerning
the Gentiles who believe, we
have written our decision
that they should observe
no such thing, except that
they should keep themselves
from food offered to idols,
from blood, from strangled
things, and from sexual
immorality."
26 Then Paul took the men,
and the next day purified
himself and went with them
into the temple, declaring the
fulfillment of the days of pu-
rification, until the offering
was offered for every one of
them. 27 When the seven

days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, when they saw him in the temple, stirred up all the multitude and laid hands on him, 28 crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against the people, and the law, and this place. Moreover, he also brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place!” 29 For they had seen Trophimus the Ephesian, with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

30 All the city was moved and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple. Immediately the doors were shut. 31 As they were trying to kill him, news came up to the commanding officer of the regiment that all Jerusalem was in an uproar. 32 Immediately he took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. They, when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, stopped beating Paul. 33 Then the commanding officer came near, arrested him, commanded him to be bound with two chains, and inquired who he was and what he had done. 34 Some shouted one thing and some another, among the crowd. When he couldn’t find out the truth because of the noise, he commanded him to be brought into the barracks.

35 When he came to the stairs, he was carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd; 36 for the multitude of the people followed after, crying out, “Away with him!” 37 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he asked the commanding officer, “May I speak to you?”

He said, “Do you know Greek? 38 Aren’t you then the Egyptian who before these days stirred up to sedition and led out into the wilderness the four thousand men of the Assassins?”

39 But Paul said, “I am a Jew from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city. I beg you, allow me to speak to the people.”

40 When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, beckoned with his hand to the people. When there was a great silence, he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, saying,

22

1 “Brothers and fathers, listen to the defense which I now make to you.”

2 When they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, they were even more quiet.

He said, 3 “I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, instructed according to the strict tradition of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God, even as you all are today. 4 I persecuted this

Way to the death, binding
and delivering into prisons
both men and women, 5 as
also the high priest and all
the council of the elders tes-
tify, from whom also I re-
ceived letters to the brothers,
and traveled to Damascus to
bring them also who were
there to Jerusalem in bonds
to be punished.

6 "As I made my journey
and came close to Damascus,
about noon suddenly a great
light shone around me from
the sky. 7 I fell to the ground
and heard a voice saying to
me, **'Saul, Saul, why are you
persecuting me?'** 8 I an-
swered, 'Who are you, Lord?'
He said to me, **'I am Jesus of
Nazareth, whom you per-
secute.'**

9 "Those who were with
me indeed saw the light and
were afraid, but they didn't
understand the voice of him
who spoke to me. 10 I said,
'What shall I do, Lord?' The
Lord said to me, **'Arise,
and go into Damascus.
There you will be told
about all things which are
appointed for you to do.'**
11 When I couldn't see for the
glory of that light, being led
by the hand of those who
were with me, I came into
Damascus.

12 "One Ananias, a devout
man according to the law,
well reported of by all the
Jews who lived in Damascus,
13 came to me, and standing
by me said to me, 'Brother
Saul, receive your sight!' In
that very hour I looked up
at him. 14 He said, 'The
God of our fathers has ap-
pointed you to know his will,
and to see the Righteous One,
and to hear a voice from his
mouth. 15 For you will be a
witness for him to all men
of what you have seen and
heard. 16 Now why do you
wait? Arise, be baptized, and
wash away your sins, calling
on the name of the Lord.'

17 "When I had returned to
Jerusalem and while I prayed
in the temple, I fell into a
trance 18 and saw him saying
to me, **'Hurry and get out
of Jerusalem quickly, be-
cause they will not receive
testimony concerning me
from you.'** 19 I said, 'Lord,
they themselves know that I
imprisoned and beat in ev-
ery synagogue those who be-
lieved in you. 20 When the
blood of Stephen, your wit-
ness, was shed, I also was
standing by, consenting to
his death, and guarding the
cloaks of those who killed
him.'

21 "He said to me, **'Depart,
for I will send you out far
from here to the Gentiles.'"**

22 They listened to him un-
til he said that; then they
lifted up their voice and said,
"Rid the earth of this fellow,
for he isn't fit to live!"

23 As they cried out, threw
off their cloaks, and threw
dust into the air, 24 the com-
manding officer commanded
him to be brought into the
barracks, ordering him to
be examined by scourging,
that he might know for what

crime they shouted against
him like that. 25 When they
had tied him up with thongs,
Paul asked the centurion
who stood by, "Is it lawful for
you to scourge a man who
is a Roman, and not found
guilty?"
26 When the centurion
heard it, he went to the
commanding officer and told
him, "Watch what you are
about to do, for this man is
a Roman!"
27 The commanding officer
came and asked him, "Tell
me, are you a Roman?"
He said, "Yes."
28 The commanding officer
answered, "I bought my citi-
zenship for a great price."
Paul said, "But I was born a
Roman."
29 Immediately those who
were about to examine him
departed from him, and the
commanding officer also was
afraid when he realized that
he was a Roman, because
he had bound him. 30 But
on the next day, desiring to
know the truth about why
he was accused by the Jews,
he freed him from the bonds
and commanded the chief
priests and all the council to
come together, and brought
Paul down and set him be-
fore them.

23

1 Paul, looking steadfastly
at the council, said, "Broth-
ers, I have lived before God
in all good conscience until
today."
2 The high priest, Ananias,
commanded those who stood
by him to strike him on the
mouth.
3 Then Paul said to him,
"God will strike you, you
whitewashed wall! Do you
sit to judge me according to
the law, and command me
to be struck contrary to the
law?"
4 Those who stood by said,
"Do you malign God's high
priest?"
5 Paul said, "I didn't know,
brothers, that he was high
priest. For it is written, 'You
shall not speak evil of a ruler
of your people.' "✡
6 But when Paul perceived
that the one part were Sad-
ducees and the other Phar-
isees, he cried out in the
council, "Men and brothers, I
am a Pharisee, a son of Phar-
isees. Concerning the hope
and resurrection of the dead
I am being judged!"
7 When he had said this,
an argument arose between
the Pharisees and Sadducees,
and the crowd was divided.
8 For the Sadducees say that
there is no resurrection, nor
angel, nor spirit; but the
Pharisees confess all of these.
9 A great clamor arose, and
some of the scribes of the
Pharisees' part stood up, and
contended, saying, "We find
no evil in this man. But if
a spirit or angel has spoken
to him, let's not fight against
God!"
10 When a great argument
arose, the commanding offi-
cer, fearing that Paul would
be torn in pieces by them,
commanded the soldiers to

✡ **23:5** Exodus 22:28

go down and take him by
force from among them and
bring him into the barracks.
11 The following night, the
Lord stood by him and said,
**“Cheer up, Paul, for as you
have testified about me at
Jerusalem, so you must tes-
tify also at Rome.”**
12 When it was day, some
of the Jews banded together
and bound themselves under
a curse, saying that they
would neither eat nor drink
until they had killed Paul.
13 There were more than
forty people who had made
this conspiracy. 14 They
came to the chief priests
and the elders, and said,
“We have bound ourselves
under a great curse to taste
nothing until we have killed
Paul. 15 Now therefore, you
with the council inform the
commanding officer that he
should bring him down to
you tomorrow, as though you
were going to judge his case
more exactly. We are ready
to kill him before he comes
near.”
16 But Paul’s sister’s son
heard they were lying in
wait, and he came and en-
tered into the barracks and
told Paul. 17 Paul summoned
one of the centurions and
said, “Bring this young man
to the commanding officer,
for he has something to tell
him.”
18 So he took him and
brought him to the com-
manding officer and said,
“Paul, the prisoner, sum-
moned me and asked me to
bring this young man to you.
He has something to tell you.”
19 The commanding officer
took him by the hand, and
going aside, asked him pri-
vately, “What is it that you
have to tell me?”
20 He said, “The Jews have
agreed to ask you to bring
Paul down to the council to-
morrow, as though intending
to inquire somewhat more
accurately concerning him.
21 Therefore don’t yield to
them, for more than forty
men lie in wait for him, who
have bound themselves un-
der a curse to neither eat nor
drink until they have killed
him. Now they are ready,
looking for the promise from
you.”
22 So the commanding of-
ficer let the young man go,
charging him, “Tell no one
that you have revealed these
things to me.”
23 He called to himself two
of the centurions, and said,
“Prepare two hundred sol-
diers to go as far as Caesarea,
with seventy horsemen and
two hundred men armed
with spears, at the third hour
of the night.”* 24 He asked
them to provide mounts, that
they might set Paul on one,
and bring him safely to Felix
the governor. 25 He wrote a
letter like this:
26 “Claudius Lysias to the
most excellent governor Fe-
lix: Greetings.
27 “This man was seized by
the Jews, and was about to be

* **23:23** about 9:00 p.m.

killed by them when I came with the soldiers and rescued him, having learned that he was a Roman. 28 Desiring to know the cause why they accused him, I brought him down to their council. 29 I found him to be accused about questions of their law, but not to be charged with anything worthy of death or of imprisonment. 30 When I was told that the Jews lay in wait for the man, I sent him to you immediately, charging his accusers also to bring their accusations against him before you. Farewell."

31 So the soldiers, carrying out their orders, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipatris. 32 But on the next day they left the horsemen to go with him, and returned to the barracks. 33 When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him. 34 When the governor had read it, he asked what province he was from. When he understood that he was from Cilicia, he said, 35 "I will hear you fully when your accusers also arrive." He commanded that he be kept in Herod's palace.

24

1 After five days, the high priest, Ananias, came down with certain elders and an orator, one Tertullus. They informed the governor against Paul. 2 When he was called, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying, "Seeing that by you we enjoy much peace, and that prosperity is coming to this nation by your foresight, 3 we accept it in all ways and in all places, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness. 4 But that I don't delay you, I entreat you to bear with us and hear a few words. 5 For we have found this man to be a plague, an instigator of insurrections among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. 6 He even tried to profane the temple, and we arrested him.* 7 † 8 ‡By examining him yourself you may ascertain all these things of which we accuse him."

9 The Jews also joined in the attack, affirming that these things were so.

10 When the governor had beckoned to him to speak, Paul answered, "Because I know that you have been a judge of this nation for many years, I cheerfully make my defense, 11 seeing that you can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship at Jerusalem. 12 In the temple they didn't find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city. 13 Nor can they

* **24:6** TR adds "We wanted to judge him according to our law," † **24:7** TR adds "but the commanding officer, Lysias, came by and with great violence took him out of our hands," ‡ **24:8** TR adds "commanding his accusers to come to you."

prove to you the things of which they now accuse me. 14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, so I serve the God of our fathers, believing all things which are according to the law, and which are written in the prophets; 15 having hope toward God, which these also themselves look for, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. 16 In this I also practice always having a conscience void of offense toward God and men. 17 Now after some years, I came to bring gifts for the needy to my nation, and offerings; 18 amid which certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, not with a mob, nor with turmoil. 19 They ought to have been here before you and to make accusation if they had anything against me. 20 Or else let these men themselves say what injustice they found in me when I stood before the council, 21 unless it is for this one thing that I cried standing among them, 'Concerning the resurrection of the dead I am being judged before you today!' "

22 But Felix, having more exact knowledge concerning the Way, deferred them, saying, "When Lysias, the commanding officer, comes down, I will decide your case." 23 He ordered the centurion that Paul should be kept in custody and should have some privileges, and not to forbid any of his friends to serve him or to visit him.

24 After some days, Felix came with Drusilla his wife, who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ Jesus. 25 As he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was terrified, and answered, "Go your way for this time, and when it is convenient for me, I will summon you." 26 Meanwhile, he also hoped that money would be given to him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore also he sent for him more often and talked with him.

27 But when two years were fulfilled, Felix was succeeded by Porcius Festus, and desiring to gain favor with the Jews, Felix left Paul in bonds.

25

1 Festus therefore, having come into the province, after three days went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea. 2 Then the high priest and the principal men of the Jews informed him against Paul, and they begged him, 3 asking a favor against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem, plotting to kill him on the way. 4 However Festus answered that Paul should be kept in custody at Caesarea, and that he himself was about to depart shortly. 5 "Let them therefore", he said, "that are in power

among you go down with me, and if there is anything wrong in the man, let them accuse him."
6 When he had stayed among them more than ten days, he went down to Caesarea, and on the next day he sat on the judgment seat, and commanded Paul to be brought. 7 When he had come, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing against him many and grievous charges which they could not prove, 8 while he said in his defense, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I sinned at all."
9 But Festus, desiring to gain favor with the Jews, answered Paul and said, "Are you willing to go up to Jerusalem and be judged by me there concerning these things?"
10 But Paul said, "I am standing before Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be tried. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also know very well. 11 For if I have done wrong and have committed anything worthy of death, I don't refuse to die; but if none of those things is true that they accuse me of, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar!"
12 Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you shall go."
13 Now when some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea and greeted Festus. 14 As he stayed there many days, Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, "There is a certain man left a prisoner by Felix; 15 about whom, when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews informed me, asking for a sentence against him. 16 I answered them that it is not the custom of the Romans to give up any man to destruction before the accused has met the accusers face to face and has had opportunity to make his defense concerning the matter laid against him. 17 When therefore they had come together here, I didn't delay, but on the next day sat on the judgment seat and commanded the man to be brought. 18 When the accusers stood up, they brought no charges against him of such things as I supposed; 19 but had certain questions against him about their own religion and about one Jesus, who was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive. 20 Being perplexed how to inquire concerning these things, I asked whether he was willing to go to Jerusalem and there be judged concerning these matters. 21 But when Paul had appealed to be kept for the decision of the emperor, I commanded him to be kept until I could send him to Caesar."

22 Agrippa said to Festus, “I
also would like to hear the
man myself.”
“Tomorrow,” he said, “you
shall hear him.”
23 So on the next day,
when Agrippa and Bernice
had come with great pomp,
and they had entered into
the place of hearing with
the commanding officers
and the principal men of
the city, at the command
of Festus, Paul was brought
in. 24 Festus said, “King
Agrippa, and all men who
are here present with us,
you see this man about
whom all the multitude of the
Jews petitioned me, both at
Jerusalem and here, crying
that he ought not to live
any longer. 25 But when I
found that he had committed
nothing worthy of death, and
as he himself appealed to
the emperor, I determined
to send him, 26 of whom
I have no certain thing to
write to my lord. Therefore I
have brought him out before
you, and especially before
you, King Agrippa, that, after
examination I may have
something to write. 27 For it
seems to me unreasonable,
in sending a prisoner, not
to also specify the charges
against him.”

26

1 Agrippa said to Paul, “You
may speak for yourself.”
Then Paul stretched out his
hand, and made his defense.
2 “I think myself happy, King
Agrippa, that I am to make
my defense before you today
concerning all the things that
I am accused by the Jews,
3 especially because you are
expert in all customs and
questions which are among
the Jews. Therefore I beg you
to hear me patiently.

4 “Indeed, all the Jews
know my way of life from my
youth up, which was from
the beginning among my
own nation and at Jerusalem;
5 having known me from the
first, if they are willing to
testify, that after the strictest
sect of our religion I lived
a Pharisee. 6 Now I stand
here to be judged for the
hope of the promise made by
God to our fathers, 7 which
our twelve tribes, earnestly
serving night and day, hope
to attain. Concerning this
hope I am accused by the
Jews, King Agrippa! 8 Why is
it judged incredible with you
if God does raise the dead?

9 “I myself most certainly
thought that I ought to do
many things contrary to the
name of Jesus of Nazareth.
10 I also did this in Jerusalem.
I both shut up many of the
saints in prisons, having
received authority from the
chief priests; and when
they were put to death I
gave my vote against them.
11 Punishing them often in
all the synagogues, I tried
to make them blaspheme.
Being exceedingly enraged
against them, I persecuted
them even to foreign cities.

12 “Whereupon as I traveled to Damascus with the
authority and commission
from the chief priests, 13 at
noon, O king, I saw on
the way a light from the
sky, brighter than the sun,
shining around me and
those who traveled with me.
14 When we had all fallen
to the earth, I heard a voice
saying to me in the Hebrew
language, **‘Saul, Saul, why
are you persecuting me?
It is hard for you to kick
against the goads.’**

15 “I said, ‘Who are you,
Lord?’

“He said, **‘I am Jesus,
whom you are persecut-
ing.** 16 **But arise, and stand
on your feet, for I have
appeared to you for this
purpose: to appoint you
a servant and a witness
both of the things which
you have seen and of the
things which I will reveal
to you;** 17 **delivering you
from the people and from
the Gentiles, to whom I
send you,** 18 **to open their
eyes, that they may turn
from darkness to light and
from the power of Satan to
God, that they may receive
remission of sins and an
inheritance among those
who are sanctified by faith
in me.’**

19 “Therefore, King
Agrippa, I was not dis-
obedient to the heavenly
vision, 20 but declared first
to them of Damascus, at
Jerusalem, and throughout
all the country of Judea, and
also to the Gentiles, that they
should repent and turn to
God, doing works worthy
of repentance. 21 For this
reason the Jews seized me
in the temple and tried to
kill me. 22 Having therefore
obtained the help that is
from God, I stand to this day
testifying both to small and
great, saying nothing but
what the prophets and Moses
said would happen, 23 how
the Christ must suffer, and
how, by the resurrection of
the dead, he would be first to
proclaim light both to these
people and to the Gentiles.”

24 As he thus made his de-
fense, Festus said with a loud
voice, “Paul, you are crazy!
Your great learning is driving
you insane!”

25 But he said, “I am not
crazy, most excellent Festus,
but boldly declare words of
truth and reasonableness.
26 For the king knows of
these things, to whom also
I speak freely. For I am
persuaded that none of these
things is hidden from him,
for this has not been done in
a corner. 27 King Agrippa, do
you believe the prophets? I
know that you believe.”

28 Agrippa said to Paul,
“With a little persuasion are
you trying to make me a
Christian?”

29 Paul said, “I pray to God,
that whether with little or
with much, not only you, but
also all that hear me today,
might become such as I am,
except for these bonds.”

30 The king rose up with
the governor and Bernice,
and those who sat with
them. 31 When they had
withdrawn, they spoke to one
another, saying, "This man
does nothing worthy of death
or of bonds." 32 Agrippa said
to Festus, "This man might
have been set free if he had
not appealed to Caesar."

27

1 When it was determined
that we should sail for Italy,
they delivered Paul and cer-
tain other prisoners to a cen-
turion named Julius, of the
Augustan band. 2 Embarking
in a ship of Adramyttium,
which was about to sail to
places on the coast of Asia,
we put to sea, Aristarchus, a
Macedonian of Thessalonica
being with us. 3 The next
day, we touched at Sidon.
Julius treated Paul kindly
and gave him permission
to go to his friends and
refresh himself. 4 Putting
to sea from there, we sailed
under the lee of Cyprus,
because the winds were
contrary. 5 When we had
sailed across the sea which
is off Cilicia and Pamphylia,
we came to Myra, a city of
Lycia. 6 There the centurion
found a ship of Alexandria
sailing for Italy, and he put
us on board. 7 When we
had sailed slowly many days,
and had come with difficulty
opposite Cnidus, the wind
not allowing us further, we
sailed under the lee of Crete,
opposite Salmone. 8 With
difficulty sailing along it we
came to a certain place called
Fair Havens, near the city of
Lasea.

9 When much time had
passed and the voyage was
now dangerous because the
Fast had now already gone
by, Paul admonished them
10 and said to them, "Sirs, I
perceive that the voyage will
be with injury and much loss,
not only of the cargo and the
ship, but also of our lives."
11 But the centurion gave
more heed to the master and
to the owner of the ship than
to those things which were
spoken by Paul. 12 Because
the haven was not suitable
to winter in, the majority
advised going to sea from
there, if by any means they
could reach Phoenix and
winter there, which is a port
of Crete, looking southwest
and northwest.

13 When the south wind
blew softly, supposing that
they had obtained their pur-
pose, they weighed anchor
and sailed along Crete, close
to shore. 14 But before long,
a stormy wind beat down
from shore, which is called
Euroclydon.* 15 When the
ship was caught and couldn't
face the wind, we gave
way to it and were driven
along. 16 Running under the
lee of a small island called
Clauda, we were able, with
difficulty, to secure the boat.
17 After they had hoisted it
up, they used cables to help

* **27:14** Or, "a northeaster".

reinforce the ship. Fearing
that they would run aground
on the Syrtis sand bars, they
lowered the sea anchor,
and so were driven along.
18 As we labored exceedingly
with the storm, the next day
they began to throw things
overboard. 19 On the third
day, they threw out the ship's
tackle with their own hands.
20 When neither sun nor stars
shone on us for many days,
and no small storm pressed
on us, all hope that we would
be saved was now taken
away.

21 When they had been
long without food, Paul stood
up in the middle of them
and said, "Sirs, you should
have listened to me, and not
have set sail from Crete and
have gotten this injury and
loss. 22 Now I exhort you to
cheer up, for there will be
no loss of life among you,
but only of the ship. 23 For
there stood by me this night
an angel, belonging to the
God whose I am and whom
I serve, 24 saying, 'Don't be
afraid, Paul. You must stand
before Caesar. Behold, God
has granted you all those who
sail with you.' 25 Therefore,
sirs, cheer up! For I believe
God, that it will be just as it
has been spoken to me. 26 But
we must run aground on a
certain island."

27 But when the fourteenth
night had come, as we were
driven back and forth in the
Adriatic Sea, about midnight
the sailors surmised that they
were drawing near to some
land. 28 They took sound-
ings and found twenty fath-
oms.† After a little while,
they took soundings again,
and found fifteen fathoms.‡
29 Fearing that we would run
aground on rocky ground,
they let go four anchors from
the stern, and wished for day-
light. 30 As the sailors were
trying to flee out of the ship
and had lowered the boat
into the sea, pretending that
they would lay out anchors
from the bow, 31 Paul said
to the centurion and to the
soldiers, "Unless these stay in
the ship, you can't be saved."
32 Then the soldiers cut away
the ropes of the boat and let it
fall off.

33 While the day was
coming on, Paul begged them
all to take some food, saying,
"Today is the fourteenth day
that you wait and continue
fasting, having taken noth-
ing. 34 Therefore I beg you
to take some food, for this is
for your safety; for not a hair
will perish from any of your
heads." 35 When he had said
this and had taken bread, he
gave thanks to God in the
presence of all; then he broke
it and began to eat. 36 Then
they all cheered up, and they
also took food. 37 In all, we
were two hundred seventy-
six souls on the ship. 38 When
they had eaten enough, they
lightened the ship, throwing

† **27:28** 20 fathoms = 120 feet = 36.6 meters ‡ **27:28** 15 fathoms = 90 feet = 27.4 meters

out the wheat into the sea.
39 When it was day, they
didn't recognize the land,
but they noticed a certain
bay with a beach, and they
decided to try to drive the
ship onto it. 40 Casting off the
anchors, they left them in the
sea, at the same time untying
the rudder ropes. Hoisting
up the foresail to the wind,
they made for the beach.
41 But coming to a place
where two seas met, they
ran the vessel aground. The
bow struck and remained
immovable, but the stern
began to break up by the
violence of the waves.
42 The soldiers' counsel
was to kill the prisoners, so
that none of them would
swim out and escape. 43 But
the centurion, desiring to
save Paul, stopped them
from their purpose, and
commanded that those who
could swim should throw
themselves overboard first
to go toward the land; 44 and
the rest should follow, some
on planks and some on other
things from the ship. So they
all escaped safely to the land.

28

1 When we had escaped,
then they* learned that the
island was called Malta.
2 The natives showed us
uncommon kindness; for
they kindled a fire and
received us all, because of the
present rain and because of
the cold. 3 But when Paul had
gathered a bundle of sticks
and laid them on the fire, a
viper came out because of
the heat and fastened on his
hand. 4 When the natives saw
the creature hanging from
his hand, they said to one
another, "No doubt this man
is a murderer, whom, though
he has escaped from the sea,
yet Justice has not allowed
to live." 5 However he shook
off the creature into the fire,
and wasn't harmed. 6 But
they expected that he would
have swollen or fallen down
dead suddenly, but when
they watched for a long time
and saw nothing bad happen
to him, they changed their
minds and said that he was
a god.

7 Now in the neighborhood
of that place were lands
belonging to the chief man
of the island, named Publius,
who received us and cour-
teously entertained us for
three days. 8 The father of
Publius lay sick of fever and
dysentery. Paul entered in
to him, prayed, and laying
his hands on him, healed
him. 9 Then when this was
done, the rest also who had
diseases in the island came
and were cured. 10 They
also honored us with many
honors; and when we sailed,
they put on board the things
that we needed.

11 After three months,
we set sail in a ship of
Alexandria which had win-
tered in the island, whose
figurehead was "The Twin
Brothers." 12 Touching at
Syracuse, we stayed there
three days. 13 From there we

* **28:1** NU reads "we"

circled around and arrived at Rhegium. After one day, a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli, 14 where we found brothers,† and were entreated to stay with them for seven days. So we came to Rome. 15 From there the brothers, when they heard of us, came to meet us as far as The Market of Appius and The Three Taverns. When Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage. 16 When we entered into Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was allowed to stay by himself with the soldier who guarded him.

17 After three days Paul called together those who were the leaders of the Jews. When they had come together, he said to them, "I, brothers, though I had done nothing against the people or the customs of our fathers, still was delivered prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans, 18 who, when they had examined me, desired to set me free, because there was no cause of death in me. 19 But when the Jews spoke against it, I was constrained to appeal to Caesar, not that I had anything about which to accuse my nation. 20 For this cause therefore I asked to see you and to speak with you. For because of the hope of Israel I am bound with this chain."

21 They said to him, "We neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor did any of the brothers come here and report or speak any evil of you. 22 But we desire to hear from you what you think. For, as concerning this sect, it is known to us that everywhere it is spoken against."

23 When they had appointed him a day, many people came to him at his lodging. He explained to them, testifying about God's Kingdom, and persuading them concerning Jesus, both from the law of Moses and from the prophets, from morning until evening. 24 Some believed the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved. 25 When they didn't agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had spoken one message: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, 26 saying,

'Go to this people and say,
in hearing, you will hear,
but will in no way understand.
In seeing, you will see,
but will in no way perceive.
27 For this people's heart has grown callous.
Their ears are dull of hearing.

† **28:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

Their eyes they have closed.
Lest they should see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their heart,
and would turn again,
then I would heal them.'✡
28 "Be it known therefore to you that the salvation of God is sent to the nations, and they will listen."
29 When he had said these words, the Jews departed, having a great dispute among themselves.‡
30 Paul stayed two whole years in his own rented house and received all who were coming to him,
31 preaching God's Kingdom and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, without hindrance.

✡ **28:27** Isaiah 6:9-10 ‡ **28:29** NU omits verse 29.

Paul's Letter to the Romans

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus
Christ,* called to be an apos-
tle, set apart for the Good
News of God, 2 which he
promised before through his
prophets in the holy Scrip-
tures, 3 concerning his Son,
who was born of the off-
spring† of David according
to the flesh, 4 who was de-
clared to be the Son of God
with power according to the
Spirit of holiness, by the res-
urrection from the dead, Je-
sus Christ our Lord, 5 through
whom we received grace and
apostleship for obedience of
faith among all the nations
for his name's sake; 6 among
whom you are also called to
belong to Jesus Christ; 7 to
all who are in Rome, beloved
of God, called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from
God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

8 First, I thank my God
through Jesus Christ for all
of you, that your faith is
proclaimed throughout the
whole world. 9 For God is my
witness, whom I serve in my
spirit in the Good News of his
Son, how unceasingly I make
mention of you always in my
prayers, 10 requesting, if by
any means now at last I may
be prospered by the will of
God to come to you. 11 For
I long to see you, that I may
impart to you some spiritual
gift, to the end that you may
be established; 12 that is, that
I with you may be encour-
aged in you, each of us by the
other's faith, both yours and
mine.
13 Now I don't desire to
have you unaware, brothers,
that I often planned to come
to you (and was hindered so
far), that I might have some
fruit among you also, even as
among the rest of the Gen-
tiles. 14 I am debtor both
to Greeks and to foreigners,
both to the wise and to the
foolish. 15 So as much as is in
me, I am eager to preach the
Good News to you also who
are in Rome.
16 For I am not ashamed
of the Good News of Christ,
because it is the power of
God for salvation for every-
one who believes, for the Jew
first, and also for the Greek.
17 For in it is revealed God's
righteousness from faith to
faith. As it is written, "But
the righteous shall live by
faith."✡
18 For the wrath of God
is revealed from heaven
against all ungodliness and
unrighteousness of men
who suppress the truth in
unrighteousness, 19 because
that which is known of God
is revealed in them, for
God revealed it to them.
20 For the invisible things
of him since the creation of
the world are clearly seen,
being perceived through the
things that are made, even

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:3** or, seed ✡ **1:17** Habakkuk 2:4

his everlasting power and divinity, that they may be without excuse. 21 Because knowing God, they didn't glorify him as God, and didn't give thanks, but became vain in their reasoning, and their senseless heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, 23 and traded the glory of the incorruptible God for the likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, four-footed animals, and creeping things. 24 Therefore God also gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to uncleanness, that their bodies should be dishonored among themselves; 25 who exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 For this reason, God gave them up to vile passions. For their women changed the natural function into that which is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural function of the woman, burned in their lust toward one another, men doing what is inappropriate with men, and receiving in themselves the due penalty of their error. 28 Even as they refused to have God in their knowledge, God gave them up to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, malice; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil habits, secret slanderers, 30 backbiters, hateful to God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but also approve of those who practice them.

2

1 Therefore you are without excuse, O man, whoever you are who judge. For in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself. For you who judge practice the same things. 2 We know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. 3 Do you think this, O man who judges those who practice such things, and do the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? 4 Or do you despise the riches of his goodness, forbearance, and patience, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? 5 But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath, revelation, and of the righteous judgment of

God, 6 who "will pay back
to everyone according to
their works:"✡ 7 to those
who by perseverance in well-
doing seek for glory, honor,
and incorruptibility, eternal
life; 8 but to those who are
self-seeking and don't obey
the truth, but obey unrigh-
teousness, will be wrath,
indignation, 9 oppression,
and anguish on every soul of
man who does evil, to the Jew
first, and also to the Greek.

10 But glory, honor, and
peace go to every man who
does good, to the Jew first,
and also to the Greek. 11 For
there is no partiality with
God. 12 For as many as
have sinned without the
law will also perish without
the law. As many as have
sinned under the law will be
judged by the law. 13 For it
isn't the hearers of the law
who are righteous before
God, but the doers of the
law will be justified 14 (for
when Gentiles who don't
have the law do by nature
the things of the law, these,
not having the law, are a law
to themselves, 15 in that they
show the work of the law
written in their hearts, their
conscience testifying with
them, and their thoughts
among themselves accusing
or else excusing them) 16 in
the day when God will judge
the secrets of men, according
to my Good News, by Jesus
Christ.

17 Indeed you bear the
name of a Jew, rest on the
law, glory in God, 18 know
his will, and approve the
things that are excellent,
being instructed out of the
law, 19 and are confident that
you yourself are a guide of
the blind, a light to those who
are in darkness, 20 a corrector
of the foolish, a teacher of
babies, having in the law the
form of knowledge and of
the truth. 21 You therefore
who teach another, don't you
teach yourself? You who
preach that a man shouldn't
steal, do you steal? 22 You
who say a man shouldn't
commit adultery, do you
commit adultery? You who
abhor idols, do you rob
temples? 23 You who glory
in the law, do you dishonor
God by disobeying the law?
24 For "the name of God
is blasphemed among the
Gentiles because of you," ✡
just as it is written. 25 For
circumcision indeed profits,
if you are a doer of the law,
but if you are a transgressor
of the law, your circumcision
has become uncircumcision.
26 If therefore the uncircum-
cised keep the ordinances
of the law, won't his un-
circumcision be accounted
as circumcision? 27 Won't
those who are physically
uncircumcised, but fulfill the
law, judge you, who with the
letter and circumcision are
a transgressor of the law?
28 For he is not a Jew who
is one outwardly, neither is

✡ **2:6** Psalm 62:12; Proverbs 24:12 ✡ **2:24** Isaiah 52:5; Ezekiel 36:22

that circumcision which is outward in the flesh; 29 but he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men, but from God.

3

1 Then what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Because first of all, they were entrusted with the revelations of God. 3 For what if some were without faith? Will their lack of faith nullify the faithfulness of God? 4 May it never be! Yes, let God be found true, but every man a liar. As it is written,

"that you might be justified in your words,
and might prevail when you come into judgment."✡

5 But if our unrighteousness commends the righteousness of God, what will we say? Is God unrighteous who inflicts wrath? I speak like men do. 6 May it never be! For then how will God judge the world? 7 For if the truth of God through my lie abounded to his glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? 8 Why not (as we are slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say), "Let's do evil, that good may come?" Those who say so are justly condemned.

9 What then? Are we better than they? No, in no way. For we previously warned both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. 10 As it is written,

"There is no one righteous;
no, not one.
11 There is no one who understands.
There is no one who seeks after God.
12 They have all turned away.
They have together become unprofitable.
There is no one who does good,
no, not so much as one."✡
13 "Their throat is an open tomb.
With their tongues they have used deceit."✡
"The poison of vipers is under their lips."✡
14 "Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."✡
15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood.
16 Destruction and misery are in their ways.
17 The way of peace, they haven't known."✡
18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."✡

19 Now we know that whatever things the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may be brought under the judgment of God. 20 Because by the works of the law, no flesh will be justified in his sight; for through the

✡ **3:4** Psalm 51:4 ✡ **3:12** Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3; Ecclesiastes 7:20 ✡ **3:13** Psalm 5:9 ✡ **3:13** Psalm 140:3 ✡ **3:14** Psalm 10:7 ✡ **3:17** Isaiah 59:7-8 ✡ **3:18** Psalm 36:1

law comes the knowledge of sin.

21 But now apart from the law, a righteousness of God has been revealed, being testified by the law and the prophets; 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ to all and on all those who believe. For there is no distinction, 23 for all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God; 24 being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God sent to be an atoning sacrifice* through faith in his blood, for a demonstration of his righteousness through the passing over of prior sins, in God's forbearance; 26 to demonstrate his righteousness at this present time, that he might himself be just and the justifier of him who has faith in Jesus.

27 Where then is the boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith. 28 We maintain therefore that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. 29 Or is God the God of Jews only? Isn't he the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30 since indeed there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

31 Do we then nullify the law through faith? May it never be! No, we establish the law.

4

1 What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather, has found according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not toward God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."✡ 4 Now to him who works, the reward is not counted as grace, but as something owed. 5 But to him who doesn't work, but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness. 6 Even as David also pronounces blessing on the man to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

7 "Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
8 Blessed is the man whom the Lord will by no means charge with sin." ✡

9 Is this blessing then pronounced only on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. 10 How then was it counted? When he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. 11 He received the sign of circumcision, a

* **3:25** or, a propitiation ✡ **4:3** Genesis 15:6 ✡ **4:8** Psalm 32:1-2

seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while he was in uncircumcision, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they might be in uncircumcision, that righteousness might also be accounted to them. 12 He is the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had in uncircumcision.

13 For the promise to Abraham and to his offspring that he would be heir of the world wasn't through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. 14 For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void, and the promise is made of no effect. 15 For the law produces wrath; for where there is no law, neither is there disobedience.

16 For this cause it is of faith, that it may be according to grace, to the end that the promise may be sure to all the offspring, 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 you a father of many nations."✡ This is in the presence of him whom he believed: God, who gives life to the dead, and calls the things that are not, as though they were. 18 Against hope, Abraham in hope believed, to the end that he might become a father of many nations, according to that which had been spoken, "So will your offspring be."✡ 19 Without being weakened in faith, he didn't consider his own body, already having been worn out, (he being about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 Yet, looking to the promise of God, he didn't waver through unbelief, but grew strong through faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what he had promised, he was also able to perform. 22 Therefore it also was "credited to him for righteousness."✡ 23 Now it was not written that it was accounted to him for his sake alone, 24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be accounted, who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up for our trespasses, and was raised for our justification.

5

1 Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; 2 through whom we also have our access by faith into this grace in which we stand. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only this, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

✡ **4:17** Genesis 17:5 ✡ **4:18** Genesis 15:5 ✡ **4:22** Genesis 15:6

5 and hope doesn't disappoint
us, because God's love has
been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who
was given to us.
6 For while we were yet
weak, at the right time Christ
died for the ungodly. 7 For
one will hardly die for a right-
teous man. Yet perhaps for a
good person someone would
even dare to die. 8 But God
commends his own love to-
ward us, in that while we
were yet sinners, Christ died
for us.
9 Much more then, being
now justified by his blood,
we will be saved from God's
wrath through him. 10 For
if while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God
through the death of his
Son, much more, being
reconciled, we will be saved
by his life.
11 Not only so, but we also
rejoice in God through our
Lord Jesus Christ, through
whom we have now re-
ceived the reconciliation.
12 Therefore, as sin entered
into the world through one
man, and death through
sin, so death passed to all
men because all sinned.
13 For until the law, sin
was in the world; but sin
is not charged when there
is no law. 14 Nevertheless
death reigned from Adam
until Moses, even over those
whose sins weren't like
Adam's disobedience, who is
a foreshadowing of him who
was to come.
15 But the free gift isn't
like the trespass. For if by
the trespass of the one the
many died, much more did
the grace of God and the
gift by the grace of the one
man, Jesus Christ, abound to
the many. 16 The gift is not
as through one who sinned;
for the judgment came by
one to condemnation, but the
free gift followed many tres-
passes to justification. 17 For
if by the trespass of the one,
death reigned through the
one; so much more will those
who receive the abundance
of grace and of the gift of
righteousness reign in life
through the one, Jesus Christ.
18 So then as through
one trespass, all men were
condemned; even so through
one act of righteousness, all
men were justified to life.
19 For as through the one
man's disobedience many
were made sinners, even
so through the obedience
of the one, many will be
made righteous. 20 The law
came in that the trespass
might abound; but where sin
abounded, grace abounded
more exceedingly, 21 that as
sin reigned in death, even
so grace might reign through
righteousness to eternal life
through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

6

1 What shall we say then?
Shall we continue in sin, that
grace may abound? 2 May
it never be! We who died
to sin, how could we live in
it any longer? 3 Or don't

you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also be part of his resurrection; 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be in bondage to sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him, 9 knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over him! 10 For the death that he died, he died to sin one time; but the life that he lives, he lives to God. 11 Thus consider yourselves also to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Therefore don't let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 Also, do not present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin will not have dominion over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! 16 Don't you know that when you present yourselves as servants and obey someone, you are the servants of whomever you obey, whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness? 17 But thanks be to God that, whereas you were bondservants of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were delivered. 18 Being made free from sin, you became bondservants of righteousness.

