

The Four Gospels, Contemporary Christian Version (CCV)

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The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Luke

Luke 1:1-end

- 1 Many people have written accounts which we sincerely believe,
- 2 Because they were given to us by eyewitnesses and ministers of the Word.
- 3 Since I have verified these things it seemed like a good idea to me to write to you Theophilus, whom I hold in the highest regard,
- 4 So you might know the certainty of events you have been taught.
- 5 While King Herod of Judea ruled there was a priest named Zacharias who descended from the priestly line of Abia. Zacharias' wife Elizabeth was one of Aaron's descendants.
- 6 They were both holy before God. They obeyed all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord and were blameless in His eyes.
- 7 They did not have any children because Elizabeth was unable to conceive and now they were both old.
- 8 During his turn Zacharias was performing his priestly duties before God.
- 9 He was burning incense in the Lord's temple according to the custom practiced by the priests.
- 10 The entire congregation of people was praying out in the temple while the incense was being burned.
- 11 Zacharias saw an angel of the Lord on the right side of the altar of incense.
- 12 Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel and fear came over him.
- 13 The angel said to him, "Don't be afraid Zacharias. Your prayers have been answered. Your wife Elizabeth will deliver a son and you will call him John."
- 14 "You will be joyous and glad with him and many will rejoice at his birth."
- 15 "He will be great in the Lord's eyes. He will not drink wine or any other strong drink. He will be filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment he is born."
- 16 "Many of the people of Israel will return to the Lord their God because of him."
- 17 "He will go in advance of the Lord in Elijah's spirit and power turning father's hearts to their children and disobedient people to the wisdom of the holy preparing them for the Lord."
- 18 Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this is true? I'm an old man and my wife is old too."
- 19 The angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God and have been sent to tell you and show you these joyful truths."
- 20 "You will not be able to speak until the day this event occurs because you didn't believe my words. They will be fulfilled at their appointed time."
- 21 The people waited for Zacharias and wondered why he took so much time in the temple.
- 22 When he came out he could not speak to them. He motioned to them and remained speechless and they thought he had seen a vision in the temple.
- 23 He left for home after the time for his priestly duties passed.

24 His wife Elizabeth conceived after awhile and she kept herself hidden for five months.
25 She said, "The Lord looked on me with compassion and has taken away that which disgraced me in the eyes of the people."
26 God sent the angel Gabriel to the city of Nazareth in Galilee during Elizabeth's sixth month.
27 The angel visited a virgin named Mary who was betrothed to Joseph. He was a descendant of David.
28 The angel came to her saying, "Greetings. The Lord is with you and you are highly favored. You are blessed among women."
29 Mary saw the angel and was troubled by what he said. She wondered what kind of greeting this was.
30 The angel said to her, "Don't worry Mary. God has looked on you favorably."
31 "You will conceive a son in your womb and deliver Him and you will call Him JESUS."
32 "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest. The Lord God will give Him the throne of his father David."
33 "He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever and there will be no end to His kingdom."
34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have never been intimate with a man?"
35 The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come over you with the power of the Almighty overshadowing you. The Holy One who you will bear will be called the Son of God."
36 "Your cousin Elizabeth, who was unable to have a child, has conceived a son in her old age. She is in her sixth month."
37 "Nothing is impossible with God."
38 Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant girl. May what you have said come true in me." Then the angel left Mary.
39 At that time Mary hurriedly left for a city in Judah in the hill country.
40 She came to Zacharias' house, went in and greeted Elizabeth.
41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the baby inside her leaped and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.
42 She spoke up in a loud voice, "You are blessed among women and the fruit you bear is blessed."
43 "Why has this happened to me? The mother of my Lord comes to visit me?"
44 "As soon as I heard your voice greeting me the baby inside of me leaped for joy."
45 "She who has believed is blessed. The Lord will accomplish His promises."

Mary's Song

46 Mary said, "My soul praises the Lord,"
47 "My spirit rejoices in my God and Savior."
48 "He thought about the lowly position of His servant girl.
From this time on all generations will say that I am blessed."
49 "The Almighty has performed a great work in me and His name is Holy."
50 "From generation to generation He shows mercy to those who fear Him."
51 "The arm of the Lord is strong.
He scatters the proud to the desires of their hearts."
52 "He pulls the powerful down from their positions of power
and uplifts those of humble birth."
53 "He feeds the hungry with good things until they are full
while He sends the rich away hungry."
54 "He has helped His servant Israel as a tribute to His mercy,"

55 "As He promised our fathers, Abraham and his people forever."

56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months then she went home.

57 The time came for Elizabeth to deliver her child and she gave birth to a son.

58 Her neighbors and family heard the Lord had given Elizabeth a great gift and they were overjoyed with her.

59 On the eighth day after the child was born they came to circumcise him.

They named him Zacharias after his father.

60 Elizabeth said, "This will not be, he will be called John."

61 They told her, "But you don't have any relatives with that name."

62 They signalled the child's father to find out what he wanted to call the child.

63 He asked for something to write on. He wrote, "His name is John." They were all surprised at his answer.

64 Immediately his speech was restored and he praised God.

65 Fear came over everyone who lived near them and all of these things were talked about in the hill country of Judea.

66 Everyone who heard these reports said, "What kind of child is this?" And the hand of the Lord was upon the child.

67 His father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied,

68 "Bless the name of the Lord God of Israel.

He has come to His people to redeem them."

69 "He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
out of His servant David's house."

70 "As He promised by the words of His holy prophets
from the beginning."

71 "So we could be saved from our enemies and
from destruction by those who hate us."

72 "He has shown us the mercy He promised our fathers and
He has remembered His holy covenant."

73 "The promise He made to our father Abraham,"

74 "That He would grant us the favor of
delivering us from the hands of our enemies
so we could serve Him without fear."

