

Luke.
A translation.



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GreyBurro@ScriptureOnline.org.

<http://www.ScriptureOnline.org>.

The United States of America.

The cover exhibits a bust of the Roman emperor Augustus. This bust is the head of a full statue. The original is located in the New Wing of the Museo Chiaramonti at the Vatican Museum in the Vatican City, invoice number 2290. The statue is made of marble. However, ancient sculptures were likely painted, not viewed in the raw. So, the bust has been colorized using Adobe Photoshop.

The statue was discovered at the villa of Augustus's wife, Livia Drusilla, at Prima Porta, Italy, in 1863.

Augustus's (born 63 BC, died AD 14) given name was Gaius Octavius. He was the first Roman emperor (27 BC-AD 14). His predecessor, Julius Caesar, was assassinated in 44 BC. Julius chose Augustus as his successor by adopting him and naming him in his will. Augustus formed a joint military-political entity controlling Rome after the death of Julius. He gained sole control as emperor in 27 BC. He organized and expanded the Roman empire during his lengthy rule.

Augustus is mentioned in conjunction with the census of the Syrian governor Quirinius (2:1-3).

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Luke.

Jesus is born (1:1-2:52).

Luke writes to Theophilus (1:1-4).

¹ Numerous people have attempted to narrate the events that occurred among us ² just like what the early eyewitnesses and representatives of the word handed down. ³ So, it was a good idea for me to investigate everything again so that I could write about it accurately and sequentially to you, excellent Theophilus. ^a ⁴ Then you can know for sure about what you learned.

Elizabeth becomes pregnant with John (1:5-25).

⁵ During the time when Herod was king over Judea, there was a priest named Zachariah, from the order of Abiah. ^b His wife Elizabeth was a descendant of Aaron. ⁶ Both of them were righteous from God's perspective. They lived blamelessly in all of the commands and rules of the lord. ⁷ But, they had no children because Elizabeth was barren. And, they had both gotten pretty old.

⁸ When it was his turn, he performed his duties before the lord. ⁹ As was the custom, he prepared to burn incense in the temple of the lord. ^c ¹⁰ While the incense was burning, a large group of people was outside praying.

¹¹ An angel of the lord appeared to the right of the incense altar. ¹² When Zachariah saw him, he was terrified. Fear fell over him.

¹³ The angel addressed him, "Do not be afraid, Zachariah. Your prayer was heard. Your wife, Elizabeth, will bear you a son. Call him John. ¹⁴ It will bring you joy and happiness. Many people will benefit from his birth. ¹⁵ He will be great from God's perspective. He will never drink either wine or liquor. ^d He will be filled with the holy spirit even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ He will turn many of the sons of Israel toward their lord

a) Acts 1:1.

b) 1 Chronicles 24:10.

c) Exodus 30:7.

d) Numbers 6:1-4.

Jesus is born (1:1-2:52).

Elizabeth becomes pregnant with John (1:5-25).

God. ¹⁷ He will precede the Lord with the spirit and power of Elijah. He will turn father's hearts back toward their children, and the disobedient back toward the wisdom of the just. He will prepare the people to be ready for the lord."

¹⁸ Zachariah responded to the angel, "How can I be certain about these things? I am an old man, and my wife is getting along in her years."

¹⁹ Answering him, the angel said, "I am Gabriel. I have been standing in the presence of God. He sent me to speak to you to tell you this good news. ²⁰ Look, you are going to be silent. You will not be able to speak until these things happen. Since you did not believe my message, it will be fulfilled at the right opportunity."

²¹ The people were waiting for Zachariah. They were wondering why he was taking so long in the temple. ²² When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized that he had seen a vision in the temple because he was gesturing to them, and he was unable to speak.

²³ When his period of service ended, he went back to his house. ²⁴ After this, his wife Elizabeth was about to conceive. So, she hid herself for five months, thinking, ²⁵ "The lord did this to me. At this time, he decided to end my embarrassment in the community."

Mary becomes pregnant with Jesus (1:26-38).

²⁶ In her sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to the city named Nazareth in Galilee. ²⁷ (There was a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph. He was a member of David's family. The name of the virgin was Mary.) ²⁸ When he arrived, he said to her, "Greetings. You are honored. The lord is with you."

²⁹ She was terrified by his speech. She wondered, "What could this greeting mean?"

³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with the lord. ³¹ Look, you will become pregnant. You will bear a son. Name him Jesus. ³² He will be a great man. They will call him son of the most high. The lord God will seat him on the throne of David his father. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever. His kingdom will have no end."

³⁴ Mary spoke to the angel, "How can this be? I have been with no man."

³⁵The angel answered her, “The holy spirit will descend on you. A miracle from the most high will overshadow you. The one born will be called holy and the son of God. ³⁶Look, your cousin Elizabeth is also pregnant in her old age. She is in her eighth month, and she was called barren. ³⁷Nothing is impossible for God.”

³⁸Mary said, “I am the servant of the lord. May it happen to me just like you said.” Then the angel left her.

The baby jumps in Elizabeth’s belly (1:39-45).

³⁹Mary stood up at that time. She traveled quickly into the hill country to a city in Judea. ⁴⁰She arrived at Zachariah’s house. She greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹It so happened that just when Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby jumped in her belly.

Elizabeth was full of the holy spirit. ⁴²She shouted loudly, “You are blessed among women. The fruit of your womb is also blessed. ⁴³How is this happening to me? The mother of my lord has come to visit me. ⁴⁴Look, when the sound of your greeting hit my ears, the baby jumped with joy in my belly. ⁴⁵The woman will be blessed who believes that this completes what the lord told her.”

Mary sings a song (1:46-56).

- ⁴⁶Mary sang,
 My soul magnifies the lord.
⁴⁷My spirit rejoices in the lord, my savior.
⁴⁸He watches over his humble servant.
 Look, at this point all generations call me blessed.
⁴⁹The mighty one did great things to me.
 His name is holy.
⁵⁰His mercy is directed
 for many generations to those who fear him.
⁵¹He executes force with his arms.
 He scatters the prideful in the knowledge of their hearts.
⁵²He destroys the mighty on their thrones,
 but he lifts the humble up.
⁵³He fills the hungry with good things
 but he sends the rich away empty-handed.

⁵⁴ He helped his child Israel
to remember his mercy.

⁵⁵ Just like he told our fathers,
Abraham and his descendants forever.^a

⁵⁶ Mary stayed with her for three months. Then she returned to her own house.

Elizabeth gives birth (1:57-66).

⁵⁷ When the time was up for Elizabeth to give birth, she bore a son.
⁵⁸ Her neighbors and family heard that the lord had demonstrated his mercy with her. They came to congratulate her.

⁵⁹ On the eighth day, they went to circumcise the child.^b They were going to name him Zachariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But, his mother replied, "No. Call him John."

⁶¹ They said to her, "No one in your family uses that name."

⁶² They signaled to his father regarding what he preferred to name him.
⁶³ He asked for a writing tablet. He wrote, "Call him John." Everyone was surprised. ⁶⁴ Then he immediately opened his mouth and spoke. He gave blessings to God.

⁶⁵ Fear fell on everyone present. These matters were discussed all around the hill-country of Judea. ⁶⁶ Everyone who heard about it remembered in his heart, "Who is this child? The lord's hand must be on him."

Zachariah prophesies (1:67-80).

⁶⁷ The holy spirit filled his father Zachariah. He prophesied,

⁶⁸ Blessings to the lord God of Israel.

He looked out and redeemed his people.

⁶⁹ He raised the horn of our salvation
in the house of David his son.

⁷⁰ Just like he said through the mouth
of his holy prophets in ancient times.

⁷¹ Rescue us from our enemies
and the hands of those who hate us.

a) Genesis 22:17.

b) Leviticus 12:3.

- ⁷² He showed mercy to our fathers
He remembered his contract with his holy ones.
- ⁷³ He swore an oath with our father Abraham.^a
He kept it with us.
- ⁷⁴ He fearlessly saved us from the hands of our enemies
so we could serve him
- ⁷⁵ with holiness and righteousness in his presence
all of our lives.
- ⁷⁶ You, little child, will be considered a prophet of the most high.
You will travel ahead of the lord to prepare his way.
- ⁷⁷ You will provide knowledge about the salvation of his people
in the forgiveness of their sins.
- ⁷⁸ Because of the tender mercy of our God
the sun will rise over us from his high place.
- ⁷⁹ It appears in the darkness and death's shadow to the observers.
It guides our feet into the path of peace.

⁸⁰ The little child grew and became strong in spirit. He moved into the wilderness until he became publicly known in Israel.

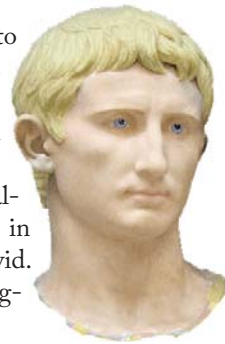
Joseph travels to Beth-Lehem for the census (2:1-7).

² At that time, Caesar Augustus issued an order to register every person in the empire. ² This was the first census during the rule of the Syrian governor Quirinius. ³ Everyone traveled for the census, each to his home city.

⁴ Joseph traveled from the city of Nazareth in Galilee up to the city of David, called Beth-Lehem, in Judea. He was a descendant of the family of David.

⁵ He was registering with Mary. Since she was pregnant, she was engaged to him.

⁶ They arrived there around the time she was going to deliver the baby. ⁷ So, she delivered her first son. She wrapped him up in baby blankets. She had to keep him in a barn because there were no traveler accommodations left.



The Roman emperor Augustus.

a) Genesis 17:7.

An angel appears to some herdsmen (2:8-21).

⁸There were some herdsmen out in the rural areas. They were living in the fields, keeping watch over their sheep at night. ⁹An angel of the lord stood over them. The light of the lord shined around them. They were quite afraid.

¹⁰The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. Look, I bring good news to you. It will bring great joy to the people. ¹¹A savior was born today. The messiah, the lord, is in the city of David. ¹²This will be your proof: You will find a baby wrapped up in a barn.”

¹³Suddenly, an army squadron out of heaven appeared with the angel. They praised God, ¹⁴“Give the highest glory to God. May there be peace on earth and pleasure between people.”

¹⁵When the angels left them to return to heaven, the shepherds had a conversation, “We should go over to Beth-Lehem now. Then we can observe these matters which the lord has revealed to us.”

¹⁶So they went quickly. They found both Mary and Joseph. The baby was lying in the barn. ¹⁷When they saw him, they realized this was the matter told to them about the little child. ¹⁸All those who had heard it were amazed by what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹Mary kept these matters to herself. She was mulling it over in her heart. ²⁰When the shepherds turned back, they were honoring and praising God to everyone who heard and saw it. This is just what the angels told them. ²¹After all these things happened, they circumcised him on the eighth day.^a They named him Jesus. (The angel had named him before he was conceived in the womb.)

Mary and Joseph present a sacrifice (2:22-24).

²²The time came for their purification according to the law of Moses. They traveled to Jerusalem to present him to the lord. ²³It is written in the law of the lord, Every male child is special to the lord.^b ²⁴So, present the sacrifice required in the law of the lord: a pair of pigeons or two young doves.^c

a) Leviticus 12:3.

b) Exodus 13:12.

c) Leviticus 12:8.

Simeon sings about Jesus (2:25-35).

²⁵ Look, there was a man living in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and reverent. He was waiting for the restoration of Israel. The holy spirit was on him. ²⁶ The holy spirit revealed to him that he would not die before he would see the messiah of the lord.

²⁷ He came into the temple in the spirit. His parents brought the little child Jesus to perform the custom of the law of Moses for him. ²⁸ He took him in his arms. He blessed God,

²⁹ “Master, now your servant can die in peace
according to your word.

³⁰ My eyes have seen
your salvation.

³¹ You prepared this
in the presence of the people.

³² He is a light revealed to the gentiles.

He is the glory of your people Israel.

³³ His father and mother were amazed by these words about him.

³⁴ Simeon blessed them. He spoke to his mother Mary, “Listen, this child will cause the fall and the rise of many in Israel. He will be a rejected signal. ³⁵ A sword will end your own life. These things will expose the intentions of many hearts.”

Hanna speaks about Jesus (2:36-40).

³⁶ There was a prophet named Hanna, the daughter of Phanuel. She was from the tribe of Asher. She was quite old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her virginity. ³⁷ Now she had been a widow for eighty-four years. She never left the temple. She worshipped while fasting and praying all day and night. ³⁸ While standing there, she was giving thanks to God. She started speaking about him to everyone who was waiting for the redemption of Israel.

³⁹ When they completed all the duties of the law of the lord, they turned back to their home town of Nazareth in Galilee. ⁴⁰ The little child began to grow, become strong, and filled with wisdom. He had the favor of the lord.

Jesus answers the teachers' questions (2:41-52).

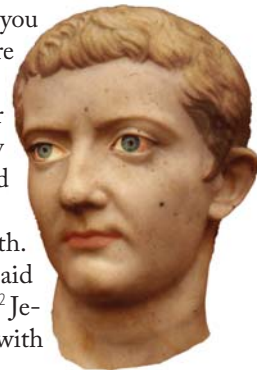
⁴¹ Every year, his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. ⁴² When he was twelve, they went up for the regular festival. ⁴³ At the end, they returned. The child Jesus stayed in Jerusalem, but his parents did not realize it.

⁴⁴ They thought he was among their companions. After a day passed, they looked for him among their family and acquaintances. ⁴⁵ Since they could not find him, they turned back around to Jerusalem. They went looking for him. ⁴⁶ After three days, they found him. He was sitting in temple in the middle of the teachers. They were listening to him. He was answering their questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone listening was amazed at his understanding and his abilities to answer. ⁴⁸ Those who observed him were astonished.

His mother spoke to him, "Child, why did you treat us like this? Look, your father and I were troubled because we had to search for you."

⁴⁹ He told them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not understand that I have to pay attention to my father's concerns?" ⁵⁰ They did not quite follow his explanation.

⁵¹ He left with them. He arrived at Nazareth. He remained submissive to them. His mother paid close attention to all these things in her heart. ⁵² Jesus increased in wisdom, maturity, and favor with both God and people.



The Roman emperor Tiberius.

Jesus begins preaching (3:1-4:13).*John preaches change (3:1-18).*

³ It was the fifteenth year of the rule of Caesar Tiberius. Pontius Pilatus was governor over Judea. Herod was tetrarch of Galilee. His brother Philip was tetrarch of Iturea and the land of Traconitus. Lusianus was tetrarch of Abilene. ² Hannas and Kaiaphas were high priests. At this time, the word of God came to John, son of Zachariah, in the wilderness.