19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh; for as you presented your members as servants to uncleanness and to wickedness upon wickedness, even so now present your members as servants to righteousness for sanctification. 20 For when you were servants of sin, you were free from righteousness. 21 What fruit then did you have at that time in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. 22 But now, being made free from sin and having become servants of God, you have your fruit of sanctification and the result of eternal life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

7

1 Or don't you know, brothers* (for I speak to men who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man for as long as he lives? 2 For the woman that has a husband is bound by law to the husband while he lives, but if the husband dies, she is discharged from the law of the husband. 3 So then if, while the husband lives, she is joined to another man, she would be called an adulteress. But if the husband dies, she is free from the law, so that she is no adulteress, though she is joined to another man. 4 Therefore, my brothers, you also were made dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you would be joined to another, to him who was raised from the dead, that we might produce fruit to God. 5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were through the law worked in our members to bring out fruit to death. 6 But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held; so that we serve in newness of the spirit, and not in oldness of the letter.

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? May it never be! However, I wouldn't have known sin except through the law. For I wouldn't have known coveting unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."✡ 8 But sin, finding occasion through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting. For apart from the law, sin is dead. 9 I was alive apart from the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. 10 The commandment which was for life, this I found to be for death; 11 for sin, finding occasion through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me. 12 Therefore the law indeed is holy, and the commandment holy, righteous, and good.

13 Did then that which is good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, that it might be shown to be sin, was producing death in me through that which is good; that through the commandment sin might become exceedingly sinful. 14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold under sin. 15 For I don't understand what I am doing. For I don't practice what I desire to do; but what I hate, that I do. 16 But if what I don't desire, that I do, I consent to the law that it is good. 17 So now it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me. 18 For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing. For desire is present with me, but I don't find it doing that which is good. 19 For the good which I desire, I

* **7:1** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ✡ **7:7** Exodus 20:17; Deuteronomy 5:21

don't do; but the evil which I don't desire, that I practice. 20 But if what I don't desire, that I do, it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me. 21 I find then the law that, while I desire to do good, evil is present. 22 For I delight in God's law after the inward person, 23 but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members. 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will deliver me out of the body of this death? 25 I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! So then with the mind, I myself serve God's law, but with the flesh, sin's law.

8

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.* 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made me free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For what the law couldn't do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God did, sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the ordinance of the law might be fulfilled in us who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace; 7 because the mind of the flesh is hostile toward God, for it is not subject to God's law, neither indeed can it be. 8 Those who are in the flesh can't please God.

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if any man doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his. 10 If Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of him who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

12 So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if you live after the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are children of God. 15 For you didn't receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, "Abba!† Fa-

* **8:1** NU omits "who don't walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit"

† **8:15** Abba is an Aramaic word for "Father" or "Daddy", which can be used affectionately and respectfully in prayer to our Father in heaven.

ther!"
16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we
are children of God; 17 and
if children, then heirs—heirs
of God and joint heirs with
Christ, if indeed we suffer
with him, that we may also be
glorified with him.

18 For I consider that the
sufferings of this present
time are not worthy to be
compared with the glory
which will be revealed
toward us. 19 For the creation
waits with eager expectation
for the children of God to
be revealed. 20 For the
creation was subjected to
vanity, not of its own will,
but because of him who
subjected it, in hope 21 that
the creation itself also will be
delivered from the bondage
of decay into the liberty of
the glory of the children of
God. 22 For we know that
the whole creation groans
and travails in pain together
until now. 23 Not only so,
but ourselves also, who have
the first fruits of the Spirit,
even we ourselves groan
within ourselves, waiting for
adoption, the redemption of
our body. 24 For we were
saved in hope, but hope that
is seen is not hope. For who
hopes for that which he sees?
25 But if we hope for that
which we don't see, we wait
for it with patience.

26 In the same way, the
Spirit also helps our weak-
nesses, for we don't know
how to pray as we ought. But
the Spirit himself makes in-
tercession for us with groan-
ings which can't be uttered.
27 He who searches the hearts
knows what is on the Spirit's
mind, because he makes in-
tercession for the saints ac-
cording to God.

28 We know that all things
work together for good for
those who love God, for those
who are called according to
his purpose. 29 For whom
he foreknew, he also pre-
destined to be conformed to
the image of his Son, that he
might be the firstborn among
many brothers.‡ 30 Whom
he predestined, those he also
called. Whom he called,
those he also justified. Whom
he justified, those he also
glorified.

31 What then shall we say
about these things? If God
is for us, who can be against
us? 32 He who didn't spare his
own Son, but delivered him
up for us all, how would he
not also with him freely give
us all things? 33 Who could
bring a charge against God's
chosen ones? It is God who
justifies. 34 Who is he who
condemns? It is Christ who
died, yes rather, who was
raised from the dead, who is
at the right hand of God, who
also makes intercession for
us.

35 Who shall separate us
from the love of Christ?
Could oppression, or an-
guish, or persecution, or

‡ **8:29** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Even as it is written,
"For your sake we are killed all day long.
We were accounted as sheep for the slaughter."✡
37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from God's love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

9

1 I tell the truth in Christ. I am not lying, my conscience testifying with me in the Holy Spirit 2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing pain in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brothers' sake, my relatives according to the flesh 4 who are Israelites; whose is the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service, and the promises; 5 of whom are the fathers, and from whom is Christ as concerning the flesh, who is over all, God, blessed forever. Amen.
6 But it is not as though the word of God has come to nothing. For they are not all Israel that are of Israel. 7 Neither, because they are Abraham's offspring, are they all children. But, "your offspring will be accounted as from Isaac."✡ 8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as heirs. 9 For this is a word of promise: "At the appointed time I will come, and Sarah will have a son."✡ 10 Not only so, but Rebekah also conceived by one, by our father Isaac. 11 For being not yet born, neither having done anything good or bad, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him who calls,* 12 it was said to her, "The elder will serve the younger."✡ 13 Even as it is written, "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."✡

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? May it never be! 15 For he said to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."✡ 16 So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who has mercy. 17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I caused you to be raised up, that I might show in you my power, and that my name

✡ **8:36** Psalm 44:22 ✡ **9:7** Genesis 21:12 ✡ **9:9** Genesis 18:10,14 * **9:11** NU puts the phrase "not of works, but of him who calls" at the beginning of verse 12 instead of the end of verse 11. ✡ **9:12** Genesis 25:23 ✡ **9:13** Malachi 1:2-3 ✡ **9:15** Exodus 33:19

might be proclaimed in all the earth."✡ 18 So then, he has mercy on whom he desires, and he hardens whom he desires.

19 You will say then to me, "Why does he still find fault? For who withstands his will?" 20 But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed ask him who formed it, "Why did you make me like this?"✡ 21 Or hasn't the potter a right over the clay, from the same lump to make one part a vessel for honor, and another for dishonor? 22 What if God, willing to show his wrath and to make his power known, endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, 23 and that he might make known the riches of his glory on vessels of mercy, which he prepared beforehand for glory— 24 us, whom he also called, not from the Jews only, but also from the Gentiles? 25 As he says also in Hosea,

"I will call them 'my people,' which were not my people;
and her 'beloved,' who was not beloved."✡

26 "It will be that in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,'
there they will be called 'children of the living God.' "✡

27 Isaiah cries concerning Israel,

"If the number of the children of Israel are as the sand of the sea,
it is the remnant who will be saved;

28 for he will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness,
because the Lord will make a short work upon the earth."✡

29 As Isaiah has said before,

"Unless the Lord of Armies† had left us a seed,
we would have become like Sodom,
and would have been made like Gomorrah."✡

30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, who didn't follow after righteousness, attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith; 31 but Israel, following after a law of righteousness, didn't arrive at the law of righteousness. 32 Why? Because they didn't seek it by faith, but as it were by works of the law. They stumbled over the stumbling stone, 33 even as it is written,

"Behold,‡ I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and a rock of offense;
and no one who believes in him will be disappointed."✡

✡ **9:17** Exodus 9:16 ✡ **9:20** Isaiah 29:16; 45:9 ✡ **9:25** Hosea 2:23 ✡ **9:26** Hosea 1:10 ✡ **9:28** Isaiah 10:22-23 † **9:29** Greek: Sabaoth (for Hebrew: Tze'va'ot) ✡ **9:29** Isaiah 1:9 ‡ **9:33** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ✡ **9:33** Isaiah 8:14; 28:16

10

1 Brothers, my heart's
desire and my prayer to God
is for Israel, that they may be
saved. 2 For I testify about
them that they have a zeal
for God, but not according to
knowledge. 3 For being igno-
rant of God's righteousness,
and seeking to establish their
own righteousness, they
didn't subject themselves to
the righteousness of God.
4 For Christ is the fulfillment*
of the law for righteousness
to everyone who believes.

5 For Moses writes about
the righteousness of the law,
"The one who does them will
live by them."✡ 6 But the
righteousness which is of
faith says this, "Don't say in
your heart, 'Who will ascend
into heaven?'✡ (that is, to
bring Christ down); 7 or, 'Who
will descend into the abyss?'✡
(that is, to bring Christ up
from the dead.)" 8 But what
does it say? "The word is
near you, in your mouth
and in your heart;"✡ that
is, the word of faith which
we preach: 9 that if you will
confess with your mouth that
Jesus is Lord and believe in
your heart that God raised
him from the dead, you will
be saved. 10 For with the
heart one believes resulting
in righteousness; and with
the mouth confession is
made resulting in salvation.
11 For the Scripture says,
"Whoever believes in him
will not be disappointed."✡

12 For there is no distinc-
tion between Jew and Greek;
for the same Lord is Lord of
all, and is rich to all who call
on him. 13 For, "Whoever
will call on the name of the
Lord will be saved."✡ 14 How
then will they call on him
in whom they have not be-
lieved? How will they believe
in him whom they have not
heard? How will they hear
without a preacher? 15 And
how will they preach unless
they are sent? As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of
those who preach the
Good News of peace,
who bring glad tidings of
good things!"✡

16 But they didn't all listen
to the glad news. For Isa-
iah says, "Lord, who has be-
lieved our report?"✡ 17 So
faith comes by hearing, and
hearing by the word of God.
18 But I say, didn't they hear?
Yes, most certainly,

"Their sound went out into
all the earth,
their words to the ends of
the world."✡

19 But I ask, didn't Israel
know? First Moses says,

"I will provoke you to jeal-
ousy with that which is
no nation.
I will make you angry
with a nation void of
understanding."✡

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* **10:4** or, completion, or end ✡ **10:5** Leviticus 18:5 ✡ **10:6** Deuteronomy 30:12 ✡ **10:7** Deuteronomy 30:13 ✡ **10:8** Deuteronomy 30:14 ✡ **10:11** Isaiah 28:16 ✡ **10:13** Joel 2:32 ✡ **10:15** Isaiah 52:7 ✡ **10:16** Isaiah 53:1 ✡ **10:18** Psalm 19:4 ✡ **10:19** Deuteronomy 32:21

20 Isaiah is very bold and says,
"I was found by those who didn't seek me.
I was revealed to those who didn't ask for me."✡
21 But about Israel he says,
"All day long I stretched out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people."✡

11

1 I ask then, did God reject his people? May it never be! For I also am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God didn't reject his people, whom he foreknew. Or don't you know what the Scripture says about Elijah? How he pleads with God against Israel: 3 "Lord, they have killed your prophets. They have broken down your altars. I am left alone, and they seek my life."✡ 4 But how does God answer him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."✡ 5 Even so too at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. 6 And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work.
7 What then? That which Israel seeks for, that he didn't obtain, but the chosen ones obtained it, and the rest were hardened. 8 According as it is written, "God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear, to this very day." ✡
9 David says,
"Let their table be made a snare, a trap,
a stumbling block, and a retribution to them.
10 Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see.
Always keep their backs bent."✡
11 I ask then, did they stumble that they might fall? May it never be! But by their fall salvation has come to the Gentiles, to provoke them to jealousy. 12 Now if their fall is the riches of the world, and their loss the riches of the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!
13 For I speak to you who are Gentiles. Since then as I am an apostle to Gentiles, I glorify my ministry, 14 if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh, and may save some of them. 15 For if the rejection of them is the reconciling of the world, what would their acceptance be, but life from the dead?
16 If the first fruit is holy, so is the lump. If the root is holy, so are the branches. 17 But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the

✡ **10:20** Isaiah 65:1 ✡ **10:21** Isaiah 65:2 ✡ **11:3** 1 Kings 19:10,14 ✡ **11:4** 1 Kings 19:18 ✡ **11:8** Deuteronomy 29:4; Isaiah 29:10 ✡ **11:10** Psalm 69:22,23

root and of the richness of the olive tree, 18 don't boast over the branches. But if you boast, remember that it is not you who support the root, but the root supports you. 19 You will say then, "Branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in." 20 True; by their unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by your faith. Don't be conceited, but fear; 21 for if God didn't spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. 22 See then the goodness and severity of God. Toward those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in his goodness; otherwise you also will be cut off. 23 They also, if they don't continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 24 For if you were cut out of that which is by nature a wild olive tree, and were grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree, how much more will these, which are the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

25 For I don't desire you to be ignorant, brothers,* of this mystery, so that you won't be wise in your own conceits, that a partial hardening has happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, 26 and so all Israel will be saved. Even as it is written,

"There will come out of Zion
the Deliverer,
and he will turn away
ungodliness from Jacob.
27 This is my covenant with
them,
when I will take away
their sins."✡

28 Concerning the Good News, they are enemies for your sake. But concerning the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sake. 29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30 For as you in time past were disobedient to God, but now have obtained mercy by their disobedience, 31 even so these also have now been disobedient, that by the mercy shown to you they may also obtain mercy. 32 For God has bound all to disobedience, that he might have mercy on all.

33 Oh the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past tracing out!

34 "For who has known the
mind of the Lord?
Or who has been his
counselor?"✡
35 "Or who has first given to
him,
and it will be repaid to
him again?"✡

36 For of him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory for ever! Amen.

* **11:25** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ✡ **11:27** Isaiah 59:20-21; 27:9; Jeremiah 31:33-34 ✡ **11:34** Isaiah 40:13 ✡ **11:35** Job 41:11

12

1 Therefore I urge you,
brothers, by the mercies
of God, to present your
bodies a living sacrifice, holy,
acceptable to God, which is
your spiritual service. 2 Don't
be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the
renewing of your mind, so
that you may prove what is
the good, well-pleasing, and
perfect will of God.
3 For I say through the
grace that was given me,
to everyone who is among
you, not to think of yourself
more highly than you ought
to think; but to think reason-
ably, as God has apportioned
to each person a measure
of faith. 4 For even as we
have many members in one
body, and all the members
don't have the same function,
5 so we, who are many,
are one body in Christ, and
individually members of
one another, 6 having gifts
differing according to the
grace that was given to us:
if prophecy, let's prophesy
according to the proportion
of our faith; 7 or service, let's
give ourselves to service;
or he who teaches, to his
teaching; 8 or he who exhorts,
to his exhorting; he who
gives, let him do it with
generosity; he who rules,
with diligence; he who shows
mercy, with cheerfulness.
9 Let love be without
hypocrisy. Abhor that
which is evil. Cling to that
which is good. 10 In love
of the brothers be tenderly
affectionate to one another;
in honor prefer one another,
11 not lagging in diligence,
fervent in spirit, serving
the Lord, 12 rejoicing in
hope, enduring in troubles,
continuing steadfastly in
prayer, 13 contributing to the
needs of the saints, and given
to hospitality.

14 Bless those who perse-
cute you; bless, and don't
curse. 15 Rejoice with those
who rejoice. Weep with those
who weep. 16 Be of the same
mind one toward another.
Don't set your mind on high
things, but associate with the
humble. Don't be wise in
your own conceits. 17 Repay
no one evil for evil. Respect
what is honorable in the sight
of all men. 18 If it is pos-
sible, as much as it is up
to you, be at peace with all
men. 19 Don't seek revenge
yourselves, beloved, but give
place to God's wrath. For it is
written, "Vengeance belongs
to me; I will repay, says the
Lord." ✡ 20 Therefore

"If your enemy is hungry,
feed him.
If he is thirsty, give him a
drink;
for in doing so, you will
heap coals of fire on
his head."✡

21 Don't be overcome by
evil, but overcome evil with
good.

✡ **12:19** Deuteronomy 32:35 ✡ **12:20** Proverbs 25:21-22

13

1 Let every soul be in subjection to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those who exist are ordained by God. 2 Therefore he who resists the authority withstands the ordinance of God; and those who withstand will receive to themselves judgment. 3 For rulers are not a terror to the good work, but to the evil. Do you desire to have no fear of the authority? Do that which is good, and you will have praise from the authority, 4 for he is a servant of God to you for good. But if you do that which is evil, be afraid, for he doesn't bear the sword in vain; for he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath to him who does evil. 5 Therefore you need to be in subjection, not only because of the wrath, but also for conscience' sake. 6 For this reason you also pay taxes, for they are servants of God's service, continually doing this very thing. 7 Therefore give everyone what you owe: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if customs, then customs; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

8 Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal,"* "You shall not covet," ✡ and whatever other commandments there are, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."✡ 10 Love doesn't harm a neighbor. Love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.

11 Do this, knowing the time, that it is already time for you to awaken out of sleep, for salvation is now nearer to us than when we first believed. 12 The night is far gone, and the day is near. Let's therefore throw off the deeds of darkness, and let's put on the armor of light. 13 Let's walk properly, as in the day; not in reveling and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and lustful acts, and not in strife and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for its lusts.

14

1 Now accept one who is weak in faith, but not for disputes over opinions. 2 One man has faith to eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. 3 Don't let him who eats despise him who doesn't eat. Don't let him who doesn't eat judge him who eats, for God has accepted him. 4 Who are you who judge another's servant? To his own lord he stands or falls. Yes, he will be made to

* **13:9** TR adds "You shall not give false testimony," ✡ **13:9** Exodus 20:13-15,17; Deuteronomy 5:17-19,21 ✡ **13:9** Leviticus 19:18

stand, for God has power to
make him stand.
5 One man esteems one day
as more important. Another
esteems every day alike. Let
each man be fully assured in
his own mind. 6 He who ob-
serves the day, observes it to
the Lord; and he who does
not observe the day, to the
Lord he does not observe it.
He who eats, eats to the Lord,
for he gives God thanks. He
who doesn't eat, to the Lord
he doesn't eat, and gives God
thanks. 7 For none of us lives
to himself, and none dies to
himself. 8 For if we live, we
live to the Lord. Or if we die,
we die to the Lord. If there-
fore we live or die, we are the
Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ
died, rose, and lived again,
that he might be Lord of both
the dead and the living.
10 But you, why do you
judge your brother? Or you
again, why do you despise
your brother? For we will
all stand before the judgment
seat of Christ. 11 For it is writ-
ten,
" 'As I live,' says the Lord,
'to me every knee will
bow.
Every tongue will con-
fess to God.' "✡
12 So then each one of us
will give account of himself
to God.
13 Therefore let's not judge
one another any more, but
judge this rather, that no
man put a stumbling block
in his brother's way, or an
occasion for falling. 14 I
know and am persuaded in
the Lord Jesus that nothing
is unclean of itself; except
that to him who considers
anything to be unclean, to
him it is unclean. 15 Yet if
because of food your brother
is grieved, you walk no
longer in love. Don't destroy
with your food him for whom
Christ died. 16 Then don't
let your good be slandered,
17 for God's Kingdom is not
eating and drinking, but
righteousness, peace, and
joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For
he who serves Christ in
these things is acceptable
to God and approved by
men. 19 So then, let's follow
after things which make for
peace, and things by which
we may build one another
up. 20 Don't overthrow God's
work for food's sake. All
things indeed are clean,
however it is evil for that
man who creates a stumbling
block by eating. 21 It is good
to not eat meat, drink wine,
nor do anything by which
your brother stumbles, is
offended, or is made weak.
22 Do you have faith? Have
it to yourself before God.
Happy is he who doesn't
judge himself in that which
he approves. 23 But he who
doubts is condemned if he
eats, because it isn't of faith;
and whatever is not of faith
is sin.
24 Now to him who is able
to establish you according
to my Good News and the
preaching of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of

✡ **14:11** Isaiah 45:23

the mystery which has been
kept secret through long
ages, 25 but now is revealed,
and by the Scriptures of the
prophets, according to the
commandment of the eternal
God, is made known for
obedience of faith to all the
nations; 26 to the only wise
God, through Jesus Christ, to
whom be the glory forever!
Amen.*

15

1 Now we who are strong
ought to bear the weaknesses
of the weak, and not to please
ourselves. 2 Let each one
of us please his neighbor
for that which is good, to
be building him up. 3 For
even Christ didn't please
himself. But, as it is written,
"The reproaches of those
who reproached you fell on
me."✡ 4 For whatever things
were written before were
written for our learning,
that through perseverance
and through encouragement
of the Scriptures we might
have hope. 5 Now the God
of perseverance and of
encouragement grant you to
be of the same mind with one
another according to Christ
Jesus, 6 that with one accord
you may with one mouth
glorify the God and Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

7 Therefore accept one an-
other, even as Christ also ac-
cepted you,* to the glory of
God. 8 Now I say that Christ
has been made a servant of
the circumcision for the truth
of God, that he might confirm
the promises given to the fa-
thers, 9 and that the Gen-
tiles might glorify God for his
mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will give praise
to you among the Gen-
tiles
and sing to your name."✡

10 Again he says,

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with
his people."✡

11 Again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gen-
tiles!
Let all the peoples praise
him."✡

12 Again, Isaiah says,

"There will be the root of
Jesse,
he who arises to rule
over the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles will
hope."✡

13 Now may the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace
in believing, that you may
abound in hope in the power
of the Holy Spirit.

14 I myself am also per-
suaded about you, my broth-
ers,† that you yourselves are
full of goodness, filled with
all knowledge, able also to
admonish others. 15 But I
write the more boldly to you
in part as reminding you,
because of the grace that was

* **14:26** TR places verses 24-26 after Romans 16:24 as verses 25-27. ✡ **15:3** Psalm 69:9 * **15:7** TR reads "us" instead of "you" ✡ **15:9** 2 Samuel 22:50; Psalm 18:49 ✡ **15:10** Deuteronomy 32:43 ✡ **15:11** Psalm 117:1 ✡ **15:12** Isaiah 11:10 † **15:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

given to me by God, 16 that I
should be a servant of Christ
Jesus to the Gentiles, serving
as a priest of the Good News
of God, that the offering
up of the Gentiles might be
made acceptable, sanctified
by the Holy Spirit. 17 I
have therefore my boasting
in Christ Jesus in things
pertaining to God. 18 For I
will not dare to speak of any
things except those which
Christ worked through me
for the obedience of the
Gentiles, by word and deed,
19 in the power of signs and
wonders, in the power of
God's Spirit; so that from
Jerusalem and around as far
as to Illyricum, I have fully
preached the Good News of
Christ; 20 yes, making it my
aim to preach the Good News,
not where Christ was already
named, that I might not build
on another's foundation.
21 But, as it is written,

"They will see, to whom no
news of him came.
They who haven't heard
will understand."✡

22 Therefore also I was hin-
dered these many times from
coming to you, 23 but now,
no longer having any place
in these regions, and having
these many years a longing
to come to you, 24 whenever
I travel to Spain, I will come
to you. For I hope to see
you on my journey, and to
be helped on my way there
by you, if first I may enjoy
your company for a while.
25 But now, I say, I am go-
ing to Jerusalem, serving the
saints. 26 For it has been the
good pleasure of Macedonia
and Achaia to make a cer-
tain contribution for the poor
among the saints who are at
Jerusalem. 27 Yes, it has been
their good pleasure, and they
are their debtors. For if
the Gentiles have been made
partakers of their spiritual
things, they owe it to them
also to serve them in material
things. 28 When therefore I
have accomplished this, and
have sealed to them this fruit,
I will go on by way of you to
Spain. 29 I know that when
I come to you, I will come in
the fullness of the blessing of
the Good News of Christ.
30 Now I beg you, brothers,
by our Lord Jesus Christ and
by the love of the Spirit, that
you strive together with me
in your prayers to God for
me, 31 that I may be deliv-
ered from those who are dis-
obedient in Judea, and that
my service which I have for
Jerusalem may be acceptable
to the saints, 32 that I may
come to you in joy through
the will of God, and together
with you, find rest. 33 Now
the God of peace be with you
all. Amen.

16

1 I commend to you
Phoebe, our sister, who is
a servant* of the assembly
that is at Cenchreae, 2 that
you receive her in the Lord
in a way worthy of the

✡ **15:21** Isaiah 52:15 * **16:1** or, deacon

saints, and that you assist her in whatever matter she may need from you, for she herself also has been a helper of many, and of my own self.

3 Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the assemblies of the Gentiles. 5 Greet the assembly that is in their house. Greet Epaenetus, my beloved, who is the first fruits of Achaia to Christ. 6 Greet Mary, who labored much for us. 7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives and my fellow prisoners, who are notable among the apostles, who were also in Christ before me. 8 Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord. 9 Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved. 10 Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus. 11 Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet them of the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord. 12 Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who labor in the Lord. Greet Persis, the beloved, who labored much in the Lord. 13 Greet Rufus, the chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. 14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers† who are with them. 15 Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. 16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. The assemblies of Christ greet you.

17 Now I beg you, brothers, look out for those who are causing the divisions and occasions of stumbling, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and turn away from them. 18 For those who are such don't serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the innocent. 19 For your obedience has become known to all. I rejoice therefore over you. But I desire to have you wise in that which is good, but innocent in that which is evil. 20 And the God of peace will quickly crush Satan under your feet.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

21 Timothy, my fellow worker, greets you, as do Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my relatives. 22 I, Tertius, who write the letter, greet you in the Lord. 23 Gaius, my host and host of the whole assembly, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, as does Quartus, the brother. 24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all! Amen. 25 ‡

† **16:14** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **16:25** TR places Romans 14:24-26 at the end of Romans instead of at the end of chapter 14, and numbers these verses 16:25-27.

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an
apostle of Jesus Christ*
through the will of God, and
our brother Sosthenes, 2 to
the assembly of God which
is at Corinth—those who are
sanctified in Christ Jesus,
called saints, with all who
call on the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ in every place,
both theirs and ours: 3 Grace
to you and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.

4 I always thank my God
concerning you for the grace
of God which was given you
in Christ Jesus, 5 that in ev-
erything you were enriched
in him, in all speech and all
knowledge — 6 even as the
testimony of Christ was con-
firmed in you— 7 so that you
come behind in no gift, wait-
ing for the revelation of our
Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will
also confirm you until the
end, blameless in the day of
our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is
faithful, through whom you
were called into the fellow-
ship of his Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord.

10 Now I beg you, brothers,†
through the name of our
Lord, Jesus Christ, that you
all speak the same thing, and
that there be no divisions
among you, but that you
be perfected together in
the same mind and in the
same judgment. 11 For it
has been reported to me
concerning you, my broth-
ers, by those who are from
Chloe's household, that there
are contentions among you.
12 Now I mean this, that each
one of you says, "I follow
Paul," "I follow Apollos," "I
follow Cephas," and, "I follow
Christ." 13 Is Christ divided?
Was Paul crucified for you?
Or were you baptized into the
name of Paul? 14 I thank God
that I baptized none of you
except Crispus and Gaius,
15 so that no one should say
that I had baptized you into
my own name. 16 (I also
baptized the household of
Stephanas; besides them,
I don't know whether I
baptized any other.) 17 For
Christ sent me not to baptize,
but to preach the Good News
—not in wisdom of words,
so that the cross of Christ
wouldn't be made void. 18 For
the word of the cross is
foolishness to those who are
dying, but to us who are
being saved it is the power
of God. 19 For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of
the wise.
I will bring the discern-
ment of the discerning
to nothing."✡

20 Where is the wise?
Where is the scribe? Where
is the debater of this age?

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

† **1:10** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

✡ **1:19** Isaiah 29:14

Hasn't God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For seeing that in the wisdom of God, the world through its wisdom didn't know God, it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save those who believe. 22 For Jews ask for signs, Greeks seek after wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Greeks, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is 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 you see your calling, brothers, that not many are wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, and not many noble; 27 but God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame those who are wise. God chose the weak things of the world that he might put to shame the things that are strong. 28 God chose the lowly things of the world, and the things that are despised, and the things that don't exist, that he might bring to nothing the things that exist, 29 that no flesh should boast before God. 30 Because of him, you are in Christ Jesus, who was made to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, 31 that, as it is written, "He who boasts, let him boast in the Lord."✡

2

1 When I came to you, brothers, I didn't come with excellence of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my preaching were not in persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith wouldn't stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

6 We speak wisdom, however, among those who are full grown, yet a wisdom not of this world nor of the rulers of this world who are coming to nothing. 7 But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the wisdom that has been hidden, which God foreordained before the worlds for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this world has known. For had they known it, they wouldn't have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written,

"Things which an eye didn't
see, and an ear didn't
hear,
which didn't enter into
the heart of man,

✡ **1:31** Jeremiah 9:24 ✡ **2:9** Isaiah 64:4

these God has prepared
for those who love
him."✡
10 But to us, God revealed
them through the Spirit.
For the Spirit searches all
things, yes, the deep things
of God. 11 For who among
men knows the things of
a man except the spirit of
the man which is in him?
Even so, no one knows the
things of God except God's
Spirit. 12 But we received
not the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit which is from
God, that we might know
the things that were freely
given to us by God. 13 We
also speak these things, not in
words which man's wisdom
teaches but which the Holy
Spirit teaches, comparing
spiritual things with spiritual
things. 14 Now the natural
man doesn't receive the
things of God's Spirit, for
they are foolishness to him;
and he can't know them,
because they are spiritually
discerned. 15 But he who is
spiritual discerns all things,
and he himself is to be judged
by no one. 16 "For who has
known the mind of the Lord
that he should instruct him?"
✡ But we have Christ's mind.

3

1 Brothers, I couldn't speak
to you as to spiritual, but as to
fleshly, as to babies in Christ.
2 I fed you with milk, not with
solid food, for you weren't
yet ready. Indeed, you aren't
ready even now, 3 for you are
still fleshly. For insofar as
there is jealousy, strife, and
factions among you, aren't
you fleshly, and don't you
walk in the ways of men?
4 For when one says, "I follow
Paul," and another, "I follow
Apollos," aren't you fleshly?

5 Who then is Apollos, and
who is Paul, but servants
through whom you believed,
and each as the Lord gave
to him? 6 I planted. Apol-
los watered. But God gave
the increase. 7 So then nei-
ther he who plants is any-
thing, nor he who waters, but
God who gives the increase.
8 Now he who plants and he
who waters are the same, but
each will receive his own re-
ward according to his own
labor. 9 For we are God's fel-
low workers. You are God's
farming, God's building.

10 According to the grace of
God which was given to me,
as a wise master builder I laid
a foundation, and another
builds on it. But let each man
be careful how he builds on
it. 11 For no one can lay any
other foundation than that
which has been laid, which
is Jesus Christ. 12 But if any-
one builds on the founda-
tion with gold, silver, costly
stones, wood, hay, or straw,
13 each man's work will be
revealed. For the Day will de-
clare it, because it is revealed
in fire; and the fire itself will
test what sort of work each
man's work is. 14 If any man's
work remains which he built
on it, he will receive a re-
ward. 15 If any man's work

✡ **2:16** Isaiah 40:13

is burned, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, but as through fire.

16 Don't you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, which you are.

18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone thinks that he is wise among you in this world, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He has taken the wise in their craftiness."✡ 20 And again, "The Lord knows the reasoning of the wise, that it is worthless."✡ 21 Therefore let no one boast 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 you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

4

1 So let a man think of us as Christ's servants and stewards of God's mysteries. 2 Here, moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 3 But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you, or by a human court. Yes, I don't even judge my own self. 4 For I know nothing against myself. Yet I am not justified by this, but he who judges me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each man will get his praise from God.

6 Now these things, brothers, I have in a figure transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that in us you might learn not to think beyond the things which are written, that none of you be puffed up against one another. 7 For who makes you different? And what do you have that you didn't receive? But if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

8 You are already filled. You have already become rich. You have come to reign without us. Yes, and I wish that you did reign, that we also might reign with you! 9 For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last of all, like men sentenced to death. For we are made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and men. 10 We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You have honor, but we have dishonor. 11 Even to this present hour we hunger, thirst, are naked, are beaten, and have no certain dwelling place. 12 We toil, working with our own hands. When people curse us, we bless. Being persecuted, we endure. 13 Being

✡ **3:19** Job 5:13 ✡ **3:20** Psalm 94:11

defamed, we entreat. We are made as the filth of the world, the dirt wiped off by all, even until now.

14 I don't write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children. 15 For though you have ten thousand tutors in Christ, you don't have many fathers. For in Christ Jesus, I became your father through the Good News. 16 I beg you therefore, be imitators of me. 17 Because of this I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every assembly. 18 Now some are puffed up, as though I were not coming to you. 19 But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord is willing. And I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power. 20 For God's Kingdom is not in word, but in power. 21 What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?

5

1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles, that one has his father's wife. 2 You are arrogant, and didn't mourn instead, that he who had done this deed might be removed from among you. 3 For I most certainly, as being absent in body but present in spirit, have already, as though I were present, judged him who has done this thing. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together with my spirit with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 you are to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast leavens the whole lump? 7 Purge out the old yeast, that you may be a new lump, even as you are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed in our place. 8 Therefore let's keep the feast, not with old yeast, neither with the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

9 I wrote to you in my letter to have no company with sexual sinners; 10 yet not at all meaning with the sexual sinners of this world, or with the covetous and extortionists, or with idolaters, for then you would have to leave the world. 11 But as it is, I wrote to you not to associate with anyone who is called a brother who is a sexual sinner, or covetous, or an idolater, or a slanderer, or a drunkard, or an extortionist. Don't even eat with such a person. 12 For what do I have to do with also judg-

ing those who are outside? Don't you judge those who are within? 13 But those who are outside, God judges. "Put away the wicked man from among yourselves."✡

6

1 Dare any of you, having a matter against his neighbor, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? 2 Don't you know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Don't you know that we will judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life? 4 If then you have to judge things pertaining to this life, do you set them to judge who are of no account in the assembly? 5 I say this to move you to shame. Isn't there even one wise man among you who would be able to decide between his brothers? 6 But brother goes to law with brother, and that before unbelievers! 7 Therefore it is already altogether a defect in you that you have lawsuits one with another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded? 8 No, but you yourselves do wrong and defraud, and that against your brothers.

9 Or don't you know that the unrighteous will not inherit God's Kingdom? Don't be deceived. Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor male prostitutes, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor slanderers, nor extortionists, will inherit God's Kingdom. 11 Some of you were such, but you were washed. You were sanctified. You were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and in the Spirit of our God.

12 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are expedient. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be brought under the power of anything. 13 "Foods for the belly, and the belly for foods," but God will bring to nothing both it and them. But the body is not for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 Now God raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up by his power. 15 Don't you know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be! 16 Or don't you know that he who is joined to a prostitute is one body? For, "The two", he says, "will become one flesh."✡ 17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee sexual immorality! "Every sin that a man does is outside the body," but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or don't you know that your

✡ **5:13** Deuteronomy 17:7; 19:19; 21:21; 22:21; 24:7 ✡ **6:16** Genesis 2:24

body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

7

1 Now concerning the things about which you wrote to me: it is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 But, because of sexual immoralities, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. 3 Let the husband give his wife the affection owed her,* and likewise also the wife her husband. 4 The wife doesn't have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise also the husband doesn't have authority over his own body, but the wife does. 5 Don't deprive one another, unless it is by consent for a season, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer, and may be together again, that Satan doesn't tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

6 But this I say by way of concession, not of commandment. 7 Yet I wish that all men were like me. However, each man has his own gift from God, one of this kind, and another of that kind. 8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows, it is good for them if they remain even as I am. 9 But if they don't have self-control, let them marry. For it's better to marry than to burn with passion. 10 But to the married I command—not I, but the Lord—that the wife not leave her husband 11 (but if she departs, let her remain unmarried, or else be reconciled to her husband), and that the husband not leave his wife.

12 But to the rest I—not the Lord—say, if any brother has an unbelieving wife, and she is content to live with him, let him not leave her. 13 The woman who has an unbelieving husband, and he is content to live with her, let her not leave her husband. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified in the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified in the husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy. 15 Yet if the unbeliever departs, let there be separation. The brother or the sister is not under bondage in such cases, but God has called us in peace. 16 For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

17 Only, as the Lord has distributed to each man, as God has called each, so let him walk. So I command in all the assemblies.

18 Was anyone called having been circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Has anyone been

* **7:3** NU and TR have "what is owed her" instead of "the affection owed her".

called in uncircumcision? Let him not be circumcised. 19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is keeping God's commandments. 20 Let each man stay in that calling in which he was called. 21 Were you called being a bondservant? Don't let that bother you, but if you get an opportunity to become free, use it. 22 For he who was called in the Lord being a bondservant is the Lord's free man. Likewise he who was called being free is Christ's bondservant. 23 You were bought with a price. Don't become bondservants of men. 24 Brothers, let each man, in whatever condition he was called, stay in that condition with God.

25 Now concerning virgins, I have no commandment from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who has obtained mercy from the Lord to be trustworthy. 26 Therefore I think that because of the distress that is on us, it's good for a man to remain as he is. 27 Are you bound to a wife? Don't seek to be freed. Are you free from a wife? Don't seek a wife. 28 But if you marry, you have not sinned. If a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have oppression in the flesh, and I want to spare you. 29 But I say this, brothers: the time is short. From now on, both those who have wives may be as though they had none; 30 and those who weep, as though they didn't weep; and those who rejoice, as though they didn't rejoice; and those who buy, as though they didn't possess; 31 and those who use the world, as not using it to the fullest. For the mode of this world passes away.

