

OPEN ENGLISH BIBLE

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## Preface and Frequently Asked Questions

### PREFACE AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### *What is this?*

This is a preview release of the Gospel According to Mark for the new English translation of the Bible, the “Open English Bible”.

#### *Why another translation?*

The English language market is currently very well covered by translations for all seasons, everything from the Message, through the CEV, NRSV, AV, and so on through the acronym soup. The OEB aims at the levels of accuracy and natural language achieved by these bibles, but the purpose of the OEB is not to gift the world with a more accurate or ‘better’ translation per se. The existing commercial English translations are, for the large part, of a high standard of accuracy and are the result of much work by knowledgeable and well intended translators.

However, with the honourable exception of the World English Bible (WEB) - and of course the Authorised Version - all of these bibles are subject to copyright, and owned by a particular organisation or publisher. Without wishing to criticise these organisations, their translations naturally have limitations on what end users can do with them.

The OEB will have no restrictions on what its readers and users can do with it (for both good and bad). They may quote it, publish it in part or full, on their blogs, in their churches, remix it, reword

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it, correct its egregious translation mistakes or indeed add their own.

### *Isn't this dangerous?*

This generation have a greater ability to confirm the accuracy of their bible translations than any previous generation in history. The underlying Greek and Hebrew, lexicons, learned discussions and flamewars are all just a click away - as are a dozen other translations. Attempting to use copyright law to create authority is an exercise doomed to failure, as are all attempts to enforce truths by the power of the state.

### *Why not just use the World English Bible?*

The World English Bible (WEB) is an impressive achievement, and of great importance. However its language, based as it is on the ASV, remains bound to the Tyndale tradition. As a free counterpart to the NRSV and ESV it is invaluable; however there is still a need for a free bible as a counterpart to the NEB/REB and TNIV/NIV translations. As well, the World English Bible is based upon the Byzantine Majority Text, and the OEB is based on the heavily Alexandrian focused text of Wescott & Hort.

### *What English language texts is the OEB based on?*

The New Testament of the OEB is being formed on the base of the "Twentieth Century New Testament", in particular the revised edition published in 1904. There is currently no decision on how to tackle the Old Testament.

### *Why the Twentieth Century New Testament?*

The TCNT was one of the earliest 20th century attempts at a translation in clear modern language aimed at the ordinary reader and

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based on a modern textual base (ie Westcott and Hort). Predating the mid-20th century translations such as the New English Bible and even Moffatt's groundbreaking attempt, it is out of copyright worldwide. The TCNT also has a particular resonance with the open source and free content communities of today - it was created by a loose collaboration of volunteers rather than a top-down hierarchy. A worthwhile article on the making of the TCNT can be found on Google Books. Given the requirements of (a) modern language and (b) public domain status the TCNT was the best contender.

### *How will the Twentieth Century New Testament be edited?*

The language of the 20CNT will be edited:

- to reflect modern English usage (including the use of 'they' as a third person single pronoun) at a reading level corresponding roughly to the NEB/REB or NRSV
- to reflect modern scholarship, including on the translation of terms such as 'the Jews' in John and terms referring to sexual practices (see TNIV and Dr Ann Nyland's version)

This editing will be moderate, aiming for a scholarly defensible mainstream translation usable within a religious community rather than a translation focused on a readership completely unfamiliar with the Bible or Christianity (as an example, the OEB will be comfortable with the words 'Christ' and 'Messiah' and will not replace them with 'Anointed One' or similar). A freely licensed

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translation for the audiences of the Better Life Bible or the CEV is a project for another day.

### *How do I know the OEB is accurate and unbiased?*

Although all translators have opinions on the truth and meaning of the ancient documents which form the Bible, the intent of this revision of the TCNT is not to push any particular theological line but to provide a freely usable translation of an Alexandrian text-type based critical text in modern English. The GitHub account for the OEB contains the original text of the Twentieth Century New Testament in USFM, (which can be checked against the pdf of the published edition on Archive.org); it also contains a list of all of the changes made to that text. As can be seen from the article on the making of the TCNT mentioned above, the TCNT itself was the product of a wide range of translators of differing backgrounds and was not itself intended to push a particular theological point of view.

### *What is the underlying textual basis for the OEB?*

The TCNT was based on the Westcott & Hort critical text and the OEB will not change that - it will remain based on W&H and will not be conformed to the Majority Text or NA27. Since the NA27



is subject to a claim of copyright, W&H remains the best available (ie public domain) text.

*What licence is the OEB under?*

The OEB will be available under a CC Attribution licence, allowing the maximum reuse. There will be a request that altered versions be distributed under a different name.

*What variations will be available?*

The translation will be available in US and Commonwealth/UK spelling variations.

*What formats will the OEB be available in?*

The OEB will be generated in as many formats as possible, including PDF, HTML etc and a version will be available for purchase from Lulu or similar print-on-demand provider.

*Who is involved in this?*

At the moment, this is a single person project. I am a lawyer with strong technical skills, but without formal training in either translation or in Biblical languages. Accordingly, the OEB is not an exercise in translation so much as editing. I will make all changes transparently, and will endeavour to ensure that no new wording is added that is not attested to in at least one modern, scholarly, mainstream translation.

*Where can I find more information?*

<http://openenglishbible.org>



*The Preparation*

Mark 1

## MARK

THE GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MARK

### *The Preparation*

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ. 1

It is said in the Prophet Isaiah — ‘Behold! I send my Messenger before your face; he shall prepare your way. The voice of one crying aloud in the Wilderness: “Make ready the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’ And in fulfillment of this, John the Baptist appeared in the Wilderness, proclaiming a baptism upon repentance, for the forgiveness of sins. The whole of Judea, as well as all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, went out to him; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 2 3 4 5

John was clad in clothing of camels’ hair, with a belt of leather round his waist, and lived on locusts and wild honey; and he proclaimed — “There is coming after me one more powerful than I, and I am not fit even to stoop down and unfasten his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” 6 7 8

Now about that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens rent apart, and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him, and from the heavens came a voice — “You are my Son, the Beloved; in you I delight.” 9 10 11

Immediately afterwards the Spirit drove Jesus out into the Wilderness; and he was there in the Wilderness forty days, 12 13

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tempted by Satan, and among the wild beasts, while the angels ministered to him.

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14 After John had been committed to prison, Jesus went to Galilee,  
15 proclaiming the Good News of God — “The time has come, and  
the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe the Good  
News.”

16 As Jesus was going along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw  
Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the Sea, for they  
17 were fishermen. “Come and follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will set  
18 you to fish for people.” They left their nets at once, and followed  
him.

19 Going on a little further, he saw James, Zebediah’s son, and his  
20 brother John, who also were in their boat mending the nets. Jesus  
at once called them, and they left their father Zebediah in the boat  
with the crew, and went after him.

21 They walked into Capernaum. On the next Sabbath Jesus went  
22 into the Synagogue and began to teach. The people were amazed  
at his teaching, for he taught them like one who had authority,  
23 and not like the Teachers of the Law. Now there was in their Syn-  
agogue at the time a man under the power of a foul spirit, who  
24 called out: “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have  
you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One  
25 of God!” But Jesus rebuked the spirit: “Be silent! Come out from  
26 him.” The foul spirit threw the man into a fit, and with a loud  
27 cry came out from him. They were all so amazed that they kept  
asking: “What is this? Strange teaching indeed! He gives his com-  
mands with authority even to the foul spirits, and they obey him!”  
28 And the fame of Jesus spread at once in all directions, through the  
whole neighborhood of Galilee.

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## Mark 1

As soon as they had come out from the Synagogue, they went, 29  
 with James and John, into the house of Simon and Andrew. Now 30  
 Simon's mother-in-law was lying ill with fever, and they at once  
 told Jesus about her. Jesus went up to her and, grasping her hand, 31  
 raised her up; the fever left her, and she began to wait upon them.

In the evening, after sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who 32  
 were ill or possessed by demons; and the whole city was gathered 33  
 round the door. Jesus cured many who were ill with various dis- 34  
 eases, and drove out many demons, and would not permit them  
 to speak, because they knew him to be the Christ.

In the morning, long before daylight, Jesus rose and went out, 35  
 and, going to a lonely spot, there began to pray. But Simon and his 36  
 companions hastened after him; and, when they found him, they 37  
 exclaimed: "Every one is looking for you!" But Jesus said to them: 38  
 "Let us go somewhere else, into the country towns near, that I may  
 make my proclamation in them also; for that was why I came."  
 And he went about making his proclamation in their Synagogues 39  
 all through Galilee, and driving out the demons.

One day a leper came to Jesus and, falling on his knees, begged 40  
 him for help. "If only you are willing," he said, "you are able to  
 make me clean." Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out his 41  
 hand and touched him, saying as he did so: "I am willing; become  
 clean." Instantly the leprosy left the man, and he became clean; 42  
 and then Jesus, after sternly warning him, immediately sent him 43  
 away, and said to him: "Be careful not to say anything to any one;  
 but go and show yourself to the Priest, and make the offerings for  
 your cleansing directed by Moses, as evidence of your cure." The 44  
 man, however, went away, and began to speak about it publicly, 45  
 and to spread the story so widely, that Jesus could no longer go  
 openly into a town, but stayed outside in lonely places; and people  
 came to him from every direction.