75 "And in holiness and righteousness before Him,
every day of our lives."

76 "You child, you will be called the prophet of God Almighty
for you will go in advance of the Lord to prepare His way."

77 "You will tell His people about salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,"

78 "By the tender mercy of our God
who has sent the dayspring from Heaven to visit us."

79 "Giving light to those sitting in darkness and the shadow of death.
To guide our feet in the pathway of peace."

80 As a child John grew and became strong in spirit. He lived in the desert until he started his public ministry to the people of Israel.

Luke 2:1-end

1 Now it came to pass in those days that a decree from Caesar Augustus went out saying all the world would be taxed.

2 (When Cyrenius was governor of Syria this taxation happened for the first time.)

3 Everyone went to be taxed, each to their own city.

4 Joseph went up out of Galilee from the city of Nazareth to Judea and the city of David called Bethlehem. (Because he was a descendant of David.)
5 To be taxed with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was great with child.
6 While they were there the days progressed to where it was time for her to deliver.
7 And she brought into this world her firstborn son, wrapped him in a newborn's clothes and laid him in a manger because there wasn't any room for them in the inn.
8 In the same area there were shepherds in the fields watching their flock at night.
9 Then the angel of the Lord came to them. The glory of the Lord shined all around them. They were very frightened.
10 The angel said to them, "Don't be afraid. Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy that has come to everyone."
11 "On this day in the city of David a Savior has been born who is Christ the Lord."
12 "This will be a sign for you. You will find the babe wrapped in newborn's clothing lying in a manger."

Angels Sing 'The Gloria'

13 And suddenly with the angel there was a great company of the heavenly host praising God saying,
14 "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and goodwill to all men."
15 It came to pass as the angels were left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let us go to Bethlehem now and see what has happened that the Lord told us about."
16 They hurried and found Mary, Joseph and the baby lying in a manger.
17 After they saw it they told everyone they met what the angel of the Lord had said to them regarding the child.
18 Everyone who heard these things wondered about what the shepherds told them.
19 But Mary remembered all these things and thought about them in her heart.
20 Then the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things they had saw and heard just as they were told by the angel of the Lord.
21 After eights days passed it was time for the child's circumcision. He was called JESUS as He was named by the angel before His conception.
22 After the time of her purification passed in accordance with the law of Moses His parents brought Him to Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord.
23 (For it is written in the Lord's law that 'Every firstborn son will be dedicated to the Lord.')24 They offered a sacrifice according to the law of the Lord which says, 'A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.'
25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. Simeon was a righteous, dedicated man who was waiting for Israel's Messiah and the Holy Spirit was upon him.
26 The Holy Spirit revealed to Simeon that he would not die before seeing God's Anointed One.
27 The Holy Spirit directed him to go to the temple where Jesus' parents had brought the child Jesus to offer the customary sacrifice required by the law.
28 Simeon took Jesus in his arms and blessed God,

Simeon's Song

29 "Lord, now allow me, Your servant,
to die in peace as You have told me."

30 "Because my eyes have seen Your Salvation,"
31 "That has been made ready by You in front of all people."
32 "A light to enlighten the Gentiles and
the glory of Your people Israel."

33 Joseph and Mary were surprised at Simeon's remarks about Jesus.
34 Then Simeon blessed them and told Mary, "This child is intended for the
fall and rising again of many people in Israel and as a witness who will be
hated,"
35 "So the thoughts of many hearts can be revealed. A sword will cut through
your own soul too."
36 Anna was a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel from Aser's family. She was
very old. She had been married seven years when her husband died,
37 Leaving her a widow for 84 years now. Anna never left the temple. She
worshipped God by fasting and by prayer both night and day.
38 When she saw Jesus she immediately gave God thanks and told everyone in
Jerusalem who was looking for the promised Redeemer about Jesus.
39 After His parents had performed all of their obligations required by the
Lord's law they returned to their hometown of Nazareth in Galilee.
40 The child grew and became strong in spirit and was filled with wisdom. The
grace of God was upon Him.

Jesus Teaches in The Temple as a Boy

41 Every year at the Feast of Passover His parents went to Jerusalem.
42 When He was twelve years old they went to Jerusalem as was the custom of
the feast.
43 When the Feast of Passover was complete and they were returning Jesus had
stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and Mary were unaware of it.
44 Thinking He was somewhere in the group they travelled about one full day.
Then they looked for Him among their relatives and friends.
45 When they didn't find Him they went back to Jerusalem to search for Him.
46 Three days later they found Him in the temple sitting among the learned men
listening to them and asking them questions.
47 Everyone who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and replies.
48 When His parents saw Him they were shocked and Mary asked Him, "Son,
why have you done this to us? Your father and I have looked all over for you
in despair."
49 Jesus told her, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must
take care of my Father's business?"
50 They did not understand what He meant.
51 Jesus left with them and went to Nazareth and obeyed His parents. But His
mother kept all these sayings in her heart."
52 Jesus grew in wisdom and height and in favor with God and men.

Luke 3:1-end

1 During the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's rule Pontius Pilate was the
governor of Judea. Herod was the ruler of Galilee and Philip, his brother,
was ruler of Ituraea and the area called Trachonitis. Lysanias was the ruler
of Abilene.
2 Annas and Caiaphas were the high priests of the temple. It was then that the
word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the desert.
3 And John went into the countryside all around the Jordan River preaching
repentance and baptism in order to be forgiven of sin.
4 As Isaiah the prophet said,

'The voice of one crying in the desert,
Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
5 Every valley will be filled and
every mountain and hill will be levelled.
The crooked will be straightened and
the rough ways will be smoothed over.
6 Everyone will see the Savior God sends.'