32 But I desire to have you to be free from cares. He who is unmarried is concerned for the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; 33 but he who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife. 34 There is also a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world —how she may please her husband. 35 This I say for your own benefit, not that I may ensnare you, but for that which is appropriate, and that you may attend to the Lord without distraction.

36 But if any man thinks that he is behaving inappropriately toward his virgin, if she is past the flower of her age, and if need so requires, let him do what he desires. He doesn't sin. Let them marry. 37 But he who stands steadfast in his heart, having no urgency, but has power over his own will, and has determined in his own heart to keep his own virgin, does well. 38 So then both he who gives his own virgin in marriage does well, and he who

doesn't give her in marriage does better.
39 A wife is bound by law for as long as her husband lives; but if the husband is dead, she is free to be married to whomever she desires, only in the Lord. 40 But she is happier if she stays as she is, in my judgment, and I think that I also have God's Spirit.

8

1 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. 2 But if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he doesn't yet know as he ought to know. 3 But anyone who loves God is known by him.
4 Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that no idol is anything in the world, and that there is no other God but one. 5 For though there are things that are called "gods", whether in the heavens or on earth—as there are many "gods" and many "lords"—
6 yet to us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we live through him.
7 However, that knowledge isn't in all men. But some, with consciousness of an idol until now, eat as of a thing sacrificed to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. 8 But food will not commend us to God. For neither, if we don't eat are we the worse, nor if we eat are we the better. 9 But be careful that by no means does this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to the weak.
10 For if a man sees you who have knowledge sitting in an idol's temple, won't his conscience, if he is weak, be emboldened to eat things sacrificed to idols? 11 And through your knowledge, he who is weak perishes, the brother for whose sake Christ died. 12 Thus, sinning against the brothers, and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.
13 Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will eat no meat forever more, that I don't cause my brother to stumble.

9

1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Haven't I seen Jesus Christ, our Lord? Aren't you my work in the Lord? 2 If to others I am not an apostle, yet at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.
3 My defense to those who examine me is this: 4 Have we no right to eat and to drink?
5 Have we no right to take along a wife who is a believer, even as the rest of the apostles, and the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? 6 Or have only Barnabas and I no right to not work? 7 What soldier ever serves at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard, and doesn't eat of its

fruit? Or who feeds a flock, and doesn't drink from the flock's milk?

8 Do I speak these things according to the ways of men? Or doesn't the law also say the same thing? 9 For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain."✡ Is it for the oxen that God cares, 10 or does he say it assuredly for our sake? Yes, it was written for our sake, because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should partake of his hope. 11 If we sowed to you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we reap your fleshly things? 12 If others partake of this right over you, don't we yet more?

Nevertheless we didn't use this right, but we bear all things, that we may cause no hindrance to the Good News of Christ. 13 Don't you know that those who serve around sacred things eat from the things of the temple, and those who wait on the altar have their portion with the altar? 14 Even so the Lord ordained that those who proclaim the Good News should live from the Good News.

15 But I have used none of these things, and I don't write these things that it may be done so in my case; for I would rather die, than that anyone should make my boasting void. 16 For if I preach the Good News, I have nothing to boast about, for necessity is laid on me; but woe is to me if I don't preach the Good News. 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward. But if not of my own will, I have a stewardship entrusted to me. 18 What then is my reward? That when I preach the Good News, I may present the Good News of Christ without charge, so as not to abuse my authority in the Good News.

19 For though I was free from all, I brought myself under bondage to all, that I might gain the more. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law,* that I might gain those who are under the law; 21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law. 22 To the weak I became as weak, that I might gain the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some. 23 Now I do this for the sake of the Good News, that I may be a joint partaker of it. 24 Don't you know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run like that, so that you may win. 25 Every man who strives in the games exercises self-control in all things. Now they do it to receive a corruptible crown, but we an

✡ **9:9** Deuteronomy 25:4 * **9:20** NU adds: though I myself am not under the law

incorruptible. 26 I therefore
run like that, not aimlessly. I
fight like that, not beating the
air, 27 but I beat my body and
bring it into submission, lest
by any means, after I have
preached to others, I myself
should be disqualified.

10

1 Now I would not have you
ignorant, brothers, that our
fathers were all under the
cloud, and all passed through
the sea; 2 and were all bap-
tized into Moses in the cloud
and in the sea; 3 and all
ate the same spiritual food;
4 and all drank the same spir-
itual drink. For they drank
of a spiritual rock that fol-
lowed them, and the rock
was Christ. 5 However with
most of them, God was not
well pleased, for they were
overthrown in the wilder-
ness.

6 Now these things were
our examples, to the intent
we should not lust after evil
things as they also lusted.
7 Don't be idolaters, as some
of them were. As it is writ-
ten, "The people sat down
to eat and drink, and rose
up to play."✡ 8 Let's not
commit sexual immorality,
as some of them committed,
and in one day twenty-three
thousand fell. 9 Let's not
test Christ,* as some of them
tested, and perished by the
serpents. 10 Don't grumble,
as some of them also grum-
bled, and perished by the
destroyer. 11 Now all these
things happened to them by
way of example, and they
were written for our admoni-
tion, on whom the ends of the
ages have come. 12 Therefore
let him who thinks he stands
be careful that he doesn't fall.

13 No temptation has taken
you except what is common
to man. God is faithful,
who will not allow you to
be tempted above what you
are able, but will with the
temptation also make the
way of escape, that you may
be able to endure it.

14 Therefore, my beloved,
flee from idolatry. 15 I speak
as to wise men. Judge what
I say. 16 The cup of blessing
which we bless, isn't it a shar-
ing of the blood of Christ?
The bread which we break,
isn't it a sharing of the body
of Christ? 17 Because there
is one loaf of bread, we, who
are many, are one body; for
we all partake of the one loaf
of bread. 18 Consider Israel
according to the flesh. Don't
those who eat the sacrifices
participate in the altar?

19 What am I saying then?
That a thing sacrificed to
idols is anything, or that an
idol is anything? 20 But I
say that the things which
the Gentiles sacrifice, they
sacrifice to demons and not
to God, and I don't desire that
you would have fellowship
with demons. 21 You can't
both drink the cup of the
Lord and the cup of demons.
You can't both partake of the
table of the Lord and of the

✡ **10:7** Exodus 32:6 * **10:9** NU reads "the Lord" instead of "Christ".

table of demons. 22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

23 "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are profitable. "All things are lawful for me," but not all things build up. 24 Let no one seek his own, but each one his neighbor's good. 25 Whatever is sold in the butcher shop, eat, asking no question for the sake of conscience, 26 for "the earth is the Lord's, and its fullness."✡ 27 But if one of those who don't believe invites you to a meal, and you are inclined to go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no questions for the sake of conscience. 28 But if anyone says to you, "This was offered to idols," don't eat it for the sake of the one who told you, and for the sake of conscience. For "the earth is the Lord's, with all its fullness." 29 Conscience, I say, not your own, but the other's conscience. For why is my liberty judged by another conscience? 30 If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced for something I give thanks for?

31 Whether therefore you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give no occasion for stumbling, whether to Jews, to Greeks, or to the assembly of God; 33 even as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of the many, that they may be saved.

11

1 Be imitators of me, even as I also am of Christ.

2 Now I praise you, brothers, that you remember me in all things, and hold firm the traditions, even 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 man, and the head‡ of Christ is God. 4 Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonors his head. 5 But every woman praying or prophesying with her head uncovered dishonors her head. For it is one and the same thing as if she were shaved. 6 For if a woman is not covered, let her hair also be cut off. But if it is shameful for a woman to have her hair cut off or be shaved, let her be covered. 7 For a man indeed ought not to have his head covered, because he is the image and glory of God, but the woman is the glory of the man. 8 For man is not from woman, but woman from man; 9 for man wasn't created for the woman, but woman for the man. 10 For this cause the woman ought to have authority over her own head, because of the angels.

11 Nevertheless, neither is the woman independent of the man, nor the man independent of the woman,

✡ **10:26** Psalm 24:1 * **11:3** or, origin † **11:3** or, origin ‡ **11:3** or, origin

in the Lord. 12 For as
woman came from man, so
a man also comes through
a woman; but all things
are from God. 13 Judge for
yourselves. Is it appropriate
that a woman pray to God
unveiled? 14 Doesn't even
nature itself teach you that
if a man has long hair, it is
a dishonor to him? 15 But
if a woman has long hair,
it is a glory to her, for her
hair is given to her for a
covering. 16 But if any man
seems to be contentious, we
have no such custom, neither
do God's assemblies.

17 But in giving you this
command I don't praise you,
because you come together
not for the better but for the
worse. 18 For first of all, when
you come together in the as-
sembly, I hear that divisions
exist among you, and I partly
believe it. 19 For there also
must be factions among you,
that those who are approved
may be revealed among you.
20 When therefore you as-
semble yourselves together,
it is not the Lord's supper that
you eat. 21 For in your eating
each one takes his own sup-
per first. One is hungry, and
another is drunken. 22 What,
don't you have houses to eat
and to drink in? Or do you
despise God's assembly and
put them to shame who don't
have enough? What shall I
tell you? Shall I praise you?
In this I don't praise you.

23 For I received from the
Lord that which also I deliv-
ered to you, that the Lord
Jesus on the night in which
he was betrayed took bread.
24 When he had given thanks,
he broke it and said, **"Take,
eat. This is my body, which
is broken for you. Do this
in memory of me."** 25 In
the same way he also took
the cup after supper, say-
ing, **"This cup is the new
covenant in my blood. Do
this, as often as you drink,
in memory of me."** 26 For
as often as you eat this bread
and drink this cup, you pro-
claim the Lord's death until
he comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats
this bread or drinks the
Lord's cup in a way unworthy
of the Lord will be guilty
of the body and the blood
of the Lord. 28 But let a
man examine himself, and
so let him eat of the bread
and drink of the cup. 29 For
he who eats and drinks in
an unworthy way eats and
drinks judgment to himself
if he doesn't discern the
Lord's body. 30 For this cause
many among you are weak
and sickly, and not a few
sleep. 31 For if we discerned
ourselves, we wouldn't be
judged. 32 But when we are
judged, we are disciplined by
the Lord, that we may not be
condemned with the world.
33 Therefore, my brothers,
when you come together to
eat, wait for one another.
34 But if anyone is hungry,
let him eat at home, lest
your coming together be for
judgment. The rest I will set
in order whenever I come.

12

1 Now concerning spiritual
things, brothers, I don't want
you to be ignorant. 2 You
know that when you were
heathen,* you were led away
to those mute idols, however
you might be led. 3 Therefore
I make known to you that no
man speaking by God's Spirit
says, "Jesus is accursed." No
one can say, "Jesus is Lord,"
but by the Holy Spirit.

4 Now there are various
kinds of gifts, but the same
Spirit. 5 There are various
kinds of service, and the
same Lord. 6 There are
various kinds of workings,
but the same God who works
all things in all. 7 But
to each one is given the
manifestation of the Spirit
for the profit of all. 8 For
to one is given through the
Spirit the word of wisdom,
and to another the word of
knowledge according to the
same Spirit, 9 to another faith
by the same Spirit, and to
another gifts of healings by
the same Spirit, 10 and to an-
other workings of miracles,
and to another prophecy,
and to another discerning of
spirits, to another different
kinds of languages, and to
another the interpretation of
languages. 11 But the one and
the same Spirit produces all
of these, distributing to each
one separately as he desires.

12 For as the body is one
and has many members, and
all the members of the body,
being many, are one body; so
also is Christ. 13 For in one
Spirit we were all baptized
into one body, whether Jews
or Greeks, whether bond or
free; and were all given to
drink into one Spirit.

14 For the body is not one
member, but many. 15 If the
foot would say, "Because I'm
not the hand, I'm not part of
the body," it is not therefore
not part of the body. 16 If the
ear would say, "Because I'm
not the eye, I'm not part of
the body," it's not therefore
not part of the body. 17 If
the whole body were an eye,
where would the hearing be?
If the whole were hearing,
where would the smelling
be? 18 But now God has set
the members, each one of
them, in the body, just as he
desired. 19 If they were all
one member, where would
the body be? 20 But now they
are many members, but one
body. 21 The eye can't tell
the hand, "I have no need
for you," or again the head
to the feet, "I have no need
for you." 22 No, much rather,
those members of the body
which seem to be weaker
are necessary. 23 Those
parts of the body which we
think to be less honorable,
on those we bestow more
abundant honor; and our un-
presentable parts have more
abundant modesty, 24 while
our presentable parts have
no such need. But God
composed the body together,
giving more abundant honor

* **12:2** or Gentiles

to the inferior part, 25 that there should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 When one member suffers, all the members suffer with it. When one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 28 God has set some in the assembly: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracle workers, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, and various kinds of languages. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all miracle workers? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with various languages? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. Moreover, I show a most excellent way to you.

13

1 If I speak with the languages of men and of angels, but don't have love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but don't have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but don't have love, it profits me nothing.

4 Love is patient and is kind. Love doesn't envy. Love doesn't brag, is not proud, 5 doesn't behave itself inappropriately, doesn't seek its own way, is not provoked, takes no account of evil; 6 doesn't rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will be done away with. Where there are various languages, they will cease. Where there is knowledge, it will be done away with. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when that which is complete has come, then that which is partial will be done away with. 11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child. Now that I have become a man, I have put away childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, even as I was also fully known. 13 But now faith, hope, and love remain —these three. The greatest of these is love.

14

1 Follow after love and earnestly desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. 2 For he who speaks in another language speaks not to men, but to God, for no one understands, but in the Spirit he speaks

mysteries. 3 But he who prophesies speaks to men for their edification, exhortation, and consolation. 4 He who speaks in another language edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the assembly. 5 Now I desire to have you all speak with other languages, but even more that you would prophesy. For he is greater who prophesies than he who speaks with other languages, unless he interprets, that the assembly may be built up.

6 But now, brothers,* if I come to you speaking with other languages, what would I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation, or of knowledge, or of prophesying, or of teaching? 7 Even lifeless things that make a sound, whether pipe or harp, if they didn't give a distinction in the sounds, how would it be known what is piped or harped? 8 For if the trumpet gave an uncertain sound, who would prepare himself for war? 9 So also you, unless you uttered by the tongue words easy to understand, how would it be known what is spoken? For you would be speaking into the air. 10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of them is without meaning. 11 If then I don't know the meaning of the language, I would be to him who speaks a foreigner, and he who speaks would be a foreigner to me. 12 So also you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, seek that you may abound to the building up of the assembly.

13 Therefore let him who speaks in another language pray that he may interpret. 14 For if I pray in another language, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What should I do? 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 Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who fills the place of the unlearned say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, seeing he doesn't know what you say? 17 For you most certainly give thanks well, but the other person is not built up. 18 I thank my God, I speak with other languages more than you all. 19 However, in the assembly I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I might instruct others also, than ten thousand words in another language.

20 Brothers, don't be children in thoughts, yet in malice be babies, but in thoughts be mature. 21 In the law it is written, "By men of strange

* **14:6** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

languages and by the lips
of strangers I will speak to
this people. They won't even
listen to me that way, says the
Lord."✡ 22 Therefore other
languages are for a sign,
not to those who believe,
but to the unbelieving; but
prophesying is for a sign,
not to the unbelieving, but
to those who believe. 23 If
therefore the whole assem-
bly is assembled together
and all speak with other
languages, and unlearned or
unbelieving people come in,
won't they say that you are
crazy? 24 But if all prophesy,
and someone unbelieving
or unlearned comes in, he
is reproved by all, and he is
judged by all. 25 And thus
the secrets of his heart are
revealed. So he will fall down
on his face and worship God,
declaring that God is among
you indeed.

26 What is it then, broth-
ers? When you come to-
gether, each one of you has
a psalm, has a teaching, has
a revelation, has another lan-
guage, or has an interpreta-
tion. Let all things be done
to build each other up. 27 If
any man speaks in another
language, let there be two, or
at the most three, and in turn;
and let one interpret. 28 But
if there is no interpreter, let
him keep silent in the assem-
bly, and let him speak to him-
self and to God. 29 Let two or
three of the prophets speak,
and let the others discern.
30 But if a revelation is made
to another sitting by, let the
first keep silent. 31 For you
all can prophesy one by one,
that all may learn and all may
be exhorted. 32 The spirits
of the prophets are subject
to the prophets, 33 for God is
not a God of confusion but of
peace, as in all the assemblies
of the saints. 34 Let the wives
be quiet in the assemblies,
for it has not been permitted
for them to be talking except
in submission, as the law also
says,✡ 35 if they desire to learn
anything. "Let them ask their
own husbands at home, for
it is shameful for a wife to
be talking in the assembly."
36 What!? Was it from you
that the word of God went
out? Or did it come to you
alone?

37 If any man thinks him-
self to be a prophet or spir-
itual, let him recognize the
things which I write to you,
that they are the command-
ment of the Lord. 38 But if
anyone is ignorant, let him be
ignorant.

39 Therefore, brothers,
desire earnestly to prophesy,
and don't forbid speaking
with other languages. 40 Let
all things be done decently
and in order.

15

1 Now I declare to you,
brothers, the Good News
which I preached to you,
which also you received, in
which you also stand, 2 by
which also you are saved,

✡ **14:21** Isaiah 28:11-12 ✡ **14:34** Deuteronomy 27:9

if you hold firmly the word which I preached to you — unless you believed in vain.

3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to over five hundred brothers at once, most of whom remain until now, but some have also fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8 and last of all, as to the child born at the wrong time, he appeared to me also. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, who is not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the assembly of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am. His grace which was given to me was not futile, but I worked more than all of them; yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 11 Whether then it is I or they, so we preach, and so you believed.

12 Now if Christ is preached, that he has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, neither has Christ been raised. 14 If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith also is in vain. 15 Yes, we are also found false witnesses of God, because we testified about God that he raised up Christ, whom he didn't raise up if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead aren't raised, neither has Christ been raised. 17 If Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins. 18 Then they also who are fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most pitiable.

20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead. He became the first fruit of those who are asleep. 21 For since death came by man, the resurrection of the dead also came by man. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then those who are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then the end comes, when he will deliver up the Kingdom to God the Father, when he will have abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death. 27 For, "He put all things in subjection under his feet."✡ But when he says, "All things are put in subjection", it is evident that he is excepted who subjected all things to him. 28 When all things have been subjected to

✡ **15:27** Psalm 8:6

him, then the Son will also himself be subjected to him who subjected all things to him, that God may be all in all.

29 Or else what will they do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead aren't raised at all, why then are they baptized for the dead? 30 Why do we also stand in jeopardy every hour? 31 I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. 32 If I fought with animals at Ephesus for human purposes, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, then "let's eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."✡ 33 Don't be deceived! "Evil companionships corrupt good morals." 34 Wake up righteously and don't sin, for some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

35 But someone will say, "How are the dead raised?" and, "With what kind of body do they come?" 36 You foolish one, that which you yourself sow is not made alive unless it dies. 37 That which you sow, you don't sow the body that will be, but a bare grain, maybe of wheat, or of some other kind. 38 But God gives it a body even as it pleased him, and to each seed a body of its own. 39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds. 40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial differs from that of the terrestrial. 41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown perishable; it is raised imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; 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 also a spiritual body.

45 So also it is written, "The first man Adam became a living soul." ✡ The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, that which is spiritual isn't first, but that which is natural, then that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, made of dust. The second man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As is the one made of dust, such are those who are also made of dust; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 As we have borne the image of those made of dust, let's* also bear the image of the heavenly. 50 Now I say this, brothers,† that flesh and blood can't inherit

✡ **15:32** Isaiah 22:13 ✡ **15:45** Genesis 2:7 * **15:49** NU, TR read "we will" instead of "let's" † **15:50** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

God's Kingdom; neither does the perishable inherit imperishable.

51 Behold,‡ I tell you a mystery. We will not all sleep,
but we will all be changed,
52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed. 53 For this perishable body must become imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 But when this perishable body will have become imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then what is written will happen: "Death is swallowed up in victory."✡

55 "Death, where is your sting?
Hades,§ where is your victory?"✡

56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

16

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I commanded the assemblies of Galatia, you do likewise. 2 On the first day of every week, let each one of you save as he may prosper, that no collections are made when I come. 3 When I arrive, I will send whoever you approve with letters to carry your gracious gift to Jerusalem. 4 If it is appropriate for me to go also, they will go with me.

5 I will come to you when I have passed through Macedonia, for I am passing through Macedonia. 6 But with you it may be that I will stay with you, or even winter with you, that you may send me on my journey wherever I go. 7 For I do not wish to see you now in passing, but I hope to stay a while with you, if the Lord permits. 8 But I will stay at Ephesus until Pentecost, 9 for a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

10 Now if Timothy comes, see that he is with you without fear, for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do. 11 Therefore let no one despise him. But set him forward on his journey in peace, that he may come to me; for I expect him with the brothers.

12 Now concerning Apollos the brother, I strongly urged him to come to you with the brothers, but it was not at all his desire to come now; but

‡ **15:51** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ✡ **15:54** Isaiah 25:8 § **15:55** or, Hell
✡ **15:55** See Hosea 13:14

he will come when he has an opportunity.
13 Watch! Stand firm in the faith! Be courageous! Be strong! 14 Let all that you do be done in love.
15 Now I beg you, brothers —you know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have set themselves to serve the saints— 16 that you also be in subjection to such, and to everyone who helps in the work and labors. 17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus; for that which was lacking on your part, they supplied. 18 For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge those who are like that.
19 The assemblies of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you warmly in the Lord, together with the assembly that is in their house. 20 All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.
21 This greeting is by me, Paul, with my own hand. 22 If any man doesn't love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be cursed.* Come, Lord!† 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. 24 My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

* **16:22** Greek: anathema. † **16:22** Aramaic: Maranatha!

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ* Jesus through the will of God,
and Timothy our brother,
to the assembly of God which is at Corinth,
with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:
2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
4 who comforts us in all our affliction,
that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction,
through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound to us,
even so our comfort also abounds through Christ.
6 But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation.
If we are comforted, it is for your comfort,
which produces in you the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer.
7 Our hope for you is steadfast,
knowing that, since you are partakers of the sufferings, so you are also of the comfort.

8 For we don't desire to have you uninformed, brothers,† concerning our affliction which happened to us in Asia:
that we were weighed down exceedingly, beyond our power, so much that we despaired even of life.
9 Yes, we ourselves have had the sentence of death within ourselves,
that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead,
10 who delivered us out of so great a death, and does deliver,
on whom we have set our hope that he will also still deliver us,
11 you also helping together on our behalf by your supplication;
that, for the gift given to us by means of many, thanks may be given by many persons on your behalf.

12 For our boasting is this:
the testimony of our conscience that in holiness and sincerity of God, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God,
we behaved ourselves in the world, and more abundantly toward you.
13 For we write no other things to you than what you read or even acknowledge,
and I hope you will acknowledge to the end—
14 as also you acknowledged us in part—
that we are your boasting, even as you also are ours,
in the day of our Lord Jesus.

15 In this confidence, I was determined to come first to you,
that you might have a second benefit,
16 and by you to pass into Macedonia,
and again from Macedonia to come to you,
and to be

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".
† **1:8** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

sent forward by you on my journey to Judea. 17 When I therefore planned this, did I show fickleness? Or the things that I plan, do I plan according to the flesh, that with me there should be the "Yes, yes" and the "No, no?" 18 But as God is faithful, our word toward you was not "Yes and no." 19 For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not "Yes and no," but in him is "Yes." 20 For however many are the promises of God, in him is the "Yes." Therefore also through him is the "Amen", to the glory of God through us.

21 Now he who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, 22 who also sealed us and gave us the down payment of the Spirit in our hearts.

23 But I call God for a witness to my soul, that to spare you, I didn't come to Corinth. 24 We don't control your faith, but are fellow workers with you for your joy. For you stand firm in faith.

2

1 But I determined this for myself, that I would not come to you again in sorrow. 2 For if I make you grieve, then who will make me glad but he who is made to grieve by me? 3 And I wrote this very thing to you, so that when I came, I wouldn't have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice; having confidence in you all that my joy would be shared by all of you. 4 For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you with many tears, not that you should be made to grieve, but that you might know the love that I have so abundantly for you.

5 But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in part (that I not press too heavily) to you all. 6 This punishment which was inflicted by the many is sufficient for such a one; 7 so that, on the contrary, you should rather forgive him and comfort him, lest by any means such a one should be swallowed up with his excessive sorrow. 8 Therefore I beg you to confirm your love toward him. 9 For to this end I also wrote, that I might know the proof of you, whether you are obedient in all things. 10 Now I also forgive whomever you forgive anything. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, 11 that no advantage may be gained over us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

12 Now when I came to Troas for the Good News of Christ, and when a door was opened to me in the Lord, 13 I had no relief for my spirit, because I didn't find Titus my brother, but taking my leave of them, I went out into Macedonia.

14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in tri-

umph in Christ, and reveals through us the sweet aroma of his knowledge in every place. 15 For we are a sweet aroma of Christ to God in those who are saved and in those who perish: 16 to the one a stench from death to death, to the other a sweet aroma from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? 17 For we are not as so many, peddling the word of God. But as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God, we speak in Christ.

3

1 Are we beginning again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as do some, letters of commendation to you or from you? 2 You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men, 3 being revealed that you are a letter of Christ, served by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone, but in tablets that are hearts of flesh.

4 Such confidence we have through Christ toward God, 5 not that we are sufficient of ourselves to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God, 6 who also made us sufficient as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

7 But if the service of death, written engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the children of Israel could not look steadfastly on the face of Moses for the glory of his face, which was passing away, 8 won't service of the Spirit be with much more glory? 9 For if the service of condemnation has glory, the service of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. 10 For most certainly that which has been made glorious has not been made glorious in this respect, by reason of the glory that surpasses. 11 For if that which passes away was with glory, much more that which remains is in glory.

12 Having therefore such a hope, we use great boldness of speech, 13 and not as Moses, who put a veil on his face so that the children of Israel wouldn't look steadfastly on the end of that which was passing away. 14 But their minds were hardened, for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains, because in Christ it passes away. 15 But to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. 16 But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face seeing the glory of the Lord as in a mirror, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord, the Spirit.

4

1 Therefore, seeing we
have this ministry, even
as we obtained mercy, we
don't faint. 2 But we have
renounced the hidden things
of shame, not walking in
craftiness nor handling the
word of God deceitfully,
but by the manifestation
of the truth commending
ourselves to every man's
conscience in the sight of
God. 3 Even if our Good
News is veiled, it is veiled
in those who are dying, 4 in
whom the god of this world
has blinded the minds of the
unbelieving, that the light of
the Good News of the glory
of Christ, who is the image
of God, should not dawn
on them. 5 For we don't
preach ourselves, but Christ
Jesus as Lord, and ourselves
as your servants for Jesus'
sake, 6 seeing it is God who
said, "Light will shine out of
darkness,"✡ who has shone
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 trea-
sure in clay vessels, that the
exceeding greatness of the
power may be of God and
not from ourselves. 8 We are
pressed on every side, yet not
crushed; perplexed, yet not
to despair; 9 pursued, yet not
forsaken; struck down, yet
not destroyed; 10 always car-
rying in the body the putting
to death of the Lord Jesus,
that the life of Jesus may
also be revealed in our body.
11 For we who live are always
delivered to death for Jesus'
sake, that the life also of Je-
sus may be revealed in our
mortal flesh. 12 So then death
works in us, but life in you.

13 But having the same
spirit of faith, according
to that which is written, "I
believed, and therefore I
spoke."✡ We also believe,
and therefore we also speak,
14 knowing that he who
raised the Lord Jesus will
raise us also with Jesus,
and will present us with
you. 15 For all things are for
your sakes, that the grace,
being multiplied through
the many, may cause the
thanksgiving to abound to
the glory of God.

16 Therefore we don't faint,
but though our outward per-
son is decaying, yet our in-
ward person is renewed day
by day. 17 For our light af-
fliction, which is for the mo-
ment, works for us more and
more exceedingly an eternal
weight of glory, 18 while we
don't look at the things which
are seen, but at the things
which are not seen. For
the things which are seen
are temporal, but the things
which are not seen are eter-
nal.

5

1 For we know that if the
earthly house of our tent is
dissolved, we have a building
from God, a house not made

✡ **4:6** Genesis 1:3 ✡ **4:13** Psalm 116:10

with hands, eternal, in the heavens. 2 For most certainly in this we groan, longing to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed being clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For indeed we who are in this tent do groan, being burdened, not that we desire to be unclothed, but that we desire to be clothed, that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now he who made us for this very thing is God, who also gave to us the down payment of the Spirit.

6 Therefore we are always confident and know that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord; 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are courageous, I say, and are willing rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. 9 Therefore also we make it our aim, whether at home or absent, to be well pleasing to him. 10 For we must all be revealed before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive the things in the body according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

11 Knowing therefore the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are revealed to God, and I hope that we are revealed also in your consciences. 12 For we are not commending ourselves to you again, but speak as giving you occasion of boasting on our behalf, that you may have something to answer those who boast in appearance and not in heart. 13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God. Or if we are of sober mind, it is for you. 14 For the love of Christ compels us; because we judge thus: that one died for all, therefore all died. 15 He died for all, that those who live should no longer live to themselves, but to him who for their sakes died and rose again.

16 Therefore we know no one according to the flesh from now on. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know him so no more. 17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away. Behold,* all things have become new. 18 But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not reckoning to them their trespasses, and having committed to us the word of reconciliation.

20 We are therefore ambassadors on behalf of Christ, as though God were entreating by us: we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf, so that in him we

* **5:17** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

might become the righteousness of God.

6

1 Working together, we entreat also that you do not receive the grace of God in vain.
2 For he says,

"At an acceptable time I listened to you.
In a day of salvation I helped you."✡

Behold, now is the acceptable time. Behold, now is the day of salvation. 3 We give no occasion of stumbling in anything, that our service may not be blamed, 4 but in everything commending ourselves as servants of God: in great endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses, 5 in beatings, in imprisonments, in riots, in labors, in watchings, in fastings, 6 in pureness, in knowledge, in perseverance, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit, in sincere love, 7 in the word of truth, in the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, 8 by glory and dishonor, 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 punished and not killed, 10 as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing all things.

11 Our mouth is open to you, Corinthians. Our heart is enlarged. 12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. 13 Now in return —I speak as to my children—you also open your hearts.

14 Don't be unequally yoked with unbelievers, for what fellowship do righteousness and iniquity have? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness? 15 What agreement does Christ have with Belial? Or what portion does a believer have with an unbeliever? 16 What agreement does a temple of God have with idols? For you are a temple of the living God. Even as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk in them. I will be their God and they will be my people."✡
17 Therefore

" 'Come out from among them,
and be separate,' says the Lord.
'Touch no unclean thing.
I will receive you.✡
18 I will be to you a Father.
You will be to me sons and daughters,'
says the Lord Almighty."✡

7

1 Having therefore these promises, beloved, let's cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

✡ **6:2** Isaiah 49:8 ✡ **6:16** Leviticus 26:12; Jeremiah 32:38; Ezekiel 37:27 ✡ **6:17** Isaiah 52:11; Ezekiel 20:34,41 ✡ **6:18** 2 Samuel 7:14; 7:8

2 Open your hearts to us.
We wronged no one. We corrupted no one. We took advantage of no one. 3 I say this not to condemn you, for I have said before that you are in our hearts to die together and live together. 4 Great is my boldness of speech toward you. Great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I overflow with joy in all our affliction.

5 For even when we had come into Macedonia, our flesh had no relief, but we were afflicted on every side. Fightings were outside. Fear was inside. 6 Nevertheless, he who comforts the lowly, God, comforted us by the coming of Titus, 7 and not by his coming only, but also by the comfort with which he was comforted in you while he told us of your longing, your mourning, and your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more.

8 For though I grieved you with my letter, I do not regret it, though I did regret it. For I see that my letter made you grieve, though just for a while. 9 I now rejoice, not that you were grieved, but that you were grieved to repentance. For you were grieved in a godly way, that you might suffer loss by us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, which brings no regret. But the sorrow of the world produces death. 11 For behold, this same thing, that you were grieved in a godly way, what earnest care it worked in you. Yes, what defense, indignation, fear, longing, zeal, and vindication! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be pure in the matter. 12 So although I wrote to you, I wrote not for his cause that did the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered the wrong, but that your earnest care for us might be revealed in you in the sight of God. 13 Therefore we have been comforted. In our comfort we rejoiced the more exceedingly for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all. 14 For if in anything I have boasted to him on your behalf, I was not disappointed. But as we spoke all things to you in truth, so our glorying also which I made before Titus was found to be truth. 15 His affection is more abundantly toward you, while he remembers all of your obedience, how with fear and trembling you received him. 16 I rejoice that in everything I am confident concerning you.

8

1 Moreover, brothers, we make known to you the grace of God which has been given in the assemblies of Macedonia, 2 how in a severe ordeal of affliction, the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded to

the riches of their generosity. 3 For according to their power, I testify, yes and beyond their power, they gave of their own accord, 4 begging us with much entreaty to receive this grace and the fellowship in the service to the saints. 5 This was not as we had expected, but first they gave their own selves to the Lord, and to us through the will of God. 6 So we urged Titus, that as he had made a beginning before, so he would also complete in you this grace. 7 But as you abound in everything—in faith, utterance, knowledge, all earnestness, and in your love to us—see that you also abound in this grace.

8 I speak not by way of commandment, but as proving through the earnestness of others the sincerity also of your love. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich. 10 I give advice in this: it is expedient for you who were the first to start a year ago, not only to do, but also to be willing. 11 But now complete the doing also, that as there was the readiness to be willing, so there may be the completion also out of your ability. 12 For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what you have, not according to what you don't have. 13 For this is not that others may be eased and you distressed, 14 but for equality. Your abundance at this present time supplies their lack, that their abundance also may become a supply for your lack, that there may be equality. 15 As it is written, "He who gathered much had nothing left over, and he who gathered little had no lack."✡

16 But thanks be to God, who puts the same earnest care for you into the heart of Titus. 17 For he indeed accepted our exhortation, but being himself very earnest, he went out to you of his own accord. 18 We have sent together with him the brother whose praise in the Good News is known throughout all the assemblies. 19 Not only so, but he was also appointed by the assemblies to travel with us in this grace, which is served by us to the glory of the Lord himself, and to show our readiness. 20 We are avoiding this, that any man should blame us concerning this abundance which is administered by us. 21 Having regard for honorable things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men. 22 We have sent with them our brother whom we have many times proved earnest in many things, but now much more earnest, by reason of the great confidence which he has in you. 23 As for Titus,

✡ **8:15** Exodus 16:18

he is my partner and fellow worker for you. As for our brothers, they are the apostles of the assemblies, the glory of Christ. 24 Therefore show the proof of your love to them before the assemblies, and of our boasting on your behalf.

9

1 It is indeed unnecessary for me to write to you concerning the service to the saints, 2 for I know your readiness, of which I boast on your behalf to those of Macedonia, that Achaia has been prepared for the past year. Your zeal has stirred up very many of them. 3 But I have sent the brothers so that our boasting on your behalf may not be in vain in this respect, that, just as I said, you may be prepared, 4 lest by any means, if anyone from Macedonia comes there with me and finds you unprepared, we (to say nothing of you) would be disappointed in this confident boasting. 5 I thought it necessary therefore to entreat the brothers that they would go before to you and arrange ahead of time the generous gift that you promised before, that the same might be ready as a matter of generosity, and not of greediness.

6 Remember this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Let each man give according as he has determined in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that you, always having all sufficiency in everything, may abound to every good work. 9 As it is written,

> "He has scattered abroad. He has given to the poor.
> His righteousness remains forever."✡

10 Now may he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the fruits of your righteousness, 11 you being enriched in everything for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us. 12 For this service of giving that you perform not only makes up for lack among the saints, but abounds also through much giving of thanks to God, 13 seeing that through the proof given by this service, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the Good News of Christ and for the generosity of your contribution to them and to all, 14 while they themselves also, with supplication on your behalf, yearn for you by reason of the exceeding grace of God in you. 15 Now thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift!

✡ **9:9** Psalm 112:9

10

1 Now I Paul, myself, entreat you by the humility and gentleness of Christ, I who in your presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you. 2 Yes, I beg you that I may not, when present, show courage with the confidence with which I intend to be bold against some, who consider us to be walking according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we don't wage war according to the flesh; 4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the throwing down of strongholds, 5 throwing down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being in readiness to avenge all disobedience when your obedience is made full.

7 Do you look at things only as they appear in front of your face? If anyone trusts in himself that he is Christ's, let him consider this again with himself, that even as he is Christ's, so we also are Christ's. 8 For even if I boast somewhat abundantly concerning our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for casting you down, I will not be ashamed, 9 that I may not seem as if I desire to terrify you by my letters. 10 For, "His letters", they say, "are weighty and strong, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech is despised." 11 Let such a person consider this, that what we are in word by letters when we are absent, such are we also in deed when we are present.

12 For we are not bold to number or compare ourselves with some of those who commend themselves. But they themselves, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves with themselves, are without understanding. 13 But we will not boast beyond proper limits, but within the boundaries with which God appointed to us, which reach even to you. 14 For we don't stretch ourselves too much, as though we didn't reach to you. For we came even as far as to you with the Good News of Christ, 15 not boasting beyond proper limits in other men's labors, but having hope that as your faith grows, we will be abundantly enlarged by you in our sphere of influence, 16 so as to preach the Good News even to the parts beyond you, not to boast in what someone else has already done. 17 But "he who boasts, let him boast in the Lord."✡ 18 For it isn't he who commends himself who is approved, but whom the Lord commends.

11

1 I wish that you would

✡ **10:17** Jeremiah 9:24

bear with me in a little foolishness, but indeed you do bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy. For I promised you in marriage to one husband, that I might present you as a pure virgin to Christ. 3 But I am afraid that somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve in his craftiness, so your minds might be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. 4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we didn't preach, or if you receive a different spirit which you didn't receive, or a different "good news" which you didn't accept, you put up with that well enough. 5 For I reckon that I am not at all behind the very best apostles. 6 But though I am unskilled in speech, yet I am not unskilled in knowledge. No, in every way we have been revealed to you in all things.