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- 2 Some days later, when Jesus came back to Capernaum, the news  
 2 spread that he was in a house there; and so many people collected  
 3 together, that after a while there was no room for them even round  
 3 the door; and he began to tell them his Message. Some people  
 4 came bringing to him a paralyzed man, who was being carried  
 4 by four bearers. Being, however, unable to get him near to Jesus,  
 5 owing to the crowd, they removed the roofing below which Je-  
 5 sus was; and, when they had made an opening, they let down the  
 6 mat on which the paralyzed man was lying. When Jesus saw their  
 6 faith, he said to the man: "Child, your sins are forgiven."  
 7 But some of the Teachers of the Law who were sitting there were  
 7 debating in their minds: "Why does this man speak like this? He  
 8 is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins except God?" Jesus, at once  
 8 intuitively aware that they were debating with themselves in this  
 9 way, said to them: "Why are you debating in your minds about  
 9 this? Which is easier? — to say to the paralyzed man, 'Your sins  
 10 are forgiven'? or to say 'Get up, and take up your mat, and walk  
 10 about'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power to  
 11 forgive sins on earth" — here he said to the paralyzed man — "To  
 11 you I say, Get up, take up your mat, and return to your home."  
 12 The man got up, and immediately took up his mat, and went out  
 12 before them all; at which they were amazed, and, as they praised  
 13 God, they said: "We have never seen anything like this!"  
 13 Jesus went out again to the Sea; and all the people came to him,  
 14 and he taught them. As he went along, he saw Levi, the son of  
 14 Alphaeus, sitting in the tax-office, and said to him: "Follow me."  
 15 Levi got up and followed him.  
 15 Later on he was in his house at table, and a number of tax-gath-  
 16 erers and outcasts took their places at table with Jesus and his dis-  
 16 ciples; for many of them were following him. When the Teachers  
 of the Law belonging to the party of the Pharisees saw that he

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## Mark 3

was eating in the company of such people, they said to his disciples: "He is eating in the company of tax-gatherers and outcasts!" Hearing this, Jesus said: "It is not those who are in health that need a doctor, but those who are ill. I did not come to call the religious, but the outcast."

Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were keeping a fast, and people came and asked Jesus: "Why is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, while yours do not?" Jesus answered: "Can the bridegroom's friends fast, while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. But the days will come, when the bridegroom will be parted from them, and they will fast then — when that day comes."

"No one ever sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; if they do, the patch tears away from it — the new from the old — and a worse rent is made. And no one ever puts new wine into old wine-skins; if they do, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are lost. But new wine is put into fresh skins."

One Sabbath, as Jesus was walking through the cornfields, his disciples began to pick the ears of wheat as they went along. "Look!" the Pharisees said to him, "why are they doing what is not allowed on the Sabbath?" "Have you never read," answered Jesus, "what David did when he was in want and hungry, he and his companions — How he went into the House of God, in the time of Abiathar the High Priest, and ate 'the consecrated bread,' which only the priests are allowed to eat, and gave some to his comrades as well?"

Then Jesus added: "The Sabbath was made for people, and not people for the Sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

On another occasion Jesus went in to a Synagogue, where there was a man whose hand was withered. And they watched Jesus

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3 closely, to see if he would cure the man on the Sabbath, so that  
 4 they might have a charge to bring against him. "Stand out in the  
 5 middle," Jesus said to the man with the withered hand; and to the  
 6 people he said: "Is it allowable to do good on the Sabbath — or  
 7 harm? to save a life, or destroy it?" As they remained silent, Jesus  
 8 looked round at them in anger, grieving at the hardness of their  
 9 hearts, and said to the man: "Stretch out your hand." The man  
 10 stretched it out; and his hand had become sound. Immediately on  
 11 leaving the Synagogue, the Pharisees and the Herodians united  
 12 in laying a plot against Jesus, to put him to death.

7 THEN JESUS WENT AWAY WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE SEA,  
 8 followed by a great number of people from Galilee. A great  
 9 number, hearing of all that he was doing, came to him from  
 10 Judea, from Jerusalem, from Edom, from beyond the Jordan, and  
 11 from the country round Tyre and Sidon. So Jesus told his  
 12 disciples to keep a small boat close by, for fear the crowd should  
 13 crush him. For he had cured many of them, and so people kept  
 14 crowding upon him, that all who were afflicted might touch him.  
 15 The foul spirits, too, whenever they caught sight of him, flung  
 16 themselves down before him, and screamed out: "You are the  
 17 Son of God"! But he repeatedly warned them not to make him  
 18 known.

13 Jesus made his way up the hill, and called those whom he  
 14 wished; and they went to him. He appointed twelve — whom he  
 15 also named 'Apostles' — that they might be with him, and that  
 16 he might send them out as his Messengers, to preach, and with  
 17 power to drive out demons. So he appointed the Twelve — Peter  
 18 (which was the name that Jesus gave to Simon), James, the son of  
 19 Zebediah, and his brother John (to whom he gave the name of  
 20 Boanerges, which means the Thunderers), Andrew, Philip,  
 21 Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus,



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## Mark 4

Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the man that 19  
betrayed him.

Jesus went into a house; and again a crowd collected, so that 20  
they were not able even to eat their food. When his relations heard 21  
of it, they went to take charge of him, for they said that he was out  
of his mind.

The Teachers of the Law, who had come down from Jerusalem, 22  
said: "He has Baal-zebul in him, and he drives the demons out by  
the help of Baal-zebul, their chief." So Jesus called them to him, 23  
and answered them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan?  
When a kingdom is divided against itself, it cannot last; and when 24  
a household is divided against itself, it will not be able to last. So, 25  
if Satan is in revolt against himself and is divided, he cannot last  
— his end has come!

"No man who has got into a strong man's house can carry off his 27  
goods, without first securing him; and not till then will he plunder  
his house. I tell you that people will be forgiven everything — their 28  
sins, and all the slanders that they utter; but whoever slanders 29  
the Holy Spirit remains unforgiven to the end; he has to answer  
for an enduring sin." This was said in reply to the charge that he 30  
had a foul spirit in him. His mother and his brothers came, and 31  
stood outside, and sent to ask him to come to them. There was a 32  
crowd sitting round Jesus, and some of them said to him: "Look,  
your mother and your brothers are outside, asking for you." "Who 33  
is my mother? and my brothers?" was his reply. Then he looked 34  
around on the people sitting in a circle round him, and said: "Here  
are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is 35  
my brother and sister and mother."

JESUS AGAIN BEGAN TO TEACH BY THE SEA; and, as an immense 4  
crowd was gathering round him, he got into a boat, and sat in it

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on the Sea, while all the people were on the shore at the water's edge.

2 Then he taught them many truths in parables; and in the course of his teaching he said to them:

3 "Listen! The sower went out to sow; and presently, as he was sowing, some of the seed fell along the path; and the birds came, and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had not much soil, and, having no depth of soil, sprang up at once; but, when the sun rose, it was scorched, and, having no root, withered away. Some of the seed fell among brambles; but the brambles shot up and completely choked it, and it yielded no return. Some fell into good soil, and, shooting up and growing, yielded a return, amounting to thirty, sixty, and even a hundred fold." And Jesus said: "Let any one who has ears to hear with hear."

10 Afterwards, when he was alone, his followers and the Twelve asked him about his parables; and he said: "To you the hidden truth of the Kingdom of God has been imparted; but to those who are outside it all teaching takes the form of parables, that — 'Though they have eyes, they may see without perceiving; and though they have ears, they may hear without understanding; lest some day they should turn and be forgiven.'

13 "You do not know the meaning of this parable!" he went on; 14 "Then how will you understand all the other parables? The sower sows the Message. The People meant by the seed that falls along the path are these — where the Message is sown, but, as soon as they have heard it, Satan immediately comes and carries away the Message that has been sown in them. So, too, those meant by the seed sown on the rocky places are the people who, when they have heard the Message, at once accept it joyfully; but, as they have no root, they stand only for a short time; and so, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the Message, they fall away at once. 18 Those meant by the seed sown among the brambles are different;

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they are the people who hear the Message, but the cares of life, and the glamour of wealth, and cravings for many other things come in and completely choke the Message, so that it gives no return. But the people meant by the seed sown on the good ground are those who hear the Message, and welcome it, and yield a return, thirty, sixty, and even a hundred fold."

Jesus said to them: "Is a lamp brought to be put under the corn-measure or under the couch, instead of being put on the lampstand? Nothing is hidden unless it is some day to come to light, nor was anything ever kept hidden but that it should some day come into the light of day. Let all who have ears to hear with hear.

Take care what you listen to," said Jesus. "The measure you mete will be meted out to you, and more will be added for you. For, to those who have, more will be given; while, from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."

Jesus also said: "This is what the Kingdom of God is like — like a man who has scattered seed on the ground, and then sleeps by night and rises by day, while the seed is shooting up and growing — he knows not how. The ground bears the crop of itself — first the blade, then the ear, and then the full grain in the ear; but, as soon as the crop is ready, immediately he 'puts in the sickle because harvest has come'."

Jesus also said: "To what can we liken the Kingdom of God? By what can we illustrate it? Perhaps by the growth of a mustard-seed. This seed, when sown in the ground, though it is smaller than all other seeds, Yet, when sown, shoots up, and becomes larger than any other herb, and puts out great branches, so that even 'the wild birds can roost in its shelter.'"

With many such parables Jesus used to speak to the people of his Message, as far as they were able to receive it; and to them he

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never used to speak except in parables; but in private to his own disciples he explained everything.

