

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

MARK

THE GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MARK

The Preparation

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ.

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.

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.”

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.”

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

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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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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
 2 news spread that he was in a house there; and so many people
 collected together, that after a while there was no room for them
 even round the door; and he began to tell them his Message.
 3 Some people came bringing to him a paralyzed man, who was
 4 being carried by four bearers. Being, however, unable to get him
 near to Jesus, owing to the crowd, they removed the roofing
 below which Jesus was; and, when they had made an opening,
 they let down the mat on which the paralyzed man was lying.
 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man: "Child, your sins
 are forgiven."
- 6 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
 intuitively aware that they were debating with themselves in this
 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
 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
 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
 before them all; at which they were amazed, and, as they praised
 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
 Alphaeus, sitting in the tax-office, and said to him: "Follow me."
 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-
 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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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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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, 25
a household is divided against itself, it will not be able to last. So, 26
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, 4 "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
the wind dropped, and a great calm followed. "Why are you so
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
man coming out of the tombs, who was under the power of a
3 foul spirit, and who made his home in the tombs. No one had
4 ever been able to secure him, even with a chain; for, though he
had many times been left secured with fetters and chains, he had
snapped the chains and broken the fetters to pieces, and no one
5 could master him. Night and day alike, he was continually
shrieking in the tombs and among the hills, and cutting himself
6 with stones. Catching sight of Jesus from a distance, he ran and
7 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?
8 For God's sake do not torment me!" For Jesus had said: "Come
9 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
10 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 6
to his own part of the country. When the Sabbath came, he be- 2
gan 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 un- 18
 derstand 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
 of people, that there come evil thoughts — unchastity, theft, mur- 21
 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 7 blessing, he told the disciples to serve out these as well. The peo- 8 ple had sufficient to eat, and they picked up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left. There were about four thousand 9 people. Then Jesus dismissed them. Immediately afterwards, get- 10 ting into the boat with his disciples, Jesus went to the district of Dalmanutha.

Here the Pharisees came out, and began to argue with Jesus, 11 asking him for some sign from the heavens, to test him. Sighing 12 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, 13 getting into the boat again, went away to the opposite shore.

Now the disciples had forgotten to take any bread with them, 14 one loaf being all that they had in the boat. So Jesus gave them 15 this warning. "Take care," he said, "beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." They began talking to one 16 another about their being short of bread; and, noticing this, Je- 17 sus 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 18 slow or comprehension? "Though you have eyes, do you not see? and though you have ears, do you not hear?" Do not you remem- 19 ber, when I broke up the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets of broken pieces you picked up?" "Twelve," they 20 said. "And when the seven for the four thousand, how many bas- ketfuls of broken pieces did you pick up?" "Seven," they said. "Do 21 not you understand now?" he repeated.

They came to Bethsaida. There some people brought a blind 22 man to Jesus, and begged him to touch him. Taking the blind 23 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."

The Work in Galilee

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

Mark 9

The Work in Galilee

- 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, 41
 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; 2 and 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 5, 6 male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and 7 mother, and the man and his wife shall become one;’ so that they 8 are no longer two, but one. What God himself, then, has yoked together no one must separate.”
- 10 When they were indoors, the disciples asked him again about 11 this, and he said: “Any one who divorces his wife and marries 12 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.”
- 13 Some of the people were bringing little children to Jesus, for him to touch them; but the disciples found fault with those who had 14 brought them. When, however, Jesus saw this, he was indignant. “Let the little children come to me,” he said, “do not hinder them; 15 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 16 not enter it at all.” Then he folded the children in his arms, and, placing his hands on them, gave them his blessing.
- 17 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 follow 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 receive 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

The Last Days

- 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.'

The Last Days

Mark 12

'And, whenever you stand up to pray, forgive any grievance that 25
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 27
about in the Temple Courts, the Chief Priests, the Teachers of the
Law, and the Councillors came up to him. "What authority have 28
you to do these things?" they said. "Who gave you the authority
to do them?" "I will put one question to you," said Jesus. 29
"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 30
human origin? Answer me that." They began arguing together; 31
"If we say 'divine,' he will say 'Why then did not you believe
him?' Yet can we say 'human?'" — They were afraid of the 32
people, for everyone regarded John as undoubtedly a Prophet.
So their answer to Jesus was — "We do not know." "Then I," 33
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 12
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 2
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, 3
and sent him away empty-handed. A second time the owner sent 4
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 5
many others- -some they beat and some they killed. He had still 6
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 7
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 8
threw his body outside the vineyard. What will the owner of the 9

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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
14 conversation. 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; are we right in paying taxes to the Emperor, or not?
15 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
16 look at." And, when they had brought it, he asked: "Whose head
17 and title 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 said to him — '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 living. 27
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?"

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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
2 buildings 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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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 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 proclaimed to every nation. Whenever they betray you and hand 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 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 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 where he ought not” (the reader must consider what this means) “then those of you who are in Judea must take refuge in the mountains; and a person on the house-top must not go down, or go in 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 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 a time of distress, the like of which has not occurred from the beginning of God’s creation until now — and never will again. And, 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.

“And at that time if any one should say to you ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ ‘Look, there he is!’, do not believe it; for false Christs and 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 your guard! I have told you all this beforehand.

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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.

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

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

40 "See that you are on the watch; for you do not know when the
 41 time will be. It is like a man going on a journey, who leaves his
 42 home, puts his servants in charge — each having their special duty
 43 — and orders the porter to watch. Therefore watch, for you cannot
 44 be sure when the Master of the house is coming — whether in the
 45 evening, at midnight, at daybreak, or in the morning — lest he
 46 should come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to
 47 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 Jesus by
 2 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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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 one

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- 19 of you is going to betray me — one who is eating with me.” They
 were grieved at this, and began to say to him, one after another:
- 20 “Can it be I?” “It is one of you Twelve,” said Jesus, “the one who
 21 is dipping his bread beside me into the dish. True, the Son 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 say-
 ing 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 Scrip-
 ture 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,
 33 and Jesus said to his disciples “Sit down here while I pray.” He
 took with him Peter, James, and John; and began to show signs of
 34 great dismay and deep distress of mind. “I am sad at heart,” he
 35 said, “sad even to death; wait here, and watch.” Going on a little
 further, he threw himself on the ground, and began to pray that,
 36 if it were possible, he might be spared that hour. “Abba, Father,”

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he said, "all things are possible 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, 40
 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 44
 Law, and the Councillors. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal
 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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with Jesus, the Nazarene!" But Peter denied it. "I do not know or 68
understand what you mean," he replied. Then he went out into
the porch; and there the maidservant, on seeing him, began to say 69
again to the by-standers: "This is one of them!" But Peter again 70
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 71
with the most solemn imprecations: "I do not know the man you
are speaking about." At that moment, for the second time, a cock 72
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 15
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 2
the Jews?" asked Pilate. "It is true," replied Jesus. Then the Chief 3
Priests brought a number of charges against him; upon which Pi- 4
late 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 aston- 5
ished.

Now, at the Feast, Pilate used to grant the people the release of 6
any one prisoner whom they might ask for. A man called Barab- 7
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 8
to follow his usual custom, he answered: "Do you want me to re- 9
lease the 'King of the Jews' for you?" For he was aware that it was 10
out of jealousy that the Chief Priests had given Jesus up to him.
But the Chief Priests incited the crowd to get Barabbas released 11
instead. Pilate, however, spoke to them again: "What shall I do 12

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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, 26 It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The words
of the charge against him, written up over his head, read — 'THE
27 KING OF THE JEWS.' And with him they crucified two robbers,
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, 31 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
 2 might go and anoint the body of Jesus. And very early on the
 3 first day of the week they went to the tomb, after sunrise. They
 were saying to one another: "Who will roll away the stone for us
 4 from the entrance of the tomb?" But, on looking up, they saw
 that the stone had already been rolled back; it was a very large
 5 one. Going into the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on their
 right, in a white robe, and they were dismayed; But he said to
 6 them: "Do not be dismayed; you are looking for Jesus, the
 Nazarene, who has been crucified; he has risen, he is not here!
 7 Look! Here is the place where they laid him. But go, and say to
 his disciples and to Peter 'He is going before you into Galilee;
 8 there you will see him, as he told you.'" 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.

Matthew

MATTHEW

THE GOOD NEWS ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

A genealogy of Jesus Christ, a descendant of David and Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac of Jacob, Jacob 2
of Judah and his brothers, Judah of Perez and Zerah, whose 3
mother was Tamar, Perez of Hezron, Hezron of Ram, Ram of 4
Amminadab, Amminadab of Nashon, Nashon of Salmon,
Salmon of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz of Obed, whose 5
mother was Ruth, Obed of Jesse, Jesse of David the King. David 6
was the father of Solomon, whose mother was Uriah's widow,
Solomon of Rehoboam, Rehoboam of Abijah, Abijah of Asa, Asa 8
of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat of Jehoram, Jehoram of Uzziah,
Uzziah of Jotham, Jotham of Ahaz, Ahaz of Hezekiah, Hezekiah 90
of Manasseh, Manasseh of Ammon, Ammon of Josiah, Josiah of 11
Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the Exile to Babylon.
After the Exile to Babylon — Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, 12
Shealtiel of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel of Abiud, Abiud of Eliakim, 13
Eliakim of Azor, Azor of Zadok, Zadok of Achim, Achim of 14
Eliud, Eliud of Eleazar, Eleazar of Matthan, Matthan of Jacob, 15
Jacob of Joseph, the husband of Mary, who was the mother of 16
Jesus, who is called 'Christ'. So the whole number of generations 17
from Abraham to David is fourteen; from David to the Exile to
Babylon fourteen; and from the Exile to Babylon to the Christ
fourteen.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST TOOK PLACE AS FOLLOWS: 18
His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but, before the mar-
riage took place, she found herself to be with child by the power
of the Holy Spirit. Her husband, Joseph, was a religious man and, 19
being unwilling to expose her to contempt, resolved to put an end

Matthew 2

20 to their betrothal privately. He had been dwelling upon this, when
an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.

“Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take
Mary for your wife, for her child has been conceived by the power
21 of the Holy Spirit. She shall give birth to a son; and you shall give
him the name Jesus, for it is he who shall save his people from
their sins.”

22 All this happened in fulfillment of these words of the Lord in
the Prophet, where he says —

23 ‘Behold! the virgin shall be with child and shall give birth
to a son, And they will give him the name Immanuel’

24 — a word which means ‘God is with us.’ When Joseph awoke from
25 his sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him. He
made Mary his wife, but did not live with her as her husband until
after the birth of her son; and to this son he gave the name Jesus.

2 AFTER THE BIRTH OF JESUS AT BETHLEHEM IN Judea, in the
reign of King Herod, some Astrologers from the East arrived in
2 Jerusalem, asking: “Where is the new-born King of the Jews? for
we saw his star in the east, and have come to do homage to him.”
3 When King Herod heard of this, he was much troubled, and so,
4 too, was all Jerusalem. He called together all the Chief Priests
and Teachers of the Law in the nation, and questioned them as to
where the Christ was to be born.

5 “At Bethlehem in Judea,” was their answer; “for it is said in the
Prophet —

6 ‘And you, Bethlehem in Judah’s land,
Art in no way least among the chief cities of Judah;
For out of thee will come a Chieftain —
One who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

7 Then Herod secretly sent for the Astrologers, and ascertained
8 from them the date of the appearance of the star; And, sending

Matthew 2

them to Bethlehem, he said: "Go and make careful inquiries about the child, and, as soon as you have found him, bring me word, that I, too, may go and do homage to him." The Astrologers heard what the King had to say, and then continued their journey. And the star which they had seen in the east led them on, until it reached, and stood over, the place where the child was. At the sight of the star they were filled with joy. Entering the house, they saw the child with his mother, Mary, and fell at his feet and did homage to him. Then they unpacked their treasures, and offered to the child presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But afterwards, having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another road.

After they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, and said:

"Awake, take the child and his mother, and seek refuge in Egypt; and stay there until I bid you return, for Herod is about to search for the child, to put him to death." Joseph awoke, and taking the child and his mother by night, went into Egypt, And there he stayed until Herod's death; in fulfillment of these words of the Lord in the Prophet, where he says —

'Out of Egypt I called my Son.'

When Herod found that he had been trifled with by the Astrologers, he was very angry. He sent and put to death all the boys in Bethlehem and the whole of that neighborhood, who were two years old or under, guided by the date which he had ascertained from the Astrologers. Then were fulfilled these words spoken in the Prophet Jeremiah, where he says —

'A voice was heard in Ramah,
Weeping and much lamentation;
Rachel, weeping for her children,
Refused all comfort because they were not.'

Matthew 3

19 But, on the death of Herod, an angel of the Lord appeared in
 20 a dream to Joseph in Egypt, and said: "Awake, take the child and
 his mother, and go into the Land of Israel, for those who sought to
 21 take the child's life are dead." And he awoke, and taking the child
 22 and his mother, went into the Land of Israel. But, hearing that
 Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as King of Judea, he
 was afraid to go back there; and having been warned in a dream,
 23 he went into the part of the country called Galilee. And there he
 settled in the town of Nazareth, in fulfillment of these words in
 the Prophets — 'He will be called a Nazarene.'

3 ABOUT THAT TIME JOHN THE BAPTIST FIRST APPEARED,
 2 proclaiming in the Wilderness of Judea: "Repent, for the
 3 Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." This is he who was spoken of in
 the Prophet Isaiah, where he says —

'The voice of one crying aloud in the Wilderness:
 "Make ready the way of the Lord,
 Make his paths straight.'"

4 John wore clothing made of camels' hair, with a belt of leather
 5 round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. At that
 time Jerusalem, and all Judea, as well as the whole district of the
 6 Jordan, went out to him And were baptized by him in the river
 Jordan, confessing their sins.