7 Or did I commit a sin in humbling myself that you might be exalted, because I preached to you God's Good News free of charge? 8 I robbed other assemblies, taking wages from them that I might serve you. 9 When I was present with you and was in need, I wasn't a burden on anyone, for the brothers, when they came from Macedonia, supplied the measure of my need. In everything I kept myself from being burdensome to you, and I will continue to do so. 10 As the truth of Christ is in me, no one will stop me from this boasting in the regions of Achaia. 11 Why? Because I don't love you? God knows.

12 But what I do, that I will continue to do, that I may cut off opportunity from those who desire an opportunity, that in which they boast, they may be recognized just like us. 13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as Christ's apostles. 14 And no wonder, for even Satan masquerades as an angel of light. 15 It is no great thing therefore if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

16 I say again, let no one think me foolish. But if so, yet receive me as foolish, that I also may boast a little. 17 That which I speak, I don't speak according to the Lord, but as in foolishness, in this confidence of boasting. 18 Seeing that many boast after the flesh, I will also boast. 19 For you bear with the foolish gladly, being wise. 20 For you bear with a man if he brings you into bondage, if he devours you, if he takes you captive, if he exalts himself, or if he strikes you on the face. 21 To my shame, I speak as though we had been weak. Yet in whatever way anyone is bold (I speak in foolishness), I am bold also. 22 Are they Hebrews? So am

I. Are they Israelites? So am
I. Are they the offspring* of
Abraham? So am I. 23 Are
they servants of Christ? (I
speak as one beside himself.)
I am more so: in labors more
abundantly, in prisons more
abundantly, in stripes above
measure, and in deaths often. 24 Five times I received
forty stripes minus one from
the Jews. 25 Three times I
was beaten with rods. Once
I was stoned. Three times I
suffered shipwreck. I have
been a night and a day in
the deep. 26 I have been in
travels often, perils of rivers,
perils of robbers, perils from
my countrymen, perils from
the Gentiles, perils in the city,
perils in the wilderness, perils in the sea, perils among
false brothers; 27 in labor and
travail, in watchings often, in
hunger and thirst, in fastings
often, and in cold and nakedness.

28 Besides those things
that are outside, there is
that which presses on me
daily: anxiety for all the
assemblies. 29 Who is weak,
and I am not weak? Who
is caused to stumble, and I
don't burn with indignation?

30 If I must boast, I will
boast of the things that concern my weakness. 31 The
God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, he who is blessed
forever more, knows that I
don't lie. 32 In Damascus
the governor under King Aretas guarded the Damascenes'
city, desiring to arrest me.
33 I was let down in a basket through a window by the
wall, and escaped his hands.

12

1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast, but
I will come to visions and
revelations of the Lord. 2 I
know a man in Christ who
was caught up into the third
heaven fourteen years ago
—whether in the body, I
don't know, or whether out
of the body, I don't know;
God knows. 3 I know such a
man (whether in the body,
or outside of the body, I
don't know; God knows),
4 how he was caught up
into Paradise and heard
unspeakable words, which
it is not lawful for a man to
utter. 5 On behalf of such a
one I will boast, but on my
own behalf I will not boast,
except in my weaknesses.
6 For if I would desire to
boast, I will not be foolish;
for I will speak the truth.
But I refrain, so that no man
may think more of me than
that which he sees in me or
hears from me. 7 By reason
of the exceeding greatness of
the revelations, that I should
not be exalted excessively, a
thorn in the flesh was given
to me: a messenger of Satan
to torment me, that I should
not be exalted excessively.
8 Concerning this thing, I
begged the Lord three times
that it might depart from
me. 9 He has said to me,
**"My grace is sufficient for
you, for my power is made**

* **11:22** or, seed

perfect in weakness." Most gladly therefore I will rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest on me.
10 Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses, in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions, and in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then am I strong.
11 I have become foolish in boasting. You compelled me, for I ought to have been commended by you, for I am in no way inferior to the very best apostles, though I am nothing. 12 Truly the signs of an apostle were worked among you in all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty works. 13 For what is there in which you were made inferior to the rest of the assemblies, unless it is that I myself was not a burden to you? Forgive me this wrong!
14 Behold, this is the third time I am ready to come to you, and I will not be a burden to you; for I seek not your possessions, but you. For the children ought not to save up for the parents, but the parents for the children. 15 I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you more abundantly, am I loved the less? 16 Even so, I myself didn't burden you. But you might say that being crafty, I caught you with deception. 17 Did I take advantage of you by anyone of those whom I have sent to you? 18 I exhorted Titus, and I sent the brother with him. Did Titus take any advantage of you? Didn't we walk in the same spirit? Didn't we walk in the same steps?
19 Again, do you think that we are excusing ourselves to you? In the sight of God we speak in Christ. But all things, beloved, are for your edifying. 20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come, I might find you not the way I want to, and that I might be found by you as you don't desire, that perhaps there would be strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, factions, slander, whisperings, proud thoughts, or riots, 21 that again when I come my God would humble me before you, and I would mourn for many of those who have sinned before now, and not repented of the uncleanness, sexual immorality, and lustfulness which they committed.

13

1 This is the third time I am coming to you. "At the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established."✡ 2 I have warned previously, and I warn again, as when I was present the second time, so now, being absent, I write to those who have sinned before now and to all the rest that if I come again, I will not spare, 3 seeing that you seek a proof of Christ

✡ **13:1** Deuteronomy 19:15

who speaks in me who is
not weak, but is powerful in
you. 4 For he was crucified
through weakness, yet he
lives through the power of
God. For we also are weak
in him, but we will live with
him through the power of
God toward you.

5 Examine your own selves,
whether you are in the faith.
Test your own selves. Or
don't you know about your
own selves, that Jesus Christ
is in you?—unless indeed you
are disqualified. 6 But I hope
that you will know that we
aren't disqualified.

7 Now I pray to God that
you do no evil; not that we
may appear approved, but
that you may do that which
is honorable, though we may
seem to have failed. 8 For
we can do nothing against
the truth, but for the truth.
9 For we rejoice when we are
weak and you are strong. We
also pray for this: your be-
coming perfect. 10 For this
cause I write these things
while absent, that I may not
deal sharply when present,
according to the authority
which the Lord gave me for
building up and not for tear-
ing down.

11 Finally, brothers, rejoice!
Be perfected. Be comforted.
Be of the same mind. Live
in peace, and the God of love
and peace will be with you.
12 Greet one another with a
holy kiss.

13 All the saints greet you.

14 The grace of the Lord Je-
sus Christ, God's love, and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Galatians

1 Paul, an apostle —not
from men, nor through man,
but through Jesus Christ,*
and God the Father, who
raised him from the dead
— 2 and all the brothers†
who are with me, to the
assemblies of Galatia: 3 Grace
to you and peace from God
the Father and our Lord Jesus
Christ, 4 who gave himself
for our sins, that he might
deliver us out of this present
evil age, according to the will
of our God and Father— 5 to
whom be the glory forever
and ever. Amen.

6 I marvel that you are so
quickly deserting him who
called you in the grace of
Christ to a different "good
news", 7 but there isn't an-
other "good news." Only
there are some who trouble
you and want to pervert the
Good News of Christ. 8 But
even though we, or an angel
from heaven, should preach
to you any "good news" other
than that which we preached
to you, let him be cursed.
9 As we have said before,
so I now say again: if any
man preaches to you any
"good news" other than that
which you received, let him
be cursed.

10 For am I now seeking the
favor of men, or of God? Or
am I striving to please men?
For if I were still pleasing
men, I wouldn't be a servant
of Christ.

11 But I make known to
you, brothers, concerning
the Good News which was
preached by me, that it
is not according to man.
12 For I didn't receive it from
man, nor was I taught it,
but it came to me through
revelation of Jesus Christ.
13 For you have heard of
my way of living in time
past in the Jews' religion,
how that beyond measure
I persecuted the assembly
of God and ravaged it. 14 I
advanced in the Jews' reli-
gion beyond many of my own
age among my countrymen,
being more exceedingly
zealous for the traditions
of my fathers. 15 But when
it was the good pleasure
of God, who separated me
from my mother's womb
and called me through his
grace, 16 to reveal his Son
in me, that I might preach
him among the Gentiles, I
didn't immediately confer
with flesh and blood, 17 nor
did I go up to Jerusalem to
those who were apostles
before me, but I went away
into Arabia. Then I returned
to Damascus.

18 Then after three years
I went up to Jerusalem to
visit Peter, and stayed with
him fifteen days. 19 But of
the other apostles I saw no

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

one except James, the Lord's brother. 20 Now about the things which I write to you, behold,‡ before God, I'm not lying. 21 Then I came to the regions of Syria and Cilicia. 22 I was still unknown by face to the assemblies of Judea which were in Christ, 23 but they only heard, "He who once persecuted us now preaches the faith that he once tried to destroy." 24 So they glorified God in me.

2

1 Then after a period of fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus also with me. 2 I went up by revelation, and I laid before them the Good News which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately before those who were respected, for fear that I might be running, or had run, in vain. 3 But not even Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. 4 This was because of the false brothers secretly brought in, who stole in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage, 5 to whom we gave no place in the way of subjection, not for an hour, that the truth of the Good News might continue with you. 6 But from those who were reputed to be important —whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God doesn't show partiality to man —they, I say, who were respected imparted nothing to me, 7 but to the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the Good News for the uncircumcised, even as Peter with the Good News for the circumcised — 8 for he who worked through Peter in the apostleship with the circumcised also worked through me with the Gentiles — 9 and when they perceived the grace that was given to me, James and Cephas and John, those who were reputed to be pillars, gave to Barnabas and me the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the circumcision. 10 They only asked us to remember the poor —which very thing I was also zealous to do.

11 But when Peter came to Antioch, I resisted him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before some people came from James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when they came, he drew back and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. 13 And the rest of the Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. 14 But when I saw that they didn't walk uprightly according to the truth of the Good News, I said to Peter before them all, "If you,

‡ **1:20** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

being a Jew, live as the Gentiles do, and not as the Jews do, why do you compel the Gentiles to live as the Jews do?
15 “We, being Jews by nature and not Gentile sinners, 16 yet knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because no flesh will be justified by the works of the law. 17 But if while we sought to be justified in Christ, we ourselves also were found sinners, is Christ a servant of sin? Certainly not! 18 For if I build up again those things which I destroyed, I prove myself a law-breaker. 19 For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. That life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me. 21 I don’t reject the grace of God. For if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nothing!”

3

1 Foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you not to obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly portrayed among you as crucified? 2 I just want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by hearing of faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now completed in the flesh? 4 Did you suffer so many things in vain, if it is indeed in vain? 5 He therefore who supplies the Spirit to you and does miracles among you, does he do it by the works of the law, or by hearing of faith? 6 Even so, Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness.”✡ 7 Know therefore that those who are of faith are children of Abraham. 8 The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Good News beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you all the nations will be blessed.”✡ 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed with the faithful Abraham.

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written, “Cursed is everyone who doesn’t continue in all things that are written in the book of the law, to do them.”✡ 11 Now that no man is justified by the law before God is evident, for, “The righteous will live by faith.”✡ 12 The law is not of faith, but, “The man who does them will live by them.”✡

13 Christ redeemed us from

✡ **3:6** Genesis 15:6 ✡ **3:8** Genesis 12:3; 18:18; 22:18 ✡ **3:10** Deuteronomy 27:26 ✡ **3:11** Habakkuk 2:4 ✡ **3:12** Leviticus 18:5

the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. For it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,"✡ 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

15 Brothers, speaking of human terms, though it is only a man's covenant, yet when it has been confirmed, no one makes it void or adds to it. 16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his offspring.* He doesn't say, "To descendants†", as of many, but as of one, "To your offspring",✡ which is Christ. 17 Now I say this: A covenant confirmed beforehand by God in Christ, the law, which came four hundred thirty years after, does not annul, so as to make the promise of no effect. 18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no more of promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by promise.

19 Then why is there the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise has been made. It was ordained through angels by the hand of a mediator. 20 Now a mediator is not between one, but God is one.

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could make alive, most certainly righteousness would have been of the law. 22 But the Scripture imprisoned all things under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, confined for the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 So that the law has become our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. 26 For you are all children of God, through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring and heirs according to promise.

4

1 But I say that so long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a bondservant, though he is lord of all, 2 but is under guardians and stewards until the day appointed by the father. 3 So we also, when we were children, were held in bondage

✡ **3:13** Deuteronomy 21:23 * **3:16** or, seed † **3:16** or, seeds ✡ **3:16** Genesis 12:7; 13:15; 24:7

under the elemental principles of the world. 4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent out his Son, born to a woman, born under the law, 5 that he might redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as children. 6 And because you are children, God sent out the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, "Abba,* Father!" 7 So you are no longer a bondservant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

8 However at that time, not knowing God, you were in bondage to those who by nature are not gods. 9 But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, why do you turn back again to the weak and miserable elemental principles, to which you desire to be in bondage all over again? 10 You observe days, months, seasons, and years. 11 I am afraid for you, that I might have wasted my labor for you.

12 I beg you, brothers, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong, 13 but you know that because of weakness in the flesh I preached the Good News to you the first time. 14 That which was a temptation to you in my flesh, you didn't despise nor reject; but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

15 What was the blessing you enjoyed? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have plucked out your eyes and given them to me. 16 So then, have I become your enemy by telling you the truth? 17 They zealously seek you in no good way. No, they desire to alienate you, that you may seek them. 18 But it is always good to be zealous in a good cause, and not only when I am present with you.

19 My little children, of whom I am again in travail until Christ is formed in you — 20 but I could wish to be present with you now, and to change my tone, for I am perplexed about you.

21 Tell me, you that desire to be under the law, don't you listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the servant, and one by the free woman. 23 However, the son by the servant was born according to the flesh, but the son by the free woman was born through promise. 24 These things contain an allegory, for these are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children to bondage, which is Hagar. 25 For this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and answers to the Jerusalem that exists now, for she is in bondage with her children. 26 But the

* **4:6** Abba is a Greek spelling for the Aramaic word for "Father" or "Daddy" used in a familiar, respectful, and loving way.

Jerusalem that is above is free, which is the mother of us all. 27 For it is written,

"Rejoice, you barren who don't bear.
Break out and shout, you who don't travail.
For the desolate women have more children than her who has a husband." ✡

28 Now we, brothers, as Isaac was, are children of promise. 29 But as then, he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. 30 However, what does the Scripture say? "Throw out the servant and her son, for the son of the servant will not inherit with the son of the free woman."✡ 31 So then, brothers, we are not children of a servant, but of the free woman.

5

1 Stand firm therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and don't be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

2 Behold, I, Paul, tell you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will profit you nothing. 3 Yes, I testify again to every man who receives circumcision that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 You are alienated from Christ, you who desire to be justified by the law. You have fallen away from grace. 5 For we through the Spirit, by faith wait for the hope of righteousness. 6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision amounts to anything, but faith working through love.

7 You were running well! Who interfered with you that you should not obey the truth? 8 This persuasion is not from him who calls you. 9 A little yeast grows through the whole lump. 10 I have confidence toward you in the Lord that you will think no other way. But he who troubles you will bear his judgment, whoever he is.

11 But I, brothers, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? Then the stumbling block of the cross has been removed. 12 I wish that those who disturb you would cut themselves off.

13 For you, brothers, were called for freedom. Only don't use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love be servants to one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."✡ 15 But if you bite and devour one another, be careful that you don't consume one another.

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you won't fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, that

✡ **4:27** Isaiah 54:1 ✡ **4:30** Genesis 21:10 ✡ **5:14** Leviticus 19:18

you may not do the things that you desire. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are obvious, which are: adultery, sexual immorality, uncleanness, lustfulness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousies, outbursts of anger, rivalries, divisions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these; of which I forewarn you, even as I also forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's Kingdom.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith,* 23 gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts.

25 If we live by the Spirit, let's also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let's not become conceited, provoking one another, and envying one another.

6

1 Brothers, even if a man is caught in some fault, you who are spiritual must restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, looking to yourself so that you also aren't tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if a man thinks himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 But let each man examine his own work, and then he will have reason to boast in himself, and not in someone else. 5 For each man will bear his own burden.

6 But let him who is taught in the word share all good things with him who teaches.

7 Don't be deceived. God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption. But he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9 Let's not be weary in doing good, for we will reap in due season if we don't give up. 10 So then, as we have opportunity, let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith.

11 See with what large letters I write to you with my own hand. 12 As many as desire to make a good impression in the flesh compel you to be circumcised, just so they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. 13 For even they who receive circumcision don't keep the law themselves, but they desire to have you circumcised, so that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For

* **5:22** or, faithfulness

in Christ Jesus neither is circumcision anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. 16 As many as walk by this rule, peace and mercy be on them, and on God's Israel.

17 From now on, let no one cause me any trouble, for I bear the marks of the Lord Jesus branded on my body.

18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ* Jesus through the will of God, to the saints who are at Ephesus, and the faithful in Christ Jesus: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and without defect before him in love, 5 having predestined us for adoption as children through Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his desire, 6 to the praise of the glory of his grace, by which he freely gave us favor in the Beloved. 7 In him we have our redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 which he made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in him 10 to an administration of the fullness of the times, to sum up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in him. 11 We were also assigned an inheritance in him, having been foreordained according to the purpose of him who does all things after the counsel of his will, 12 to the end that we should be to the praise of his glory, we who had before hoped in Christ. 13 In him you also, having heard the word of the truth, the Good News of your salvation—in whom, having also believed, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a pledge of our inheritance, to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of his glory.

15 For this cause I also, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which is among you and the love which you have toward all the saints, 16 don't cease 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 to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts† enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of his calling, and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to that working of the strength of his

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

† **1:18** TR reads "understanding" instead of "hearts"

might 20 which he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule, authority, power, dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come. 22 He put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things for the assembly, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

2

1 You were made alive when you were dead in transgressions and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the children of disobedience. 3 We also all once lived among them in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ —by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him, and made us to sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus; 8 for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, that no one would boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before that we would walk in them.

11 Therefore remember that once you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called "uncircumcision" by that which is called "circumcision" (in the flesh, made by hands), 12 that you were at that time separate from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of the promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off are made near in the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who made both one, and broke down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in his flesh the hostility, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man of the two, making peace, 16 and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, having killed the hostility through it. 17 He came and preached peace to you who were far off and to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but you are fellow citizens

with the saints and of the household of God, 20 being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone; 21 in whom the whole building, fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit.

3

1 For this cause I, Paul, am the prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles, 2 if it is so that you have heard of the administration of that grace of God which was given me toward you, 3 how that by revelation the mystery was made known to me, as I wrote before in few words, 4 by which, when you read, you can perceive my understanding in the mystery of Christ, 5 which in other generations was not made known to the children of men, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit, 6 that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of his promise in Christ Jesus through the Good News, 7 of which I was made a servant according to the gift of that grace of God which was given me according to the working of his power. 8 To me, the very least of all saints, was this grace given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all men see what is the administration* of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things through Jesus Christ, 10 to the intent that now through the assembly the manifold wisdom of God might be made known to the principalities and the powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 In him we have boldness and access in confidence through our faith in him. 13 Therefore I ask that you may not lose heart at my troubles for you, which are your glory.

14 For this cause, I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, that you may be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inner person, 17 that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, to the end that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be strengthened to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and height and depth, 19 and to know Christ's love which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all

* **3:9** TR reads "fellowship" instead of "administration"

the fullness of God.
20 Now to him who is able to
do exceedingly abundantly
above all that we ask or think,
according to the power that
works in us, 21 to him be
the glory in the assembly and
in Christ Jesus to all gen-
erations, forever and ever.
Amen.

4

1 I therefore, the prisoner
in the Lord, beg you to walk
worthily of the calling with
which you were called, 2 with
all lowliness and humility,
with patience, bearing with
one another in love, 3 being
eager to keep the unity of the
Spirit in the bond of peace.
4 There is one body and one
Spirit, even as you also were
called in one hope of your
calling, 5 one Lord, one faith,
one baptism, 6 one God and
Father of all, who is over all
and through all and in us all.
7 But to each one of us, the
grace was given according to
the measure of the gift of
Christ. 8 Therefore he says,

"When he ascended on high,
he led captivity captive,
and gave gifts to peo-
ple."✡

9 Now this, "He ascended",
what is it but that he also first
descended into the lower
parts of the earth? 10 He who
descended is the one who
also ascended far above all
the heavens, that he might
fill all things.

11 He gave some to be apos-
tles; and some, prophets; and
some, evangelists; and some,
shepherds* and teachers;
12 for the perfecting of the
saints, to the work of serving,
to the building up of the
body of Christ, 13 until we
all attain to the unity of the
faith and of the knowledge
of the Son of God, to a full
grown man, to the measure
of the stature of the fullness
of Christ, 14 that we may no
longer be children, tossed
back and forth and carried
about with every wind of
doctrine, by the trickery
of men, in craftiness, after
the wiles of error; 15 but
speaking truth in love, we
may grow up in all things into
him who is the head, Christ,
16 from whom all the body,
being fitted and knit together
through that which every
joint supplies, according to
the working in measure of
each individual part, makes
the body increase to the
building up of itself in love.

17 This I say therefore, and
testify in the Lord, that you
no longer walk as the rest
of the Gentiles also walk,
in the futility of their mind,
18 being darkened in their
understanding, alienated
from the life of God because
of the ignorance that is in
them, because of the hard-
ening of their hearts. 19 They,
having become callous, gave
themselves up to lust, to
work all uncleanness with
greediness. 20 But you didn't
learn Christ that way, 21 if

✡ **4:8** Psalm 68:18 * **4:11** or, pastors

indeed you heard him and were taught in him, even as truth is in Jesus: 22 that you put away, as concerning your former way of life, the old man that grows corrupt after the lusts of deceit, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new man, who in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of truth.

25 Therefore, putting away falsehood, speak truth each one with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. 26 "Be angry, and don't sin."✡ Don't let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 and don't give place† to the devil. 28 Let him who stole steal no more; but rather let him labor, producing with his hands something that is good, that he may have something to give to him who has need. 29 Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but only what is good for building others up as the need may be, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30 Don't grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, outcry, and slander be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving each other, just as God also in Christ forgave you.

5

1 Be therefore imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 Walk in love, even as Christ also loved us and gave himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling fragrance.

3 But sexual immorality, and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be mentioned among you, as becomes saints; 4 nor filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not appropriate, but rather giving of thanks.

5 Know this for sure, that no sexually immoral person, nor unclean person, nor covetous man (who is an idolater), has any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and God.

6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes on the children of disobedience. 7 Therefore don't be partakers with them. 8 For you were once darkness, but are now 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 well pleasing to the Lord. 11 Have no fellowship with the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but rather even reprove them. 12 For it is a shame even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. 13 But all things, when they are

✡ **4:26** Psalm 4:4 † **4:27** or, opportunity

reproved, are revealed by the light, for everything that reveals is light. 14 Therefore he says, “Awake, you who sleep, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

15 Therefore watch carefully how you walk, not as unwise, but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore, don’t be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 Don’t be drunken with wine, in which is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 20 giving thanks always concerning all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; 21 subjecting yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the assembly, being himself the savior of the body. 24 But as the assembly is subject to Christ, so let the wives also be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the assembly and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that he might present the assembly to himself gloriously, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without defect. 28 Even so husbands also ought to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself. 29 For no man ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, even as the Lord also does the assembly, 30 because we are members of his body, of his flesh and bones. 31 “For this cause a man will leave his father and mother and will be joined to his wife. Then the two will become one flesh.”✡ 32 This mystery is great, but I speak concerning Christ and the assembly. 33 Nevertheless each of you must also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

6

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with a promise: 3 “that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.” ✡

4 You fathers, don’t provoke your children to wrath, but nurture them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

5 Servants, be obedient to those who according to the flesh are your masters, with

✡ **5:31** Genesis 2:24 ✡ **6:3** Deuteronomy 5:16

fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as to
Christ, 6 not in the way of service only when eyes are on
you, as men pleasers, but as
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 whatever good thing each one
does, he will receive the same
good again from the Lord,
whether he is bound or free.
9 You masters, do the same
things to them, and give up
threatening, knowing that he
who is both their Master and
yours is in heaven, and there
is no partiality with him.
10 Finally, be strong in the
Lord and in the strength
of his might. 11 Put on the
whole armor of God, that
you may be able to stand
against the wiles of the devil.
12 For our wrestling is not
against flesh and blood, but
against the principalities,
against the powers, against
the world's rulers of the
darkness of this age, and
against the spiritual forces of
wickedness in the heavenly
places. 13 Therefore put on
the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to
withstand in the evil day,
and having done all, to
stand. 14 Stand therefore,
having the utility belt of
truth buckled around your
waist, and having put on the
breastplate of righteousness,
15 and having fitted your feet
with the preparation of the
Good News of peace, 16 above
all, taking up the shield of
faith, with which you will
be able to quench all the
fiery darts of the evil one.
17 And take the helmet of
salvation, and the sword of
the Spirit, which is the word*
of God; 18 with all prayer
and requests, praying at all
times in the Spirit, and being
watchful to this end in all
perseverance and requests
for all the saints. 19 Pray for
me, that utterance may be
given to me in opening my
mouth, to make known with
boldness the mystery of the
Good News, 20 for which I
am an ambassador in chains;
that in it I may speak boldly,
as I ought to speak.
21 But that you also may
know my affairs, how I am
doing, Tychicus, the beloved
brother and faithful servant
in the Lord, will make known
to you all things. 22 I have
sent him to you for this very
purpose, that you may know
our state and that he may
comfort your hearts.
23 Peace be to the brothers,
and love with faith, from God
the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ. 24 Grace be with all
those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible
love. Amen.

* **6:17** from the Greek "ῥῆμα" (rhema), which means "spoken word"

Paul's Letter to the Philippians

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ,* to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers† and servants:‡ 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God whenever I remember you, 4 always in every request of mine on behalf of you all, making my requests with joy, 5 for your partnership§ in furtherance of the Good News from the first day until now; 6 being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is even right for me to think this way on behalf of all of you, because I have you in my heart, because both in my bonds and in the defense and confirmation of the Good News, you all are partakers with me of grace. 8 For God is my witness, how I long after all of you in the tender mercies of Christ Jesus.

9 This I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense to the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

12 Now I desire to have you know, brothers,* that the things which happened to me have turned out rather to the progress of the Good News, 13 so that it became evident to the whole palace† guard, and to all the rest, that my bonds are in Christ, 14 and that most of the brothers in the Lord, being confident through my bonds, are more abundantly bold to speak the word of God without fear. 15 Some indeed preach Christ even out of envy and strife, and some also out of good will. 16 The former insincerely preach Christ from selfish ambition, thinking that they add affliction to my chains; 17 but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the Good News.

18 What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed. I rejoice in this, yes, and will rejoice. 19 For I know that this will turn out to my salvation through your prayers and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, 20 according to

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:1** or, superintendents, or bishops ‡ **1:1** Or, deacons § **1:5** The word translated "partnership" (κοινωνίᾳ) also means "fellowship" and "sharing". * **1:12** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." † **1:13** or, praetorian

my earnest expectation and
hope, that I will in no way
be disappointed, but with all
boldness, as always, now also
Christ will be magnified in
my body, whether by life or
by death. 21 For to me to live
is Christ, and to die is gain.
22 But if I live on in the flesh,
this will bring fruit from my
work; yet I don't know what I
will choose. 23 But I am hard
pressed between the two,
having the desire to depart
and be with Christ, which is
far better. 24 Yet to remain
in the flesh is more needful
for your sake. 25 Having this
confidence, I know that I will
remain, yes, and remain with
you all for your progress and
joy in the faith, 26 that your
boasting‡ may abound in
Christ Jesus in me through
my presence with you again.

27 Only let your way of
life be worthy of the Good
News of Christ, that whether
I come and see you or am
absent, I may hear of your
state, that you stand firm
in one spirit, with one soul
striving for the faith of the
Good News; 28 and in noth-
ing frightened by the adver-
saries, which is for them a
proof of destruction, but to
you of salvation, and that
from God. 29 Because it has
been granted to you on be-
half of Christ, not only to be-
lieve in him, but also to suffer
on his behalf, 30 having the
same conflict which you saw
in me and now hear is in me.

‡ **1:26** or, rejoicing

2

1 If therefore there is any
exhortation in Christ, if any
consolation of love, if any fel-
lowship of the Spirit, if any
tender mercies and compas-
sion, 2 make my joy full by be-
ing like-minded, having the
same love, being of one ac-
cord, of one mind; 3 doing
nothing through rivalry or
through conceit, but in hu-
mility, each counting others
better than himself; 4 each
of you not just looking to his
own things, but each of you
also to the things of others.

5 Have this in your mind,
which was also in Christ
Jesus, 6 who, existing in the
form of God, didn't consider
equality with God a thing to
be grasped, 7 but emptied
himself, taking the form of
a servant, being made in the
likeness of men. 8 And being
found in human form, he
humbled himself, becoming
obedient to the point of
death, yes, the death of the
cross. 9 Therefore God also
highly exalted him, and gave
to him the name which is
above every name, 10 that
at the name of Jesus every
knee should bow, of those in
heaven, those on earth, and
those under the earth, 11 and
that every tongue should
confess that Jesus Christ is
Lord, to the glory of God the
Father.

12 So then, my beloved,
even as you have always
obeyed, not only in my

presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

14 Do all things without complaining and arguing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without defect in the middle of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you are seen as lights in the world, 16 holding up the word of life, that I may have something to boast in the day of Christ that I didn't run in vain nor labor in vain. 17 Yes, and if I am poured out on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 In the same way, you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

19 But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered up when I know how you are doing. 20 For I have no one else like-minded, who will truly care about you. 21 For they all seek their own, not the things of Jesus Christ. 22 But you know that he has proved himself. As a child serves a father, so he served with me in furtherance of the Good News. 23 Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it will go with me. 24 But I trust in the Lord that I myself also will come shortly.

25 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, fellow soldier, and your apostle and servant of my need, 26 since he longed for you all, and was very troubled because you had heard that he was sick. 27 For indeed he was sick nearly to death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only, but on me also, that I might not have sorrow on sorrow. 28 I have sent him therefore the more diligently, that when you see him again, you may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful. 29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all joy, and hold such people in honor, 30 because for the work of Christ he came near to death, risking his life to supply that which was lacking in your service toward me.

3

1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not tiresome, but for you it is safe.

2 Beware of the dogs; beware of the evil workers; beware of the false circumcision. 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh; 4 though I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If any other man thinks that he has confidence in the flesh, I yet more: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin,

a Hebrew of Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, found blameless.

7 However, I consider those things that were gain to me as a loss for Christ. 8 Yes most certainly, and I count all things to be a loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and count them nothing but refuse, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith, 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed to his death, 11 if by any means I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect; but I press on, that I may take hold of that for which also I was taken hold of by Christ Jesus.

13 Brothers, I don't regard myself as yet having taken hold, but one thing I do: forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, think this way. If in anything you think otherwise, God will also reveal that to you. 16 Nevertheless, to the extent that we have already attained, let's walk by the same rule. Let's be of the same mind.

17 Brothers, be imitators together of me, and note those who walk this way, even as you have us for an example. 18 For many walk, of whom I told you often, and now tell you even weeping, as the enemies of the cross of Christ, 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is the belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who think about earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from where we also wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will change the body of our humiliation to be conformed to the body of his glory, according to the working by which he is able even to subject all things to himself.

4

1 Therefore, my brothers, beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

2 I exhort Euodia, and I exhort Syntyche, to think the same way in the Lord. 3 Yes, I beg you also, true partner, help these women, for they labored with me in the Good News with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers,

whose names are in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say, "Rejoice!" 5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report: if there is any virtue and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 Do the things which you learned, received, heard, and saw in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

10 But I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your thought for me; in which you did indeed take thought, but you lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak because of lack, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content in it. 12 I know how to be humbled, and I also know how to abound. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. 14 However you did well that you shared in my affliction. 15 You yourselves also know, you Philippians, that in the beginning of the Good News, when I departed from Macedonia, no assembly shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you only. 16 For even in Thessalonica you sent once and again to my need. 17 Not that I seek for the gift, but I seek for the fruit that increases to your account. 18 But I have all things and abound. I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things that came from you, a sweet-smelling fragrance, an acceptable and well-pleasing sacrifice to God. 19 My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. 22 All the saints greet you, especially those who are of Caesar's household.

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Paul's Letter to the Colossians

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ* Jesus through the will of God,
and Timothy our brother, 2 to
the saints and faithful brothers† in Christ at Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from
God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We give thanks to God
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for
you, 4 having heard of your
faith in Christ Jesus and of
the love which you have toward all the saints, 5 because
of the hope which is laid up
for you in the heavens, of
which you heard before in
the word of the truth of the
Good News 6 which has come
to you, even as it is in all
the world and is bearing fruit
and growing, as it does in you
also, since the day you heard
and knew the grace of God in
truth, 7 even as you learned
from Epaphras our beloved
fellow servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on your‡
behalf, 8 who also declared to
us your love in the Spirit.

9 For this cause, we also,
since the day we heard
this, don't cease praying
and making requests for
you, that you may be filled
with the knowledge of his
will in all spiritual wisdom
and understanding, 10 that
you may walk worthily of
the Lord, to please him in
all respects, bearing fruit
in every good work and
increasing in the knowledge
of God, 11 strengthened with
all power, according to the
might of his glory, for all
endurance and perseverance
with joy, 12 giving thanks
to the Father, who made
us fit to be partakers of the
inheritance of the saints
in light, 13 who delivered
us out of the power of
darkness, and translated us
into the Kingdom of the Son
of his love, 14 in whom we
have our redemption,§ the
forgiveness of our sins.

15 He is the image of the
invisible God, the firstborn of
all creation. 16 For by him
all things were created in the
heavens and on the earth,
visible things and invisible
things, whether thrones or
dominions or principalities
or powers. All things have
been created through him
and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him
all things are held together.
18 He is the head of the body,
the assembly, who is the beginning, the firstborn from
the dead, that in all things
he might have the preeminence. 19 For all the fullness was pleased to dwell in
him, 20 and through him to
reconcile all things to him-

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **1:7** NU reads our § **1:14** TR adds "through his blood,"

self by him, whether things on the earth or things in the heavens, having made peace through the blood of his cross.

21 You, being in past times alienated and enemies in your mind in your evil deeds, 22 yet now he has reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and without defect and blameless before him, 23 if it is so that you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the Good News which you heard, which is being proclaimed in all creation under heaven, of which I, Paul, was made a servant.

24 Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and fill up on my part that which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the assembly, 25 of which I was made a servant according to the stewardship of God which was given me toward you to fulfill the word of God, 26 the mystery which has been hidden for ages and generations. But now it has been revealed to his saints, 27 to whom God was pleased to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28 We proclaim him, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus; 29 for which I also labor, striving according to his working, which works in me mightily.

2

1 For I desire to have you know how greatly I struggle for you and for those at Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh; 2 that their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love, and gaining all riches of the full assurance of understanding, that they may know the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, 3 in whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden. 4 Now I say this that no one may delude you with persuasiveness of speech. 5 For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in the spirit, rejoicing and seeing your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.

6 As therefore you received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, even as you were taught, abounding in it in thanksgiving.

8 Be careful that you don't let anyone rob you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the elemental spirits of the world, and not after Christ. 9 For in him all the fullness of the Deity dwells bodily, 10 and in him

you are made full, who is
the head of all principality
and power. 11 In him you
were also circumcised with a
circumcision not made with
hands, in the putting off of
the body of the sins of the
flesh, in the circumcision
of Christ, 12 having been
buried with him in baptism,
in which you were also raised
with him through faith in
the working of God, who
raised him from the dead.
13 You were dead through
your trespasses and the
uncircumcision of your flesh.
He made you alive together
with him, having forgiven us
all our trespasses, 14 wiping
out the handwriting in or-
dinances which was against
us. He has taken it out of
the way, nailing it to the
cross. 15 Having stripped
the principalities and the
powers, he made a show
of them openly, triumphing
over them in it.

16 Let no one therefore
judge you in eating or
drinking, or with respect to
a feast day or a new moon
or a Sabbath day, 17 which
are a shadow of the things to
come; but the body is Christ's.
18 Let no one rob you of your
prize by self-abasement and
worshiping of the angels,
dwelling in the things which
he has not seen, vainly puffed
up by his fleshly mind, 19 and
not holding firmly to the
Head, from whom all the
body, being supplied and
knit together through the
joints and ligaments, grows
with God's growth.

20 If you died with Christ
from the elemental spirits of
the world, why, as though
living in the world, do
you subject yourselves to
ordinances, 21 "Don't handle,
nor taste, nor touch" 22 (all
of which perish with use),
according to the precepts and
doctrines of men? 23 These
things indeed appear like
wisdom in self-imposed wor-
ship, humility, and severity
to the body, but aren't of any
value against the indulgence
of the flesh.

3

1 If then you were raised
together with Christ, seek the
things that are above, where
Christ is, seated on the right
hand of God. 2 Set your mind
on the things that are above,
not on the things that are on
the earth. 3 For you died, and
your life is hidden with Christ
in God. 4 When Christ, our
life, is revealed, then you will
also be revealed with him in
glory.

5 Put to death therefore
your members which are on
the earth: sexual immoral-
ity, uncleanness, depraved
passion, evil desire, and cov-
etousness, which is idolatry.
6 For these things' sake the
wrath of God comes on the
children of disobedience.
7 You also once walked in
those, when you lived in
them, 8 but now you must
put them all away: anger,
wrath, malice, slander, and

shameful speaking out of your mouth. 9 Don't lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old man with his doings, 10 and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge after the image of his Creator, 11 where there can't be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondservant, or free person; but Christ is all, and in all.

12 Put on therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, humility, and perseverance; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, if any man has a complaint against any; even as Christ forgave you, so you also do.

14 Above all these things, walk in love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body, and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.

17 Whatever you do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

18 Wives, be in subjection to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

19 Husbands, love your wives, and don't be bitter against them.

20 Children, obey your parents in all things, for this pleases the Lord.

21 Fathers, don't provoke your children, so that they won't be discouraged.

22 Servants, obey in all things those who are your masters according to the flesh, not just when they are looking, as men pleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing God. 23 And whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he who does wrong will receive again for the wrong that he has done, and there is no partiality.

