

The Gospel of Luke

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Luke Chapter 1

¹Since many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things fully attested among us, ²as delivered to us by the original eyewitnesses who became stewards of the word, ³it seemed good to me also, having meticulously traced everything again from the top, to write it down in sequence for you, O most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the reliability of things you have been told.

⁵It happened in the time of Herod, king of Judea, that there was a priest, Zechariah by name, of the division of Abijah. He had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both were upright in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. ⁷But a child they did not have, because Elizabeth was barren. And they were both advanced in age.

⁸And it happened, that once when his rotation was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, his lot fell ⁹(normal custom for the priesthood) to go into the temple of the Lord, and to burn incense.

¹⁰The hour of incense came, and all the people in the assembly were praying outside. ¹¹Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²Seeing it disturbed Zechariah, and fear fell over him. ¹³But the angel said to him: "Fear not, Zechariah, for your request was heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴Joy and gladness will be with you, and many will rejoice over his birth. ¹⁵For he will be great in the eyes of the Lord. Wine and intoxicating beverages by no means shall he drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, beginning yet in his mother's womb. ¹⁶He will turn many of the children of Israel toward the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he will procede in front of Him, in the spirit and power of Elijah, such that the hearts of fathers will turn toward their children, and the disobedient toward the outlook of the righteous: a prepared people will be arranged for the Lord."

¹⁸Zechariah said to the angel, "By what will I know this? For I am old, and my wife is well advanced in age."

¹⁹And in answer the angel said to him, "I am Gabriel, one who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you these glad announcements. ²⁰And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak, until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."

²¹And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondering about his delay in the temple. ²²And when he came out, he was not able to speak to them, and they knew: a vision he had seen in the temple. He kept motioning to them, and remained mute. ²³And when his days of service were completed, he went home.

²⁴After those days, his wife Elizabeth conceived, and she hid herself for five months. ²⁵"The way the Lord has done this for me," she said, "these are days he has looked with concern upon me, to take away my disgrace among the people."

²⁶And in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent out from God, to a town in Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And the angel went in to her, and said, "Hail, O favored one! The Lord is with you."

²⁹But she was very troubled by the utterance, and wondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰Then the angel said to her, "Fear not, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹You shall conceive in your womb, and shall bear a son, and you are to call his name Jesus. ³²This man will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen, since I am not knowing a man?"

³⁵And in answer the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. For this reason also, the one to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, Elizabeth your relative, even she in her old age, has conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her, she who was called barren. ³⁷Therefore with God, nothing will be impossible."

³⁸"Here am I, the slave girl of the Lord," Mary said. "May it be to me according to your statement." Then the angel left her.

³⁹At that time Mary got up and went with speed to the hill country, to a town of Judah, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah, and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And it happened that when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb did leap, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²And she shouted out in a loud voice, saying, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why does it come to me, that to me the mother of my Lord should come? ⁴⁴For when the sound of your greeting came into my ears, the baby in my womb did leap in exultation. ⁴⁵Blessed is she who believed that there will be a completion of the things announced to her from the Lord!"

⁴⁶And Mary said:

"My soul does magnify the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit did rejoice
in God my Savior,

⁴⁸because he looked toward
the lowly station of his servant.

So behold: all generations after now
will consider me blessed,

⁴⁹because the Mighty One
did great things for me.

And holy will be his name,

⁵⁰and his mercy
to those who fear him,
into age after age.

⁵¹Power he wrought with his arm.

He scattered those who were proud
in the thoughts of their heart.

⁵²He pulled down rulers from
their thrones
and lifted high the humble.

⁵³Hungry ones he filled up
with good things
and rich ones he sent away empty.

⁵⁴He helped his servant Israel,
and remembered about mercy

⁵⁵'to Abraham and his seed for ever,'
as he said to our fathers."

⁵⁶Mary remained with her about three months, and then returned to her home.

⁵⁷And the time was fulfilled for Elizabeth to give birth, and she produced a son. ⁵⁸Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had magnified his mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹And it happened that on the eighth day, they came to circumcise the child, and they were about to call him by the name of his father, Zechariah, ⁶⁰and his mother responded and said, "No! He shall be called John."

⁶¹And they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives called by that name."

⁶²Then they signaled to his father, to find out what he wanted him to be called. ⁶³And he asked for a tablet, and wrote as follows, "His name is John." Everyone was surprised. ⁶⁴And immediately his mouth was opened, and also his tongue, and he spoke, blessing God.

⁶⁵An awe came over everyone who lived around them, and all through the hill country of Judea these things were being discussed. ⁶⁶And everyone who heard, kept thinking about it, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was certainly with him.

⁶⁷And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he prophesied, saying:

⁶⁸"Blessed be the Lord,
the God of Israel,
because he has turned to concern himself
and has accomplished redemption
for his people.

⁶⁹He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of David his servant

⁷⁰as he has said through the mouths
of his holy prophets
since eons ago,

⁷¹salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us—

⁷²to demonstrate mercy to our fathers
to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴to give us rescue from the hand
of our enemies,
that we may serve him without fear

⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him
all our days.

⁷⁶Yes and you, child, will be called
a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord
to prepare his paths,

⁷⁷to give his people the knowledge of
salvation

through the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸because of the tender feelings of our God

with which the Sunrise from on high
will look over us
⁷⁹to appear to those sitting in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet along the path of peace."

⁸⁰And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he was in the deserts, until the days of his being presented to Israel.

Luke Chapter 2

¹And it happened in those days, that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that all the inhabited earth should be registered. ²This was the first registration that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all were making their way to be registered, each to his own town.

⁴Thus Joseph also went up, from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and line of David; ⁵to be registered along with Mary, the one pledged to him, who was pregnant. ⁶And it happened that while they were there, the days for her to give birth were completed, ⁷and she bore her firstborn son. And she swaddled him and placed him in a feeding trough, because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸And there were shepherds in that same region, camping out in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone all around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not. For behold, I am announcing to you a great joy that will be with all the people. ¹¹Because for you is born this day, in the town of David, a Savior, who is Messiah the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign to you: you will find a baby swaddled, and lying in a feeding trough."

¹³And suddenly, there was with the angel a great company of the army of heaven, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest realms! And on earth peace, good will toward men!"

¹⁵And it happened that when the angels had departed from them into heaven, the shepherds were saying to one another, "Let's go over to Bethlehem, and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

¹⁶And they went speeding, and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the feeding trough. ¹⁷And once they had seen, they gave an exact report of the message spoken to them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹As for Mary, she memorized these words, and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰And the

shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God, because of the fact that all the things which they had heard and seen, were just as it had been told them.

²¹And when the eighth day had arrived, the time to circumcise him, he was called the name Jesus, the name called by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²And when the days of their cleansing according to the Law of Moses had been completed, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, ²³as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male to open a womb shall be called holy to the Lord," ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice, in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

²⁵And behold, a man was in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶It had been communicated to him by the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Anointed. ²⁷And he came by the Spirit into the temple, at the same time that the parents of the child Jesus brought him to do for him what the custom of the Law required. ²⁸And Simeon took him into his arms and blessed God, and said:

²⁹"Now, Master, keeping your word,
you are dismissing your slave in peace.

³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation,
³¹which you have prepared in the sight
of all the peoples;

³²a light to be a revelation for the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were marveling at the things being said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary, his mother: "Behold, this one is being laid down to cause the stumbling or rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be continually denounced— ³⁵yes a sword will be run through your own soul too— so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed."

³⁶And there was also a prophetess, Hannah, daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. This woman had grown to be very old, having lived with a husband for seven years after her virginity, ³⁷and then being a widow to eighty-four years of age, one who hardly left the temple, but served night and day, in fasting and praying. ³⁸And coming up at that very time, she gave thanks to God, and spoke about the child to all those expecting redemption in Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had completed everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents would go every year to Jerusalem for the festival of Passover. ⁴²And when he turned twelve years old, they went up, according to the custom of the Festival. ⁴³And when the days were completed and they were returning home, the boy Jesus remained in Jerusalem, and his parents were not aware of it. ⁴⁴Thinking he was in their company, they went a day's journey, and then began looking for him among their relatives and acquaintances. ⁴⁵And when they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶And it happened that after three days they found him, sitting in the temple, in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and questioning them. ⁴⁷And all those who heard him were amazed at the understanding of his responses. ⁴⁸And when *his parents* saw him, they were stunned. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Look at how distressed your father and I are, searching for you."

⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why would you be searching for me? Shouldn't you have known that I would have to be among my Father's things?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them.

⁵¹Then he went down with them and arrived in Nazareth, and continued to subordinate himself to them. But his mother was recording all these words in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus kept growing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

Luke Chapter 3

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, with Pontius Pilate governor of Judea, and Herod as tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias as tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Hananiah and Kayafa, the word of God came upon John the son of Zechariah in the desert. ³And he appeared, in all the areas around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the scroll of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"The voice of one calling in the desert,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make the paths straight for him.

⁵Every valley shall be filled up,
every mountain and hill laid low.
The crooked places shall be made straight,

the rough ways smooth.

⁶And all flesh shall see
the salvation of God."

⁷So John would say to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You spawn of snakes! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Then produce fruit characteristic of repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God can raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ⁹Even now the axe is poised at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds would ask him, "What should we do then?"

¹¹And in answer he would say to them, "The person who has two tunics should give away to the one who has none, and the person who has foodstuffs should do the same."

¹²Revenue agents also came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"

¹³He said to them, "Collect nothing in excess, beyond what is prescribed for you."

¹⁴Some soldiers were also questioning him, saying, "And us, what should we do?"

And he told them, "You should no longer shake down anyone, nor frame anyone, always staying content with your pay."

¹⁵And all the people were waiting expectantly, wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Anointed One.

¹⁶John responded speaking to everyone, "I baptize you in water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire: ¹⁷his winnowing fork is in his hand to clear out his threshing floor, gathering the wheat into the barn. But the chaff he will burn up in unquenchable fire."

¹⁸And with many and varied other exhortations John was preaching the good news to the people.

¹⁹But when Herod the Tetrarch was rebuked by him, regarding Herodias his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, ²⁰Herod piled this on top of them all: he shut John up in prison.

²¹When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, the heavens were torn open, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in the bodily form of a

dove. And a voice from heaven said, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

²³And this Jesus, being about thirty years old, was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph,

the son of Eili, ²⁴the son of Matthat,
the son of Levi, the son of Melki,
the son of Yannai, the son of Joseph,

²⁵the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos,
the son of Nahum, the son of Esli,

the son of Naggai, ²⁶the son of Maath,
the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein,
the son of Josech, the son of Joda,

²⁷the son of Yoanan, the son of Rhesa,
the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel,

the son of Neri, ²⁸the son of Melki,
the son of Addi, the son of Cosam,
the son of Elmadam, the son of Er,

²⁹the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer,
the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat,

the son of Levi, ³⁰the son of Simeon,
the son of Judah, the son of Joseph,
the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim,

³¹the son of Melea, the son of Menna,
the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan,

the son of David, ³²the son of Jesse,
the son of Obed, the son of Boaz,
the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon,

³³the son of Amminadab, the son of Aram,
the son of Hezron, the son of Perez,

the son of Judah, ³⁴the son of Jacob,
the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham,
the son of Terah, the son of Nahor,

³⁵the son of Serug, the son of Reu,
the son of Peleg, the son of Eber,

the son of Shelah, ³⁶the son of Cainan,
the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem,
the son of Noah, the son of Lamech,

³⁷the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch,
the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel,

the son of Cainan, ³⁸the son of Enos,
the son of Seth, the son of Adam,
the son of God.

Luke Chapter 4

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the desert, ²being tempted forty days by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

³And the devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, speak to this stone, that it become a loaf of bread."

⁴And Jesus responded to him, "It is written, 'A human being shall not live on bread alone.'"

⁵Then leading him upward, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth, in a moment of time. ⁶And he said to Jesus, "All this authority and their glory I will give to you, for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷Now then, if you worship in front of me, it will all be yours."

⁸In answer Jesus said to him, "It is written: 'You shall worship Yehovah your God, and him only shall you serve.'"

⁹Then the devil led him into Jerusalem, and had him stand on the gable of the temple. And he said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written:

'He will command his angels
concerning you
to guard you carefully,
¹¹and they will bear you up in their hands,
so you will not strike your foot
against a stone.'"

¹²Jesus answered and said to him, "It says: 'You shall not test Yehovah your God.'"

¹³And having carried out every sort of temptation, the devil left him until an opportune time.

¹⁴And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and a rumor about him spread throughout the whole region. ¹⁵And he taught in their synagogues, being praised by everyone.

¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me;
He has sent me
to preach good news to the poor,
to announce release for the prisoners
and sight for the blind,
to send off the crushed into liberty,
¹⁹to proclaim the year
of the Lord's favor..."

²⁰And having closed the scroll, he gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹And he began to speak to them: "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

²²All were speaking well of him and amazed at the gracious words coming from his mouth. And they were saying, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

²³And he said to them, "No doubt you will quote to me this proverb: 'Physician, heal yourself! The things we heard were happening in Capernaum, do here in your home town.'"

²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his home town. ²⁵I tell you, in Elijah's days, during the three years and six months that the sky was shut and there was a great famine covering the whole land, it is a fact that there were plenty of widows in Israel. ²⁶Yet it was not to any of them that Elijah was sent, but to *Zarephath in the country of Sidon*, to a widow woman *there*. ²⁷Again, in the case of Elisha the prophet, there were plenty of lepers in Israel, and not one of them was cleansed; only Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸And all the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard these things. ²⁹They got up and drove him outside the town, intending to throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But he walked right through them, and went on his way.

³¹And he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach them. ³²And they were amazed at his teaching, because his word was authoritative.

³³And in the synagogue was a man who had a demon, an unclean spirit. He shouted out with a very loud voice, ³⁴"Ha! What business do you have with us, Jesus, you Nazarene? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

³⁵And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!" And the demon threw him down before them all and came out of him, doing him no damage.

³⁶And astonishment overwhelmed them all, and they spoke to each other, saying, "What is this message, that with authority and power he commands unclean spirits, and they come out?"

³⁷And a rumor went out about him into every place in that region.

³⁸And rising up out of the synagogue, he went into the home of Simon. And Simon's mother-in-law was suffering a high fever, and they asked him about her. ³⁹So he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. And she got up at once, and proceeded to wait on them.

⁴⁰And as the sun was setting, everyone who had anyone ill with various kinds of sickness brought them to him, and laying his hands on each one of them, he was healing them. ⁴¹Moreover, demons were coming out from many, shouting and saying, "You are the Son of God!" And he would rebuke *them*, not allowing them to speak, because they knew him to be the Messiah.

⁴²And when day came, he left and went off to a solitary place. And the crowds were searching for him, and they came up to him and detained him from leaving them. ⁴³But he said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because on that basis I was sent." ⁴⁴And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Jewdom.

Luke Chapter 5

¹And it happened that as he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing urgently around him and listening to the word of God, ²he saw two boats standing idle by the lake; the fishers had gotten out of them, washing the nets. ³And getting on board one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from shore. And sitting down, he taught the people from the boat.

⁴And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵And in response Simon said, "Master, working hard through the whole night we took nothing. But on the basis of your word, I will let down the nets."

⁶And when they had done so, they had enclosed a great number of fish, and their nets were beginning to tear. ⁷So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came, and they filled both the boats, such that they began to sink.

⁸And when Simon Peter saw *this*, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹For astonishment had seized him and all those with him, at the catch of fish that they had taken, and likewise also James and John the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon.

¹⁰But Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid. From now on you will be catching human beings." ¹¹And when they had pulled the boats to shore, they gave it all up and followed him.

¹²And it happened that he was in one of the towns, and behold, a man covered with leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can cleanse me."

¹³And reaching out his hand, he touched him, saying, "I am willing. Be cleansed." And immediately the leprosy left him.

¹⁴And he ordered him to tell no one, but "Go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

¹⁵But word about him was spreading all the more, and many crowds would walk alongside to listen, and to be healed of their sicknesses. ¹⁶And he would take retreat in deserted places, and pray.

¹⁷And it happened during one of the days that, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the Torah also were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.

¹⁸And behold, men carrying on a pallet a man who was paralyzed. And they were trying to carry him in, to lay him before him. ¹⁹And not finding a way to carry in because of the crowd, they went up onto the roof, and lowered him with his bed down through the tiles, into the middle, in front of Jesus.

²⁰And when Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."

²¹And the Torah scholars and Pharisees began to reason as follows: "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

²²But knowing their reasonings, Jesus in response said to them, "Why are you debating *this* in your hearts? ²³Which is easier: to say 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? ²⁴But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." He said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, pick up your mat and be on your way home." ²⁵And immediately he stood up, in full view of them, and taking up that upon which he had

been lying, he went away toward home, praising God. ²⁶Everyone was stunned with amazement. And they glorified God, and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today."

²⁷And after these things he went out, and he saw a revenue agent by the name of Levi, sitting at the taxes post, and he said to him, "Follow me." ²⁸And he rose up and followed him, giving it all up.

²⁹Then Levi held a great banquet for him at his house. And there was also a large crowd of revenue agents and others who were reclining with him. ³⁰And the Pharisees and their Torah scholars grumbled to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with revenue agents and sinners?"

³¹And Jesus responded and said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are sick. ³²I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

³³They then said to him, "The disciples of John are often fasting and making prayers, and likewise those of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking."

³⁴And Jesus said to them, "Can you make the members of the bridegroom's party fast during *days* in which the bridegroom is with them? ³⁵But the days will come. Yes, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, then in those days they will fast."

³⁶And he also spoke a parable to them: "No one tears a patch from a new garment *and* places it onto an old garment. For then, he will both tear the new, and the patch from the new will not match the old. ³⁷And no one puts new wine in old wineskins. For then, the new wine will burst the wineskins, and it will be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. ³⁸On the contrary, new wine must be put in new wineskins. ³⁹And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, 'The old is better.' "

Luke Chapter 6

¹And he happened during a Sabbath to be passing through grainfields, and his disciples were plucking and eating the heads, rubbing them in their hands. ²But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what on a Sabbath is not permissible?"

³And in answer to them Jesus said, "Have you never read what David did when he and those with him were hungry? ⁴How he went into the house of God, and taking the loaves of offering, he ate, and gave to the ones with him, which was not permissible to eat, except for the priests only?"

⁵Then he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

⁶And it happened that on another Sabbath, he went into the synagogue and was teaching, and a man was there whose right hand was shriveled. ⁷And the Torah scholars and the Pharisees were carefully watching him, whether he would heal on the Sabbath, in order to obtain cause to prosecute him. ⁸But he knew their reasoning, and said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Get up and stand in view." And he got up and stood.

⁹Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it permissible on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?"

¹⁰And looking around at them all, he said to him, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was restored. ¹¹And they were filled with rage, and discussed with each other what they should do to Jesus.

¹²And it happened in those days that he went out into the hills to pray, and spent the whole night praying to God. ¹³And when it was day, he called his disciples to him, and from them he selected twelve, whom he then designated apostles: ¹⁴Simon, whom he also named Peter, and his brother Andrew; James and John; Philip and Bartholomew; ¹⁵Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Halphaeus and Simon the Zealot; ¹⁶and Judas son of James; and Judas of Kerioth, who became a betrayer.

¹⁷And when he came down, he stopped at a level place with them and with a large crowd of his disciples, and with a great multitude of the people from all of Judea and Jerusalem, and from the coastal areas of Tyre and Sidon ¹⁸who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those oppressed by unclean spirits were being cured. ¹⁹And the entire crowd was trying to touch him, because power was going out from him, and curing everyone.

²⁰And he lifted his eyes toward his disciples, and began to speak:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹Blessed are you who go hungry now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²²Blessed are you
when people hate you,
exclude you and shame you
and cast out your name as evil,

because of the Son of Man.

²³"Rejoice in that day, and skip for joy! For behold, great is your reward in heaven, because the same things their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich,
because you have received
your comfort.

²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.
Woe to those who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶Woe to you when all people
speak well of you,
for the same their ancestors did
to the false prophets.

²⁷"But I say to you who are listening, love your enemies, treat well the ones hating you,
²⁸bless the ones cursing you, pray for the ones insulting you. ²⁹To the one striking you on the cheek, offer the other cheek also. And the person taking your jacket, do not prevent him from taking your shirt as well. ³⁰To everyone asking you, give, and from the one forcefully taking your things, do not demand them back. ³¹And just as you wish people would do to you, do likewise to them.

³²"And if you love the ones loving you, what credit is that to you? For the sinners also love the ones loving them. ³³And if you do good to the ones doing good to you, what credit is that to you? The sinners also do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to the ones from whom you foresee repayment, what credit is that to you? Sinners also lend to sinners, in such a way they may receive the equal back. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good and lend, expecting nothing, and great will be your reward, and you will be children of the Most High, for he is kind to the unthankful and evil. ³⁶Be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate.

³⁷"Do not be judgmental, and you will not be judged. Do not be condemning, and you will not be condemned. Be forgiving, and you will be forgiven.

³⁸"Be giving, and it will be given to you. A generous container: compacted, shaken and running over they will hand into your arms. For with the standard you measure out, it will be measured back to you."

³⁹And he also spoke a parable to them: "Can a blind person lead a blind person? Will they not both fall into a ditch? ⁴⁰A student is not above the teacher, but rather, every student when fully trained will be like his teacher.

⁴¹"Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but the log that is in your own eye you do not consider? ⁴²How are you able to say to your brother, 'Brother, allow me to take out the speck that is in your eye,' while you are not seeing the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first get the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly the speck that is in your brother's eye, to remove it.

⁴³"Now there is no good tree producing bad fruit, nor again a bad tree producing good fruit. ⁴⁴For each tree is known by its own fruit. For they do not gather figs from thornbushes, neither do they pick a grape from a brier.

⁴⁵"The good person, out of the good stockpile of his heart, brings forth good, and the evil person out of the evil, brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart one's mouth speaks.

⁴⁶"And why do you keep calling me 'Lord, Lord,' and yet not do the things which I say? ⁴⁷Anyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what that person is like. ⁴⁸That person is like a man building a house, who dug and deepened and laid a foundation on the rock. And when a flood occurred, the river dashed against that house, but was not able to shake it, because it was well built.

⁴⁹"But the one who has heard them and not done them, is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation, against which dashed the river, and very soon it collapsed, and the destruction of that house was great."

Luke Chapter 7

¹When he had finished all his sayings in the ears of the people, he entered Capernaum. ²And the slave of a certain centurion, who was very valuable to him, was sick and about to die. ³And having heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his slave. ⁴So when they came to Jesus, they were pleading earnestly with him, saying, "He is worthy that you confer this upon him, ⁵for he loves our nation, and he built us the synagogue."

⁶So Jesus went with them. And when he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends saying to him as follows: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I am not fit that you should enter under my roof. ⁷So also neither did I consider myself worthy to come to you. But say

with a word that my slave must be healed. ⁸For I too am a man stationed under authority, having soldiers under myself. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does."

⁹And when Jesus heard these words, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, not in Israel have I found such faith."

¹⁰And when the ones who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave well.

¹¹And it happened that on the next day he went into a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. ¹²And as he approached the town gate, behold, a dead person was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³When he saw her, the Lord was moved with pity for her, and he said to her, "Don't cry."

¹⁴And he went up to the coffin and touched it, and the pallbearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise up!" ¹⁵And the dead man sat up and began to speak. And he gave him back to his mother.

¹⁶And fear took hold of all, and they praised God, saying, "A great prophet has been raised up among us," and, "God has come to help his people." ¹⁷And this news about him spread throughout the land of the Jews and the surrounding country.

¹⁸And John's disciples reported to him about all these things. And after calling two of his disciples to him, John ¹⁹sent word to the Lord, as follows: "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect another?"

²⁰And when they had come to him, the men said, "John the Baptizer sent us to you saying, 'Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect another?'"

²¹In that same hour he healed many *people* of diseases and sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. ²²And in answer, he said to them, "Go and report back to John what things you saw and heard: The blind see again, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and good news is preached to the poor. ²³And *tell him*, 'Blessed be whoever is not offended on account of me.' "

²⁴And as John's messengers were leaving, he began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed getting swayed to and fro by the wind? ²⁵On the contrary, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in delicate clothes? Behold, those in expensive clothes and living in luxury are in royal palaces. ²⁶On the contrary, what did you go

out to see? A prophet? Yes indeed I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is the one about whom it is written:

'Behold, I am sending my messenger
before your face,
who will prepare your way
before you.'