7 Then John told the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, "Oh, you generation of snakes. Who warned you to run away from the coming judgement?"
8 "Therefore let your deeds show you have repented and don't think to yourselves, 'Abraham is our father, therefore we need not worry.' Because I'm telling you, God is able raise up Abraham's children from these stones!"
9 "The ax is being applied to the root of the trees. So every tree that doesn't bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."
10 The people asked John, "Then what are we supposed to do?"
11 He answered them, "Whoever has two coats should give one to the person who doesn't have a coat. The person who has food should give to the one who has none."
12 The tax collectors also came to him to be baptized and said, "Tell us Master, what do we need to do?"
13 John told them, "Don't take from anyone more than you are supposed to take."
14 Soldiers even came asking, "What about us?" He told them, "Don't hurt anyone or accuse them falsely. Be satisfied with your pay."
15 The people were very excited and wondered whether or not John was the Anointed One.
16 John heard this and replied, "To be sure I baptize you with water. However, there is One coming who is much more powerful than me. I am not worthy to untie the laces on His shoes. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."
17 "He holds the fan in His hand. He will thoroughly clean the barn floor and gather the wheat into His grainery. But He will burn the chaff with an unquenchable fire."
18 John preached many other things in his message to the people.

The Imprisonment of John the Baptist by Herod

19 Herod the ruler had been reprimanded by John for taking Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, and for the many evil things Herod had done.
20 He locked John up in prison. This was one of Herod's greatest evils.

The Baptism of Jesus

21 After everyone there had been baptized and Jesus was being baptized Heaven opened,
22 And the Holy Spirit descended in a form like a dove upon Him and a voice came out of Heaven saying, "You are my dear Son. I am well pleased with You."

Luke's Genealogy of Jesus

23 Jesus was thirty years old and (as was commonly thought) was the son of Joseph, the son of Heli, 24 The son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of

Melki, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, 25 The son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, 26 The son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, 27 The son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Sheathiel, the son of Neri, 28 The son of Melki, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, 29 The son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, 30 The son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, 31 The son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, 32 The son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon, 33 The son of Amminadab, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah, 34 The son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, 35 The son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, 36 The son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, 37 The son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, 38 The son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam who was the son of God.

Luke 4:1-end

1 Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit and returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit into the desert.

2 He was tempted by Satan for forty days. During that time He did not eat and after the time had ended He was very hungry.

3 Satan said to Him, "If you really are the Son of God command this stone to be turned into bread."

4 Jesus answered Satan by saying, "It is written,"

'Man will not live by bread alone but
by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

5 Satan led Jesus up to a high mountain and showed Him all of the world's kingdoms at that moment in time.

6 Then he said to Jesus, "I will give you all this power and their glory. This has been granted to me and I can give it to whoever I will."

7 "Therefore if you will worship me, all of this will be yours."

8 Jesus replied, "It is written,"

'You will worship the Lord your God
and you will serve only Him.'

9 Satan led Jesus back to Jerusalem, placed Him on the highest point of the temple and said, "If you are truly the Son of God throw yourself down from here."

10 "Because it is written,"

'He will give his angels charge over you to keep you safe.

11 And they will carry you in their hands
so you don't bruise your foot at anytime.'

12 Jesus answered him saying, "It's also written,"

'You will not tempt the Lord your God.'

13 When Satan ended all of his temptations against Jesus he left Him for

awhile.

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Holy Spirit. Then word went throughout the area about Jesus.

15 He taught in their temples and was respected by everyone.

16 Then He came to Nazareth where He had been raised. As usual He went into the temple on the Sabbath and stood up in front of the people to read.

17 They gave Him the Book of Isaiah. After He opened it He found the place where it was written,

18 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
for He has anointed me to preach the Good News to the poor.
He has sent me to heal those with broken hearts,
to tell prisoners they can be set free,
to restore sight to the blind,
to free those who have been pushed down,
19 To tell others the time of the Lord has come.'

20 Jesus closed the book, returned it to the bearer and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the temple were fixed on Him.

21 He told them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled within your hearing."

22 Everyone saw Him and wondered about the words He spoke. They said, "This is Joseph's son, isn't he?"

23 Jesus told them, "Certainly you will tell me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself. Do here in your own country what we heard you did in Capernaum.'"

24 "This is a true saying, a prophet is never accepted in his own country."

25 "But this is true also, there were many widows in Israel when Elijah prophesied. There was a drought for three and a half years and a terrible famine everywhere."

26 "Elijah was not sent to any of them except to Zarephath, a city in Sidon, to a widowed woman."

27 "And many people with skin diseases were in Israel when Elisha prophesied. None of them were healed except the Syrian called Naaman."

28 Everyone in the temple was angry when they heard Him say these things.

29 They grabbed Jesus and threw Him out of the city. They took Him to the top of the hill above the city so they could throw Him over the side of the hill and kill Him.

30 But Jesus walked through the center of them and left.

31 He went to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and taught the people on the Sabbath.

32 They were surprised at His teachings because they were delivered with power.

33 In the temple there was a demon-possessed man who cried out in a loud voice,

34 "Leave us alone. What business do we have with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I recognize You for who You are, the Holy One of God."

35 Jesus scolded him, "Be quiet and come out of him." After the demon threw the man in the middle of the others he left his body and did not hurt him."

36 The people were startled and talked among themselves, "What kind of words are these? He commands demons with power and authority to leave and they obey."

37 Word about Jesus spread quickly throughout the countryside and over the entire area.

38 One day when He left the temple He went to Simon's house. When He entered He saw Simon's mother-in-law had a serious fever. Her relatives begged Jesus to help her."