4

1 Masters, give to your servants that which is just and equal, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving, 3 praying together for us also, that God may open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds, 4 that I may reveal it as I ought to speak.

5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you

may know how you ought to answer each one.

7 All my affairs will be made known to you by Tychicus, the beloved brother, faithful servant, and fellow bondservant in the Lord. 8 I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts, 9 together with Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you everything that is going on here.

10 Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner, greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you received instructions, "if he comes to you, receive him"), 11 and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for God's Kingdom who are of the circumcision, men who have been a comfort to me.

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, salutes you, always striving for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. 13 For I testify about him that he has great zeal for you, and for those in Laodicea, and for those in Hierapolis. 14 Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you. 15 Greet the brothers who are in Laodicea, with Nymphas and the assembly that is in his house. 16 When this letter has been read among you, cause it to be read also in the assembly of the Laodiceans, and that you also read the letter from Laodicea. 17 Tell Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you fulfill it."

18 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my chains. Grace be with you. Amen.

Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the assembly of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:* Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 We always give thanks to God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers, 3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith and labor of love and perseverance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father. 4 We know, brothers† loved by God, that you are chosen, 5 and that our Good News came to you not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and with much assurance. You know what kind of men we showed ourselves to be among you for your sake. 6 You became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an example to all who believe in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For from you the word of the Lord has been declared, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone out, so that we need not to say anything. 9 For they themselves report concerning us what kind of a reception we had from you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead: Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath to come.

2

1 For you yourselves know, brothers, our visit to you wasn't in vain, 2 but having suffered before and been shamefully treated, as you know, at Philippi, we grew bold in our God to tell you the Good News of God in much conflict. 3 For our exhortation is not of error, nor of uncleanness, nor in deception. 4 But even as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News, so we speak—not as pleasing men, but God, who tests our hearts. 5 For neither were we at any time found using words of flattery, as you know, nor a cloak of covetousness (God is witness), 6 nor seeking glory from men (neither from you nor from others), when we might have claimed authority as apostles of Christ. 7 But we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother cherishes her own children.

8 Even so, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:4** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

you not the Good News of God only, but also our own souls, because you had become very dear to us. 9 For you remember, brothers, our labor and travail; for working night and day, that we might not burden any of you, we preached to you the Good News of God. 10 You are witnesses with God how holy, righteously, and blamelessly we behaved ourselves toward you who believe. 11 As you know, we exhorted, comforted, and implored every one of you, as a father does his own children, 12 to the end that you should walk worthily of God, who calls you into his own Kingdom and glory.

13 For this cause we also thank God without ceasing that when you received from us the word of the message of God, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, God's word, which also works in you who believe. 14 For you, brothers, became imitators of the assemblies of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus; for you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and drove us out, and don't please God, and are contrary to all men, 16 forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they may be saved, to fill up their sins always. But wrath has come on them to the uttermost.

17 But we, brothers, being bereaved of you for a short season in presence, not in heart, tried even harder to see your face with great desire, 18 because we wanted to come to you—indeed, I, Paul, once and again—but Satan hindered us. 19 For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Isn't it even you, before our Lord Jesus* at his coming? 20 For you are our glory and our joy.

3

1 Therefore when we couldn't stand it any longer, we thought it good to be left behind at Athens alone, 2 and sent Timothy, our brother and God's servant in the Good News of Christ, to establish you and to comfort you concerning your faith, 3 that no one would be moved by these afflictions. For you know that we are appointed to this task. 4 For most certainly, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we are to suffer affliction, even as it happened, and you know. 5 For this cause I also, when I couldn't stand it any longer, sent that I might know your faith, for fear that by any means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor would have been in vain.

6 But Timothy has just now come to us from you, and brought us glad news of your

* **2:19** TR adds "Christ"

faith and love, and that you
have good memories of us al-
ways, longing to see us, even
as we also long to see you.
7 For this cause, brothers, we
were comforted over you in
all our distress and affliction
through your faith. 8 For now
we live, if you stand fast in
the Lord. 9 For what thanks-
giving can we render again
to God for you, for all the
joy with which we rejoice for
your sakes before our God,
10 night and day praying ex-
ceedingly that we may see
your face and may perfect
that which is lacking in your
faith?
11 Now may our God and
Father himself, and our Lord
Jesus Christ, direct our way to
you. 12 May the Lord make
you to increase and abound
in love toward one another
and toward all men, even
as we also do toward you,
13 to the end he may estab-
lish your hearts blameless in
holiness before our God and
Father at the coming of our
Lord Jesus with all his saints.

4

1 Finally then, brothers,
we beg and exhort you
in the Lord Jesus, that as
you received from us how
you ought to walk and to
please God, that you abound
more and more. 2 For you
know what instructions we
gave you through the Lord
Jesus. 3 For this is the will
of God: your sanctification,
that you abstain from sexual
immorality, 4 that each one of
you know how to control his
own body* in sanctification
and honor, 5 not in the
passion of lust, even as the
Gentiles who don't know
God, 6 that no one should
take advantage of and wrong
a brother or sister in this
matter; because the Lord is
an avenger in all these things,
as also we forewarned you
and testified. 7 For God called
us not for uncleanness, but
in sanctification. 8 Therefore
he who rejects this doesn't
reject man, but God, who has
also given his Holy Spirit to
you.

9 But concerning brotherly
love, you have no need that
one write to you. For you
yourselves are taught by God
to love one another, 10 for in-
deed you do it toward all the
brothers who are in all Mace-
donia. But we exhort you,
brothers, that you abound
more and more; 11 and that
you make it your ambition
to lead a quiet life, and to
do your own business, and to
work with your own hands,
even as we instructed you,
12 that you may walk prop-
erly toward those who are
outside, and may have need
of nothing.

13 But we don't want you
to be ignorant, brothers,
concerning those who have
fallen asleep, so that you
don't grieve like the rest, who
have no hope. 14 For if we
believe that Jesus died and

* **4:4** literally, possess his own vessel

rose again, even so God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. 15 For this we tell you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will in no way precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with God's trumpet. The dead in Christ will rise first, 17 then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. So we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

5

1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need that anything be written to you. 2 For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night. 3 For when they are saying, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman. Then they will in no way escape. 4 But you, brothers, aren't in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief. 5 You are all children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to the night, nor to darkness, 6 so then let's not sleep, as the rest do, but let's watch and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep in the night; and those who are drunk are drunk in the night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let's be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation. 9 For God didn't appoint us to wrath, but to the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. 11 Therefore exhort one another, and build each other up, even as you also do.

12 But we beg you, brothers, to know those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to respect and honor them in love for their work's sake.

Be at peace among yourselves. 14 We exhort you, brothers: Admonish the disorderly; encourage the faint-hearted; support the weak; be patient toward all. 15 See that no one returns evil for evil to anyone, but always follow after that which is good for one another and for all.

16 Always rejoice. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus toward you. 19 Don't quench the Spirit. 20 Don't despise prophecies. 21 Test all things, and hold firmly that which is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil.

23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely. May your whole

spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
24 He who calls you is faithful, who will also do it.
25 Brothers, pray for us.
26 Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. 27 I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all the holy brothers.
28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Paul's Second Letter to the Thessalonians

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the assembly of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 We are bound to always give thanks to God for you, brothers,* even as it is appropriate, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of each and every one of you toward one another abounds, 4 so that we ourselves boast about you in the assemblies of God for your perseverance and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions which you endure. 5 This is an obvious sign of the righteous judgment of God, to the end that you may be counted worthy of God's Kingdom, for which you also suffer. 6 For it is a righteous thing with God to repay affliction to those who afflict you, 7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, 8 punishing those who don't know God, and to those who don't obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus, 9 who will pay the penalty: eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 10 when he comes in that day to be glorified in his saints and to be admired among all those who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

11 To this end we also pray always for you that our God may count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire of goodness and work of faith with power, 12 that the name of our Lord Jesus† may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2

1 Now, brothers, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to him, we ask you 2 not to be quickly shaken in your mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter as if from us, saying that the day of Christ has already come. 3 Let no one deceive you in any way. For it will not be unless the rebellion* comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of destruction. 4 He opposes and exalts himself against all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, setting himself up as God. 5 Don't you remember

* **1:3** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." † **1:12** TR adds "Christ"
* **2:3** or, falling away, or, defection

that when I was still with you, I told you these things? 6 Now you know what is restraining him, to the end that he may be revealed in his own season. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness already works. Only there is one who restrains now, until he is taken out of the way. 8 Then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will kill with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the manifestation of his coming; 9 even he whose coming is according to the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 and with all deception of wickedness for those who are being lost, because they didn't receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 Because of this, God sends them a powerful delusion, that they should believe a lie, 12 that they all might be judged who didn't believe the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

13 But we are bound to always give thanks to God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief in the truth, 14 to which he called you through our Good News, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 So then, brothers, stand firm and hold the traditions which you were taught by us, whether by word or by letter.

16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, 17 comfort your hearts and establish you in every good work and word.

3

1 Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, even as also with you, 2 and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and evil men; for not all have faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. 4 We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you both do and will do the things we command. 5 May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and into the perseverance of Christ.

6 Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw yourselves from every brother who walks in rebellion and not after the tradition which they received from us. 7 For you know how you ought to imitate us. For we didn't behave ourselves rebelliously among you, 8 neither did we eat bread from anyone's hand without paying for it, but in labor and travail worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you. 9 This was not because we don't have the right, but to make ourselves an example to you, that you

should imitate us. 10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: “If anyone is not willing to work, don’t let him eat.” 11 For we hear of some who walk among you in rebellion, who don’t work at all, but are busybodies. 12 Now those who are that way, we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ, that they work with quietness and eat their own bread.

13 But you, brothers, don’t be weary in doing what is right. 14 If any man doesn’t obey our word in this letter, note that man and have no company with him, to the end that he may be ashamed. 15 Don’t count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

16 Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.

17 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand, which is the sign in every letter. This is how I write. 18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Paul's First Letter to Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus
Christ according to the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ*
our hope, 2 to Timothy, my
true child in faith: Grace,
mercy, and peace from God
our Father and Christ Jesus
our Lord.
3 As I urged you when I
was going into Macedonia,
stay at Ephesus that you
might command certain
men not to teach a different
doctrine, 4 and not to pay
attention to myths and
endless genealogies, which
cause disputes rather than
God's stewardship, which is
in faith. 5 But the goal of this
command is love from a pure
heart, a good conscience, and
sincere faith, 6 from which
things some, having missed
the mark, have turned away
to vain talking, 7 desiring
to be teachers of the law,
though they understand
neither what they say nor
about what they strongly
affirm.
8 But we know that the law
is good if a person uses it
lawfully, 9 as knowing this,
that law is not made for a
righteous person, but for
the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and
sinners, for the unholy and
profane, for murderers of
fathers and murderers of
mothers, for manslayers,
10 for the sexually immoral,
for homosexuals, for slave-
traders, for liars, for per-
jurers, and for any other
thing contrary to the sound
doctrine, 11 according to the
Good News of the glory of
the blessed God, which was
committed to my trust.
12 I thank him who enabled
me, Christ Jesus our Lord, be-
cause he counted me faith-
ful, appointing me to service,
13 although I used to be a blas-
phemer, a persecutor, and in-
solent. However, I obtained
mercy because I did it igno-
rantly in unbelief. 14 The
grace of our Lord abounded
exceedingly with faith and
love which is in Christ Je-
sus. 15 The saying is faith-
ful and worthy of all accep-
tance, that Christ Jesus came
into the world to save sin-
ners, of whom I am chief.
16 However, for this cause I
obtained mercy, that in me
first, Jesus Christ might dis-
play all his patience for an ex-
ample of those who were go-
ing to believe in him for eter-
nal life. 17 Now to the King
eternal, immortal, invisible,
to God who alone is wise, be
honor and glory forever and
ever. Amen.
18 I commit this instruction
to you, my child Timothy,
according to the prophecies
which were given to you
before, that by them you
may wage the good warfare,

* **1:1** NU reads Christ Jesus and omits the Lord.

19 holding faith and a good
conscience, which some
having thrust away made
a shipwreck concerning
the faith, 20 of whom are
Hymenaeus and Alexander,
whom I delivered to Satan
that they might be taught not
to blaspheme.

2

1 I exhort therefore, first
of all, that petitions, prayers,
intercessions, and givings of
thanks be made for all men,
2 for kings and all who are in
high places, that we may lead
a tranquil and quiet life in
all godliness and reverence.
3 For this is good and accept-
able in the sight of God our
Savior, 4 who desires all peo-
ple to be saved and come to
full 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 as a ran-
som for all, the testimony at
the proper time, 7 to which
I was appointed a preacher
and an apostle—I am telling
the truth in Christ, not lying
—a teacher of the Gentiles in
faith and truth.
8 I desire therefore that the
men in every place pray, lift-
ing up holy hands without
anger and doubting. 9 In the
same way, that women also
adorn themselves in decent
clothing, with modesty and
propriety, not* with braided
hair, gold, pearls, or expen-
sive clothing, 10 but with good
works, which is appropriate
for women professing godli-
ness. 11 Let a woman learn
in quietness with full sub-
mission. 12 But I don't per-
mit a woman to teach, nor
to exercise authority over a
man, but to be in quietness.
13 For Adam was formed first,
then Eve. 14 Adam wasn't de-
ceived, but the woman, be-
ing deceived, has fallen into
disobedience; 15 but she will
be saved through her child-
bearing, if they continue in
faith, love, and holiness with
sobriety.

3

1 This is a faithful say-
ing: someone who seeks to
be an overseer* desires a
good work. 2 The overseer
therefore must be without
reproach, the husband of one
wife, temperate, sensible,
modest, hospitable, good at
teaching; 3 not a drinker,
not violent, not greedy
for money, but gentle, not
quarrelsome, not covetous;
4 one who rules his own
house well, having children
in subjection with all rev-
erence; 5 (for how could
someone who doesn't know
how to rule his own house
take care of God's assembly?)
6 not a new convert, lest being
puffed up he fall into the
same condemnation as the

* **2:9** The word for "not" is the negative particle "μη" which denies an expected idea, as opposed to the usual word for "not" (ου) which denies a fact. Thus "μη" in this context is denying an expected idea (that women can be properly dressed without good works). * **3:1** or, superintendent, or bishop

devil. 7 Moreover he must
have good testimony from
those who are outside, to
avoid falling into reproach
and the snare of the devil.

8 Servants,† in the same
way, must be reverent,
not double-tongued, not
addicted to much wine, not
greedy for money, 9 holding
the mystery of the faith in
a pure conscience. 10 Let
them also first be tested; then
let them serve‡ if they are
blameless. 11 Their wives
in the same way must be
reverent, not slanderers,
temperate, and faithful in all
things. 12 Let servants§ be
husbands of one wife, ruling
their children and their own
houses well. 13 For those who
have served well* gain for
themselves a good standing
and great boldness in the
faith which is in Christ Jesus.

14 These things I write to
you, hoping to come to you
shortly, 15 but if I wait long,
that you may know how men
ought to behave themselves
in God's house, which is the
assembly of the living God,
the pillar and ground of the
truth. 16 Without contro-
versy, the mystery of godli-
ness is great:

God† was revealed in the
flesh,
justified in the spirit,
seen by angels,
preached among the nations,
believed on in the world,
and received up in glory.

4

1 But the Spirit says ex-
pressly that in later times
some will fall away from
the faith, paying attention
to seducing spirits and doc-
trines of demons, 2 through
the hypocrisy of men who
speak lies, branded in their
own conscience as with
a hot iron, 3 forbidding
marriage and commanding
to abstain from foods which
God created to be received
with thanksgiving by those
who believe and know the
truth. 4 For every creature
of God is good, and nothing is
to be rejected if it is received
with thanksgiving. 5 For it is
sanctified through the word
of God and prayer.

6 If you instruct the broth-
ers of these things, you will
be a good servant of Christ
Jesus, nourished in the words
of the faith and of the good
doctrine which you have fol-
lowed. 7 But refuse profane
and old wives' fables. Ex-
ercise yourself toward godli-
ness. 8 For bodily exercise
has some value, but godliness
has value in all things, having
the promise of the life which
is now and of that which is
to come. 9 This saying is
faithful and worthy of all ac-
ceptance. 10 For to this end
we both labor and suffer re-
proach, because we have set
our trust in the living God,
who is the Savior of all men,
especially of those who be-

† **3:8** or, Deacons. ‡ **3:10** or, serve as deacons § **3:12** or, deacons * **3:13** or, served well as deacons † **3:16** NU replaces "God" with "who"

lieve. 11 Command and teach
these things.
12 Let no man despise your
youth; but be an example to
those who believe, in word,
in your way of life, in love, in
spirit, in faith, and in purity.
13 Until I come, pay atten-
tion to reading, to exhorta-
tion, and to teaching. 14 Don't
neglect the gift that is in you,
which was given to you by
prophecy with the laying on
of the hands of the elders.
15 Be diligent in these things.
Give yourself wholly to them,
that your progress may be re-
vealed to all. 16 Pay attention
to yourself and to your teach-
ing. Continue in these things,
for in doing this you will save
both yourself and those who
hear you.

5

1 Don't rebuke an older
man, but exhort him as a
father; the younger men as
brothers; 2 the elder women
as mothers; the younger as
sisters, in all purity.
3 Honor widows who are
widows indeed. 4 But if
any widow has children
or grandchildren, let them
learn first to show piety
toward their own family and
to repay their parents, for
this is* acceptable in the sight
of God. 5 Now she who is a
widow indeed and desolate,
has her hope set on God
and continues in petitions
and prayers night and day.
6 But she who gives herself
to pleasure is dead while
she lives. 7 Also command
these things, that they may
be without reproach. 8 But
if anyone doesn't provide
for his own, and especially
his own household, he has
denied the faith and is worse
than an unbeliever.
9 Let no one be enrolled
as a widow under sixty
years old, having been the
wife of one man, 10 being
approved by good works, if
she has brought up children,
if she has been hospitable to
strangers, if she has washed
the saints' feet, if she has
relieved the afflicted, and if
she has diligently followed
every good work.
11 But refuse younger
widows, for when they
have grown wanton against
Christ, they desire to marry,
12 having condemnation,
because they have rejected
their first pledge. 13 Besides,
they also learn to be idle,
going about from house to
house. Not only idle, but
also gossips and busybodies,
saying things which they
ought not. 14 I desire there-
fore that the younger widows
marry, bear children, rule
the household, and give no
occasion to the adversary
for insulting. 15 For already
some have turned away after
Satan. 16 If any man or
woman who believes has
widows, let them relieve
them, and don't let the
assembly be burdened, that it
might relieve those who are

* **5:4** TR adds "good and"

widows indeed.
17 Let the elders who rule
well be counted worthy of
double honor, especially
those who labor in the word
and in teaching. 18 For the
Scripture says, "You shall not
muzzle the ox when it treads
out the grain."✡ And, **"The
laborer is worthy of his
wages."**✡
19 Don't receive an accusa-
tion against an elder except
at the word of two or three
witnesses. 20 Those who sin,
reprove in the sight of all,
that the rest also may be in
fear. 21 I command you in
the sight of God, and the Lord
Jesus Christ, and the cho-
sen angels, that you observe
these things without preju-
dice, doing nothing by par-
tiality. 22 Lay hands hastily
on no one. Don't be a partic-
ipant in other people's sins.
Keep yourself pure.
23 Be no longer a drinker
of water only, but use a lit-
tle wine for your stomach's
sake and your frequent infir-
mities.
24 Some men's sins are evi-
dent, preceding them to judg-
ment, and some also follow
later. 25 In the same way also
there are good works that are
obvious, and those that are
otherwise can't be hidden.

6

1 Let as many as are
bondservants under the yoke
count their own masters
worthy of all honor, that the
name of God and the doctrine
not be blasphemed. 2 Those
who have believing masters,
let them not despise them
because they are brothers,
but rather let them serve
them, because those who
partake of the benefit are
believing and beloved. Teach
and exhort these things.
3 If anyone teaches a dif-
ferent doctrine and doesn't
consent to sound words,
the words of our Lord Jesus
Christ, and to the doctrine
which is according to godli-
ness, 4 he is conceited, know-
ing nothing, but obsessed
with arguments, disputes,
and word battles, from
which come envy, strife,
insulting, evil suspicions,
5 constant friction of peo-
ple of corrupt minds and
destitute of the truth, who
suppose that godliness is a
means of gain. Withdraw
yourself from such.*
6 But godliness with con-
tentment is great gain. 7 For
we brought nothing into the
world, and we certainly can't
carry anything out. 8 But
having food and clothing,
we will be content with that.
9 But those who are deter-
mined to be rich fall into
a temptation, a snare, and
many foolish and harmful
lusts, such as drown men in
ruin and destruction. 10 For
the love of money is a root
of all kinds of evil. Some
have been led astray from the
faith in their greed, and have
pierced themselves through

✡ **5:18** Deuteronomy 25:4 ✡ **5:18** Luke 10:7; Leviticus 19:13 * **6:5** NU omits "Withdraw yourself from such."

with many sorrows.

11 But you, man of God,
flee these things, and fol-
low after righteousness, god-
liness, faith, love, persever-
ance, and gentleness. 12 Fight
the good fight of faith. Take
hold of the eternal life to
which you were called, and
you confessed the good con-
fession in the sight of many
witnesses. 13 I command you
before God who gives life to
all things, and before Christ
Jesus who before Pontius Pi-
late testified the good con-
fession, 14 that you keep the
commandment without spot,
blameless until the appear-
ing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 which at the right time
he will show, who is the
blessed and only Ruler, the
King of kings and Lord of
lords. 16 He alone has im-
mortality, dwelling in unap-
proachable light, whom no
man has seen nor can see, to
whom be honor and eternal
power. Amen.

17 Charge those who are
rich in this present age that
they not be arrogant, nor
have their hope set on the
uncertainty of riches, but on
the living God, who richly
provides us with everything
to enjoy; 18 that they do
good, that they be rich in
good works, that they be
ready to distribute, willing
to share; 19 laying up in
store for themselves a good
foundation against the time
to come, that they may lay
hold of eternal life.

20 Timothy, guard that
which is committed to you,
turning away from the empty
chatter and oppositions of
what is falsely called knowl-
edge, 21 which some profess,
and thus have wandered
from the faith.

Grace be with you. Amen.

Paul's Second Letter to Timothy

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ* through the will of God, according to the promise of the life which is in Christ Jesus, 2 to Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I thank God, whom I serve as my forefathers did, with a pure conscience. How unceasing is my memory of you in my petitions, night and day 4 longing to see you, remembering your tears, that I may be filled with joy; 5 having been reminded of the sincere faith that is in you, which lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, in you also.

6 For this cause, I remind you that you should stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God didn't give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control. 8 Therefore don't be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner; but endure hardship for the Good News according to the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before times eternal, 10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Good News. 11 For this I was appointed as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. 12 For this cause I also suffer these things.

Yet I am not ashamed, for I know him whom I have believed, and I am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed to him against that day.

13 Hold the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 14 That good thing which was committed to you, guard through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

15 This you know, that all who are in Asia turned away from me, of whom are Phygelus and Hermogenes. 16 May the Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain, 17 but when he was in Rome, he sought me diligently and found me 18 (the Lord grant to him to find the Lord's mercy in that day); and in how many things he served at Ephesus, you know very well.

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

2

1 You therefore, my child,
be strengthened in the grace
that is in Christ Jesus. 2 The
things which you have
heard from me among many
witnesses, commit the same
things to faithful men who
will be able to teach others
also. 3 You therefore must
endure hardship as a good
soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No
soldier on duty entangles
himself in the affairs of life,
that he may please him who
enrolled him as a soldier.
5 Also, if anyone competes
in athletics, he isn't crowned
unless he has competed by
the rules. 6 The farmer
who labors must be the
first to get a share of the
crops. 7 Consider what I say,
and may the Lord give you
understanding in all things.

8 Remember Jesus Christ,
risen from the dead, of the
offspring* of David, accord-
ing to my Good News, 9 in
which I suffer hardship to
the point of chains as a crim-
inal. But God's word isn't
chained. 10 Therefore I en-
dure all things for the chosen
ones' sake, that they also may
obtain the salvation which is
in Christ Jesus with eternal
glory. 11 This saying is trust-
worthy:

"For if we died with him,
we will also live with
him.
12 If we endure,
we will also reign with
him.
If we deny him,
he also will deny us.
13 If we are faithless,
he remains faithful;
for he can't deny him-
self."

14 Remind them of these
things, charging them in the
sight of the Lord that they
don't argue about words to
no profit, to the subverting of
those who hear.

15 Give diligence to present
yourself approved by God, a
workman who doesn't need
to be ashamed, properly
handling the Word of Truth.
16 But shun empty chatter,
for it will go further in un-
godliness, 17 and those words
will consume like gangrene,
of whom is Hymenaeus and
Philetus: 18 men who have
erred concerning the truth,
saying that the resurrec-
tion is already past, and
overthrowing the faith of
some. 19 However, God's firm
foundation stands, having
this seal: "The Lord knows
those who are his,"✡ and,
"Let every one who names
the name of the Lord† depart
from unrighteousness."

20 Now in a large house
there are not only vessels of
gold and of silver, but also of
wood and of clay. Some are
for honor and some for dis-
honor. 21 If anyone therefore
purges himself from these,
he will be a vessel for honor,
sanctified, and suitable for
the master's use, prepared
for every good work.

* **2:8** or, seed ✡ **2:19** Numbers 16:5 † **2:19** TR reads "Christ" instead of "the Lord"

22 Flee from youthful lusts;
but pursue righteousness,
faith, love, and peace with
those who call on the Lord
out of a pure heart. 23 But
refuse foolish and ignorant
questionings, knowing that
they generate strife. 24 The
Lord's servant must not
quarrel, but be gentle toward
all, able to teach, patient,
25 in gentleness correcting
those who oppose him.
Perhaps God may give them
repentance leading to a
full knowledge of the truth,
26 and they may recover
themselves out of the devil's
snare, having been taken
captive by him to do his will.

3

1 But know this: that in
the last days, grievous times
will come. 2 For men will
be lovers of self, lovers of
money, boastful, arrogant,
blasphemers, disobedient
to parents, unthankful,
unholy, 3 without natu-
ral affection, unforgiving,
slanderers, without self-
control, fierce, not lovers of
good, 4 traitors, headstrong,
conceited, lovers of pleasure
rather than lovers of God,
5 holding a form of godliness
but having denied its power.
Turn away from these, also.
6 For some of these are people
who creep into houses and
take captive gullible women
loaded down with sins,
led away by various lusts,
7 always learning and never
able to come to the knowl-
edge of the truth. 8 Even as
Jannes and Jambres opposed
Moses, so these also oppose
the truth, men corrupted in
mind, who concerning the
faith are rejected. 9 But they
will proceed no further. For
their folly will be evident to
all men, as theirs also came
to be.

10 But you followed my
teaching, conduct, purpose,
faith, patience, love, stead-
fastness, 11 persecutions, and
sufferings—those things that
happened to me at Antioch,
Iconium, and Lystra. I
endured those persecutions.
The Lord delivered me out
of them all. 12 Yes, and all
who desire to live godly
in Christ Jesus will suffer
persecution. 13 But evil men
and impostors will grow
worse and worse, deceiving
and being deceived. 14 But
you remain in the things
which you have learned
and have been assured of,
knowing from whom you
have learned them. 15 From
infancy, you have known
the holy Scriptures which
are able to make you wise
for salvation through faith
which is in Christ Jesus.
16 Every Scripture is God-
breathed and* profitable for
teaching, for reproof, for cor-
rection, and for instruction
in righteousness, 17 that each
person who belongs to God
may be complete, thoroughly
equipped for every good

* **3:16** or, Every writing inspired by God is

work.

4

1 I command you therefore
before God and the Lord Je-
sus Christ, who will judge the
living and the dead at his
appearing and his Kingdom:
2 preach the word; be urgent
in season and out of season;
reprove, rebuke, and exhort
with all patience and teach-
ing. 3 For the time will come
when they will not listen to
the sound doctrine, but hav-
ing itching ears, will heap up
for themselves teachers after
their own lusts, 4 and will
turn away their ears from
the truth, and turn away to
fables. 5 But you be sober
in all things, suffer hardship,
do the work of an evangelist,
and fulfill your ministry.

6 For I am already being
offered, and the time of my
departure has come. 7 I have
fought the good fight. I have
finished the course. I have
kept the faith. 8 From now on,
the crown of righteousness
is stored up for me, which
the Lord, the righteous judge,
will give to me on that day;
and not to me only, but also to
all those who have loved his
appearing.

9 Be diligent to come to
me soon, 10 for Demas left
me, having loved this present
world, and went to Thessa-
lonica; Crescens to Galatia;
and Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only
Luke is with me. Take Mark
and bring him with you, for
he is useful to me for ser-
vice. 12 But I sent Tychi-
cus to Ephesus. 13 Bring the
cloak that I left at Troas with
Carpus when you come —
and the books, especially the
parchments. 14 Alexander
the coppersmith did much
evil to me. The Lord will
repay him according to his
deeds. 15 Beware of him,
for he greatly opposed our
words.

16 At my first defense, no
one came to help me, but all
left me. May it not be held
against them. 17 But the Lord
stood by me and strength-
ened me, that through me the
message might be fully pro-
claimed, and that all the Gen-
tiles might hear. So I was
delivered out of the mouth of
the lion. 18 And the Lord will
deliver me from every evil
work and will preserve me
for his heavenly Kingdom. To
him be the glory forever and
ever. Amen.

19 Greet Prisca and Aquila,
and the house of Onesipho-
rus. 20 Erastus remained at
Corinth, but I left Trophimus
at Miletus sick. 21 Be diligent
to come before winter. Eu-
bulus salutes you, as do Pu-
dens, Linus, Claudia, and all
the brothers.

22 The Lord Jesus Christ be
with your spirit. Grace be
with you. Amen.

Paul's Letter to Titus

1 Paul, a servant of God
and an apostle of Jesus
Christ,* according to the
faith of God's chosen ones
and the knowledge of the
truth which is according to
godliness, 2 in hope of eternal
life, which God, who can't
lie, promised before time
began; 3 but in his own time
revealed his word in the
message with which I was
entrusted according to the
commandment of God our
Savior, 4 to Titus, my true
child according to a common
faith: Grace, mercy, and
peace from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ our
Savior.
5 I left you in Crete for this
reason, that you would set
in order the things that were
lacking and appoint elders
in every city, as I directed
you— 6 if anyone is blame-
less, the husband of one wife,
having children who believe,
who are not accused of loose
or unruly behavior. 7 For
the overseer must be blame-
less, as God's steward, not
self-pleasing, not easily an-
gered, not given to wine, not
violent, not greedy for dis-
honest gain; 8 but given to
hospitality, a lover of good,
sober minded, fair, holy, self-
controlled, 9 holding to the
faithful word which is ac-
cording to the teaching, that
he may be able to exhort in
the sound doctrine, and to
convict those who contradict
him.
10 For there are also many
unruly men, vain talkers and
deceivers, especially those of
the circumcision, 11 whose
mouths must be stopped:
men who overthrow whole
houses, teaching things
which they ought not, for dis-
honest gain's sake. 12 One of
them, a prophet of their own,
said, "Cretans are always
liars, evil beasts, and idle
gluttons." 13 This testimony is
true. For this cause, reprove
them sharply, that they may
be sound in the faith, 14 not
paying attention to Jewish
fables and commandments
of men who turn away from
the truth. 15 To the pure,
all things are pure, but to
those who are defiled and
unbelieving, nothing is pure;
but both their mind and
their conscience are defiled.
16 They profess that they
know God, but by their
deeds they deny him, being
abominable, disobedient,
and unfit for any good work.

2

1 But say the things which
fit sound doctrine, 2 that
older men should be temper-
ate, sensible, sober minded,
sound in faith, in love, and
in perseverance, 3 and that
older women likewise be
reverent in behavior, not
slanderers nor enslaved
to much wine, teachers of
that which is good, 4 that

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

they may train the young wives to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be sober minded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that God's word may not be blasphemed.

6 Likewise, exhort the younger men to be sober minded. 7 In all things show yourself an example of good works. In your teaching, show integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility, 8 and soundness of speech that can't be condemned, that he who opposes you may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say about us.

9 Exhort servants to be in subjection to their own masters and to be well-pleasing in all things, not contradicting, 10 not stealing, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God, our Savior, in all things. 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we would live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age; 13 looking for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good works.

15 Say these things and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one despise you.

3

1 Remind them to be in subjection to rulers and to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing all humility toward all men. 3 For we were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward mankind appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy, he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior; 7 that being justified by his grace, we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. 8 This saying is faithful, and concerning these things I desire that you insist confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men; 9 but shun foolish questionings, genealogies, strife, and disputes about the law; for they are unprofitable and

vain. 10 Avoid a factious man
after a first and second warn-
ing, 11 knowing that such a
one is perverted and sinful,
being self-condemned.

12 When I send Artemas to
you, or Tychicus, be diligent
to come to me to Nicopolis,
for I have determined to win-
ter there. 13 Send Zenas the
lawyer and Apollos on their
journey speedily, that noth-
ing may be lacking for them.
14 Let our people also learn
to maintain good works to
meet necessary needs, that
they may not be unfruitful.

15 All who are with me
greet you. Greet those who
love us in faith.

Grace be with you all.
Amen.

Paul's Letter to Philemon

1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ* Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon, our beloved fellow worker, 2 to the beloved Apphia, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the assembly in your house: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers, 5 hearing of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, 6 that the fellowship of your faith may become effective in the knowledge of every good thing which is in us in Christ Jesus. 7 For we have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother.

8 Therefore though I have all boldness in Christ to command you that which is appropriate, 9 yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you, being such a one as Paul, the aged, but also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. 10 I appeal to you for my child Onesimus, whom I have become the father of in my chains,† 11 who once was useless to you, but now is useful to you and to me. 12 I am sending him back. Therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, 13 whom I desired to keep with me, that on your behalf he might serve me in my chains for the Good News. 14 But I was willing to do nothing without your consent, that your goodness would not be as of necessity, but of free will. 15 For perhaps he was therefore separated from you for a while that you would have him forever, 16 no longer as a slave, but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much rather to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

17 If then you count me a partner, receive him as you would receive me. 18 But if he has wronged you at all or owes you anything, put that to my account. 19 I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it (not to mention to you that you owe to me even your own self besides). 20 Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in the Lord.

21 Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even beyond what I say.

22 Also, prepare a guest room for me, for I hope that through your prayers I will be restored to you.

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, 24 as do Mark,

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

† **1:10** Onesimus means "useful".

Aristarchus, Demas, and
Luke, my fellow workers.
25 The grace of our Lord Je-
sus Christ be with your spirit.
Amen.

The Letter to the Hebrews

1 God, having in the past
spoken to the fathers through
the prophets at many times
and in various ways, 2 has
at the end of these days
spoken to us by his Son,
whom he appointed heir of
all things, through whom
also he made the worlds.
3 His Son is the radiance of
his glory, the very image of
his substance, and upholding
all things by the word of his
power, who, when he had
by himself purified us of our
sins, sat down on the right
hand of the Majesty on high,
4 having become as much
better than the angels as
the more excellent name he
has inherited is better than
theirs. 5 For to which of the
angels did he say at any time,
"You are my Son.
Today I have become
your father?"✡
and again,
"I will be to him a Father,
and he will be to me a
Son?"✡
6 When he again brings in
the firstborn into the world
he says, "Let all the angels of
God worship him."✡ 7 Of the
angels he says,
"He makes his angels winds,
and his servants a flame
of fire."✡
8 But of the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, is for-
ever and ever.
The scepter of upright-
ness is the scepter of
your Kingdom.
9 You have loved righteous-
ness and hated iniq-
uity;
therefore God, your God,
has anointed you with
the oil of gladness
above your fellows."✡
10 And,
"You, Lord, in the beginning,
laid the foundation of
the earth.
The heavens are the
works of your hands.
11 They will perish, but you
continue.
They all will grow old
like a garment does.
12 You will roll them up like a
mantle,
and they will be
changed;
but you are the same.
Your years won't fail."✡
13 But which of the angels
has he told at any time,
"Sit at my right hand,
until I make your ene-
mies the footstool of
your feet?"✡
14 Aren't they all serving
spirits, sent out to do service
for the sake of those who will
inherit salvation?

2

1 Therefore we ought to
pay greater attention to the
things that were heard, lest
perhaps we drift away. 2 For

✡ **1:5** Psalm 2:7 ✡ **1:5** 2 Samuel 7:14; 1 Chronicles 17:13 ✡ **1:6** Deuteronomy 32:43 LXX ✡ **1:7** Psalm 104:4 ✡ **1:9** Psalm 45:6-7 ✡ **1:12** Psalm 102:25-27 ✡ **1:13** Psalm 110:1

if the word spoken through
angels proved steadfast, and
every transgression and
disobedience received a just
penalty, 3 how will we escape
if we neglect so great a
salvation—which at the first
having been spoken through
the Lord, was confirmed to
us by those who heard, 4 God
also testifying with them,
both by signs and wonders,
by various works of power,
and by gifts of the Holy Spirit,
according to his own will?

5 For he didn't subject the
world to come, of which we
speak, to angels. 6 But one has
somewhere testified, saying,

"What is man, that you think
of him?
Or the son of man, that
you care for him?
7 You made him a little lower
than the angels.
You crowned him with
glory and honor.*
8 You have put all things
in subjection under his
feet."✡

For in that he subjected all
things to him, he left noth-
ing that is not subject to him.
But now we don't yet see all
things subjected to him. 9 But
we see him who has been
made a little lower than the
angels, Jesus, because of the
suffering of death crowned
with glory and honor, that by
the grace of God he should
taste of death for everyone.