³ He traveled in the area around the Jordan. He proclaimed the immersion of change for the forgiveness of sin. ⁴ This is just like the prophet Isaiah wrote in the book of his speeches,

A voice shouts in the wilderness,
“Prepare the road for the lord.
Make his path straight.”

⁵ Every valley will become full.
Every mountain and hill will become low.
The crooked road will become straight.

The rocky way will become smooth.

⁶ All flesh will see God’s salvation.^a

⁷ John spoke to the crowds that came out for him to immerse them, “You bunch of snakes, who warned you to run away from the future Anger? ⁸ Perform fruit consistent with change. Do not start saying to each other, ‘Abraham is our father.’ I guarantee you: God can create children of Abraham from these stones. ⁹ The ax is already swinging at the root of the tree. He is chopping down very tree that does not bear fruit. He is throwing them into the fire.”

¹⁰ The crowd answered him, “What should we do?”

¹¹ He answered them, “Whoever has two coats must give one away to someone who has none. Whoever has food must do the same.”

¹² The tax-collectors came for immersion. They said to him, “Teacher, what should we do?”

¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than you are required.”

¹⁴ Some solders asked him, “What about us? What should we do?”

He told them, “Do not commit violence against anyone. Do not falsely accuse anyone. Be happy with your pay.”

¹⁵ The crowd was excited about John. Everyone debated in their hearts, “Maybe he might be the messiah.”

¹⁶ John answered everyone, “I immerse you in water. Someone greater than me is coming. I am not strong enough to untie his shoe straps. He will immerse you with the holy spirit and fire. ¹⁷ He has his pitchfork in his hand to clear the ground then gather the wheat into the barn. He will burn up the chaff with unstoppable fire.”

a) Isaiah 40:3-5.

¹⁸ He said many other things to encourage them. He told the people about the good news.

Herod arrests John (3:19-20).

¹⁹ John issued accusations against the tetrarch Herod because of his brother's wife, Herodias, and because of all the other evil things Herod did. ²⁰ He added this to all his crimes: He locked John up into prison.

John immerses Jesus (3:21-22).

²¹ All kinds of people were immersed. Jesus himself was immersed. While he was praying, the sky opened up. ²² The holy spirit came down on him looking like a dove. A voice came out of the sky, "You are my beloved son. I am pleased with you."

Jesus is the descendant of Adam (3:23-38).

²³ Jesus himself was around thirty years old when he first began.

He was considered the son of Joseph, who descended from Eli, ²⁴ then Matthat, Levi, Melchi, Jannai, Joseph, ²⁵ Mattathiah, Amos, Nahum, Hesli, Naggai, ²⁶ Maath, Mattathiah, Semein, Josech, Jodah, ²⁷ Johanan, Resa, Zerubbabel, Shealtiel, Neri, ²⁸ Melchi, Addi, Kosam, Elmadam, Er, ²⁹ Joshua, Eliezer, Joram, Matthat, Levi, ³⁰ Simeon, Judah, Joseph, Jonam, Eliakim, ³¹ Meleah, Mennah, Mattathah, Nathan, David, ³² Jesse, Obed, Boas, Salmon, Naashon, ³³ Aminadab, Admin, Arni, Hezron, Perez, Judah, ³⁴ Jacob, Isaac, Abraham, Terah, Nahor, ³⁵ Serug, Ragau, Peleg, Heber, Shelah, ³⁶ Kainam, Arphaxad, Shem, Noah, Lamech, ³⁷ Mathuselah, Enoch, Jared, Mahalalel, Kenan, ³⁸ Enosh, Seth, and Adam, who was from God.

The devil tempts Jesus (4:1-13).

⁴ When Jesus was full of the holy spirit, he turned away from the Jordan. The spirit led him into the wilderness. ² During a forty day period, the devil tempted him. He ate nothing during this time. Afterwards he was hungry.

³ The devil said to him, "You are the son of God. Tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus begins preaching (3:1-4:13).

The devil tempts Jesus (4:1-13).

⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written: 'People cannot live with just bread.'^a"

⁵ In an instant of time, he took up him where he could show him all the kingdoms of the empire. ⁶ The devil said to him, "I will give you all this authority with its honor. I have it, and I can give it to you. ⁷ You must worship me, and it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the lord your god. You must only serve him.'^b"

⁹ He took him to Jerusalem. He put him on the peak of the temple. He told him, "If you are the son of God, then throw yourself down from here.

¹⁰ It is written,

He will command the angels about you.

They will protect you.^c

¹¹ and,

They will take you by the hands.

Not one stone will even strike your foot.^d

¹² Jesus answered him, "It has been said,

Do not tempt the lord your God.^e

¹³ After all these temptations were finished, the devil left him alone for the moment.

Jesus goes to Galilee (4:14-9:50).

Jesus teaches in the synagogue (4:14-30).

¹⁴ With the power of the spirit, Jesus turned toward Galilee. His reputation preceded him all over the countryside. ¹⁵ He taught in their synagogues. Everyone respected him.

¹⁶ He came to Nazareth where he grew up. On the Sabbath, he went to the synagogue as usual. He stood up to read. ¹⁷ They handed him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the book. He located the place where it was written,

a) Deuteronomy 8:3.

b) Deuteronomy 6:14.

c) Psalm 91:11.

d) Psalm 91:12.

e) Deuteronomy 6:16.

¹⁸The spirit of the lord is on me.
 He anointed me to bring the good news to the poor.
 He sent me to preach freedom to the captives
 and sight to the blind
 To bring freedom to the broken.

¹⁹to proclaim the year that the lord is accepted.^a

²⁰He rolled up the book, returned it to the official, and sat down. Every eye in the synagogue was gazing at him. ²¹He started speaking to them, "Today, this scripture is fulfilled in your presence."

²²They all spoke well about him. They wondered about the favorable words that came out of his mouth. They stated, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

²³He told them, "Surely you will quote this saying,
 Doctor, heal yourself.

Perform here in your own home town what we heard you did in Capernaum."

²⁴He continued, "I guarantee you: No prophet is accepted in his own home town. ²⁵I am telling you the truth. There were many widows when Elijah was in Israel. The sky closed up for three and one half years. This caused a famine in the entire area. ²⁶However, Elijah visited none of them except a widow in Zarapheth near Sidon. ^b ²⁷There were many lepers in Israel when Elisha was a prophet. However, he healed none of them except Naaman the Syrian."^c

²⁸When they heard this, everyone in the synagogue was furious. ²⁹They stood up and threw him out of the city. They took him to the edge of the hills where the town was built. They intended to throw him off the cliff.

³⁰However, he slipped right between them and went on his way.

Jesus rebukes an impure spirit (4:31-37).

³¹He went down to the city of Capernaum in Galilee. He was teaching them on the Sabbath. ³²They were amazed by his teaching because his speech had authority.

³³There was a man in the synagogue with a impure demonic spirit. He shouted with a loud voice, ³⁴Hah! What is between you and us, Jesus of

a) Isaiah 61:1-2.

b) 1 Kings 8:8-24.

c) 2 Kings 5:1-14.

Nazareth? Did you come to kill us? I know who you are: You are the holy one of God.”

³⁵ Jesus rebuked him, “Muzzle it! Come out of him.”

The demon threw him down right in the middle. It came out of him, but it did not injure him. ³⁶ Amazement fell on everyone. They said between each other, “What is this matter? He issues commands with power and authority to the impure spirits, and they just leave?”

³⁷ He left. News about him spread all over the countryside.

Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law (4:38-39).

³⁸ He left the synagogue. He went into the home of Simon. She was sick with a high fever. They asked him to help her. ³⁹ While he stood over her, he ordered the fever to leave her immediately. She got up and started taking care of him.

Jesus heals people (4:40-44).

⁴⁰ When the sun went down, they brought all sorts of people to him who were sick with various diseases. He put his hands on each one. He healed them. ⁴¹ He cast demons out of numerous people. They shouted, “You are in fact the son of God.”

He told them that he would not allow them to speak about these things since they knew that he was the messiah.

⁴² After some time, he left. He traveled to a place in the wilderness. The crowd looked for him until they came to where he was. They tried to prevent him from leaving them. ⁴³ However, he said to them, “I have to proclaim the good news in some other cities. He sent me for this reason.”

⁴⁴ So, he was preaching in the Jewish synagogues.

From now on, you will catch men (5:1-11).

⁵ The crowd began to press close to him so they could hear the word of God. He was standing near Lake Gennesaret. ² He observed two boats sitting near the lake. The fishermen took them out to wash their nets.

³ He got into one of the boats that belonged to Simon. He asked him to take it out a short distance from the shore. While sitting in the boat, he taught the crowds. ⁴ When he finished speaking, he spoke to Simon, “Take it out to the deep water. Let your nets out to drag.”

Jesus goes to Galilee (4:14-9:50).

From now on, you will catch men (5:1-11).

⁵ Simon answered, “Master, we have been working all night but have not caught anything. But at your request, I will drop the nets.”

⁶ When they did, the nets became so full of fish that their nets were about to break. ⁷ They had to signal to their partners in the other boat to come help them. They came. Both boats were so full that they were in danger of sinking. ⁸ When Simon Peter observed this, he fell on his knees to Jesus, “Go away from me, because I am a sinful man, lord.”

⁹ This created amazement to him and everyone with him because of the quantity of fish which they caught. ¹⁰ It was the same with both Jacob and John, Zebedee’s sons. They were Simon’s partners. Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid. From now on, you will catch men.”

¹¹ They took their boats to the shore. They left everything. They followed him.

Jesus heals a leper (5:12-15).

¹² He came to one of the cities. Look, there was a man full of leprosy. He noticed Jesus. He fell on his face. He requested, “Lord, if you want, you can heal me.”

¹³ Reaching out his hand, he touched him, “I do want to. Be healed.” The leprosy left him right away.

¹⁴ He ordered him to tell no one, “Instead, show yourself to the priest. Present the offering just like Moses commanded as a testimony to them.”

¹⁵ News about him spread. Large crowds gathered to listen to him. He healed their diseases.

Jesus heals a paralyzed man (5:16-26).

¹⁶ He withdrew into the wilderness so that he could pray.

¹⁷ One of those times, he was teaching. Some Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there.

They came from various areas of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. By the power of the lord he was healing.

¹⁸ Look, some men brought a paralyzed man on a stretcher. They sought him so they could carry the man and set him before him. ¹⁹ They failed to find him anywhere. So, they carried him through the crowd. They carried



A stretcher to carry the sick.

him up to the roof. They lowered him on his stretcher through a hole right where Jesus was. ²⁰ Observing their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven.”

²¹ The legal experts and Pharisees began discussing, “Who is this speaking such blasphemy? Who can forgive sins other than God alone?”

²² Jesus noticed their discussion, so he answered them, “Why are you debating this in your hearts? ²⁴ However, so that you can be sure that he son of man has the authority to forgive sins,” he turned to the paralyzed man, “I say to you, ‘Get up. Pick up your stretcher. Go back to your house.’”

²⁵ He stood up immediately. He picked up the stretcher he had been lying on. He returned to his house while glorifying God. ²⁶ They were all amazed. They glorified God. They were quite afraid, “We observed something incredible today.”

Jesus meets Levi (5:27-32).

²⁷ He left after these things. He saw a tax-collector named Levi. He was sitting with some other tax-collectors. He said to him, “Follow me.”

²⁸ He left them all. He stood up. He followed him.

²⁹ Levi held a huge feast for him in his home. A large crowd of tax-collectors and some others joined them. ³⁰ The Pharisees and legal experts were arguing with his disciples, “Why does he eat and drink with tax-collectors and sinners?”

³¹ Jesus answer them, “The healthy do not need a doctor. The sick do. ³² I did not come to invite the righteous. I invite sinners to change.”

Jesus' disciples do not fast (5:33-39).

³³ They said to him, “The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, just like the Pharisees. However, your disciples eat and drink.”

³⁴ He said to them, “Are the groomsmen permitted to fast while the groom is still with them? ³⁵ Later on, after the groom has departed, then they can fast.”

³⁶ He spoke using illustrations with them, “No one takes a piece from a new garment to patch on an old garment. Otherwise, the new garment will be ripped, and the old garment will not match the patch from the new.”

³⁷“No one pours new wine into an old leather container. It will burst, and the container will be ruined. ³⁸Instead, new wine must be poured into a new container. ³⁹No one who drinks old wine will want new. The old tastes better.”

Why do you do illegal things (6:1-5)?

⁶When the Sabbath came, he was passing by the fields. His disciples were hungry, so they scraped off some of the grains to eat. ²Some of the Pharisees complained, “Why do you do illegal things on the Sabbath?”

³Jesus answered them, “Are you unaware what David did when he and his people were hungry? ⁴They entered the house of God. He took the special bread. He ate it and gave it to his people. It was illegal for anyone to eat except for the priests.”

⁵He said to them, “The son of man is lord of the Sabbath.”

Jesus heals a withered hand (6:6-11).

⁶On another Sabbath, he entered the synagogue and taught. A man was present who had a withered right hand. ⁷The legal experts and the Pharisees watched closely whether he would heal on the Sabbath. They hoped to issue an accusation against him.

⁸He knew what they were thinking. He told the man with a withered hand, “Get up. Stand up front.” So, he got up, and stood there. ⁹Jesus said to them, “I ask you: Is it legal to do good or to do evil on the Sabbath? To save a life or to kill?”

¹⁰He looked around at them and said to the man, “Extend your hand,” which he did. His hand was fine.

¹¹They were so full of rage. They debated with each other what they could do about Jesus.

Jesus chooses the twelve (6:12-16).

¹²Later on, he went into the hills to pray. He prayed all night to God. ¹³When it was morning, he called his disciples over. He chose twelve out of them. He made them his representatives: ¹⁴Simon also called Peter, Andrew his brother, Jacob, John, Philip, Andrew, ¹⁵Matthew, Thomas, Jacob son of Alphaeus, Simon the zealot, ¹⁶Judas son of Jacob, and Judas from Iscariot. He later was a traitor.

Jesus teaches in the plain (6:17-49).

¹⁷ He came back down from there. He set himself in the valley along with a crowd, including many of his disciples and also a large group from Judea, Jerusalem, and the coastal cities of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They came to listen to him and so that he would heal all their sicknesses. He cured those who suffered from impure spirits. ¹⁹ The entire crowd tried to touch him. They wanted a miracle to come from him that would heal everyone.