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John the Baptizer. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

²⁹(And all the people who heard, even the revenue agents, vindicated God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. ³⁰But the Pharisees and the lawyers, not baptized by him, rejected the purpose of God for themselves.)

³¹"To what, then, shall I compare the people of this generation? And what are they like?
³²They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to one another and saying:

'We played the flute for you,
and you didn't dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you didn't cry.'

³³For John the Baptizer came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' ³⁴The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of revenue agents and sinners.' ³⁵Regardless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

A Prostitute Washes Jesus' Feet with her Tears

³⁶But one of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined. ³⁷And behold, a woman who was being a sinner in that town came, who having learned that he is reclining at the Pharisee's house, had brought an alabaster bottle of perfume, ³⁸and appeared behind Jesus, weeping at his feet. And with the tears she began to bathe his feet. And with the hairs of her head she was wiping off, and earnestly kissing his feet, and anointing them with the perfume.

³⁹When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he thought to himself as follows, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who and of what sort is the woman touching him— that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰And Jesus spoke up, and said to him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he says.

⁴¹"Two men were debtors to a moneylender. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²And as they did not have the money to pay him back, he freely forgave them both. Now which of them will love him more?"

⁴³In answer Simon said, "I suppose the one whom he freely forgave more."

And he said to him, "You have judged correctly." ⁴⁴And turning toward the woman, he was saying to Simon, "Do you see this woman? Your house I entered. Water you did not give me for my feet, but this woman bathed my feet with her tears, and wiped them off with her hair. ⁴⁵A kiss you did not give me, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped earnestly kissing my feet. ⁴⁶With oil you did not anoint my head, but this woman with perfume anointed my feet. ⁴⁷For which reason, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven, that she loved much. But someone who has been forgiven little, loves little."

⁴⁸And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

⁴⁹And those reclining with him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go with peace."

Luke Chapter 8

¹And it happened after this that he traveled about through one city and village after another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ²and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary, called the Magdalene, from whom seven demons had come out; ³and Joanna the wife of Kuza, the manager of Herod's household; and Susanna; plus many others; these women were providing for them out of their own means.

⁴And when a great crowd was coming together, people from every one of those towns coming toward him, he spoke by means of a parable: ⁵"The sower went out to sow his seed. And in the process of sowing, some seed fell beside the row and was trampled on, and the birds of the sky devoured it. ⁶And other seed fell on rock, and after it grew, it withered, having no way to get moisture. ⁷And other seed fell in the midst of thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. ⁸And other seed fell into good soil, and when grown it produced fruit a hundredfold."

After he said these things, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, hear."

⁹And his disciples asked him the intent of this parable, ¹⁰and he said, "To you it is given such that you will know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest in parables, so that,

"Though seeing, they will not see,
and though hearing,
they will not understand.'

¹¹ "This, then, means the parable: The seed is the word of God. ¹²And the ones beside the way are those who when they hear, next comes the devil, and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who when they hear, receive the word with joy. They are also ones who have no root, and believe for a time, and in the time of trial shrink back. ¹⁴And the seed falling in the thorns, these are those who hear, and as they go, are choked by the worries and riches and pleasures of life, and do not bear fruit to the end. ¹⁵And the seed in good soil, these are those who when they hear the word, retain it in a good and worthy heart, and bear fruit with perseverance.

¹⁶"Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it with a bucket, or puts it under a bed, but instead puts it on the lamp stand, so that those coming in may see the light. ¹⁷For there is nothing hidden that will not be made manifest, nor secret, that will not become clearly known, and come into illumination. ¹⁸Watch therefore how you listen, for whoever has, it will be granted him, and whoever has not, even what he seems to have will be taken away from him."

¹⁹And his mother and brothers came to him, and were not able to get near him because of the crowd. ²⁰And it was reported to him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you."

²¹But he in answer said to them, "These are my mother and brothers, the ones hearing and doing the word of God."

²²And it happened during one of those days when he and his disciples had gotten into a boat, that he said to them, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." And they put out to sea.

²³And as they sailed, he fell asleep. And a storm of wind came down onto the lake, and they were being swamped, and in great danger.

²⁴And after approaching him, they roused him, saying, "Master, we are going to die!"

And when he was awake, he rebuked the wind and the roughness of the water, and they stopped, and it was calm. ²⁵And he said to them, "Where is your faith?"

But they were amazed and fearful, saying to one another, "Who then is this? For he even commands the wind and the water, and they obey him!"

²⁶And they sailed down into the territory of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷And as he was going on shore, a man from the town met him, demon-possessed, and not having put clothes on for quite some time, and who was living not in a house but in the tombs.

²⁸And when he saw Jesus, he fell down before him crying out, and in a loud voice he said: "What business is there between you and me, O Jesus, you son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torture me!"

²⁹For Jesus was commanding the evil spirit to come out of the man. For many times it had possessed him, and he would be bound with chains and leg irons and guarded, but tearing the bonds apart, he would be driven by the demon into solitary places.

³⁰And Jesus questioned him: "What is your name?"

And he said, "Legion." For many demons had entered into him. ³¹And they were pleading with him that he not order them to depart into the Abyss.

³²And a considerable herd of pigs was feeding there on a hillside, and they begged him to allow them to enter into them, and he allowed them.

³³So coming out from the man, the demons entered into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake, and drowned.

³⁴And seeing what had happened, the herders fled, and reported to the town and to the farms. ³⁵And they came out to see what had happened. And they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed, and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And the ones who had seen reported it to them how the demon-possessed man had been cured. ³⁷And all the population of the neighborhood of the Gadarenes asked him to go away from them, for they were overcome with great fear. So he got into the boat *and* turned back.

³⁸But the man from whom the demons had gone out was begging to accompany him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your house, and recount all the things God has done for you." And he went, throughout the whole town, proclaiming what things Jesus had done for him.

⁴⁰And it happened that upon his return, a crowd was welcoming him, for they were all expecting him. ⁴¹And behold, a man had come whose name was Jairus, and this man was a

synagogue ruler. And falling at Jesus' feet, he begged him to come to his house, ⁴²because he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

And as he was on his way, the crowds were pinching him in. ⁴³And a woman suffering a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent everything she owned on doctors and not been able to get healing from anyone, ⁴⁴came up behind and touched the tassel of his cloak, and immediately her flow of blood stopped.

⁴⁵And Jesus said, "Who was it touching me?"

When everyone denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds are pushing in together and jostling you."

⁴⁶But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I sensed power go out from me."

⁴⁷Then the woman, seeing that she was not going unnoticed, came, trembling. And falling at his feet, she related before all the people the reason she had touched him, and how she had been instantly healed. ⁴⁸And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go with peace."

⁴⁹While he was still speaking, someone comes from the synagogue ruler's, saying, "Your daughter has died. Don't trouble the teacher any more."

⁵⁰But having heard, Jesus responded to him, "Don't be afraid. Only believe, and she will be healed."

⁵¹And when he went into the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him except Peter and John and James, and the father of the maiden and the mother. ⁵²And all were weeping and wailing for her. But he said, "Do not weep. She is not dead but sleeping." ⁵³And they laughed scornfully at him, knowing that she had died.

⁵⁴Then, holding her hand, he called out, as follows: "Damsel, wake up!" ⁵⁵And her spirit returned, and she stood up at once, and he ordered that she be given something to eat. ⁵⁶And her parents were astonished. Then he charged them not to tell anyone what had happened.

Luke Chapter 9

¹And having called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority over all the demons and diseases, in order to heal. ²And he sent them to proclaim the kingdom of God and to cure, ³and said to them: "Take nothing for the journey— neither staffs, nor knapsack, nor bread, nor silver, neither have two tunics each.

⁴"And into whatever house you might enter, there remain, and from there go forward. ⁵And all the places that do not welcome you, going forth from that town, shake the dust off your feet, as a testimony against them."

⁶And going forth they went throughout all the villages, preaching the good news, and healing everywhere.

⁷Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was going on, and kept becoming perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead, ⁸and by some that Elijah had appeared, and still others that a prophet, one of the Ancients, had come back to life.

⁹But Herod said, "John, I beheaded. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?" And he tried to see him.

¹⁰And when the apostles returned, they reported to him what things they had done. Then he took them, and retreated in private toward a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹But the crowds who knew, followed him. So, welcoming them, he spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and the ones having need of healing, he cured.

¹²But the daylight began to decline, and the twelve approached *and* said to him, "Dismiss the crowd, so they can go to the surrounding villages and farms to sleep and find supplies. Because here, we are in a remote place."

¹³And he said to them, "You give them something to eat."

But they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we were to go and buy food for all this crowd." ¹⁴For there were about five thousand men.

And he said to his disciples, "Get them to recline in groups of about fifty each." ¹⁵And they did so, and got them all to recline. ¹⁶And taking the loaves and the two fish, *and* looking up to heaven, he blessed them and broke them, and gave to the disciples to set before the people.

¹⁷And they all ate and were satisfied, and their leftovers picked up were twelve large baskets of fragments.

¹⁸And it happened that, when he was praying in private, the disciples were with him, and he queried them, saying, "Who do the crowds maintain me to be?"

¹⁹And they in answer said, "John the Baptizer; and others, Elijah; and others that a prophet, one of the Ancients, has risen again."

²⁰And he said to them, "But you, who do you maintain me to be?"

And Peter in answer said, "The Christ of God."

²¹But he, admonishing them, charged them to tell this to no one, ²²saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and Torah scholars, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again."

²³Then toward everyone he was saying, "If someone wants to come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴For whoever wants to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake, this one will save it. ²⁵For how does it benefit a human being when he has gained the whole world, but has lost or been forfeited his very self? ²⁶For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, that person the Son of Man will be ashamed of, when he comes in his glory, and of the Father, and of the holy angels. ²⁷But truly I say to you: There are some, of the ones standing here, who will certainly not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

²⁸And it happened, something like eight days after these words, that having taken Peter and John and James, he went up into the mountain, to pray. ²⁹And it happened that as he prayed, the appearance of his face *was* different, and his clothes *were* a glistening white. ³⁰And behold, two men were conversing with him, who were Moses and Elijah, ³¹who, having been made visible in glory, were relating about the exodus of him, which was soon to be coming true in Jerusalem.

³²But Peter and the ones with him were heavy-eyed with sleepiness. But when they had fully woken up, they saw his glory, and the two men standing with him. ³³And it happened that as those were moving off from Jesus, Peter said to him, "O Master, it is good for us to be here, and we should make three shelters, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." (Not knowing what he is saying.)

³⁴And as he was saying these things, a cloud came, and it began to overshadow them. And they were afraid as they went into the cloud. ³⁵And a voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, the Chosen One; listen to him." ³⁶And when the voice happened, they found Jesus alone. And they kept quiet and told no one in those days anything that they had seen.

³⁷And it happened that during the following day, as they were coming down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. ³⁸And behold, a man in the crowd shouted out, saying, "Teacher, I beg of you to look at my son; because he is my only born, ³⁹and behold, a spirit takes over him and he suddenly cries out, and it convulses him with foaming *at the mouth*. And it hardly goes away from him, wearing him out. ⁴⁰And I pleaded with your disciples that they cast it out, and they were not able to."

⁴¹And in response Jesus said, "O unbelieving and perverted generation, how long must I be with you, and put up with you? Bring your son here."

⁴²And even as he was approaching Him, the demon dashed him to the ground, and thrashed him back and forth. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and the child was restored to wholeness, and He gave him back to his father. ⁴³And all were struck by the majesty of God.

And while everyone marveled at all that he was doing, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁴"You place into your ears these words. For the Son of Man is about to be transferred into the hands of human beings."

⁴⁵But they were not understanding this statement, and *the meaning* was being kept hidden from them, with the result that they did not see it. And they were afraid to ask him about this statement.

⁴⁶So contention came into them, as to who of them was greatest.

⁴⁷And Jesus, knowing the contention of their hearts, took a child by the hand, *and* stood him next to himself. ⁴⁸And he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this child on the basis of my name, is welcoming me, and whoever welcomes me, is welcoming the one who sent me. For the person who is smallest among you all, that is who is great."

⁴⁹And in response, John said, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him; for he is not following *you* together with us."

⁵⁰But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop *such*, for someone who is not against you is for you."

⁵¹And it happened that the days leading to his being taken up were running out, and he set his face to head toward Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent out messengers before his face. And when they proceeded forth they went into a Samaritan village, so as to prepare *it* for him. ⁵³And they did not welcome him, because his face was heading toward Jerusalem.

⁵⁴And when they saw *this*, the disciples James and John said, "Lord, do you will that we command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"

⁵⁵But when he turned *to them*, he rebuked them. ⁵⁶And they moved on, to a different village.

⁵⁷And as they were proceeding on the way, someone said to him, "I will follow you, wherever you might go."

⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have dens, and the birds of the sky, nestling places, but the Son of Man has nowhere he can lay his head."

⁵⁹And to another *man*, he said, "Follow me."

But he said, "Lord, give me leave to first go and bury my father."

⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, "Leave those who are dead to bury their dead themselves; and you, after you have come away, you publicize the kingdom of God."

⁶¹And another also said, "I will follow you, Lord. But first give me leave to say farewell to my household."

⁶²But Jesus said, "No one putting hand to plow and looking back to the things behind, is cut out for the kingdom of God."

Luke Chapter 10

¹And after these things, the Lord appointed another seventy-two, and sent them out two by two before his face, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. ²And he was saying to them, "The crop is large, but the workers are few. Request therefore of the lord of the harvest, that he send out workers into his harvest. ³Be on your way. Behold, I am sending you out like sheep in the midst of wolves. ⁴You must carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one along the way.

⁵"And into whatever house you enter, first you say, 'Peace to this house.' ⁶And if a child of peace is there, your peace will settle upon him. Otherwise, it will bounce back onto you. ⁷And in that same house you are to remain, eating and drinking the things belonging to them; for the worker is worthy of his pay; you are not to be moving from house to house.

⁸"And into whatever town you enter that they welcome you, eat the things being set before you, ⁹and heal the sick in it, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has drawn over you.' ¹⁰But into whatever town you enter that they do not welcome you, go out into the streets of it, and say, ¹¹'Even the dust sticking to us from your town onto our feet, we are shaking off to you. Even so, know this, that the kingdom of God has drawn near.' ¹²I assure you, it will be more bearable for Sodom in That Day, than for that town.

¹³"Woe to you, Khorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that took place in you took place in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ¹⁴In any case, it will be more bearable in the judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ¹⁵And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted up to heaven? You will go down to Hades!

¹⁶"The person who listens to you is listening to me, and the one rejecting you, is rejecting me. And the one rejecting me, is rejecting the one who sent me."

¹⁷And the seventy-two returned, with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons submit themselves to us in your name."

¹⁸And he said to them, "I was watching as Satan fell from heaven like lightning.

¹⁹Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will by any means harm you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits submit to you; but rejoice that your names are written down in heaven."

²¹In that same hour, he exulted in the Holy Spirit, and said, "I praise you, Father, O Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the learned and intelligent, and revealed them to babes. Yes, O Father, for that is what was pleasing in your sight.

²²"Everything has been turned over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is, except the Father; and who the Father is, except the Son, and those to whom the Son decides to reveal *it*."

²³And after he had turned toward his disciples privately, he said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. ²⁴For I tell you, many prophets and kings wanted to see what you are seeing, and did not see it, and to hear what you are hearing, and did not hear it."

²⁵And behold, a lawyer arose, testing him, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶And he said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?"

²⁷And he in answer said, "You shall love Yehovah your God from your whole heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

²⁸And He said, "You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰In reply, Jesus said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among bandits. And they, when they had stripped him and inflicted wounds, went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹And by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him, he avoided *him*. ³²And likewise also a Levite, when he came near that place and saw, passed on around. ³³But a Samaritan man came traveling by him, and when he saw, was moved with pity. ³⁴And he approached *and* stopped up his wounds, *and* applied olive oil and wine. And mounting him on his own animal, he took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And on the morrow, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and whatever you spend beyond *this*, I will reimburse you when I return.'

³⁶"Which of these three seems to you a neighbor for the one who fell among bandits?"

³⁷And he said, "The one who did the mercy with him."

And Jesus said to him, "Go yourself and do likewise."

³⁸And when he moved on, he entered a certain village. And a woman by the name of Martha hosted him for dinner. ³⁹There was also a sister to that one, named Mary, and she having sat down at the Lord's feet, was listening to his word.

⁴⁰But Martha was being drawn away by many chores of hospitality. But when she did come over, she said, "Lord, doesn't it concern you that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her therefore that she should help carry the load with me."

⁴¹But in answer, Jesus said to her, "Martha, Martha. You are getting concerned and agitated over many things. ⁴²But there is only one thing that warrants it. For Mary has selected the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

Luke Chapter 11

¹And it happened when he was praying in a certain place, that as he was finishing, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, even as John taught his disciples."

²And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

" 'Father, hallowed be your name.

May your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves also forgive
everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.' "

⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you shall have a friend, and will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶because a friend of mine has shown up, from a journey toward me, and I have nothing to set before him.'

⁷"That one inside may say in answer, 'Do not cause me hassles. The door is already shut up, and my children are in bed with me. I can't get up to give you something.' ⁸I tell you, even if he will not get up and give you something because of being your friend, yet because of brash persistence on your part he will get up, and give you as much as you need.

⁹"So I say to you: Keep asking, and it will be given to you; keep seeking, and you will find; keep knocking, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who keeps asking, receives; and the person who keeps seeking, finds; and to the one who keeps on knocking, it will be opened.

¹¹"And which father among you, if his child will ask for a fish, will hand him a snake instead? ¹²Or again, if he asks for an egg, will hand him a scorpion? ¹³If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

¹⁴And he was casting out a demon of muteness. And it happened that after the demon went out, the mute man spoke. And the crowd was amazed.

¹⁵But some of them said, "It is by Ba'al-zibbul, the prince of demons, that he drives out demons." ¹⁶And others, testing him, wanted from him a sign out of heaven.

¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is desolated, and a house divided against itself falls. ¹⁸So also, if Satan was divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim I drive out demons by Baal-zibbul. ¹⁹Now if I drive out demons by Baal-zibbul, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁰But if I am driving out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

²¹"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own castle, his possessions are safe. ²²But when a stronger one than he comes and overpowers him, he takes away the armor upon which his confidence was based, and divides out the spoils.

²³"The person who is not with me is against me, and the one not gathering with me is scattering."

²⁴"When an evil spirit comes out of a human being, it goes through waterless places, seeking rest. And not finding it, at that time it says, 'I will return to the house from which I came out.' ²⁵And when it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. ²⁶Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they come inside and live there. And the final condition of that human is worse than the first."

²⁷And it happened that as Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd lifted up her voice and said to him, "Blessed are the womb that bore you, and the breasts on which you sucked."

²⁸But he replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

²⁹And as the crowds were pressing together upon him, he began to say, "This generation is a wicked generation; it asks for a sign. And no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonah. ³⁰For just as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation. ³¹The Queen of the South will be raised at the judgment with the men of this generation and

condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, one greater than Solomon is here. ³²The men of Nineveh will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, one greater than Jonah is here.

³³"No one after lighting a lamp puts it out of view, or under a basket, but rather on the lamp stand, so that those who come in may see the light. ³⁴The lamp of the body is your eye. When your eye is open and generous, your entire body is brightly lit also. But when your eye is suspicious and stingy, your body is in darkness also. ³⁵See to it, therefore, that the light in you is not darkness. ³⁶If then your whole body is brightly lit, not having any part dark, it will all be lighted, like when the lamp by its brightness illumines you."

³⁷And as he was speaking, a Pharisee asks him to have lunch with him; so having gone inside, he reclined. ³⁸And the Pharisee when he saw, was shocked that he did not first baptize before the meal.

³⁹And the Lord said to him, "As it is, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and platter, but the inside of you is loaded with acquisitiveness and wickedness.

⁴⁰"O foolish ones! Did not the one who made the outside, make the inside also? ⁴¹But the things lying within give to the poor, and behold, all things are now clean for you.

⁴²"But woe to you, Pharisees! For you tithe the mint, and even the rue and every kind of garden herb, and neglect the justice and the love of God. But these latter things you ought to practice, without leaving the former undone.

⁴³"Woe to you, Pharisees! For you love the prominent seats in the synagogues, and the greetings in the marketplaces.

⁴⁴"Woe to you! For you are like graves that are not marked, and the people when walking over them do not know it."

⁴⁵And in response, someone from the class of lawyers says to him, "Teacher, in saying these things, you are insulting us also."

⁴⁶But he said, "And to you lawyers also, woe! For you make people carry loads oppressive to bear, and you yourselves, not one of your fingers do you touch to such loads.

⁴⁷"Woe to you! For you build mausoleums for the prophets, and it was your forefathers who murdered them. ⁴⁸So then, approving witnesses you are, to the deeds of your forefathers; for they kill them, and you build.

⁴⁹"For this reason also the wisdom of God has said, 'I am sending to them prophets and apostles; and some of them they will kill, and some of them they will persecute,' ⁵⁰with the result that the blood of all the prophets spilled since the founding of the world will be demanded of this generation, ⁵¹from the blood of Abel, up until the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary; yes, I tell you, *all* will be demanded of this generation.

⁵²"Woe to you, lawyers! For you have taken away the key *to the door* of knowledge. You yourselves have not gone in, and the ones going in you have barred."

⁵³And then as he went forth from there, the Torah scholars and Pharisees began to be extremely hostile, and to provoke him to speak unpreparedly about a great variety of topics, ⁵⁴ambushing him, to pounce on something coming from his mouth.

Luke Chapter 12

¹When a vast multitude had gathered, such that they were trampling on one another, he began to say to his disciples first, "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. ²But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and *nothing* secret that will not be made known. ³Therefore, what things you have said in the darkness will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken close to an ear in the cellars, will be proclaimed on the housetops.

⁴"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of the ones killing the body, and after that having nothing worse left to do. ⁵But I will suggest to you whom you should fear. Fear the one who after the killing, has the power to cast into Gehenna. Yes, I tell you, fear him.

⁶"Are not five sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷But in your case, even the hairs of your head, each is numbered. You should not be afraid. You matter more than many sparrows.

⁸"But I tell you, whoever stands up for me before human beings, the Son of Man also will stand up for him before the angels of God. ⁹Whereas the one disowning me before human beings, will be disowned before the angels of God. ¹⁰And everyone who will speak a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him. But to the person who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven.

¹¹"And when they deliver you over to the synagogues, and to the rulers and to the authorities, do not worry how or what you should defend, or what you should say. ¹²For the Holy Spirit will instruct you in that very hour what needs to be said."

¹³And someone in the crowd said, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

¹⁴But he said to him, "Man, who appointed me judge or arbiter over you *two*?"

¹⁵And he said to them, "Watch out, and be on your guard against every form of covetousness. For the life of one is not in the abundance of one's possessions."

¹⁶And he spoke a parable to them as follows: "The land of a certain rich man yielded abundantly, ¹⁷and he was thinking to himself, 'What shall I do? For I have no place where I can stack my produce.'

¹⁸And he said, 'This is what I will do. I will pull down my warehouses, and build bigger ones, and there I will stack all my wheat, and all my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have much goods sitting there into many years. Relax, eat, drink, be merry." '

²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool, this very night they are demanding your soul back from you, and the provisions you have made, whose will they be?'

²¹"Such is the person saving up for himself, and not becoming rich to God."

²²And to his disciples, he said, "Because of this I say to you, do not worry about life, what you will eat, nor about the body, what you will wear. ²³For life means more than food, and the body more than clothes.

²⁴"Consider the ravens, that they neither sow nor reap, and God feeds them. How much higher priority you are than birds!

²⁵"Now which of you by worrying is able to add onto his lifespan one foot? ²⁶If therefore you cannot accomplish even this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷"Consider the lilies, how they grow. They neither labor nor weave. But I tell you, not even Solomon, in all his splendor, was bedecked like one of these. ²⁸Now if God thus clothes the wild grass, which is here this day and the next is thrown into the stove, how much more would he rather clothe you, O you of little faith?