10 For it became him, for
whom are all things and
through whom are all things,
in bringing many children
to glory, to make the author
of their salvation perfect
through sufferings. 11 For
both he who sanctifies and
those who are sanctified are
all from one, for which cause
he is not ashamed to call
them brothers,† 12 saying,

"I will declare your name to
my brothers.
Among the congrega-
tion I will sing your
praise."✡

13 Again, "I will put my
trust in him." Again, "Behold,
here I am with the children
whom God has given me."✡
14 Since then the children
have shared in flesh and
blood, he also himself in the
same way partook of the
same, that through death
he might bring to nothing
him who had the power
of death, that is, the devil,
15 and might deliver all of
them who through fear of
death were all their lifetime
subject to bondage. 16 For
most certainly, he doesn't
give help to angels, but he
gives help to the offspring‡
of Abraham. 17 Therefore he
was obligated in all things to
be made like his brothers,
that he might become a
merciful and faithful high
priest in things pertaining
to God, to make atonement

* **2:7** TR adds "and set him over the works of your hands" ✡ **2:8** Psalm 8:4-6

† **2:11** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ✡ **2:12** Psalm 22:22

✡ **2:13** Isaiah 8:18 ‡ **2:16** or, seed

for the sins of the people.
18 For in that he himself has
suffered being tempted, he
is able to help those who are
tempted.

3

1 Therefore, holy brothers,
partakers of a heavenly call-
ing, consider the Apostle and
High Priest of our confession:
Jesus, 2 who was faithful to
him who appointed him, as
also Moses was in all his
house. 3 For he has been
counted worthy of more
glory than Moses, because
he who built the house has
more honor than the house.
4 For every house is built by
someone; but he who built all
things is God. 5 Moses indeed
was faithful in all his house
as a servant, for a testimony
of those things which were
afterward to be spoken, 6 but
Christ* is faithful as a Son
over his house. We are his
house, if we hold fast our
confidence and the glorying
of our hope firm to the end.
7 Therefore, even as the Holy
Spirit says,

"Today if you will hear his
voice,
8 don't harden your
hearts as in the rebel-
lion,
in the day of the trial in
the wilderness,
9 where your fathers
tested me and tried
me,
and saw my deeds for
forty years.
10 Therefore I was displeased
with that generation,
and said, 'They always
err in their heart,
but they didn't know my
ways.'
11 As I swore in my wrath,
'They will not enter into
my rest.' "✡

12 Beware, brothers, lest
perhaps there might be in
any one of you an evil heart
of unbelief, in falling away
from the living God; 13 but
exhort one another day by
day, so long as it is called
"today", lest any one of you
be hardened by the deceitful-
ness of sin. 14 For we have
become partakers of Christ, if
we hold the beginning of our
confidence firm to the end,
15 while it is said,
"Today if you will hear his
voice,
don't harden your
hearts, as in the rebel-
lion."✡

16 For who, when they
heard, rebelled? Wasn't it
all those who came out of
Egypt led by Moses? 17 With
whom was he displeased
forty years? Wasn't it with
those who sinned, whose
bodies fell in the wilderness?
18 To whom did he swear that
they wouldn't enter into his
rest, but to those who were
disobedient? 19 We see that
they weren't able to enter in
because of unbelief.

4

1 Let's fear therefore,
lest perhaps anyone of you

* **3:6** "Christ" means "Anointed One".
95:7-8

✡ **3:11** Psalm 95:7-11 ✡ **3:15** Psalm

should seem to have come
short of a promise of entering
into his rest. 2 For indeed
we have had good news
preached to us, even as they
also did, but the word they
heard didn't profit them,
because it wasn't mixed with
faith by those who heard.
3 For we who have believed
do enter into that rest, even
as he has said, "As I swore in
my wrath, they will not enter
into my rest;"✡ although
the works were finished
from the foundation of the
world. 4 For he has said
this somewhere about the
seventh day, "God rested on
the seventh day from all his
works;"✡ 5 and in this place
again, "They will not enter
into my rest."✡

6 Seeing therefore it re-
mains that some should
enter into it, and they to
whom the good news was
preached before failed to
enter in because of disobe-
dience, 7 he again defines a
certain day, "today", saying
through David so long a time
afterward (just as has been
said),

"Today if you will hear his
voice,
don't harden your
hearts."✡

8 For if Joshua had given
them rest, he would not have
spoken afterward of another
day. 9 There remains there-
fore a Sabbath rest for the
people of God. 10 For he
who has entered into his rest
has himself also rested from
his works, as God did from
his. 11 Let's therefore give
diligence to enter into that
rest, lest anyone fall after
the same example of disobe-
dience. 12 For the word of
God is living and active, and
sharper than any two-edged
sword, piercing even to the
dividing of soul and spirit,
of both joints and marrow,
and is able to discern the
thoughts and intentions of
the heart. 13 There is no crea-
ture that is hidden from his
sight, but all things are naked
and laid open before the eyes
of him to whom we must give
an account.

14 Having then a great
high priest who has passed
through the heavens, Jesus,
the Son of God, let's hold
tightly to our confession.
15 For we don't have a high
priest who can't be touched
with the feeling of our
infirmities, but one who has
been in all points tempted
like we are, yet without sin.
16 Let's therefore draw near
with boldness to the throne
of grace, that we may receive
mercy and may find grace for
help in time of need.

5

1 For every high priest,
being taken from among
men, is appointed for men
in things pertaining to God,
that he may offer both gifts
and sacrifices for sins. 2 The
high priest can deal gently
with those who are ignorant
and going astray, because he
himself is also surrounded

✡ **4:3** Psalm 95:11 ✡ **4:4** Genesis 2:2 ✡ **4:5** Psalm 95:11 ✡ **4:7** Psalm 95:7-8

with weakness. 3 Because of this, he must offer sacrifices for sins for the people, as well as for himself. 4 Nobody takes this honor on himself, but he is called by God, just like Aaron was. 5 So also Christ didn't glorify himself to be made a high priest, but it was he who said to him,

"You are my Son.
Today I have become your father."✡

6 As he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek."✡

7 He, in the days of his flesh, having offered up prayers and petitions with strong crying and tears to him who was able to save him from death, and having been heard for his godly fear, 8 though he was a Son, yet learned obedience by the things which he suffered. 9 Having been made perfect, he became to all of those who obey him the author of eternal salvation, 10 named by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

11 About him we have many words to say, and hard to interpret, seeing you have become dull of hearing. 12 For although by this time you should be teachers, you again need to have someone teach you the rudiments of the first principles of the revelations of God. You have come to need milk, and not solid food. 13 For everyone who lives on milk is not experienced in the word of righteousness, for he is a baby. 14 But solid food is for those who are full grown, who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil.

6

1 Therefore leaving the teaching of the first principles of Christ, let's press on to perfection—not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, of faith toward God, 2 of the teaching of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 This will we do, if God permits. 4 For concerning those who were once enlightened and tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 and then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance; seeing they crucify the Son of God for themselves again, and put him to open shame. 7 For the land which has drunk the rain that comes often on it and produces a crop suitable for them for whose sake it is also tilled, receives blessing from God; 8 but if it bears thorns and thistles, it is rejected and near being cursed, whose end is to be burned.

✡ **5:5** Psalm 2:7 ✡ **5:6** Psalm 110:4

9 But, beloved, we are persuaded of better things for you, and things that accompany salvation, even though we speak like this. 10 For God is not unrighteous, so as to forget your work and the labor of love which you showed toward his name, in that you served the saints, and still do serve them. 11 We desire that each one of you may show the same diligence to the fullness of hope even to the end, 12 that you won't be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and perseverance inherited the promises.

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he could swear by no one greater, he swore by himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you."✡ 15 Thus, having patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by a greater one, and in every dispute of theirs the oath is final for confirmation. 17 In this way God, being determined to show more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the immutability of his counsel, interposed with an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have a strong encouragement, who have fled for refuge to take hold of the hope set before us. 19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and entering into that which is within the veil, 20 where as a forerunner Jesus entered for us, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

7

1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 to whom also Abraham divided a tenth part of all (being first, by interpretation, "king of righteousness", and then also "king of Salem", which means "king of peace", 3 without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God), remains a priest continually.

4 Now consider how great this man was, to whom even Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth out of the best plunder. 5 They indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have a commandment to take tithes from the people according to the law, that is, of their brothers, though these have come out of the body of Abraham, 6 but he whose genealogy is not counted from them has accepted tithes from Abraham, and has blessed him who has the promises. 7 But without any

✡ **6:14** Genesis 22:17

dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater. 8 Here people who die receive tithes, but there one receives tithes of whom it is testified that he lives. 9 We can say that through Abraham even Levi, who receives tithes, has paid tithes, 10 for he was yet in the body of his father when Melchizedek met him.

11 Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people have received the law), what further need was there for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, and not be called after the order of Aaron? 12 For the priesthood being changed, there is of necessity a change made also in the law. 13 For he of whom these things are said belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord has sprung out of Judah, about which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. 15 This is yet more abundantly evident, if after the likeness of Melchizedek there arises another priest, 16 who has been made, not after the law of a fleshly commandment, but after the power of an endless life; 17 for it is testified,

"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek."✡

18 For there is an annulling of a foregoing commandment because of its weakness and uselessness 19 (for the law made nothing perfect), and a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. 20 Inasmuch as he was not made priest without the taking of an oath 21 (for they indeed have been made priests without an oath), but he with an oath by him that says of him,

"The Lord swore and will not
change his mind,
'You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek.' "✡

22 By so much, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

23 Many, indeed, have been made priests, because they are hindered from continuing by death. 24 But he, because he lives forever, has his priesthood unchangeable. 25 Therefore he is also able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, seeing that he lives forever to make intercession for them.

26 For such a high priest was fitting for us: holy, guiltless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; 27 who doesn't need, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices daily, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. For he did this once for all, when he offered up himself. 28 For the law appoints men as high priests who have weakness, but the word of the oath,

✡ **7:17** Psalm 110:4 ✡ **7:21** Psalm 110:4

which came after the law, appoints a Son forever who has been perfected.

8

1 Now in the things which we are saying, the main point is this: we have such a high priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, 2 a servant of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord pitched, not man. 3 For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it is necessary that this high priest also have something to offer. 4 For if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, seeing there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law, 5 who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, even as Moses was warned by God when he was about to make the tabernacle, for he said, "See, you shall make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain."✡ 6 But now he has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as he is also the mediator of a better covenant, which on better promises has been given as law.

7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. 8 For finding fault with them, he said,

"Behold,* the days are coming", says the Lord,
"that 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 that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt;
for they didn't continue in my covenant,
and I disregarded them," says the Lord.
10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel
after those days," says the Lord:
"I will put my laws into their mind;
I will also write them on their heart.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.
11 They will not teach every man his fellow citizen†
and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'
for all will know me,
from their least to their greatest.
12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness.
I will remember their sins and lawless deeds no more."✡

✡ **8:5** Exodus 25:40 * **8:8** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. † **8:11** TR reads "neighbor" instead of "fellow citizen" ✡ **8:12** Jeremiah 31:31-34

13 In that he says, “A new
covenant”, he has made
the first obsolete. But that
which is becoming obsolete
and grows aged is near to
vanishing away.

9

1 Now indeed even the
first* covenant had ordi-
nances of divine service and
an earthly sanctuary. 2 For
a tabernacle was prepared.
In the first part were the
lamp stand, the table, and
the show bread, which is
called the Holy Place. 3 After
the second veil was the
tabernacle which is called
the Holy of Holies, 4 having
a golden altar of incense
and the ark of the covenant
overlaid on all sides with
gold, in which was a golden
pot holding the manna,
Aaron’s rod that budded, and
the tablets of the covenant;
5 and above it cherubim of
glory overshadowing the
mercy seat, of which things
we can’t speak now in detail.

6 Now these things having
been thus prepared, the
priests go in continually
into the first tabernacle,
accomplishing the services,
7 but into the second the
high priest alone, once in
the year, not without blood,
which he offers for himself
and for the errors of the
people. 8 The Holy Spirit is
indicating this, that the way
into the Holy Place wasn’t
yet revealed while the first
tabernacle was still standing.
9 This is a symbol of the
present age, where gifts and
sacrifices are offered that are
incapable, concerning the
conscience, of making the
worshiper perfect, 10 being
only (with foods and drinks
and various washings)
fleshly ordinances, imposed
until a time of reformation.

11 But Christ having come
as a high priest of the coming
good things, through the
greater and more perfect
tabernacle, not made with
hands, that is to say, not
of this creation, 12 nor yet
through the blood of goats
and calves, but through his
own blood, entered in once
for all into the Holy Place,
having obtained eternal
redemption. 13 For if the
blood of goats and bulls,
and the ashes of a heifer
sprinkling those who have
been defiled, sanctify to
the cleanness of the flesh,
14 how much more will the
blood of Christ, who through
the eternal Spirit offered
himself without defect to
God, cleanse your conscience
from dead works to serve
the living God? 15 For this
reason he is the mediator of a
new covenant, since a death
has occurred for the redemp-
tion of the transgressions
that were under the first
covenant, that those who
have been called may receive
the promise of the eternal
inheritance. 16 For where
a last will and testament is,
there must of necessity be
the death of him who made it.

* **9:1** TR adds “tabernacle”

17 For a will is in force where
there has been death, for it is
never in force while he who
made it lives. 18 Therefore
even the first covenant has
not been dedicated without
blood. 19 For when every
commandment had been
spoken by Moses to all the
people according to the law,
he took the blood of the
calves and the goats, with
water and scarlet wool and
hyssop, and sprinkled both
the book itself and all the
people, 20 saying, "This is the
blood of the covenant which
God has commanded you."✡

21 He sprinkled the taber-
nacle and all the vessels of
the ministry in the same way
with the blood. 22 According
to the law, nearly everything
is cleansed with blood, and
apart from shedding of blood
there is no remission.

23 It was necessary there-
fore that the copies of the
things in the heavens should
be cleansed with these, but
the heavenly things them-
selves with better sacrifices
than these. 24 For Christ
hasn't entered into holy
places made with hands,
which are representations
of the true, 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 enters into the holy
place year by year with blood
not his own, 26 or else he
must have suffered often
since the foundation of the
world. But now once at the
end of the ages, he has been
revealed to put away sin
by the sacrifice of himself.
27 Inasmuch as it is appointed
for men to die once, and after
this, judgment, 28 so Christ
also, having been offered
once to bear the sins of many,
will appear a second time,
not to deal with sin, but to
save those who are eagerly
waiting for him.

10

1 For the law, having
a shadow of the good to
come, not the very image
of the things, can never
with the same sacrifices year
by year, which they offer
continually, make perfect
those who draw near. 2 Or
else wouldn't they have
ceased to be offered, because
the worshipers, having been
once cleansed, would have
had no more consciousness
of sins? 3 But in those
sacrifices there is a yearly
reminder of sins. 4 For it is
impossible that the blood of
bulls and goats should take
away sins. 5 Therefore when
he comes into the world, he
says,

"You didn't desire sacrifice
and offering,
but you prepared a body
for me.
6 You had no pleasure in
whole burnt offerings
and sacrifices for sin.
7 Then I said, 'Behold,
I have come (in the
scroll of the book it is
written of me)
to do your will, O God.' "✡

✡ **9:20** Exodus 24:8 ✡ **10:7** Psalm 40:6-8

8 Previously saying, “Sacrifices and offerings and
whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin you didn’t
desire, neither had pleasure
in them” (those which are
offered according to the law),
9 then he has said, “Behold, I
have come to do your will.”
He takes away the first, that
he may establish the second,
10 by which will we have
been sanctified through the
offering of the body of Jesus
Christ once for all.
11 Every priest indeed
stands day by day serving
and offering often the same
sacrifices, which can never
take away sins, 12 but he,
when he had offered one
sacrifice for sins forever,
sat down on the right hand
of God, 13 from that time
waiting until his enemies are
made the footstool of his feet.
14 For by one offering he has
perfected forever those who
are being sanctified. 15 The
Holy Spirit also testifies to us,
for after saying,

16 “This is the covenant that I
will make with them
after those days,” says
the Lord,
“I will put my laws on their
heart,
I will also write them on
their mind;”✡

then he says,

17 “I will remember their sins
and their iniquities no
more.”✡

18 Now where remission of
these is, there is no more of-
fering for sin.

19 Having therefore, broth-
ers, boldness to enter into
the holy place by the blood
of Jesus, 20 by the way which
he dedicated for us, a new
and living way, through
the veil, that is to say, his
flesh, 21 and having a great
priest over God’s house,
22 let’s draw near with a true
heart in fullness of faith,
having our hearts sprinkled
from an evil conscience and
having our body washed
with pure water, 23 let’s hold
fast the confession of our
hope without wavering; for
he who promised is faithful.
24 Let’s consider how to
provoke one another to love
and good works, 25 not for-
saking our own assembling
together, as the custom of
some is, but exhorting one
another, and so much the
more as you see the Day ap-
proaching.
26 For if we sin willfully
after we have received the
knowledge of the truth,
there remains no more a
sacrifice for sins, 27 but a
certain fearful expectation
of judgment, and a fierceness
of fire which will devour the
adversaries. 28 A man who
disregards Moses’ law dies
without compassion on the
word of two or three wit-
nesses. 29 How much worse
punishment do you think he
will be judged worthy of who
has trodden under foot the
Son of God, and has counted
the blood of the covenant
with which he was sanctified
an unholy thing, and has

✡ **10:16** Jeremiah 31:33 ✡ **10:17** Jeremiah 31:34

insulted the Spirit of grace?
30 For we know him who said,
"Vengeance belongs to me. I
will repay," says the Lord.✡
Again, "The Lord will judge
his people."✡ 31 It is a fearful
thing to fall into the hands of
the living God.

32 But remember the for-
mer days, in which, after
you were enlightened, you
endured a great struggle with
sufferings: 33 partly, being
exposed to both reproaches
and oppressions, and partly,
becoming partakers with
those who were treated
so. 34 For you both had
compassion on me in my
chains and joyfully accepted
the plundering of your
possessions, knowing that
you have for yourselves a
better possession and an
enduring one in the heavens.
35 Therefore don't throw
away your boldness, which
has a great reward. 36 For
you need endurance so that,
having done the will of God,
you may receive the promise.

37 "In a very little while,
he who comes will come
and will not wait.

38 But the righteous one will
live by faith.
If he shrinks back, my
soul has no pleasure in
him."✡

39 But we are not of those
who shrink back to destruc-
tion, but of those who have
faith to the saving of the soul.

11

1 Now faith is assurance
of things hoped for, proof of
things not seen. 2 For by
this, the elders obtained ap-
proval. 3 By faith we under-
stand that the universe has
been framed by the word of
God, so that what is seen has
not been made out of things
which are visible.

4 By faith Abel offered to
God a more excellent sacri-
fice than Cain, through which
he had testimony given to
him that he was righteous,
God testifying with respect to
his gifts; and through it he,
being dead, still speaks.

5 By faith Enoch was taken
away, so that he wouldn't see
death, and he was not found,
because God translated him.
For he has had testimony
given to him that before his
translation he had been well
pleasing to God. 6 Without
faith it is impossible to be
well pleasing to him, for he
who comes to God must be-
lieve that he exists, and that
he is a rewarder of those who
seek him.

7 By faith Noah, being
warned about things not
yet seen, moved with godly
fear,* prepared a ship for the
saving of his house, through
which he condemned the
world and became heir of
the righteousness which is
according to faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when
he was called, obeyed to go
out to the place which he

✡ **10:30** Deuteronomy 32:35 ✡ **10:30** Deuteronomy 32:36; Psalm 135:14
✡ **10:38** Habakkuk 2:3-4 * **11:7** or, reverence

was to receive for an inheritance. He went out, not knowing where he went. 9 By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a land not his own, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 By faith even Sarah herself received power to conceive, and she bore a child when she was past age, since she counted him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore as many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as innumerable as the sand which is by the sea shore, were fathered by one man, and him as good as dead.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen† them and embraced them from afar, and having confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. 15 If indeed they had been thinking of that country from which they went out, they would have had enough time to return. 16 But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed of them, to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

17 By faith, Abraham, being tested, offered up Isaac. Yes, he who had gladly received the promises was offering up his only born‡ son, 18 to whom it was said, "Your offspring will be accounted as from Isaac," ✡ 19 concluding that God is able to raise up even from the dead. Figuratively speaking, he also did receive him back from the dead.

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau, even concerning things to come.

21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.

22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, made mention of the departure of the children of Israel, and gave instructions concerning his bones.

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to share ill treatment with God's people than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time, 26 considering the reproach of Christ greater

† **11:13** TR adds "and being convinced of" ‡ **11:17** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". ✡ **11:18** Genesis 21:12

riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he looked to the reward. 27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. 28 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, that the destroyer of the firstborn should not touch them.

29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as on dry land. When the Egyptians tried to do so, they were swallowed up.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.

31 By faith Rahab the prostitute didn't perish with those who were disobedient, having received the spies in peace.

32 What more shall I say? For the time would fail me if I told of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets — 33 who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked out righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,✡ 34 quenched the power of fire,✡ escaped the edge of the sword,✡ from weakness were made strong, grew mighty in war, and caused foreign armies to flee. 35 Women received their dead by resurrection.✡ Others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36 Others were tried by mocking and scourging, yes, moreover by bonds and imprisonment. 37 They were stoned.✡ They were sawn apart. They were tempted. They were slain with the sword.✡ They went around in sheep skins and in goat skins; being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated— 38 of whom the world was not worthy —wandering in deserts, mountains, caves, and the holes of the earth.

39 These all, having been commended for their faith, didn't receive the promise, 40 God having provided some better thing concerning us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

12

1 Therefore let's also, seeing we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider him who has endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, that you don't grow weary,

✡ **11:33** Daniel 6:22-23 ✡ **11:34** Daniel 3:1-30 ✡ **11:34** 1 Kings 19:1-3; 2 Kings 6:31–7:20 ✡ **11:35** 1 Kings 17:17-23; 2 Kings 4:32-37 ✡ **11:37** 2 Chronicles 24:20-21 ✡ **11:37** Jeremiah 26:20-23; 1 Kings 19:10

fainting in your souls. 4 You
have not yet resisted to blood,
striving against sin. 5 You
have forgotten the exhorta-
tion which reasons with you
as with children,

"My son, don't take lightly the
chastening of the Lord,
nor faint when you are
reproved by him;
6 for whom the Lord
loves, he disciplines,
and chastises every son
whom he receives."✡

7 It is for discipline that you
endure. God deals with you
as with children, for what
son is there whom his father
doesn't discipline? 8 But if
you are without discipline, of
which all have been made
partakers, then you are il-
legitimate, and not children.
9 Furthermore, we had the fa-
thers of our flesh to chasten
us, and we paid them respect.
Shall we not much rather be
in subjection to the Father of
spirits and live? 10 For they
indeed for a few days disci-
plined us as seemed good to
them, but he for our profit,
that we may be partakers of
his holiness. 11 All chastening
seems for the present to be
not joyous but grievous; yet
afterward it yields the peace-
ful fruit of righteousness to
those who have been trained
by it. 12 Therefore lift up
the hands that hang down
and the feeble knees, ✡ 13 and
make straight paths for your
feet,✡ so what is lame may not
be dislocated, but rather be
healed.

14 Follow after peace with
all men, and the sanctifica-
tion without which no man
will see the Lord, 15 looking
carefully lest there be any
man who falls short of the
grace of God, lest any root of
bitterness springing up trou-
ble you and many be defiled
by it, 16 lest there be any sex-
ually immoral person or pro-
fane person, like Esau, who
sold his birthright for one
meal. 17 For you know that
even when he afterward de-
sired to inherit the blessing,
he was rejected, for he found
no place for a change of mind
though he sought it diligently
with tears.

18 For you have not come
to a mountain that might
be touched and that burned
with fire, and to blackness,
darkness, storm, 19 the sound
of a trumpet, and the voice
of words; which those who
heard it begged that not one
more word should be spoken
to them, 20 for they could not
stand that which was com-
manded, "If even an animal
touches the mountain, it shall
be stoned".*✡ 21 So fearful
was the appearance that
Moses said, "I am terrified
and trembling."✡

22 But you have come to
Mount Zion and to the city
of the living God, the heav-
enly Jerusalem, and to in-
numerable multitudes of an-
gels, 23 to the festal gathering

✡ **12:6** Proverbs 3:11-12 ✡ **12:12** Isaiah 35:3 ✡ **12:13** Proverbs 4:26
* **12:20** TR adds "or shot with an arrow" ✡ **12:20** Exodus 19:12-13 ✡ **12:21** Deuteronomy 9:19

and assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, 24 to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,✡ and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better than that of Abel.

25 See that you don't refuse him who speaks. For if they didn't escape when they refused him who warned on the earth, how much more will we not escape who turn away from him who warns from heaven, 26 whose voice shook the earth then, but now he has promised, saying, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heavens."✡ 27 This phrase, "Yet once more" signifies the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that have been made, that those things which are not shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, receiving a Kingdom that can't be shaken, let's have grace, through which we serve God acceptably, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.✡

13

1 Let brotherly love continue. 2 Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for in doing so, some have entertained angels without knowing it. 3 Remember those who are in bonds, as bound with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you are also in the body. 4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the bed be undefiled; but God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers.

5 Be free from the love of money, content with such things as you have, for he has said, "I will in no way leave you, neither will I in any way forsake you."✡ 6 So that with good courage we say,

"The Lord is my helper. I will not fear.
What can man do to me?"✡

7 Remember your leaders, men who spoke to you the word of God, and considering the results of their conduct, imitate their faith. 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. 9 Don't be carried away by various and strange teachings, for it is good that the heart be established by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

10 We have an altar from which those who serve the holy tabernacle have no right to eat. 11 For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside of the camp.✡ 12 Therefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people through his own blood, suffered outside of

✡ **12:24** Jeremiah 31:31 ✡ **12:26** Haggai 2:6 ✡ **12:29** Deuteronomy 4:24
✡ **13:5** Deuteronomy 31:6 ✡ **13:6** Psalm 118:6-7 ✡ **13:11** Leviticus 16:27

the gate. 13 Let's therefore
go out to him outside of the
camp, bearing his reproach.
14 For we don't have here
an enduring city, but we
seek that which is to come.
15 Through him, then, let's
offer up a sacrifice of praise
to God ✡ continually, that
is, the fruit of lips which
proclaim allegiance to his
name. 16 But don't forget to
be doing good and sharing,
for with such sacrifices God
is well pleased.

17 Obey your leaders and
submit to them, for they
watch on behalf of your
souls, as those who will give
account, that they may do
this with joy and not with
groaning, for that would be
unprofitable for you.

18 Pray for us, for we are
persuaded that we have a
good conscience, desiring to
live honorably in all things.
19 I strongly urge you to do
this, that I may be restored to
you sooner.

20 Now may the God of
peace, who brought again
from the dead the great shep-
herd of the sheep with the
blood of an eternal covenant,
our Lord Jesus, 21 make you
complete in every good work
to do his will, working in you
that which is well pleasing
in his sight, through Jesus
Christ, to whom be the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

22 But I exhort you, broth-
ers, endure the word of ex-
hortation, for I have written
to you in few words. 23 Know
that our brother Timothy has
been freed, with whom, if he
comes shortly, I will see you.

24 Greet all of your leaders
and all the saints. The Ital-
ians greet you.

25 Grace be with you all.
Amen.

✡ **13:15** Psalm 50:23

The Letter from James

1 James, a servant of God
and of the Lord Jesus Christ,*
to the twelve tribes which are
in the Dispersion: Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers,† when you fall into various temptations, 3 knowing
that the testing of your faith
produces endurance. 4 Let
endurance have its perfect
work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in
nothing.

5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who
gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be
given to him. 6 But let him ask
in faith, without any doubting, for he who doubts is like
a wave of the sea, driven by
the wind and tossed. 7 For
that man shouldn't think that
he will receive anything from
the Lord. 8 He is a double-minded man, unstable in all
his ways.

9 Let the brother in humble circumstances glory in
his high position; 10 and the
rich, in that he is made humble, because like the flower in
the grass, he will pass away.
11 For the sun arises with the
scorching wind and withers
the grass; and the flower in
it falls, and the beauty of its
appearance perishes. So the
rich man will also fade away
in his pursuits.

12 Blessed is a person who
endures temptation, for
when he has been approved,
he will receive the crown of
life which the Lord promised
to those who love him.

13 Let no man say when
he is tempted, "I am tempted
by God," for God can't be
tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. 14 But
each one is tempted when he
is drawn away by his own
lust and enticed. 15 Then
the lust, when it has conceived, bears sin. The sin,
when it is full grown, produces death. 16 Don't be deceived, my beloved brothers.
17 Every good gift and every
perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can
be no variation nor turning
shadow. 18 Of his own will he
gave birth to us by the word
of truth, that we should be a
kind of first fruits of his creatures.

19 So, then, my beloved
brothers, let every man be
swift to hear, slow to speak,
and slow to anger; 20 for
the anger of man doesn't
produce the righteousness of
God. 21 Therefore, putting
away all filthiness and
overflowing of wickedness,
receive with humility the
implanted word, which is
able to save your souls.‡

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:2** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." ‡ **1:21** or, preserve your life.

22 But be doers of the word,
and not only hearers, deluding your own selves. 23 For
if anyone is a hearer of the
word and not a doer, he is
like a man looking at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for
he sees himself, and goes
away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he
was. 25 But he who looks into
the perfect law of freedom
and continues, not being a
hearer who forgets but a doer
of the work, this man will be
blessed in what he does.
26 If anyone among you
thinks himself to be religious
while he doesn't bridle his
tongue, but deceives his
heart, this man's religion is
worthless. 27 Pure religion
and undefiled before our God
and Father is this: to visit
the fatherless and widows
in their affliction, and to
keep oneself unstained by
the world.

2

1 My brothers, don't hold
the faith of our glorious Lord
Jesus Christ with partiality.
2 For if a man with a gold
ring, in fine clothing, comes
into your synagogue,* and a
poor man in filthy clothing
also comes in, 3 and you
pay special attention to
him who wears the fine
clothing and say, "Sit here
in a good place;" and you
tell the poor man, "Stand
there," or "Sit by my footstool" 4 haven't you shown
partiality among yourselves,
and become judges with
evil thoughts? 5 Listen, my
beloved brothers. Didn't
God choose those who are
poor in this world to be rich
in faith and heirs of the
Kingdom which he promised
to those who love him? 6 But
you have dishonored the
poor man. Don't the rich
oppress you and personally
drag you before the courts?
7 Don't they blaspheme the
honorable name by which
you are called?
8 However, if you fulfill
the royal law according to
the Scripture, "You shall love
your neighbor as yourself,"✡
you do well. 9 But if you
show partiality, you commit
sin, being convicted by the
law as transgressors. 10 For
whoever keeps the whole
law, and yet stumbles in one
point, he has become guilty
of all. 11 For he who said,
"Do not commit adultery,"✡
also said, "Do not commit
murder."✡ Now if you do
not commit adultery but do
murder, you have become a
transgressor of the law. 12 So
speak and so do as men who
are to be judged by the law
of freedom. 13 For judgment
is without mercy to him who
has shown no mercy. Mercy
triumphs over judgment.
14 What good is it, my
brothers, if a man says he
has faith, but has no works?
Can faith save him? 15 And if

* **2:2** or, meeting ✡ **2:8** Leviticus 19:18 ✡ **2:11** Exodus 20:14; Deuteronomy 5:18 ✡ **2:11** Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17

a brother or sister is naked
and in lack of daily food,
16 and one of you tells them,
"Go in peace. Be warmed
and filled;" yet you didn't
give them the things the
body needs, what good is it?
17 Even so faith, if it has no
works, is dead in itself. 18 Yes,
a man will say, "You have
faith, and I have works."
Show me your faith without
works, and I will show you
my faith by my works.

19 You believe that God
is one. You do well. The
demons also believe —and
shudder. 20 But do you want
to know, vain man, that
faith apart from works is
dead? 21 Wasn't Abraham
our father justified by works,
in that he offered up Isaac
his son on the altar? 22 You
see that faith worked with
his works, and by works
faith was perfected. 23 So the
Scripture was fulfilled which
says, "Abraham believed
God, and it was accounted to
him as righteousness,"✡ and
he was called the friend of
God. 24 You see then that by
works a man is justified, and
not only by faith. 25 In the
same way, wasn't Rahab the
prostitute also justified by
works when she received the
messengers and sent them
out another way? 26 For as
the body apart from the spirit
is dead, even so faith apart
from works is dead.

3

1 Let not many of you be
teachers, my brothers, know-
ing that we will receive heav-
ier judgment. 2 For we all
stumble in many things. Any-
one who doesn't stumble in
word is a perfect person, able
to bridle the whole body also.
3 Indeed, we put bits into the
horses' mouths so that they
may obey us, and we guide
their whole body. 4 Behold,*
the ships also, though they
are so big and are driven by
fierce winds, are yet guided
by a very small rudder, wher-
ever the pilot desires. 5 So
the tongue is also a little
member, and boasts great
things. See how a small fire
can spread to a large for-
est! 6 And the tongue is
a fire. The world of iniq-
uity among our members is
the tongue, which defiles the
whole body, and sets on fire
the course of nature, and is
set on fire by Gehenna.† 7 For
every kind of animal, bird,
creeping thing, and sea crea-
ture is tamed, and has been
tamed by mankind; 8 but no-
body can tame the tongue. It
is a restless evil, full of deadly
poison. 9 With it we bless our
God and Father, and with it
we curse men who are made
in the image of God. 10 Out of
the same mouth comes bless-
ing and cursing. My broth-
ers, these things ought not to
be so. 11 Does a spring send

✡ **2:23** Genesis 15:6 * **3:4** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. † **3:6** or, Hell

out from the same opening fresh and bitter water? 12 Can a fig tree, my brothers, yield olives, or a vine figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh water.

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by his good conduct that his deeds are done in gentleness of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, don't boast and don't lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, sensual, and demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition are, there is confusion and every evil deed. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

4

1 Where do wars and fightings among you come from? Don't they come from your pleasures that war in your members? 2 You lust, and don't have. You murder and covet, and can't obtain. You fight and make war. You don't have, because you don't ask. 3 You ask, and don't receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. 4 You adulterers and adulteresses, don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who lives in us yearns jealously"? 6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."✡ 7 Be subject therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners. Purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Lament, mourn, and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he will exalt you.

11 Don't speak against one another, brothers. He who speaks against a brother and judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. 12 Only one is the lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge another?

13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow let's go into this city and spend a year there, trade, and make a profit." 14 Yet you don't know what your life will be like tomorrow. For what is your

✡ **4:6** Proverbs 3:34

life? For you are a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. 15 For you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will both live, and do this or that." 16 But now you glory in your boasting. All such boasting is evil. 17 To him therefore who knows to do good and doesn't do it, to him it is sin.

5

1 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming on you. 2 Your riches are corrupted and your garments are moth-eaten. 3 Your gold and your silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be for a testimony against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up your treasure in the last days. 4 Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you have kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of those who reaped have entered into the ears of the Lord of Armies.* 5 You have lived in luxury on the earth, and taken your pleasure. You have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter. 6 You have condemned and you have murdered the righteous one. He doesn't resist you.

7 Be patient therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it, until it receives the early and late rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

9 Don't grumble, brothers, against one another, so that you won't be judged. Behold, the judge stands at the door. 10 Take, brothers, for an example of suffering and of perseverance, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

12 But above all things, my brothers, don't swear — not by heaven, or by the earth, or by any other oath; but let your "yes" be "yes", and your "no", "no", so that you don't fall into hypocrisy.†

13 Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praises. 14 Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the assembly, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer of faith will heal him who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The insistent prayer of a righteous person is pow-

* **5:4** Greek: Sabaoth (for Hebrew: Tze'va'ot) † **5:12** TR reads "under judgment" instead of "into hypocrisy"

erfully effective. 17 Elijah was
a man with a nature like ours,
and he prayed earnestly that
it might not rain, and it didn't
rain on the earth for three
years and six months. 18 He
prayed again, and the sky
gave rain, and the earth pro-
duced its fruit.
19 Brothers, if any among
you wanders from the truth
and someone turns him back,
20 let him know that he who
turns a sinner from the error
of his way will save a soul
from death and will cover a
multitude of sins.

Peter's First Letter

1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,* to the chosen ones
who are living as foreigners
in the Dispersion in Pontus,
Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia,
and Bithynia, 2 according to
the foreknowledge of God the
Father, in sanctification of
the Spirit, that you may obey
Jesus Christ and be sprinkled
with his blood: Grace to you
and peace be multiplied.

3 Blessed be the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who according to his
great mercy caused us to be
born again to a living hope
through the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead,
4 to an incorruptible and
undefiled inheritance that
doesn't fade away, reserved
in Heaven for you, 5 who
by the power of God are
guarded through faith for
a salvation ready to be
revealed in the last time.
6 In this you greatly rejoice,
though now for a little while,
if need be, you have been
grieved in various trials,
7 that the proof of your
faith, which is more precious
than gold that perishes,
even though it is tested
by fire, may be found to
result in praise, glory, and
honor at the revelation of
Jesus Christ— 8 whom, not
having known, you love. In
him, though now you don't
see him, yet believing, you
rejoice greatly with joy that
is unspeakable and full of
glory, 9 receiving the result
of your faith, the salvation of
your souls.

10 Concerning this salva-
tion, the prophets sought and
searched diligently. They
prophesied of the grace
that would come to you,
11 searching for who or what
kind of time the Spirit of
Christ which was in them
pointed to when he predicted
the sufferings of Christ and
the glories that would follow
them. 12 To them it was
revealed that they served not
themselves, but you, in these
things, which now have been
announced to you through
those who preached the Good
News to you by the Holy
Spirit sent out from heaven;
which things angels desire to
look into.

13 Therefore prepare your
minds for action.† Be sober,
and set your hope fully on
the grace that will be brought
to you at the revelation of
Jesus Christ— 14 as children
of obedience, not conforming
yourselves according to your
former lusts as in your igno-
rance, 15 but just as he who
called you is holy, you your-
selves also be holy in all of
your behavior, 16 because it
is written, "You shall be holy,

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:13** literally, "gird up the waist of your mind" or "put on the belt of the waist of your mind" ✡ **1:16** Leviticus 11:44-45

for I am holy."✡

17 If you call on him as
Father, who without respect
of persons judges according
to each man's work, pass
the time of your living as
foreigners here in reverent
fear, 18 knowing that you
were redeemed, not with
corruptible things like silver
or gold, from the useless
way of life handed down
from your fathers, 19 but with
precious blood, as of a lamb
without blemish or spot, the
blood of Christ, 20 who was
foreknown indeed before
the foundation of the world,
but was revealed in this last
age for your sake, 21 who
through him are believers
in God, who raised him from
the dead and gave him glory,
so that your faith and hope
might be in God.