²⁰ He looked up toward his disciples,

Blessed are the poor.

The kingdom of God belongs to you.

²¹ Blessed are those who are hungry now.

You will be full.

Blessed are those who cry now.

You will laugh.

²² You are blessed when people hate you,

when they exclude and insult you,

when they reject your name as evil because of the son of man.

²³ “Be happy then and leap for joy. Look, you have a huge reward in heaven. Your ancestors did the exact same thing to the prophets.”

²⁴ Woe to the rich.

You already have your comfort.

²⁵ Woe to those who are full now.

You will be hungry.

Woe to those who are happy now.

You will mourn and cry.

²⁶ Woe when all men speak well of you.

Your ancestors did the same with the false prophets.

²⁷ “However, I speak to those who are listening: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. ²⁸ Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who falsely accuse you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you in the face, turn the other side. If someone wants to take your garment, do not prevent him from taking your coat also. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you. Do not ask anyone to return what they took from you. ³¹ Treat others the same way that you would want people to treat you.”

³² “If you love people who love you, how does that count as any credit for you? Even sinners love people who love them. ³³ If you do good to people who do good for you, how does that count as any credit for you? Even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend because you hope to get something back, how does that count as any credit or you? Even sinners loan to other sinners so that they will get their money back.”

³⁵ “Love your enemies and treat them well. Lend without expecting anything in return. You will get a large reward. You will be sons of the most high. He does good even to ungrateful and wicked people. ³⁶ Be merciful just like your father is merciful.”

³⁷ “Do not accuse, and you will not be accused. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Release, and you will be free. ³⁸ Give and you will receive. A generous measure, pressed down, shook, and spilling over will be poured into your pockets. You will receive with the same measurement that you use to measure.”

³⁹ He told them an illustration, “How can a blind man lead another blind man? Will not both of them fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A student is not better than a teacher. When he graduates, he will be like his teacher.”

⁴¹ “Why do you observe the splinter in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the large beam in your own? ⁴² How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me remove the splinter from your eye,’ while you are unable to see the large beam in your own? First clear the beam from your eye, then you will clearly see to remove the splinter in your brother’s.”

⁴³ “A good tree does not produce sick fruit. Similarly, a sick tree does not produce good fruit. ⁴⁴ Each type of tree generates its own fruit. No one picks figs from thorn bushes. Nor do they harvest grapes from briars. ⁴⁵ A good man brings out good things from the good treasures in his heart. The evil man brings out evil from evil. His mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.”

⁴⁶ “Why do you call to me, ‘Lord. Lord!’? However, you do not act like I tell you. ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to me must both hear my words and also obey them. I will show you what he is like.”

⁴⁸ “He is like the man who built a house. He excavated, dug deeply, and put the foundation on the rock bed. When the floods come, and the river beats against that house, they will not be able to damage it. It was built well.”

⁴⁹“However, the man who listens but does not obey, he is like the man who build his house on the ground without any foundation. When the rivers beats it, then it will immediately crash. The destruction of that house will be massive.”

Jesus heals the commander's slave (7:1-10).

⁷Once he finished saying all these things to the people, he went to Capernaum. ²A military commander had a slave with a severe sickness. He was about to die. He was dear to him. ³When he heard about Jesus, he sent the Jewish elders to him. He asked him whether he would come to help his slave.

⁴When they came to Jesus, they asked him to come quickly, “The man is who requests this is worthy. ⁵He loves our nation. He paid to build our synagogue.”

⁶So, Jesus went with them. They were not far from his house when they met the associates of the commander, “Lord, do not bother. I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. ⁷It was not appropriate for me to visit you. Just say the word. My child will be healed. ⁸I am a man with command authority. I have soldiers under me. I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes. I say to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

⁹When Jesus heard these things, he was amazed. He turned to the crowds following him, “I have not discovered faith like this anywhere in Israel.”

¹⁰When they returned to the house of the one who sent him, they discovered that the slave was healthy.

Jesus raises a boy (7:11-17).

¹¹The next day, he traveled to the city of Nain. His disciples and a large crowd went with him. ¹²When he was close to the city gate, look, there was someone carrying the dead son with his mother. She was a widow. There was a substantial crowd from the city with her.

¹³When the lord saw her, he felt compassion for her. He spoke to her, “Do not cry.”

¹⁴He went over and touched the coffin. The carriers just stood there. He said, “Young man, I tell you, ‘Get up.’”

¹⁵The dead boy sat up and started to speak. He turned him over to his mother. ¹⁶They were all consumed with fear. They glorified God, “He raised a great prophet among us,” and, “God is looking out for his people.” ¹⁷The news about him spread out all over Judea and the countryside.

Dunker John is greater (7:18-35).

¹⁸The disciples of John approached him about these things. John called two of his disciples over. ¹⁹He sent them to the lord to ask, “Are you the coming one, or should we expect someone else?”

²⁰Those men went to him, “Dunker John sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the coming one, or should we expect someone else?’”

²¹During that time, he healed many people from sicknesses, diseases, and evil spirits. He granted sight to many blind people. ²²So he answered them, “Go, tell John what you saw and heard: The blind see. The lame walk. Lepers are cured. The deaf hear. ^aThe dead are raised. The poor bring the good news. ^b ²³Blessed is the man who is not trapped because of me.”

²⁴After John’s messengers left, he started speaking to the crowd about John, “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed blown by the wind? ²⁵What did you go out to see? A man dressed with nice clothes? Look, those who wear fancy clothes and live in luxury reside in royal places. ²⁶What did you come out to see? A prophet? Yes. I tell you, he is more than a prophet.”

²⁷“He has been written about, ‘Look, I will send my messenger in your presence. He will prepare the way in front of you.’” ^c ²⁸I am telling you: There is no one greater than John among those born to a woman. However, the least in the kingdom of heaven is still greater than him.”

²⁹(When the people and the tax-collectors heard this, they declared God’s justice. They were immersed by John. ³⁰However, the Pharisees and lawyers rejected God’s plan for themselves. He did not immerse them.)

³¹“Who resembles the people of this generation? Who do they resemble? ³²They are like children sitting in the store. They say to each other, “We played the flute but you did not dance. We sang a sad song but

a) Isaiah 35:5-6.

b) Isaiah 61:1.

c) Malachi 3:1.

you did not cry.”³³ Dunker John came but he did not eat bread nor drink wine. You said, ‘He has a demon.’³⁴ The song of man came, and both ate and drank. You said, ‘He associates with sinners and tax-collectors.’³⁵ Wisdom is justified along with her children.”

A sinful woman washes Jesus' feet (7:36-50).

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked if he would eat with him. So he came to the Pharisee’s house for dinner.

³⁷ Look, a woman of questionable character was in town. She was aware that he was eating at the Pharisee’s home. She brought some special ointment in a stone jar.³⁸ She was standing back crying near his feet. She starting wiping his feet with her tears, and wiping them with her hair. Then she kissed his feet and rubbed them with the ointment.



Tiberius is on a denarius coin.

³⁹ The Pharisee who invited him said to himself, “If he really was a prophet, he would know what sort of woman is touching him. She is a woman of ill-repute.”

⁴⁰ Jesus answered. He spoke to him, “Simon, I have something to tell you.”

He said, “Teacher, speak your mind.”

⁴¹ “A lender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii. The other owed only fifty.⁴² Neither had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts. Which of them will be more grateful?”

⁴³ Simon answered, “I suppose that it would be the one who he forgave the most.”

He replied, “You suppose correctly.”

⁴⁴ After turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? She came into your home. She had no water for my feet. However, she washed my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.⁴⁵ You did not kiss me. However, from time I walked in, she did not stop kissing my feet.⁴⁶ You did not rub ointment on my head. However, she rubbed precious ointment on my feet.”

⁴⁷ “For this reason, I tell you what: Her many sins are forgiven because she was so grateful. Whoever is forgiven less is less grateful.”

⁴⁸ He spoke to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

⁴⁹The guests began to discuss among themselves, “Who is this who can forgive sins?”

⁵⁰He said to the woman, “Your faith has rescued you. Go in peace.”

Some women care for Jesus (8:1-3).

⁸Afterwards, he was traveling around by city and countryside. He was preaching and telling the good news about the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him.

²He healed some women from evil spirits and diseases. Seven demons left Mary who was from Magdala. ³Joanna was the wife of Khouza. She had taken care of Herod. There was also Susanna and many others. They took care of them with their personal expenses.

Jesus uses illustrations (8:4-18).

⁴A large crowd gathered. They traveled to the city. He spoke to them using illustrations:

A farmer went out to sow seed (8:5-15).

⁵“A farmer went out to sow seed.”

“Some fell on the road, where people walked on it. Some birds in the sky ate it up. ⁶Some others fell in the rocky soil. They sprung up. However, they withered because they did not have enough moisture. ⁷Others fell in the middle of thorns. They grew up, but the thorns choked them out. ⁸Others fell on fertile soil. They sprung up. They multiplied fruit one hundred times over.”

“The one telling these things says, ‘Anyone who has ears to hear with should listen.’”

¹⁰Then he said, “You get to know the secrets of the kingdom of God. Everyone else just gets illustrations. That way, ‘they will see but not see. They will hear but not understand.’^a”

¹¹This is the meaning of the illustration: The farmer is the word of God. ¹²The road is the ones who hear, but then the devil comes. He snatches the word of God from their hearts so that they will not believe or be rescued. ¹³The rocky soil is the ones who gladly accept the word, but they have little root. They believe for a while, but then desert it later. ¹⁴The

a) Isaiah 6:9-10.

thorny soil is the ones who hear, but then worries, riches, and the desires of life come. These things choke them and they never survive to maturity.¹⁵ The fertile soil is the ones with a good heart. Since they listen well, they hold the word tight. They constantly bear fruit.”

No one hides a lamp (8:16-18).

¹⁶“No one would light a lamp, then hide it with a basket or put it under the table. Instead, he puts it on the lamp stand. Everyone who passes by can see the light.¹⁷ Whatever is not hidden will become obvious. Secrets are never known and never become obvious.¹⁸ Be careful how well you listen. Whoever has will get more. Whoever lacks will lose what he thinks he has.”

Jesus' mother and brothers visit him (8:19-21).

¹⁹His mother and brothers traveled to visit him. They were not able to meet him because of the crowd.²⁰ His mother and brothers sent a message to him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside because they would like to see you.”

²¹Jesus answered them, “These are my mother and brothers. They hear the word of God, then put it into practice.”

Jesus commands a storm (8:22-25).

²²Early one morning, he got into a boat with his disciples. They wanted to cross to the other side of the lake. So, they set sail.²³ While they were traveling, he went to sleep. A violent wind storm descended on the lake. It started to fill the boat. It was in danger of sinking.

²⁴They went to him to wake him up, “Master, master, we are going to die!”

So, he got up and ordered the wind and the waves. They stopped. They became calm.²⁵ He asked them, “Where is your faith?”

They were both afraid and curious. They spoke to each other, “Who is this? He commands the winds and water, and they obey him.”

Jesus frees a man from demons (8:26-39).

²⁶They arrived in the country of Gerasene. It is on the opposite side of the lake from Galilee.²⁷ A man came out to meet him at the seashore. He was from the city. He had demons. On many occasions he wore no

clothes. He could not live in a home, so he lived in the tombs.²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he shouted. He fell down in front of him. With a loud voice, he said, "What is between you and me, Jesus, son of the most high? I beg you, do not torture me."

²⁹ He commanded the impure spirit to leave the man. (Many times they had seized him, then bound him with chains and kept him in shackles. But after he broke the bonds, the demon drove him into the wilderness.)³⁰ Jesus asked him, "What is your name?"

He answered, "Legion," because many demons were in him.

³¹ They asked him not to order them to go into the bottomless pit.

³² There was a large herd of pigs grazing on the mountain side. They asked him to permit them to enter them. He agreed.³³ The demons left the man, and went into the pigs. The herd stampeded over the cliff into the lake and drowned.

³⁴ When the herdsmen saw this event, they fled. They reported it in the city and the rural areas.³⁵ They came back to see what happened. They went to Jesus. They found the man who had the demon sitting down, wearing clothes, and in his right mind. They were afraid.³⁶ The ones who saw it told them how he was delivered from demon-possession.³⁷ The entire multitude from the country around Gerasene asked him to leave them. They were seized with great fear. So, he got in the boat and turned around.

³⁸ The man who lost the demons asked him to come with him. However, he sent him away, saying,³⁹ "Go back to your house. Declare everything God did to you. He returned. He proclaimed around the entire city all the things Jesus did for him."

Jesus heals two people (8:40-56).

Jairus is waiting (8:40-42).

⁴⁰ After he returned, the crowd accepted him. They were even waiting for him.⁴¹ Look, there was a man named Jairus. He was the leader of the synagogue. He fell down at his feet. He invited him to come to his house.⁴² His only daughter was twelve. She was about to die. A crowd was present. They were tightly packed around him.

Jesus heals a woman with a hemorrhage (8:43-48).

⁴³There also was a woman who had suffered from a hemorrhage for twelve years. She had spent all her savings with doctors. It did nothing because no one was able to cure her. ⁴⁴She approached him from behind and touched the edge of his clothes. Immediately, her hemorrhage stopped.

⁴⁵Jesus said, "Who touched me?"

Everyone denied it. Peter said, "Master, the crowd is pressing against you from all sides.

⁴⁶Jesus said, "Someone touched me. I could tell that some power came out of me."

⁴⁷She realized that she was no longer hidden. Trembling, she stepped forward. She fell down in front of him. She admitted before all the people why she touched him.

Then he immediately healed her. ⁴⁸He told her, "Daughter, your faith has rescued you. Go in peace."

Jesus raises Jairus's daughter (8:49-56).

⁴⁹While he was still speaking, some people from the synagogue leader arrived, "Your daughter has died. Do not bother the teacher."

⁵⁰Jesus heard this. He responded, "Do not be afraid. Just trust. She will be okay."

⁵¹When he arrived at home, he did not allow anyone to come inside with him except, Peter, Jacob, John, and the mother and father of the child. ⁵²They were all crying and moaning over her. He said, "Do not cry. She is not dead, just asleep."

⁵³They ridiculed him because they knew she was actually dead. ⁵⁴He took her hand and shouted, "Child, get up."

⁵⁵Her spirit turned. She immediately got up. He told her to get something to eat. ⁵⁶Her parents left. However, he ordered them not to say anything about what happened.

Jesus sends the twelve (9:1-6).