35 IN THE EVENING OF THE SAME DAY, Jesus said to them: "Let us  
36 go across." So, leaving the crowd behind, they took him with  
37 them, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with  
38 him. A violent squall came on, and the waves kept dashing into  
39 the boat, so that the boat was actually filling. Jesus was in the  
40 stern asleep upon the cushion; and the disciples roused him and  
41 cried: "Teacher! is it nothing to you that we are lost?" Jesus rose  
and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea: "Hush! Be still!" Then  
42 the wind dropped, and a great calm followed. "Why are you so  
43 timid?" he exclaimed. "Have you no faith yet?" But they were  
struck with great awe, and said to one another: "Who can this be  
5 that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

They came to the other side of the Sea — the country of the  
2 Gerasenes; and, as soon as Jesus had got out of the boat, he met a  
3 man coming out of the tombs, who was under the power of a  
4 foul spirit, and who made his home in the tombs. No one had  
ever been able to secure him, even with a chain; for, though he  
5 had many times been left secured with fetters and chains, he had  
6 snapped the chains and broken the fetters to pieces, and no one  
7 could master him. Night and day alike, he was continually  
8 shrieking in the tombs and among the hills, and cutting himself  
9 with stones. Catching sight of Jesus from a distance, he ran and  
10 bowed to the ground before him, shrieking out in a loud voice:  
"What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?  
For God's sake do not torment me!" For Jesus had said: "Come  
out from the man, you foul spirit." And he asked him: "What is  
your name?" "My name," he said, "is Legion, for there are many  
of us;" and he begged Jesus again and again not to send them  
away out of that country.

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There was a large drove of pigs close by, feeding on the hillside; 11  
 and the spirits begged Jesus: "Send us into the pigs, that we may 12  
 take possession of them." Jesus gave them leave. They came out, 13  
 and entered into the pigs; and the drove — about two thousand  
 in number — rushed down the steep slope into the Sea and were  
 drowned in the Sea.

On this the men who tended them ran away, and carried the 14  
 news to the town, and to the country round; and the people went  
 to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found 15  
 the possessed man sitting there, clothed and in his right mind —  
 the very man who had had the 'Legion' in him — and they were  
 awe-struck. Then those who had seen it related to them all that 16  
 had happened to the possessed man, as well as about the pigs;  
 upon which they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. 17

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the possessed man begged 18  
 him to let him stay with him. But Jesus refused. "Go back to your 19  
 home, to your own people," he said, "and tell them of all that the  
 Lord has done for you, and how he took pity on you." So the man 20  
 went, and began to proclaim in the district of the Ten Towns all  
 that Jesus had done for him; and every one was amazed.

By the time Jesus had re-crossed in the boat to the opposite 21  
 shore, a great number of people had gathered to meet him, and  
 were standing by the Sea. One of the Presidents of the Synagogue, 22  
 whose name was Jaeirus, came and, as soon as he saw Jesus, threw  
 himself at his feet with repeated entreaties. "My little daughter," 23  
 he said, "is at the point of death; I beg you to come and place your  
 hands on her, that her life may be spared." So Jesus went with 24  
 him. A great number of People followed Jesus, and kept pressing  
 round him.

Meanwhile a woman who for twelve years had suffered from 25  
 hemorrhage, and undergone much at the hands of many doctors, 26  
 (spending all she had without obtaining any relief, but, on the

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27 contrary, growing worse), heard about Jesus, came behind in the  
 28 crowd, and touched his cloak. "If I can only touch his clothes," she  
 29 said, "I shall get well!" At once the mischief was stopped, and she  
 30 felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Jesus at once  
 31 became aware of the power that had gone out from him, and, turn-  
 32 ing round in the crowd, he said: "Who touched my clothes?" "You  
 33 see the people pressing round you," exclaimed his disciples, "and  
 34 yet you say 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus looked about to see  
 35 who had done it. Then the woman, in fear and trembling, know-  
 36 ing what had happened to her, came and threw herself down be-  
 37 fore him, and told him the whole truth. "Daughter," he said, "your  
 38 faith has delivered you. Go, and peace be with you; be free from  
 39 your complaint."

40 Before he had finished speaking, some people from the house  
 41 of the President of the Synagogue came and said: "Your daughter  
 42 is dead! Why should you trouble the Teacher further?" But Jesus,  
 43 overhearing what they were saying, said to the President of the  
 44 Synagogue: "Do not be afraid; only have faith." And he allowed no  
 45 one to accompany him, except Peter, James, and John, the brother  
 46 of James. Presently they reached the President's house, where Je-  
 47 sus saw a scene of confusion — people weeping and wailing in-  
 48 cessantly. "Why this confusion and weeping?" he said on entering.  
 49 "The little child is not dead; she is asleep." They began to laugh  
 50 at him; but he sent them all out, and then, with the child's father  
 51 and mother and his companions, went into the room where she  
 52 was lying. Taking her hand, Jesus said to her: "Taleitha, koum!" —  
 53 which means 'little girl, I am speaking to you — Rise!' The little  
 54 girl stood up at once, and began to walk about; for she was twelve  
 55 years old. And, as soon as they saw it, they were overwhelmed  
 56 with amazement; but Jesus repeatedly cautioned them not to let  
 57 any one know of it, and told them to give her something to eat.

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## Mark 6

On leaving that place, Jesus, followed by his disciples, went to 6  
 his own part of the country. When the Sabbath came, he began 2  
 to teach in the Synagogue; and the people, as they listened, were  
 deeply impressed. "Where did he get this?" they said, "and what  
 is this wisdom that has been given him? and these miracles which  
 he is doing? Is not he the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the 3  
 brother of James, and Joses, and Judas, and Simon? And are not  
 his sisters, too, living here among us?" This proved a hindrance  
 to their believing in him; on which Jesus said: "A prophet is not 4  
 without honor, except in his own country, and among his own re-  
 lations, and in his own home." And he could not work any miracle 5  
 there, beyond placing his hands upon a few infirm persons, and  
 curing them; and he wondered at the want of faith shown by the 6  
 people. Jesus went round the villages, one after another, teaching.

HE CALLED THE TWELVE TO HIM, and began to send them out as 7  
 his Messengers, two and two, and gave them authority over foul  
 spirits. He instructed them to take nothing but a staff for the jour- 8  
 ney- -not even bread, or a bag, or pence in their purse; but they 9  
 were to wear sandals, and not to put on a second coat. "Whenever 10  
 you go to stay at a house," he said, "remain there till you leave that  
 place; And if a place does not welcome you, or listen to you, as you 11  
 go out of it shake off the dust that is on the soles of your feet, as  
 a protest against them." So they set out, and proclaimed the need 12  
 of repentance. They drove out many demons, and anointed with 13  
 oil many who were infirm, and cured them.

Now King Herod heard of Jesus; for his name had become well 14  
 known. People were saying — "John the Baptizer must have risen  
 from the dead, and that is why these miraculous powers are active  
 in him." Others again said — "He is Elijah," and others — "He is 15  
 a Prophet, like one of the great Prophets." But when Herod heard 16

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of him, he said — “The man whom I beheaded — John — he must be risen!”

17 For Herod himself had sent and arrested John, and put him in  
 18 prison, in chains, to please Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip,  
 19 because Herod had married her. For John had said to Herod —  
 20 “You have no right to be living with your brother’s wife.” So Herod-  
 21 dias was incensed against John, and wanted to put him to death,  
 22 but was unable to do so, because Herod stood in fear of John,  
 23 knowing him to be an upright and holy man, and protected him.  
 24 He had listened to John, but still remained much perplexed, and  
 25 yet he found pleasure in listening to him.

26 A suitable opportunity, however, occurred when Herod, on his  
 27 birthday, gave a dinner to his high officials, and his generals, and  
 28 the foremost men in Galilee. When his daughter — that is, the  
 29 daughter of Herodias — came in and danced, she delighted Herod  
 30 and those who were dining with him. “Ask me for whatever you  
 31 like,” the King said to the girl, “and I will give it to you”; and he  
 32 swore to her that he would give her whatever she asked him —  
 33 up to half his kingdom. The girl went out, and said to her mother  
 34 “What must I ask for?” “The head of John the Baptizer,” answered  
 35 her mother. So she went in as quickly as possible to the King, and  
 36 made her request. “I want you,” she said, “to give me at once,  
 37 on a dish, the head of John the Baptist.” The King was much dis-  
 38 tressed; yet, on account of his oath and of the guests at his table,  
 39 he did not like to refuse her. He immediately dispatched one of his  
 40 bodyguard, with orders to bring John’s head. The man went and  
 41 beheaded John in the prison, and, bringing his head on a dish,  
 42 gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother.

43 When John’s disciples heard of it, they came and took his body  
 44 away, and laid it in a tomb.

45 When the Apostles came back to Jesus, they told him all that  
 46 they had done and all that they had taught. “Come by yourselves



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privately to some lonely spot," he said, "and rest for a while" —  
 for there were so many people coming and going that they had not  
 time even to eat. So they set off privately in their boat for a lonely 32  
 spot. Many people saw them going, and recognized them, and 33  
 from all the towns they flocked together to the place on foot, and  
 got there before them. On getting out of the boat, Jesus saw a great 34  
 crowd, and his heart was moved at the sight of them, because they  
 were 'like sheep without a shepherd'; and he began to teach them  
 many things. When it grew late, his disciples came up to him, and 35  
 said: "This is a lonely spot, and it is already late. Send the people 36  
 away, so that they may go to the farms and villages around and  
 buy themselves something to eat." But Jesus answered: "It is for 37  
 you to give them something to eat." "Are we to go and buy twenty  
 pounds' worth of bread," they asked, "to give them to eat?" "How 38  
 many loaves have you?" he asked; "Go, and see." When they had  
 found out, they told him: "Five, and two fishes." Jesus directed 39  
 them to make all the people take their seats on the green grass,  
 in parties; and they sat down in groups — in hundreds, and in 40  
 fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fishes, Jesus looked up 41  
 to Heaven, and said the blessing; he broke the loaves into pieces,  
 and gave them to his disciples for them to serve out to the people,  
 and he divided the two fishes also among them all. Every one had 42  
 sufficient to eat; and they picked up enough broken pieces to fill 43  
 twelve baskets, as well as some of the fish. The people who ate the 44  
 bread were five thousand in number.