22 Seeing you have purified
your souls in your obedience
to the truth through the Spirit
in sincere brotherly affec-
tion, love one another from
the heart fervently, 23 having
been born again, not of cor-
ruptible seed, but of incor-
ruptible, through the word of
God, which lives and remains
forever. 24 For,

"All flesh is like grass,
and all of man's glory
like the flower in the
grass.
The grass withers, and its
flower falls;
25 but the Lord's word en-
dures forever."✡

This is the word of Good
News which was preached to
you.

2

1 Putting away therefore
all wickedness, all deceit,
hypocrisies, envies, and all
evil speaking, 2 as newborn
babies, long for the pure
spiritual milk, that with it
you may grow, 3 if indeed
you have tasted that the
Lord is gracious. 4 Come to
him, a living stone, rejected
indeed by men, but chosen
by God, precious. 5 You also
as living stones are built
up as a spiritual house, to
be a holy priesthood, to
offer up spiritual sacrifices,
acceptable to God through
Jesus Christ. 6 Because it is
contained in Scripture,

"Behold,* I lay in Zion a chief
cornerstone, chosen
and precious.
He who believes in him
will not be disap-
pointed."✡

7 For you who believe
therefore is the honor, but
for those who are disobedi-
ent,
"The stone which the
builders rejected
has become the chief cor-
nerstone,"✡

8 and,
"a stumbling stone and a rock
of offense."✡

✡ **1:25** Isaiah 40:6-8 * **2:6** "Behold", from "הִנֵּה" or "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. ✡ **2:6** Isaiah 28:16 ✡ **2:7** Psalm 118:22 ✡ **2:8** Isaiah 8:14

For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed. 9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 In the past, you were not a people, but now are God's people, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

11 Beloved, I beg you as foreigners and pilgrims to abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, 12 having good behavior among the nations, so in that of which they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good works and glorify God in the day of visitation.

13 Therefore subject yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether to the king, as supreme, 14 or to governors, as sent by him for vengeance on evildoers and for praise to those who do well. 15 For this is the will of God, that by well-doing you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. 16 Live as free people, yet not using your freedom for a cloak of wickedness, but as bondservants of God.

17 Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

18 Servants, be in subjection to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the wicked. 19 For it is commendable if someone endures pain, suffering unjustly, because of conscience toward God. 20 For what glory is it if, when you sin, you patiently endure beating? But if when you do well, you patiently endure suffering, this is commendable with God. 21 For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving you† an example, that you should follow his steps, 22 who didn't sin, "neither was deceit found in his mouth."✡ 23 When he was cursed, he didn't curse back. When he suffered, he didn't threaten, but committed himself to him who judges righteously. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live to righteousness. You were healed by his wounds.‡ 25 For you were going astray like sheep; but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer§ of your souls.

3

1 In the same way, wives, be in subjection to your own husbands, so that, even if any don't obey the Word, they may be won by the behavior of their wives

† **2:21** TR reads "us" instead of "you" ✡ **2:22** Isaiah 53:9 ‡ **2:24** or, stripes

§ **2:25** "Overseer" is from the Greek ἐπίσκοπον, which can mean overseer, curator, guardian, or superintendent.

without a word, 2 seeing
your pure behavior in fear.
3 Let your beauty come not
from the outward adorning
of braiding your hair, and
of wearing gold ornaments
or of putting on fine cloth-
ing, 4 but from the hidden
person of the heart, in the
incorruptible adornment of
a gentle and quiet spirit,
which is very precious in
God's sight. 5 For this is
how in the past the holy
women who hoped in God
also adorned themselves,
being in subjection to their
own husbands. 6 So Sarah
obeyed Abraham, calling
him lord, whose children you
now are if you do well and
are not put in fear by any
terror.

7 You husbands, in the
same way, live with your
wives according to knowl-
edge, giving honor to the
woman as to the weaker
vessel, as also being joint
heirs of the grace of life, that
your prayers may not be
hindered.

8 Finally, all of you be
like-minded, compassionate,
loving as brothers, tender-
hearted, courteous, 9 not
rendering evil for evil or
insult for insult; but instead
blessing, knowing that you
were called to this, that you
may inherit a blessing. 10 For,

"He who would love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from
evil
and his lips from speak-
ing deceit.
11 Let him turn away from
evil and do good.
Let him seek peace and
pursue it.
12 For the eyes of the Lord are
on the righteous,
and his ears open to their
prayer;
but the face of the Lord
is against those who do
evil."✡

13 Now who will harm you
if you become imitators of
that which is good? 14 But
even if you should suffer
for righteousness' sake, you
are blessed. "Don't fear
what they fear, neither be
troubled."✡ 15 But sanctify
the Lord God in your hearts.
Always be ready to give an
answer to everyone who asks
you a reason concerning the
hope that is in you, with
humility and fear, 16 having
a good conscience. Thus,
while you are spoken against
as evildoers, they may be
disappointed who curse your
good way of life in Christ.
17 For it is better, if it is
God's will, that you suffer
for doing what is right than
for doing evil. 18 Because
Christ also suffered for sins
once, the righteous for the
unrighteous, that he might
bring you to God, being put to
death in the flesh, but made
alive in the Spirit, 19 in whom
he also went and preached to
the spirits in prison, 20 who
before were disobedient

✡ **3:12** Psalm 34:12-16 ✡ **3:14** Isaiah 8:12

when God waited patiently
in the days of Noah while the
ship was being built. In it,
few, that is, eight souls, were
saved through water. 21 This
is a symbol of baptism, which
now saves you —not the
putting away of the filth of
the flesh, but the answer of a
good conscience toward God
—through the resurrection
of Jesus Christ, 22 who is at
the right hand of God, having
gone into heaven, angels and
authorities and powers being
made subject to him.

4

1 Therefore, since Christ
suffered for us in the flesh,
arm yourselves also with
the same mind; for he who
has suffered in the flesh has
ceased from sin, 2 that you
no longer should live the rest
of your time in the flesh for
the lusts of men, but for the
will of God. 3 For we have
spent enough of our past
time doing the desire of the
Gentiles, and having walked
in lewdness, lusts, drunken
binges, orgies, carousings,
and abominable idolatries.
4 They think it is strange that
you don't run with them
into the same excess of riot,
speaking evil of you. 5 They
will give account to him who
is ready to judge the living
and the dead. 6 For to this end
the Good News was preached
even to the dead, that they
might be judged indeed as
men in the flesh, but live as
to God in the spirit.

7 But the end of all things
is near. Therefore be of
sound mind, self-controlled,
and sober in prayer. 8 And
above all things be earnest in
your love among yourselves,
for love covers a multitude
of sins. 9 Be hospitable to
one another without grum-
bling. 10 As each has received
a gift, employ it in serving
one another, as good man-
agers of the grace of God in its
various forms. 11 If anyone
speaks, let it be as it were
the very words of God. If
anyone serves, let it be as of
the strength which God sup-
plies, that in all things God
may be glorified through Je-
sus Christ, to whom belong
the glory and the dominion
forever and ever. Amen.

12 Beloved, don't be aston-
ished at the fiery trial which
has come upon you to test
you, as though a strange
thing happened to you. 13 But
because you are partakers of
Christ's sufferings, rejoice,
that at the revelation of his
glory you also may rejoice
with exceeding joy. 14 If
you are insulted for the
name of Christ, you are
blessed, because the Spirit
of glory and of God rests
on you. On their part he
is blasphemed, but on your
part he is glorified. 15 But
let none of you suffer as a
murderer, or a thief, or an
evil doer, or a meddler in
other men's matters. 16 But if
one of you suffers for being
a Christian, let him not be

ashamed; but let him glorify
God in this matter. 17 For the
time has come for judgment
to begin with the household
of God. If it begins first with
us, what will happen to those
who don't obey the Good
News of God? 18 "If it is hard
for the righteous to be saved,
what will happen to the
ungodly and the sinner?"✡
19 Therefore let them also
who suffer according to the
will of God in doing good
entrust their souls to him, as
to a faithful Creator.

5

1 Therefore I exhort the
elders among you, as a
fellow elder and a witness
of the sufferings of Christ,
and who will also share
in the glory that will be
revealed: 2 shepherd the
flock of God which is among
you, exercising the oversight,
not under compulsion, but
voluntarily; not for dishonest
gain, but willingly; 3 not
as lording it over those
entrusted to you, but making
yourselves examples to the
flock. 4 When the chief
Shepherd is revealed, you
will receive the crown of
glory that doesn't fade away.

5 Likewise, you younger
ones, be subject to the
elder. Yes, all of you clothe
yourselves with humility
and subject yourselves to
one another; for "God resists
the proud, but gives grace
to the humble."✡ 6 Humble
yourselves therefore under
the mighty hand of God, that
he may exalt you in due time,
7 casting all your worries on
him, because he cares for
you.

8 Be sober and self-
controlled. Be watchful.
Your adversary, the devil,
walks around like a roaring
lion, seeking whom he
may devour. 9 Withstand
him steadfast in your faith,
knowing that your brothers
who are in the world are
undergoing the same suffer-
ings. 10 But may the God of all
grace, who called you to his
eternal glory by Christ Jesus,
after you have suffered a
little while, perfect, establish,
strengthen, and settle you.
11 To him be the glory and
the power forever and ever.
Amen.

12 Through Silvanus, our
faithful brother, as I consider
him, I have written to you
briefly, exhorting and testify-
ing that this is the true grace
of God in which you stand.
13 She who is in Babylon, cho-
sen together with you, greets
you. So does Mark, my son.
14 Greet one another with a
kiss of love.

Peace be to all of you who
are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

✡ **4:18** Proverbs 11:31 ✡ **5:5** Proverbs 3:34

Peter's Second Letter

1 Simon Peter, a servant
and apostle of Jesus Christ,*
to those who have obtained
a like precious faith with
us in the righteousness of
our God and Savior, Jesus
Christ: 2 Grace to you and
peace be multiplied in the
knowledge of God and of
Jesus our Lord, 3 seeing that
his divine power has granted
to us all things that pertain
to life and godliness, through
the knowledge of him who
called us by his own glory
and virtue, 4 by which he
has granted to us his pre-
cious and exceedingly great
promises; that through these
you may become partakers
of the divine nature, having
escaped from the corruption
that is in the world by lust.
5 Yes, and for this very
cause adding on your part
all diligence, in your faith
supply moral excellence;
and in moral excellence,
knowledge; 6 and in knowl-
edge, self-control; and in self-
control, perseverance; and
in perseverance, godliness;
7 and in godliness, brotherly
affection; and in brotherly
affection, love. 8 For if
these things are yours and
abound, they make you to not
be idle or unfruitful in the
knowledge of our Lord Jesus
Christ. 9 For he who lacks
these things is blind, seeing
only what is near, having
forgotten the cleansing from
his old sins. 10 Therefore,
brothers,† be more diligent
to make your calling and
election sure. For if you do
these things, you will never
stumble. 11 For thus you
will be richly supplied with
the entrance into the eternal
Kingdom of our Lord and
Savior, Jesus Christ.

12 Therefore I will not be
negligent to remind you
of these things, though
you know them and are
established in the present
truth. 13 I think it right, as
long as I am in this tent, to
stir you up by reminding you,
14 knowing that the putting
off of my tent comes swiftly,
even as our Lord Jesus Christ
made clear to me. 15 Yes, I
will make every effort that
you may always be able to
remember these things even
after my departure.

16 For we didn't follow
cunningly devised fables
when we made known to
you the power and coming
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
but we were eyewitnesses
of his majesty. 17 For he
received from God the Father
honor and glory when the
voice came to him from the
Majestic Glory, "This is my
beloved Son, in whom I am

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

† **1:10** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

✡ **1:17** Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35

well pleased."✡ 18 We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain.

19 We have the more sure word of prophecy; and you do well that you heed it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of private interpretation. 21 For no prophecy ever came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

2

1 But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master who bought them, bringing on themselves swift destruction. 2 Many will follow their immoral* ways, and as a result, the way of the truth will be maligned. 3 In covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words: whose sentence now from of old doesn't linger, and their destruction will not slumber.

4 For if God didn't spare angels when they sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus,† and committed them to pits of darkness to be reserved for judgment; 5 and didn't spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly, 6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, having made them an example to those who would live in an ungodly way, 7 and delivered righteous Lot, who was very distressed by the lustful life of the wicked 8 (for that righteous man dwelling among them was tormented in his righteous soul from day to day with seeing and hearing lawless deeds), 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, 10 but chiefly those who walk after the flesh in the lust of defilement and despise authority. Daring, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, 11 whereas angels, though greater in might and power, don't bring a slanderous judgment against them before the Lord. 12 But these, as unreasoning creatures, born natural animals to be taken and destroyed, speaking evil in matters about which they are ignorant, will in their destroying surely be destroyed, 13 receiving the wages of unrighteousness; people who count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and defects, reveling in their

* **2:2** TR reads "destructive" instead of "immoral" † **2:4** Tartarus is another name for Hell

deceit while they feast with you; 14 having eyes full of adultery, and who can't cease from sin, enticing unsettled souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children! 15 Forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of wrongdoing; 16 but he was rebuked for his own disobedience. A speechless donkey spoke with a man's voice and stopped the madness of the prophet.

17 These are wells without water, clouds driven by a storm, for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved forever. 18 For, uttering great swelling words of emptiness, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by licentiousness, those who are indeed escaping from those who live in error; 19 promising them liberty, while they themselves are bondservants of corruption; for a man is brought into bondage by whoever overcomes him.

20 For if, after they have escaped the defilement of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in it and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. 21 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb, "The dog turns to his own vomit again,"✡ and "the sow that has washed to wallowing in the mire."

3

1 This is now, beloved, the second letter that I have written to you; and in both of them I stir up your sincere mind by reminding you 2 that you should remember the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets and the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, 3 knowing this first, that in the last days mockers will come, walking after their own lusts 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of his coming? For, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation." 5 For they willfully forget that there were heavens from of old, and an earth formed out of water and amid water by the word of God, 6 by which means the world that existed then, being overflowed with water, perished. 7 But the heavens that exist now and the earth, by the same word have been stored up for fire, being reserved against the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

8 But don't forget this one thing, beloved, that one day is

✡ **2:22** Proverbs 26:11

with the Lord as a thousand
years, and a thousand years
as one day. 9 The Lord is not
slow concerning his promise,
as some count slowness;
but he is patient with us,
not wishing that anyone
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 which the heavens
will pass away with a great
noise, and the elements will
be dissolved with fervent
heat; and the earth and the
works that are in it will be
burned up. 11 Therefore,
since all these things will be
destroyed like this, what kind
of people ought you to be
in holy living and godliness,
12 looking for and earnestly
desiring the coming of the
day of God, which will cause
the burning heavens to be
dissolved, and the elements
will melt with fervent heat?
13 But, according to his
promise, we look for new
heavens and a new earth, in
which righteousness dwells.

14 Therefore, beloved,
seeing that you look for
these things, be diligent to
be found in peace, without
defect and blameless in his
sight. 15 Regard the patience
of our Lord as salvation;
even as our beloved brother
Paul also, according to the
wisdom given to him, wrote
to you, 16 as also in all of his
letters, speaking in them of
these things. In those, there
are some things that are
hard to understand, which
the ignorant and unsettled
twist, as they also do to the
other Scriptures, to their own
destruction. 17 You therefore,
beloved, knowing these
things beforehand, beware,
lest being carried away with
the error of the wicked,
you fall from your own
steadfastness. 18 But grow
in the grace and knowledge
of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ. To him be the glory
both now and forever. Amen.

John's First Letter

1 That which was from
the beginning, that which
we have heard, that which
we have seen with our eyes,
that which we saw, and our
hands touched, concerning
the Word of life 2 (and the
life was revealed, and we
have seen, and testify, and
declare to you the life, the
eternal life, which was with
the Father, and was revealed
to us); 3 that which we have
seen and heard we declare
to you, that you also may
have fellowship with us. Yes,
and our fellowship is with
the Father and with his Son,
Jesus Christ.* 4 And we write
these things to you, that our
joy may be fulfilled.

5 This is the message which
we have heard from him and
announce to you, that God is
light, and in him is no dark-
ness at all. 6 If we say that
we have fellowship with him
and walk in the darkness, we
lie and don't tell the truth.
7 But if we walk in the light
as he is in the light, we have
fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus Christ
his Son, cleanses 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 righteous to for-
give us the sins and to cleanse
us from all unrighteousness.
10 If we say that we haven't
sinned, we make him a liar,
and his word is not in us.

2

1 My little children, I write
these things to you so that
you may not sin. If anyone
sins, we have a Counselor*
with the Father, Jesus Christ,
the righteous. 2 And he is
the atoning sacrifice† for our
sins, and not for ours only,
but also for the whole world.
3 This is how we know that
we know him: if we keep
his commandments. 4 One
who says, "I know him," and
doesn't keep his command-
ments, is a liar, and the truth
isn't in him. 5 But God's love
has most certainly been per-
fected in whoever keeps his
word. This is how we know
that we are in him: 6 he who
says he remains in him ought
himself also to walk just like
he walked.

7 Brothers, I write no new
commandment to you, but
an old commandment which
you had from the beginning.
The old commandment is
the word which you heard
from the beginning. 8 Again,
I write a new commandment
to you, which is true in him
and in you, because the
darkness is passing away
and the true light already

* **1:3** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

* **2:1** Greek παρακλητον: Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, and Comforter. † **2:2** "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "ιλασμος", an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin.

shines. 9 He who says he
is in the light and hates his
brother is in the darkness
even until now. 10 He who
loves his brother remains
in the light, and there is no
occasion for stumbling in
him. 11 But he who hates his
brother is in the darkness,
and walks in the darkness,
and doesn't know where he is
going, because the darkness
has blinded his eyes.

12 I write to you, little chil-
dren, because your sins are
forgiven you for his name's
sake.

13 I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who
is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men,
because you have overcome
the evil one.

I write to you, little chil-
dren, because you know the
Father.

14 I have written to you, fa-
thers, because you know him
who is from the beginning.

I have written to you,
young men, because you are
strong, and the word of God
remains in you, and you have
overcome the evil one.

15 Don't love the world or
the things that are in the
world. If anyone loves the
world, the Father's love isn't
in him. 16 For all that is in
the world —the lust of the
flesh, the lust of the eyes, and
the pride of life —isn't the
Father's, but is the world's.
17 The world is passing away
with its lusts, but he who does
God's will remains forever.

18 Little children, these are
the end times, and as you
heard that the Antichrist is
coming, even now many an-
tichrists have arisen. By this
we know that it is the final
hour. 19 They went out from
us, but they didn't belong to
us; for if they had belonged
to us, they would have con-
tinued with us. But they
left, that they might be re-
vealed that none of them be-
long to us. 20 You have an
anointing from the Holy One,
and you all have knowledge.‡
21 I have not written to you
because you don't know the
truth, but because you know
it, and because no lie is of the
truth. 22 Who is the liar but he
who denies that Jesus is the
Christ? This is the Antichrist,
he who denies the Father and
the Son. 23 Whoever denies
the Son doesn't have the Fa-
ther. He who confesses the
Son has the Father also.

24 Therefore, as for you,
let that remain in you which
you heard from the begin-
ning. If that which you heard
from the beginning remains
in you, you also will remain
in the Son, and in the Father.
25 This is the promise which
he promised us, the eternal
life.

26 These things I have
written to you concerning
those who would lead you
astray. 27 As for you, the
anointing which you re-
ceived from him remains in
you, and you don't need for
anyone to teach you. But

‡ **2:20** Or, "know what is true", or, "know all things"

as his anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is no lie, and even as it taught you, you will remain in him.

28 Now, little children, remain in him, that when he appears, we may have boldness and not be ashamed before him at his coming. 29 If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

3

1 See how great a love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God! For this cause the world doesn't know us, because it didn't know him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God. It is not yet revealed what we will be; but we know that when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him just as he is. 3 Everyone who has this hope set on him purifies himself, even as he is pure.

4 Everyone who sins also commits lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he was revealed to take away our sins, and no sin is in him. 6 Whoever remains in him doesn't sin. Whoever sins hasn't seen him and doesn't know him.

7 Little children, let no one lead you astray. He who does righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. To this end the Son of God was revealed: that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whoever is born of God doesn't commit sin, because his seed remains in him, and he can't sin, because he is born of God. 10 In this the children of God are revealed, and the children of the devil. Whoever doesn't do righteousness is not of God, neither is he who doesn't love his brother. 11 For this is the message which you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another— 12 unlike Cain, who was of the evil one and killed his brother. Why did he kill him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's righteous.

13 Don't be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. He who doesn't love his brother remains in death. 15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.

16 By this we know love, because he laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 17 But whoever has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, then closes his heart of compassion against him, how does God's love remain in him?

18 My little children, let's not love in word only, or with the tongue only, but in deed and truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth and persuade our hearts before him, 20 because

if our heart condemns us,
God is greater than our
heart, and knows all things.
21 Beloved, if our hearts
don't condemn us, we have
boldness toward God; 22 so
whatever we ask, we receive
from him, because we keep
his commandments and do
the things that are pleasing
in his sight. 23 This is his
commandment, that we
should believe in the name
of his Son, Jesus Christ, and
love one another, even as
he commanded. 24 He who
keeps his commandments
remains in him, and he in
him. By this we know that he
remains in us, by the Spirit
which he gave us.

4

1 Beloved, don't believe ev-
ery spirit, but test the spir-
its, whether they are of God,
because many false prophets
have gone out into the world.
2 By this you know the Spirit
of God: every spirit who con-
fesses that Jesus Christ has
come in the flesh is of God,
3 and every spirit who doesn't
confess that Jesus Christ has
come in the flesh is not of
God; and this is the spirit
of the Antichrist, of whom
you have heard that it comes.
Now it is in the world al-
ready. 4 You are of God, little
children, and have overcome
them, because greater is he
who is in you than he who is
in the world. 5 They are of the
world. Therefore they speak
of the world, and the world
hears them. 6 We are of God.
He who knows God listens to
us. He who is not of God
doesn't listen to us. By this we
know the spirit of truth, and
the spirit of error.

7 Beloved, let's love one an-
other, for love is of God; and
everyone who loves has been
born of God and knows God.
8 He who doesn't love doesn't
know God, for God is love.
9 By this God's love was re-
vealed in us, that God has
sent his only born* Son into
the world that we might live
through him. 10 In this is
love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us, and sent
his Son as the atoning sacri-
fice† for our sins. 11 Beloved,
if God loved us in this way,
we also ought to love one an-
other. 12 No one has seen God
at any time. If we love one an-
other, God remains in us, and
his love has been perfected in
us.

13 By this we know that we
remain in him and he in us,
because he has given us of
his Spirit. 14 We have seen
and testify that the Father
has sent the Son as the Savior
of the world. 15 Whoever
confesses that Jesus is the Son
of God, God remains in him,
and he in God. 16 We know
and have believed the love
which God has for us. God
is love, and he who remains

* **4:9** The phrase "only born" is from the Greek word "μονογενη", which is sometimes translated "only begotten" or "one and only". † **4:10** "atoning sacrifice" is from the Greek "ιλασμος", an appeasing, propitiating, or the means of appeasement or propitiation—the sacrifice that turns away God's wrath because of our sin.

in love remains in God, and
God remains in him. 17 In
this, love has been made
perfect among us, that we
may have boldness in the
day of judgment, because as
he is, even so we are in this
world. 18 There is no fear in
love; but perfect love casts
out fear, because fear has
punishment. He who fears
is not made perfect in love.
19 We love him,‡ because he
first loved us. 20 If a man says,
"I love God," and hates his
brother, he is a liar; for he
who doesn't love his brother
whom he has seen, how can
he love God whom he has not
seen? 21 This commandment
we have from him, that he
who loves God should also
love his brother.

5

1 Whoever believes that Je-
sus is the Christ has been
born of God. Whoever loves
the Father also loves the child
who is born 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
loving God, that we keep his
commandments. His com-
mandments are not grievous.
4 For whatever is born of God
overcomes the world. This
is the victory that has over-
come the world: your faith.
5 Who is he who overcomes
the world, but he who be-
lieves that Jesus is the Son of
God?

6 This is he who came
by water and blood, Jesus
Christ; not with the water
only, but with the water and
the blood. It is the Spirit
who testifies, because the
Spirit is the truth. 7 For there
are three who testify:* 8 the
Spirit, the water, and the
blood; and the three agree
as one. 9 If we receive the
witness of men, the witness
of God is greater; for this
is God's testimony which
he has testified concerning
his Son. 10 He who believes
in the Son of God has the
testimony in himself. He
who doesn't believe God has
made him a liar, because
he has not believed in the
testimony that God has given
concerning his Son. 11 The
testimony is this: that God
gave to us eternal life, and
this life is in his Son. 12 He
who has the Son has the life.
He who doesn't have God's
Son doesn't have the life.

13 These things I have writ-
ten to you who believe in
the name of the Son of God,
that you may know that you
have eternal life, and that
you may continue to believe
in the name of the Son of God.

14 This is the boldness
which we have toward him,
that if we ask anything
according to his will, he
listens to us. 15 And if we
know that he listens to us,
whatever we ask, we know
that we have the petitions
which we have asked of him.

16 If anyone sees his
brother sinning a sin not

‡ **4:19** NU omits "him". * **5:7** Only a few recent manuscripts add "in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that testify on earth:"

leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life for those who sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I don't say that he should make a request concerning this. 17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death.

18 We know that whoever is born of God doesn't sin, but he who was born of God keeps himself, and the evil one doesn't touch him. 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 20 We know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

John's Second Letter

1 The elder, to the chosen
lady and her children, whom
I love in truth, and not I only,
but also all those who know
the truth, 2 for the truth's
sake, which remains in us,
and it will be with us for-
ever: 3 Grace, mercy, and
peace will be with us, from
God the Father and from the
Lord Jesus Christ,* the Son of
the Father, in truth and love.
4 I rejoice greatly that I
have found some of your
children walking in truth,
even as we have been com-
manded by the Father. 5 Now
I beg you, dear lady, not
as though I wrote to you
a new commandment, but
that which we had from the
beginning, that we love one
another. 6 This is love, that
we should walk according
to his commandments. This
is the commandment, even
as you heard from the
beginning, that you should
walk in it.
7 For many deceivers have
gone out into the world, those
who don't confess that Je-
sus Christ came in the flesh.
This is the deceiver and the
Antichrist. 8 Watch your-
selves, that we don't lose the
things which we have accom-
plished, but that we receive
a full reward. 9 Whoever
transgresses and doesn't re-
main in the teaching of Christ
doesn't have God. He who
remains in the teaching has
both the Father and the Son.
10 If anyone comes to you
and doesn't bring this teach-
ing, don't receive him into
your house, and don't wel-
come him, 11 for he who wel-
comes him participates in his
evil deeds.
12 Having many things to
write to you, I don't want to
do so with paper and ink, but
I hope to come to you and to
speak face to face, that our
joy may be made full. 13 The
children of your chosen sis-
ter greet you. Amen.

* **1:3** "Christ" means "Anointed One".

John's Third Letter

1 The elder to Gaius the
beloved, whom I love in
truth.
2 Beloved, I pray that you
may prosper in all things and
be healthy, even as your soul
prospers. 3 For I rejoiced
greatly when brothers came
and testified about your
truth, even as you walk in
truth. 4 I have no greater joy
than this: to hear about my
children walking in truth.
5 Beloved, you do a faith-
ful work in whatever you
accomplish for those who
are brothers and strangers.
6 They have testified about
your love before the assem-
bly. You will do well to
send them forward on their
journey in a way worthy
of God, 7 because for the
sake of the Name they went
out, taking nothing from
the Gentiles. 8 We therefore
ought to receive such, that
we may be fellow workers for
the truth.
9 I wrote to the assembly,
but Diotrephes, who loves
to be first among them,
doesn't accept what we say.
10 Therefore, if I come, I will
call attention to his deeds
which he does, unjustly
accusing us with wicked
words. Not content with
this, he doesn't receive the
brothers himself, and those
who would, he forbids and
throws out of the assembly.
11 Beloved, don't imitate
that which is evil, but that
which is good. He who does
good is of God. He who
does evil hasn't seen God.
12 Demetrius has the testi-
mony of all, and of the truth
itself; yes, we also testify, and
you know that our testimony
is true.
13 I had many things to
write to you, but I am unwill-
ing to write to you with ink
and pen; 14 but I hope to see
you soon. Then we will speak
face to face.
Peace be to you. The
friends greet you. Greet the
friends by name.

The Letter from Jude

1 Jude,* a servant of Jesus
Christ,† and brother of James,
to those who are called, sanc-
tified by God the Father, and
kept for Jesus Christ: 2 May
mercy, peace, and love be
multiplied to you.

3 Beloved, while I was very
eager to write to you about
our common salvation, I was
constrained to write to you
exhorting you to contend
earnestly for the faith which
was once for all delivered
to the saints. 4 For there
are certain men who crept
in secretly, even those who
were long ago written about
for this condemnation: un-
godly men, turning the grace
of our God into indecency,
and denying our only Master,
God, and Lord, Jesus Christ.

5 Now I desire to remind
you, though you already
know this, that the Lord,
having saved a people out of
the land of Egypt, afterward
destroyed those who didn't
believe. 6 Angels who didn't
keep their first domain, but
deserted their own dwelling
place, he has kept in everlast-
ing bonds under darkness
for the judgment of the great
day. 7 Even as Sodom and
Gomorrah and the cities
around them, having in the
same way as these given
themselves over to sexual
immorality and gone after
strange flesh, are shown as
an example, suffering the
punishment of eternal fire.
8 Yet in the same way, these
also in their dreaming defile
the flesh, despise authority,
and slander celestial beings.
9 But Michael, the archangel,
when contending with the
devil and arguing about
the body of Moses, dared
not bring against him an
abusive condemnation, but
said, "May the Lord rebuke
you!" 10 But these speak
evil of whatever things
they don't know. They are
destroyed in these things that
they understand naturally,
like the creatures without
reason. 11 Woe to them!
For they went in the way
of Cain, and ran riotously
in the error of Balaam for
hire, and perished in Korah's
rebellion. 12 These are
hidden rocky reefs in your
love feasts when they feast
with you, shepherds who
without fear feed them-
selves; clouds without water,
carried along by winds;
autumn trees without fruit,
twice dead, plucked up by the
roots; 13 wild waves of the
sea, foaming out their own
shame; wandering stars,
for whom the blackness of
darkness has been reserved
forever. 14 About these also
Enoch, the seventh from
Adam, prophesied, saying,

* **1:1** or, Judah † **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:14** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

“Behold,‡ the Lord came with
ten thousands of his holy
ones, 15 to execute judgment
on all, and to convict all the
ungodly of all their works of
ungodliness which they have
done in an ungodly way,
and of all the hard things
which ungodly sinners
have spoken against him.”
16 These are murmurers
and complainers, walking
after their lusts —and their
mouth speaks proud things
—showing respect of persons
to gain advantage.

17 But you, beloved, re-
member the words which
have been spoken before by
the apostles of our Lord Jesus
Christ. 18 They said to you,
“In the last time there will
be mockers, walking after
their own ungodly lusts.”
19 These are those who cause
divisions and are sensual,
not having the Spirit.

20 But you, beloved, keep
building up yourselves on
your most holy faith, praying
in the Holy Spirit. 21 Keep
yourselves in God’s love,
looking for the mercy of
our Lord Jesus Christ to
eternal life. 22 On some
have compassion, making a
distinction, 23 and some save,
snatching them out of the fire
with fear, hating even the
clothing stained by the flesh.

24 Now to him who is able to
keep them§ from stumbling,
and to present you faultless
before the presence of his
glory in great joy, 25 to God
our Savior, who alone is wise,
be glory and majesty, domin-
ion and power, both now and
forever. Amen.

§ **1:24** TR and NU read “you”

The Revelation to John

1 This is the Revelation
of Jesus Christ,* which God
gave him to show to his
servants the things which
must happen soon, which he
sent and made known by his
angel† to his servant, John,
2 who testified to God's word
and of the testimony of Jesus
Christ, about everything that
he saw.
3 Blessed is he who reads
and those who hear the
words of the prophecy, and
keep the things that are
written in it, for the time is
near.
4 John, to the seven assem-
blies that are in Asia: Grace
to you and peace from God,
who is and who was and who
is to come; and from the
seven Spirits who are before
his throne; 5 and from Jesus
Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and
the ruler of the kings of the
earth. To him who loves
us, and washed us from our
sins by his blood— 6 and he
made us to be a Kingdom,
priests✡ to his God and Father
—to him be the glory and the
dominion forever and ever.
Amen.
7 Behold,‡ he is coming
with the clouds, and every
eye will see him, including
those who pierced him. All
the tribes of the earth will
mourn over him. Even so,
Amen.
8 **"I am the Alpha and
the Omega,§"** says the Lord
God,* **"who is and who was
and who is to come, the
Almighty."**
9 I John, your brother
and partner with you in the
oppression, Kingdom, and
perseverance in Christ Jesus,
was on the isle that is called
Patmos because of God's
Word and the testimony
of Jesus Christ. 10 I was
in the Spirit on the Lord's
day, and I heard behind
me a loud voice, like a
trumpet 11 saying,† **"What
you see, write in a book
and send to the seven
assemblies:‡ to Ephesus,
Smyrna, Pergamum, Thy-
atira, Sardis, Philadel-
phia, and to Laodicea."**
12 I turned to see the voice
that spoke with me. Having
turned, I saw seven golden
lamp stands. 13 And among
the lamp stands was one like
a son of man,✡ clothed with
a robe reaching down to his
feet, and with a golden sash
around his chest. 14 His head
and his hair were white as
white wool, like snow. His
eyes were like a flame of
fire. 15 His feet were like

* **1:1** "Christ" means "Anointed One". † **1:1** or, messenger (here and wherever angel is mentioned) ✡ **1:6** Exodus 19:6; Isaiah 61:6 ‡ **1:7** "Behold", from "ἰδοὺ", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection. § **1:8** TR adds "the Beginning and the End" * **1:8** TR omits "God" † **1:11** TR adds "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last." ‡ **1:11** TR adds "which are in Asia" ✡ **1:13** Daniel 7:13

burnished brass, as if it had
been refined in a furnace.
His voice was like the voice
of many waters. 16 He had
seven stars in his right hand.
Out of his mouth proceeded a
sharp two-edged sword. His
face was like the sun shining
at its brightest. 17 When I saw
him, I fell at his feet like a
dead man.

He laid his right hand
on me, saying, **"Don't be
afraid. I am the first
and the last, 18 and the
Living one. I was dead,
and behold, I am alive
forever and ever. Amen.
I have the keys of Death
and of Hades.**§ **19 Write
therefore the things which
you have seen, and the
things which are, and the
things which will happen
hereafter. 20 The mystery
of the seven stars which
you saw in my right hand,
and the seven golden lamp
stands is this: The seven
stars are the angels* of
the seven assemblies. The
seven lamp stands are
seven assemblies.**

2

**1 "To the angel of the as-
sembly in Ephesus write:**

**"He who holds the seven
stars in his right hand,
he who walks among the
seven golden lamp stands
says these things:**

**2 "I know your works,
and your toil and perse-
verance, and that you can't
tolerate evil men, and
have tested those who call
themselves apostles, and
they are not, and found
them false. 3 You have
perseverance and have
endured for my name's
sake, and have * not grown
weary. 4 But I have
this against you, that
you left your first love.
5 Remember therefore
from where you have
fallen, and repent and do
the first works; or else I am
coming to you swiftly, and
will move your lamp stand
out of its place, unless you
repent. 6 But this you
have, that you hate the
works of the Nicolaitans,
which I also hate. 7 He
who has an ear, let him
hear what the Spirit says
to the assemblies. To him
who overcomes I will give
to eat from the tree of life,
which is in the Paradise of
my God.**

**8 "To the angel of the as-
sembly in Smyrna write:**

**"The first and the last,
who was dead, and has
come to life says these
things:**

**9 "I know your works, op-
pression, and your poverty
(but you are rich), and the
blasphemy of those who
say they are Jews, and they
are not, but are a syna-
gogue of Satan. 10 Don't be
afraid of the things which
you are about to suffer.
Behold, the devil is about**

§ **1:18** or, Hell * **1:20** or, messengers (here and wherever angels are mentioned) * **2:3** TR adds "have labored and"

to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested; and you will have oppression for ten days. Be faithful to death, and I will give you the crown of life. 11 **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. He who overcomes won't be harmed by the second death.**

12 **"To the angel of the assembly in Pergamum write:**

"He who has the sharp two-edged sword says these things:

13 **"I know your works and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. You hold firmly to my name, and didn't deny my faith in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.** 14 **But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to throw a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.** 15 **So also you likewise have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.**† 16 **Repent therefore, or else I am coming to you quickly and I will make war against them with the sword of my mouth.** 17 **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies. To him who overcomes, to him I will give of the hidden manna,**‡ **and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows but he who receives it.**

18 **"To the angel of the assembly in Thyatira write:**

"The Son of God, who has his eyes like a flame of fire, and his feet are like burnished brass, says these things:

19 **"I know your works, your love, faith, service, patient endurance, and that your last works are more than the first.** 20 **But I have this against you, that you tolerate your**§ **woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. She teaches and seduces my servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat things sacrificed to idols.** 21 **I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality.** 22 **Behold, I will throw her and those who commit adultery with her into a bed of great oppression, unless they repent of her works.** 23 **I will kill her children with Death, and all the assemblies will know that I am he who searches the minds and hearts. I will give to each**

† **2:15** TR reads "which I hate" instead of "likewise" ‡ **2:17** Manna is supernatural food, named after the Hebrew for "What is it?". See Exodus 11:7-9.

§ **2:20** TR, NU read "that" instead of "your"

one of you according to your deeds. 24 But to you I say, to the rest who are in Thyatira—as many as don't have this teaching, who don't know what some call 'the deep things of Satan'—to you I say, I am not putting any other burden on you. 25 Nevertheless, hold that which you have firmly until I come. 26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps my works to the end, to him I will give authority over the nations. 27 He will rule them with a rod of iron, shattering them like clay pots,✡ as I also have received of my Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star. 29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies.