7 When, however, John saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees
 coming to receive his baptism, he said to them:

"You brood of vipers! Who has prompted you to seek refuge from
 8 the coming judgment? Let your life, then, prove your repentance;
 9 And do not think that you can say among yourselves 'Abraham is
 our ancestor,' for I tell you that out of these very stones God is able
 10 to raise descendants for Abraham! Already the axe is lying at the
 root of the trees. Therefore every tree that fails to bear good fruit
 11 will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I, indeed, baptize you

Matthew 4

with water to teach repentance; but He who is Coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not fit even to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor, and store his grain in the barn, but the chaff he will burn with inextinguishable fire." 12

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him. But John tried to prevent him. 13
"It is I," he said, "who need to be baptized by you; why then do you come to me?" 14

"Let it be so for the present," Jesus answered, "since it is fitting for us thus to satisfy every claim of religion." Upon this, John consented. 15

After the baptism of Jesus, and just as he came up from the water, the heavens opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending, like a dove, and alighting upon him, And from the heavens there came a voice which said: "This is my son, the Beloved, in whom I delight." 16 17

THEN JESUS WAS LED UP INTO THE WILDERNESS by the Spirit to be tempted by the Devil. And, after he had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he became hungry. And the Tempter came to him, and said: 4 2 3

"If you are God's Son, tell these stones to become loaves of bread."

But Jesus answered: "Scripture says — 4

'It is not on bread alone that man is to live, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the Devil took him to the Holy City, and, placing him on the parapet of the temple, said to him: "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, for Scripture says — 5 6

'He will give his angels commands about thee,

Matthew 4

- And on their hands they will upbear thee,
Lest ever thou shouldst strike thy foot against a stone.”
- 7 “Scripture also says,” answered Jesus,
“Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”
- 8 The third time, the Devil took Jesus to a very high mountain, and,
showing him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor,
said to him:
- 9 “All these I will give you, if you will fall at my feet and do
10 homage to me.” Then Jesus said to him: “Begone, Satan! for
Scripture says —
‘Thou shalt do homage to the Lord thy God, and worship
11 him only.’” Then the Devil left him alone, and angels came
and ministered to him.
- 12 WHEN JESUS HEARD THAT JOHN HAD BEEN COMMITTED to
13 prison, he retired to Galilee. Afterwards, leaving Nazareth, he
went and settled at Capernaum, which is by the side of the Sea,
14 within the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali; In fulfillment of
these words in the Prophet Isaiah —
- 15 ‘The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
The land of the Road by the Sea, and beyond the Jordan,
With Galilee of the Gentiles —
16 The people who were dwelling in darkness
Have seen a great Light,
And, for those who were dwelling in the shadow-land of
Death,
A Light has risen!’
- 17 AT THAT TIME JESUS BEGAN TO PROCLAIM —
“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”
- 18 As Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he
saw two brothers — Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother
Andrew — casting a net into the Sea; for they were fishermen.

Matthew 5

"Come and follow me," Jesus said, "and I will set you to fish 19
for men." The two men left their nets at once and followed him. 20
Going further on, he saw two other men who were also brothers, 21
James, Zebediah's son, and his brother John, in their boat with
their father, mending their nets. Jesus called them, And they at 22
once left their boat and their father, and followed him.

And Jesus went all through Galilee, teaching in their 23
Synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, and
curing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among
the people; And his fame spread all through Syria. They brought 24
to him all who were ill with any form of disease, or who were
suffering pain — any who were either possessed by demons, or
were lunatic, or paralyzed; and he cured them. And he was 25
followed by large crowds from Galilee, the district of the Ten
Towns, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

On seeing the crowds of People, Jesus went up the hill; and, 5
when he had taken his seat, his disciples came up to him; And he 2
began to teach them as follows:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, 3
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
Blessed are the mourners, 4
for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the gentle, 5
for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, 6
for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, 7
for they shall find mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, 8
for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, 9
for they shall be called Sons of God.

Matthew 5

- 10 Blessed are those who have been persecuted in the cause of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.
- 11 Blessed are you when people taunt you, and persecute you,
and say everything evil about you — untruly, and on my ac-
count. Be glad and rejoice, because your reward in Heaven
will be great; for so men persecuted the Prophets who lived
before you.
- 13 It is you who are the Salt of the earth; but, if the salt should
lose its strength, what will you use to restore its saltiness? It is
no longer good for anything, but is thrown away, and trampled
14 underfoot. It is you who are the Light of the world. A town that
15 stands on a hill cannot be hidden. Men do not light a lamp and put
it under the corn-measure, but on the lamp-stand, where it gives
16 light to every one in the house. Let your light so shine before the
eyes of your fellow men, that, seeing your good actions, they may
praise your Father who is in Heaven.
- 17 Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law or the
Prophets; I have not come to do away with them, but to complete
18 them. For I tell you, until the heavens and the earth disappear, not
even the smallest letter, nor one stroke of a letter, shall disappear
19 from the Law until all is done. Whoever, therefore, breaks one of
these commandments, even the least of them, and teaches others
to do so, will be the least-esteemed in the Kingdom of Heaven; but
whoever keeps them, and teaches others to do so, will be esteemed
20 great in the Kingdom of Heaven. Indeed I tell you that, unless your
religion is above that of the Teachers of the Law, and Pharisees,
you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
- 21 You have heard that to our ancestors it was said — ‘Thou shalt
not commit murder,’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be li-
22 able to answer for it to the Court.’ I, however, say to you that any

Matthew 5

one who cherishes anger against his brother shall be liable to answer for it to the Court; and whoever pours contempt upon his brother shall be liable to answer for it to the High Council, while whoever calls down curses upon him shall be liable to answer for it in the fiery Pit. Therefore, when presenting your gift at the altar, 23 if even there you remember that your brother has some grievance against you, Leave your gift there, before the altar, go and be reconciled to your brother, first, then come and present your gift. Be 24 ready to make friends with your opponent, even when you meet him on your way to the court; for fear that he should hand you over to the judge, and the judge to his officer, and you should be thrown into prison. I tell you, you will not come out until you have 25 paid the last penny. 26

You have heard that it was said — ‘Thou shalt not commit adultery.’ I, however, say to you that any one who looks at a woman 27 with an impure intention has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye is a snare to you, take it out and 28 throw it away. It would be best for you to lose one part of your body, and not to have the whole of it thrown into the Pit. And, if 29 your right hand is a snare to you, cut it off and throw it away. It would be best for you to lose one part of your body, and not to have the whole of it go down to the Pit. 30

It was also said — ‘Let any one who divorces his wife serve her 31 with a notice of separation.’ I, however, say to you that any one 32 who divorces his wife, except on the ground of her unchastity, leads to her committing adultery; while any one who marries her after her divorce is guilty of adultery. Again, you have heard that 33 to our ancestors it was said — ‘Thou shalt not break an oath, but thou shall keep thine oaths as a debt due to the Lord.’ I, however, 34 say to you that you must not swear at all, either by Heaven, since that is God’s throne, Or by the earth, since that is his footstool, or 35 by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the Great King. Nor should 36

Matthew 6

you swear by your head, since you cannot make a single hair either
 37 white or black. Let your words be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything
 beyond this comes from what is wrong.

38 You have heard that it was said — 'An eye for an eye and a tooth
 39 for a tooth.' I, however, say to you that you must not resist wrong;
 but, if any one strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to him
 40 also; And, when any one wants to go to law with you, to take your
 41 coat, let him have your cloak as well; And, if any one compels you
 42 to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to him who asks of
 you; and, from him who wants to borrow from you, do not turn
 away.

43 You have heard that it was said — 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor
 44 and hate thy enemy.' I, however, say to you — Love your enemies,
 45 and pray for those who persecute you, That you may become Sons
 of your Father who is in Heaven; for he causes his sun to rise upon
 bad and good alike, and sends rain upon the righteous and upon
 46 the unrighteous. For, if you love only those who love you, what
 47 reward will you have? Even the tax-gatherers do this! And, if you
 show courtesy to your brothers only, what are you doing more
 48 than others? Even the Gentiles do this! You, then, must become
 perfect — as your heavenly Father is perfect.

6 Take care not to perform your religious duties in public in or-
 der to be seen by others; if you do, your Father who is in Heaven
 2 has no reward for you. Therefore, when you do acts of charity, do
 not have a trumpet blown in front of you, as hypocrites do in the
 Synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others.
 3 There, I tell you, is their reward! But, when you do acts of charity,
 4 do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, So
 that your charity may be secret; and your Father, who sees what
 is in secret, will recompense you.

5 And, when you pray, you are not to behave as hypocrites do.
 They like to pray standing in the Synagogues and at the corners of

Matthew 6

the streets, that they may be seen by men. There, I tell you, is their reward! But, when one of you prays, let him go into his own room, 6 shut the door, and pray to his Father who dwells in secret; and his Father, who sees what is secret, will recompense him. When 7 praying, do not repeat the same words over and over again, as is done by the Gentiles, who think that by using many words they will obtain a hearing. Do not imitate them; for God, your Father, 8 knows what you need before you ask him. You, therefore, should 9 pray thus —

‘Our Father, who art in Heaven,
May thy name be held holy,
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done — 10
on earth, as in Heaven.
Give us to-day 11
the bread that we shall need;
And forgive us our wrong-doings, 12
as we have forgiven those who have wronged us;
And take us not into temptation, 13
but deliver us from Evil.’ For, if you forgive others 14
their offences, your heavenly Father will forgive you
also; But, if you do not forgive others their offences, 15
not even your Father will forgive your offences.

And, when you fast, do not put on gloomy looks, as hypocrites 16 do who disfigure their faces that they may be seen by men to be fasting. That, I tell you, is their reward! But, when one of your fasts, 17 let him anoint his head and wash his face, That he may not be seen 18 by men to be fasting, but by his Father who dwells in secret; and his Father, who sees what is secret, will recompense him.

Do not store up treasures for yourselves on earth, where moth 19 and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store 20 up treasures for yourselves in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal. For 21

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22 where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The lamp of
 23 the body is the eye. If your eye is unclouded, your whole body
 24 will be lit up; But, if your eye is diseased, your whole body will
 25 be darkened. And, if the inner light is darkness, how intense
 26 must that darkness be! No one can serve two masters, for either
 27 he will hate one and love the other, or else he will attach himself
 28 to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and
 29 Money.

25 That is why I say to you, Do not be anxious about your life here
 — what you can get to eat or drink; nor yet about your body —
 what you can get to wear. Is not life more than food, and the body
 26 than its clothing? Look at the wild birds — they neither sow, nor
 27 reap, nor gather into barns; and yet your heavenly Father feeds
 28 them! And are not you more precious than they? But which of you,
 29 by being anxious, can prolong his life a single moment? And why
 30 be anxious about clothing? Study the wild lilies, and how they
 31 grow. They neither toil nor spin; Yet I tell you that even Solomon
 32 in all his splendor was not robed like one of these. If God so clothes
 33 even the grass of the field, which is living to-day and to-morrow
 34 will be thrown into the oven, will not he much more clothe you,
 35 O men of little faith? Do not then ask anxiously 'What can we
 36 get to eat?' or 'What can we get to drink?' or 'What can we get
 37 to wear?' All these are the things for which the nations are seek-
 38 ing, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But
 39 first seek his Kingdom and the righteousness that he requires, and
 40 then all these things shall be added for you. Therefore do not be
 41 anxious about to-morrow, for to-morrow will bring its own anxi-
 42 eties. Every day has trouble enough of its own.

7 Do not judge, that you may not be judged. For, just as you judge
 others, you will yourselves be judged, and the measure that you
 3 mete will be meted out to you. And why do you look at the straw in
 your brother's eye, while you pay no attention at all to the beam in

Matthew 7

yours? How will you say to your brother 'Let me take out the straw 4
from your eye,' when all the time there is a beam in your own?
Hypocrite! Take out the beam from your own eye first, and then 5
you will see clearly how to take out the straw from your brother's.

Do not give what is sacred to dogs; nor yet throw your pearls 6
before pigs, lest they should trample them under their feet, and
then turn and attack you. Ask, and your prayer shall be granted; 7
search, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened to
you. For he that asks receives, he that searches finds, and to him 8
that knocks the door shall be opened. Who among you, when his 9
son asks him for a loaf, will give him a stone, Or when he asks for 10
a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, wicked though you are, 11
know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more
will your Father who is in Heaven give what is good to those that
ask him!

Do to others whatever you would wish them to do to you; for 12
that is the teaching of both the Law and the Prophets. Go in by the 13
small gate. Broad and spacious is the road that leads to destruc-
tion, and those that go in by it are many; For small is the gate, and 14
narrow the road, that leads to Life, and those that find it are few.

Beware of false Teachers — men who come to you in the guise of 15
sheep, but at heart they are ravenous wolves. By the fruit of their 16
lives you will know them. Do people gather grapes from thorn
bushes, or figs from thistles? So, too, every sound tree bears good 17
fruit, while a worthless tree bears bad fruit. A sound tree cannot 18
produce bad fruit, nor can a worthless tree bear good fruit. Every 19
tree that fails to bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the
fire. Hence it is by the fruit of their lives that you will know such 20
men. Not every one who says to me 'Master! Master!' will enter the 21
Kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father
who is in Heaven. On 'That Day' many will say to me 'Master, 22
Master, was not it in your name that we taught, and in your name

Matthew 8

that we drove out demons, and in your name that we did many
23 miracles?’ And then I shall say to them plainly ‘I never knew you.
Go from my presence, you who live in sin.’

24 Everyone, therefore, that listens to this teaching of mine and
acts upon it may be compared to a prudent man, who built his
25 house upon the rock. The rain poured down, the rivers rose, the
winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, for its
26 foundations were upon the rock. And every one that listens to
this teaching of mine and does not act upon it may be compared
27 to a foolish man, who built his house on the sand. The rain
poured down, the rivers rose, the winds blew and struck against
that house, and it fell; and great was its downfall.”

28 By the time that Jesus had finished speaking, the crowd was
29 filled with amazement at his teaching. For he taught them like
one who had authority, and not like their Teachers of the Law.