Immediately afterwards Jesus made his disciples get into the 45  
 boat, and cross over in advance, in the direction of Bethsaida,  
 while he himself was dismissing the crowd. After he had taken 46  
 leave of the people, he went away up the hill to pray. When 47  
 evening fell, the boat was out in the middle of the Sea, and Jesus  
 on the shore alone. Seeing them laboring at the oars — for the 48  
 wind was against them — about three hours after midnight Jesus

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came towards them, walking on the water, intending to join  
 49 them. But, when they saw him walking on the water, they  
 50 thought it was a ghost, and cried out; for all of them saw him,  
 and were terrified. But Jesus at once spoke to them. "Courage!"  
 51 he said, "it is I; do not be afraid!" Then he got into the boat with  
 them, and the wind dropped. The disciples were utterly amazed,  
 52 for they had not understood about the loaves, their minds being  
 53 slow to learn. When they had crossed over, they landed at  
 54 Gennesaret, and moored the boat. But they had no sooner left  
 55 her than the people, recognizing Jesus, hurried over the whole  
 country-side, and began to carry about upon mats those who  
 56 were ill, wherever they heard he was. So wherever he went — to  
 villages, or towns, or farms — they would lay their sick in the  
 market-places, begging him to let them touch only the tassel of  
 his cloak; and all who touched were made well.

7 ONE DAY THE PHARISEES and some of the Teachers of the Law  
 2 who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus. They had  
 noticed that some of his disciples ate their food with their hands  
 3 'defiled,' by which they meant unwashed. (For the Pharisees, and  
 indeed all strict Jews, will not eat without first scrupulously wash-  
 ing their hands, holding in this to the traditions of their ances-  
 4 tors. When they come from market, they will not eat without first  
 sprinkling themselves; and there are many other customs which  
 they have inherited and hold to, such as the ceremonial wash-  
 5 ing of cups, and jugs, and copper pans). So the Pharisees and the  
 Teachers of the Law asked Jesus this question — "How is it that  
 your disciples do not follow the traditions of our ancestors, but  
 6 eat their food with defiled hands?" His answer was: "It was well  
 said by Isaiah when he prophesied about you hypocrites in the  
 words — 'This is a people that honor me with their lips, while  
 7 their hearts are far removed from me; but vainly do they worship

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me, For they teach but human precepts.' You neglect God's com- 8  
 mandments and hold to human traditions. Wisely do you set aside 9  
 God's commandments," he exclaimed, "to keep your own tradi-  
 tions! For while Moses said 'Honor your father and your mother,' 10  
 and 'Let anyone who abuses their father or mother suffer death,'  
 you say 'If a person says to their father or mother "Whatever of 11  
 mine might have been of service to you is Korban"' (which means  
 'Given to God') — why, then you do not allow them to do any- 12  
 thing further for their father or mother! In this way you nullify 13  
 the words of God by your traditions, which you hand down; and  
 you do many similar things."

Then Jesus called the people to him again, and said: "Listen to 14  
 me, all of you, and mark my words. There is nothing external to a 15  
 person, which by going into them can 'defile' them; but the things  
 that come out from a person are the things that defile them."

When Jesus went indoors, away from the crowd, his disciples 17  
 began questioning him about this saying. "What, do even you 18  
 understand so little?" exclaimed Jesus. "Do not you see that there is  
 nothing external to a person, which by going into a person, can  
 'defile' them, because it does not pass into his heart, but into his 19  
 stomach, and is afterwards got rid of? — in saying this Jesus pro-  
 nounced all food 'clean.' "It is what comes out from a person," he 20  
 added, "that defiles them, for it is from within, out of the hearts 21  
 of people, that there come evil thoughts — unchastity, theft, mur-  
 der, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, indencency, envy, slan- 22  
 der, haughtiness, folly; all these wicked things come from within, 23  
 and do defile a person."

On leaving that place, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and 24  
 Sidon. He went into a house, and did not wish anyone to know it,  
 but could not escape notice. For a woman, whose little daughter 25  
 had a foul spirit in her, heard of him immediately, and came and  
 threw herself at his feet — the woman was a foreigner, a native of 26

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Syrian Phoenicia — and she begged him to drive the demon out of her daughter. “Let the children be satisfied first,” answered Jesus. “For it is not fair to take the children’s food, and throw it to dogs.” “Yes, Master,” she replied; “even the dogs under the table do feed on the children’s crumbs.” “For saying that,” he answered, “you may go. The demon has gone out of your daughter.” The woman went home, and found the child lying on her bed, and the demon gone.

On returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went, by way of Sidon, to the Sea of Galilee, across the district of the Ten Towns. Some people brought to him a man who was deaf and almost dumb, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him. Jesus took him aside from the crowd quietly, put his fingers into the man’s ears, and touched his tongue with saliva. Then, looking up to Heaven, he sighed, and said to the man: “Ephphatha!” which means ‘Be opened.’ The man’s ears were opened, the string of his tongue was freed, and he began to talk plainly. Jesus insisted upon their not telling any one; but the more he insisted, the more perseveringly they made it known, and a profound impression was made upon the people. “He has done everything well!” they exclaimed. “He makes even the deaf hear and the dumb speak!”

8 ABOUT THAT TIME, when there was again a great crowd of people who had nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples to him, and said: “My heart is moved at the sight of all these people, for they have already been with me three days and they have nothing to eat; and if I send them away to their homes hungry, they will break down on the way; and some of them have come a long distance.” “Where will it be possible,” his disciples answered, “to get sufficient bread for these people in this lonely place?” “How many loaves have you?” he asked. “Seven,” they answered. Jesus told the crowd to sit down upon the ground. Then he took the seven

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## Mark 8

loaves, and, after saying the thanksgiving, broke them, and gave them to his disciples to serve out; and they served them out to the crowd. They had also a few small fish; and, after he had said the blessing, he told the disciples to serve out these as well. The people had sufficient to eat, and they picked up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left. There were about four thousand people. Then Jesus dismissed them. Immediately afterwards, getting into the boat with his disciples, Jesus went to the district of Dalmanutha.

Here the Pharisees came out, and began to argue with Jesus, asking him for some sign from the heavens, to test him. Sighing deeply, Jesus said: "Why does this generation ask for a sign? I tell you, no sign shall be given it." So he left them to themselves, and, getting into the boat again, went away to the opposite shore.

Now the disciples had forgotten to take any bread with them, one loaf being all that they had in the boat. So Jesus gave them this warning. "Take care," he said, "beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." They began talking to one another about their being short of bread; and, noticing this, Jesus said to them: "Why are you talking about your being short of bread? Do not you yet see or understand? Are your minds still so slow or comprehension? "Though you have eyes, do you not see? and though you have ears, do you not hear?" Do not you remember, when I broke up the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets of broken pieces you picked up?" "Twelve," they said. "And when the seven for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of broken pieces did you pick up?" "Seven," they said. "Do not you understand now?" he repeated.

They came to Bethsaida. There some people brought a blind man to Jesus, and begged him to touch him. Taking the blind man's hand, Jesus led him to the outskirts of the village, and, when he had put saliva on the man's eyes, he placed his hands

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24 on him, and asked him: "Do you see anything?" The man looked  
 25 up, and said: "I see the people, for, as they walk about, they look  
 26 to me like trees." Then Jesus again placed his hands on the man's  
 eyes; and the man saw clearly, his sight was restored, and he saw  
 everything with perfect distinctness. Jesus sent him to his home,  
 and said: "Do not go even into the village."

27 AFTERWARDS JESUS and his disciples went into the villages  
 round Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples  
 28 this question — "Who do people say that I am?" "John the  
 Baptist," they answered, "but others say Elijah, while others say  
 29 one of the Prophets." "But you," he asked, "who do you say that  
 30 I am?" To this Peter replied: "You are the Christ." On which Jesus  
 31 charged them not to say this about him to anyone. Then he began  
 to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo much suffering,  
 and that he must be rejected by the Councillors, and the Chief  
 Priests, and the Teachers of the Law, and be put to death, and  
 32 rise again after three days. This statement he made openly. But  
 33 Peter took Jesus aside, and began to rebuke him. Jesus, however,  
 turning round and seeing his disciples, rebuked Peter. "Out of  
 my sight, Satan!" he exclaimed. "For you look at things, not as  
 God does, but as people do."

34 Calling the people and his disciples to him, Jesus said: "If any-  
 one wishes to walk in my steps, let them renounce self, take up  
 35 their cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save their life  
 will lose it, and whoever, for my sake and for the sake of the Good  
 36 News, will lose their life shall save it. What good is it to a person to  
 37 gain the whole world and forfeit their life? For what could a per-  
 38 son give that is of equal value with their life? Whoever is ashamed  
 of me and of my teaching, in this unfaithful and wicked genera-  
 tion, of them will the Son of Man be ashamed, when he comes in  
 his Father's Glory with the holy angels."