39 He stood near her bed and told the fever to leave her and it did. She immediately got up and took care of them.
40 At sunset people with sick relatives brought them to Jesus. They had many different diseases. Jesus laid His hands on each of them and healed them.
41 He threw demons out of many. They came out crying, "You are Christ the Son of God." But He rebuked them and would not allow them to tell anyone that they knew He was the Christ.
42 At daybreak He left and went into a desert. The people looked for Him and followed Him and did not want Him to leave.
43 But He told them, "I must tell other cities about the coming kingdom of God because I have been sent for this purpose."
44 Then he preached in all of the temples in Galilee.

Luke 5:1-end

1 Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret as the people pushed close to Him to hear God's word.
2 He saw two boats lying near the lakeshore. The fishermen had left them and were washing their nets.
3 Jesus got into the boats that Simon owned and asked him to push the boat a little way out from the shore. Then Jesus sat down and taught the people from the boat.
4 When he had finished speaking he told Simon, "Move the boat into deeper water and let your nets down to trawl for fish."
5 But Simon replied, "Master, we have been fishing all the night and we haven't caught anything. But if You tell me to I will drop the net into the water."
6 After they let the net down they caught such a large school of fish that their net broke.
7 They called to their fellow fishermen in the other boat to come and help them. They came and filled both boats full that they started to sink.
8 When Simon Peter saw what was happening he fell down at Jesus' feet and said, "Oh, Lord. I am not worthy of this because I am a sinful man."
9 He was surprised along with everyone else with him at the huge catch of fish they had taken from the lake.
10 And so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Jesus told Simon, "Don't be afraid. From now on you will be fishers of men."
11 When they brought their boats to shore they left everything and followed Him.
12 Later, when they were in one of the cities a man with a skin disease saw Jesus and fell to the ground begging Him, "Lord, if it's Your will You can heal me."
13 Jesus stretched out His hand, touched the man and said, "I am willing. Be healed." The leprosy left the man immediately.
14 He instructed the man to tell no one but, "Go and show yourself to the priest. Offer what Moses instructed for your healing as a testimony."
15 Even so, Jesus' fame spread even more quickly. Large crowds of people came to Him to hear what He had to say and to be healed of their illnesses.
16 At one point He withdrew into the desert to pray.
17 One day as He was teaching people from every town in Galilee, Judea and Jerusalem there were also Pharisees and learned men sitting close by. The power of the Lord was present healing the sick people.
18 They brought a man in a bed who had palsy. They tried every way possible to bring the man and the bed into the room where Jesus was healing so they could lay him in front of Jesus.

19 When they could not find a way to bring him in because of the crowd so they went up on the rooftop and lowered him through the tiling with his bed into the center where Jesus was.

20 Then when Jesus saw their faithfulness he said, "Sir, your sins are forgiven."

21 The scribes and Pharisees discussed this among themselves. They said, "Who is this speaking blasphemy? Only God can forgive sins!"

22 When Jesus understood what they were thinking He replied, "What are you questioning in your hearts?"

23 "Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up and walk'?"

24 "So you know the Son of man has the power on earth to forgive sins, (He said to the man sick with palsy) I tell you, Get up, pick up your bed and go home."

25 Immediately the man got up in front of them, picked up his bed and left for his own home praising God.

26 They were all amazed and praised God. They were awestruck and full of fear saying, "We have seen very unusual things today."

27 Afterwards Jesus left and saw a tax collector named Matthew (Levi) sitting at the tax bench. Jesus said to Matthew, "Follow me."

28 Matthew left everything and followed Jesus.

29 Matthew prepared a great banquet in his house for Jesus. And there were many tax collectors and worldly people there.

30 The scribes and Pharisees complained to His disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and worldly people?"

31 Jesus heard and answered them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor, only sick people do."

32 "I didn't come to save holy people but to call sinful people to repent."

33 They also questioned Him saying, "Why do the Pharisees' and John's disciples so often fast and pray while your disciples eat and drink?"

34 Jesus told them, "Can the children of the wedding party fast while the groom is among them?"

35 "The day will come when the groom will be taken from them and then they will fast in those days."

36 Then He also told them a parable. He said, "Nobody places a new piece of cloth on an old one and thereby makes holes in the new and they both tear. The piece taken from the new isn't the same as the old."

37 "Also, nobody puts new wine into old bottles. Otherwise the new wine will burst the bottles and spill and the bottles will perish along with the wine."

38 "New wine must be put in new bottles then both are preserved."

39 "Nobody who has drank aged wine wants new wine. They say the 'The old is better.'"

Luke 6:1-end

1 One sabbath Jesus was walking through the fields when His disciples began to pick grain and shelling it by rubbing it in their hands they ate.

2 Some of the Pharisees said to them, "Why do you do what isn't legal to do on the Sabbath?"

3 Jesus responded, "Haven't you even read this much about what David did when he was hungry along with those with him."

4 "How he went into the temple of God ate the showbread and also gave it to those who were with him? This is only legal for the priests to eat."

5 Then He told them, "The Son of man is also Lord of the sabbath."

6 On another sabbath Jesus entered the temple to teach. A man was there with an atrophied hand.

7 The scribes and Pharisees watched Him to see whether or not He would heal on

the Sabbath. If so, then they could accuse Him of wrongdoing.

8 But Jesus knew their thoughts and told the man with the atrophied hand, "Stand up front in the center." The man got up and did as he was told.

9 Jesus said to the scribes and Pharisees, "I will ask you one question. Is it legal to do good on the Sabbath or to do evil? To save life, or destroy it?"

10 He looked around at each of them and said, "Stretch your hand out." The man did as he was told and his hand was healed as completely as the other.

11 And they were very angry and discussed with each other what they could do about Jesus.

12 Some days later Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray. He prayed all night long to God.

13 When daylight came He called His disciples to Him and from them Jesus chose 'The Twelve' who were also called Apostles by Jesus. The Twelve are;

14 Simon (who He called Peter),

Andrew his brother,

James and John,

Philip and Bartholomew,

15 Matthew and Thomas,

James the son of Alphaeus,

Simon the Zealot,

16 Judas the brother of James,

and Judas Iscariot who betrayed Him.