8 WHEN JESUS HAD COME DOWN FROM THE HILL, great crowds
2 followed him. And he saw a leper who came up, and bowed to
the ground before him, and said: “Master, if only you are willing,
3 you are able to make me clean.” Stretching out his hand, Jesus
touched him, saying as he did so: “I am willing; become clean.”
4 Instantly he was made clean from his leprosy; And then Jesus
said to him: “Be careful not to say a word to any one, but go and
show yourself to the Priest, and offer the gift directed by Moses,
5 as evidence of your cure.” After Jesus had entered Capernaum, a
Captain in the Roman army came up to him, entreating his help.
6 “Sir,” he said, “my manservant is lying ill at my house with a
7 stroke of paralysis, and is suffering terribly.” “I will come and
8 cure him,” answered Jesus. “Sir,” the Captain went on, “I am
unworthy to receive you under my roof; but only speak, and my
9 manservant will be cured. For I myself am a man under the
orders of others, with soldiers under me; and, if I say to one of

Matthew 8

them 'Go,' he goes, and to another 'Come,' he comes, and to my
 slave 'Do this,' he does it." Jesus was surprised to hear this, and 10
 said to those who were following him: "Never I tell you, in any
 Israelite have I met with such faith as this! Yes, and many will 11
 come in from East and West and take their places beside
 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, in the Kingdom of Heaven; While the 12
 heirs to the Kingdom will be 'banished into the darkness'
 outside; there, there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."
 Then Jesus said to the Captain: "Go now, and it shall be 13
 according to your faith." And the man was cured that very hour.

When Jesus went into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in- 14
 law prostrated with fever. On his taking her hand, the fever left 15
 her, and she rose and began to wait upon him. In the evening the 16
 people brought to Jesus many who were possessed by demons;
 and he drove out the spirits with a word, And cured all who were
 ill, In fulfillment of these words in the Prophet Isaiah — 'He took 17
 our infirmities on himself, and bore the burden of our diseases.'

Seeing a crowd round him, Jesus gave orders to go across. And 18
 a Teacher of the Law came up to him, and said: "Teacher, I will
 follow you wherever you go." "Foxes have holes," answered Je- 20
 sus, "and wild birds their roosting-places, but the Son of Man has
 nowhere to lay his head." "Master," said another, who was a disci- 21
 ple, "let me first go and bury my father." But Jesus answered: "Fol- 22
 low me, and leave the dead to bury their dead." Then he got into 23
 the boat, followed by his disciples. Suddenly so great a storm came 24
 on upon the Sea, that the waves broke right over the boat. But Je-
 sus was asleep; And the disciples came and roused him. "Master," 25
 they cried, "save us; we are lost!" "Why are you so timid?" he said. 26
 "O men of little faith!" Then Jesus rose and rebuked the winds and
 the sea, and a great calm followed. The men were amazed, and ex- 27
 claimed: "What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the
 sea obey him!"

Matthew 9

- 28 And on getting to the other side — the country of the Gadarenes
— Jesus met two men who were possessed by demons, coming out
of the tombs. They were so violent that no one was able to pass that
29 way. Suddenly they shrieked out: "What do you want with us, Son
30 of God? Have you come here to torment us before our time?" A
31 long way off, there was a drove of many pigs, feeding; And the
foul spirits began begging Jesus: "If you drive us out, send us into
32 the drove of pigs." "Go," he said. The spirits came out, and entered
the pigs; and the whole drove rushed down the steep slope into
33 the Sea, and died in the water. At this the men who tended them
ran away and went to the town, carrying the news of all that had
34 occurred, and of what had happened to the possessed men. At the
news the whole town went out to meet Jesus, and, when they saw
him, they entreated him to go away from their neighborhood.
- 9 Afterwards Jesus got into a boat, and, crossing over, came to
2 his own city. And there some people brought to him a paralyzed
man on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man:
3 "Courage, Child! Your sins are forgiven." Then some of the teach-
ers of the Law said to themselves: "This man is blaspheming!"
4 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus exclaimed: "Why do you cherish
5 such wicked thoughts? Which, I ask, is the easier? — to say 'Your
6 sins are forgiven'? or to say 'Get up, and walk about'? But, that
you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive
sins" — then he said to the paralyzed man — "Get up, take up
7 your bed, and return to your home." The man got up and went
8 to his home. When the crowd saw this, they were awe-struck, and
praised God for giving such power to men.
- 9 As Jesus went along, he saw a man, called Matthew, sitting in
the tax-office, and said to him: "Follow me." Matthew got up and
followed him.
- 10 And, later on, when he was at table in the house, a number of
tax-gatherers and outcasts came in and took their places at table

Matthew 9

with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they 11
 said to his disciples: "Why does your Teacher eat in the company
 of tax-gatherers and outcasts?" On hearing this, Jesus said: "It is 12
 not those who are in health that need a doctor, but those who are
 ill. Go and learn what this means — 'I desire mercy, and not sac- 13
 rifice'; for I did not come to call the religious, but the outcast."
 Then John's disciples came to Jesus, and asked: "Why do we and 14
 the Pharisees fast while your disciples do not?" Jesus answered: 15
 "Can the bridegroom's friends mourn as long as the bridegroom
 is with them? But the days will come, when the bridegroom will
 be parted from them, and they will fast then. No man ever puts a 16
 piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for such a patch tears
 away from the garment, and a worse rent is made. Nor do people 17
 put new wine into old wine-skins; for, if they do, the skins burst,
 and the wine runs out, and the skins are lost; but they put new
 wine into fresh skins, and so both are preserved."

While Jesus was saying this, a President of a Synagogue came 18
 up and bowed to the ground before him. "My daughter," he said,
 "Has just died; but come and place your hand on her, and she will
 be restored to life." So Jesus rose and followed him, and his disci- 19
 ples went also. But meanwhile a woman, who had been suffering
 from hemorrhage for twelve years, came up behind and touched 20
 the tassel of his cloak. "If I only touch his cloak," she said to herself,
 "I shall get well." Turning and seeing her, Jesus said: "Courage, 21
 Daughter! your faith has delivered you." And the woman was de- 22
 livered from her malady from that very hour. When Jesus reached 23
 the President's house, seeing the flute- players, and a number of
 people all in confusion, He said: "Go away, the little girl is not 24
 dead; she is asleep." They began to laugh at him; But, when the 25
 people had been sent out, Jesus went in, and took the little girl's
 hand, and she rose. The report of this spread through all that part 26
 of the country.

Matthew 10

- 27 As Jesus was passing on from there, he was followed by two blind men, who kept calling out: "Take pity on us, Son of David!"
- 28 When he had gone indoors, the blind men came up to him; and Jesus asked them: "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" "Yes, Master!" they answered. Upon that he touched their eyes, and
- 30 said: "It shall be according to your faith." Then their eyes were opened. Jesus sternly cautioned them. "See that no one knows of it," he said. But the men went out, and spread the news about
- 32 him through all that part of the country. Just as they were going out, some people brought up to Jesus a dumb man who was possessed by a demon; And, as soon as the demon had been driven out, the dumb man spoke. The people were astonished at this, and
- 34 exclaimed: "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel!" But the Pharisees said: "He drives out the demons by the help of the chief of the demons."
- 35 Jesus went round all the towns and the villages, teaching in their Synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, and curing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. But, when he saw the crowds, his heart was moved with compassion for them, because they were distressed and harassed, 'like sheep without a shepherd'; And he said to his disciples: "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray to the Owner of the harvest to send laborers to gather in his harvest."
- 10 Calling his twelve Disciples to him, Jesus gave them authority over foul spirits, so that they could drive them out, as well as the power of curing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. The names of the twelve Apostles are these: First Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebediah, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-gather; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot — the Apostle who betrayed him.

Matthew 10

These twelve Jesus sent out as his Messengers, after giving them 5
 these instructions — “Do not go to the Gentiles, nor enter any 6
 Samaritan town, But make your way rather to the lost sheep of 6
 Israel. And on your way proclaim that the Kingdom of Heaven is 7
 at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, make the lepers clean, drive 8
 out demons. You have received free of cost, give free of cost. Do not 9
 provide yourselves with gold, or silver, or pence in your purses;
 Not even with a bag for the journey, or a change of clothes, or sand- 10
 dals, or even a staff; for the worker is worth his food. Whatever 11
 town or village you visit, find out who is worthy in that place,
 and remain there till you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. 12
 Then, if the house is worthy, let your blessing rest upon it, but, if 13
 it is unworthy, let your blessing return upon yourselves. If no one 14
 welcomes you, or listens to what you say, as you leave that house
 or that town, shake off its dust from your feet. I tell you, the doom 15
 of the land of Sodom and Gomorrah will be more bearable in the
 ‘Day of Judgment’ than the doom of that town.

Remember, I am sending you out as my Messengers like sheep 16
 among wolves. So be as wise as serpents, and as blameless as 17
 doves. Be on your guard against your fellow men, for they will
 betray you to courts of law, and scourge you in their Synagogues;
 And you will be brought before governors and kings for my 18
 sake, that you may witness for me before them and the nations.
 Whenever they betray you, do not be anxious as to how you shall 19
 speak or what you shall say, for what you shall say will be given
 you at the moment; For it will not be you who speak, but the 20
 Spirit of your Father that speaks within you. Brother will betray 21
 brother to death, and the father his child; and children will turn
 against their parents, and cause them to be put to death; And 22
 you will be hated by every one on account of my Name. Yet the
 man that endures to the end shall be saved. But, when they 23
 persecute you in one town, escape to the next; for, I tell you, you

Matthew 10

will not have come to the end of the towns of Israel before the
 24 Son of Man comes. A scholar is not above his teacher, nor a
 25 servant above his master. It is enough for a scholar to be treated
 like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If the head of the
 house has been called Baal-zebub, how much more the members
 26 of his household! Do not, therefore, be afraid of them. There is
 nothing concealed which will not be revealed, nor anything
 27 hidden which will not become known. What I tell you in the
 dark, say again in the light; and what is whispered in your ear,
 28 proclaim upon the housetops. And do not be afraid of those who
 kill the body, but are unable to kill the soul; rather be afraid of
 29 him who is able to destroy both soul and body in the Pit. Are not
 two sparrows sold for a half-penny? Yet not one of them will fall
 30 to the ground without your Father's knowledge. While as for
 31 you, the very hairs of your head are numbered. Do not,
 therefore, be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.
 32 Every one, therefore, who shall acknowledge me before his
 fellow men, I, too, will acknowledge before my Father who is in
 33 Heaven; But, if any one disowns me before his fellow men, I, too,
 will disown him before my Father who is in Heaven.
 34 Do not imagine that I have come to bring peace upon the earth. I
 35 have come to bring, not peace, but the sword. For I have come to set
 — 'a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother,
 36 and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man's ene-
 37 mies will be the members of his own household.' He who loves
 father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who
 38 loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And the
 man who does not take his cross and follow in my steps is not wor-
 39 thy of me. He who has found his life will lose it, while he who, for
 my sake, has lost his life shall find it.

Matthew 11

He who welcomes you is welcoming me; and he who welcomes 40
me is welcoming him who sent me as his Messenger. He who wel- 41
comes a Prophet, because he is a Prophet, shall receive a Prophet's
reward; and he who welcomes a good man, because he is a good
man, shall receive a good man's reward. And, if any one gives but 42
a cup of cold water to one of these lowly ones because he is a dis-
ciple, I tell you that he shall assuredly not lose his reward."

After Jesus had finished giving directions to his twelve Disci- 11
ples, he left that place in order to teach and preach in their towns.

Now John had heard in prison what the Christ was doing, and 2
he sent a message by his disciples, And asked — "Are you 'The 3
Coming One,' or are we to look for someone else?" The answer 4
of Jesus to the question was — "Go and report to John what you
hear and see — The blind recover their sight and the lame walk, 5
the lepers are made clean and the deaf hear, the dead, too, are
raised to life, and the good news is told to the poor. And blessed 6
is the man who finds no hindrance in me."

While these men were going back, Jesus began to say to the 7
crowds with reference to John: "What did you go out into the 8
Wilderness to look at? A reed waving in the wind? If not, what
did you go out to see? A man richly dressed? Why, those who wear
rich things are to be found in the courts of kings! What, then, did 9
you go for? To see a Prophet? Yes, I tell you, and far more than
a Prophet. This is the man of whom Scripture says — 'Behold, I 10
am myself sending my Messenger before thy face, And he shall
prepare thy way before thee.' I tell you, no one born of a woman 11
has yet appeared who is greater than John the Baptist; and yet the
lowliest in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he. From the 12
time of John the Baptist to this very hour, the Kingdom of Heaven
has been taken by force, and men using force have been seizing
it. For the teaching of all the Prophets and of the Law continued 13
till the time of John; And — if you are ready to accept it — John is 14

Matthew 12

15 himself the Elijah who was destined to come. Let him who has ears
 16 hear. But to what shall I compare the present generation? It is like
 17 little children sitting in the market-places and calling out to their
 18 playmates — 'We have played the flute for you, but you have not
 19 danced; We have wailed, but you have not mourned.' For, when
 20 John came, neither eating nor drinking, men said 'He has a demon
 21 in him'; And now that the Son of Man has come, eating and drink-
 22 ing, they are saying 'Here is a glutton and a wine-drinker, a friend
 23 of tax-gatherers and outcasts!' And yet Wisdom is vindicated by
 24 her actions."
 25 Then Jesus began to reproach the towns in which most of his
 26 miracles had been done, because they had not repented: "Alas for
 27 you, Chorazin! Alas for you, Bethsaida! For, if the miracles which
 28 were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would
 29 have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. Yet, I tell you, the
 30 doom of Tyre and Sidon will be more bearable in the 'Day of Judg-
 31 ment' than yours. And you, Capernaum! Will you 'exalt yourself
 32 to Heaven'? 'You shall go down to the Place of Death.' For, if the
 33 miracles which have been done in you had been done in Sodom,
 34 it would have been standing to this day. Yet, I tell you, the doom
 35 of Sodom will be more bearable in the 'Day of Judgment' than
 36 yours." At that same time Jesus uttered the words: "I thank thee,
 37 Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, that, though thou has hidden
 38 these things from the wise and learned, thou hast revealed them to
 39 the child-like! Yes, Father, I thank thee that this has seemed good
 40 to thee. Everything has been committed to me by my Father; nor
 41 does any one fully know the Son, except the Father, or fully know
 42 the Father, except the Son and those to whom the Son may choose
 43 to reveal him. Come to me, all you who toil and are burdened, and
 44 I will give you rest! Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,
 45 for I am gentle and lowly-minded, and 'you shall find rest for your
 46 souls'; For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 12

About the same time Jesus walked through the corn-fields one Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, and began to pick some ears of wheat and eat them. But, when the Pharisees saw this, they 2 said: "Look! your disciples are doing what it is not allowable to do on a Sabbath!" "Have not you read," replied Jesus, "what David 3 did, when he and his companions were hungry — How he went 4 into the House of God, and how they ate the consecrated bread, through it was not allowable for him or his companions to eat it, but only for the priests? And have not you read in the law that, 5 on the Sabbath, the priest in the Temple break the Sabbath and yet are not guilty? Here, however, I tell you, there is something 6 greater than the Temple! And had you learned the meaning of the 7 words — 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned those who are not guilty. For the Son of Man is lord 8 of the Sabbath."