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## Mark 9

"I tell you," he added, "that some of those who are standing 9  
here will not know death till they have seen the Kingdom of God  
come in power."

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John, and 2  
led them up a high mountain alone by themselves. There his ap-  
pearance was transformed before their eyes, and his clothes be- 3  
came of a more dazzling white than any bleacher in the world  
could make them. And Elijah appeared to them, in company with 4  
Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. "Rabbi," said Peter, in- 5  
terposing, "it is good to be here; let us make three tents, one for  
you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." For he did not know what 6  
to say, because they were much afraid. Then a cloud came down 7  
and enveloped them; and from the cloud there came a voice —  
"This is my Son, the Beloved; him you must hear." And suddenly, 8  
on looking round, they saw that there was now no one with them  
but Jesus alone.

As they were going down the mountain-side, Jesus cautioned 9  
them not to relate what they had seen to any one, till after the  
Son of Man should have risen again from the dead. They seized 10  
upon these words and discussed with one another what this 'ris-  
ing from the dead' meant. "How is it," they asked Jesus, "that our 11  
Teachers of the Law say that Elijah has to come first?" "Elijah does 12  
indeed come first," answered Jesus, "and re-establish everything;  
and does not Scripture speak, with regard to the Son of Man, of  
his undergoing much suffering and being utterly despised? But I 13  
tell you that Elijah has come, and people have treated him just as  
they pleased, as Scripture says of him."

When they came to the other disciples, they saw a great crowd 14  
round them, and some Teachers of the Law arguing with them.  
But, as soon as they saw Jesus, all the people, in great astonish- 15  
ment, ran up and greeted him. "What are you arguing about with 16  
them?" Jesus asked. "Teacher," answered a man in the crowd, "I 17

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- 18 brought my son to see you, as he has a dumb spirit in him; and,  
 wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; he foams at the mouth  
 and grinds his teeth, and he is pining away. I asked your disciples  
 19 to drive the spirit out, but they failed." "O faithless generation!"  
 exclaimed Jesus. "How long must I be with you? how long must I  
 20 have patience with you? Bring the boy to me." They brought him  
 to Jesus; but no sooner did the boy see him than the spirit threw  
 him into convulsions; and he fell on the ground, and rolled about,  
 21 foaming at the mouth. "How long has he been like this?" Jesus  
 22 asked the boy's father. "From his childhood," he answered; "and  
 it has often thrown him into fire and into water to put an end to his  
 life; but, if you can possibly do anything, take pity on us, and help  
 23 us!" Why say 'possibly'?" Jesus replied. "Everything is possible  
 24 for one who has faith." The boy's father immediately cried out:  
 25 "I have faith; help my want of faith!" But, when Jesus saw that  
 a crowd was quickly collecting, he rebuked the foul spirit: "Deaf  
 and dumb spirit, it is I who command you. Come out from him  
 26 and never enter him again." With a loud cry the spirit threw the  
 boy into repeated convulsions, and then came out from him. The  
 boy looked like a corpse, so that most of them said that he was  
 27 dead. But Jesus took his hand, and lifted him; and he stood up.  
 28 When Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately:  
 29 "Why could not we drive it out?" "A spirit of this kind," he said,  
 "can be driven out only by prayer."
- 30 LEAVING THAT PLACE, Jesus and his disciples went on their way  
 31 through Galilee; but he did not wish any one to know it, for he  
 was instructing his disciples, and telling them — "The Son of Man  
 is being betrayed into the hands of his fellow men, and they will  
 put him to death, but, when he has been put to death, he will rise  
 32 again after three days." But the disciples did not understand his  
 meaning and were afraid to question him.



*The Work in Galilee*

## Mark 9

They came to Capernaum. When Jesus had gone into the house, 33  
 he asked them: "What were you discussing on the way?" But they 34  
 were silent; for on the way they had been arguing with one another  
 which was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and 35  
 said: "If any one wishes to be first, he must be last of all, and ser-  
 vant of all." Then Jesus took a little child, and placed it in the mid- 36  
 dle of them. Folding it in his arms, he said to them: "Any one who, 37  
 for the sake of my Name, welcomes even a little child like this is  
 welcoming me, and any one who welcomes me is welcoming not  
 me, but him who sent me as his Messenger."

"Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons by 38  
 using your name, and we tried to prevent him, because he did not  
 follow us." "None of you must prevent the man," answered Jesus, 39  
 "for no one will use my name in working a miracle, and yet find it  
 easy to speak evil of me. He who is not against us is for us. If any 40  
 one gives you a cup of water because you belong to Christ, I tell  
 you, he shall assuredly not lose his reward."

'And, if any one puts a snare in the way of one of these lowly 42  
 ones who believe in me, it would be far better for him if he had  
 been thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. If 43  
 your hand proves a snare to you, cut it off. It would be better for  
 you to enter the Life maimed, than to have both your hands and  
 go into Gehenna, into the inextinguishable fire. If your foot proves 45  
 a snare to you, cut it off. It would be better for you to enter the Life  
 lame, than to have both your feet and be thrown into Gehenna. If 47  
 your eye proves a snare to you, tear it out. It would be better for  
 you to enter the Kingdom of God with only one eye, than to have  
 both eyes and be thrown into Gehenna, where 'their worm does 48  
 not die, and the fire is not put out.'

'For it is by fire that every one will be salted. 49

'Salt is good, but, if the salt should lose its saltiness, what will 50  
 you use to season it?

Mark 10

*The Journey to Jerusalem*

‘You must have salt in yourselves, and live at peace with one another.’

*The Journey to Jerusalem*

- 10 On leaving that place, Jesus went into the district of Judea on the other side of the Jordan. Crowds gathered about him again; and  
 2 again, as usual, he began teaching them. Presently some Pharisees came up and, to test him, asked: “Has a husband the right to divorce his wife?” “What direction did Moses give you?” replied  
 3 Jesus. “Moses,” they said, “permitted a man to ‘draw up in writing a notice of separation and divorce his wife.’” “It was owing to the hardness of your hearts,” said Jesus, “that Moses gave you this  
 4 direction; but, at the beginning of the Creation, God ‘made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and  
 5 mother, and the man and his wife shall become one;’ so that they are no longer two, but one. What God himself, then, has yoked together no one must separate.”  
 6  
 7 When they were indoors, the disciples asked him again about this, and he said: “Any one who divorces his wife and marries another woman is guilty of adultery against his wife; and, if the woman divorces her husband and marries another man, she is guilty of adultery.”  
 8  
 9 Some of the people were bringing little children to Jesus, for him to touch them; but the disciples found fault with those who had brought them. When, however, Jesus saw this, he was indignant. “Let the little children come to me,” he said, “do not hinder them; for it is to the childlike that the Kingdom of God belongs. I tell you, unless a person receives the Kingdom of God like a child, they will not enter it at all.” Then he folded the children in his arms, and, placing his hands on them, gave them his blessing.  
 10  
 11 As Jesus was resuming his journey, a man came running up to him, and threw himself on his knees before him. “Good Teacher,”

*The Journey to Jerusalem*

## Mark 10

he asked, "what must I do to gain eternal life?" "Why do you call  
me good?" answered Jesus. "No one is good but God. You know  
the commandments — 'Do not kill. Do not commit adultery. Do  
not steal. Do not say what is false about others. Do not cheat.  
Honor your father and your mother.'" "Teacher," he replied, "I  
have observed all these from my childhood." Jesus looked at the  
man, and his heart went out to him, and he said: "There is still one  
thing wanting in you; go and sell all that you have, and give to the  
poor, and you shall have wealth in Heaven; then come and fol-  
low me." But the man's face clouded at these words, and he went  
away distressed, for he had great possessions.

Then Jesus looked round, and said to his disciples: "How hard  
it will be for people of wealth to enter the Kingdom of God!" The  
disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again: "My  
children, how hard a thing it is to enter the Kingdom of God! It  
is easier for a camel to get through a needle's eye, than for a rich  
person to enter the Kingdom of God." "Then who can be saved?"  
they exclaimed in the greatest astonishment. Jesus looked at them,  
and answered: "With people it is impossible, but not with God; for  
everything is possible with God."

"But we," began Peter, "we left everything and have followed  
you." "I tell you," said Jesus, "there is no one who has left house,  
or brothers, or sisters, or mother, or father, or children, or land, on  
my account and on account of the Good News, who will not re-  
ceive a hundred times as much, even now in the present — houses,  
and brothers, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and land —  
though not without persecutions, and, in the age that is coming,  
eternal life. But many who are first now will then be last, and the  
last will be first."

