**CHAPTER 3**

*Christ heals the withered hand: he chooses the twelve: he confutes the blasphemy of the Pharisees.*

**1** And he entered again into the synagogue, and there was a man there who had a withered hand.

**2** And they watched him whether he would heal on the sabbath days; that they might accuse him.

**3** And he said to the man who had the withered hand: Stand up in the midst.

**4** And he saith to them: Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy? But they held their peace.

**5** And looking round about on them with anger, being grieved for the blindness of their hearts, he saith to the man: Stretch forth thy hand. And he stretched it forth: and his hand was restored unto him.

**6** And the Pharisees going out, immediately made a consultation with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.

**7** But Jesus retired with his disciples to the sea; and a great multitude followed him from Galilee and Judea,

**8** And from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and from beyond the Jordan. And they about Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, hearing the things which he did, came to him.

**9** And he spoke to his disciples that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should throng him.

**10** For he healed many, so that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had evils.

**11** And the unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him: and they cried, saying:

**12** Thou art the Son of God. And he strictly charged them that they should not make him known.

**13** And going up into a mountain, he called unto him whom he would himself: and they came to him.

**14** And he made that twelve should be with him, and that he might send them to preach.

**15** And he gave them power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils.

**16** And to Simon he gave the name Peter:

**17** And James the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James; and he named them Boanerges, which is, The sons of thunder:

**18** And Andrew and Philip, and Bartholomew and Matthew, and Thomas and James of Alpheus, and Thaddeus, and Simon the Cananean:

**19** And Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

**20** And they come to a house, and the multitude cometh together again, so that they could not so much as eat bread.

**21** And when his friends had heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him. For they said: He is become mad.

**22** And the scribes who were come down from Jerusalem, said: He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of devils he casteth out devils.

**23** And after he had called them together, he said to them in parables: How can Satan cast out Satan?

**24** And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

**25** And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

**26** And if Satan be risen up against himself, he is divided, and cannot stand, but hath an end.

**27** No man can enter into the house of a strong man and rob him of his goods, unless he first bind the strong man, and then shall he plunder his house.

**28** Amen I say to you, that all sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and the blasphemies wherewith they shall blaspheme:

**29** But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost, shall never have forgiveness, but shall be guilty of an everlasting sin.

**30** Because they said: He hath an unclean spirit.

**31** And his mother and his brethren came; and standing without, sent unto him, calling him.

**32** And the multitude sat about him; and they say to him: Behold thy mother and thy brethren without seek for thee.

**33** And answering them, he said: Who is my mother and my brethren?

**34** And looking round about on them who sat about him, he saith: Behold my mother and my brethren.

**35** For whosoever shall do the will of God, he is my brother, and my sister, and mother.