Passing on, Jesus went into their Synagogue, And there he saw 90 a man with a withered hand. Some people asked Jesus whether it was allowable to work a cure on the Sabbath- -so that they might have a charge to bring against him. But Jesus said to them: "Which 11 of you, if he had only one sheep, and that sheep fell into a pit on the Sabbath, would not lay hold of it and pull it out? And how much 12 more precious a man is than a sheep! Therefore it is allowable to do good on the Sabbath." Then he said to the man. "Stretch out 13 your hand." The man stretched it out; and it had become as sound as the other. On coming out, the Pharisees plotted against Jesus, 14 to put him to death.

Jesus, however, became aware of it, and went away from that 15 place. A number of people followed him, and he cured them all; but he warned them not to make him known, in fulfillment of 16 these words in the Prophet Isaiah — 'Behold! the Servant of my 18 Choice, My Beloved, in whom my heart delights! I will breathe my spirit upon him, And he shall announce a time of judgment to the

Matthew 12

- 19 Gentiles. He shall not contend, nor cry aloud, Neither shall any
 20 one hear his voice in the streets; A bruised reed he will not break,
 And a smoldering wick he will not quench, Till he has brought the
 21 judgment to a victorious issue, And on his name shall the Gentiles
 rest their hopes."
- 22 Then some people brought to Jesus a possessed man, who was
 blind and dumb; and he cured him, so that the man who had been
 23 dumb both talked and saw. At this all the people were astounded.
 24 "Is it possible that this is the son of David?" they exclaimed. But
 the Pharisees heard of it and said: "He drives out demons only by
 25 the help of Baal-zebul the chief of the demons." Jesus, however,
 was aware of what was passing in their minds, and said to them:
 "Any kingdom divided against itself becomes a desolation, and
 26 any town or household divided against itself will not last. So, if
 Satan drives Satan out, he must be divided against himself; and
 27 how, then, can his kingdom last? And, if it is by Baal-zebul's help
 that I drive out demons, by whose help is it that your own sons
 drive them out? Therefore they shall themselves be your judges.
 28 But, if it is by the help of the Spirit of God that I drive out demons,
 29 then the Kingdom of God must already be upon you. How, again,
 can any one get into a strong man's house and carry off his goods,
 without first securing him? And not till then will he plunder his
 30 house. He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not
 31 help me to gather is scattering. Therefore, I tell you, men will be
 forgiven every sin and slander; but slander against the Holy Spirit
 32 will not be forgiven. Whoever speaks against the Son of Man will
 be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not
 be forgiven, either in the present age, or in the age to come.
- 33 You must assume either that both tree and fruit are good, or
 that both tree and fruit are worthless; since it is by its fruits that a
 34 tree is known. You brood of vipers! how can you, evil as you are,
 say anything good? For what fills the heart will rise to the lips.

Matthew 12

A good man, from his good stores, produces good things; while 35
 an evil man, from his evil stores, produces evil things. I tell you 36
 that for every careless thing that men say, they must answer on 37
 the 'Day of Judgment.' For it is by your words that you will be 37
 acquitted, and by your words that you will be condemned."

At this point, some Teachers of the Law and Pharisees inter- 38
 posed. "Teacher," they said, " we want to see some sign from you." 38
 "It is a wicked and unfaithful generation," answered Jesus, "that 39
 is asking for a sign, and no sign shall be given it except the sign of 39
 the Prophet Jonah. For, just as 'Jonah was inside the sea-monster 40
 three days and three nights,' so shall the Son of Man be three days 40
 and three nights in the heart of the earth. At the Judgment, the 41
 men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation, and will con- 41
 demn it, because they repented at Jonah's proclamation; and here 42
 is more than a Jonah! At the Judgment the Queen of the South will 42
 rise up with the present generation, and will condemn it, because 43
 she came from the very ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of 43
 Solomon; and here is more than a Solomon! No sooner does a foul 43
 spirit leave a man, than it passes through places where there is no 44
 water, in search of rest, and does not find it. Then it says 'I will 44
 go back to the home which I left'; but, on coming there, it finds it 45
 unoccupied, and swept, and put in order. Then it goes and brings 45
 with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in, 45
 and make their home there; and the last state of that man proves 46
 to be worse than the first. So, too, will it be with this wicked gen- 46
 eration."

While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and broth- 46
 ers were standing outside, asking to speak to him. Someone told 47
 him this, and Jesus replied: "Who is my mother? and who are my 48
 brothers?" Then, stretching out his hands towards his disciples, 49
 he said: "Here are my mother and my brothers! For any one who 50

Matthew 13

does the will of my Father who is in Heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

- 13 That same day, when Jesus had left the house and was sitting by
 2 the Sea, such great crowds gathered round him, that he got into
 a boat, and sat in it, while all the people stood upon the beach.
 3 Then he told them many truths in parables. "The sower," he began,
 4 "went out to sow; and, As he was sowing, some seed fell along the
 5 path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places,
 where it had not much soil, and, having no depth of soil, sprang up
 6 at once. As soon as the sun had risen, it was scorched, and, having
 7 no root, withered away. Some, again, fell into the brambles; but the
 8 brambles shot up and choked it. Some, however, fell on good soil,
 and yielded a return, sometimes one hundred, sometimes sixty,
 9 sometimes thirty fold. Let him who has ears hear."
- 10 Afterwards his disciples came to him, and said: "Why do you
 11 speak to them in parables?" "To you," answered Jesus, "the knowl-
 edge of the hidden truths of the Kingdom of Heaven has been im-
 12 parted, but not to those. For, to all who have, more will be given,
 and they shall have abundance; but, from all who have nothing,
 13 even what they have will be taken away. That is why I speak to
 them in parables, because, though they have eyes, they do not see,
 14 and though they have ears, they do not hear or understand. And
 in them is being fulfilled that prophecy of Isaiah which says —
 'You will hear with your ears without ever understanding, And,
 15 though you have eyes, you will see without ever perceiving, For
 the mind of this nation has grown dense, And their ears are dull
 of hearing, Their eyes also have they closed; Lest some day they
 should perceive with their eyes, And with their ears they should
 hear, And in their mind they should understand, and should turn
 16 — And I should heal them.' But blessed are your eyes, for they
 17 see, and your ears, for they hear; For I tell you that many Prophets
 and good men have longed for the sight of the things which you

Matthew 13

are seeing, yet never saw them, and to hear the things which you are hearing, yet never heard them.

Listen, then, yourselves to the parable of the Sower. When any one hears the Message of the Kingdom without understanding it, the Evil One comes and snatches away what has been sown in his mind. This is the man meant by the seed which was sown along the path. By the seed which was sown on rocky places is meant the man who hears the Message, and at once accepts it joyfully; But, as he has no root, he stands for only a short time; and, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the Message, he falls away at once. By the seed which was sown among the brambles is meant the man who hears the Message, but the cares of life and the glamour of wealth completely choke the Message, so that it gives no return. But by the seed which was sown on the good ground is meant the man who hears the Message and understands it, and really yields a return, sometimes one hundred, sometimes sixty, sometimes thirty fold."

Another parable which Jesus told them was this — "The Kingdom of Heaven is compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. But, while every one was asleep, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and then went away. So, when the blades of corn shot up, and came into ear, the tares made their appearance also. On this the owner's servants came to him, and said 'Was not it good seed that you sowed in your field? Where, then, do the tares in it come from?' 'An enemy has done this,' was his answer. 'Do you wish us, then,' they asked, 'to go and gather them together?' 'No,' said he, 'for fear that, while you are gathering the tares, you should root up the wheat as well. Let both grow side by side till harvest; and then I shall say to the reapers, Gather the tares together first, and tie them in bundles for burning; but bring all the wheat into my barn.'"

Matthew 13

- 31 Another parable which he told them was this — “The Kingdom
32 of Heaven is like a mustard-seed, which a man took and sowed in
his field. This seed is smaller than all other seeds, but, when it has
grown up, it is larger than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that
‘the wild birds come and roost in its branches.’”
- 33 This was another parable which Jesus related — “The Kingdom
34 of Heaven is like some yeast which a woman took and covered up
in three pecks of flour, until the whole had risen.” Of all this Jesus
35 spoke to the crowd in parables; indeed to them he used never to
speak at all except in parables, in fulfillment of these words in the
Prophet — ‘I will speak to them in parables; I will utter things kept
secret since the foundation of the world.’
- 36 Then Jesus left the crowd, and went into the house. Presently
his disciples came to him, and said: “Explain to us the parable of
37 the tares in the field.” And he answered: “The sower of the good
38 seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world. By the good seed
is meant the People of the Kingdom. The tares are the wicked,
39 And the enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest-time is
40 the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. And, just as the
tares are gathered and burnt, so it will be at the close of the age.
41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather from
42 his kingdom all that hinders and those who live in sin, And ‘will
throw them into the fiery furnace,’ where there will be weeping
43 and grinding of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine, like the sun,
in the Kingdom of their Father. Let him who has ears hear.
- 44 The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field,
which a man found and hid again, and then, in his delight, went
and sold everything that he had, and bought that field.
- 45 Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant in search of
46 choice pearls. Finding one of great value, he went and sold every-
47 thing that he had, and bought it. Or again, the Kingdom of Heaven
is like a net which was cast into the sea, and caught fish of all

Matthew 14

kinds. When it was full, they hauled it up on the beach, and sat 48
down and sorted the good fish into baskets, but threw the worth-
less ones away. So will it be at the close of the age. The angels 49
will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous, And 'will 50
throw them into the fiery furnace,' where there will be weeping
and grinding of teeth.

Have you understood all this?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they 51
answered. Then he added: "So every Teacher of the Law, who 52
has received instruction about the Kingdom of Heaven, is like a
householder who produces from his stores things both new and
old."

When Jesus had finished these parables, he withdrew from that 53
place. Going to his own part of the country, he taught the peo- 54
ple in their Synagogue in such a manner that they were deeply
impressed. "Where did he get this wisdom?" they said, "and the
miracles? Is not he the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called 55
Mary, and his brothers James, and Joseph, and Simon, and Judas?
And his sisters, too — are not they all living among us? Where, 56
then did he get all this?" These things proved a hindrance to their 57
believing in him; whereupon Jesus said: "A prophet is not without
honor, except in his own country and in his own house." And he 58
did not work many miracles there, because of their want of faith.

At that time Prince Herod heard of the fame of Jesus, And 214
said to his attendants: " This must be John the Baptist; he must
be risen from the dead, and that is why these miraculous pow-
ers are active in him." For Herod had arrested John, put him in 3
chains, and shut him up in prison, to please Herodias, the wife
of Herod's brother Philip. For John had said to him 'You have no 4
right to be living with her.' Yet, though Herod wanted to put him 5
to death, he was afraid of the people, because they looked on John
as a Prophet. But, when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of 6
Herodias danced before his guests, and so pleased Herod, That he 7

Matthew 14

8 promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. Prompted
by her mother, the girl said 'Give me here, on a dish, the head
9 of John the Baptist.' The king was distressed at this; yet, on ac-
count of his oath and of the guests at his table, he ordered it to be
10 given her. He sent and beheaded John in the prison; And his head
was brought on a dish and given to the girl, and she took it to her
12 mother. Then John's disciples came, and took the body away, and
buried it; and went and told Jesus.

13 When Jesus heard of it, he retired privately in a boat to a lonely
spot. The people, however, heard of his going, and followed him
14 in crowds from the towns on foot. On getting out of the boat, Je-
sus saw a great crowd, and his heart was moved at the sight of
15 them; and he cured all the sick among them. In the evening the
disciples came up to him, and said: " This is a lonely spot, and the
day is now far advanced; send the crowds away, that they may go
16 to the villages, and buy themselves food." But Jesus said: "They
need not go away, it is for you to give them something to eat."
17 "We have nothing here," they said, "except five loaves and two
18 fishes." "Bring them here to me," was his reply. Jesus ordered the
people to take their seats on the grass; and, taking the five loaves
and the two fishes, he looked up to Heaven, and said the blessing,
and, after he had broken the loaves, gave them to his disciples;
20 and they gave them to the crowds. Every one had sufficient to eat,
and they picked up enough of the broken pieces that were left to
21 fill twelve baskets. The men who ate were about five thousand in
22 number, without counting women and children. Immediately af-
terwards Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and cross over
23 in advance of him, while he dismissed the crowds. After dismiss-
ing the crowds, he went up the hill by himself to pray; and, when
24 evening fell, he was there alone. The boat was by this time some
miles from shore, laboring in the waves, for the wind was against
25 her. Three hours after midnight, however, Jesus came towards the

Matthew 15

disciples, walking on the water. But, when they saw him walking 26
 on the water, they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they exclaimed,
 and cried out for fear. But Jesus at once spoke to them. "Courage!" 27
 he said, "It is I; do not be afraid!" "Master," Peter exclaimed, "if 28
 it is you, tell me to come to you on the water." And Jesus said: 29
 "Come." So Peter got down from the boat, and walked on the wa-
 ter, and went towards Jesus; But, when he felt the wind, he was 30
 frightened, and, beginning to sink, cried out: "Master! Save me!"
 Instantly Jesus stretched out his hand, and caught hold of him. 31
 "O man of little faith!" he said, "Why did you falter?" When they 32
 had got into the boat, the wind dropped. But the men in the boat 33
 threw themselves on their faces before him, and said: "You are
 indeed God's Son."