²⁹"And you also should not seek after how you will eat and how you will drink; that is, do not be anxious. ³⁰Because all these things, the nations of the world are striving for. But your Father knows that you have need of these things. ³¹Only seek instead his kingdom, and these things will be included for you.

³²"Do not be afraid, little flock; for it has given your Father pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give to the poor: make for yourselves money bags unfailing, a

stockpile not shrinking; in the heavens, where neither a thief ever gets close, nor a moth ever destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵"You must keep your waists girded and your lamps burning, ³⁶and you must be like people waiting for their own master, *waiting* for when he returns from the wedding celebrations, so that when he arrives and is knocking, they may immediately open for him. ³⁷Happy are those slaves who when the master arrives, he finds watching. Truly I tell you, he will gird himself and bid them recline, and after coming in, he will serve them. ³⁸Those slaves are happy, whether he arrives in the second watch and finds them so, or even in the third watch. ³⁹And this you know, that if the manager of the household knew what hour the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and not allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be the same, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you would not think he would."

⁴¹Then Peter said, "Lord, are you saying this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?"

⁴²And the Lord said, "So who is the faithful and sensible steward, whom the master will place over his domestic service, to be giving out rations in due time? ⁴³Happy will be that slave who when his lord comes, he finds doing so. ⁴⁴Truly I tell you, he will place him over all his possessions.

⁴⁵"But if that slave says in his heart, 'My master is taking his time to come,' and he begins to slap around the workboys and the workgirls, and to eat and drink and get drunk, ⁴⁶the master of that slave will come at an hour he is not expecting, and at a time he does not know, and will cut him in two, and appoint him his inheritance with the unbelieving.

⁴⁷"And that slave, knowing the will of his master, and not having prepared or done in accordance with his will, he will be lashed many times. ⁴⁸Whereas the one not knowing, and having done things deserving of scourgings, he will be lashed few times. So then, anyone to whom much has been given, much will be required of him, and from him to whom much has been entrusted, that much more will be demanded.

⁴⁹"I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰But I have a baptism to be baptized, and how tormented I am until that has been accomplished.

⁵¹"You think that I have come to provide peace on the earth. Not at all, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵²For from now on, five in one household will be divided: three against two, and two against three. ⁵³Father will be divided against son, and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴And he was also saying to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, right away you say, 'A rainstorm is coming,' and it happens so. ⁵⁵And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It will be hot,' and it happens. ⁵⁶Hypocrites! The face of the earth and sky you know how to interpret, but this present time you do not know how to interpret?"

⁵⁷"And why also do you not judge equity yourselves? ⁵⁸For as you are going with your adversary to court, on the way make every effort to be free of him, lest he drag you before the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer throw you in prison. ⁵⁹I tell you, no way will you come out of that place, until you have paid back the very last penny."

Luke Chapter 13

¹And some who were present at that time, were reporting to him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with the blood of their sacrifices. ²And in response he said to them, "Do you think that because they suffered these things, those Galileans were sinners, more so than all the rest of the Galileans? ³Not at all, I tell you; but on the other hand, if you do not repent, you shall all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen, on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think they were debtors worse than all the rest of the people living in Jerusalem? ⁵Not at all, I tell you; but on the other hand, if you do not repent, you shall all likewise perish."

⁶And he continued with this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard. And he came seeking fruit on it, and did not find any. ⁷And he said to the vine dresser, 'Look, it has been three years already I have been coming, seeking fruit on this fig tree and not finding it. Cut it down. Why is it still using up the soil?'"

⁸"But in answer, he says to him, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, until such time I have dug and put manure around it; ⁹and if in the future it does produce fruit, so much the better. But if not, then you would cut it down.'"

¹⁰And he was teaching in one of the synagogues during the Sabbath. ¹¹And behold, a woman having had a spirit of disability for eighteen years was there. And she was bent over double, and not able to look up at all. ¹²And when Jesus saw her, he called to her and said to her, "Woman, be set free from your disability." ¹³And he laid hands on her; and she became erect at once, and was praising God.

¹⁴But in response, the synagogue ruler, being indignant that Jesus had healed during the Sabbath, was saying to the crowd, "There are six days in which *you are* supposed to work; you should therefore be coming during those to be healed, and not during the day of rest."

¹⁵But the Lord answered him, and said, "You hypocrites! Who among you on the Sabbath does not free his ox or his donkey from its stall, and after leading it out, give it drink? ¹⁶But this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound to these eighteen years, she should not be freed from this bondage on the day of rest?!"

¹⁷And with his saying these things, all his opponents were being humiliated, and the whole crowd was cheering, for all the glorious things being accomplished by him.

¹⁸Then he said, "What is the kingdom of God like? And to what may I compare it? ¹⁹It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and cast into his garden, and it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the sky nested in its branches."

²⁰And again he said, "To what may I compare the kingdom of God? ²¹It is like yeast that a woman took and folded into three measures of dough until the whole was leavened."

²²And he was going through every city and village teaching, even as he was making his journey toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, "Lord, are those being saved going to be few?"

And he said to him, ²⁴"Make every effort to go in through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will try to enter, and not be able to. ²⁵Once the master of the house has gotten up and closed the door, after that you may begin to stand outside, and knock *on* the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' and in answer he will say to you, 'I don't know where you are from.' ²⁶At that time you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷And then at that time he will say to you as follows: 'I don't know where you are from. Get away from me, all you workers of unrighteousness.' ²⁸In that place there will be weeping, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you are being cast outside, ²⁹and *people* will have come from the east and the west, and from the north and the south, and be reclined in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, there are those who are last, who will be first; and there are those who are first who will be last."

³¹In that hour, some Pharisees came up to him, saying to him, "You should move on, and get out of this place, because Herod is trying to kill you."

³²And he said to them, "Go tell that fox: 'Behold, I am casting out demons and accomplishing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' ³³Regardless, I would

have to be continuing on today and tomorrow and the next day. For it is not possible for a prophet to be killed outside Jerusalem!

³⁴"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, that kills the prophets, and stones those sent to it! How often I have wished to gather your children, as a hen does her brood under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵Behold, your house is now abandoned to you. I tell you, you will not see me, until the day when you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Luke Chapter 14

¹And it happened that when he went into the house of a certain ruler of the Pharisees on a Sabbath, to eat bread, they were watching him closely. ²And behold, a man with dropsy was right in front of him.

³And in response, Jesus said to the lawyers and Pharisees as follows: "Is it permissible during a Sabbath to heal, or is it not?" ⁴But they kept quiet. And after grasping him, he healed him, and dismissed him.

⁵And he said to them, "Who among you whose son or ox should fall into a pit during the Sabbath day, would not immediately pull him out?" ⁶And they were not able to rebut these *words*.

⁷And toward those who had been invited, he was speaking a parable, referring to how they were claiming the most prestigious seats, saying to them as follows: ⁸"When you are invited by someone to a banquet, do not recline at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you is invited by him, ⁹and the one who invited both you and him comes and says to you, 'Yield place to this person.' And then you would proceed with embarrassment to make for the last seat. ¹⁰Instead, when you are invited, make your way to the least desirable place and recline, so that when the one who invited you comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then there will be honor for you in front of all your fellow dinner guests. ¹¹For anyone who exalts himself will be humbled; and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

¹²And he was also saying to the man who had invited him, "When you make a breakfast or dinner, do not call your friends, or your siblings or relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back in return, and that would be repayment for you. ¹³Instead, when you make a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they do not have the means to repay you. For it will be repaid to you, you see, at the resurrection of the righteous."

¹⁵And after hearing these things, one of the dinner guests said to him, "Blessed is that person who will eat bread in the kingdom of God."

¹⁶And Jesus said to him, "A man was holding a great banquet, and invited many people.
¹⁷And at the hour of the banquet, he sent his slave out to tell those who were invited, 'Come, for it is now ready.'

¹⁸And they all alike began to ask to be excused. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I urgently have to go out and see it. I ask you, consider me excused.'

¹⁹And another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. I ask you, consider me excused.'

²⁰And another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for this reason I am not able to come.'

²¹And when he came back, the slave reported these things to his master. Angered then, the master of the house said to his slave, 'Quick, go out into the boulevards and lanes of the town. And the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame, lead them here.'

²²And the slave said, 'Master, what you have commanded has been done, and still there is room.'

²³And the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the trails and the fence lines, and urgently invite them to come in, so that my house will be filled. ²⁴You can be sure, I tell you, that not one of those men who were invited, will taste of my banquet!'"

²⁵And great crowds were going along with him, and he turned around, and said to them, ²⁶"If someone is coming with me, and does not spurn his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brothers, and sisters, and yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Anyone that does not take up his own cross and follow after me, cannot be my disciple.

²⁸"For who of you wishing to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough for completion? ²⁹It would be no good if he lays the foundation, and not being able to finish, all those observing start to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build, and was not able to finish.'

³¹"Or what king, going out to another king to meet in battle, does not first sit down to consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand, to match the one who is coming against him with twenty thousand? ³²For indeed if not, while he is still at a distance he sends out a delegation, and asks what are the conditions for peace.

³³"In the same way, then, any of you who does not say good-bye to everything that he has, cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt then is a good thing; but if the salt itself becomes bland, what will it be spiced with?
³⁵It is fit neither for the soil, nor for the manure pile; they throw it out.

"Whoever has ears to hear, hear."

Luke Chapter 15

¹And all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming up next to him, to listen to him. ²And both the Pharisees and the Torah scholars were complaining, saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners, and eats with them."

³But he spoke this parable to them, as follows: ⁴"What man among you who has a hundred sheep and is missing one of them, does not leave behind the ninety-nine in the desert, and go out after the lost one, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he places it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And upon returning home he calls his friends and neighbors together, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷I tell you, in just the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner repenting, than over ninety-nine righteous persons having no need of repentance.

⁸"Or what woman having ten drachmas, if she loses one drachma, does not light a lamp and sweep the house clean, and search diligently until such time she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me; for I have found the drachma that was lost.' ¹⁰In just the same way, I tell you, rejoicing breaks out among the angels of God over one sinner repenting."

¹¹And he said, "A certain man had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to the father, 'Father, pay out to me the applicable share of the holdings.' So he divided to them the life savings.

¹³And not many days later, having gathered everything together, the younger son journeyed off, to a far away country, and there he wasted his estate, living indulgently. ¹⁴And after he had spent everything he had, a severe famine took place over that whole country, and he himself began to be without. ¹⁵And so going forth, he joined on with one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to tend swine. ¹⁶And he was craving to be fed of the carob pods that the swine were eating, and no one gave him any.

¹⁷And when he came to himself, he was saying, 'How many hired men of my father's have more than enough food, and here I am, perishing with hunger. ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men." '

²⁰"And he arose and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him, and was moved with pity. And he ran out, flung his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹But the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²²"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick, bring out the best robe and drape it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes to his feet, ²³and bring the fattened calf, and slaughter it, and let us feast and celebrate; ²⁴for this my son was dead and is alive again; was lost and has been found!' And they proceeded to celebrate.

²⁵"But his elder son was in the fields. And as he was getting close to the house, he heard the sound of music and of dancing. ²⁶And calling over one of the workboys, he was asking what it was all about.

²⁷"And he told him, 'Your brother has returned, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf, because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸"Then he was angry, and refused to go inside. And his father, after coming out, was pleading with him. ²⁹But in response he said to his father, 'All these years I have been serving you, and not once did I ever deviate from your instructions. Yet to me, you have never given so much as a baby goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours comes who ate up your life savings with prostitutes, you slaughter for him the fattened calf!'

³¹"But he said to him, 'Dear child, you are always with me, and everything that is mine is yours. ³²But to celebrate and be cheered up, is only right; for this your brother was dead and is alive again; was lost, and has been found!' "

Luke Chapter 16

¹And then toward his disciples he was saying: "There was a rich man, who had a business manager. And accusations were brought to him against this manager, that he was wasting his property. ²So having summoned him, he said to him, 'What is this I am hearing about you? Surrender the records of your management; for you can no longer be manager.'

³"And the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig. I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I know what I will do, so that after I am removed from my management, people will welcome me into their homes.'

⁵"And calling in each and every one of his master's debtors, he said to the first one, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶"And he said, 'A hundred baths of olive oil.'

"And he told him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write "fifty." '

⁷"Then, to another one he said, 'And you, how much do you owe?'

"And he said, 'A hundred kors of wheat.'

"He says to him, 'Take your bill and write "eighty.'"

⁸"And that master gave credit to the unrighteous manager, in that he had acted shrewdly. For the children of this age are more shrewd toward their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And as for me, I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the undependable wealth, so that when it fails, they may welcome you into perpetual dwellings.

¹⁰"The person who is faithful with little, is also faithful with much, and the one who is undependable with little is also undependable with much. ¹¹If therefore you do not prove faithful with the undependable wealth, who will trust you with the true? ¹²And if with someone else's property you have not turned out to be faithful, who will grant you property of your own?

¹³"No house slave is able to serve two masters; for he would either spurn the one and love the other, or devote himself to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Wealth."

¹⁴And the Pharisees had been listening to all this and, being moneylovers, were sneering at him.

¹⁵And he said to them, "You are ones who justify yourselves before human beings, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among human beings, is detestable in God's sight.

¹⁶"The law and the prophets were until John; from that time on the kingdom of God is being proclaimed, and everyone is pushing their way into it. ¹⁷But it is easier for sky and earth to pass away, than for one serif of the law to fall. ¹⁸Anyone who dismisses his wife and marries another is committing adultery, and he who marries her who has been dismissed by a husband, is committing adultery.

¹⁹"Now a certain man was rich, and used to put on a purple robe and fine linen, and live it up splendidly every day. ²⁰But a beggar, Lazarus by name, was laid at his gate, covered with sores, ²¹and he kept longing in vain to eat the scraps dropping from that rich man's table. In contrast, the dogs at least would come and lick his sores.

²²"Now the beggar came to die, and was carried off by the angels to Abraham's bosom. And the rich man also died, and was buried. ²³And in Hades, when he lifted up his eyes, from being in torment, he sees Abraham far away, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴So after calling out to him,

he said, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water, to cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

²⁵"But Abraham said, 'Son, recall that in your lifetime, you received your good things, while Lazarus likewise received his bad; so now here, he is comforted, and you are suffering. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, such that those who want to go from here to you are not able to, neither can anyone cross over from there to us.'

²⁷"And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, please send him to my father's house, ²⁸since I have five brothers, in order that he solemnly warn them not to also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹"But Abraham says, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them take heed to them.'

³⁰"And he said, 'Hardly, father Abraham; but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

³¹"And he said to him, 'If they are not taking heed to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead.'"

Luke Chapter 17

¹And he said to his disciples, "It is not possible for there not to come things that cause people to fall. Nevertheless, woe to that person by whom such comes! ²It would be better for him if a mill stone is lying around his neck and he is thrown into the sea, than that he cause one of these little ones to fall.

³"Watch yourselves. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. ⁴And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times he turns toward you, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

⁵And the apostles said to the Lord, "Give us more faith."

⁶But the Lord said, "If you have faith as *small as* a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Now who of you having a servant plowing or tending sheep, when he comes in from the field would say to him, 'Come right over here and recline'? ⁸Would he not instead say to him, 'Fix something I can eat, and after you have girded yourself, serve me while I eat and drink, and after these things, you shall eat and drink'? ⁹Neither does he thank the servant, that he has done what he has been told. ¹⁰In the same way, you also, when you have done all the things that were prescribed for you, you should say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we are supposed to have done.'"

¹¹And it happened that as he was on his way to Jerusalem, he was passing through the middle of Samaria and Galilee. ¹²And as he was coming into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him, who stopped and stood at a distance. ¹³And they called out loudly, saying, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

¹⁴And when he saw this, he said to them, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And it happened that as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵And one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned and came back, praising God with a very loud voice. ¹⁶And he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, thanking him. And he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷So in response Jesus said, "Were there not ten cleansed? Where then are the other nine? ¹⁸Were none found to have come back to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

¹⁹And he said to him, "Get up and go your way; your faith has saved you."

²⁰And when he was questioned by the Pharisees as to when the kingdom of God was coming, he answered them as follows: "The kingdom of God does not show with careful observation, ²¹neither will people say, 'Behold, here,' or 'Behold, there.' For behold, the kingdom of God is within you."

²²And he said to the disciples, "Days are coming, when it is one of the days of the Son of Man you will long to see, and you will not have that experience. ²³And people will say to you, 'Behold, there!' or 'Behold, here!' Do not go, neither follow after *them*. ²⁴For just as lightning shines forth flashing from one end of the sky to the other, so shall it be with the Son of Man in his day. ²⁵But first he must suffer much at the hands of this generation and be rejected.

²⁶"And just as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man. ²⁷People were eating, drinking, marrying, being given in marriage, up until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all.

²⁸"It was just the same in the days of Lot. People were eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, building, ²⁹but the day that Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven, and destroyed them all.

³⁰"Along those lines will be the day in which the Son of Man is being revealed. ³¹In that day, if someone is on the roof, and his stuff is in the house, he should not go down to get it, and the one in the field should likewise not turn back around. ³²Remember Lot's wife. ³³Whoever tries to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses it will keep it alive. ³⁴I tell you, in that night there

will be two men on one couch; one will be taken, and the other left. ³⁵There will be two women together grinding grain; one will be taken, and the other left. ³⁶Two *men* shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left."

³⁷And they in response are saying to him, "Where, Lord?"

And he said to them, "Where the body is, there also the eagles will be gathered."

Luke Chapter 18

¹And he was speaking a parable to them, with the moral that they ought always to pray, and not to lose heart, ²as follows: "There was a judge in a certain city, who had no fear of God, and no regard for man. ³But there was a widow in that city, and she kept on coming to him, saying, 'Give me redress from my adversary.'

⁴"And for some time he had been refusing, but after all this, he said to himself, 'Even if I don't fear God, nor have regard for man, ⁵just because this widow is causing me trouble, I will avenge her, lest all her coming in the end wears me out.' "

⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust kind of judge was saying. ⁷So God, would he not bring about the avenging of his elect, who keep crying out to him day and night? And is he slow to respond to them? ⁸I tell you, he would bring about justice for them, in short order. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on the earth at all?"

⁹And also, to some, who were convinced within themselves that they were righteous, and looking down on everyone else, he told this parable: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee, and the other a revenue agent. ¹¹When the Pharisee stood, he was praying inside himself as follows: 'O God, I thank you that I am not like other people, who are swindlers, dishonest, adulterers, or indeed, like this revenue agent. ¹²I fast twice a week, I tithe of everything I get.'

¹³"But the revenue agent, standing a distance off, was not even willing to lift his eyes toward heaven, but was beating his chest, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.'

¹⁴"I tell you, this latter went down to his house justified, rather than the former. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹⁵And people were bringing little children to him, so that he would touch them. But when the disciples saw this, they started rebuking them. ¹⁶But Jesus called them over to him, saying, "Allow the children to come to me, and stop preventing them, for of such is the kingdom of God.

¹⁷Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will certainly not enter it."

¹⁸And a certain ruler queried him as follows: "Good teacher, with what done will I inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹And Jesus said to him, "Why are you calling me good? No one is good, except God alone. ²⁰The commandments you know: Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not give false testimony, Honor your father and mother."

²¹And he said, "All these I have kept since childhood."

²²And when Jesus heard this, he said to him, "There is still one thing lacking with you. Everything you have, sell and hand out to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven, and then come follow me."

²³But hearing these *words* made him very sad, for he was extremely wealthy. ²⁴And when Jesus saw this, he said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to go into the kingdom of God. ²⁵Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for the rich to enter into the kingdom of God."

²⁶And those who heard said, "Who then CAN be saved?"

²⁷And he said, "Things impossible with human beings are possible with God."

²⁸And Peter said, "Behold, we have left behind our own things to follow you."

²⁹And he said to them, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or siblings or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰who will not receive back many times as much in this present time; and in the coming age, eternal life."

³¹And after having taken the twelve aside, he told them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be carried out. ³²For he will be handed over to the Gentiles, and be made fun of and mistreated and spit upon, ³³and after scourging him they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again."

³⁴And they understood none of these things. Indeed, this statement was hidden from them, and they did not realize the things being said.

³⁵And it happened that when he was drawing near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting beside the road, begging. ³⁶And when he heard the crowd going through, he was inquiring what this

was all about. ³⁷And they informed him that Jesus the Nazarene was passing by. ³⁸Then he cried out, saying, "Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me!"

³⁹And those leading the way were rebuking him, that he should be quiet. But he was shouting that much more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰And after stopping, Jesus ordered that he be brought to him. And when he had come near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹"What do you want me to do for you?"

And he said, "Lord, that I could see again."

⁴²And Jesus said to him, "See again; your faith has saved you." ⁴³And at once he saw again, and he was following him, giving glory to God. And all the people also, when they saw, gave praise to God.

Luke Chapter 19

¹And he entered, passing on through Jericho. ²And behold, there was a man called by the name of Zacchaeus, and he was a revenue officer, and he was rich. ³And he was trying to see who Jesus was, but was prevented by the crowd, since he was short in stature. ⁴And after running on forward ahead, he climbed up onto a sycamore tree, so that he could see him, for he was about to pass that way.

⁵And when Jesus arrived to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Hurry down, Zacchaeus, for today I need to stay at your house."

⁶And he hurried down, and took him in gladly. ⁷And all who had seen this were complaining, saying, "He has gone in to stay the night with a sinful man."

⁸And Zacchaeus stood up, *and* said to the Lord, "Look, one half of all I possess, Lord, I am giving to the poor, and where I have defrauded anyone of anything, I am making restitution threefold."

⁹And Jesus said in reference to him, "Today, salvation has come to this house, in view of the fact that this man too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost."

¹¹And as they were listening to these things, he included *and* spoke another parable, because he was drawing near to Jerusalem, and they thought that the kingdom of God was about to be appearing shortly. ¹²He said therefore, "A certain man well born journeyed off to a far country,

to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. ¹³Now after calling ten of his servants, he had given to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business until such time I return.'

¹⁴"But his subjects hated him, and they sent ambassadors behind him saying, 'We do not want this man to be king over us.'

¹⁵"And it happened that when he returned, he had received the kingship. And he ordered his servants to be summoned to him, those to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had earned.

¹⁶"So the first one came, reporting as follows: 'Lord, your mina has grown to ten minas.'

¹⁷"And he said to him, 'Well *done*, good servant. Since with a little you have proven faithful, be therefore ruler over ten cities.'

¹⁸"And the second one came, saying, 'Your mina, Lord, has become five minas.'

¹⁹"So he said to that one, 'And you, you shall be over five cities.'

²⁰"And the other one came, saying as follows: 'Lord, here is your mina, which I have been keeping laid away in a napkin. ²¹For I was afraid of you, since you are a demanding man; you collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'

²²"He says to him, 'By your own mouth I judge you, you wicked servant. You knew, did you, that I am a demanding man, collecting what I did not deposit, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and I having returned would collect it with interest?' ²⁴And to some standing there he said, 'Take the mina away from him, and give it to the one who has ten minas.'

²⁵"And they said to him, 'Lord, he **has** ten minas!'

²⁶"I tell you, to everyone who has, it will be given, but the one who has not, even such that he has will be taken away from him. ²⁷But as for my enemies, those who had not wanted me to be king over them, bring them here, and slay them in front of me.'"

²⁸And having said these things, he was pressing his way onward, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹And it happened that as he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent away two of his disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, in which as you are entering you will find a colt tethered, upon which no one has ever yet sat, and you are to untie it and bring it. ³¹And if someone asks you, 'Why are you untying it,' say this, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³²And when the ones who were sent went, they found things just as he had told them. ³³And as they were untying the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

³⁴And they said, "The Lord needs it."

³⁵And they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing garments of theirs on the colt, they mounted Jesus upon it. ³⁶And as he was proceeding along, people were spreading their cloaks in the road beneath.

³⁷And having come near now to the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole company of disciples started rejoicing, to lift God up with a loud voice for all the miracles that they had seen. ³⁸They were saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes
in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest!"

³⁹And some Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher! Rebuke your disciples!"

⁴⁰And he in answer said, "I tell you, if these go silent, the stones will cry out."