## Mark 10

*The Journey to Jerusalem*

- 32 ONE DAY, when they were on their way, going up to Jerusalem, Jesus was walking in front of the Apostles, who were filled with misgivings; while those who were following behind were alarmed. Gathering the Twelve round him once more, Jesus began to tell
- 33 them what was about to happen to him. "Listen!" he said. "We are going up to Jerusalem; and there the Son of Man will be betrayed to the Chief Priests and the Teachers of the Law, and they will condemn him to death, and they will give him up to the Gentiles, who will mock him, spit upon him, and scourge him, and
- 34 put him to death; and after three days he will rise again."
- 35 James and John, the two sons of Zebediah, went to Jesus, and
- 36 said: "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask." "What
- 37 do you want me to do for you?" he asked. "Grant us this," they answered, "to sit, one on your right, and the other on your left,
- 38 when you come in glory." "You do not know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup that I am to drink? or
- 39 receive the baptism that I am to receive?" "Yes," they answered, "we can." "You shall indeed drink the cup that I am to drink,"
- 40 Jesus said, "and receive the baptism that I am to receive, but as to a seat at my right or at my left — that is not mine to give, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."
- 41 On hearing of this, the ten others were at first very indignant
- 42 about James and John. But Jesus called the ten to him, and said: "Those who are regarded as ruling among the Gentiles lord it over
- 43 them, as you know, and their great men oppress them. But among you it is not so. No, whoever wants to become great among you
- 44 must be your servant, and whoever wants to take the first place
- 45 among you must be the servant of all; for even the Son of Man came, not be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
- 46 They came to Jericho. When Jesus was going out of the town with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus, the son of

*The Last Days*

## Mark 11

Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the road-side. Hearing 47  
 that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to call out: "Jesus, Son of  
 David, take pity on me." Many of the people kept telling him to 48  
 be quiet; but the man continued to call out all the louder: "Son of  
 David, take pity on me." Then Jesus stopped. "Call him," he said. 49  
 So they called the blind man. "Courage!" they exclaimed. "Get  
 up; he is calling you." The man threw off his cloak, sprang up, 50  
 and came to Jesus. "What do you want me to do for you?" said 51  
 Jesus, addressing him. "Rabboni," the blind man answered, "I  
 want to recover my sight." "You may go," Jesus said; "your faith 52  
 has delivered you." Immediately he recovered his sight, and  
 began to follow Jesus along the road.

*The Last Days*

When they had almost reached Jerusalem, as far as Bethphage 11  
 and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent on two of his  
 disciples. "Go to the village facing you," he said; "and, as soon as 2  
 you get there, you will find a foal tethered, which no one has ever  
 ridden; untie it, and bring it. And, if any one says to you 'Why are 3  
 you doing that?', say 'The Master wants it, and will be sure to send  
 it back here at once.'" The two disciples went, and, finding a foal 4  
 tethered outside a door in the street, they untied it. Some of the 5  
 by-standers said to them: "What are you doing, untying the foal?"  
 And the two disciples answered as Jesus had told them; and they 6  
 allowed them to go. Then they brought the foal to Jesus, and, when 7  
 they had laid their cloaks on it, he seated himself upon it. Many 8  
 of the people spread their cloaks on the road, while some strewed  
 boughs which they had cut from the fields; and those who led 9  
 the way, as well as those who followed, kept shouting: "'God save  
 him! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Blessed 10  
 is the coming Kingdom of our father David! 'God save him from  
 on high!'"

## Mark 11

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- 11 Jesus entered Jerusalem, and went into the Temple Courts; and, after looking round at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.
- 12 The next day, after they had left Bethany, Jesus became hungry; 13 and, noticing a fig-tree at a distance in leaf, he went to it to see if by any chance he could find something on it; but, on coming up to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. 14 So, addressing the tree, he exclaimed: "May no one ever again eat of your fruit!" And his disciples heard what he said.
- 15 They came to Jerusalem. Jesus went into the Temple Courts, and began to drive out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of the 16 pigeon-dealers, and would not allow any one to carry anything 17 across the Temple Courts. Then he began to teach. "Does not Scripture say," he asked, "'My House shall be called a House of Prayer 18 for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers.'" Now the Chief Priests and the Teachers of the Law heard this and began to look for some way of putting Jesus to death; for they were afraid of him, since all the people were greatly impressed by his 19 teaching. As soon as evening fell, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.
- 20 As they passed by early in the morning, they noticed that the 21 fig-tree was withered up from the very roots. Then Peter remembered what had occurred. "Look, Rabbi," he exclaimed, 22 "the fig-tree which you doomed is withered up!" "Have faith in 23 God!" replied Jesus. "I tell you that if any one should say to this hill 'Be lifted up and hurled into the sea!', without ever a doubt in his mind, but in the faith that what he says will be done, he 24 would find that it would be. And therefore I say to you 'Have faith that whatever you ask for in prayer is already granted you, and you will find that it will be.'

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## Mark 12

'And, whenever you stand up to pray, forgive any grievance that  
you have against any one, that your Father who is in Heaven also  
may forgive you your offenses."

THEY CAME TO JERUSALEM AGAIN. WHILE JESUS WAS WALKING  
about in the Temple Courts, the Chief Priests, the Teachers of the  
Law, and the Councillors came up to him. "What authority have  
you to do these things?" they said. "Who gave you the authority  
to do them?" "I will put one question to you," said Jesus.  
"Answer me that, and then I will tell you what authority I have  
to act as I do. It is about John's baptism. Was it of divine or  
human origin? Answer me that." They began arguing together;  
"If we say 'divine,' he will say 'Why then did not you believe  
him?' Yet can we say 'human'?" — They were afraid of the  
people, for everyone regarded John as undoubtedly a Prophet.  
So their answer to Jesus was — "We do not know." "Then I,"  
replied Jesus, "refuse to tell you what authority I have to do  
these things."

Jesus began to speak to them in parables: "A man once planted  
a vineyard, put a fence round it, dug a wine-press, built a tower,  
and then let it out to tenants and went abroad. At the proper time  
he sent a servant to the tenants, to receive from them a share of  
the produce of the vintage; but they seized him, and beat him,  
and sent him away empty-handed. A second time the owner sent  
a servant to them; this man, too, the tenants struck on the head,  
and insulted. He sent another, but him they killed; and so with  
many others- -some they beat and some they killed. He had still  
one son, who was very dear to him; and him he sent to them last  
of all. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But those tenants said  
to one another 'Here is the heir! Come, let us kill him, and his  
inheritance will be ours.' So they seized him, and killed him, and  
threw his body outside the vineyard. What will the owner of the

## Mark 12

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vineyard do? He will come and put the tenants to death, and he will let the vineyard to others.

10 'Have you never read this passage of Scripture? — 'The very  
stone which the builders despised has now itself become the cor-  
11 ner-stone; this corner-stone has come from the Lord, and is mar-  
velous in our eyes.'"

12 After this his enemies were eager to arrest him, but they were  
afraid of the crowd; for they saw that it was at them that he had  
aimed the parable. So they let him alone, and went away.

13 AFTERWARDS THEY SENT TO JESUS SOME OF THE PHARISEES and  
of the Herodians, to set a trap for him in the course of conversa-  
14 tion. These men came to him and said: "Teacher, we know that you  
are an honest man, and are not afraid of any one, for you pay no  
regard to a person's position, but teach the Way of God honestly;  
15 are we right in paying taxes to the Emperor, or not? Should we  
pay, or should we not pay?" Knowing their hypocrisy, Jesus said  
to them: "Why are you testing me? Bring me a florin to look at."  
16 And, when they had brought it, he asked: "Whose head and title  
17 are these?" "The Emperor's," they said; and Jesus replied: "Pay  
to the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and to God what  
belongs to God." And they wondered at him.

18 Next came some Sadducees — the men who maintain that  
19 there is no resurrection. Their question was this — "Teacher, in  
our Scriptures Moses decreed that, should a man's brother die,  
leaving a widow but no child, the man should take the widow as  
20 his wife, and raise up a family for his brother. There were once  
seven brothers; of whom the eldest took a wife, but died and left  
21 no family; and the second took her, and died without family; and  
22 so did the third. All the seven died and left no family. The  
23 woman herself died last of all. At the resurrection whose wife  
24 will she be, all seven brothers having had her as their wife?" "Is



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## Mark 12

not the reason of your mistake," answered Jesus, "your ignorance of the Scriptures and of the power of God? When 25  
people rise from the dead, there is no marrying or being married; but they are as angels in Heaven.

"As to the dead, and the fact that they rise, have you never read 26  
in the Book of Moses, in the passage about the Bush, how God spoke to him thus — 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of dead people, but of 27  
living. You are greatly mistaken."

Then came up one of the Teachers of the Law who had heard 28  
their discussions. Knowing that Jesus had answered them wisely, he asked him this question: "What is the first of all the commandments?" "The first," answered Jesus, "is — 'Hear, O Israel; the 29  
Lord our God is the one Lord; and you must love the Lord your 30  
God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this — 'You must 31  
love your neighbor as you love yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." "Wisely answered, Teacher!" exclaimed 32  
the Teacher of the Law. "It is true, as you say, that 'there is one God,' and that 'there is no other besides him'; and to 'love him 33  
with all one's heart, and with all one's understanding, and with all one's strength,' and to 'love one's neighbor as one loves one- 34  
self' is far beyond all 'burnt-offerings and sacrifices.'" Seeing that  
he had answered with discernment, Jesus said to him: "You are not far from the Kingdom of God."

After that no one ventured to question him further.

While Jesus was teaching in the Temple Courts, he asked: "How 35  
is it that the Teachers of the Law say that the Christ is to be David's son? David said himself, speaking under the inspiration of the 36  
Holy Spirit — 'The Lord said to my lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies beneath your feet.'" David himself calls 37  
him 'lord,' how comes it, then, that he is to be his son?"