When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. But 34
 the people of that place, recognizing Jesus, sent out to the whole
 country round, and brought to him all who were ill, Begging him 35
 merely to let them touch the tassel of his cloak; and all who 36
 touched were made perfectly well.

Then some Pharisees and Teachers of the Law came to Jesus, 15
 and said: "How is it that your disciples break the traditions of our 2
 ancestors? For they do not wash their hands when they eat food."
 His reply was: "How is it that you on your side break God's com- 3
 mandments out of respect for your own traditions? For God said 4
 — 'Honor thy father and mother,' and 'Let him who reviles his
 father or mother suffer death,' But you say 'Whenever any one 5
 says to his father or mother "Whatever of mine might have been
 of service to you is 'Given to God,'" He is in no way bound to 6
 honor his father.' In this way you have nullified the words of God
 on account of your traditions. Hypocrites! It was well said by Isa- 7
 iah when he prophesied about you — "This is a people that honor 8
 me with their lips, While their hearts are far removed from me;
 But vainly do they worship me, For they teach but the precepts of 9

Matthew 15

- 10 men.” Then Jesus called the people to him, and said: “Listen, and
 11 mark my words. It is not what enters a man’s mouth that ‘defiles’
 him, but what comes out from his mouth — that does defile him!”
 12 On this his disciples came up to him, and said: “Do you know that
 13 the Pharisees were shocked on hearing what you said?” “Every
 plant,” Jesus replied, “that my heavenly Father has not planted
 14 will be rooted up. Let them be; they are but blind guides; and, if
 one blind man guides another, both of them will fall into a ditch.”
 15 Upon this, Peter said to Jesus: “Explain this saying to us.” “What,
 16 do even you understand nothing yet?” Jesus exclaimed. “Do not
 you see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stom-
 17 ach, and is afterwards expelled? But the things that come out from
 the mouth proceed from the heart, and it is these that defile a man;
 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts — murder, adultery, un-
 20 chastity, theft, perjury, slander. These are the things that defile a
 man; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”
 21 On going away from that place, Jesus retired to the country
 22 round Tyre and Sidon. There, a Canaanite woman of that district
 came out and began calling to Jesus: “Take pity on me, Master, Son
 23 of David; my daughter is grievously possessed by a demon.” But
 Jesus did not answer her a word; and his disciples came up and
 begged him to send her away. “She keeps calling out after us,” they
 24 said. “I was not sent,” replied Jesus, “to any one except the lost
 25 sheep of Israel.” But the woman came, and, bowing to the ground
 26 before him, said: “Master, help me.” “It is not fair,” replied Jesus,
 27 “to take the children’s food and throw it to dogs.” “Yes, Master,”
 she said, “for even dogs do feed on the scraps that fall from their
 28 owners’ table.” “Your faith is great,” was his reply to the woman;
 “it shall be as you wish!” And her daughter was cured that very
 hour.
 29 On leaving that place, Jesus went to the shore of the Sea of
 Galilee; and then went up the hill, and sat down., you will do

Matthew 16

what not only what has been done to the fig tree, but, even if you should say to this hill 'Be lifted up and hurled into the sea!' it would be done. Great crowds of people came to him, bringing with them those who were lame, crippled, blind, or dumb, and many others. They put them down at his feet, and he cured them; And the crowds were astonished, when they saw the dumb talking, the cripples made sound, the lame walking about, and the blind with their sight restored; and they praised the God of Israel. Afterwards 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 I am unwilling to send them away hungry, for fear that they should break down on the way." "Where can we," his disciples asked, "in a lonely place find enough bread for such a crowd as this?" "How many loaves have you?" said Jesus. "Seven," they answered, "and a few small fish." Telling the crowd to sit down on the ground, Jesus took the seven loaves and the fish, and, after saying the thanksgiving, broke them, and gave them to the disciples; and the disciples gave them to the crowds. Every one had sufficient to eat, and they picked up seven baskets full of the broken pieces left. The men who ate were four thousand in number without counting women and children. Then, after dismissing the crowds, Jesus got into the boat, and went to the neighborhood of Magadan.

Here the Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and, to test Jesus, requested him to show them some sign from the heavens. But Jesus answered: "In the evening you say 'It will be fine weather, for the sky is as red as fire.' But in the morning you say 'To-day it will be stormy, for the sky is as red as fire and threatening.' You learn to read the sky; yet you are unable to read the signs of the times! A wicked and unfaithful generation is asking for a sign, but no sign

Matthew 16

shall be given it except the sign of Jonah." So he left them and went away.

- 5 Now the disciples had crossed to the opposite shore, and had
- 6 forgotten to take any bread. Presently Jesus said to them: "Take
- 7 care and be on your guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and
- 8 Sadducees." But the disciples began talking among themselves
- 9 about their having brought no bread. On noticing this, Jesus said:
- 10 "Why are you talking among yourselves about your being short
- 11 of bread, O men of little faith? Do not you yet see, nor remember
- 12 the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many baskets you
- 13 took away? Nor yet the seven loaves for the four thousand, and
- 14 how many basketfuls you took away? How is it that you do not
- 15 see that I was not speaking about bread? Be on your guard against
- 16 the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Then they understood
- 17 that he had told them to be on their guard, not against the leaven
- 18 of bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.
- 19 On coming into the neighborhood of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus
- 20 asked his disciples this question — "Who do people say that the
- 21 Son of Man is?" "Some say John the Baptist," they answered, "Oth-
- 22 ers, however, say that he is Elijah, while others again say Jeremiah,
- 23 or one of the Prophets." "But you," he said, "who do you say that
- 24 I am?" And to this Simon Peter answered: "You are the Christ, the
- 25 Son of the Living God." "Blessed are you, Simon, Son of Jonah,"
- 26 Jesus replied. "For no human being has revealed this to you, but
- 27 my Father who is in Heaven. Yes, and I say to you, Your name is
- 28 'Peter — a Rock, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the
- 29 Powers of the Place of Death shall not prevail over it. I will give
- 30 you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on
- earth will be held in Heaven to be forbidden, and whatever you
- allow on earth will be held in Heaven to be allowed." Then he
- charged his disciples not to tell any one that he was the Christ.

Matthew 17

At that time Jesus Christ began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, and undergo much suffering at the hands of the Councillors, and Chief Priests, and Teachers of the Law, and be put to death, and rise on the third day. But Peter took Jesus aside, and began to rebuke him. "Master," he said, "please God that shall never be your fate!" Jesus, however, turning to Peter, said: "Out of my way, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you look at things, not as God does, but as man does." Then Jesus said to his disciples: "If any man wishes to walk in my steps, let him renounce self, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, and whoever, for my sake, loses his life shall find it. What good will it do a man to gain the whole world, if he forfeits his life? or what will a man give that is of equal value with his life? For the Son of Man is to come in his Father's Glory, with his angels, and then he 'will give to every man what his actions deserve.' I tell you, some of those who are standing here will not know death till they have seen the Son of Man coming into his Kingdom."

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, and the brothers James and John, and led them up a high mountain alone. There his appearance was transformed before their eyes; his face shown like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. And all at once Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus. "Master," exclaimed Peter, interposing, "it is good to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and there was a voice from the cloud that said — "This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I delight; him you must hear." The disciples, on hearing this, fell on their faces, greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying as he did so: "Rise up, and do not be afraid." When they raised their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus himself alone. As they were going down the mountain side, Jesus gave them this warning — "Do not speak

Matthew 17

of this vision to any one, until the Son of Man has risen from the
 10 dead." "How is it," his disciples asked, "that our Teachers of the
 11 Law say that Elijah has to come first?" "Elijah indeed does come,"
 12 Jesus replied, "and will restore everything; And I tell you that Eli-
 jah has already come, and people have not recognized him, but
 have treated him just as they pleased. In the same way, too, the
 13 Son of Man is destined to undergo suffering at men's hands." Then
 the disciples understood that it was of John the Baptist that he had
 spoken to them.

14 When they came to the crowd, a man came up to Jesus, and,
 15 kneeling down before him, said: "Master, take pity on my son,
 for he is epileptic and suffers terribly; indeed, he often falls into
 16 the fire and into the water; I brought him to your disciples, but
 17 they could not cure him." "O faithless and perverse generation!"
 Jesus exclaimed, "how long must I be among you? how long must
 18 I have patience with you? Bring the boy here to me." Then Jesus
 rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy; and he was cured
 19 from that very hour. Afterwards the disciples came up to Jesus,
 and asked him privately: "Why was it that we could not drive it
 20 out?" "Because you have so little faith," he answered; "for, I tell
 you, if your faith were only like a mustard-seed, you could say
 to this mountain 'Move from this place to that!' and it would be
 moved; and nothing would be impossible to you."

22 While Jesus and his disciples were together in Galilee, he said to
 them: "The Son of Man is destined to be betrayed into the hands
 23 of his fellow-men, And they will put him to death, but on the third
 day he will rise." And the disciples were greatly distressed.

24 After they had reached Capernaum, the collectors of the Tem-
 ple-rate came up to Peter, and said: "Does not your Master pay
 25 the Temple-rate?" "Yes," answered Peter. But, on going into the
 house, before he could speak, Jesus said: "What do you think, Si-
 mon? From whom do earthly kings take taxes or tribute? From

Matthew 18

their sons, or from others?" "From others," answered Peter. "Well 26
 then," continued Jesus, "their sons go free. Still, that we may not 27
 shock them, go and throw a line into the Sea; take the first fish
 that rises, open its mouth, and you will find in it a piece of money.
 Take that, and give it to the collectors for both of us."

On the same occasion the disciples came to Jesus, and asked 18
 him: "Who is really the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" Jesus 2
 called a little child to him, and placed it in the middle of them, and
 then said: "I tell you, unless you change and become like little chil- 3
 dren, you will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven at all. Therefore, 4
 any one who will humble himself like this child — that man shall
 be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. And any one who, for 5
 the sake of my Name, welcomes even one little child like this, is
 welcoming me. But, if any one puts a snare in the way of one of 6
 these lowly ones who believe in me, it would be best for him to be
 sunk in the depths of the sea with a great millstone hung round 7
 his neck. Alas for the world because of such snares! There cannot
 but be snares; yet alas for the man who is answerable for the snare!

If your hand or your foot is a snare to you, cut it off, and throw 8
 it away. It would be better for you to enter the Life maimed or
 lame, than to have both hands, or both feet, and be thrown into the
 aeonian fire. If your eye is a snare to you, take it out, and throw it 9
 away. It would be better for you to enter the Life with only one eye,
 than to have both eyes and be thrown into the fiery Pit. Beware of 10
 despising one of these lowly ones, for in Heaven, I tell you, their
 angels always see the face of my Father who is in Heaven.

What think you? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of 12
 them strays, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills, and go
 and search for the one that is straying? And, if he succeeds in find- 13
 ing it, I tell you that he rejoices more over that one sheep than over

Matthew 18

- 14 the ninety-nine which did not stray. So, too, it is the will of my Father who is in Heaven that not one of these lowly ones should be lost.
- 15 If your Brother does wrong, go to him and convince him of his fault when you and he are alone. If he listens to you, you have won
- 16 your Brother. But, if he does not listen to you, take with you one or two others, so that 'on the evidence of two or three witnesses,
- 17 every word may be put beyond dispute.' If he refuses to listen to them, speak to the Church; and, if he also refuses to listen to the Church, treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax-gatherer.
- 18 I tell you, all that you forbid on earth will be held in Heaven to be forbidden, and all that you allow on earth will be held in
- 19 Heaven to be allowed. Again, I tell you that, if but two of you on earth agree as to what they shall pray for, whatever it be, it will be
- 20 granted them by my Father who is in Heaven. For where two or three have come together in my Name, I am present with them."
- 21 Then Peter came up, and said to Jesus: "Master, how often am I to forgive my Brother when he wrongs me? As many as seven
- 22 times?" But Jesus answered: "Not seven times, but 'seventy times
- 23 seven.' And therefore the Kingdom of Heaven may be compared
- 24 to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he had begun to do so, one of them was brought to him who
- 25 owed him six million pounds; And, as he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold towards the payment of the debt, together with his wife, and his children, and everything that he had.
- 26 Thereupon the servant threw himself down on the ground before
- 27 him and said 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' The master was moved with compassion; and he let him go, and forgave him the debt. But, on going out, that same servant came upon
- 28 one of his fellow-servants who owed him ten pounds. Seizing him
- 29 by the throat, he said 'Pay what you owe me.' Thereupon his fellow-servant threw himself on the ground and begged for mercy.

Matthew 19

‘Have patience with me,’ he said, ‘and I will pay you.’ But the 30
 other would not, but went and put him in prison till he should
 pay his debt. When his fellow-servants saw what had happened, 31
 they were greatly distressed, and went to their master and laid
 the whole matter before him. Upon that the master sent for the 32
 servant, and said to him ‘You wicked servant! When you begged
 me for mercy, I forgave you the whole of that debt. Ought not you, 33
 also, to have shown mercy to your fellow-servant, just as I showed
 mercy to you?’ Then his master, in anger, handed him over to the 34
 jailers, until he should pay the whole of his debt. So, also, will 35
 my heavenly Father do to you, unless each one of you forgives his
 Brother from his heart.”