⁴¹And as he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴²saying, "If you, yes ironically you, had only known what would bring you peace on this very day! But now it is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³For the days will come upon you that your enemies will throw a palisade up against you, and encircle you, and press in on you from every side, ⁴⁴and throw you to the ground, you and your children within you, and there will not be left within you a stone upon a stone, in retribution for the fact you did not recognize the time of your gracious visitation."

⁴⁵And when he had entered the temple, he proceeded to drive out the vendors, ⁴⁶telling them, "It is written, 'And my house shall be a house of prayer,' but you have made it 'a haunt of bandits.'"

⁴⁷And he was teaching daily in the temple. And the chief priests and the Torah scholars, along with the leaders of the people, were trying to kill him. ⁴⁸Yet they were not finding any way they could do it, because the entire crowd was hanging on him, listening to him.

Luke Chapter 20

¹And it happened during one of those days of his teaching the crowd in the temple and preaching the good news, that the high priests and Torah scholars and elders came up, ²and they said to him as follows: "Tell us, by what authority are you doing these things? Or, who is the one who gave you the authority for these things?"

³And in answer Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you something, that you must tell me:
⁴John's baptism, was it from heaven, or from human beings?"

⁵So they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' ⁶But if we say, 'From human beings,' all the people will stone us, because they are convinced that John was a prophet."

⁷And they professed not to know where it was from. ⁸And Jesus said to them, "Neither am I telling you by what authority I do these things."

⁹And he began to speak this parable to the crowd: "A man planted a vineyard, and leased it out to tenant-farmers, and journeyed away for quite some time. ¹⁰And in the time *of harvest*, he sent a servant to the tenants, so they could pay him rent out of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants, after beating him, sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he proceeded to send a another servant; and that one also, after beating and insulting him, they sent away empty-handed. ¹²And he proceeded to send a third; and that one also they threw out, after injuring him.

¹³"So the owner of the vineyard said, 'What should I do? I will send my beloved son; maybe him, they will respect.'

¹⁴"But when they saw him, the tenants discussed it among themselves, saying, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance will be ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him outside the vineyard *and* killed him. "What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come, and he will kill those tenants, and he will give the vineyard to others."

And those who heard this said, "May it never be!"

¹⁷But he, after looking at them, said, "Why then is this written:

'A stone which the builders rejected,
this one has become the chief cornerstone'?

¹⁸Everyone who trips over that stone will be broken into pieces; upon whomever the stone falls, it will turn him into powder."

¹⁹And at that time, the Torah scholars and high priests wanted to lay their hands on him, yet they were afraid of the people. For they knew that he had spoken this parable in reference to them.

²⁰And beginning to watch him closely, they sent spies presenting themselves as sincere, in order to catch some statement of his, such that they could hand him over to the jurisdiction and authority of the governor.

²¹And they questioned him as follows: "Teacher, we know that you talk straight, and you teach straight; that is, you do not acknowledge personage, but only on the basis of truth you teach the way of God. ²²Is it permissible for us to pay the tribute tax to Caesar, or not?"

²³But he perceived their trickery, *and* said to them, ²⁴"Show me a denarius. Whose image does it bear, and whose inscription?"

And they said, "Caesar's."

²⁵And he said to them, "Well then, Caesar's things give back to Caesar, and God's things to God."

²⁶And they were not able to catch him in a saying in the presence of the people; and having been astonished by his answer, they remained silent.

²⁷Then some of the Sadducees approached (Sadducees say there is no resurrection), and they questioned him ²⁸as follows: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us, 'If a man's brother dies having a wife, and that *deceased* is childless, that the man should take the wife of his brother, and raise up descendants for his brother.'

²⁹"Well, there were seven brothers. And the first one, who had taken a wife, died childless. ³⁰And the second one ³¹took her, and the third one, and in fact, all seven in the same way, left behind no child, and died. ³²Last of all, the woman also died.

³³"So the woman, in the resurrection, whose wife is she going to be? For all seven had her as wife."

³⁴And Jesus said to them, "The children of this age marry and are given in marriage; ³⁵but those considered worthy to taste of that age and of the resurrection from the dead, will neither marry nor be given in marriage, ³⁶nor will they be able to die any more, for they will be like the angels and be children of God, since they are children of the resurrection.

³⁷"But that the dead are rising, even Moses intimated so, at the part about the bush, the way he says Yehovah is the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸Now God is not the God of dead people, but of living for to him all *of those* are alive."

³⁹And one of the Torah scholars said in response, "Teacher, well said."

⁴⁰Indeed, no longer did any of them dare to question him. ⁴¹So he said in reference to them, "How do they maintain the Messiah to be the son of David? ⁴²For David himself says in the scroll of the Psalms,

'Yehovah said to my Lord:

"Sit at my right hand

⁴³until such time I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet."

⁴⁴So, David calls him Lord. How then is he his son?"

⁴⁵And with the entire crowd listening, he said to the disciples, ⁴⁶"Beware of the Torah scholars, wanting to walk around in robes, and loving the greetings in the marketplaces, and chief seats in the synagogues, and places of honor at banquets; ⁴⁷they devour the houses of widows, and for a front, make lengthy prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."

Luke Chapter 21

¹And when he looked up, he saw rich people putting their gifts into the donation chest. ²Then he saw a penniless widow dropping there two lepta, ³and he said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all the rest. ⁴For they all put in their gifts out of the extra they had, but she out of her lack put in all she had to live on."

⁵And as some of them were talking about the temple, how with such beautiful stones and gifts it was adorned, he said: ⁶"These things that you are looking at, days will come in which there will not be left a stone upon a stone that will not be thrown down."

⁷And they questioned him as follows, "Teacher, so when will these things be, and what sign will happen when they are all about to take place?"

⁸And he said, "See to it that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am He,' and, 'The Lord is near.' Do not go off after them. ⁹So when you hear of wars and unrest, do not be alarmed; for these things need to happen first, but the end does not come immediately."

¹⁰Then, he was saying to them, "Nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, ¹¹and there will be mega-quakes, and famines and epidemics in various places, and frightful and awesome signs from heaven.

¹²"But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, handing you over to synagogues and prisons, being led all the way up to kings and governors for the sake of my name; ¹³it will work out for you to be a testimony. ¹⁴Put it in your hearts therefore, not to be practicing *how* to answer in defense; ¹⁵for I will give you utterance and wisdom that none of those opposing you will be able to stand against or rebut.

¹⁶"But you will also be turned in by parents and siblings and relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷And indeed you will be hated by everyone because of my name. ¹⁸Yet not a hair of your head will perish: ¹⁹by your enduring, you will gain your lives.

²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then you will know that her desolation is near. ²¹Then, those in Judea should flee to the mountains, and those within Jerusalem should get without, and those in the fields should not go into her. ²²For those are days of vengeance, in fulfillment of all that is written. ²³Alas for the ones who are pregnant, and the ones giving milk during those days! For it will be a great calamity upon the land, and wrath toward this people. ²⁴And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be taken captive to all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled over by Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are played out.

²⁵And there will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars, and on earth anxiety of the nations, in uncertainty over the roar and surge of the sea, ²⁶people holding their breath in fear and anticipation because of the things overtaking the world; for the forces of space will be shaken.

²⁷"And then at that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud, with power and great glory. ²⁸So when these things are beginning to take place, stand yourselves tall and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹And he spoke a parable to them: "Consider the fig tree, indeed all the trees. ³⁰When they are now putting forth leaves, you see for yourselves *and* know that summer is now near. ³¹So also you, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you: this age will by no means pass away until this all has taken place. ³³Sky and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

³⁴"But watch yourselves, that your hearts not be held back by over-indulgence and drunkenness, and by ordinary concerns of this mortal life, and that day come upon you suddenly ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon everyone who lives over the face of the whole earth. ³⁶So you must be watchful at all times, praying that you might manage to avoid all these things about to come to pass, and stand before the Son of Man."

³⁷And he was spending the days teaching in the temple, and the nights he was going out and lodging on the hill called the Mount of Olives. ³⁸And all the people would get up early to come to the temple and hear him.

Luke Chapter 22

¹And the Festival of Unleavened Bread, called Passover, was approaching, ²and the chief priests and the Torah scholars were still yet looking for a way to put him to death, because they were still yet fearing the people.

³Then Satan entered into Judas, the one called Ish Keriot, who was one of their number, of the Twelve. ⁴And he went away, and discussed with the chief priests and the commanders of the temple guard how he might hand him over to them. ⁵And they were delighted, and contracted to give him silver. ⁶And he accepted, and was looking for the best time for handing him over to them, without the crowd.

⁷And the day of Unleavened Bread arrived in which it was customary to slaughter the Passover. ⁸And he sent Peter and John, saying, "Go, prepare the Passover for us so we can eat it."

⁹And they said to him, "Where do you want us to prepare it?"

¹⁰And he told them, "Behold, at the point of your arriving into the city a man carrying a water jar will encounter you. Follow him to whatever house he goes into. ¹¹And say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' " ¹²And that person will show you a large upstairs room all furnished. You shall prepare it there." ¹³So when they went, they found things just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁴And when the hour had come, he reclined, and the twelve disciples along with him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "It is with great longing and anticipation I have wanted to eat this Passover with you before my suffering. ¹⁶For I tell you: I will certainly not eat it *again* until such time it has been fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷And after taking hold of the cup, he gave thanks, and said, "Take this, and share it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you: By no means will I drink of the fruit of the vine from this point on until such time the kingdom of God has come."

¹⁹And after taking the bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, being given for you. This you should do as a commemoration of me."

²⁰And the cup after the meal in the same way, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, being poured out for you."

²¹"But lo, the hand of the one betraying me is with mine on the table. ²²Therefore indeed the Son of Man is going out exactly as is planned. Even so, woe to that man through whom he is betrayed!"

²³And they began to debate with each other which of them therefore might be the one about to do this.

²⁴Then there also arose another dispute among them, as to which of them was considered to be greater.

²⁵And he said to them, "The kings of the nations lord it over them, and those exercising authority over them are called 'benefactors.' ²⁶But not so with you. Rather, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the leader as the one who serves. ²⁷For who is greater: the one reclining, or the one serving? Is it not the one reclining? Among you though, I am as the one serving.

²⁸"But you are the ones who have stuck with me through my trials; ²⁹and I am assigning to you a kingdom, just as my Father did to me, ³⁰such that you will eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit upon thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has obtained permission to have you all, to sift you all like wheat. ³²But I have prayed for you, that your faith will not completely die. And you, when you have come back around, strengthen your brothers."

³³But he said to him, "Lord, I am prepared to go with you both to prison and to death."

³⁴But Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter: the rooster will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me."

³⁵And he said to them, "When I sent you without purse, knapsack and sandals, did you lack anything?"

And they said, "Nothing."

³⁶Then he said, "But now, he who has a purse should bring it, or a knapsack likewise, and he who does not have a sword, should sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷For I tell you, this which is written has to be fulfilled in me:

'And he was considered
one of the outlaws.'

Yes indeed, that about me is reaching fulfillment."

³⁸So they said, "Lord, look. There are two swords here."

And he said to them, "That is enough."

³⁹And after going out, he proceeded as was his custom to the Mount of Olives; and his disciples followed him also. ⁴⁰And coming upon the place he said to them, "Pray not to come into temptation." ⁴¹And he withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away. And having dropped his knees, he was praying, ⁴²as follows: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. However, not my will, but yours be done." ⁴³And an angel from heaven appeared to him, strengthening him. ⁴⁴And being in agony, he was praying more earnestly; and his sweat became like drops of blood falling onto the ground.

⁴⁵And after rising from prayer and returning to the disciples, he found them sleeping, out of sorrow. ⁴⁶And he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray, that you not go into temptation."

⁴⁷While he was yet speaking, behold, a crowd, and the one called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. And he came up to Jesus, and kissed him. ⁴⁸But Jesus said to him, "Judas, with a kiss you betray the Son of Man?"

⁴⁹And seeing what was going to be happening, those around him said, "Lord, shall we strike with swords?" ⁵⁰And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear.

⁵¹But in response Jesus said, "Let that be enough of that." And he touched his ear and healed him.

⁵²Then, toward those coming against him, the chief priests, temple officers and elders, Jesus said, "As though after a bandit, you have come out with swords and clubs? ⁵³Every day with me being next to you in the temple you didn't lay your hands on me. But this is the hour for you, and the authority of darkness."

⁵⁴And after seizing him, they took him and led him into the house of the high priest; and Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵And since people had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and were all sitting together, Peter was sitting among them. ⁵⁶But a maidservant noticed him sitting toward the fire, and after studying him, she said, "This man also was with him."

⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "I don't know him, woman."

⁵⁸And shortly thereafter, another person who saw him was saying, "You are also one of them."

And Peter was saying, "Man, I am not."

⁵⁹And after about an hour had passed, someone else was affirming, saying, "Definitely, this man **was** also with him; he is also Galilean."

⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately as he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. ⁶¹And the Lord turned and looked at Peter, and he remembered the statement of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶²And he went off outside, and bitterly wept.

⁶³And the men guarding Jesus were making fun of him as they beat him up. ⁶⁴After blindfolding him, they were asking him, "Prophecy, who is it that hit you?" ⁶⁵And they were saying many other insulting things against him.

⁶⁶And as the day broke, the elders of the people and the high priests and the Torah scholars were assembled, and they brought him over into their Sanhedrin, ⁶⁷saying, "Tell us whether you are the Christ."

And he said to them, "If I told you, you would certainly not believe, ⁶⁸and if I asked questions, you would certainly not answer. ⁶⁹Nevertheless, from now on, the Son of Man will be sitting at the right hand of the power of God."

⁷⁰So they all said, "You are the Son of God then?"

And he was saying to them, "You are saying that I am."

⁷¹And they said, "What more need do we have for witnesses? For we ourselves have heard from his own mouth."

Luke Chapter 23

¹And the whole assembly of them got up, and they took him before Pilate. ²And they began to accuse him, as follows. "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be a king himself, the Christ."

³So Pilate examined him, saying, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

And he in answer to him was saying, "You are the one saying that."

⁴And Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis in this man for capital punishment."

⁵But they were getting more insistent, saying, "He incites the people, teaching throughout the entire land of the Jews, starting from Galilee and all the way to here."

⁶And when Pilate heard this, he asked, "Is the man a Galilean?" ⁷And when he had confirmed that he was in fact from Herod's jurisdiction, he referred him to Herod, who was in Jerusalem too for those days.

⁸Now Herod was very glad when he saw Jesus. He had been wanting for some time to meet him, because of hearing about him, and he hoped to see something miraculous happening through him. ⁹So he was plying him with a considerable amount of questions; but Jesus never gave any response at all. ¹⁰And the chief priests and the Torah scholars were standing there throughout, vehemently accusing him.

¹¹Then Herod, together with his soldiers, after treating him with contempt and mocking him by draping a splendid robe around him, sent him back to Pilate. ¹²Which caused Herod and Pilate to become friends with each other that same day (for they had previously always been hostile toward each other).

¹³And Pilate summoned the high priest, together with the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and he said to them, "You have brought this man up to me as someone inciting the people to treason, and here now is my finding after trying him in your presence. I have found in this man no basis for the charges you are bringing against him. ¹⁵And neither has Herod, for he has sent him back to us. So you see, nothing being done by him is worthy of death. ¹⁶Therefore, having scourged him, I will release him." ¹⁷Now he was obligated by custom according to the festival to release one person to them.

¹⁸But they all together shouted back, saying, "Away with this man! Release to us Barabbas!" ¹⁹(He was someone who had been thrown in prison because of a certain uprising and murder that took place in the city.)

²⁰But Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, called out to them again. ²¹But they cried out, saying, "Crucify him, crucify him!"

²²But a third time, he said to them, "Why? What crime has this man committed? Having scourged him therefore, I will release him."

²³But with loud shouts the crowd kept urgently demanding that he be crucified. And their shouts prevailed, ²⁴and Pilate decided to grant their request. ²⁵And he released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one whom they had asked for, and Jesus he handed over to their will.

²⁶And as they led him away, they seized a Cyrenian, Simon, who was returning from the country, and they placed the cross on him, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷And a great multitude of the people were following him, and women who were mourning and lamenting him.

²⁸But Jesus turned to them, and he said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children. ²⁹For behold, days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰At that time they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Now two others, criminals, were also being taken with him to be executed. ³³And when they came to the place called The Skull [סֵלֶה], there they crucified him, along with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots, for dividing out his clothing.

³⁵And the people stood there, watching. Now the rulers were also there, sneering at him, saying, "He saved others; he should save himself, if this is the one chosen the Christ of God."

³⁶And the soldiers, when they were approaching bringing him vinegar, also made fun of him. ³⁷They also were saying, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

³⁸Now there was also a notice inscribed above him: "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

³⁹And one of the criminals hung there was deriding him, saying, "If you really are the Christ, save yourself and us."

⁴⁰But in response the other one was rebuking him, saying, "Don't you fear God at all, considering that you yourself are in this same judgment? ⁴¹And we indeed justly; for we have gotten back what was fitting to how we have lived. But this man, he has done nothing wrong."

⁴²And then he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

⁴³And Jesus said to him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in Paradise."

⁴⁴And it was now about noon, and darkness came across the whole land until 3:00 p.m., ⁴⁵for the sun was darkened.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶And crying out with a loud voice, Jesus said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." And after he had said this, he expired.

⁴⁷Now the centurion when he saw what had happened, was giving glory to God, by saying, "This really must have been a righteous man."

⁴⁸And all the crowds who had gathered around for this spectacle, when they observed what took place, they were turning away, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed with him from Galilee, stood off at a distance throughout, watching these things.

⁵⁰And behold, there was a council member named Joseph, who was a good and righteous man ⁵¹(he was not going along with their decision and actions), from Arimathea, a city in Judea, who was looking forward to the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³And when he had taken it down he wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a hewn-out tomb, which no one was lying in yet. ⁵⁴And it was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was coming on.

⁵⁵Now some women had followed close behind, which were the ones who had come with him from Galilee. They observed the tomb, and how his body was interred. ⁵⁶Then when they returned home, they prepared spices and perfumes. And for the Sabbath though, they did rest, in keeping with the commandment;

Luke Chapter 24

¹but at the crack of dawn on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. ²But they found the stone had been rolled away from the tomb.

³And when they went inside, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴And it happened that as they stood hesitating about this, behold, two men appeared to them, in gleaming robes.

⁵And when terror came over them, such that they had bowed their faces down to the ground, the *men* said to them, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here, but is risen! Recall how he spoke to you while still in Galilee, ⁷saying that the Son of Man must be transferred into the hands of sinful mortals, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

⁸And they did recall his statements. ⁹And when they returned from the tomb, they related all these things to the Eleven and to all the rest.

¹⁰Now it was the Magdalene Mary, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and the others with them who were telling these things to the apostles; ¹¹and these statements appeared to them as nonsense, and they did not believe them.

¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb, and after stooping down, he sees only the linen bandages. And he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

¹³And behold, that same day, two of them were on their way to a village named Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴And these two were conversing with each other about the outcome of all these things.

¹⁵And it happened, that they are in conversation, and Jesus himself has come up, walking along with them. ¹⁶Their eyes, however, were being restrained, so as not to recognize him.

¹⁷And he said to them, "What is this discussion you are having with each other as you walk along?" And they came to a stop, looking dismal.

¹⁸And in response, the one named Cleopas said to him, "Are you just visiting Jerusalem, and unaware of the things happening in it during these days?"

¹⁹And he said to them, "What things?"

And they said to him, "The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet powerful in deed and in word, in the eyes of both God and all the people; ²⁰how the chief priests and our rulers handed him over for the sentence of death, and how they crucified him. ²¹And here we had been hoping he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, he is already spending his third day *in the grave* since when these things took place.

²²"And not only that, now some of our women have confounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and not finding his body, they came back, claiming also to have seen a vision of angels, which were maintaining that he was alive. ²⁴So some of our number went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see."

²⁵And he said to them, "O you thick headed, and slow of heart to believe on all the things the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Were not these things required for the Christ to suffer in order to go on into his glory?" ²⁷And beginning with Moses, and through all the prophets, he interpreted for them the things in all the writings that were about himself.

²⁸And they came near to the village to which they were going, and he pretended to go on farther. ²⁹And they urged him insistently, saying, "Lodge with us, because it is near evening, and the daylight is almost gone." And he went inside, to lodge with them.

³⁰And it came about that as he reclined with them, he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and was distributing it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he disappeared from them.

³²And they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us as he talked to us on the road, as he explained the scriptures to us?" ³³And after rising up that very hour, they returned to Jerusalem, and found the Eleven and those with them all gathered together, ³⁴who

were saying that the Lord really was risen, and had appeared to Simon. ³⁵And then the former were recounting the events on the road, and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

³⁶And while they were speaking these things, he stood in the midst of them, and he is saying to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷But alarmed they were, and terrified, thinking they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled? And for what reason are doubts arising in your hearts? ³⁹Behold my hands and my feet, that I am me. Touch me, and know, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see me having." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

⁴¹But, since they were still not believing, out of joy and astonishment, he said to them, "What do you have to eat in this place?" ⁴²So they handed him a piece of broiled fish. ⁴³And he took it, and ate it in front of them.

⁴⁴And he said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, how all the things written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then at that time he opened their minds to understand the scriptures.

⁴⁶And he said to them, "This is what is written: the Christ was to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And I am sending my Father's promise down upon you. So you are to stay put in the city until such time you are endued with power from on high."

⁵⁰Then he led them outside, as far as Bethany. And after lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹And it happened that as he was blessing them, he parted from them, and was taken up into heaven.

⁵²And they, after worshiping him, returned back to Jerusalem with great rejoicing. ⁵³And throughout those days they were continually at the temple, praising God.

The Acts of the Apostles

Acts Chapter 1

¹I made my previous account, O Theophilus, about all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, ²up until the day he was taken up, after he had given orders through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen; ³to whom also he showed himself to be alive, following his suffering, by many convincing proofs (being seen by them over a period of forty days) and telling them things about the kingdom of God.

⁴And convening them around himself, he ordered them: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which you have heard about from me. ⁵For John baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit, not many days from now.”

⁶When therefore they were gathered together, they queried him, saying, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷And he said to them, “It is not for you to know the times and the seasons, which the Father has placed within his own authority; ⁸but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses, both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and out to the farthest part of the earth.” ⁹And after he had said these things, he was lifted up away while they were watching. And a cloud removed him from their view. ¹⁰And as he was going, they were concentrating intently into the sky, and behold! Two men dressed in white clothing had been standing beside them.

¹¹And they said: “Men of Galilee, why are you standing looking intently into the sky? This same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven will come in the same manner in which you saw him go into heaven.”

¹²At that time they went back into Jerusalem, from the hill called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s walk away. ¹³And when they got back inside *the city*, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Halphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴These all with one mind were devoting themselves persistently to prayer, along with the women, including Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers.

¹⁵And during those days Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren, (altogether the company of persons was about 120). He said, ¹⁶“Brethren, it was necessary for that scripture to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus, ¹⁷because he was numbered among us and obtained one share of this ministry.” ¹⁸(This man therefore had bought himself a field out of the payment from unrighteousness, and after falling headlong, he burst open in the middle, and all his intestines spilled out. ¹⁹And it became known to everyone living in Jerusalem, so that the

field is called in their language, “Hakeldama.” This means “Field of Blood.”) ²⁰“For it is written in the book of Psalms: ‘Let his settlement be desolate, and be in it no inhabitant,’ and, ‘Let his position be taken by someone else.’ ²¹So then, it must be out of the men who have been with us during the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John all the way until the day he was taken up from us; one of those who were witnesses of his resurrection with us.”

²³And they nominated two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus; and Matthias.

²⁴And getting down in prayer, they said, “You, Lord, are knower of all hearts. Reveal which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to receive this place of ministry and apostleship, from which Judas turned aside to go to his own proper place.”

²⁶And they cast lots over them, and the lot fell to Matthias. And he was added in with the eleven apostles.