## Mark 13

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- 38 The mass of the people listened to Jesus with delight. In the course  
 of his teaching, Jesus said: "See that you are on your guard against  
 39 the Teachers of the Law, who delight to walk about in long robes,  
 and to be greeted in the streets with respect, and to have the best  
 40 seats in the Synagogues, and places of honor at dinner. They are  
 the men that rob widows of their homes, and make a pretense of  
 saying long prayers. Their sentence will be all the heavier."
- 41 Then Jesus sat down opposite the chests for the Temple offer-  
 ings, and watched how the people put money into them. Many  
 42 rich people were putting in large sums; but one poor widow came  
 43 and put in two small coins, worth very little. On this, calling his  
 disciples to him, Jesus said: "I tell you that this poor widow has  
 put in more than all the others who were putting money into the  
 44 chests; for every one else put in something from what he had to  
 spare, while she, in her need, put in all she had — everything that  
 she had to live on."
- 13 AS JESUS WAS WALKING OUT OF THE TEMPLE COURTS, one of his  
 disciples said to him: "Teacher, look what fine stones and build-  
 2 ings these are!" "Do you see these great buildings?" asked Jesus.  
 "Not a single stone will be left here upon another, which shall not  
 be thrown down."
- 3 When Jesus had sat down on the Mount of Olives, facing the  
 Temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew questioned him privately:  
 4 "Tell us when this will be, and what will be the sign when all this  
 is drawing to its close."
- 5 Then Jesus began: "See that no one leads you astray. Many will  
 take my name, and come saying 'I am He', and will lead many  
 astray.
- 7 "And, when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be  
 8 alarmed; such things must occur; but the end is not yet. For 'nation  
 will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom'; there will

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## Mark 13

be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This will be but the beginning of the birth-pangs.

"See to yourselves! They will betray you to courts of law; and 9  
you will be taken to Synagogues and beaten; and you will be  
brought up before governors and kings for my sake, that you  
may bear witness before them. But the Good News must first be 10  
proclaimed to every nation. Whenever they betray you and hand 11  
you over for trial, do not be anxious beforehand as to what you  
shall say, but say whatever is given you at the moment; for it will  
not be you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. Brother will betray 12  
brother to death, and the father his child; and children will turn  
against their parents, and cause them to be put to death; and you 13  
will be hated by every one on account of my Name. Yet the  
person that endures to the end shall be saved.

"As soon, however, as you see 'the Foul Desecration' standing 14  
where he ought not" (the reader must consider what this means)  
"then those of you who are in Judea must take refuge in the moun-  
tains; and a person on the house-top must not go down, or go in 15  
to get anything out of their house: nor must one who is on their  
farm turn back to get their cloak. And alas for the women that are 16  
with child, and for those that are nursing infants in those days!  
Pray, too, that this may not occur in winter. For those days will be 17  
a time of distress, the like of which has not occurred from the be-  
ginning of God's creation until now — and never will again. And, 18  
had not the Lord put a limit to those days, not a single soul would  
escape; but, for the sake of God's own chosen People, he did limit  
them. 19

"And at that time if any one should say to you 'Look, here is the 21  
Christ!' 'Look, there he is!', do not believe it; for false Christs and 22  
false Prophets will arise, and display signs and marvels, to lead  
astray, were it possible, even God's People. But see that you are on 23  
your guard! I have told you all this beforehand.

## Mark 14

*The Last Days*

24 "In those days, after that time of distress, 'the sun will be dark-  
 25 ened, the moon will not give her light, the stars will be falling  
 26 from the heavens,' and 'the forces that are in the heavens will be  
 27 convulsed.' Then will be seen the 'Son of Man coming in clouds'  
 28 with great power and glory; and then he will send the angels, and  
 29 gather his People from the four winds, from one end of the world  
 30 to the other.

28 "Learn the lesson taught by the fig-tree. As soon as its branches  
 29 are full of sap, and it is bursting into leaf, you know that summer is  
 30 near. And so may you, as soon as you see these things happening,  
 31 know that he is at your doors. I tell you that even the present gen-  
 32 eration will not pass away, until all these things have taken place.  
 33 The heavens and the earth will pass away, but my words will not  
 34 pass away.

32 "But about 'That Day,' or 'The Hour,' no one knows — not even  
 33 the angels in Heaven, nor yet the Son — but only the Father.

33 "See that you are on the watch; for you do not know when the  
 34 time will be. It is like a man going on a journey, who leaves his  
 35 home, puts his servants in charge — each having their special duty  
 36 — and orders the porter to watch. Therefore watch, for you cannot  
 37 be sure when the Master of the house is coming — whether in the  
 evening, at midnight, at daybreak, or in the morning — lest he  
 should come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to  
 you I say to all — Watch!"

14 IT WAS NOW TWO DAYS BEFORE THE FESTIVAL OF THE  
 PASSOVER and the Unleavened bread. The Chief Priests and the  
 Teachers of the Law were looking for an opportunity to arrest  
 2 Jesus by stealth, and to put him to death; for they said: "Not  
 during the Festival, for fear of a riot."

3 When Jesus was still at Bethany, in the house of Simon the  
 leper, while he was at table, a woman came with an alabaster jar

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## Mark 14

of choice spikenard perfume of great value. She broke the jar, and poured the perfume on his head. Some of those who were present said to one another indignantly: "Why has the perfume been wasted like this? This perfume could have been sold for more than thirty pounds, and the money given to the poor." "Let her alone," said Jesus, as they began to find fault with her, "why are you troubling her? This is a beautiful deed that she has done for me. You always have the poor with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has perfumed my body beforehand for my burial. And I tell you, wherever, in the whole world, the Good News is proclaimed, what this woman has done will be told in memory of her."

After this, Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the Chief Priests, to betray Jesus to them. They were glad to hear what he said, and promised to pay him. So he began looking for a good opportunity to betray Jesus.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL OF THE UNLEAVENED bread, when it was customary to kill the Passover lambs, his disciples said to Jesus: "Where do you wish us to go and make preparations for your eating the Passover?" Jesus sent forward two of his disciples and said to them: "Go into the city, and there a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you; follow him; and, wherever he goes in, say to the owner of the house 'The Teacher says — Where is my room where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will himself show you a large upstairs room, set out ready; and there make preparations for us." So the disciples set out and went into the city, and found everything just as Jesus had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

In the evening he went there with the Twelve, and when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said: "I tell you that

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one of you is going to betray me — one who is eating with me.”

19 They were grieved at this, and began to say to him, one after another: “Can it be I?” “It is one of you Twelve,” said Jesus, “the one  
20 who is dipping his bread beside me into the dish. True, the Son  
21 of Man must go, as Scripture says of him, yet alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is being betrayed! For that man ‘it would be better never to have been born!’”

22 While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and, after saying the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: “Take  
23 it; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and, after saying the  
24 thanksgiving, gave it to them, and they all drank from it. “This is my Covenant-blood,” he said, “which is poured out on behalf  
25 of many. I tell you that I shall never again drink of the juice of the grape, until that day when I shall drink it new in the Kingdom of God.”

26 They then sang a hymn, and went out up the Mount of Olives,  
27 presently Jesus said to them: “All of you will fall away; for Scripture says — ‘I will strike down the Shepherd, and the sheep will be  
28 scattered.’ Yet, after I have risen, I shall go before you into Galilee.”  
29 “Even if every one else falls away,” said Peter, “yet I shall not.”  
30 “I tell you,” answered Jesus, “that you yourself today — yes, this very night — before the cock crows twice, will disown me three  
31 times.” But Peter vehemently protested: “Even if I must die with you, I shall never disown you!” And they all said the same.

32 PRESENTLY THEY CAME TO A GARDEN KNOWN AS  
GETHSEMANE, and Jesus said to his disciples “Sit down here  
33 while I pray.” He took with him Peter, James, and John; and began to show signs of great dismay and deep distress of mind.  
34 “I am sad at heart,” he said, “sad even to death; wait here, and  
35 watch.” Going on a little further, he threw himself on the ground, and began to pray that, if it were possible, he might be

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## Mark 14

spared that hour. "Abba, Father," he said, "all things are possible 36  
to you; take away this cup from me; yet, not what I will, but what  
you will."

Then he came and found the three Apostles asleep. "Simon," he 37  
said to Peter, "are you asleep? Could not you watch for one hour?  
Watch and pray," he said to them all, "that you may not fall into 38  
temptation. True, the spirit is eager, but human nature is weak."  
Again he went away, and prayed in the same words; and coming 39  
back again he found them asleep, for their eyes were heavy; and  
they did not know what to say to him.

A third time he came, and said to them: "Sleep on now, and rest 41  
yourselves. Enough! My time has come. Hark! the Son of Man is  
being betrayed into the hands of wicked people. Up, and let us be 42  
going. Look! my betrayer is close at hand."

And just then, while he was still speaking, Judas, who was one 43  
of the Twelve, came up; and with him a crowd of people, with  
swords and clubs, sent by the Chief Priests, the Teachers of the  
Law, and the Councillors. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal 44  
with them. "The man whom I kiss," he had said, "will be the one;  
arrest him and take him away safely." As soon as Judas came, he 45  
went up to Jesus at once, and said: "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then 46  
the men seized Jesus, and arrested him.