⁹Jesus assembled the twelve. He granted them power and authority against all demons and to heal diseases. ²He sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to cure sicknesses.

³ He told them, “Do not take anything on the trip. You cannot have any cane, wallet, food, money, or extra clothing. ⁴When you are welcomed into a home, stay there. Do not stay anywhere else. ⁵If no one welcomes you, leave that city. Wipe the dust off of your feet as a charge against them. ⁶When you leave, travel around the villages. Proclaim and spread the good news everywhere.”

Herod hears about Jesus (9:7-9).

⁷ Herod the tetrarch heard about everything he was doing. He was confused because some people claimed that John rose from the dead. ⁸Some said that Elijah appeared. Others said one of the ancient prophets returned.

⁹ Herod thought, “I cut off John’s head. Who is this guy? I keep hearing about him.” So, he tried to locate him.

Jesus feeds five thousand men (9:10-16).

¹⁰ Later, the representatives came back to report to him all about what they did. He took them privately to the city named Beth-Zada. ¹¹When the crowd realized this, they followed him. He accepted them. He told them about the kingdom of God. He healed those who needed cures. ¹²At the end of the day, the twelve came to him, “Send the crowd away. Let them go into the surrounding villages and country to find lodging and meals. We are in a deserted area.”

¹³ He told them, “You give them something to eat.”

They replied, “We do not have much, except for just five loaves of bread and two fish. That is, unless we buy food for all these people.” ¹⁴(There were about five thousand men.)

He told his disciples, “Break them up into groups of fifty.” ¹⁵They did just like that—they broke them into groups of fifty.

¹⁶ He took the five loaves and two fish. He looked up into the sky. He blessed them. He broke them. He gave them to the disciples to distribute to the crowd. ¹⁷They all ate and were full. They collected the leftover pieces. They filled twelve baskets.

Who do you say I am (9:18-22)?

¹⁸ He went out by himself to pray. His disciples were with him. He asked them, “Who does the crowd say I am?”

¹⁹ They answered, “Dunker John. Others, Elijah. Some others say one of the ancient prophets returned.”

²⁰ He asked again, “But who do you say I am?”

Peter answered, “The messiah of God.”

²¹ He ordered them not to tell anyone that they said this, ²² “It is necessary for the son of man to suffer greatly. The elders, high priests, and legal experts will reject him. They will kill him. He will rise on the third day.”

Everyone must deny himself (9:23-27).

²³ He spoke to everyone, “If anyone wants to be with me, he must deny himself, take up his cross every day, and follow me.”

²⁴ “Suppose anyone wants to preserve his life—he must destroy it. Suppose anyone destroys his life for my benefit—he will preserve it. ²⁵ What good does it do if a man gains the entire world but destroys or loses himself? ²⁶ Suppose anyone is ashamed of me or my words—when he returns in his victory with his father and the holy angels, the son of man will be ashamed of him.”

²⁷ “I tell you what: Some of you standing here will never taste death before you see the kingdom of God.”

Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus (9:28-36).

²⁸ About eight days after this, he took Peter, John, and Jacob up the mountain to pray. ²⁹ While he was praying, his face appeared different. His clothing shone bright white. ³⁰ Look, he was conversing with two men. They were Moses and Elijah. ³¹ They appeared with radiance. They spoke about his departure and what was going to be fulfilled in Jerusalem.

³² Peter and the others were quite exhausted and sleepy. However, his brightness and the two men standing with him woke them up. ³³ As they were about to leave, Peter suggested to Jesus, “Master, it would be a good idea for us to do something. We should erect three tents, one each for you, Moses, and Elijah.” (He did not realize what he was suggesting.)

³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them. The cloud made them afraid. ³⁵ A voice came out of the cloud, "This is my son. I chose him. Listen to him."

³⁶ After the voice, they found Jesus by himself. They were completely silent. At that time, they did not tell anyone anything about what they saw.

Jesus heals a man's son (9:37-43).

³⁷ After six days, they came down from the mountain. A large crowd joined him. ³⁸ Look, there was a man in the crowd. He shouted, "Teacher, I want you to take a look at my son. He is special to me. ³⁹ Look, he has a spirit. It makes him suddenly cry out. It makes him foam at the mouth. He can barely move. He convulses. ⁴⁰ I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do it."

⁴¹ Jesus responded, "Oh, you faithless and corrupt generation. How much more do I have to be with and put up with you? Take me to this boy."

⁴² When he approached, the demon convulsed and jerked him. Jesus commanded the impure spirit. The boy was healed. He returned him to his father. ⁴³ Everyone was amazed about the mighty power of God. Everyone wondered about everything he did.

Jesus will be turned over (9:43-45).

He spoke to his disciples, ⁴⁴ "Make your ears hear these words: The son of man will be turned over to some men."

⁴⁵ They failed to understand these issues. He let them not understand it. They were afraid to ask him about these matters.

Who will be the greatest (9:46-48)?

⁴⁶ They started disputing with each other about who will be the greatest between them.

⁴⁷ Jesus knew this argument was in their hearts. So, he grabbed a little child standing near himself.

⁴⁸ He told them, "Whoever accepts a little child in my name accepts me. Whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me. The least among you is the greatest."

Anyone who does not oppose you is for you (9:49-50).

⁴⁹ John asked him, “Master, we know some people who cast out demons in your name. Should we order them to stop? They do not follow us.”

⁵⁰ Jesus answered him, “Do not order them to stop. Anyone who does not oppose you is for you.”

Jesus travels toward Jerusalem (9:51-19:44).

Do you want us to call down fire from the sky (9:51-56)?

⁵¹ When it was nearly time for him to be lifted up, he committed to travel toward Jerusalem. ⁵² He sent messengers ahead. They passed into a Samaritan village to prepare matters for him. ⁵³ They did not accept him, so he turned toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ Jacob and John noticed this, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from the sky to kill them?”

⁵⁵ He turned around and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they traveled to another village.

I will follow you (9:57-62).

⁵⁷ While they were traveling down the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

⁵⁸ Jesus replied to him, “Foxes have dens. Birds in the sky make nests. However, the son of man has no place to lay his head.”

⁵⁹ Another said, “I will follow you.” But, he added, “Lord, first let me go to bury my father.”

⁶⁰ He replied to him, “Let dead people bury their own dead people. But you must go and tell about the kingdom of God.”

⁶¹ Still another said, “I will follow you, lord. But, first let me say good-bye to my family.”

⁶² Jesus replied, “No one who puts his hand on the plow, then looks back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Jesus sends the seventy-two (10:1-24).

¹⁰ After this, the lord chose seventy-two people. He sent them in groups of two into every city and place he designated. ² He told them, “There is a large harvest. However, there are only a few laborers. Ask the

harvest-master to provide lots of workers for his harvest.³ Go. Look, I am sending you out like lambs in the middle of wolves.⁴ Do not carry a bag, wallet, or extra shoes. Do not visit with anyone along the way.”

⁵“Whatever home you enter first, say, ‘Peace to this house.’⁶ If they demonstrate peace there, then give them your peace. If they do not, take your peace with you.⁷ Stay in the same home. Eat and drink with them. The laborer earns his pay. Do not transfer between homes.”

⁸“When you enter a city and they welcome you, eat whatever they set in front of you.⁹ Heal the sick there. Say to them, ‘The kingdom of God is close to you.’¹⁰ When you enter a city and they do not welcome you, leave that place and say,¹¹ ‘We wipe off the dust that sticks to our feet from your city. Be sure of this: The kingdom of God is close.’¹² I tell you that Sodom in its time will be tolerated more than that city.”³

¹³“Woe to you, Chorazin. Woe to you, Beth-Zada. If the miracles done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have changed in sackcloth and ashes a long time ago.¹⁴ Tyre and Sidon will be tolerated more than you in the judgment.¹⁵ You, Capernaum, will you rise up to heaven? You will drop down to Hades.”^b

¹⁶“Whoever listens to you, listens to me. Whoever rejects you, rejects me. Whoever rejects me, rejects the one who sent me.”

¹⁷The seventy-two returned happy, “The demons obeyed us in your name.”

¹⁸He told them, “I saw Satan fall like stars in the sky.”^c ¹⁹Look, I have given you authority to trample snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing can ever harm you.²⁰ Do not be happy that the spirits must obey you. Rejoice that your names have been written down in heaven.”

²¹At this moment, he was very happy in the holy spirit. He said, “I confess to you, father, lord of heaven and earth. You revealed these things to babies. Yes, father, it seemed good to you.²² My father delivered everything to me. No one knows who is the son except the father. No one knows who the father is except the son, and those the son wants to reveal.”

a) Genesis 19:24-25.

b) Isaiah 14:13-15.

c) Isaiah 14:12.

²³ He turned to the disciples in private, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you can see. ²⁴ I tell you: Many prophets and kings wish they could see what you see. They did not see it. They wish they could hear what you hear. But they did not hear it.”

Who is my neighbor (10:25-37)?

²⁵ Look, a lawyer who wanted to test him stood up, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ He replied to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

²⁷ He answered, “‘Love the lord your God with your entire heart, your entire soul, your entire strength, and your entire mind,’^a and, ‘Love your neighbor like yourself.’^b”

²⁸ He said, “You answer correctly. Do this and you will live.”

²⁹ The man wanted to justify himself. He asked Jesus, “So, who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ Jesus countered, “There once was a man going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Some thieves jumped him. They stripped him, beat him, and then went on. They left him half dead.”

³¹ “A priest happened to pass by on that road. When he saw him, he crossed over to the other side of the road. ³² Similarly, a Levite was traveling through that place. When he saw him, he crossed over to the other side of the road.”

³³ “A Samaritan was traveling on a journey. When he saw him, he felt compassion. ³⁴ He went to him, bandaged his wounds, and put oil and wine on them. He lifted him on to his own pack animal. He took him to a lodge. He took care of him. ³⁵ The next day, he paid the host two denarii. He said, ‘Take care of him. Whatever you spend, I will come back and repay you.’”

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who was robbed?”

³⁷ He answered, “The one who showed him mercy.”

Jesus said to him, “You must go and do the same.”

a) Deuteronomy 6:5.

b) Leviticus 19:18.

Martha complains about Mary (10:38-42).

³⁸ During his travels, he went into a certain village. A woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary. She was washing his feet while listening to his instruction.

⁴⁰ Martha was busy with various acts of hospitality. While standing nearby, she said, "Lord, does it not seem inappropriate to you that she has left me by myself to serve? Tell her to help me."

⁴¹ The lord answered her, "Martha. Martha. Make sure that you do not get too bothered. ⁴² Only one thing is necessary. Mary chose the best. You should not deprive her of it."

Teach us how to pray (11:1-13).

¹¹ So it happened that he went to a certain place to pray. When he got there, one of his disciples asked him, "Lord, teach us how to pray, just like John taught his disciples."

² He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Father, your name is holy. Let your kingdom arrive. ³ Give us the food we need each day. ⁴ Forgive our sins. We forgive everyone who owes us. Do not let us fall into temptation."

⁵ "Then he told them, Suppose you have a friend. You go to him in the middle of the night. You say to him, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread. ⁶ I have another friend visiting me on travel. I do not have anything to feed him.' "

⁷ "He might answer within himself, 'Do not bother me. I have already shut the door. My children are with me in the bed.' ⁸ I tell you: He may not get up to give it to him because it is his friend. However, because of his persistence, he will get up and give him whatever he needs."

⁹ "I also tell you: Ask. You will get it. Seek. You will find it. Knock. It will open to you. ¹⁰ Everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. It opens to the one who knocks. ¹¹ What happens if a son asks his father for a fish? Will he give him a snake instead? ¹² What happens if he asks for an egg? Will he give him a scorpion instead?"

¹³ "You are evil. You know how to give good gifts to your children. How much more does your father from heaven give the holy spirit to those who ask him?"

Jesus casts out a speechless demon (11:14-28).

¹⁴ He was casting out a speechless demon. When the demon came out, the speechless man spoke. The crowd was amazed. ¹⁵ One of them said, “You cast out demons by Beel-Zebul, the head demon.” ¹⁶ Others sought for him to prove himself with a sign from heaven.

¹⁷ He knew what they were thinking. He said to them, “Any kingdom divided against itself will fail. A house divided against itself will fall. ¹⁸ If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? Yet you claim that I cast out demons by Beel-Zebul. ¹⁹ If I cast out demons by Beel-Zebul, then how do your sons cast them out? They will be your judges. ²⁰ If I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.”

²¹ “When the strong man is armed, he can guard his palace. His possessions are safe. ²² When someone even stronger arrives, he can defeat him. He will take away the armor he trusts in. Then he will distribute the spoils.”

²³ “Whoever is not with me opposes me. Whoever does not gather with me scatters.”

²⁴ When an impure spirit comes out from a man, it travels through dry places. It is looking for a place to rest. If it finds none, it says, ‘I am going back to my house that I left.’ ²⁵ When it arrives, it might find that house swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then it goes and finds some other seven spirits more evil than itself. It returns to inhabit that place. Then end of that man is far worse than the beginning.’

²⁷ When he finished saying these things, a woman in the crowd lifted up her voice. She said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you. Blessed are the breasts that you sucked.”

²⁸ He replied, “No, blessed are the ones who hear and keep the word of God.”

A wicked generation wants a sign (11:29-32).

²⁹ The crowd was gathered together. He started to speak, “This is a wicked generation. They want a sign. They will get no sign except for the

sign of Jonah.³⁰ Just like Jonah gave the Ninevites a sign,^a the son of man will give one to this generation.”

³¹ “The southern queen will rise up against the men of this generation. She will condemn them. She came from a remote place to hear the wisdom of Solomon.^b Look, someone greater than Solomon is present.”

³² “The men of Ninevah rise up in judgment against this generation. They condemn it. They changed because of Jonah’s message.^c Look, someone greater than Jonah is present.”

The eye is the light of the body (11:33-36).

³³ “No one secretly lights a lamp then sets it under a basket. He sets it on a stand. Those who enter can see by its light.”

³⁴ “Your eye is the light of the body. When your eye is well, your whole body is bright. When your eye is diseased, your whole body is full of darkness.³⁵ Make sure that the light in you is not darkness.³⁶ If your whole body is bright. Have no relationship with darkness. It will be as bright as a lamp that shines its light on you.”

Woe to the Pharisees (11:37-54).

³⁷ While he was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to eat with him. So, he went and sat at his table.³⁸ The Pharisee wondered why he did not wash before eating.