At the conclusion of this teaching, Jesus withdrew from Galilee, 19
 and went into that district of Judea which is on the other side of
 the Jordan. Great crowds followed him, and he cured them there. 2
 Presently some Pharisees came up to him, and, to test him, said: 3
 “Has a man the right to divorce his wife for every cause?” “Have 4
 not you read,” replied Jesus, “that at the beginning the Creator
 ‘made them male and female,’ And said — ‘For this reason a man 5
 shall leave his father and mother, and be united to his wife, and
 the man and his wife shall become one’? So that they are no longer 6
 two, but one. What God himself, then, has yoked together man
 must not separate.” “Why, then,” they said, “did Moses direct that 7
 a man should ‘serve his wife with a notice of separation and di-
 vorce her’?” “Moses, owing to the hardness of your hearts,” an- 8
 swered Jesus, “permitted you to divorce your wives, but that was
 not so at the beginning. But I tell you that any one who divorces 9
 his wife, except on the ground of her unchastity, and marries an-
 other woman, is guilty of adultery.” “If that,” said the disciples, 10
 “is the position of a man with regard to his wife, it is better not to
 marry.” “It is not every one,” replied Jesus, “who can accept this 11
 teaching, but only those who have been enabled to do so. Some 12

Matthew 19

men, it is true, have from birth been disabled for marriage, while others have been disabled by their fellow men, and others again have disabled themselves for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let him accept it who can."

13 Then some little children were brought to Jesus, for him to place
his hands on them, and pray; but the disciples found fault with
14 those who had brought them. Jesus, however, said: "Let the little
children come to me, and do not hinder them, for it is to the child-
15 like that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs." So he placed his hands
on them, and then went on his way.

16 And a man came up to Jesus, and said: "Teacher, what good
17 thing must I do to obtain Immortal life?" "Why ask me about
goodness?" answered Jesus. "There is but One who is good. If
18 you want to enter the Life, keep the commandments." "What com-
mandments?" asked the man. "These," answered Jesus: — "'Thou
shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal.
19 Thou shalt not say what is false about others. Honor thy father and
thy mother.' And 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thou dost thy-
20 self.'" "I have observed all these," said the young man. "What is
21 still wanting in me?" "If you wish to be perfect," answered Jesus,
"go and sell your property, and give to the poor, and you shall have
22 wealth in Heaven; then come and follow me." On hearing these
words, the young man went away distressed, for he had great pos-
23 sessions. At this, Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you that a rich
24 man will find it hard to enter the Kingdom of Heaven! I say again,
it is easier for a camel to get through a needle's eye than for a rich
25 man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven!" On hearing this, the dis-
ciples exclaimed in great astonishment: "Who then can possibly
26 be saved?" But Jesus looked at them, and said: "With men this
is impossible, but with God everything is possible." Then Peter

Matthew 20

turned and said to Jesus: "But we — we left everything, and fol- 27
 lowed you; what, then, shall we have?" "I tell you," answered Je- 28
 sus, "that at the New Creation, 'when the Son of Man takes his seat
 on his throne of glory,' you who followed me shall be seated upon
 twelve thrones, as judges of the twelve tribes of Israel. Every one 29
 who has left houses, or brothers, or sisters, or father, or mother,
 or children, or land, on account of my Name, will receive many
 times as much, and will 'gain Immortal Life.' But many who are 30
 first now will then be last, and those who are last will be first. For **20**
 the Kingdom of Heaven is like an employer who went out in the
 early morning to hire laborers for his vineyards. He agreed with 2
 the laborers to pay them two shillings a day, and sent them into
 his vineyard. On going out again, about nine o'clock, he saw some 3
 others standing in the market-place, doing nothing. 'You also may 4
 go into my vineyard,' he said, 'and I will pay you what is fair.' So 5
 the men went. Going out again about mid-day and about three
 o'clock, he did as before. When he went out about five, he found 6
 some other men standing there, and said to them 'Why have you
 been standing here all day long, doing nothing?' 'Because no one 7
 has hired us,' they answered. 'You also may go into my vineyard,'
 he said. In the evening the owner of the vineyard said to his stew- 8
 ard 'Call the laborers, and pay them their wages, beginning with
 the last, and ending with the first. Now when those who had been 9
 hired about five o'clock went up, they received two shillings each.
 So, when the first went up, they thought that they would receive 10
 more, but they also received two shillings each; On which they 11
 began to grumble at their employer. 'These last,' they said, 'have 12
 done only one hour's work, and yet you have put them on the same
 footing with us, who have borne the brunt of the day's work, and
 the heat.' 'My friend,' was his reply to one of them, 'I am not treat- 13
 ing you unfairly. Did not you agree with me for two shillings? Take 14
 what belongs to you, and go. I choose to give to this last man the

Matthew 20

15 same as to you. Have not I the right to do as I choose with what
 16 is mine? Are you envious because I am liberal?' So those who are
 last will be first, and the first last."

17 When Jesus was on the point of going up to Jerusalem, he
 gathered the twelve disciples round him by themselves, and said
 18 to them as they were on their way: "Listen! We are going up to
 Jerusalem; and there the Son of Man will be betrayed to the Chief
 Priests and Teachers of the Law, and they will condemn him to
 19 death, And give him up to the Gentiles for them to mock, and to
 scourge, and to crucify; and on the third day he will rise."

20 Then the mother of Zebediah's sons came to him with her sons,
 21 bowing to the ground, and begging a favor. "What is it that you
 want?" he asked. "I want you to say," she replied, "that in your
 Kingdom these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right, and
 22 the other on your left." "You do not know what you are asking,"
 was Jesus' answer. "Can you drink the cup that I am to drink?"
 23 "Yes," they exclaimed, "we can." "You shall indeed drink my cup,"
 he said, "but as to a seat at my right and at my left — that is not
 mine to give, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by
 24 my Father." On hearing of this, the ten others were very indignant
 25 about the two brothers. Jesus, however, called the ten to him, and
 said: "The rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them as you know,
 26 and their great men oppress them. Among you it is not so. No,
 whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,
 and whoever wants to take the first place among you, must be
 28 your slave; Just as the Son of Man came, not to be served, but to
 serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

29 As they were going out of Jericho, a great crowd followed him.
 30 Two blind men who were sitting by the road-side, hearing that
 Jesus was passing, called out: "Take pity on us, Master, Son of
 31 David!" The crowd told them to be quiet; but the men only called
 32 out the louder: "Take pity on us, Master, Son of David!" Then Jesus

Matthew 21

stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?"
 he said. "Master," they replied, "we want our eyes to be opened." 33
 So Jesus, moved with compassion, touched their eyes, and imme- 34
 diately they recovered their sight, and followed him.

When they had almost reached Jerusalem, having come as far 21
 as Bethphage, on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent on two disciples.
 "Go to the village facing you," he said, "and you will immediately 2
 find an ass tethered, with a foal by her side; untie her, and lead
 her here for me. And, if any one says anything to you, you are 3
 to say this — 'The Master wants them'; and he will send them at
 once." This happened in fulfillment of these words in the Prophet 4
 — 'Say to the daughter of Zion — "Behold, thy King is coming to 5
 thee, Gentle, and riding on an ass, And on the foal of a beast of
 burden."'

So the disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They 6
 led the ass and the foal back, and, when they had put their cloaks
 on them, he seated himself upon them. The immense crowd of 8
 people spread their cloaks in the road, while some cut branches
 off the trees, and spread them on the road. The crowds that led the 9
 way, as well as those that followed behind, kept shouting: "God
 save the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of
 the Lord! God save him from on high!" When he had entered 10
 Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred, and asked — "Who is this?", 11
 to which the crowd replied — "This is the Prophet Jesus from
 Nazareth in Galilee."

Jesus went into the Temple Courts, and drove out all those who 12
 were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the
 money-changers, and the seats of the pigeon-dealers, And said to 13
 them: "Scripture says 'My House shall be called a house of prayer';
 but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'" While he was still in the 14
 Temple Courts, some blind and some lame people came up to him,
 and he cured them. But, when the Chief Priests and the Teachers 15

Matthew 21

- of the Law saw the wonderful things that Jesus did, and the boys who were calling out in the Temple Courts "God save the Son of David!", they were indignant, And said to him: "Do you hear what these boys are saying?" "Yes," answered Jesus; "but did you never read the words — 'Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast called forth perfect praise?'"
- 16 Then he left them, and went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.
- 17 The next morning, in returning to the city, Jesus became hungry; And, noticing a solitary fig tree by the road-side, he went up to it, but found nothing on it but leaves. So he said to it: "Never again shall fruit be gathered off you." And suddenly the fruit tree withered up. When the disciples saw this, they exclaimed in astonishment: "How suddenly the fig tree withered up!" "I tell you," replied Jesus, "if you have faith, without ever a doubt, you will do what not only what has been done to the fig tree, but, even if you should say to this hill 'Be lifted up and hurled into the sea!' it would be done. And whatever you ask for in your prayers will, if you have faith, be granted you."
- 20 After Jesus had come into the Temple Courts, the Chief Priests and the Councillors of the Nation came up to him as he was teaching, and said: "What authority have you to do these things? Who gave you this authority?" "I, too," said Jesus in reply, "will ask you one question; if you will give me an answer to it, then I, also, will tell you what authority I have to act as I do. It is about John's baptism. What was its origin? divine or human?" But they began arguing among themselves: "If we say 'divine,' he will say to us 'Why then did not you believe him?' But if we say 'human,' we are afraid of the people, for every one regards John as a Prophet."
- 24 So the answer they gave Jesus was — "We do not know." "Then I," he said, "refuse to tell you what authority I have to do these things. What do you think of this? There was a man who had two

Matthew 21

sons. He went to the elder and said 'Go and work in the vineyard to-day my son.' 'Yes, sir,' he answered; but he did not go. Then the father went to the second son, and said the same. 'I will not,' he answered; but afterwards he was sorry and went. Which of the two sons did as his father wished?" "The second," they said. "I tell you," added Jesus, "that tax-gatherers and prostitutes are going into the Kingdom of God before you. For when John came to you, walking in the path of righteousness, you did not believe him, but tax-gatherers and prostitutes did; and yet you, though you saw this, even then were not sorry, nor did you believe him.

Listen to another parable. A man, who was an employer, once planted a vineyard, put a fence round it, dug a winepress in it, built a tower, and then let it out to tenants and went abroad. When the time for the vintage drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to receive his share of the produce. But the tenants seized his servants, beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. A second time the owner sent some servants, a larger number than before, and the tenants treated them in the same way. As a last resource he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But the tenants, on seeing his son, said to each other 'Here is the heir! Come, let us kill him, and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, and threw him outside the vineyard, and killed him. Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "Miserable wretches!" they exclaimed, "he will put them to a miserable death, and he will let out the vineyard to other tenants, who will pay him his share of the produce at the proper times." Then Jesus added: "Have you never read in the Scriptures? — 'The very stone which the builders despised — Has now itself become the corner-stone; This corner-stone has come from the Lord, And is marvelous in our eyes.' And that, I tell you, is why the Kingdom of God will be taken from you, and given to a nation that does produce the fruit of the Kingdom. Yes, and he who falls on this stone

Matthew 22

will be dashed to pieces, while any one on whom it falls — it will scatter him as dust.”

45 After listening to these parables, the Chief Priests and the Phar-
46 isees saw that it was about them that he was speaking; Yet, al-
though eager to arrest him, they were afraid of the crowds, who
regarded him as a Prophet.

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables. “The Kingdom of
Heaven,” he said, “may be compared to a king who gave a ban-
3 quet in honor of his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call
those who had been invited to the banquet, but they were unwill-
4 ing to come. A second time he sent some servants, with orders
to say to those who had been invited ‘I have prepared my break-
fast, my cattle and fat beasts are killed and everything is ready;
5 come to the banquet.’ They, however, took no notice, but went off,
6 one to his farm, another to his business; While the rest, seizing
7 his servants, ill-treated them and killed them. The king, in anger,
sent his troops, put those murderers to death, and set their city
8 on fire. Then he said to his servants ‘The banquet is prepared, but
9 those who were invited were not worthy. So go to the cross-roads,
10 and invite everyone you find to the banquet.’ The servants went
out into the roads and collected all the people whom they found,
whether bad or good; and the bridal-hall was filled with guests.
11 But, when the king went in to see his guests, he noticed there a
12 man who had not put on a wedding-robe. So he said to him ‘My
friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding-robe?’
13 The man was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants ‘Tie
him hand and foot, and ‘put him out into the darkness’ outside,
14 where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.’ For many are
called, but few chosen.”

15 Then the Pharisees went away and conferred together as to how
16 they might lay a snare for Jesus in the course of conversation. They
sent their disciples, with the Herodians, to say to him: “Teacher,

Matthew 22

we know that you are an honest man, and that you teach the way of God honestly, and are not afraid of any one; for you pay no regard to a man's position. Tell us, then, what you think. Are we right in paying taxes to the Emperor, or not?" Perceiving their malice, Jesus answered: "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin with which the tax is paid." And, when they had brought him a florin, He asked: "Whose head and title are these?" "The Emperor's," they answered: on which he said to them: "Then pay to the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and to God what belongs to God." They wondered at his answer, and left him alone and went away.

That same day some Sadducees came up to Jesus, maintaining that there is no resurrection. Their question was this: — "Teacher, Moses said — 'should a man die without children, the man's brother shall become the husband of the widow, and raise a family for his brother.' Now we had living among us seven brothers; of whom the eldest married and died, and, as he had no family, left his wife for his brother. The same thing happened to the second and the third brothers, and indeed to all the seven. The woman herself died last of all. At the resurrection, then, whose wife will she be out of the seven, all of them having had her?" "Your mistake," replied Jesus, "is due to your ignorance of the Scriptures, and of the power of God. For at the resurrection there is no marrying or being married, but all who rise are as angels in Heaven. As to the resurrection of the dead, have you not read these words of God — 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of dead men, but of living." The crowds, who had been listening to him, were greatly struck with his teaching.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they collected together. Then one of them, a Student of the Law, to test him, asked this question — "Teacher, what is

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37 the great commandment in the Law?" His answer was: "'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy Heart, and with all thy
38 soul, and with all thy mind.' This is the great first
39 commandment. The second, which is like it, is this — 'Thou shalt
40 love thy neighbor as thou dost thyself.' On these two
41 commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." Before the
42 Pharisees separated, Jesus put this question to them — "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" "David's," they
43 said. "How is it, then," Jesus replied, "that David, speaking
44 under inspiration, calls him 'lord,' in the passage- 'The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand, Until I put thy enemies
45 beneath thy feet''? Since, then, David calls him 'lord,' how is he
46 David's son?" No one could say a word in answer; nor did any one after that day venture to question him further.