One of those who were standing by drew his sword, and struck 47  
at the High Priest's servant, and cut off his ear. But Jesus inter- 48  
posed, and said to the men: "Have you come out, as if after a rob-  
ber, with swords and clubs, to take me? I have been among you 49  
day after day in the Temple Courts teaching, and yet you did not  
arrest me; but this is in fulfillment of the Scriptures." And all the 50  
Apostles forsook him, and fled. One young man did indeed fol- 51  
low him, wrapped only in a linen sheet. They tried to arrest him;  
But he left the sheet in their hands, and fled naked. 52

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53 THEN THEY TOOK JESUS TO THE HIGH PRIEST; and all the Chief  
Priests, the Councillors, and the Teachers of the Law assembled.  
54 Peter, who had followed Jesus at a distance into the court- yard  
of the High Priest, was sitting there among the police- officers,  
warming himself at the blaze of the fire.

55 Meanwhile the Chief Priest and the whole of the High Council  
were trying to get such evidence against Jesus as would warrant  
56 his being put to death, but they could not find any; for, though  
there were many who gave false evidence against him, yet their  
57 evidence did not agree. Presently some men stood up, and gave  
58 this false evidence against him — “We ourselves heard him say  
‘I will destroy this Temple made with hands, and in three days  
59 build another made without hands.’” Yet not even on that point  
did their evidence agree.

60 Then the High Priest stood forward, and questioned Jesus.  
“Have you no answer to make?” he asked. “What is this evidence  
61 which these men are giving against you?” But Jesus remained  
silent, and made no answer.

A second time the High Priest questioned him. “Are you,” he  
62 asked, “the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?” “I am,” replied  
Jesus, “and you shall all see the Son of Man sitting on the right  
63 hand of the Almighty; and ‘coming in the clouds of heaven.’” At  
this the High Priest tore his vestments. “Why do we want any  
64 more witnesses?” he exclaimed. “You heard his blasphemy?  
What is your verdict?” They all condemned him, declaring that  
he deserved death.

65 Some of those present began to spit at him, and to blindfold  
his eyes, and strike him, saying, as they did so, “Now play the  
Prophet!” and even the police-officers received him with blows.

66 While Peter was in the court-yard down below, one of the High  
67 Priest’s maidservants came up; and, seeing Peter warming him-  
self, she looked closely at him, and exclaimed: “Why, you were



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## Mark 15

with Jesus, the Nazarene!" But Peter denied it. "I do not know or  
understand what you mean," he replied. Then he went out into  
the porch; and there the maidservant, on seeing him, began to say  
again to the by-standers: "This is one of them!" But Peter again  
denied it.

Soon afterwards the bystanders again said to him: "You certainly  
are one of them; why you are a Galilean!" But he began to swear  
with the most solemn imprecations: "I do not know the man you  
are speaking about." At that moment, for the second time, a cock  
crowed; and Peter remembered the words that Jesus had said to  
him — 'Before a cock has crowed twice, you will disown me three  
times'; and, as he thought of it, he began to weep.

AS SOON AS IT WAS DAYLIGHT, the Chief Priests, after holding a  
consultation with the Councillors and Teachers of the Law —  
that is to say, the whole High Council — put Jesus in chains, and  
took him away, and gave him up to Pilate. "Are you the King of  
the Jews?" asked Pilate. "It is true," replied Jesus. Then the Chief  
Priests brought a number of charges against him; upon which  
Pilate questioned Jesus again. "Have you no reply to make?" he  
asked. "Listen, how many charges they are bringing against  
you." But Jesus still made no reply whatever; at which Pilate was  
astonished.

Now, at the Feast, Pilate used to grant the people the release of  
any one prisoner whom they might ask for. A man called Barab-  
bas was in prison, with the rioters who had committed murder  
during a riot. So, when the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate  
to follow his usual custom, he answered: "Do you want me to re-  
lease the 'King of the Jews' for you?" For he was aware that it was  
out of jealousy that the Chief Priests had given Jesus up to him.  
But the Chief Priests incited the crowd to get Barabbas released  
instead. Pilate, however, spoke to them again: "What shall I do

## Mark 15

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- 13 then with the man whom you call the 'King of the Jews'?" Again  
14 they shouted: "Crucify him!" "Why, what harm has he done?"  
Pilate kept saying to them. But they shouted furiously: "Crucify  
15 him!" And Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas  
to them, and, after scourging Jesus, gave him up to be crucified.
- 16 The soldiers then took Jesus away into the court-yard — that  
is the Government House — and they called the whole garrison  
17 together. They dressed him in a purple robe, and, having twisted  
18 a crown of thorns, put it on him, and then began to salute him.  
19 "Long life to you, King of the Jews!" they said. And they kept strik-  
ing him on the head with a rod, spitting at him, and bowing to the  
20 ground before him — going down on their knees; and, when they  
had left off mocking him, they took off the purple robe, and put  
his own clothes on him.
- 21 THEY LED JESUS OUT TO CRUCIFY HIM; and they compelled a  
passer-by, Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the  
country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to go with them to  
carry his cross.
- 22 They brought Jesus to the place which was known as Golgotha  
23 — a name which means 'Place of a Skull.' There they offered him  
24 drugged wine; but Jesus refused it. Then they crucified him, and  
divided his clothes among them, casting lots for them, to settle  
what each should take.
- 25 It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The words  
of the charge against him, written up over his head, ran thus —  
27 'THE KING OF THE JEWS.' And with him they crucified two rob-  
bers, one on the right, and the other on the left.
- 29 The passers-by railed at him, shaking their heads, as they said:  
"Ah! you who would destroy the Temple and build one in three  
30 days, come down from the cross and save yourself!" In the same  
way the Chief Priests, with the Teachers of the Law, said to one

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## Mark 15

another in mockery: "He saved others, but he cannot save himself! Let the Christ, the 'King of Israel,' come down from the cross now, that we may see it and believe." Even the men who had been crucified with Jesus reviled him. 32

At midday, a darkness came over the whole country, lasting till three in the afternoon. And, at three, Jesus called out loudly: 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which means 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Some of those standing round heard this, and said: "Listen! He is calling for Elijah!" And a man ran, and, soaking a sponge in common wine, put it on the end of a rod, and offered it to him to drink, saying as he did so: "Wait and let us see if Elijah is coming to take him down." But Jesus, giving a loud cry, expired. The Temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The Roman Officer, who was standing facing Jesus, on seeing the way in which he expired, exclaimed: "This man must indeed have been 'God's Son'!" 33 34 35 36 37 38 39

THERE WERE SOME WOMEN ALSO WATCHING FROM A DISTANCE, among them being Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James the Little and of Joseph, and Salome — all of whom used to accompany Jesus when he was in Galilee, and attend on him — besides many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. 40 41

The evening had already fallen, when, as it was the Preparation Day — the day before the Sabbath — Joseph from Ramah, a Councillor of good position, who was himself living in expectation of the Kingdom of God, came and ventured to go in to see Pilate, and to ask for the body of Jesus. But Pilate was surprised to hear that he had already died. So he sent for the Officer, and asked if he were already dead; and, on learning from the Officer that it was so, he gave the corpse to Joseph. Joseph, having bought a linen sheet, took Jesus down, and wound the sheet round him, and laid 42 43 44 45 46

## Mark 16

*The Risen Life Announced*

him in a tomb which had been cut out of the rock; and then rolled  
 47 a stone up against the entrance of the tomb. Mary of Magdala and  
 Mary, the mother of Joseph, were watching to see where he was  
 laid.

*The Risen Life Announced*

16 When the Sabbath was over, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother  
 of James, and Salome bought some spices, so that they might go  
 2 and anoint the body of Jesus. And very early on the first day of the  
 3 week they went to the tomb, after sunrise. They were saying to one  
 another: "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of  
 4 the tomb?" But, on looking up, they saw that the stone had already  
 5 been rolled back; it was a very large one. Going into the tomb,  
 they saw a young man sitting on their right, in a white robe, and  
 6 they were dismayed; But he said to them: "Do not be dismayed;  
 you are looking for Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified;  
 he has risen, he is not here! Look! Here is the place where they  
 7 laid him. But go, and say to his disciples and to Peter 'He is going  
 before you into Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.'"  
 8 They went out, and fled from the tomb, for they were trembling  
 and bewildered; and they did not say a word to any one, for they  
 were frightened;

*A late appendix*

*(Inserted in some manuscripts from an ancient source)*

9 After his rising again, early on the first day of the week, Jesus  
 appeared first of all to Mary of Magdala, from whom he had dri-  
 10 ven out seven demons. She went and told the news to those who  
 11 had been with him and who were now in sorrow and tears; yet  
 even they, when they heard that he was alive and had been seen  
 12 by her, did not believe it. Afterwards, altered in appearance, he

*Another appendix*

made himself known to two of them, as they were walking, on  
 their way into the country. They also went and told the rest, but 13  
 they did not believe even them. Later on, he made himself known 14  
 to the Eleven themselves as they were at a meal, and reproached  
 them with their want of faith and their stubbornness, because they  
 did not believe those who had seen him after he had risen from the  
 dead. Then he said to them: "Go into all the world, and proclaim 15  
 the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptized 16  
 shall be saved; but he who refuses to believe will be condemned.  
 Moreover these signs shall attend those who believe. In my Name 17  
 they shall drive out demons; they shall speak with 'tongues'; they 18  
 shall take up serpents in their hands; and, if they drink any poison,  
 it shall not hurt them; they will place their hands on sick people  
 and they shall recover." So the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken 19  
 to them, was taken up into Heaven, and sat at the right hand of  
 God. But they set out, and made the proclamation everywhere, 20  
 the Lord working with them, and confirming the Message by the  
 signs which attended it.

*Another appendix*

But all that had been enjoined on them they reported briefly to Peter and his companions. Afterwards Jesus himself sent them out, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal Salvation.