³⁹ The lord said to him, “Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dishes. However, the inside is full of extortion and wickedness.⁴⁰ Fools, did not the one who created the outside also create the inside?⁴¹ Give donations from what you have. Then everything will be clean for you.”

⁴² “Woe to you, Pharisees. You tithe mint, rue, and herbs. Yet you ignore justice and love for God. You must do these things and still not ignore the others.⁴³ Woe to you, Pharisees. You love the special seat in the synagogues and the greetings in the market.⁴⁴ Woe to you. You are like unmarked tombs. People walk over them and do not even realize it.”

a) Jonah 3:4.

b) 1 Kings 10:1-5.

c) Jonah 3:5-9.

⁴⁵ One of the lawyers answered him, “Teacher, when you say these things, you speak harshly with us.”

⁴⁶ He replied, “Woe to you, lawyers. You place severe burdens on people. However, you do not use even one of your fingers for any burden.”

⁴⁷ “Woe to you. Your fathers build tombs for the prophets that they murdered. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses—you approve of the behavior of your fathers. They murdered them, but you build the tombs. ⁴⁹ This is why the wisdom of God says, ‘I will send my prophets and representatives to them. They will murder and persecute them.’ ⁵⁰ The spilled blood of all the prophets accuses this generation from the beginning of the universe. ⁵¹ This starts from the blood of Abel,^a and continues to the blood of Zachariah.^b He was killed between the altar and the temple. They accuse this generation.”

⁵² “Woe to you, lawyers. You threw away the key of knowledge. You did not enter. You prevent others from entering.”

⁵³ After he left, the legal experts and Pharisees began to strongly debate and question him about many things. ⁵⁴ They were just waiting to catch something from his mouth.

Fear God (12:1-12).

¹² At this time, a huge crowd gathered. They were in danger of trampling each other. He started to speak to his disciples first, “Be wary of the yeast of the Pharisees, which is the Pharisees’ hypocrisy. ² There is nothing hidden that will not be revealed. No secret will not become known. ³ Whatever you said in the darkness, will be heard in the light. Whatever you spoke in the closet, announce it from the top of the house.”

⁴ “I declare to you, my friends: Do not fear anyone who kills the body. After that, they have nothing else that they can do. ⁵ I warn you who you should fear: Fear the one who has the authority to throw you into hell after you die. I tell you: You should fear this.”

⁶ “Can you not buy five sparrows for two-tenths of a drachma? God will not forget even one of them. ⁷ Even the hairs on your head are numbered. Do not be afraid: You are worth a lot more than sparrows.”

⁸ “I tell you: If anyone would defend me with people, then the son of man will defend him to the angels of God. ⁹ If anyone denies me with

a) Genesis 4:8.

b) 2 Chronicles 24:21.

people, then I will deny them with the angels of God. ¹⁰ If anyone says anything against the son of man, he can be forgiven. However, if he slanders the holy spirit, he will not be forgiven.”

¹¹ “When they drag you before the congregation, rulers, or authorities, do not worry how to defend yourself or what you will say. ¹² At that moment, the holy spirit will show you what you should say.”

A rich man builds bigger barns (12:13-21).

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to give me my portion of the inheritance.”

¹⁴ He said to him, “Man, who appointed me a judge or referee between you?”

¹⁵ He told them, “Look. Watch out for all kinds of greed. Your life is not defined by how much stuff you collect.”

¹⁶ He used an illustration with them, “A country produced a certain rich man. ¹⁷ He considered in his own mind, ‘What should I do? I do not have enough space to store my produce.’

¹⁸ So, he said, ‘This is what I will do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones. I will store all my grain and valuables there. ¹⁹ I will say about my life: Life, you have many good things collected over many years. Rest. Eat. Drink. Enjoy yourself.’ ”

²⁰ “However, God says to him, ‘You fool. Your life is demanded from you this very night. Others will take what you preserved.’ ”

²¹ “This is how it is for those who collect things for themselves, but are not generous toward God.”

Do not worry (12:22-34).

²² He told his disciples, “This is why I tell you: Do not worry about what you eat in your life, or what you wear on your body. ²³ Your life is more than food. Your body is more than clothes.”

²⁴ “Consider crows. They do not sow nor harvest. They do not have closets nor barns. Yet still God feeds them. How much better are you than birds? ²⁵ Which of you can increase his lifespan an arms length by worrying? ²⁶ If you cannot do such a little thing, then why worry about anything else?”

²⁷ “Consider how lilies grow. They do not make thread nor weave. However, I tell you: As fancy as he was, Solomon was not dressed better than them.^a ²⁸ Field grass is here today, but thrown into the oven tomorrow. God will clothe you considerably better, you faithless. ²⁹ Do not demand what you eat or drink. Do not be anxious. ³⁰ All the gentiles in the world seek things. Your father knows what you need.”

³¹ “Instead, seek his kingdom. You will get plenty of these things. ³² Do not be afraid, little flock. Your father prefers to give the kingdom to you. ³³ Sell your possessions. Give them to charity. Make yourself a wallet that never gets old, a treasure in heaven that never fails. Thieves cannot come near. Moths cannot ruin. ³⁴ Wherever your treasure is, your heart is there, too.”

Be ready for the master (12:35-48).

³⁵ “Bind your hips and light your lamps. ³⁶ Act like men who wait for their master to return from a wedding. When he arrives and knocks, they can open right away. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves who the master discovers prepared. I guarantee you: He will dress them and sit them down. Approaching them, he will take care of them. ³⁸ If he comes in the second or third watch of the night, and finds them so, they will be blessed.”

³⁹ “Know this: If the house manager knows what time the thief is coming, he would not let him break into the house. ⁴⁰ You must be ready. You cannot determine what time the son of man is arriving.”

⁴¹ Peter asked, “Lord, Are you giving this illustration about us or about everyone?”

⁴² The lord answered, “Who is the wise and faithful manager? Did he not appoint him over his property to give the grain allowance at the right time? ⁴³ Blessed is the servant who his master finds him do these things. ⁴⁴ I tell you the truth: He will appoint him over all his property.”

⁴⁵ Suppose that servant says in his heart, ‘My master might be delayed.’ So, he starts beating the male and female servants, to eat, to drink, and to get drunk. ⁴⁶ He cannot anticipate the day that the master of that slave will arrive or know the hour. He will flail him and put his lot with the

a) 1 Kings 10:4-5.

wicked. ⁴⁷That slave should know the intent of his master. If he does not prepare nor perform the intent of his master, he will beat him severely.”

⁴⁸“The slave who did not know but still did things deserving punishment will receive a lighter beating.”

“Much is expected from the one who is given much. More will be asked of the one who is trusted with much.”

Jesus causes division (12:49-53).

⁴⁹“I came to cast fire on the earth. I wish it was already lit. ⁵⁰I must be immersed with an immersion. I am bothered until it is finished. ⁵¹Do you think that I am present to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you. I came to cause division.”

⁵²“Now it will happen that five will be divided within one household, three against two, and two against three.”

⁵³A father will be divided against his son
and son against father.

A mother against daughter
and daughter against mother.

A mother-in-law against daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.^a

Know what to expect (12:54-56).

⁵⁴He spoke to the crowd, “Suppose you see a cloud forming in the west. You conclude that it is about to rain, and it does. ⁵⁵Suppose a south wind blows. You conclude that it is going to be hot, and it is.”

⁵⁶“You hypocrites, you observe the earth and sky, and know what to expect. How can you not know what to expect from this occasion?”

Settle with your accuser (12:57-59).

⁵⁷“Why do you not demand justice for yourselves?”

⁵⁸“When you go against your accuser to the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way. Otherwise, he may drag you before the judge. The judge may hand you over to the officer. The officer may throw you into prison.”

a) Micah 7:6.

⁵⁹“I tell you: You will not get out of there until you pay the last small coin.”

You must change (13:1-5).

¹³Some people were around him at that time. They were discussing the Galileans with him. Pilatus had mixed their blood with their sacrifices.

²He asked them, “Do you believe that these Galileans were sinners more than all the other Galileans because they suffered these things? ³No, I tell you. If you all do not change, you are going to be destroyed too.”

⁴“What about the eighteen people that the Siloam tower fell on? It killed them. Do you believe they were worse sinners than all the citizens of Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you. If you do not all change, you will be destroyed just like them.”

Chop the fig tree down (13:6-9).

⁶He gave them this illustration, “A man planted a fig tree in his field. He came to find fruit on it, but he did not find any. ⁷He told his field worker, ‘Look, I came for three years looking for fruit on this fig tree. I did not find any. Chop it down. Why should it waste the soil?’ ”

⁸“He responded, ‘Lord, leave it for one more year. I will dig around it and fertilize it with manure. ⁹It might bear fruit in the future. But, if not, then I will cut it down.’ ”

Jesus heals a crippled woman (13:10-17).

¹⁰On the Sabbath, he was teaching in one of the synagogues. ¹¹Look, there was a woman who had a diseased spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over. She was not able to completely stand up.

¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over. He said to her, “Woman, your disease is cured.”

¹³He put his hands on her. She immediately stood straight. She glorified God.

¹⁴The leader of the synagogue was upset because Jesus healed on the Sabbath. He said to the crowd, “There are six days in which you can work. You can heal on them, but not on the Sabbath.”^a

a) Exodus 20:8-10.

¹⁵ The lord answered, “You hypocrite. Will not each of you free his ox or donkey from the barn and take him for a drink? ¹⁶ She is the daughter of Abraham. Satan bound her for eighteen years. Is it not appropriate to free her from these bonds on the Sabbath?”

¹⁷ He said this to shame all his enemies. The entire crowd was happy about the wonderful things he was doing.

What is the kingdom of God like (13:18-21)?

¹⁸ He asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What is similar to it? ¹⁹ It is like a mustard seed. A man takes it and plants it in his field. It grows into a tree. The birds of the sky can rest in its branches.”

²⁰ He also asked, “What is similar to the kingdom of God? ²¹ It is like yeast which a woman possesses. She folds it into three pecks of flour. Then it leavens the entire batch.”

Are just a few saved (13:22-30)?

²² He traveled through the cities and towns teaching. Meanwhile, he was headed toward Jerusalem. ²³ Someone said to him, “Lord, are just a few saved?”

He spoke to them, ²⁴ “Struggle to enter through the narrow door. Many, I tell you, will try to enter but will not be able. ²⁵ “Suppose the master of the house gets up and locks the door. Then you arrive and knock on the door, saying, ‘Lord, open up for me.’ Then answering, he will say, ‘I do not know you. Where are you from?’”

²⁶ “Then you will start to say, ‘We ate and drank with you. You taught us in the street.’”

²⁷ “He will say to you, ‘I do not know you. Get away from me. You all commit wickedness.’”

²⁸ “There will be crying and teeth grinding at that place. You will see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets in the kingdom of God. However, you will be thrown outside. ²⁹ They will come from east, west, north, and south. They will sit in the kingdom of God. ³⁰ Look, those who are last will be first. Those who are first will be last.”

³¹ At this moment, some of the Pharisees said to him, “Leave. Go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.”

Jerusalem kills the prophets (13:31-35).

³² He told them, “When you are traveling, say to these foxes, ‘Look, I cast demons out. I finish healing today and tomorrow. I am finished on the third day.’³³ However, I have to go after today and tomorrow, because it is impossible to kill a prophet outside Jerusalem.’

³⁴ “Jerusalem, Jerusalem. You kill the prophets and stone the ones sent to you. How often I wanted to gather your children like a hen gathers her chicks under her wing. But you would not cooperate.³⁵ Look, your house has been abandoned. I tell you: You will never see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the lord.’^a”

Jesus heals a man swollen with fluid (14:1-6).

¹⁴ It so happened that he went to the house of one of leaders of the Pharisees on the Sabbath. He ate a meal. They were watching him.
² Look, a man was there who was swollen with fluid.

³ So, Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, “Is it legal to heal on the Sabbath, or not?”

⁴ They were quiet. So, he grabbed him, healed him, then let him go.⁵ He said to them, “Suppose one of you had a son, or an ox, that fell into a hole. Would you not pull him out immediately, even if it was on the Sabbath?”

⁶ They had no response to these questions.

Do not sit in the best seat (14:7-14).

⁷ He spoke to the guests using an illustration. (He noticed how they chose the best seats.) So, he said,⁸ “When you are invited to a wedding, do not sit in the best seats. Your host may have invited someone more honored than you.⁹ The person who invited might say to you, ‘Give your seat to someone else.’ Then you will end up sitting in an embarrassing seat.”

¹⁰ Instead, when you are invited, sit in the worst seat. Then the one who invited you might say, ‘Dear friend, have a better seat.’ Then it will be an honor for you in front of all the guests.¹¹ When you put yourself in a high position, you will get knocked down. When you take a humble position, you will be lifted up.”

a) Psalm 118:26.

¹² He spoke to the one who invited him, “When you have a dinner or feast, do not invite your friends, brothers, family, or rich neighbors. You might hope they will invite you in return or have to pay you back. ¹³ Instead, when you have a feast, invite the poor, the lame, the crippled, the blind. ¹⁴ You will be blessed. They will not have to repay you. He will instead repay you in the resurrection of the righteous.”

A man held a great feast (14:15-24).

¹⁵ When someone sitting there heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is the man who eats food in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁶ He replied, “There was a man who held a great feast. He invited many people. ¹⁷ He sent his slaves when it was time for the feast. They told the guests, ‘Come. It is ready.’”

¹⁸ “They each began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I bought a field. I have to go look at it. Please, excuse me.’ ¹⁹ Another said, ‘I bought a pair of ox. I have to go check them out. Please, excuse me.’ ²⁰ Another said, ‘I married a woman. Because of this, I cannot come.’”

²¹ “When the slave returns, he told his master these things. The master of the house became angry. He told his servant, “Go right out into the highways and streets of the city. Find the poor, the disabled, the blind, and the lame. Bring them here.’”

²² “The slave replied, ‘Lord, I did what you commanded. There is still room.’”

²³ “The master said to the slave, ‘Go out past the roads and fences. Compel them to come until my house is full.’ ²⁴ I tell you: None of those who were invited will taste my feast.’”

Hate your father and mother (14:25-35).

²⁵ The crowd was traveling with him. Turning, he spoke to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me, but does not hate his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, and sisters—even his own life—then he may not be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry his own cross, then come after me, he may not be my disciple.”

²⁸ “Suppose someone wants to build a tower. Should he not first sit down and consider the expenses? Do he have enough to finish? ²⁹ Otherwise, he might lay the foundation, but not be able to finish. Everyone

watching might start to make fun of him,³⁰ “This guy started construction, but he was unable to finish it!”