23 Then Jesus speaking to the crowds and to his disciples, said:
2 "The teachers of the Law and the Pharisees now occupy the chair
3 of Moses. Therefore practice and lay to heart everything that they
4 tell preach but do not practice. While they make up heavy loads
5 and pile them on other men's shoulder's they decline, themselves,
6 to lift a finger to move them. All their actions are done to attract
7 attention. They widen their phylacteries, and increase the size of
8 their tassels, and like to have the place of honor at dinner, and
9 the best seats in the Synagogues, and to be greeted in the mar-
10 kets with respect, and to be called 'Rabbi' for everybody. But do
11 not allow yourselves to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Fa-
12 ther, the heavenly Father. And do not call any one Father, the heav-
13 enly Father. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called 'Leaders,'
14 for you have only one Leader, the Christ. The man who would be
15 the greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever shall ex-
16 alt himself will be humbled, and whoever shall humble himself
17 will be exalted. But alas for you, Teachers of the Law and Phar-
18 isees, hypocrites that you are! You turn the key of the Kingdom

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of Heaven in men's faces. For you do not go in yourselves, nor yet
 allow those who try to go in to do so. Alas for you, Teachers of the 14
 Law and Pharisees, hypocrites that you are! You destroy widow's
 houses, even while pretending to make long prayers; therefore
 you shall receive greater condemnation. Alas for you, teachers of 15
 the law and Pharisees, hypocrites that you are! You scour land and
 sea to make a single convert, and, when he is gained, you make
 him twice as deserving of the Pit as you are yourselves. Alas for 16
 you, you blind guides! You say 'if any answer by the Temple, his
 oath counts for nothing; but, if any one swears by the gold of the
 Temple, his oath is binding him'! Fools that you are and blind! 17
 Which is the more important? The gold? Or the Temple which
 has given sacredness to the gold? You say, too, 'If any one swears 18
 by the altar, his oath counts for nothing, but, if any one swears
 by the offering placed on it, his oath is binding on him'! Blind 19
 indeed! Which is the more important? The offering? or the altar
 which gives sacredness to the offering? Therefore a man, swear- 20
 ing by the altar, swears by it and by all that is on it, and a man, 21
 swearing by the Temple, swears by it and by him who dwells in it,
 while a man, swearing by Heaven, swears by the throne of God, 22
 and by him who sits upon it. Alas for you, Teachers of the Law 23
 and Pharisees, hypocrites that you are! You pay tithes on mint,
 fennel, and caraway seed, and have neglected the weightier mat-
 ters of the Law — justice, mercy, and good faith. These last you
 ought to have put into practice, without neglecting the first. You 24
 blind guides, to strain out a gnat and to swallow a camel! Alas 25
 for you, Teachers of the Law and Pharisees, hypocrites that you
 are! You clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside they
 are filled with the results of greed and self-indulgence. You blind 26
 Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and the dish, so that the
 outside may become clean as well. Alas for you, Teachers of the 27

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- Law and Pharisees, hypocrites that you are! You are like white-washed tombs, which indeed look fair outside, while inside they
- 28 are filled with dead men's bones and all kinds of filth. It is the same with you. Outwardly, and to others, you have the look of religious men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and sin. Alas for you, Teachers of the Law and Pharisees, hypocrites that you are! You build the tombs of the Prophets, and decorate the monuments of religious men, and say 'Had we been living in the days of our ancestors, we should have taken part in their murder of
- 29 the Prophets! By doing this you are furnishing evidence against yourselves that you are true children of the men who murdered
- 30 the Prophets. Fill up the measure of your ancestor's guilt. You serpents and brood of vipers! How can you escape being sentenced to the Pit? That is why I send you Prophets, wise men, and Teachers of the Law, some of whom you will crucify and kill, and some of whom you will scourge in your Synagogues, and persecute from
- 31 town to town; in order that upon your heads may fall every drop of innocent 'blood split on earth,' from the blood of innocent Abel down to that of Zechariah, Barachiah's son, whom you murdered
- 32 between the Temple and the altar. All this, I tell you, will come home to the present generation. Jerusalem! Jerusalem! She who slays the Prophets and stones the messengers sent to her — Oh, how often have I wished to gather your children round me, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not come!
- 33 Verily, your house is left to you desolate! For nevermore, I tell you, shall you see me, until you say — 'Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!'"
- 24 Leaving the Temple Courts, Jesus was walking away, when his disciples came up to draw his attention to the Temple buildings.
- 2 "Do you see all these things?" was his answer. "I tell you, not a single stone will be left here upon another, which will not be throne

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down," So, while Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, his disciples came up to him privately and said: "Tell us when this will be, and what will be the sign of your Coming, and of the close of the age." Jesus replied to them as follows: "See that no one leads you astray; for, many will take my name, and come saying 'I am the Christ,' and will lead many astray. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars; take care not to be alarmed, for such things must occur; but the end is not yet here. For 'nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom,' and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All this, however, will be but the beginning of the birth pangs! When that time comes, they will give you up to persecution, and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations on account of my Name. And then many will fall away, and will betray one another, and hate one another. Many false Prophets, also, will appear and lead many astray; and, owing to the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold. Yet the man that endures to the end shall be saved. And this Good News of the Kingdom shall be proclaimed throughout the world as a witness to all nations; and then will come the end. As soon, then, as you see 'the Foul Desecration,' mentioned by the Prophet Daniel, standing in the Holy Place," (the reader must consider what this means) "then those of you who are in Judea must take refuge in the mountains; and a man on the housetop must not go down to get the things that are in his house; nor must one who is on his farm turn back to get his cloak. And alas for the women that are with child, and for those that are nursing infants in those days! Pray, too, that your flight may not take place in winter, nor on a Sabbath; for that will be 'a time of great distress, the like of which has not occurred from the beginning of the world down to the present time' — no, nor ever will again. And had not those days been limited, not a single soul would escape; but for the sake of 'God's People' a limit will be put to them. And, at that

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time, if any one should say to you 'Look! here is the Christ!' or
 24 'Here he is!'; do not believe it; For false Christs and false Prophets
 will arise, and will display great signs and marvels, so that, were
 25 it possible, even God's People would be led astray. Remember, I
 26 have told you beforehand. Therefore, if people say to you 'He is in
 the Wilderness!'; do not go out there; or 'He is in an inner room!';
 27 do not believe it; For, just as lightning will start from the east and
 flash across to the west, so will it be with the Coming of the Son
 28 of Man. Wherever a dead body lies, there will the vultures flock.'
 29 Immediately after the distress of those days, 'the sun will be dark-
 ened, the moon will not give her light, the stars will fall from the
 30 heavens,' and 'the forces of the heavens will be convulsed.' Then
 will appear the sign of the Son of Man in the heavens; and all the
 peoples of the earth will mourn, when they see the Son of Man
 coming on the clouds of the heavens,' with power and great glory;
 31 And he will send his angels, with a great trumpet, and they will
 gather his People round him from the four winds, from one end
 of heaven to the other.
 32 Learn the lesson taught by the fig tree. As soon as its branches
 are full of sap, and it is bursting into leaf, you know that summer
 33 is near. And so may you, as soon as you see all these things, know
 34 that he is at your doors. I tell you, even the present generation will
 35 not pass away, till all these things have taken place. The heavens
 and the earth will pass away, but my words shall never pass away.
 36 But about that Day and Hour, no one knows — not even the an-
 gels of Heaven, nor yet the Son — but only the Father himself.
 37 For, just as in the days of Noah, so will it be at the Coming of the
 38 Son of Man. In those days before the flood they went on eating
 and drinking, marrying and being married, up to the very day on
 39 which Noah entered the ark, Taking not notice till the flood came
 and swept them one and all away; and so will it be at the Coming
 40 of the Son of Man. At that time, of two men on a farm one will

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be taken and one left; Of two women grinding with the hand-mill 41
 one will be taken and one left. Therefore watch; for you cannot be 42
 sure on what day your Master is coming. But this you do know, 43
 that, had the owner of the house known at what time of night the
 thief was coming, he would have been on the watch, and would
 not have allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore, do you 44
 also prepare, since it is just when you are least expecting him that
 the Son of Man will come. Who, then is that trustworthy, careful 45
 servant, who has been placed by his master over his household, to
 give them their food at the proper time? Happy will that servant 46
 be whom his master, when he comes home, shall find doing this.
 I tell you that his master will put him in charge of the whole of his 47
 property. But, should he be a bad servant, and say to himself 'My 48
 master is a long time in coming,' And begin to beat his fellow-ser- 49
 vants, and eat and drink with drunkards, That servant's master 50
 will come on a day when he does not expect him, and at an hour
 of which he is unaware, And will flog him severely, and assign 51
 him his place among the hypocrites, where there will be weeping
 and grinding of teeth.

Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who **25**
 took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of 2
 them were foolish, and five were prudent. The foolish ones took 3
 their lamps, but took no oil with them; While the prudent ones, be- 4
 sides taking their lamps, took oil in their jars. As the bridegroom 5
 was late in coming, they all became drowsy, and slept. But at mid- 6
 night a shout was raised — 'The Bridegroom is coming! Come out
 to meet him!' Then all the bridesmaids awoke and trimmed their 7
 lamps. And the foolish said to the prudent 'Give us some of your 8
 oil; our lamps are going out.' But the prudent ones answered 'No, 9
 for fear that there will not be enough for you and for us. Go instead
 to those who sell it, and buy for yourselves.' But while they were 10
 on their way to buy it, the bridegroom came; and the bridesmaids

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who were ready went in with him to the banquet, and the door
 11 was shut. Afterwards the other bridesmaids came. 'Sir, Sir,' they
 12 said, 'open the door to us!' But the bridegroom answered 'I tell
 13 you, I do not know you.' Therefore watch, since you know neither
 the Day nor the Hour.

14 For it is as though a man, going on his travels, called his
 15 servants, and gave his property into their charge. He gave three
 thousand pounds to one, twelve hundred to another, and six
 hundred to a third, in proportion to the ability of each. Then he
 16 set out on his travels. The man who had received the three
 thousand pounds went at once and traded with it, and made
 17 another three thousand. So, too, the man who had received the
 18 twelve hundred pounds made another twelve hundred. But the
 man who had received the six hundred went and dug a hole in
 19 the ground, and hid his master's money. After a long time the
 master of those servants returned, and settled accounts with
 20 them. The man who had received the three thousand pounds
 came up and brought three thousand more. 'Sir,' he said, 'you
 entrusted me with three thousand pounds; look, I have made
 21 another three thousand!' 'Well done, good, trustworthy servant!' said his master. 'You have been trustworthy with a small sum; now I will place a large one in your hands; come and share your master's joy!' Then the one who had received the twelve hundred pounds came up and said 'Sir, you entrusted me with twelve hundred pounds; look, I have made another twelve hundred!' 'Well done, good, trustworthy servant!' said his master. 'You have been trustworthy with a small sum; now I will place a large
 24 one in your hands; come and share your master's joy!' The man who had received the six hundred pounds came up, too, and said 'Sir, I knew that you were a hard man; you reap where you have
 25 not sown, and gather up where you have not winnowed; And, in my fear, I went and hid your money in the ground; look, here is

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what belongs to you!’ ‘You lazy, worthless servant!’ was his 26
 master’s reply. ‘You knew that I reap where I have not sown, and
 gather up where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have 27
 placed my money in the hands of bankers, and I, on my return,
 should have received my money, with interest. ‘Therefore,’ he 28
 continued, ‘take away from him the six hundred pounds, and
 give it to the one who has the six thousand. For, to him who has, 29
 more will be given, and he shall have abundance; but, as for him
 who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away from him.
 As for the useless servant, ‘put him out into the darkness’ 30
 outside, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.’

When the Son of Man has come in his glory and all the angels 31
 with him, then he ‘will take his seat on his throne of glory’; And all 32
 the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the
 people — just as a shepherd separates sheep from goats- - Placing 33
 the sheep on his right hand, and the goats on his left. Then the 34
 King will say to those on his right ‘Come, you who are blessed by
 my Father, enter upon possession of the Kingdom prepared for
 you ever since the beginning of the world. For, when I was hungry, 35
 you gave me food; when I was thirsty, you gave me drink; when
 I was a stranger, you took me to your homes; When I was naked, 36
 you clothed me; when I fell ill, you visited me; and when I was in
 prison, you came to me.’ Then the Righteous will answer ‘Lord, 37
 when did we see you hungry, and feed you? Or thirsty, and give
 you a drink? When did we see you a stranger, and take you to our 38
 homes? Or naked, and clothe you? When did we see you ill, or 39
 in prison, and come to you?’ And the King will reply ‘I tell you, 40
 as often as you did it to one of these my Brothers, however lowly,
 you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those on his left ‘Go from my 41
 presence, accursed, into the ‘aeonian fire which has been prepared
 for the Devil and his angels.’ For, when I was hungry, you gave me 42
 no food; when I was thirsty, you gave me no drink; When I was a 43

Matthew 26

stranger, you did not take me to your homes; when I was naked, you did not clothe me; and, when I was ill and in prison, you did not visit me.' Then they, in their turn, will answer 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or ill, or in prison, and did not supply your wants?' And then he will reply 'I tell you, as often as you failed to do it to one of these, however lowly, you failed to do it to me.' And these last will go away 'into aeonian punishment,' but the righteous 'into aeonian life.'"

26 When Jesus had finished all this teaching, he said to his disciples: "You know that in two days time the Festival of the Passover will be here; and that the Son of Man is to be given up to be crucified." Then the Chief Priests and the Councillors of the Nation met in the house of the High Priest, who was called Caiaphas, And plotted together to arrest Jesus by stealth and put him to death; But they said: "Not during the Festival, for fear of causing a riot."