17 Jesus came down from the mountainside with them and stood on level ground along with His disciples and a large crowd of people from Judea and Jerusalem and from the coast near Tyre and Sidon. They had all come to hear Him and be healed of their illnesses.

18 There were people troubled with demons who were healed.

19 The entire crowd wanted to touch Him because power came from Him and they were all healed.

The Sermon on the Plain and the Other Beatitudes

20 He looked at His disciples and said:

"Blessed are the poor for theirs is the kingdom of God."

21 "Blessed are the hungry for they will be filled.

Blessed are they who cry for they will laugh."

22 "Blessed are you when men hate you and

when they keep their company from you and

speak evil of your name for the sake of the Son of man."

23 "Rejoice that day and leap for joy.

Your reward is great in Heaven for

their fathers did the same thing to the prophets."

24 "Grief to you who are rich! Because you have received your reward."

25 "Grief to those who are full! Because you will hunger.

"Grief to those who are laughing now! Because you will mourn and cry."

26 "Grief to those of you who all men speak well of you!

Because this is what their fathers said about the false prophets."

27 "To you who are listening to me I say, Love your enemies and do good to them who hate you."

28 "Bless those who curse you and pray for those who abuse you."

29 "Turn the other cheek to someone who strikes you on one cheek and if someone takes your coat give them your overcoat too."

30 "Whatever anyone asks of you give it to them and don't ask for anything back from someone who takes it away."
31 "Treat others as you want to be treated."
32 "If you only love those who love you what good have you done? Even sinful people love those who love them."
33 "And if you only do good to those who do good to you what have you accomplished? Sinful people do the very same thing."
34 "If you lend to those who you expect to receive something from what good has been done? Sinful people lend to sinful people in the hope of getting even more in return."
35 "Love your enemies, do good, give to others hoping for nothing in return and your reward will be great and you will be the children of the Highest. since He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil."
36 "Therefore be merciful like your Father is merciful."
37 "Don't judge others and you will not be judged. Don't condemn others and you will not be condemned. Forgive others and you will be forgiven."
38 "Give to others and people will give to you with a full measuring cup, pressed down, shaken together and running over people will give you. The measuring cup you use to pass out to others is the same measuring cup that will be used to measure out your reward."
39 Then Jesus told them a parable, "Can the blind lead the blind? Won't they both fall into the ditch?"
40 "The student is not greater than his teacher. Everyone who follows his teacher will be perfect."
41 "And why are you looking for the splinter in your brother's eye and yet you cannot see the board in your own eye?"
42 "Then too, how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the splinter out of your eye' when you can't see the board in your own eye? You hypocrite, first throw the board out of your eye and then you will be able to see clearly enough to take the splinter out of your brother's eye."
43 "A good tree doesn't bear rotten fruit and neither can a rotten tree bear good fruit."
44 "Every tree is known by it's own fruit. People don't gather figs from thorn bushes or grapes from a thistle plant."
45 "Out of the good treasure in their heart a good person brings that which is good. Out of the evil treasure in their heart an evil person brings that which is evil. Out of the bounty in their heart people speak."
46 "Also why do you call Lord, Lord while failing to do what I say?"
47 "Whoever comes to me, hears my sayings and does them I will tell you what they are like."
48 "They are like the person who built a house, dug deep and laid the foundation on a rock. When the floods came up the waters beat violently against the house and it did not move. Because it was built on solid rock."
49 "The one who hears me and doesn't do my will is like the person who built an house on top of the ground without a foundation. When the floods came and the water beat against the house violently it fell immediately and the fall of that house was tremendous."

Luke 7:1-end

1 After He finished all of His teachings to the people He went to Capernaum.
2 There a centurion had a servant he liked very much. The servant was ill and close to death.
3 When the centurion heard about Jesus he sent the older, wiser men of the Jews to Jesus begging Him to come and heal his servant.
4 Immediately when they came to Jesus they reasoned with Him, "The person you

are going to do this for is a good man."

5 "He loves our country and he built a temple for us."

6 Jesus went with them. When He was close to the house the centurion sent his friends to Him and told them to say, "Master, we don't need to bother You anymore. I am not worthy for you come into my house."

7 "I'm not even worthy to come to You. Just say the word and my servant will be healed."

8 "I am also a man subject to authority with soldiers under me. I tell this one 'Go' and he goes. To another I say 'Come' and he comes. I tell my servant 'Do this' and he does it."

9 When Jesus heard this He was surprised at what the centurion had said. He turned around and told the people following Him, "I haven't found faith this great anywhere among the people of Israel."

10 The centurion's friends returned to the house where they found the servant who had been sick completely healed.

11 The following day Jesus went into a city called Nain. Many of His disciples went with Him along with a large crowd.

12 When Jesus arrived at the city gate men were carrying a widow's only son out to be buried. Many people were following her.

13 When the Lord saw her He had compassion on her and said, "Don't cry."

14 Then He touched the coffin while the bearers stood still. Jesus said, "I'm telling you to get up young man!"

15 The dead son sat up in the coffin and started to speak. Jesus gave him to his mother.

16 Fear came over everyone and they praised God, "A great prophet has come to us. God has visited his people."

17 Rumors about Jesus began to be spread all over Judea and all of the surrounding countries.

18 John the Baptists' disciples told him about all of these things.

19 Then John called two of his disciples to himself and sent them to Jesus to ask "Are you the one who is supposed to come or should we look for another?"

20 When John's disciples reached Jesus they told Him, "John sent us to you and told us to say, 'Are you the one who is supposed to come or should we look for another?'"