Acts Chapter 2

¹And when it was time for the Day of Pentecost, they were all together in one place, ²and suddenly there came the sound of words from heaven as if being carried by a swirling wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting, ³and there appeared to them tongues of flame, dividing apart, just as if a fire, and it came to rest on each one of them, ⁴and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

⁵Now there were Jews staying in Jerusalem who were devout men from all the nations under heaven. ⁶And as the sound of this was produced, a crowd gathered on, and they were captivated, because each one was hearing them speaking in his own particular language. ⁷And they were astonished, and marveling, saying, “Behold, these people speaking, are they not all Galileans? ⁸So how are we each hearing them in our own particular language in which we were born? ⁹Parthians, Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia; Jews also from Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia; ¹⁰both Phrygia and Pamphylia; Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; and Romans who are visiting, ¹¹both Jews and proselytes; Cretans and Arabs; we hear them telling the mighty deeds of God in our own tongues!” ¹²And they were all stunned and struggling. Some were saying to each other, “What does this mean?”

¹³But others were saying with scorn, “They are full of new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter stood forward, along with the Eleven, and he lifted up his voice, and spoke out boldly to them: “Fellow Jews, and all of you staying in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and take heed to my words. ¹⁵For these people are not drunk, as you are thinking, since it is the third hour of the day. ¹⁶But rather this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ‘And it will be, in the last days,’ God says,
‘I will pour out of my spirit onto all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters will prophesy,
and your young will see visions,
and your older will dream dreams;

¹⁸and onto both my male servants and my female servants
I will pour out from my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.

¹⁹And I will provide wonders in the heaven above,
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and a smoky mist;

²⁰the sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood
before that great and terrible Day of the Lord is come.

²¹And it will be, that whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

²²”Men of Israel, listen to these words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man commended to you from God by powerful deeds and wonders and signs, which God performed through him in your midst, as you yourselves know, ²³this man, who was handed over according to the established plan and foreknowledge of God, you lifted up, to be nailed by the hand of Torah-less men, ²⁴him God has raised again, breaking the bonds of death, since it was never possible for him to be held by it.

²⁵For David says regarding him,

‘I have foreseen the Lord going before me through it all.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

²⁶For this reason my heart was cheered,
and my tongue did rejoice,
and my flesh also will now dwell in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon my soul in Hades,
nor will you assign your holy one to see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life.
You will fill me with joy with your company.’

²⁹Brothers, I venture to say with certainty to you about the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb remains among us to this day. ³⁰But because of being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn to him with an oath that fruit of his loins would sit on his throne, ³¹it was in reference to the resurrection of the Messiah he spoke, with foresight, that He was not abandoned in Hades, nor did His flesh see decay. ³²This man Jesus, God has raised to life, to which we all are witnesses. ³³Having been exalted then to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which

you are seeing and hearing. ³⁴For David did not ascend to heaven, yet he says, ‘Yehovah said to my Lord: Sit at my right hand, ³⁵until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’ ³⁶Therefore let all the house of Israel know for a certainty, that the one whom you crucified, God has made that same Jesus both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷And when they heard this, they were shocked. And they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized each one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. And you will receive for yourselves the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is to you, and to your children, and also to everyone far off, however many the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰With many other words also, he was solemnly testifying, and urging them, saying, “You must be saved from this perverse generation.” ⁴¹The ones therefore who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand souls were added during that day.

⁴²And they were devoting themselves continually to the teaching of the apostles, and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers. ⁴³And an awe came into every soul, and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all the believers were together, and possessing everything in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their property and possessions, and distributing the proceeds to everyone, according to whomever had the need. ⁴⁶And every day they were as one mind, devoting themselves constantly in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, sharing food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷praising God, and having favor in the eyes of all the people. And the Lord was adding to the assembly daily those who were being saved.

Acts Chapter 3

¹Now Peter and John went up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer, ²and a man lame from his mother’s womb was being carried, whom they would place daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so he could ask for charity from those going into the temple; ³who when he saw Peter and John about to enter the temple, he asked to receive charity. ⁴And Peter, after studying him together with John, said, “Look at us.”

⁵So he was holding his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them.

⁶And Peter said, “Silver and gold, I have none. But what I do have, this I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” ⁷And he gripped him by the right hand and lifted him. And his feet and ankles were instantly strengthened, ⁸and springing up, he stood, and started walking around. And he went into the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and they recognized him, that this was the man usually sitting at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to ask for charity,

and they were filled with amazement and wonder over what had happened to him. ¹¹And as he kept holding on to Peter and John, all the people ran together toward them in admiration, at the gate called Solomon's Gate.

¹²But when Peter saw this, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why are you marveling over this, and why are you looking upon us as if our own power or godliness caused him to walk again? ¹³The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over to and disowned before the face of Pilate. He had made the judgement to release him, ¹⁴but you rejected the holy and righteous one, and asked that a murderer be released on pardon to you, ¹⁵and you killed the architect of life, whom God has raised from the dead, to which we all are witnesses. ¹⁶And it is on the basis of faith in his name, Jesus' name, that this man whom you see and know has been made firm, and this faith, which is through that Jesus, has given this man complete healing in front of you all.

¹⁷So now, brothers, I realize it was because you were unaware, that you acted so, and likewise your leaders. ¹⁸But in this way were fulfilled the things God had foretold through the mouths of all the prophets— that his Anointed had to suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn yourselves around, so that your sins be wiped away, ²⁰so that times of refreshing may come from having access to the Lord, and he send the pre-appointed Messiah to you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must take in until the time of the restoration of all things, about which God has spoken through the mouths of his holy prophets since long ago.

²²For indeed Moses said to our fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren. To him you must take heed, in accordance with everything he says to you, ²³and it will be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly cut off from among the people.' ²⁴And in fact all the prophets from Samuel and those in succession, as many as have spoken, have also predicted these days. ²⁵You are the heirs of the prophets, and of the covenant which God set in place with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And through your seed will all the families of the earth be blessed.' ²⁶God, having now raised up his servant, has sent him to you, blessing you first, in order to turn each of you from your wicked ways."

Acts Chapter 4

¹And as they were talking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees pressed upon them, ²all worked up because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead, ³and they put their hands on them and placed them under guard until morning (for by then it was evening). ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men was about 5,000.

⁵And the next morning an assembly of the leaders and elders and Torah scholars was convened in Jerusalem, ⁶including Hananiah the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and

Alexander, and all the ones who were relatives of the high priest. ⁷And after they had stood them in their midst, they were inquiring, “By what power or what name did you do this?”

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Leaders of the people, and elders of Israel, ⁹If we are on trial for a good deed done to a lame man, as to by what means he was healed, ¹⁰be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that in this name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God has raised from the dead, in that *name* this man is presented before you healthy. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that you builders rejected; he has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²And salvation is not in anyone else, for there is not even another name under heaven given among man by which we must be saved.”

¹³Now when they observed the confident speech of Peter and John, and considered the fact that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed. And they recognized them, that they had been with Jesus. ¹⁴And as they saw that the man who was with them was standing, the one who had been healed, they had nothing to say to refute them. ¹⁵And after ordering them to go outside the Sanhedrin, they were conferring with one another, ¹⁶saying, “What shall we do with these men? For to be sure, a notable sign has happened through them, well known to everyone living in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷But, so it does not spread to the people any further, let us warn them with a threat, not to speak any more in this name to anyone.” ¹⁸And after summoning them, they gave them orders not to utter at all, nor to teach in, the name of Jesus.

¹⁹But in response Peter and John said to them, “Whether it is right in God’s eyes to obey you rather than obey God, you decide. ²⁰Because for us, it impossible not to tell the things we have seen and heard.”

²¹But they threatened them further, and then released them, having found no way to punish them, because of the people. For they were all praising God over what had happened. ²²For the man on whom this sign of healing had happened was over forty years old. ²³So being released they went to their own people and reported what things the chief priests and elders had said to them.

²⁴And who when they heard, they with one mind lifted up their voice to God, and said, "Master, you who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all the things that are in them, ²⁵you said by the mouth of our father David your servant, through the Holy Spirit, 'Why have the nations raged, and the peoples devised vain things? ²⁶The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers assemble together against the Lord and against his Anointed.' ²⁷They have in fact assembled in this city against your holy servant Jesus whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the nations and the assemblies of Israel, ²⁸to do those things which your hand and your design have fore-ordained to happen. ²⁹And now, Lord, look upon their threats, and give to all your servants the ability to speak your word with boldness, ³⁰by

stretching forth your hand so that curing and signs and wonders will happen through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹And as they were making this request, the place in which they were assembled was shaken, and they all were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ³²Now the hearts and souls of the multitude of those who had believed were one, and no one said any of his possessions were his own, but instead were held in common for every one of them. ³³And with great power the apostles gave the testimony about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. ³⁴For not even one among them was needy. Because whoever of them were owners of lands or houses, they were selling, and they would bring the proceeds of the things that were sold, ³⁵and donate it at the feet of the apostles. Then it was distributed to each person, according as anyone had the need.

³⁶Thus it was that Joseph, who was nicknamed Barnabas by the apostles (which when translated is Son of Encouragement), a Levite, Cypriot by birth, ³⁷who was the owner of a field, he sold it and brought the proceeds and donated it at the feet of the apostles.

Acts Chapter 5

¹Then a man named Hananiah, together with his wife Saphira, sold some property, ²and part of the proceeds he secretly set aside for himself (his wife also aware) and part of it he brought to the feet of the apostles and donated.

³And Peter said, “Hananiah, why has Satan emboldened your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and secretly set aside for yourself part of the proceeds from the field? ⁴Was not the field yours, and after it was sold, the proceeds still within your rights *to keep*? What happened, that put this issue in your heart? It was not to people that you lied, but to God.”

⁵And after Hananiah heard these words, he fell down dead. And great fear gripped all those who were listening. ⁶And the young men got up, and when they had wrapped him, they carried him out and buried him. ⁷And there was an interval of about three hours, and then his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸And Peter responded to her, “Tell me, was this how much you sold the land for?”

And she said, “Yes, this much.”

⁹And Peter said to her, “What happened, that you *two* were united to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who buried your husband are at the door. They will also carry you out.” ¹⁰And she immediately dropped near his feet and died. And when the young men came in, they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her next to her husband. ¹¹And great fear came over the whole assembly, and over all those who heard these things.

¹²And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were happening among the people, and they were regularly at the Portico of Solomon with one accord. ¹³But none of the rest dared to be seen with them. (Though the people thought highly of them.)

¹⁴Even so, more believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women; ¹⁵with the result that they also brought out their sick into the streets and placed them on pallets and mats, in case if Peter came by even his shadow might pass over one of them. ¹⁶And the multitude from the cities surrounding Jerusalem also collected there, carrying the sick and those being tormented by unclean spirits, who were healed, all of them.

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all those with him, which was the sect of the Sadducees. They were filled with jealousy, ¹⁸and they put their hands on the apostles and placed them in custody publicly. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, and led them out, and said, ²⁰ “Go, stand in the temple, and speak to the people all the words of this life.”

²¹They took heed, and at about dawn they went into the temple, and were teaching. And when the high priest and those with him had opened for business, they called together the Sanhedrin and all the senate of the sons of Israel, and sent *men* to the jail to have them brought. ²²But when the attendants got there, they found they were not in the prison, and went back and reported, ²³saying, “We found the jail locked up securely and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened it, we found no one inside.”

²⁴And as the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they were completely at a loss as to what might become of it all. ²⁵Then someone came and reported to them, “Behold, the men you had put in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.” ²⁶At that time the captain went out, along with the attendants, and brought them, not with force, because they were afraid of the people, not wanting to be stoned.

²⁷And they brought them and stood them in the Sanhedrin. And the high priest interrogated them, ²⁸saying, “We very strictly charged you not to teach in this name, and behold you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. And you intend to bring upon us this man’s blood.”

²⁹And in answer Peter and the apostles said, “We ought to obey God rather than humans. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him to a tree. ³¹This man God has exalted to his right hand as Ruler and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses of these matters, as is also the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³And those hearing this were enraged, and began planning to kill him. ³⁴But a certain man in the council stood up, a Pharisee by the name of Gamaliel, a teacher of the law respected by all the people. And he ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men, Israelites, take heed to yourselves over these men, what you intend to do. ³⁶For prior to

these days, Theudas had risen up, declaring himself to be someone, to whom a number of men attached themselves, about four hundred. He was killed, and all who obeyed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After that, during the days of the registration, Judas the Galilean rose up and drew away people after him. That man also perished, and all who obeyed him were scattered. ³⁸And the ones now, I am telling you, stand back from these men, and leave them alone. Because if this argument is of man, or this effort, it will come to an end. ³⁹On the other hand, if it is of God, you will not be able to stop them. You might even be found acting as opponents of God.”

With that they obeyed him. ⁴⁰And they called for the apostles, and beat them, and ordered them not to speak on the name of Jesus, and released them. ⁴¹They as a result were proceeding from the presence of the Sanhedrin rejoicing that they were considered worthy to be despised for the sake of that name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple, and from house to house, they never ceased teaching and preaching the Messiah Jesus.

Acts Chapter 6

¹Now during those days, with the number of disciples having multiplied greatly, there arose some grumbling from the Greek speakers toward the Hebrew speakers, that their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ²Then the Twelve called the multitude of the disciples to them, and said, “It is not fitting that we abandon the word of God to minister in money matters. ³So, brothers, search out seven men of you who are witnessed to be full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint over this office; ⁴whereas we will be devoted to prayer and service of the word.”

⁵And this word was pleasing before all the multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte from Antioch. ⁶Whom they set before the apostles. And they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God grew, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem multiplied greatly. A large crowd of the priests also was coming to obey the faith. ⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great signs and wonders among the people.

⁹But some men stood up, debating with Stephen, men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, ¹⁰and they were not able to withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he was speaking. ¹¹Then they secretly instigated some men to say, “We have heard him speaking blasphemous things against Moses and against God.” ¹²And that stirred up the people, and the elders, and the Torah scholars. And having stood ready nearby, they seized him and took him to the Sanhedrin. ¹³They also had arranged false witnesses, who were now saying, “This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law. ¹⁴For we have heard him saying that this Jesus the Nazarene will destroy this place and change the customs that Moses handed down to us.” ¹⁵And

everyone sitting in the Sanhedrin who watched him saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Acts Chapter 7

¹Then the high priest said, “Are these things true?”

²And he said, “Brothers and fathers, listen: The glorious God appeared to our father Abraham while he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, ³and He said to him, ‘Leave your country and your relatives, and go to whatever country I will show you.’

⁴At that time he left Chaldea, and lived in Haran. And then, after his father died, God removed him to this country in which you now live. ⁵Yet he did not give him tenure in this country, not even a foothold, yet promised to give it for a possession to his seed after him, this while he had no child. ⁶But God spoke this: ‘Your seed will be aliens in the country of others, who will enslave them and treat them badly for 400 years. ⁷And whatever nation enslaves them, I will judge,’ said God, ‘and after those things they will come out, and will worship me in this place.’

⁸And He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and thus Abraham begat Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day, and Isaac Jacob, and Jacob the twelve patriarchs. ⁹And the patriarchs, out of jealousy, sold Joseph off to Egypt. Yet God was with him. ¹⁰And He rescued him from all his troubles, and gave him favor and wisdom in the eyes of Pharaoh king of Egypt, who made him ruler over Egypt, and over his entire household.

¹¹But a famine came over all of Egypt and Canaan, and great suffering, and our fathers were not finding food. ¹²So when Jacob heard there was bread in Egypt, he sent our fathers out the first time. ¹³And during the second time, Joseph allowed himself to be recognized by his brothers, and his race became evident to Pharaoh.

¹⁴So Joseph sent word inviting his father to come, Jacob and the whole clan, 75 souls in all, ¹⁵and Jacob went down to Egypt. And he and our fathers died, ¹⁶and were transferred to Shechem and laid in the tomb which Abraham had bought with a payment in silver from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

¹⁷Now just as the time was drawing near for the promise which God had declared to Abraham, the people grew in strength and were multiplied in Egypt, ¹⁸until such time another king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. ¹⁹This man dealt shrewdly with our race. He mistreated our fathers, causing their newborn babies to be thrown out, so they would not survive.

²⁰At which time Moses was born, and he was very good looking. For three months he was nurtured in the house of his father. ²¹Then when he was put out, Pharaoh's daughter took him and raised him as her own son. ²²And Moses was trained in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was powerful in his words and his deeds.

²³But when he reached 40 years old, it came upon his heart to go check on his brothers the sons of Israel. ²⁴And when he saw one being injured he defended him, and he got vengeance for the one getting the worse, by striking the Egyptian. ²⁵Now he thought his brothers would understand that God would give salvation to them through his hand. But they did not understand. ²⁶And on the following day he appeared to some of them, who were fighting, and he attempted to reconcile them in peace saying, “Men, you are brothers. Why are you injuring each other?”

²⁷But the one injuring his neighbor pushed him away, saying, “Who appointed you ruler and judge over us? ²⁸Do you intend to kill me the same way you killed that Egyptian yesterday?”

²⁹And with this said, Moses fled. And he became an alien camping out in Midian, where he begat two sons. ³⁰And when he was forty years old, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the desert of Mount Sinai, in the flame of a burning thorn bush.

³¹And Moses saw it and was marveling at the vision. As he approached it therefore to investigate, there came the voice of the Lord: ³² ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.’ But Moses started to tremble and dared not look.

³³And the Lord said to him, ‘Remove the sandals from your feet; because the place on which you are standing is holy ground. ³⁴I have looked, I have seen the ill treatment of my people in Egypt, and I have heard their groans, and I have come down to rescue them. And now, you come; I will send you to Egypt.’

³⁵This Moses, the one they had denied saying, ‘Who appointed you ruler and judge;’ this man God sent as ruler and redeemer by means of the angel appearing to him in the bush. ³⁶This man led them forth, performing wonders and signs, in Egypt and in the Red Sea, and in the desert for forty years. ³⁷This is the Moses who said to the sons of Israel, ‘God will raise up a prophet for you like me out of your brothers.’ ³⁸This is the one who was present in the congregation in the desert, who was with the angel speaking to him in Mount Sinai, and who was with our fathers. He who received living oracles to give to us. ³⁹To whom our fathers refused to be obedient, but pushed him away, and turned their hearts toward Egypt, ⁴⁰saying to Aaron, ‘Make gods for us that will go before us. Because this Moses who led us out of Egypt, we do not know what happened to him.’ ⁴¹And they moulded a calf in those days, and led a sacrifice up to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

⁴²And God turned away, and gave them up to worship the heavenly bodies, just as it is written in the scroll of the prophets: ‘Have you presented Me slaughtered animals and sacrifices for forty years in the desert, O house of Israel? ⁴³Yet you carried around the booth of Moloch, and the star of your god Saturn. The images which you made, you worshiped them. I therefore will deport you beyond Babylon.’

⁴⁴The tent of testimony was there for our fathers in the desert, just as the one speaking had directed Moses to make it according to the model which he had seen. ⁴⁵Which then our fathers had passed on to them, and they with Joshua, took it into the land possessed by the nations whom God drove away from the face of our fathers until the days of David. ⁴⁶Who found favor before God and asked to find a tent for the God of Jacob.

⁴⁷But it was Solomon who built a house for him. ⁴⁸But the Most High does not dwell in hand-made things. As the prophet says, ⁴⁹'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my foot-stool. What kind of house will you build for me?' says the Lord, 'or what place for my rest? ⁵⁰Has not my hand created all these things?'

⁵¹O you stiff-necked people, and uncircumcised in hearts and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. Just as your fathers were, so are you. ⁵²Which of the prophets have your fathers not persecuted? And they killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One, of whom you now are become the betrayers and murderers. ⁵³Who have received the law by the direction of angels, and not kept it."

⁵⁴Now those hearing these things had been seething inside, and grinding their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But he, being filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed intently into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶And he said, "Look! I can see heaven open, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

⁵⁷But they howled loudly while plugging their ears, and with one accord charged upon him, ⁵⁸and when they had cast him outside the city, they proceeded to stone him. And the witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹And as they stoned Stephen, he was calling out, and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he dropped to his knees, and cried out with a loud voice: "Lord, do not hold these sins against them." And after he said these things, he died.

Acts Chapter 8

¹And Saul was in agreement with his killing. Then there occurred at that time a great persecution against the congregation at Jerusalem, and they all became scattered over the territories of Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles. ²But some devout men recovered *the body of* Stephen, and made a great lamentation over him.

³Meanwhile Saul was ravaging the church, entering house to house, dragging off both men and women and handing them over to prison. ⁴But those who were scattered consequently passed through preaching the word. ⁵Thus Philip, having gone down to a city of Samaria, preached Christ to those people.

⁶And those crowds, when they heard, and saw the signs he was performing, with one mind took heed to the things that were spoken by Philip. ⁷For many had unclean spirits, which were

coming out with loud shrieks, and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸And so there was great joy in that city.

⁹Now there was a man in that city named Simon who had been practicing sorcery and astonishing the nation of Samaria, declaring himself to be someone great. ¹⁰To whom all would pay attention, from the small to the great, saying, "This is what you call the great power of God." ¹¹And they were paying attention to him because it was for quite a while he had been astonishing them with his sorceries. ¹²But when they believed what Philip had preached about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were getting baptized, both men and women. ¹³And Simon himself also believed, and after he was baptized, he was staying close to Philip, and when he saw the great signs and miracles that were happening, he was astonished.

¹⁴And when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had welcomed the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵who went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶For He had not yet fallen upon even one of them. They were baptized ones, but baptized only in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷Then at that time, they laid their hands on them, and they did receive the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given by the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹saying, "Give me this authority also, so that whoever I lay my hands on receives the Holy Spirit."

²⁰But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you presumed to buy the gift of God with money! ²¹There is no part or place for you in this preaching, because your heart is not pure before God. ²²Repent therefore of this evil of yours, and petition of the Lord if the intent of your heart will be forgiven. ²³For I see you being with a root of bitterness and the bondage of unrighteousness."

²⁴And in response Simon said, "Pray to the Lord on my behalf so that none of what you said will befall me."

²⁵When therefore they had given solemn testimony, they also returned to Jerusalem speaking the word of the Lord, evangelizing even more Samaritan villages.

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying: "Get up, and go down southward on the road that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is desert.)

²⁷And he got up and went, and behold, an Ethiopian man, who was an official eunuch of the Kentake (the queen of the Ethiopians), in charge of all her finance. He had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸and was going back home. And he was sitting on his chariot, and reading the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and meet this chariot."

³⁰So Philip ran up to him. And he heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and said to him, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

³¹And he said, “How would I truly be able to, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip up, to sit with him.

³²And the passage of scripture he was reading was,

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter.

And as a lamb before the shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³In his meekness his right was taken away.

Who will describe his generation?

For his life is being removed from the earth.”

³⁴So in response the eunuch said to Philip, “I ask you please, about whom is the prophet saying this? About himself? Or about someone else?”

³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with that very scripture, told him all the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were proceeding along the road, they came upon some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, water. Is there anything forbidding me to be baptized?”

³⁸And he ordered the chariot to stop, and the two went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹And when they had come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip up, and the eunuch saw him no more. He sure was rejoicing as he went on his way.

⁴⁰Then Philip was found in Azotus, and he preached the gospel to all the towns as he passed through, until he arrived at Caesarea.

Acts Chapter 9

¹Now Saul was still breathing threats of murder against the disciples of the Lord. And he approached the high priest, ²and obtained letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, to the effect that anyone he found belonging to The Way, both men and women, he could bind them and bring them to Jerusalem. ³When therefore he was on his way, it happened, that as he was getting close to Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven shone all around him, ⁴and he fell to the ground. He heard a voice. It was saying to him, “Shaul, Shaul, why are you persecuting me?”

⁵And he said, “Who are you, Lord?”

And He said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.”

⁶Then, trembling and awe-struck, he said, “Lord, what do you want me to do?”

And the Lord said to him, “Arise and go into the city, and it will be told you what you are to do.”

⁷Now the men who were travelling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice, but not seeing anyone. ⁸Then Saul got up off the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing. So leading him by the hand, they took him into Damascus. ⁹And he went three days without seeing, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus by the name of Hananiah, and the Lord spoke to him in a dream, “Hananiah.”

And he said, “Here I am, Lord.”

¹¹And the Lord said to him, “Get up, go to the street called Straight Street, and inquire in the house of Judas for a man named Saul of Tarsus. For behold, he is praying, ¹²and in a vision he has seen a man named Hananiah come in and lay hands on him so that he would see again.”