6 After Jesus had reached Bethany, and while he was in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of very costly perfume, and poured the perfume upon his head as he was at table. The disciples were indignant at seeing this. "What is this waste for?" they exclaimed. "It could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to poor people." "Why are you troubling the woman?" Jesus said, when he noticed it. "For this is a beautiful deed that she has done to me. You always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. In pouring this perfume on my body, she has done it for my burying. I tell you, wherever, in the whole world, this Good News is proclaimed, what this woman has done will be told in memory of her."

14 It was then that one of the Twelve, named Judas Iscariot, made his way to the Chief Priests, And said "What are you willing to give me, if I betray Jesus to you?" The Priests 'weighed him out thirty pieces of silver' as payment. So from that time Judas looked for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

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On the first day of the Festival of the Unleavened Bread, the disciples came up to Jesus, and said: "Where do you wish us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" "Go into the city to a certain man," he answered, "and say to him 'The Teacher says — My time is near. I will keep the Passover with my disciples at your house.'" The disciples did as Jesus directed them, and prepared the Passover. In the evening Jesus took his place with the twelve disciples, And, while they were eating, he said: "I tell you that one of you will betray me." In great grief they began to say to him, one by one: "Can it be I, Master?" "The one who dipped his bread beside me in the dish," replied Jesus, "is the one who will betray me. True, the Son 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!'" And Judas, who was betraying him, turned to him and said: "Can it be I, Rabbi?" "It is," answered Jesus.

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and, after saying the blessing, broke it and, as he gave it to his disciples, said: "Take it and eat it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and, after saying the thanksgiving, gave it to them, with the words: "Drink from it, all of you; For this is my Covenant blood, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. And I tell you that I shall never, after this, drink of this juice of the grape, until that day when I shall drink it new with you in the Kingdom of my Father."

They then sang a hymn, and went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them: "Even you will all fall away from me to-night. Scripture says — 'I will strike down the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But, after I have risen, I shall go before you into Galilee." "If every one else falls away from you," Peter answered, "I shall never fall away!" "I tell you," replied Jesus, "that this very night, before the cock crows, you will

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- 35 disown me three times!" "Even if I must die with you," Peter exclaimed, "I shall never disown you!" All the disciples spoke in the same way.
- 36 Then Jesus came with them to a garden called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples: "Sit down here while I go and pray yonder." Taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebediah, he began to show signs of sadness and deep distress of mind. "I am sad at heart," he said, "sad even to death; wait here and watch with me." Going on a little further, he threw himself on his face in prayer. "My Father," he said, "if it is possible, let me be spared this cup; only, not as I will, but as thou willest." Then he came to his disciples, and found them asleep. "What!" he said to Peter, "could none of you watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray, that you may not fall into temptation. True, the spirit is eager, but human nature is weak." Again, a second time, he went away, and prayed. "My Father," he said, "if I cannot be spared this cup, but must drink it, thy will be done!" And coming back again he found them asleep, for their eyes were heavy. So he left them, and went away again, and prayed a third time, again saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples, and said: "Sleep on now, and rest yourselves. Hark! my time is close at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of wicked men. Up, and let us be going. Look! my betrayer is close at hand." And, while he was still speaking, Judas, who was one of the Twelve, came in sight; and with him was a great crowd of people, with swords and clubs, sent from the Chief Priests and Councillors of the Nation. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them. "The man whom I kiss," he had said, "will be the one; arrest him." So he went up to Jesus at once, and exclaimed: "Welcome, Rabbi!" and kissed him; On which Jesus said to him: "Friend, do what you have come for." Thereupon the men went up, seized Jesus, and arrested him. Suddenly one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew

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his sword, and striking the High Priest's servant, cut off his ear. "Sheathe your sword," Jesus said, "for all who draw the sword 52 will be put to the sword. Do you think that I cannot ask my Fa- 53 ther for help, when he would at once send to my aid more than twelve legions of angels? But in that case how would the Scrip- 54 tures be fulfilled, which say that this must be?" Jesus at the same 55 time said to the crowds: "Have you come out, as if after a robber, with swords and clubs, to take me? I have sat teaching day after day in the Temple Courts, and yet you did not arrest me." The 56 whole of this occurred in fulfillment of the Prophetic Scriptures. Then the disciples all forsook him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the High 57 Priest, where the Teachers of the Law and the Councillors had as- 58 sembled. Peter followed him at a distance as far as the courtyard 59 of the offices, to see the end. Meanwhile the Chief Priests and the whole of the High Council were trying to get such false evidence 60 against Jesus, as would warrant putting him to death, But they did not find any, although many came forward with false evidence. Later on, however, two men came forward and said: "This man 61 said 'I am able to destroy the Temple of God, and to build it in three days.'" Then the High Priest stood up, and said to Jesus: 62 "Have you no answer? What is this evidence which these men are giving against you?" But Jesus remained silent. On this the 63 High Priest said to him: "I adjure you, by the Living God, to tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God." "It is true," Jesus 64 answered; "Moreover I tell you all that hereafter you shall 'see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of the Almighty, and com- 65 ing on the clouds of the heavens.'" Then the High Priest tore his robes. "This is blasphemy!" he exclaimed. "Why do we want any 66 more witnesses? You have just heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" They answered: "He deserves death." Then they spat 67

Matthew 27

in his face, and struck him, while others dealt blows at him, saying as they did so: "Now play the Prophet for us, you Christ! Who was it that struck you?" Peter, meanwhile, was sitting outside in the courtyard; and a maidservant came up to him, and exclaimed: "Why, you were with Jesus the Galilean!" But Peter denied it before them all. "I do not know what you mean," he replied. When he had gone out into the gateway, another maid saw him, and said to those who were there: "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth!" Again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man!" But soon afterwards those who were standing by came up and said to Peter: "You also are certainly one of them; why, your very way of speaking proves it!" Then Peter began to swear, with most solemn imprecations: "I do not know the man." At that moment a cock crowed; and Peter remembered the words which Jesus had said — 'Before a cock has crowed, you will disown me three times'; and he went outside, and wept bitterly.

At daybreak all the Chief Priests and the Councillors of the Nation consulted together against Jesus, to bring about his death. They put him in chains and led him away, and gave him up to the Roman Governor, Pilate. Then Judas, who betrayed him, seeing that Jesus was condemned, repented of what he had done, and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the Chief Priests and Councillors. "I did wrong in betraying a good man to his death," he said. "What has that to do with us?" they replied. "You must see to that yourself." Judas flung down the pieces of silver in the Temple, and left; and went away and hanged himself. The Chief Priests took the pieces of silver, but they said: "We must not put them into the Temple treasury, because they are blood-money." So, after consultation, they bought with them the 'Potter's Field' for a burial-ground for foreigners; And that is why that field is called the 'Field of Blood' to this very day. Then it was that these words spoken by the Prophet Jeremiah were fulfilled — 'They took the thirty

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pieces of silver, the price of him who was valued, whom some of
the people of Israel valued, And gave them for the Potter's field, 10
as the Lord commanded me.' Meanwhile Jesus was brought be- 11
fore the Roman Governor. "Are you the King of the Jews?" asked
the Governor. "It is true," answered Jesus. While charges were 12
being brought against him by the Chief Priests and Councillors,
Jesus made no reply. Then Pilate said to him: "Do not you hear 13
how many accusations they are making against you?" Yet Jesus 14
made no reply — not even a single word; at which the Gover-
nor was greatly astonished. Now, at the Feast, the Governor was 15
accustomed to grant the people the release of any one prisoner
whom they might choose. At that time they had a notorious pris- 16
oner called Barabbas. So, when the people had collected, Pilate 17
said to them: "Which do you wish me to release for you? Barab-
bas? Or Jesus who is called 'Christ'?" For he knew that it was out 18
of jealousy that they had given Jesus up to him. While he was still 19
on the Bench, his wife sent this message to him — "Do not have
anything to do with that good man, for I have been very unhappy
to-day in a dream on account of him." But the Chief Priests and the 20
Councillors persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas, and to kill
Jesus. The Governor, however, said to them: "Which of these two 21
do you wish me to release for you?" "Barabbas," they answered.
"What then," Pilate asked, "shall I do with Jesus who is called 22
'Christ'?" "Let him be crucified," they all replied. "Why, what harm 23
has he done?" he asked. But they kept shouting furiously: "Let
him be crucified!" When Pilate saw that his efforts were unavail- 24
ing, but that, on the contrary, a riot was beginning, he took some
water, and washed his hands in the sight of the crowd, saying as
he did so: "I am not answerable for this bloodshed; you must see
to it yourselves." And all the people answered: "His blood be on 25
our heads and on our children's!" The Pilate released Barabbas to 26
them; but Jesus he scourged, and gave him up to be crucified.

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27 After that, the Governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into
 the Government House, and gathered the whole garrison round
 29 him. They stripped him, and put on him a red military cloak, And
 having twisted some thorns into a crown, put it on his head, and a
 rod in his right hand, and then, going down on their knees before
 him, they mocked him. "Long life to you, King of the Jews!" they
 30 said. They spat at him and, taking the rod, kept striking him on
 31 the head; And, when they had left off mocking him, they took off
 the military cloak, and put his own clothes on him, and led him
 away to be crucified.

32 As they were on their way out, they came upon a man from
 Cyrene of the name of Simon; and they compelled him to go with
 33 them to carry the cross. On reaching a place named Golgotha (a
 34 place named from its likeness to a skull), they gave him some wine
 to drink which had been mixed with gall; but after tasting it, Jesus
 35 refused to drink it. When they had crucified him, they divided his
 36 clothes among them by casting lots. Then they sat down, and kept
 37 watch over him there. Above his head they fixed the accusation
 against him written out — 'THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE
 38 JEWS.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one
 39 on the right, the other on the left. The passers-by railed at him,
 40 shaking their heads as they said: "You who 'destroy the Temple
 and build one in three days,' save yourself! If you are God's Son,
 41 come down from the cross!" In the same way the Chief Priests,
 with the Teachers of the Law and Councillors, said in mockery:
 42 "He saved others, but he cannot save himself! He is the 'King of
 Israel'! Let him come down from the cross now, and we will be-
 43 lieve in him. He has trusted in God; if God wants him, let him
 44 deliver him now; for he said 'I am God's Son.'" Even the robbers,
 45 who were crucified with him, reviled him in the same way. After
 mid-day a darkness came over all the country, lasting till three
 46 in the afternoon. And about three Jesus called out loudly: "Eloi,

Matthew 27

Eloi, lema sabacthani" — that is to say, 'O my God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?' Some of those standing by heard this, and said: "The man is calling for Elijah!" One of them immediately ran and took a sponge, and, filling it with common wine, put it on the end of a rod, and offered it to him to drink. But the rest said: "Wait and let us see if Elijah is coming to save him." However another man took a spear, and pierced his side; and water and blood flowed from it. But Jesus, uttering another loud cry, gave up his spirit. Suddenly the Temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom, the earth shook, the rocks were torn asunder, the tombs opened, and the bodies of many of God's People who had fallen asleep rose, And they, leaving their tombs, went, after the resurrection of Jesus, into the Holy City, and appeared to many people. The Roman Captain, and the men with him who were watching Jesus, on seeing the earthquake and all that was happening, became greatly frightened and exclaimed: "This must indeed have been God's Son!" There were many women there, watching from a distance, who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee and had been attending on him. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebediah's sons.

When evening had fallen, there came a rich man belonging to Ramah, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. He went to see Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus; upon which Pilate ordered it to be given him. So Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen sheet, And laid it in his newly-made tomb which he had cut in the rock; and, before he left, he rolled a great stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary of Magdala and the other Mary remained behind, sitting in front of the grave.

The next day — that is, the day following the Preparation-Day — the Chief Priests and Pharisees came in a body to Pilate, and said: "Sir, we remember that, during his lifetime, that impostor said 'I

Matthew 28

64 shall rise after three days.' So order the tomb to be made secure
till the third day. Otherwise his disciples may come and steal him,
and then say to the people 'He has risen from the dead,' when
65 the latest imposture will be worse than the first." "You may have
a guard," was Pilate's reply; "go and make the tomb as secure as
66 you can." So they went made the tomb secure, by sealing the stone,
in presence of the guard.

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn,
Mary of Magdala and the other Mary had gone to look at the
2 grave, When suddenly a great earthquake occurred. For an angel
of the Lord descended from Heaven, and came and rolled away
3 the stone, and seated himself upon it. His appearance was as daz-
4 zling as lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow; And, in
their terror of him, the men on guard trembled violently and be-
5 came like dead men. But the angel, addressing the women, said;
"You need not be afraid. I now that it is Jesus, who was cruci-
6 fied, for whom you are looking. He is not here; for he has risen,
as he said he would. Come, and see the place where he was ly-
7 ing; And then go quickly and say to him disciples 'He has risen
from the dead, and is going before you into Galilee; there you will
8 see him.' Remember, I have told you." On this they left the tomb
quickly, in awe and great joy, and ran to tell the news to the disci-
9 ples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Welcome!" he said. The women
went up to him, and clasped his feet, bowing to the ground before
10 him. Then Jesus said to them: "Do not be afraid; go and tell my
11 brothers to set out for Galilee, and they shall see me there." While
they were still on their way, some of the guard came into the city,
and reported to the Chief Priests everything that had happened.
12 So they and the Councillors met and, after holding a consultation,
13 gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, And told them to say
that his disciples came in the night, and stole him while they were
14 asleep; "And should this matter come before the Governor," they

added, "we will satisfy him, and see that you have nothing to fear."
So the soldiers took the money, and did as they were instructed. 15
And this story has been current among the Jews from that day to
this.

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Je- 16
sus told them to meet him; And, when they saw him, they bowed 17
to the ground before him; although some felt doubtful. Then Jesus 18
came up, and spoke to them thus:

"All authority in heaven and on the earth has been given to me.
Therefore go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them 19
into the Faith of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, And 20
teaching them to lay to heart all the commands that I have given
you; and, remember, I myself am with you every day until the
close of the age."