21 During the following hour Jesus healed many people of their illnesses, diseases, demon possessions and blindness.

22 Then Jesus told John's disciples, "Return to John and tell him what you have seen and heard. How the blind see, the crippled walk, those with leprosy are healed, the deaf hear, the dead get up and walk and to the poor the Good News is preached."

23 "Blessed is the person who does not turn away from me."

24 When John's followers left to go back Jesus started to talk to the people about John, "What did you go out into the desert to see? A blade of grass that is blown around by the wind?"

25 "What were you looking for? A man dressed in soft clothes? Those who are lavishly dressed and live well are found in king's palaces."

26 "So tell me, what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, and I say to you much more than a prophet."

27 "He is the one who was written about,"

'Listen to me, I send my messenger in advance of you,
he will prepare the way in front of you.'

28 "I'm telling you, there is no greater prophet than John the Baptist among those born of women. However, the one who is least in the kingdom of God is

greater than John."

29 Everyone who heard Him including the tax collectors said God's ways were true. They had been baptized by John.

30 Since the Pharisees and scribes were not baptized by John they rejected this as God's way.

31 Jesus said, "How should I compare this generation? What are they like?"

32 "They are like children sitting in the marketplace calling to each other:"

'We played our instruments for you
and you didn't dance.
We sang you a sad song
and you didn't cry.'

33 "John the Baptist didn't eat or drink the things you eat and drink when he came to you and you said, 'He's possessed by a demon.'"

34 "And yet the Son of man comes to you eating and drinking and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinful people.'"

35 "But then wisdom is justified by her results."

36 One of the Pharisees asked Him to have dinner with them. He went into the Pharisee's house and sat down to eat.

37 Then a woman of questionable character from the city became aware that Jesus was at dinner in the Pharisee's home and brought a white stone vase filled with expensive oils.

38 She was near Jesus and crying. She started to wash His feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair and kissed then rubbed them with the oils.

39 When the Pharisee who invited Jesus to dinner saw this he said to himself, "If this man was a prophet he would have known who this woman is and what kind of woman was touching him, because she is a very sinful woman."

40 Jesus told him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." Simon said, "Continue, Master."

41 Jesus said, "There was a creditor who had two debtors. One owed him five hundred dollars and the other owed him fifty dollars."

42 "When both of them were unable to pay he released them both from their obligations. Now tell me, who will love him the most?"

43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one who owed the most and was forgiven." Jesus replied, "You made the right choice."

44 Then He turned to the woman and told Simon, "See this woman? When I came into your house you didn't give me any water for my feet but she washed my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair."

45 "You didn't greet me with a kiss but ever since I got here this woman hasn't stopped kissing my feet."

46 "You didn't place any oil on my hair but she rubbed my feet with expensive oils."

47 "Therefore I'm telling you her many sins are forgiven her because she loved me so much. But the person who is forgiven little loves little."

48 Jesus told the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

49 The people sitting down at dinner with Jesus whispered to themselves, "Who is this person who thinks he can forgive sins?"

50 Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Luke 8:1-end

1 In the days that followed Jesus went to every city and town preaching the Good News of the kingdom of God and performing miracles along with The Twelve.

2 Women who had been healed of demons and illnesses followed them including Mary the Magdalene from whom they removed seven demons.

3 Along with Joanna, wife of Herod's housekeeper Chuza, Susanna and many other women who took care of Jesus and His disciples with their own money.

4 When a crowd gathered around Him from all of the nearby cities He told them a parable,

5 "A farmer went out in his field to sow seed and while he was sowing some seed fell beside the way, they were stepped on and the birds ate those seeds."

6 "Some seed fell on a rocky place and as soon as they came up they withered away because they didn't have deep roots."

7 "Other seed fell among the thorn bushes and the thorn bushes came up with the young plants and choked them out."

8 "A few seeds fell on good ground and grew and gave back fruit a hundred times over." After Jesus finished the parable He said, "The one who has ears to hear let them hear and understand."

9 His disciples asked Him, "What is this parable all about?"

10 He told them, "It is given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but not others. I speak in parables so that,"

'Seeing they can not see and
hearing they can not understand.'

11 "This is what the parable means. The seed is the word of God."

12 "The seed dropped beside the way are the ones who hear the word of God. Then comes Satan and he takes the word out of their hearts otherwise they would believe and be saved."

13 "The seeds dropped on rocky soil are those who upon hearing receive the word joyously. But they don't take root because for awhile they believe and then when temptation comes they lose their faith and wither away."

14 "Those that fell among thorns are those who heard and went out but then were choked out by the thorns of cares, riches and pleasures of this life. Then they are unable to produce good fruit."

15 "But the seed that fell on good ground are those having an honest and good heart. They hear the word, keep it and bear fruit with patience."

16 "Nobody who lights a candle covers it with a basket or places it under their bed. They place it on a candlestick so everyone who comes in can see the light."

17 "There is no secret that will not be uncovered. Neither is there anything hidden that will not be known and broadcast to everyone."

18 "So listen to me, whoever has will receive even more. The one who doesn't have will lose even what he seems to have."

19 Then Jesus' mother and brothers came to Him but they couldn't get close because of the large crowd.

20 Someone told Him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside and they want to see You."

21 Jesus told them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

22 Some time later Jesus boarded a boat with His disciples and said to them, "Let's go over to the other side of the lake." And they launched the boat.

23 As they sailed He fell asleep. A storm came over the lake and the boat was filled with water and they were in danger of being swamped.

24 They went to Jesus and woke Him up saying, "Master, master, we are going to die." Jesus got up and scolded the wind and the raging waters. The storm stopped and there was a calm.

25 Jesus asked them, "Where is your faith?" They were afraid and questioned each other, "What kind of man is this? He commands the wind and water and even they obey him."