¹³But Hananiah answered, “Lord, I have heard from many people about this man, what bad things he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and he has authority here from the high priest to bind all those who are called by your name.”

¹⁵And the Lord said to him, “Go. For this man is to me a choice vessel to bear my name before the Gentiles, and even before kings, and before the sons of Israel as well. ¹⁶Indeed I will show him what things he himself is destined to suffer for the sake of my name.”

¹⁷So Hananiah went, and came into the house. And he placed his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you in the road on which you came—so that you may see again, and so you may be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell off his eyes, and he saw again, and he rose up and was baptized. ¹⁹And after receiving food, he gained strength. And he was with the disciples in Damascus a few days, ²⁰and then immediately began preaching Jesus in the synagogues, saying “This is the Son of God.”

²¹And those hearing were amazed, and saying, “Is this not the man who ravaged those in Jerusalem connected to this name? Was this not also the reason he had come here, to take them chained up before the chief priests?”

²²And Saul was getting stronger and stronger, and confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus, proving that this man was the Messiah. ²³And after many days *of this* had gone by, the Jews conspired to kill him. ²⁴But their plan was made known to Saul. Now they were also keeping a close watch on the gates, both by day and by night, so as to kill him. ²⁵So the

disciples took him away at night by way of the wall instead. They lowered him down in a basket.

²⁶And when he arrived in Jerusalem, he kept trying to join with the disciples, and everyone was afraid of him, not believing he was a disciple. ²⁷But Barnabas came beside him, and led him to the apostles, and recounted to them how the Lord had appeared to Saul on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how in Damascus Saul had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus.

²⁸So he was with them at Jerusalem going in and out, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord, ²⁹both speaking to and debating with the Greek-speaking Jews. They however were taking steps to kill him. ³⁰And when the brethren found out, they took him to Caesarea, and assigned him out to Tarsus.

³¹Then the church throughout all of Judea, Galilee and Samaria had peace, and it was strengthened. And proceeding in the fear of the Lord and the assurance of the Holy Spirit, it was growing in numbers.

³²Now it happened that as Peter was going through all those areas, he went to be with the saints that were living in Lydda. ³³And he found there a man by the name of Aeneas, who was paralyzed, lying in bed for eight years. ³⁴And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ is healing you. Get up and make your bed.” And he got up immediately. ³⁵And everyone living in Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

³⁶And in Joppa there was a disciple by the name of Tabitha, which when translated means Dorkas. This woman was wholly occupied with the good works and charitable giving that she was doing. ³⁷And it came about that during those days she became ill, and died. And after they washed her, they placed her in the upper room. ³⁸And since Lydda was close to Joppa, and the disciples heard that Peter was in that town, they sent two men to him, begging him, “Please come to our town without delay.”

³⁹So Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, they led him up into the upper room. And all the widows came forward, weeping, showing him the coats and garments that Dorkas had made when she was with them. ⁴⁰But Peter put everyone outside, and he got down on his knees, and prayed. Then he turned toward the body, and said, “Tabitha, get up.” And she opened her eyes. And when she saw Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹And lending her a hand, he lifted her up, and called the saints and widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴²And this became known throughout all of Joppa, and many believed on the Lord. ⁴³And it came about that Peter stayed on for a considerable number of days in Joppa, with a tanner, Simon.

Acts Chapter 10

¹Now a man in Caesarea by the name of Cornelius, the centurion of the cohort called The Italian Cohort, ²a devout and God-fearing man along with his whole household, who was doing many charitable deeds for the Jewish people, and praying to God continually, ³saw distinctly at about the ninth hour of the day in a vision, that an angel of God had come in to him, and who said to him, “Cornelius.”

⁴And Cornelius looked upon him, and became very afraid, and said, “What is it, Lord?”

And he said to him, “Your prayers and your deeds of charity have gone up as a memorial before God. ⁵And now, send men to Joppa, and invite a Simon to come to you who is nicknamed Peter. ⁶This man is staying as a guest with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea.”

⁷So when the angel speaking to him had left, he called two of his house servants from among those who attended him, plus a devout soldier, ⁸and after recounting it to each one of them, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹The next day, as those men were walking the road and getting close to the city, Peter went up onto the roof to pray, around the sixth hour. ¹⁰Then he became very hungry, and wanted to eat. And while they were preparing it, a trance came over him, ¹¹and he sees heaven being opened, and then a container coming down, something like a giant bedsheet tied at the four corners, being lowered to the earth. ¹²In it were all the four-footed animals, and all the things that creep on the ground, and all the birds of the sky.

¹³And there came a voice to him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.”

¹⁴But Peter said, “Certainly not, Lord. Because never have I ever eaten anything common or unclean.”

¹⁵And the voice spoke again to him, a second time: “What God has made clean you must not call unclean.”

¹⁶Now this happened three times; and then the container was immediately taken up into heaven. ¹⁷Then, as Peter was puzzling inside himself as to what might be the meaning of the vision he had seen, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius had asked directions to the house of Simon, and they stood at the gate. ¹⁸And they called out, asking if Simon who was nicknamed Peter was staying as a guest there. ¹⁹And as Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men who are looking for you. ²⁰Get up instead, and go downstairs, and leave with them, not questioning anything, since I have sent them.”

²¹So Peter went down and said to the men, “Here I am, the one you are looking for. What is the reason you are here?”

²²And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a righteous man and fearing God, and vouched for by the whole Jewish nation, he has been directed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear some words from you.” ²³He invited them inside therefore as his guests.

And the next morning he got up and left with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴And the following day he came into Caesarea. And since Cornelius was expecting him, he had called together his relatives and his close friends. ²⁵And it happened that as Peter was entering, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet and worshipped him.

²⁶But Peter lifted him up saying, “Stand up. I myself am also a human being.”

²⁷And as he was talking with him he went inside, and finds many people gathered. ²⁸And he said to them, “You know full well how it is unlawful for a Jewish man to join with or visit someone of another race. Yet God has shown me to call no human being common or unclean. ²⁹This then is the reason I came without objection to the summons. I ask therefore, what is the reason you have summoned me?”

³⁰And Cornelius said, “Four days ago to this hour, I was in my house praying, at the ninth hour, and behold, a man in radiant clothing stood before me. ³¹And he said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been answered, and your deeds of charity have gone up as a memorial before God. ³²Send therefore to Joppa and call for Simon who is knick-named Peter. This man is staying as a guest in the house of Simon the tanner, by the sea.’ ³³Right away then I sent men to you, and you on your part did well getting here. Now therefore, we all are present before God, to hear all the things told to you by the Lord.”

³⁴Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, “I truly understand now, that God is not a discriminator of faces, ³⁵but that a person of any nation who fears him and works at righteousness is acceptable to Him. ³⁶This is the word which He sent to the sons of Israel, that announces peace through Jesus Christ: This man is the Lord of everyone.

³⁷You know the thing that happened throughout the whole land of the Jews, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached, ³⁸the man from Nazareth, Jesus, how God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and power, who traveled around doing good and healing all those oppressed by the Devil, because God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and Jerusalem; whom then they killed by hanging him to a tree. ⁴⁰This man God raised up on the third day, and granted him to be visible; ⁴¹not to all the people but to witnesses chosen beforehand by God; to us, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to solemnly testify that this man is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify: that all who believe on him are to receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon everyone who was listening to the word. ⁴⁵And those believers who were of the Circumcision, who had come with

Peter, were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon Gentiles also. ⁴⁶For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

Then Peter responded: ⁴⁷“Can anyone forbid water baptism to these people, who received the Holy Spirit just as we did?” ⁴⁸And so he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for several days.

Acts Chapter 11

¹Now those apostles and brothers who were living throughout Judea, they heard that Gentiles had also received the word of God. ²And when Peter went up to Jerusalem, they began to argue against him, those who were of the Circumcision.

³They were saying, “You have gone indoors with uncircumcised men, and you ate with them!”

⁴So Peter began explaining to them step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa, praying, and in a trance, I saw a vision: a container, something like a giant bedsheet, being let down out of heaven by its four corners, and it came close to me. ⁶When I looked inside, I recognized and saw the four-footed animals of the earth, and the wild beasts, and the creeping things, and the birds of the sky. ⁷And then I heard a voice saying, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’

⁸But I said, ‘Certainly not, Lord. Because never has anything common or unclean ever gone into my mouth.’

⁹The voice came back a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean you must not call unclean.’

¹⁰And this happened three times, then it was all pulled back into heaven. ¹¹And behold, right then three men stood at the house in which I was staying, sent from Caesarea to me. ¹²And the Spirit said to me, ‘Go with them, not questioning anything. And these six brothers went with me also, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³Then he related to us how he saw an angel who had stood in his house and had said, ‘Send to Joppa and summon Simon who is knick-named Peter, ¹⁴who will speak words to you by which you and all your household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And so, as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶Then I remembered the statement of the Lord. As he said, ‘John baptized in water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If therefore God has given them the same gift as to us when we also believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to have been able to hold back God?”

¹⁸And after they heard these things they calmed down, and they glorified God, saying, “So, even to Gentiles, God has granted repentance unto life.”

¹⁹Those then who had been scattered as a result of the persecution in connection to Stephen, they had gone as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, generally speaking the word to no one except Jews only. ²⁰But there were a few of them, Cypriot and Cyrenian men, who had gone into Antioch speaking to Greeks as well, preaching the good news about the Lord Jesus.

²¹And the hand of the Lord was with them, and the number of those who believed and turned to the Lord was large.

²²And the report about them was heard as far as the ears of the congregation that was in Jerusalem, and they assigned Barnabas out to Antioch. ²³Who, when he arrived and saw the blessedness that is from God, was glad, and exhorted them all to continue in the Lord with determination in their hearts. ²⁴For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and faith. And a great number of people were brought to the Lord. ²⁵Then he went away to Tarsus, to look for Saul, ²⁶and when he found him he brought him to Antioch. And so it came about that, for a whole year they joined forces to work with that congregation, and to teach a considerable throng of people. It was also in Antioch the disciples were first called “Christians.”

²⁷And during those same days some prophets came down to Antioch from Jerusalem. ²⁸And one of them by the name of Agabus indicated through the Spirit that a great famine was going to take place over the whole inhabited earth. Which did take place during the reign of Claudius Caesar. ²⁹Then the disciples determined, according to the extent each of them was prospering, to send money in support to the brethren living in Judea. ³⁰And this they did, sending it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Acts Chapter 12

¹Now around that time, King Herod arrested some from the church, and mistreated them. ²And James the brother of John he put to death by the sword. ³And when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews, he went on to hunt down Peter also (and it was during the days of Unleavened Bread), ⁴whom he then arrested and put in prison, delivering him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each, intending after Passover to bring him out before the people.

⁵While Peter was being kept in prison, prayer was earnestly being made by the church on his behalf to God. ⁶And when Herod was just about to bring him up, that very night before, Peter was sleeping chained between two soldiers by two chains, with guards also in front of the door watching the prison. ⁷And behold, an angel of the Lord stood over him, and light shone in the room. And he tapped on the side of Peter’s body and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his wrists.

⁸Then the angel said to him, “Get dressed and put on your sandals.” And Peter did so. And the angel says to him, “Throw your cloak on and follow me.”

⁹And Peter was following him outside, not knowing, that what was happening through the angel was real. He thought he was seeing a dream. ¹⁰So after passing by the first guards, then the second, they were at the iron gate that leads out to the city. Which opened for them by itself. And they got outside, and when they had gone one block, the angel pulled away from him.

¹¹And Peter came to himself, and said, “Now I truly know, that the Lord has sent out his angel, and plucked me out of Herod’s hand and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”
¹²And once he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of the John whose other name was Mark, which was where a lot of those convened and praying were. ¹³And he knocked on the door of the courtyard, and a maidservant by the name of Rhoda came out to answer, ¹⁴and when she recognized Peter’s voice, from her joy she did not open the gate but ran inside and reported Peter to be standing at the gate.

¹⁵And they said to her, “You’re crazy.” But she kept insisting it was true. So then they were saying, “It’s his angel.”

¹⁶But Peter kept knocking. And when they opened the gate they saw him, and were astounded. ¹⁷And he waved his hand downward for silence, and recounted to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. Then he said, “Report these things to James and the brothers.” And he left and went to another location.

¹⁸Now when morning came, there was no small anxiety among the soldiers as to what had happened to Peter. ¹⁹And Herod conducted a search for him, and when he did not find him he interrogated the guards, then ordered them off to be executed, and went down to Caesarea, spending some time away from Judea.

²⁰Now Herod had become angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. So they made a joint appearance before him, and after they had first won Blastus over to their cause, the man in charge of the king’s bedroom, they sued for peace. This was because their region was dependent upon the food crops from the royal farms. ²¹And on the day appointed, Herod dressed in the royal robes and sat at the tribunal, and delivered a speech before them. ²²And the crowd began raising a cheer: “The voice of a god, and not of a man!” ²³But an angel of the Lord struck him on the spot, because he did not give the glory to God. And he was eaten by worms, and died.

²⁴Now the word of God was spreading, and winning over more and more people. ²⁵And Barnabas and Saul returned, having fulfilled their mission at Jerusalem, and they brought with them John whose other name was Mark.

Acts Chapter 13

¹Now among that congregation in Antioch there were prophets and teachers: both Barnabas and Simeon —the one called black Simeon— and also Lucius the Cyrenian; Manaen the foster brother of Herod the Tetrarch; and Saul. ²And while they were devoting themselves to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Now set apart Barnabas and Saul to me, for the work to which I have called them.”

³Then, after fasting and praying and laying their hands on them, they released them. ⁴Those two therefore, sent out by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to

Cyprus, ⁵and once they were in Salamis, were proclaiming the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. Now they also had John along as an assistant.

⁶And they traveled throughout the whole island, until they reached Paphos, where they encountered a man who was a magician and Jewish false prophet, whose name was Bar-Jesus, ⁷who was with the proconsul Sergius Paulus. This latter was an intelligent man, and he summoned Barnabas and Saul, desiring to hear the word of God. ⁸But Elymas the magician (for that is how his name is translated) kept working against them, always trying to steer the proconsul away from the faith.

⁹Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze straight at him, ¹⁰and said, "O you, full of all spicraft and every kind of fraud, you son of the devil, you opponent of all that is righteous, are you never going to stop distorting the right ways of the Lord? ¹¹And now behold, the hand of the Lord is against you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sun for a time."

And immediately there fell upon him a mist, and darkness, and he was going around looking for a guiding hand. ¹²At that time the proconsul believed, when he saw what had happened, completely amazed at the teaching about the Lord.

¹³Then, setting sail from Paphos, Paul and his companions came to Perga of Pamphylia; except for John, who parted from them and returned to Jerusalem. ¹⁴And they passed on through from Perga and arrived in Antioch of Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵And after the reading of the law and the prophets, the synagogue rulers sent word to them, saying, "Brothers, if there is among you any word of exhortation to the people, you may speak."

¹⁶So Paul stood up, and waving his hand downward for silence, he said, Men, Israelites, and those who fear God, please listen. ¹⁷The God of this people Israel chose our fathers, and he exalted the people during their sojourning in Egypt, and with a mighty arm led them out of it, ¹⁸and, for about forty years time he bore them in the desert, ¹⁹then after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he divided their land out to them as an inheritance, ²⁰all this over a period of about 450 years. And after those things, he gave them the judges, until Samuel the prophet.

²¹"And from then on they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish for 40 years, a man of the tribe of Benjamin. ²²And after removing him, he raised up David for them as king, about whom he also testified and said, 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will perform all my wishes.' ²³From the seed of that man, according to the promise, God brought to Israel a savior, Jesus, ²⁴with John having announced ahead of His appearance a baptism of repentance to all the people Israel.

²⁵"And as John was completing his run, he was saying, 'What are you surmising me to be? I am not the one. But behold, there is coming after me someone whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.'

²⁶"Men and brothers, sons of the race of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, the message of this salvation has been assigned over to us, ²⁷since those living in Jerusalem and their rulers, being ignorant of this and of the voices of the prophets which are read on every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning Him. ²⁸And even though they found no case for the death penalty, they asked Pilate to execute Him. ²⁹And when they had fulfilled all those things written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb.

³⁰"But God raised him up from the dead. ³¹Over a period of many days he appeared to those who had come up to Jerusalem with him from Galilee, those who are now witnesses of him to the people. ³²And we are announcing to you this good news: that the promise made to the fathers, ³³God has fulfilled that promise to us their children by raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm about him: 'You are my son. Today I have begotten you.'

³⁴"And that he raised him from the dead, to revert no more to decay, this is spoken: 'I will grant to you the sure blessings of David.'

³⁵"Pertaining to which also it says in another place, 'You will grant that your blessed one not see decay.'

³⁶"Now certainly: David fell asleep, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, and he was laid to rest with his fathers and he saw decay. ³⁷But the one whom God has raised, he did not see decay. ³⁸Be it known to you therefore, men and brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is being announced to you. ³⁹And of everything from which it was not possible to be justified through the Law of Moses, he who believes in this *man* is being justified.

⁴⁰"Take heed therefore, so that this which was spoken in the prophets not apply:

⁴¹"Watch, you scornful ones, and marvel, and perish.

Because I am accomplishing a feat in your days,

a feat which you would not believe

if someone were explaining it to you.' "

⁴²And when they went outside, some were inviting them to the next Sabbath, to speak these same words to them. ⁴³Then after the synagogue meeting had broken up many of the Jews and devout proselytes accompanied Paul and Barnabas, who, as they continued to speak to them, were prevailing upon them to continue with this grace of God. ⁴⁴Consequently on the following Sabbath, almost the entire city gathered to hear the word about the Lord.

⁴⁵But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy, and they were rebutting the arguments of Paul by denigrating him. ⁴⁶So Paul and Barnabas bluntly said, "It was mandatory that the word of God be spoken to you first. But since you are pushing it away and convicting yourselves not worthy of eternal life, behold: we turn to the Gentiles. ⁴⁷For the Lord has commanded us this: 'I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, salvation reaching the farthest part of the earth.'" ⁴⁸And the Gentiles listening were cheering, and praising the message about the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

⁴⁹So the message about the Lord was being carried throughout that whole region. ⁵⁰But the Jews stirred up the influential of the pious women along with the chief men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas. And they expelled them out of their borders. ⁵¹So they, after shaking the dust off their feet against them, were on their way to Iconium, ⁵²while the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Acts Chapter 14

¹And the same thing happened in Iconium. They went into the synagogue of the Jews and spoke in this same manner, with the result that a large number of both Jews and Greeks believed. ²As for those Jews who did not believe, they stirred up and embittered the souls of the Gentiles against the brothers.

³They then stayed however quite a while, speaking boldly on the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of his grace by granting signs and wonders to happen through their hands. ⁴But the multitude of the city became divided, and some were with the Jews and some were with the apostles. ⁵And when a campaign arose on the part of both the Gentiles and Jews with their leaders to assault and stone them, ⁶they heard about it, and fled to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and the surrounding country, ⁷and started evangelizing there.

⁸And a man was sitting in Lystra who was disabled in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who never at any time had walked. ⁹This man was listening to the preaching of Paul, who studied him, and knew that he had the faith to be healed. ¹⁰He said in a loud voice, "Stand up straight, on your feet!" And he jumped up, and was walking.

¹¹And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices in Lycaonian, saying, "The gods have come down to us, made like humans." ¹²And they were calling Barnabas Zeus, and Paul Hermes, since Hermes was the ruler of speech. ¹³And the priest of Zeus, who dwelt before the city, brought bulls and garlands to the gates, intending to join with the crowds to offer sacrifice.

¹⁴But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they ripped their clothing and rushed out into the crowd, crying out ¹⁵and saying, "Men, why are you doing this? We also are humans with the same frailties as you, preaching that you should turn from these worthless things to the God that is alive, the one who made the heaven, and the earth, and the sea, and everything that

is in them; ¹⁶who in the ages gone by has allowed all nations to go in their own paths; ¹⁷though he did not leave himself without evidence, acting good toward you, providing rain for you from the heaven and seasons bearing fruit, satisfying your hearts with food and good cheer."

¹⁸And saying these things just barely dissuaded the crowds from sacrificing to them. ¹⁹But some Jews arrived from Antioch and Iconium, and after winning over the crowds and stoning Paul, they dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead.

²⁰But the disciples circled around him, and carried him into the city. And the following day, he left for Derbe with Barnabas. ²¹And after evangelizing that city and making many disciples, they reversed their tracks through Lystra and through Iconium and through Antioch, ²²confirming the hearts of the disciples, exhorting them to persevere in the faith, seeing as how we must go through much tribulation into the kingdom of God. ²³And after appointing elders for them in each congregation, and praying for them with fasting, they handed them over to the Lord in whom they had placed their trust.

²⁴And when they had passed all the way through Pisidia they came into Pamphylia, ²⁵and after speaking the word in Perga they went down to Attalia, ²⁶and from there set sail for Antioch, for that is where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had completed. ²⁷So they presented themselves. When they had brought the congregation together, they were reporting what things God had done through them, and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. ²⁸And it was no small amount of time they were spending with those disciples.

Acts Chapter 15

¹And some who had come down from Judea had been teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ²So after much division and debate arose between those men versus Paul and Barnabas, they appointed Paul and Barnabas plus some others among them to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this question.

³They therefore were sent forth now by the assembly, passing through both Phoenicia and Samaria, telling all about the conversion of the Gentiles, and causing great joy among the brethren. ⁴And when they arrived in Jerusalem they were welcomed by the congregation and the apostles and the elders, and they reported the things God had done through them.

⁵But some from the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying it was necessary to circumcise them and to command them to keep the law of Moses. ⁶And the apostles and elders gathered together to deliberate about this issue.

⁷But after an intense debate occurred, Peter stood up, and he said to them, "Men and brothers, you know full well from the early days, that God chose in your presence Gentiles to hear by my mouth the word of the gospel and to believe, ⁸and God, the knower of hearts, has testified, in

that he gave the Holy Spirit to them also, just as to us, ⁹and he made no distinction between us and them, cleansing both of our hearts by means of faith. ¹⁰So why test God now by attempting to place upon the necks of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? ¹¹But rather we believe to be saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus, the same way also as they."

¹²Then the whole multitude was quiet and listening to Barnabas and Paul recounting at length what signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them.

¹³And after they had held their peace, James responded, saying, "Men, brothers, listen to me. ¹⁴Simeon has described how it was that God first turned his attention to obtain from the Gentiles people to his name. ¹⁵And this is in harmony with the words of the prophets, just as it is written:

¹⁶'After these things I will turn back around,
and raise again the fallen tent of David,
and rebuild the ruins of it and set it up aright.

¹⁷so the rest of humanity may seek the Lord,
even all the Gentiles upon whom my name is applied,
says the Lord, the one doing these things,
¹⁸known since long ago.'

¹⁹Therefore it is my judgment not to further dismay those from the Gentiles who are turning to God, ²⁰but to write to them to abstain from the pollutions of idols and sexual sins and strangled animals and blood. ²¹After all, Moses since ancient times has people proclaiming him in every city, reading him aloud in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

²²At that time, it seemed good to them, the apostles and elders, together with the whole church, to send select men from among them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas: Judas the one called Barsabbas, and Silas; leading men among the brothers, ²³having sent a letter by their hand: "The apostles and elders and brethren, to the brethren of the Gentiles of Antioch and Syria and Cilicia: Greetings. ²⁴Because we have heard that some men have troubled you with words, upending your souls, who came from among us but to whom we had given no such direction, ²⁵it seemed good to us, after coming to one accord, to send select men to you together with our beloved brothers Barnabas and Paul, ²⁶people who have dedicated their lives to the cause of the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁷Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, and they will be telling you by speech these same things: ²⁸for it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to place no burden upon you beyond these essentials: ²⁹to abstain from things sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from strangled animals, and from sexual sins. Keeping yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell."

³⁰Those men therefore when they were dismissed went down to Antioch, and after gathering the congregation together, they delivered the letter. ³¹And when they had read it, they rejoiced over its encouragement. ³²And Judas and Silas, both being prophets also themselves, encouraged the brethren with much speaking, and they strengthened them as well. ³³And after they had spent some time, they were released back from those brethren with a "Peace *be with you*" to the ones who sent them. ³⁵Paul and Barnabas, however, stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching the word about the Lord, along with many others.