³¹ “Suppose a king traveled toward another king to make war. Should he not first sit down to plan whether he is able with ten thousand troops to overcome his opponent with twenty thousand? ³² If not, while he is still far away, he should send an ambassador to ask for terms of peace.”

³³ “In the same way, none of you can become my disciple unless you give up all your possessions.”

³⁴ “Salt is a good thing. However, if salt loses its flavor, can it be used for seasoning? ³⁵ It is not useful for the ground or the manure pile. Throw it away.”

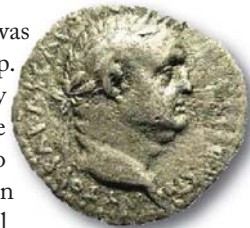
“Anyone who has ears to hear with should listen.”

Jesus eats with sinners (15:1-32).

¹⁵ All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to hear him. ² The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, “He accepts sinners and eats with them.”

A man finds his lost sheep (15:3-7).

³ He told them this illustration, ⁴ “There was someone among you who had one hundred sheep. He lost one of them when it wandered away from the ninety-nine in the wilderness. Will he not go look for the one that is lost in order to find it? ⁵ When he finds it, he will gladly put it on his shoulder. ⁶ When he gets home, he will call his friends and neighbors together. He will say to them, ‘Party with me. I found my lost sheep.’”



A first century drachma coin.

⁷ “I tell you: Heaven will party more when on sinner changes than when ninety-nine are righteous. They do not need to change.”

A woman finds her lost drachma (15:8-10).

⁸ “There was a woman with ten drachma. Suppose she loses one drachma. Will she not light a lamp, sweep the house, and diligently search until she finds it? ⁹ When she locates it, she will call her friends and neighbors together, ‘Party with me. I discovered my lost drachma.’”

¹⁰ “So, I tell you: The angels of God will party when one sinner changes.”

A man finds his lost son (15:11-32).

¹¹ He said, “A man had two sons. ¹²The younger one said to his father, ‘Father. Give me my part of the inheritance.’ So he divided his property between them.”

¹³ “After a few days, the younger son collected all his possessions. He traveled far away to a distant country. When he got there, he wasted his money living a wild lifestyle.

¹⁴ After he spent everything, he became very hungry in that place. He fell way behind. ¹⁵ He went to work for one of the citizens there. He sent him out into the country to tend pigs. ¹⁶ He wished he could fill his belly from the pea pods that the pigs ate. However, no one would let him.”

¹⁷ “He thought to himself, ‘Even my father’s hired hands have plenty to eat. I am about to starve to death in this place. ¹⁸ I should get up and go back to my father. I will say to him: Father, I have sinned in heaven and also before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be considered your son. Take me back as one of your hired hands.’ ”

²⁰ “So he got up and went back to his father. When he was still far away, his father knew he was coming. He felt compassion. He ran toward him, grabbed his neck, and kissed him.”

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned both in heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be considered your son.’ ”

²² “The father told his servants, ‘Quick! Get out the best robe. Put it on him. Put a ring on his fingers. Get him some shoes. ²³ Get a fat calf. Kill it so we can eat it at the party. ²⁴ This is my son. He was dead. He came back to life. He was lost. Now he is found.’ ”

“So, they started a party. ²⁵ The older brother was working in the field. When he got near home, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of his children over. He asked, ‘What is that noise?’ ”

²⁷ “He replied, ‘Your brother came home. Your father killed a fat calf because he got him back in good health.’ ”

²⁸ “He became angry. He did not want to go inside. His father came out to greet him. ²⁹ He answered his father, ‘Look, I have served you all these



Carob tree pea pods.

years. I never broke your rules. You never killed a goat for me to party with my friends. ³⁰This son wasted your wealth hanging out with whores. You killed a fat calf for him!’ ”

³¹“He responded to him, ‘Boy, I always have you with me. Everything that I have is yours. ³²However, it is necessary to party and be happy. Your brother was dead. Now he is alive. He was lost. Now he is found.’ ”

Jesus addresses money (16:1-31).

Make friends using wicked wealth (16:1-13).

¹⁶He said to his disciples, “There was a rich man who had a business manager. He accused him of wasting his money. ²He called him in, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Show me the business records. You are not going to be my manager any more.’ ”

³“The manager thought to himself, ‘What will I do? My boss is going to take away my job. I am not able to do manual labor. I am too ashamed to beg. ⁴I know what I can do. After I am fired from my job, people will take me into their homes.’ ”

⁵“He spoke to each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ”

⁶“He replied, ‘Two hundred barrels of oil.’ ”

“He told him, ‘Take your bill. Quick, write down one hundred.’ ”

⁷“Then he asked another, ‘How much do you owe?’ ”

“He said, ‘Three tons of wheat.’ ”

“He told him, ‘Take your bill. Write down two tons.’ ”

⁸“The master praised the wicked manager for acting wisely. The sons of this world are craftier than the sons of light when dealing with your generation.”

⁹“I tell you: Make friends for yourselves using wicked wealth. When it fails, it can bring you into eternal places. ¹⁰Whoever is faithful in a few things will be faithful in great things. Whoever is wicked in a few things will be wicked in great things. ¹¹If you can become faithful with wicked wealth, then who will trust you with the truth? ¹²If you cannot be faithful with someone else’s stuff, then who will let you have anything?”

¹³“No slave can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or hold on to one and despise the other. No one can serve God and wealth.”

The Pharisees love money (16:14-17).

¹⁴The Pharisees heard all these things. Because they love money, they mocked him. ¹⁵He told them, “You consider yourselves righteous in people’s eyes. However, God knows your hearts. What is preferred among people is foul in God’s eyes. ¹⁶The law and prophets were before John. From that point forward, the kingdom of God is proclaimed. Everyone commits violence against it. ¹⁷It is easier for the earth and sky to disappear than for one mark to drop out of the law.”

Do not divorce (16:18).

¹⁸“Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery. Everyone who has divorced her husband and has married commits adultery.”

A rich man and Lazarus die (16:19-32).

¹⁹“There once was a rich man. He wore purple clothes and linen. He had fancy parties all the time.”

²⁰“There once was a poor man named Lazarus. He sat outside his gate. He was covered with sores. ²¹He tried to stay full from what fell off of the rich man’s table. The dogs would come and lick his sores.”

²²“After a while, the poor man died. The angels carried him away to Abraham’s chest. Meanwhile, the rich man died and was buried.”

²³“While he was tortured, he picked his eyes up. He saw Abraham far away. Lazarus was leaning against his chest. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his fingers with water, then cool my tongue. I am tortured by these flames.’ ”

²⁵“Abraham replied, ‘Child, remember the good things you had during your life. In the same way, Lazarus had terrible things. Now he is comforted and you are tortured. ²⁶There is a long distance and a huge gulf set between us. Anyone who wanted to pass between over to you cannot. You cannot travel here to us either.’ ”

²⁷“He said, ‘I ask you, father, to send someone to my father’s house. ²⁸I have five brothers. Please notify them so they will end up in this place of torment.’”

²⁹“Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.’”

³⁰“He responded, ‘No, father Abraham. If someone visits them from the dead, they will change.’”

³¹“He answered, ‘If they did not listen to Moses and the prophets, then they will not believe it if someone rises from the dead.’”

Forgive your brother (17:1-10).

¹⁷He spoke to his disciples, “It is impossible to avoid the coming traps. However, woe to the one who brings it. ²It would be better for him if he tied a mill-stone around his neck, then was thrown into the lake, than to trap one of these little ones.”

³“Pay attention to yourself. If a brother sins against you, rebuke him. If he changes, forgive him. ⁴Suppose he sins against you seven times in one day, but corrects himself with you seven times, ‘I change.’ Then forgive him.”

⁵The representatives said to the lord, “Give us faith.”

⁶The lord replied, “If you have faith like a mustard seed, then you could tell the fig tree, ‘Dig yourself up and plant yourself in the lake.’ It will obey you.”

⁷“Suppose you have a slave who plows or tends cattle. When he returns from the field, will you say to him, ‘Come here. Have a seat.’? ⁸No, you will not. You will say to him, ‘What did you make for dinner? Get ready to serve me so I can eat and drink. Then you will eat and drink.’ ⁹Do you thank the slave who does just what you command?”

¹⁰“In the same way, when you do everything you are told to do, just say, ‘We are worthless slaves. We have done what we are supposed to do.’”

Jesus heals ten lepers (17:11-19).

¹¹It so happened on his way to Jerusalem, he passed through the center of Samaria and Galilee. ¹²When he went through a particular village, he met ten lepers. They were standing far back. ¹³They lifted their voices, “Jesus, master, have mercy on us.”

¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, “Go, show yourself to the priests.”

While they were on the way, they became healed. ¹⁵One of them noticed that he was cured. He turned around. He praised God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He fell down at his feet. He thanked him. He also was a Samaritan.

¹⁷Jesus said to him, “Were there not ten who were healed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸Did no one discover a reason to turn around to give thanks to God other than this foreigner?”

¹⁹He told him, “Get up. Go. Your faith has saved you.”

When is the kingdom of God coming (17:20-37)?

²⁰The Pharisees were asking when the kingdom of God was coming. He answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming after some observable event. ²¹They should not say, ‘Look, this is it,’ or, ‘Over there.’ Look, the kingdom of God is within you.”

²²He said to his disciples, “The time is coming when you will want to see one of the days of the son of man. However, you will not see it. ²³They will say to you, ‘Look, there it is,’ or, ‘Look, here it is.’ Do not leave. Do not pursue it.”

²⁴“A star shines down from the sky to give light to what is below the sky. This is similar to the son of man in his time. ²⁵First, he must suffer. This generation must reject him.”

²⁶“The time of the son of man will be just like the time of Noah. ²⁷They were eating, drinking, and getting married. They were getting married right up until Noah got into the boat. Then the flood came and destroyed everything.”

²⁸“It will be just like the time of Lot. They were eating, drinking, getting married, doing business, planting, and building. ²⁹Then one day, Lot left Sodom. Then fire and sulfur rained down from the sky. It destroyed everything. ³⁰In the same way, the time of the son of man will be revealed.

³¹At that time, whoever is on top of the house or has property in the house, must not come down to get his stuff. In the same way, whoever is in the field must not turn around to go back. ³²Remember Lot’s wife.”

³³“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it. Whoever loses his life will preserve it.”

³⁴“I tell you, tonight there will be two people in one bed. One will leave and the other will remain. ³⁵Two women will be grinding grain together. One will leave and the other will remain.”^a

³⁷They asked him, “Where, lord?”

He said to them, “Wherever there is a body, vultures will gather.”

It is necessary to pray (18:1-8).

¹⁸He gave them an illustration. It concerns how it is always necessary to pray and not become tired, ²“There was a judge in some city. He did not fear God nor pay respect to any person.”

³“There was a widow in that city. She appeared before him, ‘Avenge me with my enemy.’”

⁴“He did not care to at that time. However, he thought to himself, ‘Even though I do not fear God nor pay respect to any person, ⁵this widow is surely causing me a lot of trouble. I will avenge her since she might wear me out by appearing forever.’”

⁶The lord said, “Notice what the wicked judge says. ⁷Will not God avenge his chosen ones? They cry out day and night. He is patient with them. ⁸I tell you: He will avenge them soon. However, when the son of man returns, will he find faith on the earth?”

A Pharisee and a tax-collector pray (18:9-14).

⁹He spoke with this illustration to some of those who were sure that they were righteous. They held others in contempt. ¹⁰“Two men up to the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee. The other was a tax-collector.”

¹¹“The Pharisee stood himself up and prayed these things, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, the wicked, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. ¹²I fast twice every Sabbath, I tithe from whatever I possess.’”

¹³“The tax-collector stood far away. He would not lift his eyes toward the sky. Instead, he struck his chest, ‘God, have mercy on me. I am a sinner.’”

a) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit verse 36.

¹⁴“I tell you: this man went back to his house justified instead of the other. Everyone who lifts himself up will be lowered. The one who lowers himself will be lifted up.”

They brought some babies to Jesus (18:15-17).

¹⁵They brought some babies to him so he would touch them. When his disciples saw it, they rebuked them.

¹⁶Jesus called them over, “Let the babies approach me. Do not stop them. The kingdom of God belongs to them. ¹⁷I guarantee you: If anyone does not accept the kingdom of God like a child, he cannot ever enter it.”

What should I do to inherit eternal life (18:18-30)?

¹⁸Someone who was a ruler asked, “Good teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹Jesus told him, “Why do you call me ‘good’? No one is good except for one person—God. ²⁰You know the commands: Do no commit adultery. ^a Do not murder. ^b Do not steal. ^c Do not give false testimony. ^d Honor your father and mother. ^e

²¹He replied, “I have kept these commands since I was a young man.”

²²Jesus was listening. He responded to him, “There is still one more thing remaining for you: Sell everything that you have. Distribute it to the poor. Then you will have treasure in heaven. Finally, come, follow me.”

²³When he heard this, he became quite upset. He was extremely rich.

²⁴When Jesus noticed this, he said, “How can those who have money ever enter the kingdom of God? ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the hole in a needle than a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶Those who heard this asked, “How can anyone be saved?”

²⁷He said, “With people, it is impossible. With God, it is possible.”

²⁸Peter said, “Look, we left our possessions to follow you.”

²⁹He said to them, “I guarantee you: There is no one who left homes, wives, brothers, parents, or children for the kingdom of God, ³⁰who will

a) Exodus 20:14.

b) Exodus 20:13.

c) Exodus 20:15.

d) Exodus 20:16.

e) Exodus 20:12.

fail to gain many times over. That applies both now in this life, but also eternal life in the future.”

The gentiles will kill the son of man (18:31-34).

³¹ When he took the twelve away, he told them, “Look, we are going up to Jerusalem. Everything that has been written by the prophets about the son of man will be finished. ³² He will be delivered to the gentiles. They will mock, disrespect, and spit on him. ³³ After they beat him, they will kill him. However, on the third day, he will rise back up.”

³⁴ They did not comprehend any of these things. This matter went right over their heads. They had no idea what he was talking about.

Jesus heals a blind man (18:35-43).

³⁵ When he came close to Jericho, there was a blind person sitting by the side of the road begging. ³⁶ When he noticed that a crowd was passing by, he inquired, “What is going on?”

³⁷ They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is coming through.”

³⁸ He cried out, “Jesus, son of David. Have mercy on me.”