26 Then they came to the country of the Gadarenes at the far end of the sea of Galilee.

27 When He left the boat for land a man met Him who had been demon-possessed for many years. The man wore no clothes and didn't live in a house but lived in nearby tombs.

28 When the man saw Jesus he dropped down in front of Him and cried out in a loud voice, "What business do I have with you, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I'm begging you, don't torment me."

29 (Jesus had commanded the demon to leave the man. Many times the demon had grabbed the man. Often he was bound with chains and ankle locks but he broke the bands and went out into the desert because of the demon.)

30 Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "Legion, because there are many of us."

31 They begged Him not to order them to go into the pit.

32 There was a large herd of pigs feeding on the mountain and the demons begged Jesus to allow them to enter the pigs and He let them.

33 Then the demons left the man and went into the pigs. The pigs ran wildly down a steep bank into the lake and drowned.

34 When their keepers saw what had happened they ran away and went and told everyone they met about it throughout the countryside.

35 Those who heard about it went out to see what had happened. When they got to Jesus they found the man who had been demon-possessed sitting at Jesus' feet with his clothes on and thinking correctly. The people were very frightened.

36 The keepers of the pigs told everyone how the demon-possessed man had been healed.

37 Everyone from the area of the Gadarenes begged Jesus to leave their country because they were very apprehensive. Then Jesus got in the boat and went back to where He had come from.

38 The man who had been demon-possessed begged Jesus to allow him to go along with them but Jesus said,

39 "Return to your own house and tell people about the miracles God has performed in you." The man went his way and told everyone around about the miracles Jesus worked in him.

40 Afterwards when Jesus came back the people welcomed Him with joy because they had all been waiting for Him.

41 A man named Jairus, a leader in the temple, came to Jesus and knelt at His feet begging Jesus to come to his house.

42 He only had one daughter, twelve years old, and she was dying. While Jesus was walking to Jairus' house the people crowded Him.

43 There was a woman who had been bleeding for twelve years who had spent all of her money on doctors who weren't able to cure her.

44 She came up behind Jesus and touched the edge of His clothing. She stopped bleeding immediately.

45 Jesus said, "Who touched me?" When everyone denied it Peter and the others with them said, "Master, the crowds are pressing up against You and You ask 'Who touched me?'"

46 Jesus replied, "Someone touched me for I felt power going out from me."

47 The woman was afraid of being discovered so she dropped down in front of Jesus trembling. She told Him in front of everyone why she had touched Him and how she had been immediately cured.

48 Jesus said to her, "Daughter, be happy. Your faith has healed you, now go in peace."

49 While Jesus was still speaking one of Jairus' servants came to him and said, "Your daughter is dead, we don't need to bother the Master anymore."

50 When Jesus heard them He said, "Don't worry, only believe and your daughter will be alright."

51 When Jesus went into the house He wouldn't let anyone go in except Peter, James, John and the girl's father and mother.

52 Everyone cried and mourned for the little girl but Jesus said, "Don't cry. She isn't dead, she's only sleeping."

53 They ridiculed Jesus because they knew the girl was dead.

54 Then He made them all leave and taking her by the hand Jesus said, "Little girl, get up!"

55 She revived and got up as she was told. Then Jesus told her parents to feed her.

56 Her parents were amazed but Jesus instructed them not to tell anyone what had happened there.

Luke 9:1-end

1 Then Jesus called The Twelve disciples together giving them power and authority over demons and to heal diseases.

2 He sent them out to preach the coming of the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

3 Jesus told them, "Don't take anything for your journey, not a walking stick, no coins, no bread, no money and only one coat."

4 "Whichever house you first enter stay there until you leave that place."

5 "If someone fails to welcome you shake the dust off your feet when you leave that city as a testimony against them."

6 And The Twelve left and went through the cities preaching the gospel and healing everywhere they went.

7 When the ruler Herod heard about everything that Jesus had done he was very upset because some said John the Baptist had risen from the dead.

8 Some said Elijah had appeared while still others said that one of the prophets was risen again.

9 Herod said, "It can't be John, I had him beheaded! But who is this man that I'm hearing such things about?" Herod wanted to see the man.

10 When the apostles returned they told Jesus everything they had done. Jesus took them by themselves into the desert near the city of Bethsaida.

11 When the crowds found out Jesus was in the desert they followed Him. He welcomed them and told them about the kingdom of God and healed everyone who was ill.

12 The day was ending and The Twelve came to Jesus and said, "Please send the crowd home so they can go into the cities and countryside around here and obtain a place to stay and food. This is only a desert."

13 But Jesus told them, "Give them something to eat." They told Him, "We only have five loaves of bread and two fishes, unless we go and buy meat for all of these people."

14 There were about five thousand men. He said to His disciples, "Have the people sit down in groups of fifty."

15 The disciples did as they were instructed and asked the people to sit down.

16 Then Jesus took the five loaves of bread and two fish and blessed them while He looked towards heaven. Then He broke the bread and the fish and gave them to His disciples to give to the people.

17 The people ate until they all were full. The disciples then gathered up twelve baskets full of leftover bread and fish.

18 Later, while Jesus went to pray by Himself taking His disciples along He asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

19 They answered, "Most say You are John the Baptist but some say You are Elijah. Others say you are one of the prophets who has risen from the dead."

20 Jesus again asked, "But who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ of God."

21 Immediately Jesus instructed them not to tell anybody about their answer.

22 He told them, "The Son of man must suffer many things, be rejected by the older, wiser men, the chief priests and the scribes. Then he will be killed and rise again from the dead on the third day."

23 "If anyone wants to come after me they should deny themselves and daily pick up his cross and follow me."

24 "Whoever will save their life will lose it but whoever will lose their life for my sake the same person will save it."