³⁶Then some days later, Paul said to Barnabas, "Now let us go back and check on our brethren in all the cities in which we have announced the word of the Lord, to see how they are doing." ³⁷So, Barnabas was wanting to take John with them, also called Mark. ³⁸But Paul thought it better not to take this man along with them, who had withdrawn from them, and from Pamphylia onward had not continued with them in the work.

³⁹There was a disagreement therefore, so sharp, that they parted ways from each other. And Barnabas took Mark, to sail to Cyprus. ⁴⁰Paul however chose Silas, and went forth, committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, confirming those congregations.

Acts Chapter 16

¹Then he went over to Derbe and to Lystra. And behold, there was a disciple there by the name of Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who believed, but whose father was a Gentile. ²He was well spoken of by the brethren in Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted this man to journey with him, and he took him and circumcised him, because of the Jews living in those places. For they all knew that his father was a Gentile.

⁴So as they were going through the cities, they were delivering the decrees that had been decided for them to keep by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem. ⁵Those congregations were thus indeed being strengthened in the faith; and they were growing in number daily. ⁶And when they passed through the Phrygian and Galatian territory, they were prevented from speaking the word in Asia by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so they went along the border of Mysia, trying to go into Bithynia— and the Spirit would not let them. ⁸So they passed all the way through Mysia and went down to Troy.

⁹And during the night a vision appeared to Paul. It was a man of Macedonia standing, and he was pleading with him and saying, "Cross over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰So since he had seen that vision, we worked on leaving for Macedonia immediately, because we gathered that God had called us to evangelize them. ¹¹We set sail therefore from Troy, and made a straight run to Samothraiki, and the next day on to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which was the first city in the region of Macedonia, a Roman colony. And we continued in that city, spending some days.

¹³And on the Sabbath, we went outside the gate by the river, where we were expecting prayer usually to take place. And after sitting down, we were talking to the women who had gathered. ¹⁴And a woman of the city of Thyatira was listening, by the name of Lydia, a merchant dealing in purple cloth, who worshiped God. Whose heart the Lord opened so that she would take heed to the things being said by Paul. ¹⁵And after she and her household were baptized, she made an appeal as follows, "If you really have judged me to be a believer in the Lord, come stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

¹⁶And it happened that once when we were heading to prayer, a slave girl who had an oracle spirit came across us, who generated much income for her owners by her fortune telling. ¹⁷She continued to follow close after Paul and us, yelling and saying, "These men are servants of the most high God, who are announcing to you the way of salvation!" ¹⁸She kept doing this over a period of many days. And Paul was fed up, and he turned to the spirit and said, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out of her that very instant.

¹⁹Then when her owners saw that their hope of income was gone, they grabbed Paul and Silas, and dragged them into the public square before the authorities. ²⁰And when they moved them up to the magistrates, they said, "These men, who are Jews, are agitating our city, ²¹and they are proclaiming customs which are not permissible for us, being Romans, to either accept or to practice." ²²And the crowd rushed together onto them, and then the magistrates ripped off the clothing and ordered them to be beaten. ²³And after imposing many blows, they threw them in prison, and ordered the warden to keep them in high security; ²⁴who when he got such orders, he put them in the inner cell, and secured their legs in stocks.

²⁵And around midnight, Paul and Silas as they prayed were singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them attentively. ²⁶And suddenly there was an earthquake, so big, that it caused the foundation of the prison to shift, and all the doors to instantly open. Everyone's chains were released as well. ²⁷And when the warden woke up and saw that the doors of the prison were open, he drew his dagger, and was about to kill himself, figuring the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul called out in a loud voice, and said, "Do not harm yourself. We are all here." ²⁹So he ordered lights, and rushed inside. And he was trembling, and threw himself down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he led them outside, and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹And they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²And they spoke to him the word about the Lord, together with all those in his household. ³³Then he took Paul and Silas, washed *them* of their wounds, and got baptized on the spot, he and all his *household*, at that hour of the night. ³⁴And after leading them back into the house, he served a meal. And he and all his household were rejoicing, having believed in God.

³⁵And when it was daytime, the magistrates sent the sheriffs, saying, "Release those men."
³⁶So the prison warden declared these words to Paul, as follows: "The magistrates have sent orders that you be released. Now therefore, you may go in peace."

³⁷But Paul said to them, "They gave us a beating in public without due process of law, though we men are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now they are pushing us away quietly? Certainly not! On the contrary they shall come personally and escort us out." ³⁸So the sheriffs reported these statements to the magistrates. And when they heard that they were Roman citizens, they were afraid. ³⁹And they came and apologized to them. And they escorted them out, and asked them to go away from the city.

⁴⁰Now after getting out of prison, they went and stayed with Lydia. And they saw those brethren, and exhorted them, and moved on.

Acts Chapter 17

¹And when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And as was Paul's custom, he went in to them, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the scriptures, ³explaining and pointing out that the Messiah had to suffer, and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This man Jesus who I am telling you about, he is the Messiah." ⁴And some of them were persuaded, and attached themselves to Paul and Silas, including a great many of the Greek proselytes, and of the leading women not a few.

⁵But other Jews were jealous, and recruited some worthless men off the streets, and when they had formed a mob, they were putting the city in an uproar. And they assaulted the house of Jason, intending to bring them out to the people's assembly. ⁶But when they did not find them, they proceeded to drag Jason and some other brothers up before the magistrates, crying, "Those men who have overturned the whole inhabited earth, they have arrived here also; ⁷whom Jason has taken under his roof. And they all are acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, declaring someone else to be king— Jesus." ⁸Thus they riled up the crowd and the magistrates who were hearing these words. ⁹And after taking a bail bond from Jason and the others, they released them.

¹⁰Then the brethren sent Paul and Silas immediately away during the night to Berea. Once they were there, they were going daily into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹And these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica— they received the word with a completely open mind, each day examining the scriptures to see if they were there as described. ¹²Consequently many of them believed, and also some Greek women of high standing, and of the Greek men not a few.

¹³But when the Jews from Thessalonica found out that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul in Berea also, they came over there as well, agitating and stirring up the people. ¹⁴So

immediately at that time the brethren sent Paul away, to journey to the sea coast, while both Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵And those escorting Paul took him as far as Athens, and after receiving orders for Silas and Timothy that they should come join him with all speed, they left.

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for them in Athens, his spirit was getting stirred up within him, when he saw how rife with idols that city was. ¹⁷He therefore every day was holding discussions with the Jews and devout proselytes in the synagogues, and also in the public square with anyone who happened to be nearby. ¹⁸Thus some also of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began joining him. And some were saying, "Whatever is this blowhard trying to say?" And others said, "He seems to be a herald for foreign deities." (For he was announcing Jesus and the resurrection.) ¹⁹And they took hold of him and led him to the Hill of Aries, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is, the one being spoken by you? ²⁰For you are announcing some things that are strange to our ears. Therefore we wish to know what these things mean." ²¹For you see, all the Athenians, and also non-citizens visiting, would devote their spare time to nothing else than to speak or to hear anything that was new.

²²So Paul stood at the center of the Hill of Aries, and he said, "Men of Athens, I notice that you are thorough in religion. ²³For, as I was passing along and reviewing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, 'TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.' Now then, the one you venerate without knowing, that God I am proclaiming to you. ²⁴The God who created the world and everything in it, being Master of both heaven and earth, he does not settle in shrines made with hands. ²⁵Nor is he served by human hands as though he needed anything—he is the one who gives to all, life and breath, and everything else. ²⁶And he has made of one blood all nations of people, to dwell over the face of the whole earth, having marked off the predetermined time periods and boundaries for their habitation, ²⁷to see if they will seek after God, whether perhaps they will grope for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For in Him we live, and move, and have our being. As even one of your own prophets has said, 'We are his offspring.' ²⁹Since we are offspring of God then, we ought not to think that the divine nature is anything like gold or silver or stone, like an engraved work of art, and of human conception. ³⁰Though God indeed forbore the times of such ignorance, he now commands all people in all places to repent. ³¹Because he has set a day on which he is about to judge the world with righteousness by the man whom he appointed, giving assurance to everyone by raising him from the dead."

³²But some, when they heard resurrection from the dead, were scoffing, while others said, "We will hear from you on this again." ³²And with that Paul went out from their midst. ³³But some men joined up with him and believed; among whom was Dionysius—a member of the Hill of Aries; and a woman also, by the name of Damaris, plus others with them.

Acts Chapter 18

¹After these things, Paul departed from Athens, and went to Corinth. ²And he encountered a Jew by the name of Aquila, Pontic by birth, who had recently come from Italy along with his wife Priscilla, since Claudius had ordered all Jews to go away from Rome. Paul approached them, ³and because of being in the same trade, he stayed with them, and they were doing the work together, for they were tentmakers by trade. ⁴Except every Sabbath he would have a discussion in the synagogue, persuading both Jews and Greeks. ⁵But when both Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began restricting himself to the word, testifying solemnly to the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. ⁶But when they set themselves against him and were reviling him, Paul shook out his garments toward them, and said, "Your blood is on your own heads. I am clean. From now on, I am going to the Gentiles."

⁷And he left there, and entered the home of someone by the name of Titus Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house abutted the synagogue. ⁸Then Crispus, a leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his whole house, and many of the Corinthians hearing this were believing and getting baptized.

⁹And the Lord said to Paul during the night in a dream: "Do not be afraid, but speak, and not be silent. ¹⁰Because I am with you, and no one will lay hands on you to harm you, for in this city the crowd that is mine is large." ¹¹So he stayed put for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

¹²But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one mind rose up against Paul. And they took him to the tribunal, ¹³saying, "This man misleads the people, to worship God apart from the Law."

¹⁴And when Paul was about to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "O you Jews, if it were a case of intentional crime or a harmful misdeed, I would admit you; ¹⁵but if a dispute about a word or a term or a law specific to you all, you take care of that. I am not willing to be the judge of those things." ¹⁶And he expelled them from the tribunal. ¹⁷Then all the Greeks grabbed Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and were beating him right in front of the tribunal. And that mattered to Gallio not one bit.

¹⁸But Paul after remaining several more days with those brethren, bid them farewell, got his head shaved in Kengkreaia, keeping a vow, and then sailed away for Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila. ¹⁹But when they made landfall at Ephesus, Paul left them there, and went rather by himself into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews. ²⁰And when they asked him to stay with them additional time, he did not agree, ²¹but bid them farewell, and said, "I will swing back to you again if God wills."

He sailed away from Ephesus, ²²and arrived over at Caesarea, disembarked and greeted that church, then went down to Antioch, ²³and after spending some time, he left, and went through one place after another in the Galatian and Phrygian territory, strengthening all the disciples.

²⁴And a Jew by the name of Apollos, Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus, who was powerful in the scriptures. ²⁵This man was orally instructed in the way of the Lord. And burning with spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things about Jesus, knowing only the baptism of John; ²⁶and he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. And when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him and explained to him more accurately the way of God.

²⁷And when he wanted to go into Achaia, he was encouraged by the brethren, who wrote to those disciples to welcome him. When he was there, he was contributing much to those who through grace had believed; ²⁸for he was thoroughly refuting the Jews in view of all, proving by the scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah.

Acts Chapter 19

¹And it came about that while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the inland districts and arrived in Ephesus. And he found some disciples, ²and he said to them, "When you believed, did you receive the Holy Spirit?"

But they answered, "We have not even heard there is a Holy Spirit."

³And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?"

And they said, "Into John's baptism."

⁴And Paul said, "John baptized a baptism of repentance, telling the people they should believe the one coming after him. That 'one' is Jesus."

⁵So those who heard this were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶And when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they were speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷And they were about 12 men in all.

⁸And Paul was speaking boldly when he went into the synagogue, reasoning and persuading about the things of the kingdom of God, for a period of three months. ⁹But when some became hardened and were disobeying, and speaking ill of the Way before the multitude, Paul withdrew from them, and separated the disciples, and began daily lecturing in the school of Tyrannus. ¹⁰And this went on for two years, with the result that everyone who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

¹¹Through the hands of Paul as well, God was doing powerful, extraordinary things. ¹²Even such that handkerchiefs or aprons were conducted from his skin onto those who were sick and the diseases would be removed from them, and any evil spirits would come out from them.

¹³Then some itinerant Jewish exorcists decided to try their hand also at invoking the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits. They would be saying, "I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul proclaims." ¹⁴Now they were the seven sons of Skeva, a Jewish high priest, doing this. ¹⁵But in response the evil spirit said to them, "Jesus I know and Paul I know, but who are you?" ¹⁶And the man in whom the evil spirit was, he sprang up onto them and owned all of them put together, and beat them up, and the result was they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

¹⁷And this became known to everyone living in Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks, and fear fell over them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was getting magnified. ¹⁸And many of them after they believed were coming forward confessing and publicising their practices. ¹⁹And a considerable number of the ones who had been practicing magic, they collected the sacred scrolls together in a pile, and burnt them in view of everyone. And they added up the prices of them, and found it to be 50,000 pieces of silver. ²⁰With power like that, the word of the Lord was growing in influence, and prevailing.

²¹And after these things were completed, Paul resolved in his spirit that after passing through Macedonia and Achaia, he would go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I am there, I must see Rome as well." ²²Then he sent two of those who were helping him, Timothy and Erastus, on into Macedonia. He himself remained some more time in Asia.

²³Now about that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. ²⁴For someone by the name of Demetrius, a silversmith, who manufactured silver shrines of Artemis and provided the artisans no little business, ²⁵he convened the tradesmen who worked at such things, and he said, "Men, you know, that from this trade, a comfortable income is ours, ²⁶and you see and hear, that this Paul, who states that gods made by hands are not gods, he has won over and led astray a considerable crowd from not only Ephesus but from almost all of Asia. ²⁷Now not only does this put our profession in danger of coming into disrepute, but it also risks the temple of the great goddess Artemis being counted as nothing, and even she herself, whom all Asia and the inhabited earth worships, is about to be deposed from her greatness."

²⁸And after hearing this, they were filled with anger. They began to shout, saying, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" ²⁹And the city was filled with confusion, and they rushed as with one mind into the theater, keeping a firm grip on Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonian traveling companions of Paul. ³⁰And when Paul tried to enter the people's assembly, the disciples would not let him. ³¹And some of the officials of Asia also, who were friends with him, sent word to him urging him not to present himself in the theater.

³²Then, others began shouting something different. For the assembly was confused, and most had no idea why they were gathered together. ³³Now as the Jews brought Alexander forward, some of the crowd instructed him, and so Alexander signalled with his hand that he wished to defend himself to the mob. ³⁴But because they knew he was a Jew, there arose the sound of them all shouting in unison, continuously for about two hours: "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

³⁵But after the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he says: "Men of Ephesus, who indeed is there among humanity that does not know that the city of the Ephesians is keeper of the temple of the great Artemis who fell from the sky? ³⁶Since these things are undeniable, it behooves you to calm down and do nothing rash. ³⁷For you brought these men who are neither temple robbers, nor blaspheming our goddess. ³⁸If therefore Demetrius and the artisans with him truly have a case against anyone, court days are observed, and there are proconsuls. They should charge one another. ³⁹So, if you are seeking anything further, that will be settled in the lawful assembly. ⁴⁰For indeed, we are liable to be charged with insurrection because of today, there being no good reason we can give for this *unscheduled* gathering." ⁴¹And after saying these things, he dismissed the assembly.

Acts Chapter 20

¹Now after the uproar had quieted down, Paul sent for the disciples and exhorted them. And after saying goodbye, he left, to go to Macedonia. ²Then after he had passed through those parts and exhorted them to a greater degree, he went to Greece. ³And when he had spent three months *there*, a plot was formed against him by the Jews. As he was about to escape by sea to Syria, the idea came to go back via Macedonia. ⁴And travelling with him were: Sopater the Berean, son of Pyrrhus, and the Thessalonians Aristarchus and Secundus, and the Derbian Gaius, and Timothy, and the Asians Tychicus and Trophimus; ⁵except these men went on ahead, and waited for us in Troy. ⁶And after the days of Unleavened Bread we sailed away from Philippi, and at the end of five days came to them in Troy, where we spent seven days.

⁷And on the first day of the week, as we were gathered together to break bread, Paul was preaching to them. It was about to go on into the next day and he was extending the word time to midnight, ⁸but there were plenty of lamps on the top floor where we were meeting. ⁹And a youth by the name of Eutychus was sitting in the window, gradually sinking down into a deep sleep because of Paul's lecture going extra time. When he was completely sunken by sleep, he fell down from the third floor, and was picked up dead. ¹⁰So Paul went down, and he fell onto him and embraced him, and said, "Do not be troubled, for his life is in him."

¹¹And after he had gone upstairs and broken bread and eaten, he also socialized for quite a while, until dawn, thus he departed. ¹²And the boy they led away alive, and were comforted not a little. ¹³We however proceeded on by ship, and put to sea for Assos, where we were going to

pick up Paul, for that is how it was arranged. He wanted to go on foot. ¹⁴So when he met us at Assos, we took him up on board, and we went to Mitylene. ¹⁵Then, sailing away from there the next day, we arrived off Chios, and the day after that went across to Samos, and the following day came to Miletus.

¹⁶For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so as not to lose time in Asia, because he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if possible, for the Day of Pentecost. ¹⁷So instead, from Miletus he sent to Ephesus a summons for the elders of that church.

¹⁸And when they had joined him he said to them, "You yourselves are familiar with the manner in which I was with you the whole time since the first days I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all lowliness of mind, and tears; and the trials that have befallen me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not withhold anything that was profitable for you, but showed you, and taught you, in public, and from house to house, ²¹solemnly bearing witness to both Jews and Greeks, the repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now behold, constrained by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what things will befall me in there, ²³only that the Holy Spirit in every city testifies to me that chains and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I make my life on no account precious to myself, so that I may finish my run and the ministry I received from the Lord Jesus: to solemnly declare the gospel of the grace of God.

²⁵And now behold: I know that none of you among whom I passed through preaching the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore, I am testifying to you on this day: that I am innocent of everyone's blood, ²⁷for I did not shrink back from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Take heed to yourselves, and to all the flock among whom the Holy Spirit has placed you as overseers, to shepherd the church of God, which he purchased with his own blood. ²⁹For I know that after my departure, overbearing wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Out of your own number also, men will arise, speaking changed up things, to draw away disciples after them. ³¹For this reason you must be vigilant, recalling what over a period of three years I did not cease to warn each one of you night and day with tears. ³²And now, I hand you over to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and establish your inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

³³I have desired silver or gold or clothing of no one. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands of mine have provided the needs of myself and of those with me. ³⁵I have demonstrated everything to you by example, how with such labor one must support the weak, and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

³⁶And after he had said these things, he got on his knees, together with them all, and prayed. ³⁷And there was quite a bit of crying from everyone, and they were hugging onto Paul's neck, and kissing him goodbye. ³⁸They were especially pained by the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. Then they were escorting him to the ship.

Acts Chapter 21

¹And when we had put out to sea and pulled away from them, we ran a straight course, and came to Kos, and then to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. ²Then we found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, and boarded that and set sail. ³And when we sighted Cyprus, we left it behind on port side, and sailed toward Syria, and made landfall at Tyre, because that is where the ship was unloading its cargo. ⁴And there, we stayed put for seven days, after we had searched out the disciples, who kept telling Paul, by the Spirit, not to go into Jerusalem. ⁵But when we had finished the days, and were leaving and on our way, they were all seeing us off, including the women and children, escorting us to the outside of the city. And we all placed our knees on the beach, and prayed. ⁶We said our goodbyes to each other, and we got onto the ship, while they returned to their homes. ⁷And we finished the voyage from Tyre, to come to Ptolemais, and we greeted those bretheren, and stayed with them one day.

⁸And the following day we departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the Seven, and we stayed with him. ⁹Now this man had four virgin daughters, who were prophesying. ¹⁰And during the many days we stayed there, a prophet by the name of Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹And he came up next to us, and took off Paul's belt. And he tied up his own feet and hands. And he said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit: This is how the Jews in Jerusalem will tie up the man whose belt this is, and they will deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles." ¹²And when we heard these things, both we and the ones in that place were pleading with him not to go up to Jerusalem.

¹³Then Paul answered, "What are you doing crying and breaking my heart? For I am ready, not only to be chained in Jerusalem, but also to die for the name of the Lord Jesus."

¹⁴And he would not be persuaded, so we held our peace, and said, "May the Lord's will be done."

¹⁵And after those days, we gathered supplies, and went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶Now some of the disciples from Caesarea also went with us, to introduce us to an early disciple, Mnason the Cypriot, with whom we would be staying as guests. ¹⁷And when we got to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

¹⁸So the following day, Paul has gone in to James, together with us, plus all the elders present. ¹⁹And after greeting them, Paul was relating in detail everything that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

²⁰Now when they heard it, they were praising God. And they said to him, "Be aware, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews who have believed. And they all remain zealous for the Law. ²¹And they have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews throughout the nations apostasy from Moses, saying not to circumcise their sons nor to walk according to

the traditions. ²²What then is there *to do*? They will certainly hear that you have come. ²³Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who have obligated themselves with a vow. ²⁴Take these men and purify yourself together with them, and pay for them to have their heads shaved, and everyone will know that there is nothing to what they were told about you, but in fact you yourself are walking in conformity and keeping the law.

²⁵"But as for the Gentile believers, we have informed them by letter that we have decided they need observe nothing of that sort, but only keep themselves from food offered to idols and from blood and from anything strangled and from sexual sin."

Then Paul took the men, and the next day purifying himself with them entered into the temple, to signify the accomplishment of the days of purification, until that an offering should be offered for every one of them.

²⁶Then Paul took those men the following day, and when he had purified himself along with them, he went into the temple announcing when the days of their purification would be finished and when the offering would be made for each of them.

²⁷But when the seven days were almost finished, the Jews from Asia saw him in the temple, and stirred up all the crowd, and laid their hands on him, ²⁸crying out, "Men of Israel, come and help! This is that man who is teaching everyone everywhere against this people and Law and place! And worse yet, he has even brought Greeks into the temple, and profaned this holy place!"

²⁹For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, whom they assumed Paul had taken into the temple. ³⁰And the entire city was stirred up, and the people ran and gathered together. And after they had taken hold of Paul, they proceeded to drag him outside the temple, and immediately the doors were locked. ³¹Now while they were working on killing him, the report went up to the commander of the Roman cohort that all Jerusalem was in an uproar, ³²who promptly took some soldiers and centurions and ran down toward them. And when the crowd saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. ³³At that time the commander came up to him and seized him and ordered that he be bound with two chains, and then was inquiring who he was and what he had done.

³⁴But some in the crowd were yelling one thing and some another. Not able to find out for sure through the din, he ordered him brought into the barracks. ³⁵But by the time he was on the steps, Paul had to be carried high by the soldiers, because of the violence of the crowd. ³⁶For a large number of the people were following and shouting, "Away with him!"

³⁷And when he was just about to be taken inside the barracks, Paul says to the commander, "Is it permissible for me to say something to you?"

And he said, "You know Greek? ³⁸Then you are that Egyptian aren't you, who prior to these days rebelled and led four thousand terrorists out in the desert."

³⁹But Paul said, "I am a Jew, a citizen of a city not insignificant, Tarsus in Cilicia. So I ask you, give me permission to speak to the people."

⁴⁰And after he gave him permission, Paul stood on the steps, and motioned to the people downward with his hand. And when it was largely quiet, he addressed them in the Hebrew language, and said,

Acts Chapter 22

¹"Men, brothers and fathers, hear now my defense to you." ²And when they heard him addressing them in the Hebrew language, they offered greater silence.

And he said, ³"I am a Jewish man, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but raised in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, instructed according to the strictest tradition of the law of the fathers, and I was zealous for God, as you all are being today. ⁴I persecuted this group, The Way, even as far as death, binding them, both men and women, and delivering them to prison, ⁵to which even the high priest bears witness for me, and all the elders, since from them I took letters of authority to the brothers in Damascus, that I was going to take the members who were there as well, bound, to Jerusalem to be punished.

⁶But it happened that as I was going, and about noon had gotten close to Damascus, that suddenly a great light from heaven flashed all around me, ⁷and I fell to the ground. And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Shaul, Shaul, why are you persecuting me?'

⁸And I answered, 'Who are you lord?'