³⁹ Those who were traveling by told him to be quiet. However, he just shouted even louder, “Son of David, have mercy on me.”

⁴⁰ Jesus was standing there. He told him to come close to him. So, when he got closer, he asked him, ⁴¹ “What do you want me to do?”

He said, “Lord, make me see.”

⁴² Jesus told him, “You can see. Your faith has healed you.”

⁴³ Immediately, he could see. He followed him while giving glory to God. All the observers gave praises to God.

Jesus redeems Zacchaeus (19:1-10).

¹ When he arrived, he entered Jericho. ² Look, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a tax-collections executive. He was quite rich. ³ He wanted to be able to see, Who is this Jesus? ⁴ So, he ran ahead. He climbed up a sycamore tree. Then he had a clear view of him as he passed by later.

⁵ As he came to that place, Jesus looked up. He said to him, “Zacchaeus, “Come right on down. I want to visit your house today.”

⁶ So, he came right on down. He showed him hospitality.

⁷Those who observed this were grumbling, “He goes to relax with a sinful man.”

⁸Zacchaeus stood up. He said to the lord, “Look, lord, I hereby give half of my possessions to the poor. If I have extorted anyone, I repay them quadruple.

⁹Jesus said to him, “This house has salvation today. He is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰The son of man came to seek and redeem sinners.”

The aristocrat is a tough guy (19:11-27).

¹¹They were listening to these things. Jesus went on to tell them an illustration. (He was coming near Jerusalem. They believed that the kingdom of God will appear immediately.)

¹²“An aristocrat went to a distant country to take control of a kingdom, then return. ¹³He summoned ten of his slaves. He gave each fifty shekels. He told them, ‘Conduct business until I return.’”

¹⁴“The citizens despised him. They sent an ambassador to him, ‘We do not want you to rule over us.’”

¹⁵“Later he returned to take control of his kingdom. He called together the slaves which he trusted with the silver. He wanted to find out how they invested it.”

¹⁶“The first one came, ‘Lord, I gained five hundred more shekels with your money.’”

¹⁷“He told him, ‘You did well. You are a good slave. You were responsible with a little thing. You will have authority over ten cities.’”

¹⁸“The second came, ‘Lord, your fifty shekels produced two hundred and fifty.’”

¹⁹“He told him, ‘I will put you over five cities.’”

²⁰“Another came, ‘Lord, I put your money in a handkerchief. ²¹I was afraid of you. You are a tough guy. You collect what you did not invest. You reap where you did not sow.’”

²²“He told him, ‘You judge yourself out of your own mouth, you foolish slave. You knew that I am a tough guy. Do I not collect what I did not invest? Do I not reap where I did not sow? ²³Why did you not put my silver in the bank? I would at least collect some interest.’”

²⁴“He told those standing there, ‘Take the fifty shekels away from him. Give them to the one who has five hundred.’”

²⁵ “They said to him, ‘But lord, he already has five hundred shekels.’

²⁶ “ ‘I tell you: Everyone who has will get more. The one who does not have will lose what he does have.’ ²⁷ As far as my enemies who do not want me to rule over them, bring them here. Kill them right in front of me.’ ”

Jesus rides a donkey (19:28-40).

²⁸ After he said these things, he continued to travel. This was before he arrived in Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he neared Beth-Phage and Beth-Ani, he came to Mount Olive. He sent two of his disciples, ³⁰ “Go into the village over there. When you enter it, you will find a donkey tied up. No man has ever ridden it. After you untie it, bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ Say, ‘The lord needs it.’ ”

³² The ones he sent left. They found it just like he said. ³³ When they untied the donkey, its owners said to them, “Why did you untie the donkey?”

³⁴ They said, “Our master needs it.”

³⁵ They brought it to Jesus. They threw their clothes on it so Jesus could ride the donkey. ³⁶ As he traveled, they spread their clothing on the road. ³⁷ When he came near while descending Mount Olive, large numbers of disciples began praising God in a loud voice. They had observed all his miracles.”

³⁸ Blessed is the one who comes.

He is the king in the name of the lord.^a

May there be peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest.”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees were among the crowd. They said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.”

⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you: If they were quiet, the stones would shout.”

You failed to notice (11:41-44).

⁴¹ As he approached, he could see the city. He cried about it. ⁴² “If only you knew about this day and the peaceful things. However, they are now hidden from you. ⁴³ The time is coming. Your enemies will throw you into the ditch. They will circle around you. They will press against you on

a) Psalm 118:26.

every side. ⁴⁴They will throw you to the ground. Your own children will oppose you. You failed to notice the time of your visitation.”

Jesus enters Jerusalem (19:45-24:56).

Jesus throws the businessmen out (19:45-48).

⁴⁵When he came into the temple, he threw out the businessmen. ⁴⁶He told them, “It is written:”

My house will be a house for prayer.^a

However, you made it a cave for robbers.

⁴⁷He was teaching in the temple every day. The high priests, legal experts, and important people wanted to kill him. ⁴⁸They could not figure out how to do it. The people hung on everything they heard.

Who gave Jesus authority (20:1-8)?

²⁰On a particular day, he was teaching the people in the temple. While he was sharing the good news, the high priests and legal experts were standing nearby with the elders. ²They said to him, “Tell us with what authority you do these things. Who gave you this authority?”

³He answered them, “I will also ask you about a particular matter. You tell me. ⁴Regarding the immersion of John: Is it from heaven or just people?”

⁵They discussed it with each other, “If we say, ‘Heaven,’ he will say, ‘Then why do you not believe him?’ ⁶However, if we say, ‘People,’ all the people will stone us. They believe John is a prophet.”

⁷So, they said they did not know the answer.

⁸Jesus replied to them, “Then I will not tell you where I get my authority to effect things.”

A man rents a vineyard (20:9-19).

⁹He started speaking to the people using illustrations, “A man planted a vineyard. He rented it to some farmers. Then he went abroad for a long time. ¹⁰After some time, he sent a slave to the farmers. The farmers were

a) Isaiah 56:7.

supposed to pay him from their produce. The farmers beat him, sending him away empty-handed.”

¹¹ “He appointed another servant to visit. They also beat that one. They disrespected him. They sent him away empty-handed. ¹² So, he appointed a third one to visit. They wounded this one and kicked him out.”

¹³ “The master considered the vineyard, ‘What should I do? I will send my beloved son. They will not dare treat him this way.’”

¹⁴ “When they saw him, the farmers discussed with each other, ‘This is the heir. If we kill him, his inheritance will be ours.’”

¹⁵ “They kicked him outside the vineyard. They murdered him there. What is the owner of the vineyard going to do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and destroy those farmers. He will rent the vineyard to some other people.”

When people heard this, they said, “May this never happen.”

¹⁷ He turned toward them, “Why is this written?”

The builders rejected the stone.

This became the cornerstone.^a

¹⁸ This stone will break everyone who falls on it.

It will crush everyone who trips over it.

¹⁹ At that moment, the legal experts and high priests tried to put their hands on him. However, they feared the people. They knew this illustration was about them.

Is it legal to pay taxes to Caesar (20:20-26)?

²⁰ While they were watching, they secretly sent spies. They pretended to be sincere. They wanted to catch him at his words so they could hand him over to the power and authority of the governor. ²¹ They asked him, “Teacher, we know that you speak and teach correctly. You do not discriminate. You teach the way of God truthfully. ²² So, is it legal to pay the annual taxes to Caesar?”



Tiberius is on a denarius coin.

²³ He understood that they were being sly. So, he answered them, ²⁴ “Show me a denarius coin. Whose picture is engraved on it?”

a) Psalm 118:22.

They answered, "Caesar."

²⁵ He told them, "So pay Caesar what belongs to Caesar. However, pay God what belongs to God."

²⁶ They could not trap him with his words in front of the people. They were stunned by his answer. So, they were just silent.

No one will marry in the resurrection (20:27-40).

²⁷ Some of the Sadducees approached him. (They deny the resurrection.) They asked him, ²⁸ "Teacher, Moses wrote to us:"

Suppose a man who has a wife dies without children. His brother must take his wife and produce descendants for his brother.³

²⁹ "There were seven brothers. The first one took his wife but died without children. ³⁰ And the same for the second. ³¹ The third one took her also. So on for the seven, but they all died without leaving children. ³² Finally, the woman died. ³³ In the resurrection, whose wife will the woman be? All seven had her as a wife."

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "The sons of this world marry and get engaged. ³⁵ However, those who consider themselves worthy in that time to enjoy the resurrection of the dead, they will neither marry, nor become engaged. ³⁶ They will not be able to die. They will become equal to angels. They became sons of God because they are sons of the resurrection."

³⁷ "Moses indicated that the dead are raised by the bush. He said that the lord is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. ^b ³⁸ God does not belong to the dead. He belongs to the living. Everyone is alive in him."

³⁹ Some of the legal experts responded, "Teacher, what you said is good."

⁴⁰ No one dared to ask him anything else.

The messiah is the son of God (20:41-44).

⁴¹ He asked them, "How can they claim that the messiah is the son of David? ⁴² David himself says in the book of psalms,"

The lord said to my lord:
Sit at my right side

a) Deuteronomy 25:5-6.

b) Exodus 3:6.

⁴³ until I put your enemies
at the foot of your stool.^a

⁴⁴ “David calls him lord. Then how can he be his son?”

Watch out for the legal experts (20:45-47).

⁴⁵ While all the people were listening, he spoke to the disciples,
⁴⁶ “Watch out for the legal experts. They walk around in robes. They love greetings in the market, special seats in the synagogue, and the best positions at the feasts. ⁴⁷ They consume the homes of widows. They make long, showy prayers. They will be punished more severely.”

A needy widow gives two small coins (21:1-4).

²¹ When he looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury. ² He also noticed a needy widow. She put two small coins there. ³ He said, “I guarantee you: This poor widow gave more than anyone else. ⁴ They all gave from their wealth as an offering. She gave everything she had from her poverty.”

When is the end (21:5-38)?

Do not be deceived (21:5-9).

⁵ Some people were discussing the temple. It had nice stonework and decorative ornaments. He commented, ⁶ “You notice these things. The time is coming when there will not be any stone left that is not destroyed.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this happen? What sign will demonstrate that these things are about to happen?”

⁸ He answered, “Make sure that you are not deceived. Many people will come in my name, saying, ‘Here I am,’ or, ‘The time is near.’ Do not follow them. ⁹ When you hear about wars or instability, do not become terrified. These things must happen first. However, the end will not happen suddenly.”

a) Psalm 110:1.

Jerusalem will be surrounded (21:10-19).

¹⁰Then he told them, “Nations will rise up against other nations, and kingdom against kingdoms. ¹¹There will be great earthquakes and also famines and plagues in various places. There will be terrors and powerful signs in the sky.”

¹²“Before these things, they will put their hands on you and persecute you. They will hand you over to the synagogues and into prison. They will lead you before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will happen so you can give testimony. ¹⁴Make up your mind to be ready to defend yourselves. ¹⁵I will provide you with the speech and wisdom. None of your adversaries will be able to resist or speak against you.”

¹⁶“Your parents, brothers, relatives, and friends will turn you in. They will put some of you to death. ¹⁷Everyone will hate you because of my name. ¹⁸However, not one hair on your head will be harmed. ⁹You will maintain your life by remaining steady.”

²⁰“When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, you will know that it is about to be ruined.”

The gentiles will trample on Jerusalem (21:21-24).

²¹“Then the citizens of Judea will run away from the mountains. Those in her central area will leave. Those in the rural areas will not come near her. ²²Those times of revenge fulfill everything that is written.”

²³“Woe to those with child and those nursing in that time. There will be great distress in the nation and anger among the people. ²⁴They will fall by the edge of the sword. They will be exiled among all the nations. The gentiles will trample on Jerusalem until their term is complete.”

There will be signs (21:25-28).

²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. The nations of the earth will be distressed. They will be anxious about the roaring sea and waves. ²⁶People will faint out of fear and from expectations about future events in the world. The powers of the heavens will be overthrown.”

²⁷“Then they will see the son of man coming down from the clouds with great power and honor. ²⁸When these things begin, get up and lift your heads. Your redemption is near.”

The kingdom of God is near (21:29-33).

²⁹ He spoke to them with an illustration, “Look at the fig tree and every other tree. ³⁰ When it puts out leaves, you can see for yourselves that it is almost summer.”

³¹ “You are the same. When you see these things happening, you can tell the kingdom of God is near. ³² I guarantee you: This generation will not disappear until everything has occurred.”

³³ “The sky and the earth might disappear, but my statements will never be canceled.”

Do not be burdened (21:34-38).

³⁴ “Watch yourselves. Do not let your hearts be burdened with excessive drinking, drunkenness, and worldly cares. That time might happen to you unexpectedly ³⁵ like a trap. It will happen to everyone who is asleep on the entire earth. ³⁶ Watch at all times, praying that you might be able to escape everything that will happen. Then you can stand before the son of man.”

³⁷ During the day, he was teaching in the temple. At night, he slept at Mount Olive. ³⁸ Early in the morning, all the people would come to him. They listened to him in the temple.

Judas agrees to hand Jesus over (22:1-6).

²² It was time for the festival of unleavened bread, called the passover. ² The high priests and legal experts were looking for ways to kill him. However, they feared the people.

³ Satan entered Judas from Iscariot. He was a member of the twelve. ⁴ He went out to discuss with the high priests and officers how he could hand him over. ⁵ They liked this. They agreed to pay him with silver. ⁶ He promised. He sought an opportunity to hand him over to them while avoiding the crowd.

Prepare the passover (22:7-13).

⁷ The day of unleavened bread arrived, when it was required to sacrifice the passover. ⁸ He sent Peter and John, “When you get there, prepare the passover for us so we can eat.”

⁹They responded to him, “Where do you want us to make preparations?”

¹⁰He said to them, “Look, when you enter the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him into his home. Enter it. ¹¹You will say to the master of the home, ‘The teacher says to you: Where is the room where my disciples can eat the passover?’ ¹²He will show you a large furnished upper room. Prepare everything there.”

¹³When they left, they discovered everything just like he told them. So, they prepared the passover.

Jesus teaches the twelve (22:14-38).

Jesus eats the passover (22:14-20).

¹⁴When the time arrived, the disciples sat down with him. ¹⁵He told them, “I craved to eat this passover with you before I have to suffer. ¹⁶I tell you: I will never eat again until it is complete in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁷Holding the cup, he gave thanks, “Take this and divide it among yourselves. ¹⁸I tell you: I will never drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God arrives.”