3

1 "And to the angel of the assembly in Sardis write:

"He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars says these things:

"I know your works, that you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. 2 Wake up and strengthen the things that remain, which you were about to throw away,* for I have found no works of yours perfected before my God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard. Keep it and repent. If therefore you won't watch, I will come as a thief, and you won't know what hour I will come upon you. 4 Nevertheless you have a few names in Sardis that didn't defile their garments. They will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes will be arrayed in white garments, and I will in no way blot his name out of the book of life, and I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies.

7 "To the angel of the assembly in Philadelphia write:

"He who is holy, he who is true, he who has the key of David, he who opens and no one can shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says these things:

8 "I know your works (behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one can shut), that you have a little power, and kept my word, and didn't deny my name. 9 Behold, I make some of the synagogue of Satan, of those who say they are Jews, and they are not, but lie —behold, I will make them to come and worship before your feet, and to

✡ **2:27** Psalm 2:9 * **3:2** NU & TR read "which were about to die" instead of "which you were about to throw away".

know that I have loved you. 10 **Because you kept my command to endure, I also will keep you from the hour of testing which is to come on the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.** 11 **I am coming quickly! Hold firmly that which you have, so that no one takes your crown.** 12 **He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God, and he will go out from there no more. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from my God, and my own new name.** 13 **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies.**

14 **"To the angel of the assembly in Laodicea write:**

"The Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning† of God's creation, says these things:

15 **"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were cold or hot.** 16 **So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of my mouth.** 17 **Because you say, 'I am rich, and have gotten riches, and have need of nothing,' and don't know that you are the wretched one, miserable, poor, blind, and naked;** 18 **I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, that you may become rich; and white garments, that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes, that you may see.** 19 **As many as I love, I reprove and chasten. Be zealous therefore, and repent.** 20 **Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, then I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with me.** 21 **He who overcomes, I will give to him to sit down with me on my throne, as I also overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.** 22 **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the assemblies."**

4

1 After these things I looked and saw a door opened in heaven; and the first voice that I heard, like a trumpet speaking with me, was one saying, "Come up here, and I will show you the things which must happen after this."

2 Immediately I was in the Spirit. Behold, there was a throne set in heaven, and one sitting on the throne 3 that looked like a jasper stone and a sardius. There was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald to look at. 4 Around the throne

† **3:14** or, Source, or Head

were twenty-four thrones. On the thrones were twenty-four elders sitting, dressed in white garments, with crowns of gold on their heads. 5 Out of the throne proceed lightnings, sounds, and thunders. There were seven lamps of fire burning before his throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. 6 Before the throne was something like a sea of glass, similar to crystal. In the middle of the throne, and around the throne were four living creatures full of eyes before and behind. 7 The first creature was like a lion, the second creature like a calf, the third creature had a face like a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within. They have no rest day and night, saying, "Holy, holy, holy* is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come!"

9 When the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to him who sits on the throne, to him who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever, and throw their crowns before the throne, saying, 11 "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, the Holy One,† to receive the glory, the honor, and the power, for you created all things, and because of your desire they existed and were created!"

5

1 I saw, in the right hand of him who sat on the throne, a book written inside and outside, sealed shut with seven seals. 2 I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the book, and to break its seals?" 3 No one in heaven above, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book or to look in it. 4 Then I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look in it. 5 One of the elders said to me, "Don't weep. Behold, the Lion who is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome: he who opens the book and its seven seals."

6 I saw in the middle of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the middle of the elders, a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth. 7 Then he came, and he took it out of the right hand of him who sat on the throne. 8 Now when he had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the

* **4:8** Hodges/Farstad MT reads "holy" 9 times instead of 3. † **4:11** TR omits "and God, the Holy One,"

saints. 9 They sang a new
song, saying,
"You are worthy to take the
book
and to open its seals,
for you were killed,
and bought us for God
with your blood
out of every tribe, lan-
guage, people, and na-
tion,
10 and made us kings and
priests to our God;
and we will reign on the
earth."
11 I looked, and I heard
something like a voice of
many angels around the
throne, the living creatures,
and the elders. The number
of them was ten thousands
of ten thousands, and thou-
sands of thousands, 12 saying
with a loud voice, "Worthy
is the Lamb who has been
killed to receive the power,
wealth, wisdom, strength,
honor, glory, and blessing!"

13 I heard every created
thing which is in heaven, on
the earth, under the earth,
on the sea, and everything in
them, saying, "To him who
sits on the throne and to the
Lamb be the blessing, the
honor, the glory, and the
dominion, forever and ever!
Amen!"*

14 The four living creatures
said, "Amen!" Then the†
elders fell down and wor-
shiped.‡

6

1 I saw that the Lamb
opened one of the seven
seals, and I heard one of the
four living creatures saying,
as with a voice of thunder,
"Come and see!" 2 Then a
white horse appeared, and
he who sat on it had a bow. A
crown was given to him, and
he came out conquering, and
to conquer.

3 When he opened the sec-
ond seal, I heard the sec-
ond living creature saying,
"Come!" 4 Another came out,
a red horse. To him who
sat on it was given power to
take peace from the earth,
and that they should kill one
another. There was given to
him a great sword.

5 When he opened the third
seal, I heard the third living
creature saying, "Come and
see!" And behold, a black
horse, and he who sat on it
had a balance in his hand.
6 I heard a voice in the mid-
dle of the four living crea-
tures saying, "A choenix* of
wheat for a denarius, and
three choenix of barley for a
denarius! Don't damage the
oil and the wine!"

7 When he opened the
fourth seal, I heard the fourth
living creature saying, "Come
and see!" 8 And behold, a
pale horse, and the name
of he who sat on it was
Death. Hades† followed with
him. Authority over one
fourth of the earth, to kill

* **5:13** TR omits "Amen!" † **5:14** TR adds "twenty-four" ‡ **5:14** TR adds "the one living forever and ever" * **6:6** A choenix is a dry volume measure that is a little more than a liter (a little more than a quart). † **6:8** or, Hell

with the sword, with famine,
with death, and by the wild
animals of the earth was
given to him.
9 When he opened the
fifth seal, I saw underneath
the altar the souls of those
who had been killed for the
Word of God, and for the
testimony of the Lamb which
they had. 10 They cried with
a loud voice, saying, "How
long, Master, the holy and
true, until you judge and
avenge our blood on those
who dwell on the earth?" 11 A
long white robe was given
to each of them. They were
told that they should rest yet
for a while, until their fellow
servants and their brothers,‡
who would also be killed
even as they were, should
complete their course.
12 I saw when he opened
the sixth seal, and there
was a great earthquake.
The sun became black as
sackcloth made of hair, and
the whole moon became as
blood. 13 The stars of the
sky fell to the earth, like a
fig tree dropping its unripe
figs when it is shaken by a
great wind. 14 The sky was
removed like a scroll when it
is rolled up. Every mountain
and island was moved out
of its place. 15 The kings of
the earth, the princes, the
commanding officers, the
rich, the strong, and every
slave and free person, hid
themselves in the caves and
in the rocks of the mountains.
16 They told the mountains
and the rocks, "Fall on us,
and hide us from the face of
him who sits on the throne,
and from the wrath of the
Lamb, 17 for the great day of
his wrath has come, and who
is able to stand?"

7

1 After this, I saw four an-
gels standing at the four cor-
ners of the earth, holding the
four winds of the earth, so
that no wind would blow on
the earth, or on the sea, or
on any tree. 2 I saw another
angel ascend from the sun-
rise, having the seal of the
living God. He cried with
a loud voice to the four an-
gels to whom it was given
to harm the earth and the
sea, 3 saying, "Don't harm
the earth, the sea, or the
trees, until we have sealed
the bondservants of our God
on their foreheads!" 4 I heard
the number of those who
were sealed, one hundred
forty-four thousand, sealed
out of every tribe of the chil-
dren of Israel:
5 of the tribe of Judah twelve
thousand were sealed,
of the tribe of Reuben twelve
thousand,
of the tribe of Gad twelve
thousand,
6 of the tribe of Asher twelve
thousand,
of the tribe of Naphtali
twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Manasseh
twelve thousand,
7 of the tribe of Simeon
twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Levi twelve
thousand,

‡ **6:11** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings."

of the tribe of Issachar twelve
thousand,
8 of the tribe of Zebulun
twelve thousand,
of the tribe of Joseph twelve
thousand, and
of the tribe of Benjamin
twelve thousand were
sealed.

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could count, out of every nation and of all tribes, peoples, and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, dressed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation be to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11 All the angels were standing around the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before his throne, and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might, be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

13 One of the elders answered, saying to me, "These who are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and where did they come from?"

14 I told him, "My lord, you know."

He said to me, "These are those who came out of the great suffering.* They washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb's blood. 15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. He who sits on the throne will spread his tabernacle over them. 16 They will never be hungry or thirsty any more. The sun won't beat on them, nor any heat; 17 for the Lamb who is in the middle of the throne shepherds them and leads them to springs of life-giving waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

8

1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 2 I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.

3 Another angel came and stood over the altar, having a golden censer. Much incense was given to him, that he should add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel's hand. 5 The angel took the censer, and he filled it with the fire of the altar, then threw it on the earth. Thunders, sounds, lightnings, and an earthquake followed.

6 The seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

7 The first sounded, and there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and they were thrown to the earth.

* **7:14** or, oppression

One third of the earth was
burned up,* and one third
of the trees were burned
up, and all green grass was
burned up.
8 The second angel
sounded, and something like
a great burning mountain
was thrown into the sea.
One third of the sea became
blood, 9 and one third of the
living creatures which were
in the sea died. One third of
the ships were destroyed.
10 The third angel sounded,
and a great star fell from the
sky, burning like a torch, and
it fell on one third of the
rivers, and on the springs of
water. 11 The name of the
star is "Wormwood." One
third of the waters became
wormwood. Many people
died from the waters, be-
cause they were made bitter.
12 The fourth angel
sounded, and one third of the
sun was struck, and one third
of the moon, and one third
of the stars, so that one third
of them would be darkened;
and the day wouldn't shine
for one third of it, and the
night in the same way. 13 I
saw, and I heard an eagle,†
flying in mid heaven, saying
with a loud voice, "Woe!
Woe! Woe to those who dwell
on the earth, because of the
other blasts of the trumpets
of the three angels, who are
yet to sound!"

9

1 The fifth angel sounded,
and I saw a star from the
sky which had fallen to the
earth. The key to the pit
of the abyss was given to
him. 2 He opened the pit
of the abyss, and smoke
went up out of the pit, like
the smoke from a* burning
furnace. The sun and the
air were darkened because
of the smoke from the pit.
3 Then out of the smoke came
locusts on the earth, and
power was given to them,
as the scorpions of the earth
have power. 4 They were told
that they should not hurt the
grass of the earth, neither
any green thing, neither any
tree, but only those people
who don't have God's seal on
their foreheads. 5 They were
given power, not to kill them,
but to torment them for five
months. Their torment was
like the torment of a scorpion
when it strikes a person. 6 In
those days people will seek
death, and will in no way find
it. They will desire to die, and
death will flee from them.
7 The shapes of the locusts
were like horses prepared
for war. On their heads
were something like golden
crowns, and their faces were
like people's faces. 8 They
had hair like women's hair,
and their teeth were like
those of lions. 9 They had
breastplates like breastplates
of iron. The sound of their
wings was like the sound of
many chariots and horses
rushing to war. 10 They have
tails like those of scorpions,

* **8:7** TR omits "One third of the earth was burned up" † **8:13** TR reads "angel" instead of "eagle" * **9:2** TR adds "great"

with stingers. In their tails they have power to harm men for five months. 11 They have over them as king the angel of the abyss. His name in Hebrew is "Abaddon",† but in Greek, he has the name "Apollyon".‡

12 The first woe is past. Behold, there are still two woes coming after this.

13 The sixth angel sounded. I heard a voice from the horns of the golden altar which is before God, 14 saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Free the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates!"

15 The four angels were freed who had been prepared for that hour and day and month and year, so that they might kill one third of mankind. 16 The number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million.§ I heard the number of them. 17 Thus I saw the horses in the vision and those who sat on them, having breastplates of fiery red, hyacinth blue, and sulfur yellow; and the horses' heads resembled lions' heads. Out of their mouths proceed fire, smoke, and sulfur. 18 By these three plagues, one third of mankind was killed: by the fire, the smoke, and the sulfur, which proceeded out of their mouths. 19 For the power of the horses is in their mouths and in their tails. For their tails are like serpents, and have heads; and with them they harm.

20 The rest of mankind, who were not killed with these plagues, didn't repent of the works of their hands, that they wouldn't worship demons, and the idols of gold, and of silver, and of brass, and of stone, and of wood, which can't see, hear, or walk. 21 They didn't repent of their murders, their sorceries,* their sexual immorality, or their thefts.

10

1 I saw a mighty angel coming down out of the sky, clothed with a cloud. A rainbow was on his head. His face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. 2 He had in his hand a little open book. He set his right foot on the sea, and his left on the land. 3 He cried with a loud voice, as a lion roars. When he cried, the seven thunders uttered their voices. 4 When the seven thunders sounded, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from the sky saying, "Seal up the things which the seven thunders said, and don't write them."

5 The angel whom I saw standing on the sea and on the land lifted up his right hand to the sky 6 and swore by him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven

† **9:11** "Abaddon" is a Hebrew word that means "ruin", "destruction", or "the place of destruction" ‡ **9:11** "Apollyon" means "Destroyer". § **9:16** literally, "ten thousands of ten thousands" * **9:21** The word for "sorceries" (pharmakeia) also implies the use of potions, poisons, and drugs

and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there will no longer be delay, 7 but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished, as he declared to his servants the prophets.

8 The voice which I heard from heaven, again speaking with me, said, "Go, take the book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the land."

9 I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book.

He said to me, "Take it and eat it. It will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey."

10 I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it. It was as sweet as honey in my mouth. When I had eaten it, my stomach was made bitter. 11 They* told me, "You must prophesy again over many peoples, nations, languages, and kings."

11

1 A reed like a rod was given to me. Someone said, "Rise and measure God's temple, and the altar, and those who worship in it. 2 Leave out the court which is outside of the temple, and don't measure it, for it has been given to the nations. They will tread the holy city under foot for forty-two months. 3 I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

4 These are the two olive trees and the two lamp stands, standing before the Lord of the earth. 5 If anyone desires to harm them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies. If anyone desires to harm them, he must be killed in this way. 6 These have the power to shut up the sky, that it may not rain during the days of their prophecy. They have power over the waters, to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire.

7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them, and kill them. 8 Their dead bodies will be in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. 9 From among the peoples, tribes, languages, and nations, people will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not allow their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. 10 Those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, and they will be glad. They will give gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

11 After the three and a

* **10:11** TR reads "He" instead of "They"

half days, the breath of life
from God entered into them,
and they stood on their feet.
Great fear fell on those who
saw them. 12 I heard a loud
voice from heaven saying to
them, "Come up here!" They
went up into heaven in a
cloud, and their enemies saw
them. 13 In that day there
was a great earthquake, and
a tenth of the city fell. Seven
thousand people were killed
in the earthquake, and the
rest were terrified and gave
glory to the God of heaven.

14 The second woe is past.
Behold, the third woe comes
quickly.

15 The seventh angel
sounded, and great voices
in heaven followed, saying,
"The kingdom of the world
has become the Kingdom of
our Lord and of his Christ. He
will reign forever and ever!"

16 The twenty-four elders,
who sit on their thrones
before God's throne, fell on
their faces and worshiped
God, 17 saying: "We give
you thanks, Lord God, the
Almighty, the one who is and
who was,* because you have
taken your great power and
reigned. 18 The nations were
angry, and your wrath came,
as did the time for the dead
to be judged, and to give your
bondservants the prophets,
their reward, as well as to
the saints and those who
fear your name, to the small
and the great, and to destroy
those who destroy the earth."

19 God's temple that is in
heaven was opened, and the
ark of the Lord's covenant
was seen in his temple. Light-
nings, sounds, thunders, an
earthquake, and great hail
followed.

12

1 A great sign was seen in
heaven: a woman clothed
with the sun, and the moon
under her feet, and on her
head a crown of twelve stars.
2 She was with child. She
cried out in pain, laboring to
give birth.

3 Another sign was seen in
heaven. Behold, a great red
dragon, having seven heads
and ten horns, and on his
heads seven crowns. 4 His tail
drew one third of the stars
of the sky, and threw them
to the earth. The dragon
stood before the woman who
was about to give birth, so
that when she gave birth he
might devour her child. 5 She
gave birth to a son, a male
child, who is to rule all the
nations with a rod of iron.
Her child was caught up to
God and to his throne. 6 The
woman fled into the wilder-
ness, where she has a place
prepared by God, that there
they may nourish her one
thousand two hundred sixty
days.

7 There was war in the sky.
Michael and his angels made
war on the dragon. The
dragon and his angels made
war. 8 They didn't prevail. No
place was found for them any
more in heaven. 9 The great

* **11:17** TR adds "and who is coming"

dragon was thrown down,
the old serpent, he who is
called the devil and Satan,
the deceiver of the whole
world. He was thrown down
to the earth, and his angels
were thrown down with him.
10 I heard a loud voice in
heaven, saying, "Now the sal-
vation, the power, and the
Kingdom of our God, and the
authority of his Christ has
come; for the accuser of our
brothers has been thrown
down, who accuses them be-
fore our God day and night.
11 They overcame him be-
cause of the Lamb's blood,
and because of the word of
their testimony. They didn't
love their life, even to death.
12 Therefore rejoice, heavens,
and you who dwell in them.
Woe to the earth and to the
sea, because the devil has
gone down to you, having
great wrath, knowing that he
has but a short time."
13 When the dragon saw
that he was thrown down to
the earth, he persecuted the
woman who gave birth to the
male child. 14 Two wings of
the great eagle were given to
the woman, that she might
fly into the wilderness to her
place, so that she might be
nourished for a time, times,
and half a time, from the face
of the serpent. 15 The ser-
pent spewed water out of his
mouth after the woman like
a river, that he might cause
her to be carried away by the
stream. 16 The earth helped
the woman, and the earth
opened its mouth and swal-
lowed up the river which
the dragon spewed out of his
mouth. 17 The dragon grew
angry with the woman, and
went away to make war with
the rest of her offspring,*
who keep God's command-
ments and hold Jesus' testi-
mony.

13

1 Then I stood on the sand
of the sea. I saw a beast
coming up out of the sea,
having ten horns and seven
heads. On his horns were ten
crowns, and on his heads,
blasphemous names. 2 The
beast which I saw was like
a leopard, and his feet were
like those of a bear, and his
mouth like the mouth of a
lion. The dragon gave him
his power, his throne, and
great authority. 3 One of his
heads looked like it had been
wounded fatally. His fatal
wound was healed, and the
whole earth marveled at the
beast. 4 They worshiped the
dragon because he gave his
authority to the beast; and
they worshiped the beast,
saying, "Who is like the
beast? Who is able to make
war with him?"
5 A mouth speaking great
things and blasphemy was
given to him. Authority
to make war for forty-two
months was given to him.
6 He opened his mouth for
blasphemy against God,
to blaspheme his name,
his dwelling, and those
who dwell in heaven. 7 It
was given to him to make

* **12:17** or, seed

war with the saints and to overcome them. Authority over every tribe, people, language, and nation was given to him. 8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been killed. 9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 10 If anyone is to go into captivity, he will go into captivity. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, he must be killed.* Here is the endurance and the faith of the saints.

11 I saw another beast coming up out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. 12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. He makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. 13 He performs great signs, even making fire come down out of the sky to the earth in the sight of people. 14 He deceives my own† people who dwell on the earth because of the signs he was granted to do in front of the beast, saying to those who dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the beast who had the sword wound and lived. 15 It was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause as many as wouldn't worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16 He causes all, the small and the great, the rich and the poor, and the free and the slave, to be given marks on their right hands or on their foreheads; 17 and that no one would be able to buy or to sell unless he has that mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. He who has understanding, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man. His number is six hundred sixty-six.

14

1 I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him a number, one hundred forty-four thousand, having his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads. 2 I heard a sound from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of a great thunder. The sound which I heard was like that of harpists playing on their harps. 3 They sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the one hundred forty-four thousand, those who had been redeemed out of the earth. 4 These are

* **13:10** TR reads "If anyone leads into captivity, into captivity he goes. If anyone will kill with the sword, he must be killed with a sword." instead of "If anyone is to go into captivity, he will go into captivity. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, he must be killed." † **13:14** NU omits "my own"

those who were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are those who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These were redeemed by Jesus from among men, the first fruits to God and to the Lamb. 5 In their mouth was found no lie, for they are blameless.*

6 I saw an angel flying in mid heaven, having an eternal Good News to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language, and people. 7 He said with a loud voice, "Fear the Lord, and give him glory, for the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and the springs of waters!"

8 Another, a second angel, followed, saying, "Babylon the great has fallen, which has made all the nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her sexual immorality."

9 Another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a great voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is prepared unmixed in the cup of his anger. He will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 The smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever. They have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.

12 Here is the perseverance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

13 I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' "

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their works follow with them."

14 I looked, and saw a white cloud, and on the cloud one sitting like a son of man,✡ having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. 15 Another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, "Send your sickle and reap, for the hour to reap has come; for the harvest of the earth is ripe!" 16 He who sat on the cloud thrust his sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

17 Another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven. He also had a sharp sickle. 18 Another angel came out from the altar, he who has power over fire, and he called with a great voice to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Send your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for the earth's grapes are fully ripe!" 19 The angel thrust his sickle into the earth, and

* **14:5** TR adds "before the throne of God" ✡ **14:14** Daniel 7:13

gathered the vintage of the earth and threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. 20 The wine press was trodden outside of the city, and blood came out of the wine press, up to the bridles of the horses, as far as one thousand six hundred stadia.†

15

1 I saw another great and marvelous sign in the sky: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them God's wrath is finished.

2 I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who overcame the beast, his image,* and the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. 3 They sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

"Great and marvelous are your works, Lord God, the Almighty!
Righteous and true are your ways, you King of the nations.
4 Who wouldn't fear you, Lord,
and glorify your name?
For you only are holy.
For all the nations will come and worship before you.
For your righteous acts have been revealed."

5 After these things I looked, and the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. 6 The seven angels who had the seven plagues came out, clothed with pure, bright linen, and wearing golden sashes around their chests.

7 One of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever. 8 The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power. No one was able to enter into the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels would be finished.

16

1 I heard a loud voice out of the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of God on the earth!"

2 The first went, and poured out his bowl into the earth, and it became a harmful and painful sore on the people who had the mark of the beast, and who worshiped his image.

3 The second angel poured out his bowl into the sea, and it became blood as of a dead man. Every living thing in the sea died.

4 The third poured out his bowl into the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. 5 I heard the angel of the waters saying, "You are righteous, who are and who were, O Holy One, because you have judged these things. 6 For they poured out the blood of

† **14:20** 1600 stadia = 296 kilometers or 184 miles * **15:2** TR adds "his mark,"

saints and prophets, and you
have given them blood to
drink. They deserve this."
7 I heard the altar saying,
"Yes, Lord God, the Almighty,
true and righteous are your
judgments."
8 The fourth poured out
his bowl on the sun, and it
was given to him to scorch
men with fire. 9 People were
scorched with great heat, and
people blasphemed the name
of God who has the power
over these plagues. They
didn't repent and give him
glory.
10 The fifth poured out his
bowl on the throne of the
beast, and his kingdom was
darkened. They gnawed
their tongues because of the
pain, 11 and they blasphemed
the God of heaven because of
their pains and their sores.
They still didn't repent of
their works.
12 The sixth poured out his
bowl on the great river, the
Euphrates. Its water was
dried up, that the way might
be prepared for the kings
that come from the sunrise.*
13 I saw coming out of the
mouth of the dragon, and out
of the mouth of the beast,
and out of the mouth of the
false prophet, three unclean
spirits, something like frogs;
14 for they are spirits of
demons, performing signs,
which go out to the kings of
the whole inhabited earth, to
gather them together for the
war of that great day of God
the Almighty.
15 **"Behold, I come like**
a thief. Blessed is he who
watches, and keeps his
clothes, so that he doesn't
walk naked, and they see
his shame." 16 He gathered
them together into the place
which is called in Hebrew,
"Harmagedon".
17 The seventh poured out
his bowl into the air. A loud
voice came out of the temple
of heaven, from the throne,
saying, "It is done!" 18 There
were lightnings, sounds, and
thunders; and there was a
great earthquake such as has
not happened since there
were men on the earth —
so great an earthquake and
so mighty. 19 The great city
was divided into three parts,
and the cities of the nations
fell. Babylon the great was
remembered in the sight of
God, to give to her the cup
of the wine of the fierceness
of his wrath. 20 Every island
fled away, and the mountains
were not found. 21 Great
hailstones, about the weight
of a talent,† came down out
of the sky on people. People
blasphemed God because of
the plague of the hail, for
this plague was exceedingly
severe.

17

1 One of the seven angels
who had the seven bowls
came and spoke with me, say-
ing, "Come here. I will show
you the judgment of the great

* **16:12** or, east † **16:21** A talent is about 30 kilograms or 66 pounds.

prostitute who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed sexual immorality. Those who dwell in the earth were made drunken with the wine of her sexual immorality." 3 He carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet-colored beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of the sexual immorality of the earth. 5 And on her forehead a name was written, "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." 6 I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered with great amazement.

7 The angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not; and is about to come up out of the abyss and to go into destruction. Those who dwell on the earth and whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel when they see that the beast was, and is not, and shall be present.*

9 Here is the mind that has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. 10 They are seven kings. Five have fallen, the one is, and the other has not yet come. When he comes, he must continue a little while. 11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is of the seven; and he goes to destruction. 12 The ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. 13 These have one mind, and they give their power and authority to the beast. 14 These will war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with him are called, chosen, and faithful." 15 He said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. 16 The ten horns which you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute, will make her desolate, will strip her naked, will eat her flesh, and will burn her utterly with fire. 17 For God has put in their hearts to do what he has in mind, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of

* **17:8** TR reads "yet is" instead of "shall be present"

God should be accomplished.
18 The woman whom you saw
is the great city which reigns
over the kings of the earth."

18

1 After these things, I saw
another angel coming down
out of the sky, having great
authority. The earth was
illuminated with his glory.
2 He cried with a mighty
voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen
is Babylon the great, and she
has become a habitation of
demons, a prison of every
unclean spirit, and a prison
of every unclean and hated
bird! 3 For all the nations
have drunk of the wine
of the wrath of her sexual
immorality, the kings of
the earth committed sexual
immorality with her, and the
merchants of the earth grew
rich from the abundance of
her luxury."

4 I heard another voice
from heaven, saying, "Come
out of her, my people, that
you have no participation
in her sins, and that you
don't receive of her plagues,
5 for her sins have reached
to the sky, and God has
remembered her iniquities.
6 Return to her just as she
returned, and repay her
double as she did, and
according to her works. In
the cup which she mixed, mix
to her double. 7 However
much she glorified herself
and grew wanton, so much
give her of torment and
mourning. For she says in
her heart, 'I sit a queen,
and am no widow, and will
in no way see mourning.'
8 Therefore in one day her
plagues will come: death,
mourning, and famine; and
she will be utterly burned
with fire, for the Lord God
who has judged her is strong.

9 The kings of the earth
who committed sexual im-
morality and lived wantonly
with her will weep and wail
over her, when they look at
the smoke of her burning,
10 standing far away for
the fear of her torment,
saying, 'Woe, woe, the great
city, Babylon, the strong
city! For your judgment has
come in one hour.' 11 The
merchants of the earth weep
and mourn over her, for no
one buys their merchandise
any more: 12 merchandise of
gold, silver, precious stones,
pearls, fine linen, purple,
silk, scarlet, all expensive
wood, every vessel of ivory,
every vessel made of most
precious wood, and of brass,
and iron, and marble; 13 and
cinnamon, incense, perfume,
frankincense, wine, olive
oil, fine flour, wheat, sheep,
horses, chariots, and people's
bodies and souls. 14 The fruits
which your soul lusted after
have been lost to you. All
things that were dainty and
sumptuous have perished
from you, and you will find
them no more at all. 15 The
merchants of these things,
who were made rich by
her, will stand far away
for the fear of her torment,

weeping and mourning,
16 saying, 'Woe, woe, the
great city, she who was
dressed in fine linen, purple,
and scarlet, and decked with
gold and precious stones and
pearls! 17 For in an hour
such great riches are made
desolate.' Every ship master,
and everyone who sails
anywhere, and mariners,
and as many as gain their
living by sea, stood far away,
18 and cried out as they
looked at the smoke of her
burning, saying, 'What is
like the great city?' 19 They
cast dust on their heads,
and cried, weeping and
mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe,
the great city, in which all
who had their ships in the sea
were made rich by reason of
her great wealth!' For she is
made desolate in one hour.
20 "Rejoice over her, O
heaven, you saints, apostles,
and prophets, for God has
judged your judgment on
her."
21 A mighty angel took up
a stone like a great millstone
and cast it into the sea, say-
ing, "Thus with violence will
Babylon, the great city, be
thrown down, and will be
found no more at all. 22 The
voice of harpists, minstrels,
flute players, and trumpeters
will be heard no more at all in
you. No craftsman of what-
ever craft will be found any
more at all in you. The sound
of a mill will be heard no
more at all in you. 23 The light
of a lamp will shine no more
at all in you. The voice of the
bridegroom and of the bride
will be heard no more at all
in you, for your merchants
were the princes of the earth;
for with your sorcery all the
nations were deceived. 24 In
her was found the blood of
prophets and of saints, and
of all who have been slain on
the earth."

19

1 After these things I heard
something like a loud voice of
a great multitude in heaven,
saying, "Hallelujah! Salva-
tion, power, and glory belong
to our God; 2 for his judg-
ments are true and righteous.
For he has judged the great
prostitute who corrupted the
earth with her sexual im-
morality, and he has avenged
the blood of his servants at
her hand."
3 A second said, "Hallelu-
jah! Her smoke goes up for-
ever and ever." 4 The twenty-
four elders and the four liv-
ing creatures fell down and
worshiped God who sits on
the throne, saying, "Amen!
Hallelujah!"
5 A voice came from the
throne, saying, "Give praise
to our God, all you his ser-
vants, you who fear him, the
small and the great!"
6 I heard something like the
voice of a great multitude,
and like the voice of many
waters, and like the voice
of mighty thunders, saying,
"Hallelujah! For the Lord our
God, the Almighty, reigns!
7 Let's rejoice and be exceed-
ingly glad, and let's give the

glory to him. For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his wife has made herself ready." 8 It was given to her that she would array herself in bright, pure, fine linen, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

9 He said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb.' " He said to me, "These are true words of God."

10 I fell down before his feet to worship him. He said to me, "Look! Don't do it! I am a fellow bondservant with you and with your brothers who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, for the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy."

11 I saw the heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it is called Faithful and True. In righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has names written and a name written which no one knows but he himself. 13 He is clothed in a garment sprinkled with blood. His name is called "The Word of God." 14 The armies which are in heaven, clothed in white, pure, fine linen, followed him on white horses. 15 Out of his mouth proceeds a sharp, double-edged sword that with it he should strike the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod.✡ He treads the wine press of the fierceness of the wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 He has on his garment and on his thigh a name written, "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

17 I saw an angel standing in the sun. He cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the sky, "Come! Be gathered together to the great supper of God,* 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, small and great." 19 I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him who sat on the horse and against his army. 20 The beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked the signs in his sight, with which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. 21 The rest were killed with the sword of him who sat on the horse, the sword which came out of his mouth. So all the birds were filled with their flesh.

20

1 I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. 2 He seized the dragon, the

✡ **19:15** Psalm 2:9 * **19:17** TR reads "supper of the great God" instead of "great supper of God"

old serpent, who is the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole inhabited earth,* and bound him for a thousand years, 3 and cast him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, that he should deceive the nations no more until the thousand years were finished. After this, he must be freed for a short time.

4 I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and such as didn't worship the beast nor his image, and didn't receive the mark on their forehead and on their hand. They lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. 5 The rest of the dead didn't live until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over these, the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and will reign with him one thousand years.

7 And after the thousand years, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and he will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to the war, whose number is as the sand of the sea. 9 They went up over the width of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. Fire came down out of heaven from God and devoured them. 10 The devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet are also. They will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

11 I saw a great white throne and him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. There was found no place for them. 12 I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and they opened books. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it. Death and Hades† gave up the dead who were in them. They were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Death and Hades‡ were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 If anyone was not found written in the book of life, he was cast into the lake of fire.

21

1 I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth have passed away, and the sea is no more. 2 I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem,

* **20:2** TR and NU omit "who deceives the whole inhabited earth". † **20:13** or, Hell ‡ **20:14** or, Hell

coming down out of heaven
from God, prepared like a
bride adorned for her hus-
band. 3 I heard a loud voice
out of heaven saying, "Be-
hold, God's dwelling is with
people; and he will dwell
with them, and they will be
his people, and God himself
will be with them as their
God. 4 He will wipe away
every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more; nei-
ther will there be mourn-
ing, nor crying, nor pain any
more. The first things have
passed away."

5 He who sits on the throne
said, **"Behold, I am making
all things new."** He said,
**"Write, for these words
of God are faithful and
true."** 6 He said to me,
**"I am the Alpha and the
Omega, the Beginning
and the End. I will give
freely to him who is thirsty
from the spring of the
water of life.** 7 **He who
overcomes, I will give him
these things. I will be his
God, and he will be my son.**
8 **But for the cowardly,
unbelieving, sinners,*
abominable, murderers,
sexually immoral, sorcer-
ers,† idolaters, and all
liars, their part is in the
lake that burns with fire
and sulfur, which is the
second death."**

9 One of the seven angels
who had the seven bowls
which were loaded with the
seven last plagues came, and
he spoke with me, saying,
"Come here. I will show you
the bride, the Lamb's wife."
10 He carried me away in
the Spirit to a great and high
mountain, and showed me
the holy city, Jerusalem, com-
ing down out of heaven from
God, 11 having the glory of
God. Her light was like a
most precious stone, like a
jasper stone, clear as crystal;
12 having a great and high
wall with twelve gates, and
at the gates twelve angels,
and names written on them,
which are the names of the
twelve tribes of the children
of Israel. 13 On the east were
three gates, and on the north
three gates, and on the south
three gates, and on the west
three gates. 14 The wall of the
city had twelve foundations,
and on them twelve names
of the twelve Apostles of the
Lamb.

15 He who spoke with
me had for a measure a
golden reed to measure
the city, its gates, and its
walls. 16 The city is square.
Its length is as great as its
width. He measured the
city with the reed: twelve
thousand twelve stadia.‡ Its
length, width, and height
are equal. 17 Its wall is one
hundred forty-four cubits,§
by the measure of a man,
that is, of an angel. 18 The

* **21:8** TR and NU omit "sinners" † **21:8** The word for "sorcerers" here also includes users of potions and drugs. ‡ **21:16** 12,012 stadia = 2,221 kilometers or 1,380 miles. TR reads 12,000 stadia instead of 12,012 stadia. § **21:17** 144 cubits is about 65.8 meters or 216 feet

construction of its wall was
jasper. The city was pure
gold, like pure glass. 19 The
foundations of the city's
wall were adorned with all
kinds of precious stones.
The first foundation was
jasper, the second sapphire;*
the third chalcedony, the
fourth emerald, 20 the fifth
sardonyx, the sixth sardius,
the seventh chrysolite, the
eighth beryl, the ninth topaz,
the tenth chrysoprase, the
eleventh jacinth, and the
twelfth amethyst. 21 The
twelve gates were twelve
pearls. Each one of the gates
was made of one pearl. The
street of the city was pure
gold, like transparent glass.

22 I saw no temple in it, for
the Lord God the Almighty
and the Lamb are its temple.
23 The city has no need for the
sun or moon to shine, for the
very glory of God illuminated
it and its lamp is the Lamb.
24 The nations will walk in its
light. The kings of the earth
bring the glory and honor of
the nations into it. 25 Its gates
will in no way be shut by day
(for there will be no night
there), 26 and they shall bring
the glory and the honor of
the nations into it so that they
may enter. 27 There will in
no way enter into it anything
profane, or one who causes
an abomination or a lie, but
only those who are written in
the Lamb's book of life.

22

1 He showed me a* river of
water of life, clear as crys-
tal, proceeding out of the
throne of God and of the
Lamb, 2 in the middle of its
street. On this side of the
river and on that was the tree
of life, bearing twelve kinds
of fruits, yielding its fruit ev-
ery month. The leaves of the
tree were for the healing of
the nations. 3 There will be no
curse any more. The throne
of God and of the Lamb will
be in it, and his servants will
serve him. 4 They will see his
face, and his name will be on
their foreheads. 5 There will
be no night, and they need
no lamp light or sun light; for
the Lord God will illuminate
them. They will reign forever
and ever.

6 He said to me, "These
words are faithful and true.
The Lord God of the spirits
of the prophets sent his angel
to show to his bondservants
the things which must hap-
pen soon."

7 **"Behold, I am coming
soon! Blessed is he who
keeps the words of the
prophecy of this book."**

8 Now I, John, am the one
who heard and saw these
things. When I heard and
saw, I fell down to worship
before the feet of the angel
who had shown me these
things. 9 He said to me,
"You must not do that! I am
a fellow bondservant with
you and with your brothers,
the prophets, and with those
who keep the words of this

* **21:19** or, lapis lazuli * **22:1** TR adds "pure"

book. Worship God." 10 He said to me, "Don't seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. 11 He who acts unjustly, let him act unjustly still. He who is filthy, let him be filthy still. He who is righteous, let him do righteousness still. He who is holy, let him be holy still."

12 **"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, to repay to each man according to his work.** 13 **I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.** 14 **Blessed are those who do his commandments,† that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter in by the gates into the city.** 15 **Outside are the dogs, the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.** 16 **I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify these things to you for the assemblies. I am the root and the offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."**

17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" He who hears, let him say, "Come!" He who is thirsty, let him come. He who desires, let him take the water of life freely.

18 I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book. 19 If anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree‡ of life, and out of the holy city, which are written in this book. 20 He who testifies these things says, **"Yes, I am coming soon."**

Amen! Yes, come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all the saints. Amen.

† **22:14** NU reads "wash their robes" instead of "do his commandments".

‡ **22:19** TR reads "Book" instead of "tree"