And he said to me, "I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting." ⁹Now those who were with me saw the light, and were frightened, but they did not hear the voice that was speaking to me.

¹⁰And I said, "What should I do, Lord?"

And the Lord said to me, "Get up, and go to Damascus, and there you will be instructed about all that is assigned for you to do."

¹¹So we proceeded toward Damascus, with me being led by the hand by my companions, since I could not see, because of the brightness of that light. ¹²And Hananiah, a devout man in relation to the Torah, of good report by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³he came to me and stood over me, and he said, 'Brother Shaul, see again.' And at that very time I looked at him and saw him. ¹⁴And he said, "The God of our fathers pre-assigned you to know his will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear the voice from out of his mouth. ¹⁵Because you will be a witness for him to all humankind about what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶And now, why delay? Arise and get baptized to wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

¹⁷And then it happened to me that when I returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I was put into a trance ¹⁸and saw Him saying to me: 'Hurry, and get away quickly from Jerusalem, for they are not going to accept your testimony about me.'

¹⁹And I said, 'Lord, they know very well that I myself was imprisoning and binding from each synagogue those who believed in you. ²⁰And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being spilled, I also was there and consenting, and guarding the cloaks of those who were killing him.'

²¹And he said to me, "Go on your way, for I am assigning you afar off to the Gentiles."

²²Now the crowd had been listening— until those words. Then they lifted up their voice, saying, "Remove such a man from the earth, for it is not fitting for him to live!" ²³And as they kept up their shouting, and were tossing off their cloaks, and throwing dust up in the air, ²⁴the commander ordered him brought inside the barracks, and said to interrogate him by flogging, so that he could find out the reason for all this clamor over him. ²⁵But as they stretched him out in the straps, Paul said toward the centurion standing there, "Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen without a trial?"

²⁶And when the centurion heard this, he approached the commander and informed him, saying, "What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen."

²⁷So the commander came up to Paul, and he said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?"

And he said, "Yes."

²⁸And the commander responded, "It took me a large sum of money to get that citizenship."

And Paul said, "But I was actually born one."

²⁹Then those about to interrogate him immediately withdrew from him. And even the commander was afraid, finding out that Paul was a Roman citizen and he had been strapping him up. ³⁰And the next day, wanting to find out exactly why he had been charged by the Jews, he unchained him and ordered the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin to assemble, and he brought Paul and stood him before them.

Acts Chapter 23

¹And Paul, with an earnest gaze upon the Sanhedrin, said, "Men, brothers, I have conducted myself in all good conscience to this day."

²But Hananiah the high priest ordered those standing near him to slap his mouth.

³Then toward him, Paul said, "God is about to slap you, you whitewashed wall. And you sit judging me by the law, yet you transgress the law ordering me to be slapped."

⁴But those standing near him said, "You insult God's high priest?"

⁵And Paul said, "I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest. For it is written, 'You shall not speak ill of the ruler of your people.' "

⁶Now Paul, knowing that one part were Sadducees and the other part Pharisees, cried out to the Sanhedrin, "Men, brothers, I am a Pharisee, the descendant of Pharisees. It is for hope, namely the resurrection of the dead, that I am being condemned."

⁷And after these words of his, discord arose between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the whole body was divided. ⁸For whereas the Sadducees say there exists no resurrection, nor an angel, nor a spirit, the Pharisees confess to all three.

⁹Then there was a loud shout, and some of the Torah scholars of the faction of the Pharisees stood up, and began to insist vehemently as follows: "We find nothing wrong in this man. What if a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?"

¹⁰And such a great uproar occurred that the commander was worried they might tear Paul apart. He ordered the troops under him to go down and snatch him out from their midst and into the barracks.

¹¹And during that night the Lord appeared to him, and said, "Take courage. For just as you solemnly declared the things about me in Jerusalem, you must in the same way testify in Rome as well."

¹²And when it was day, the Jews made a compact and bound themselves, swearing neither to eat, nor to drink, till they had killed Paul. ¹³And there were more than forty who were making this plot. ¹⁴They went to the chief priests and elders and said, "We have bound ourselves with an oath to taste nothing until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵Now therefore, you together with the Sanhedren should explain to the commander how he should bring Paul down to you, as though you are wanting to find out more accurately the issues concerning him. But we are prepared to kill him before he gets near."

¹⁶But when the son of Paul's sister heard about the ambush, he paid a visit and went inside the barracks, and told Paul. ¹⁷So Paul called one of the centurions over, and he said, "Take this young man to the commander, for he has something to report to him."

¹⁸He then did accept him, and he took him to the commander and said, "The prisoner Paul called me over and asked me to bring this young man to you. He has something to tell you."

¹⁹And the commander took his arm and withdrew to a private place, and began inquiring, "What is it you have to tell me?"

²⁰And he said, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down tomorrow to the Sanhedrin, as though they want to investigate more accurately concerning him. ²¹You therefore should not trust them, because more than forty men of theirs are lying in wait for him, who have bound themselves neither to eat nor to drink until they have killed him. And now they are ready, waiting for a promise from you."

²²Then the commander dismissed the young man, and ordered everyone not to divulge that he had reported these things to him. ²³And he called over two of his centurions, and said, "Get 200 infantry ready for a move as far as Caesarea, and 70 horsemen and 200 spearmen, departure three hours after dark. ²⁴And provide an animal such that mounting Paul on it they can deliver him safely to Felix the governor."

²⁵He wrote a letter with this text: ²⁶"Claudius Lysias, to the most excellent Governor Felix: Greetings. ²⁷This man had been seized by the Jews and was about to be done away with by them, when I intervened with the army and got him out, after I learned he was a Roman citizen. ²⁸And wanting to find out for certain the reason they were charging him, I took him down to their Sanhedrin. ²⁹Which I found out was a charge that concerns things from their law that are disputed. But the charge was nothing deserving of death or imprisonment. ³⁰Then when it was divulged to me that there would be a plot by them against the man, I immediately transferred him to you, giving orders also to his accusers to charge him before you. Farewell."

³¹The soldiers therefore mounted him according to their orders, and took him by night to Antipatris. ³²And the next day, they let the horsemen go on with him, and went back to the barracks. ³³Who when they came into Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, also presented Paul to him.

³⁴And after the governor had read it, and inquired as to which province he was from, and found out he was from Cilicia, ³⁵he announced: "I will hear you when your accusers are also present." And he ordered him kept under guard at the Praetorium of Herod.

Acts Chapter 24

¹And after five days, the high priest Hananiah came down, together with some of the elders and an orator, Tertullus, and they presented charges against Paul before the governor.

²And when he was called upon, Tertullus began to prosecute, saying, "Since we have experienced much peace because of you, and public reforms beneficial to this nation instituted through your foresight, ³both at all times and in all places we receive it with all gratitude, most excellent Felix.

⁴But lest I delay you any longer, I ask you, with your indulgence, to hear us briefly. ⁵For we have found this man to be a public menace, and stirring up rebellion among all the Jews

throughout the world, and to be the ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes, ⁶who was even trying to desecrate the temple, whom we then arrested, ⁸from whom you will be able, after examining him yourself, to confirm all these things of which we are accusing him."

⁹Then the Jews also joined in, affirming these things to be so.

¹⁰And when the governor had signaled for him to speak, Paul said in answer, "Knowing it is for many years you have been judge for this nation, happy am I to answer these things in my defense. ¹¹You can verify for yourself, that it has not been more than twelve days since I came up to Jerusalem to worship, ¹²and they have not found me disputing with anyone, or stirring up a crowd, either in the synagogues or in the city, ¹³nor can they bring you proof of the things they are now charging me with.

¹⁴But I admit this to you, that I do serve our ancestral God in the manner of The Way, which they are calling a sect, believing everything in accordance with what is written in the law and the prophets, ¹⁵having a hope in God which these men themselves also accept, that there is to be a resurrection of the dead, both of the righteous and the unrighteous. ¹⁶It is in that very hope then, that I always strive to maintain an innocent conscience, toward God and toward people.

¹⁷"And after several years, I have come to my own nation to practice charity and to present offerings. ¹⁸But while I was engaged in doing that, some Jews from Asia found me, purified in the temple, not with a crowd, nor with a disturbance, ¹⁹who therefore ought to have appeared before you as well to state charges if they have anything against me. ²⁰Or, these men here should declare what wrongdoing was found by them when I stood before the Sanhedrin.

²¹Or is it about this one thing that I had proclaimed while standing among them: 'For the resurrection of the dead I stand trial before you this day.' "

²²Then Felix, who knew quite accurately the issues concerning The Way, adjourned them, and said, "When Lysias the commander comes down I will decide your case." ²³And he gave orders to the centurion for Paul to be kept under guard, yet have some freedom, and that no one prevent his *friends* attending to him.

²⁴And after some days, when Felix was present, with his wife Drusilla, who was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and listened to him about the belief in the Messiah Jesus.

²⁵But when Paul spoke about righteousness and self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened, and responded, "Go your way for now, and when I find the time I will send for you."

²⁶At the same time, he was also hoping some cash would be delivered to him from Paul. And for that reason, he was summoning him frequently and conversing with him. ²⁷But after two full years went by, Felix got replaced by a successor, Porcius Festus, and Felix left Paul in chains, wanting to earn favor with the Jews.

Acts Chapter 25

¹Festus then, three days after coming to the province, went up from Caesarea to Jerusalem, ²and the chief priests and Jewish leaders presented charges against Paul, and were urging Festus, ³asking for a favor concerning him, that he summon Paul to Jerusalem, (as they were staging an ambush to kill him on the way).

⁴However, Festus then answered that Paul was being kept at Caesarea and that he himself was about to go there soon. ⁵"So," he said, "Let the authorities among you go down with me. If there is anything amiss in the man they can accuse him."

⁶And after spending not more than eight or ten days among them, he went down to Caesarea, and the next day sat on the tribunal seat and ordered Paul be brought. ⁷And when he arrived, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem surrounded him, bringing against him many charges even more serious. Which they could not prove.

⁸While Paul said in defense, "Neither against the law of the Jews, nor against the temple, nor against Caesar, have I committed any offense."

⁹Then Festus, wanting to earn favor with the Jews, answered Paul and said, "Would you like to go up to Jerusalem and be tried by me for these things there?"

¹⁰And Paul said, "I am standing where it is proper for me to be judged, at the tribunal of Caesar. I have done nothing wrong against the Jews, as you know very well. ¹¹So, if I am a wrongdoer and have done something worthy of death, I do not ask to be spared that death. But on the other hand, if there is nothing to what these men are accusing me of, no one has the authority to give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar."

¹²Then Festus, after consulting with counsel, responded: "You have appealed to Caesar. Before Caesar you will go."

¹³And after some days had passed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived in Caesarea to greet Festus. ¹⁴And as they were spending many days there, Festus submitted before the king the *issues* concerning Paul, saying, "There is a man who was left in chains by Felix, ¹⁵about whom, when I was in Jerusalem, the chief priests and elders of the Jews brought charges, asking for a conviction against him. ¹⁶To whom I answered, that it is not the custom of the Romans to hand a person over before the accused has had his accusers face to face and the opportunity to answer them concerning the offense. ¹⁷When therefore they had come together here, I made no delay. The next day I sat at the judgement seat and ordered the man to be brought. ¹⁸About whom, when his accusers stood up, they were not bringing any criminal charge that I was expecting, ¹⁹but rather they had some points of dispute with him about their religion, and about a dead man Jesus, whom Paul was asserting is alive. ²⁰So, being at a loss how to investigate these things, I

asked if he was willing to go to Jerusalem to be judged there concerning these things. ²¹But Paul appealed to be reserved for the decision of Augustus, and I ordered that he be kept until such time I should send him to Caesar."

²²And Agrippa said to Festus, "I also would like to hear this man myself."

"Tomorrow," said Festus, "you will hear him."

²³The next day therefore, after Agrippa and Bernice had arrived and entered the audience with great pomp and spectacle, with also the chiliarchs and prominent men of the city, Festus gave the order, and Paul was brought in.

²⁴And Festus said, "O King Agrippa, and all you men present with us, behold this man, about whom the entire Jewish community has petitioned me, both in Jerusalem and then also here, shouting out that he ought not to live any longer. ²⁵Now I found that he had not committed anything worthy of death, but since this man himself had appealed to the Emperor, I decided to send him. ²⁶I do not have anything certain to write to My Lord about him. Which is why I have brought him before you all, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after this investigation has taken place I may have something to write. ²⁷Because sending a prisoner without also indicating a charge against him seems out of the question to me."

Acts Chapter 26

¹So Agrippa said to Paul, "You may speak for yourself."

Then Paul began making his defense with extended hand: ²"O king Agrippa, I consider myself fortunate that before you I am to make my defense today concerning all the things I am charged with by the Jews. ³Particularly since you are knowledgeable regarding the customs and even the controversies among the Jews. So then, I ask you to hear me out with patience.

⁴My manner of life since youth therefore, which took place at first in my own country and also in Jerusalem, is known by all the Jews. ⁵They have previously known of me from the start, if they are willing to testify, that I have lived as a Pharisee, following the strictest sect of our religion. ⁶And now I stand on trial because of my hope in the promise which God made to our forefathers, ⁷to which our twelve tribes, serving zealously night and day, hope to attain. It is about this hope I am being called to account by the Jews, O king."

⁸"Why is it deemed unbelievable by you people that God raises the dead?"

⁹"Now I myself once considered it necessary to carry out every effort in opposition to the name of Jesus the Nazarene; ¹⁰which indeed I did, not only in Jerusalem, but I also shut up many other saints in prison, by the authority I received from the chief priests, and I cast my vote

for their executions. ¹¹And I punished them often, in all the synagogues, and would try to get them to blaspheme. And I was so enraged at them, that I pursued them to foreign cities.

¹²Among those to which I went was Damascus, with authority and a commission from the high priests. ¹³On the way there, at midday, I saw, O king, a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone all around me and those traveling with me. ¹⁴And all of us fell to the ground. I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Sha'ul, Sha'ul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'

¹⁵So I said, 'Who are you, lord?'

And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶But get up, and stand on your feet. Because for this I have appeared to you, to appoint you minister and witness, of both the things you have seen and the things which I will show you, ¹⁷all the while delivering you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles to whom I am sending you; ¹⁸to open their eyes, that they turn away from darkness toward the light, and from the power of Satan back to God, and receive forgiveness of sins, and an inheritance with those who are sanctified by the faith which is in me.'

¹⁹Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, ²⁰but to those first in Damascus, and also to those in Jerusalem and every other territory of the Jews, and also to the Gentiles, I was declaring repentance and the turning back to God, the practicing of works befitting of repentance. ²¹It is because of these things the Jews seized me in the temple, trying to kill me.

²²So then, with the benefit of assistance from God up until these very days I have stood testifying to both the small and the great, nothing other than what the prophets and Moses have said was going to take place, ²³that the Messiah would suffer, that as the first of the resurrection of the dead, he would proclaim light both to his people and to the Gentiles."

²⁴And when Paul was finished this his defense, Festus said in a loud voice, "You are raving, Paul! All that learning is driving you to madness."

²⁵But Paul replied, "I am not raving, excellent Festus. On the contrary, I am uttering true and rational words. ²⁶The King is informed about these things, thus I speak freely before him. For I am sure there was no way for these things to escape his notice, since they were not done in a corner.

²⁷You believe, O king Agrippa, in the prophets. I know that you believe."

²⁸Then Agrippa said to Paul: "With a few *words* you persuade me to be a Christian?"

²⁹And Paul said, "I hope to God that, whether with few or with many, not only you but also everyone hearing me today will become exactly what I am, except for these chains."

³⁰The king got up, and also the governor and Bernice and those seated with them, ³¹and as they were leaving they were saying to each other, "This man is not committing anything worthy of death or of chains."

³²But Agrippa said to Festus, "This man could have been set free, had he not appealed to Caesar."

Acts Chapter 27

¹And when it was approved for us to sail to Italy, they gave custody of both Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion with the Emperor's Regiment by the name of Julius. ²And so Paul boarded an Adramyttian ship about to set sail for stops along the coast of Asia, and we weighed anchor, with Aristarchus the Macedonian from Thessalonika continuing with us. ³The next day we docked in Sidon, and Julius kindly allowed Paul to go to his friends to receive care. ⁴And from there we sailed alee of Cyprus, because the winds were contrary. ⁵Then, after we sailed across the deep sea facing Cilicia and Pamphylia, we disembarked at Myra of Lycia. ⁶And there, when the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing to Italy, he boarded us onto that.

⁷But after quite a few days of slow going and only getting near Cnidus, the wind not allowing us better progress, we sailed alee of Crete close against Salmone. ⁸And after sailing past it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens, which was near the city of Lasea. ⁹But a lot of time had been used up, and by this point it was dangerous for sailing, and also since the Day of Atonement had now arrived, Paul was announcing a warning, ¹⁰saying to them, "Men, I forsee that this voyage is likely to be with much violence, and loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives."

¹¹But the centurion was being swayed more by the captain and by the owner, than by the things Paul was saying. ¹²And since that harbor was not well situated for wintering, the majority thought it the best decision to sail away from there, if they could somehow make it to Phoenix to stay the winter, *which was* a safe harbor on Crete, facing both southwest and northwest. ¹³So when a gentle breeze started blowing from the south, they figured they had obtained their objective, and they weighed anchor, sailing close against Crete.

¹⁴But not long afterward, a typhoon wind called the Northeaster assailed her; ¹⁵and it seized the ship, and since we were not able to counteract that wind, we gave in, and let ourselves be driven. ¹⁶But when we were running alee of a small island called Cauda, we managed, barely, to get the skiff under control, ¹⁷which they hoisted up. Then they applied frapping to undergird the ship. And because they were afraid they might run aground on the Syrtis sandbars, they lowered the rigging. This way they were carried away.

¹⁸But the following day, we were getting tossed around extremely, and they started throwing the cargo overboard. ¹⁹And by the third day, they were throwing the ship's mast and rigging off

with their own hands. ²⁰But many days went by with neither sun nor starlight to be seen. And with a lot of winter still ahead, all remaining hope of our survival was being stripped away.

²¹And after they had gone for many days fasting, at that time Paul stood in the midst. He said, "Men, you should have listened to me, and not sailed away from Crete and reaped this damage and loss. ²²Yet now, I am advising you to be of good cheer, because there will be no loss of life among you; only of the ship. ²³For this very night there appeared to me, from the God to whom I belong, and whom I serve, an angel, ²⁴who said,

'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar. And behold, on account of you, God has granted all the *lives* who are sailing with you.'

²⁵Therefore be of good cheer men. For I trust in God, that this is how it will be, exactly the way it was told me. ²⁶But, we must run aground on some island."

²⁷Now as the fourteenth night arrived, and we were drifting on the Adriatic Sea, at about midnight the sailors were sensing some land looming near them. ²⁸And when they took a sounding, they got 20 fathoms. And then some distance farther they took a sounding again, and got 15 fathoms. ²⁹And fearing we might crash against some rocks, they tossed four anchors from the stern, and prayed for daylight to come.

³⁰But some of the sailors were trying to escape from the ship, and they lowered the skiff onto the sea, pretending their purpose was to let out some anchors from the bow. ³¹Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, "Unless these men stay on the ship, you cannot survive." ³²Then the soldiers cut the lines to the skiff and let it drift away.

³³And just before daylight, Paul began urging everyone to partake of some food, saying, "Fourteen days now, you have fasted in constant apprehension, taking nothing to eat. ³⁴Therefore I urge you to partake of food, because this is for your survival; for there shall not a hair of any of your heads perish." ³⁵And after he said these things, he took some bread, gave thanks to God in front of everyone, and broke it and proceeded to eat. ³⁶Then they all cheered up, and took some food themselves.

³⁷Now we on the ship were 276 souls altogether. ³⁸Then, after they had enough food, they continued lightening the ship, throwing the wheat into the sea. ³⁹And when morning came, they did not recognize the land. But they noticed a bay that had a beach, onto which they decided to direct the ship if they could somehow. ⁴⁰And they left the anchors alone in the sea while at the same time disconnecting the bands to the rudder; and when they hoisted the foresail to the breeze, they were heading toward the beach. ⁴¹But they hit a sandbar between two currents, and ran the boat aground, and the bow jammed in and remained stuck, while the stern was being broken apart by the violence of the waves.

⁴²Then the plan of some of the soldiers was to kill the prisoners, in case any might swim away and escape. ⁴³But the centurion, preferring to deliver Paul safe, stopped them from their plan, and gave orders that those who were able to swim should jump overboard first, and get to shore, ⁴⁴and then the rest on planks or some other piece of the ship. And thus it was, that everyone got safely onto land.

Acts Chapter 28

¹And once we were safe, at that time we figured out that the island was called Malta. ²And the barbarians showed us no small kindness, for they built a fire, and were in the process of housing every one of us, because of the rain that came, and the cold.

³So Paul gathered a bundle of sticks, and as he was adding it to the fire a viper came out of it from the heat, and it fastened onto his hand. ⁴And when the barbarians saw the snake hanging from his hand, they were saying to one another, "This man must be a murderer. He escaped alive from the sea, and Justice has still not allowed him to live." ⁵Meanwhile Paul shook the snake off into the fire, and experienced nothing bad. ⁶But they were waiting for him any minute to swell up, or suddenly drop dead. However after a long time waiting and seeing nothing symptomatic happening to him, they were changing their minds and saying he was a god.

⁷Now in the environs of that place lay the estates of the chief of the island, named Publius, who received us with hospitality for three days and entertained us as friends. ⁸And it so happened that the father of Publius was burning a fever, and in bed suffering from dysentery. Paul went in with him, and prayed and laid hands on him, and healed him. ⁹Then because this occurred, everyone else on the island who had an illness was also being brought and being healed. ¹⁰And so they honored us with all kinds of gifts, and when we were about to sail, they loaded on the supplies that we needed.

¹¹And thus after three months, we set sail in an Alexandrian ship that had wintered at the island, that had for its badge the Twin Sons of Zeus. ¹²Then we moored at Syracuse and stayed put for three days. ¹³And from there we tacked about, and made it to Rhegium. Then one day later, because a southerly wind came up, we arrived at Puteoli the next day. ¹⁴We found the brethren there and exhorted them, staying seven days with them. And thus we departed for Rome. ¹⁵And the brethren from there, when they heard the news about us, came out to meet us, as far as the Appian Market and Three Taverns. Seeing them caused Paul to feel encouraged, and he gave thanks to God.

¹⁶And once we arrived in Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with a soldier guarding him. ¹⁷And it happened that after three days, he called together the leaders of the Jews. And when they had come together, he said to them, "Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or against the customs of our fathers, I was delivered as a prisoner into the hands of the

Romans, ¹⁸who, after they examined me, were intending to order that I be freed, since they had found in me no basis for the death penalty. ¹⁹But when the Jews moved against it, I was compelled to appeal to Caesar— though not for bringing any complaint against my nation. ²⁰This therefore is the reason I asked to see you and converse with you: it is for the hope of Israel I am wearing all this."

²¹And they said to him, "We have neither received a letter about you from Judea, nor has any of the brothers arrived with news about you, or said anything bad about you. ²²But we think it is fitting that we hear from you what things you believe. For regarding this sect, it is known to us that it is spoken against everywhere."

²³So when they had arranged a day for him, a great many were coming to the house. From dawn until evening, he was explaining to them and solemnly testifying to the kingdom of God, and trying to convince them about Jesus, from both the law of Moses and the prophets. ²⁴And some were being convinced by the things being said, but others would not believe. ²⁵So they were in disagreement with one another, and were leaving when Paul said this one last thing: "How rightly the Holy Spirit spoke against your forefathers through Isaiah the prophet, ²⁶saying,

'Go to this people and say,
"Though hearing, you will listen and not understand,
and though seeing, you will look and not perceive.
²⁷For this people's heart has become impervious—
they hardly hear with the ears,
and they have shut up their eyes;
lest they see with the eyes and hear with the ears
and understand with the heart and turn,
and I would heal them."

²⁸Be it known to you therefore, that this salvation of God is ordered to go out to the Gentiles. They also will hear it."

³⁰And Paul remained a whole two years in his own rented house, welcoming everyone who came in to him. ³¹He was preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching the *doctrines* concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with complete openness and freedom.

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