¹⁹He took the bread. After giving thanks, he broke it. He gave it to them and said, “This is my body. It has been given for you. Do this to remember me.”

²⁰In the same way, he took the cup after they ate, “This is the cup for the new agreement in my blood. It is poured out for you.”

Woe to Jesus' betrayer (22:21-23).

²¹“Look, the hand of my betrayer is right here at this table. ²²The son of man goes where as it has been determined. However, woe to the person who betrays him.”

²³They started questioning each other about which of them could do this.

Who is the greatest (22:24-30)?

²⁴There was some trouble between them regarding which of them seemed the greatest.

²⁵He told them, “Gentile kings dominate them. Those who rule over them accept special titles. ²⁶You are not like this. The greatest among you

must become like the younger one. The leader must be like a servant.
²⁷ Who is greater, the guest or the servant? Is it not the guest? However, here I am in your middle, but I am a servant. ²⁸ You must stick with me during my temptation.”

²⁹ “I appoint you over a kingdom, just like my father appointed me.
³⁰ You will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. You will sit on the throne. You will judge the twelve tribes of Israel.”

Peter will deny Jesus (22:31-34).

³¹ “Simon, Simon. Look, Satan wants to sift you all like wheat. ³² I have prayed for you that your faith will not fail. When you change, you will strengthen your brothers.”

³³ He said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to go to die with you.”

³⁴ He said, “I tell you, Peter. The rooster will not crow three times before you deny that you know me.”

Buy a sword (22:35-38).

³⁵ He said to them all, “When I sent you without a bag, wallet, or shoes, did you need anything?”

They said, “Nothing.”

³⁶ He told them, “However, now let the one with a bag take it, together with the wallet. The one who has nothing should sell his clothes and buy a sword. ³⁷ I tell you: What was written must be fulfilled with me, namely,”

He was counted with the lawless.^a

“It is fulfilled regarding me.”

³⁸ They said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.”

He told them, “That should be plenty.”

Jesus prays (22:39-46).

³⁹ When he left, he went as usual to Mount Olive. The disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ When he got to that place, he said to them, “Pray that you are not lead into temptation.”

a) Isaiah 53:12.

⁴¹ He left them about the distance of a thrown stone. He got on his knees and prayed, ⁴² “Father, if you wish, take this cup away from me. However, do what you want, not what I want.”

⁴³ He saw an angel from heaven who strengthened him. ⁴⁴ He was struggling intensely while he prayed. His sweat was like drops of blood falling on the ground.

⁴⁵ When he stood up from praying, he went back to the disciples. He discovered that they had fallen asleep from grief. ⁴⁶ He asked them, “Why do you sleep? Get up. Pray so that you are not lead into temptation.”

Jesus is crucified (22:47-23:53).

Judas kisses Jesus (22:47-53).

⁴⁷ While the crowd was still speaking with him, one of the twelve, Judas, approached him. He came close to Jesus so that he could kiss him.

⁴⁸ Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you going to betray the son of man with a kiss?”

⁴⁹ When those around him observed this, they said, “Lord, should I strike him with the sword?”

⁵⁰ One of them struck the high priest’s slave. He chopped off his right ear. ⁵¹ Jesus answered, “Leave it alone.”

When he touched his ear, he healed it.

⁵² Jesus said to those present, the high priests, the temple officers, and the elders, “Are you coming out with swords and clubs like you would with a robber? ⁵³ I have been with you every day in the temple. You did not grab me there. However, this is your time. Your authority is from the darkness.”

Peter denies knowing Jesus (22:54-62).

⁵⁴ They arrested him. They took him. They brought him to the palace of the high priest. Peter followed from distance. ⁵⁵ They had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard. They were standing around. Peter was sitting right in the middle. ⁵⁶ A slave girl saw him sitting in the light. She stared at him and said, “He was with him.”

⁵⁷ He swore, “I do not know him, woman.”

⁵⁸ A little while later, another one who noticed him said, “You were with him.”

Jesus enters Jerusalem (19:45-24:56).

Jesus is crucified (22:47-23:53).

Peter said, "Man, that was not me."

⁵⁹ After approximately one hour, another person insisted, "I am sure that he was with him. He is a Galilean."

⁶⁰ Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about."

Immediately after he said this, a rooster crowed.

⁶¹ The lord turned around. He looked right at Peter. Then Peter remembered what the words of the lord which he said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times."^a

⁶² He went away. He cried bitterly.

The Jewish council interrogates Jesus (22:63-71).

⁶³ The men gathered around him made fun of him. They beat him.

⁶⁴ They blindfolded him. They requested, "Prophecy. Who is beating you?"

⁶⁵ They spoke many other insults against him.

⁶⁶ As the day began, the elders of the people, the high priests, and the legal experts gathered together. They brought him into the Jewish council. ⁶⁷ They interrogated him, "If you are the messiah, tell us."

He said to them, "If I did tell you, then you would never believe it. ⁶⁸ If I ask you, then you will not answer. ⁶⁹ However, from this point forward, the son of man will sit at the right hand of God."^b

⁷⁰ They all asked, "Are you the son of God?"

He answered them, "You are the ones who say that I am."

⁷¹ They said, "What more testimony do we need? We heard it from his own mouth."

Pilatus finds no charge against Jesus (23:1-5).

²³ The entire group of them stood up. They brought him to Pilatus.

² They started accusing him, "We discovered that this guy agitated our nation. He prevented tax payments to Caesar. He declared himself to be the messiah, a king."

³ Pilatus asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

He answered him, "You are the one who said it."

⁴ Pilatus said to the high priests and crowd, "I find no charge against this man."

a) Luke 22:34.

b) Psalm 110:1.

⁵They were furious, “He disturbs the people. He teaches against the entire Jewish nation, starting in Galilee and ending here.”

Herod messes with Jesus (23:6-12).

⁶When Pilatus heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. ⁷He knew that was under the power of Herod, and he happened to be in Jerusalem at that time.

⁸When Herod met Jesus, he was quite pleased. For some time, he wanted to meet him because he had heard about him. He hoped that he would perform some wonders. ⁹He asked him about many things. He did not say a word. ¹⁰However, the high priests and the legal experts had already issued savage accusations against him.

¹¹Herod and his guards showed contempt for him. They messed with him by dressing him in fancy clothes. Then they sent him back to Pilatus.

¹²Herod and Pilatus became friends with each other from that day forward. Before they had been enemies.

Pilatus sentences Jesus (23:13-25).

¹³Pilatus assembled the high priests, leaders, and the people. ¹⁴He declared to them, “You brought this man to me because he agitated the people. Look, after I examined him right in front of you, I discovered that this man did nothing wrong even though you accused him. ¹⁵Herod found nothing, either. So, he returned him back to us. Look, there is nothing requiring death which he has committed. ¹⁶So, I will beat him, then release him.”

¹⁸They shouted together, “Take him. Release Bar-Abbas to us.” (¹⁹He was in prison for starting a riot in the city and committing murder.)

²⁰Pilatus repeated his announcement, “I prefer to release Jesus.”

²¹They shouted out, “Crucify! Crucify him!”

²²For the third time, he told them, “What evil has he committed? I find no crime of death against him. I will beat him, then release him.”

²³They pressured him with a huge noise. They wanted him to be crucified. And their wishes prevailed. ²⁴So Pilatus sentenced him according to their request.

²⁵ He instead freed the rabble rouser and murderer who was thrown into prison. That is what they requested. He sentenced Jesus according to their wishes.

They execute Jesus (23:26-49).

²⁶ As they lead him along, they grabbed a guy named Simeon the Cyrene. He came from a rural area. They made him carry the cross instead of Jesus.

²⁷ A large crowd followed along. The women were moaning and lamenting over him. ²⁸ Jesus turned toward them. He said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not cry for me. Instead, cry for yourselves and your children. ²⁹ Look, the day is coming when you will say, 'The barren are blessed, along with the wombs which have not born and the breasts which have not nursed.' ³⁰ They will start to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Hide us.' ^a ³¹ If they would do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³² They brought two other criminals with him to execute. ³³ They came to the place called the Skull. They crucified him with the criminals. One was on the right, and the other on the left.

³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing."

They gambled to determine who could win his clothes. ³⁵ The people stood and watched. The leaders said, "He saved other people. Let him save himself. If he really is the messiah of God, then he is the chosen one."

³⁶ The soldiers were making fun of him. They approached him. They presented him with some vinegar. ³⁷ They said, "If you are the king of the Jews, then save yourself."

³⁸ There was a sign above him that said, "This is the king of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals hanging there slandered him, "Are you not the messiah? Save yourself and us too."

⁴⁰ The other one criticized him, "Do you not fear God? You have the same sentence as him. ⁴¹ We were sentenced justly. We got what we deserved by our actions. He has done nothing wrong."

⁴² He said, "Jesus, remember me when you enter your kingdom."

a) Hosea 10:8.

⁴³ He told him, "I guarantee you: You will be with me in paradise today."

⁴⁴ It was already noon. It became completely dark until three o'clock.

⁴⁵ During the eclipse, the temple curtain split in half. ⁴⁶ Jesus called out in a loud voice, "Father, I put my life into your hands."^a

After he said this, he stopped breathing. ⁴⁷ There was a commander who saw these things. He praised God, "This definitely was an honest man."

⁴⁸ The entire crowd was gathered to observe this event. They saw what happened. They drew back and beat their chests. ⁴⁹ All the famous people were standing there, but far away. There were women from Galilee who followed him. They came to watch.

Joseph buries Jesus (23:50-53).

⁵⁰ There was a man named Joseph. He happened to be a member of the Jewish council. He was a good and fair man. ⁵¹ He did not agree with their plan, nor what they had done. He was from the Jewish city Arimathea. He had accepted the kingdom of God.

⁵² He went to Pilatus. He asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³ He took it down. He wrapped it with cloth. He put it into a tomb cut in rock. No one had ever been buried there before.

Jesus rises from the dead (23:54-24:53).

The women visit the grave (23:54-24:12).

⁵⁴ It was the day of preparation. The Sabbath was about to begin. ⁵⁵ The women who followed him were there. They came with him from Galilee. They were watching the tomb while he put the body there. ⁵⁶ They left to prepare spices and perfume. They intended to rest on the Sabbath according to the command.

²⁴ On the first day of the week, they visited the grave. They brought the spices which they prepared. ² They noticed that the stone had been rolled back from the tomb. ³ When they went in, they could not locate the body. ⁴ The women were confused about this.

Look, there were two men standing there who were wearing bright clothing. ⁵ They became scared. They bowed down with their faces on the

a) Psalm 31:5.

ground. They said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here. He has risen. Remember what he told you when he was in Galilee, ⁷ ‘It is necessary for the son of man to be delivered into the hands of sinful men. He will be crucified on the third day. Then he will rise.’”

⁸ Then they remembered his words. ⁹ They left the tomb. They reported these things to all the eleven and the others. ¹⁰ (This included Mary of Magdala, Joanna, Mary the mother of Jacob, and the others with them.)

They told the representatives about these things. ¹¹ These words seemed like silly stories to them. They did not believe them. ¹² Peter got up. He ran toward the tomb. When he stooped down, he only saw the cloth wrappings. He returned to them, amazed at these events.

Jesus appears to two disciples (24:13-35).

¹³ Look, at that time, two of them were traveling. They arrived in a village called Emmaus. It was about eight kilometers from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were discussing with each other all the things that had just happened. ¹⁵ During the discussion, they had a debate. Just then, Jesus joined them. ¹⁶ Even though they saw him, they could not recognize him. ¹⁷ He spoke to them, “What are these things that you are discussing with each other during your travels?”

They just stood there looking sad. ¹⁸ One of them named Cleopas answered him, “Are you the only one living in Jerusalem who is unaware of what happened there recently?”

¹⁹ He said to them, “What things?”

They said to him, “The things pertaining to Jesus of Nazareth. He was a man who was a powerful prophet in both speech and action in the opinion of God and also all the people. ²⁰ The high priests and our leaders took him. They sentenced him to death. They crucified him. ²¹ We hoped that he was the coming one who would redeem Israel. It is now the third day since these things happened.”

²² “Some of our women surprised us this morning after they visited the tomb. ²³ They could not find his body. They came and told us. They saw an appearance of angels. They said he was alive. ²⁴ Some of us returned to the tomb. They found it just like the women said. They could not find him.”

²⁵ So, he spoke to them, “You foolish people. You are slow of heart to believe everything the prophets said. ²⁶ Is it not necessary for the messiah to suffer and enter his glory?”

²⁷ Beginning from Moses and continuing to all the prophets, he explained to them all the things in the scriptures that were about him.

²⁸ They came near the village they were traveling toward. He acted like he wanted to keep going. ²⁹ They urged him to stay, “Stay with us. It is late. The day is almost over. Enter so you can stay with us.”

³⁰ So he sat down with them. He took the bread. He blessed it. After he broke it, he gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened. They recognized him. Then he disappeared. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning inside of us while he spoke to us on the way? Did he not explain the scriptures to us?”

³³ At that moment, they got up. They returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven gathered with the others. ³⁴ They said, “The lord really has risen. He appeared to Simon.”

³⁵ Then they told him about the things that happened on the road. They recognized him when he broke the bread.

Jesus shows them his hands and feet (24:36-43).

³⁶ While they were saying these things, Jesus stood right between them. He said to them, “Peace.”

³⁷ They were terrified. They became quite scared. They thought they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He asked them, “What are you upset about? Why are you getting so wound up in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet: It is me. Touch me and see. A ghost does not have flesh and bones. You can see that I do.”

⁴⁰ While he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ Even though they were excited and amazed, they still did not believe. So, he said to them, “Do you have anything to eat?”

⁴² So they gave him part of a roasted fish. ⁴³ Right in front of them, he took it and ate it.

Jesus explains from the scriptures (24:44-49).

⁴⁴ He said to them, “These are the things that I say while I am still with you. That is necessary in order to fulfill what was written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “It was written that the messiah must suffer. He will rise from the dead after three days. ⁴⁷ By his name, repentance and forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed to all nations. It will start from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are my witnesses. ⁴⁹ Look, I will deliver the good news of my father using you. However, stay in the city until you are clothed with power from above.”

Jesus rises up into the sky (24:50-53).

⁵⁰ He took them out to Beth-Ani. He raised his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ After blessing them, he left them. Then he rose up into the sky.

⁵² After they worshiped him, they turned toward Jerusalem. They were quite excited. ⁵³ They were constantly in the temple praising God.