25 "If a man gains the whole world while he loses his soul and is destroyed what benefit is it to him?"

26 "If someone is ashamed of me and my words, when the Son of man returns in his glory and his Father's glory with the holy angels he will be ashamed of them."

27 "This is the truth, there are some here with us who will not die before they see the kingdom of God."

28 About eight days after He said these things He took Peter, John and James and went up to a mountain to pray.

29 As Jesus prayed a glow came over His face and His clothing became white and shining.

30 Two men, Moses and Elijah, suddenly appeared and were talking with Him.

31 They were wrapped in clouds of glory and talked about His death to come in Jerusalem.

32 Peter and the others were very sleepy and when they awoke they saw His glory, and the two men who stood with Him.

33 After Moses and Elijah left Jesus Peter said to Him, "Master, it was good for us to be here. Let's build three tabernacles. One for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." Peter didn't understand what he was recommending.

34 While Peter was still talking a cloud came over them and they were frightened.

35 A voice came out of the cloud, "This is my dear Son. Listen to Him."

36 When the voice was silent Jesus was discovered to be by Himself. They kept it quiet and didn't tell anyone during those days about anything they had seen.

37 The next day as they were coming down from the mountain many people met Him.

38 A man in the crowd cried out, "Master, I beg you to look at my son. He's my only child."

39 "A demon overcomes the boy and he screams. It disturbs him so much he foams at the mouth. The demon bruises him as it tosses him around."

40 "I begged your disciples to throw the demon out but they couldn't do it."

41 Then Jesus answered, "Oh you perverted generation with little faith, how long will I be here with you and allow this to continue? Bring your son here."

42 While the boy was coming to Jesus the devil threw the boy down and tore at him. Jesus reprimanded the demon and healed the child. Then Jesus gave the boy back to his father.

43 Everyone was amazed at the mighty power of God. But while everyone was wondering about these miracles Jesus performed He said to His disciples,

44 "Hear and understand what I'm about to tell you. The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men."

45 But they did not understand this saying and it was hidden from them so they were unable to comprehend it. And they were afraid to ask Him what He meant.

46 Then they began discussing who was the greatest among them.

47 Jesus understood the thoughts in their heart so He picked up a child and placed the child near Himself.

48 He said, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me and whoever receives me receives He who sent me. The one who is least among you, the same will be great."

49 Then John said, "Master, we saw someone throwing out demons in Your name and we told him to stop since he wasn't one of us who follow You."

50 Jesus then said to John, "Don't stop him. If he doesn't oppose us then he is with us."

51 When the appointed time came for Jesus to return to His Father He began the journey back towards Jerusalem.

52 He sent messengers in advance of Him. They went into a Samaritan village to prepare the way for Jesus.

53 The Samaritans did not receive him because they said He was headed for Jerusalem.

54 When His disciples James and John saw what was happening they said, "Lord, do You want us to call fire down from Heaven just like Elijah did which will consume them?"

55 Jesus turned around and scolded them saying, "Don't you understand the type of Spirit you are part of?"

56 "The Son of man didn't come to destroy people's lives but to save them." So they went on to another village.

57 During their journey a man said to Jesus, "Lord, wherever you go I will follow You."

58 Jesus told him, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of man doesn't have any place to lay His head."

59 Then Jesus told someone else, "Come, follow me!" But the man said, "Lord, let me first go bury my father."

60 Jesus replied, "Let the dead bury their dead. I want you to go and preach the kingdom of God!"

61 Another person said, "Lord, I will come after You, but first let me go and say goodbye to my family at my home."

62 Jesus said to him, "Nobody who has placed their hands on the plow then turns around and looks back and longs for the old things is fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 10:1-end

1 Afterwards Jesus also appointed seventy others and sent them out two by two into every city and area He was going to visit.

2 He told them, "The harvest is ripe and abundant but there aren't many laborers. So pray the Lord of the harvest will send additional workers out to gather His harvest."

3 "As you go along the way be careful because I am sending you out like lambs among wolves."

4 "Don't carry a change purse or paper money or shoes. Don't stop to talk to people along the way."

5 "Whatever house you go into to first say, "Peace come over this house."

6 "And if the Spirit of Peace is there, your peace will come to rest on it. But if it isn't there your peace will return to you."

7 "If you find peace stay there and fill yourselves with whatever they give you because the worker is worth his pay. Don't move from house to house."

8 "Whatever city you go into to that receives you eat what they place in front of you."

9 "Heal the sick that are there and tell them, "The kingdom of God has come close by you."

10 "However, if you come into a city and they reject you leave. Go out into the streets of that city and say the following,"

11 ""Even the dust from your city that clings to us we wipe off our feet as a testimony against you. Even so, be sure of this, the kingdom of God has come close to you.""

12 "And I'm telling you this, it will go easier for the people of Sodom than for that city on the last day."

13 "Grief to you, Chorazin! Grief to you, Bethsaida! Because if the miracles performed in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon they would have repented a long time ago and would be sitting in mourning clothes and marking themselves with ashes as a sign of their repentance and sorrow."

14 "At the judgment it will go easier on Tyre and Sidon than you."

15 "And Capernaum who was lifted up to Heaven, you will be thrown down to hell."

16 "The one who hears you hears me. The one who despises you despises me. The one who despises me despises He who sent me."

17 The seventy He had sent out returned and said joyfully, "Lord, even the demons must do whatever we command them to do in Your name."

18 Jesus told them, "I watched Satan fall from Heaven like lightning."

19 "I have given to you the power to walk on serpents and scorpions as well as all the power of the enemy. Nothing will be able to harm you in any way."

20 "Don't rejoice in the fact that the spirits are subject to you, instead rejoice because your names are written in Heaven."

21 During that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit saying, "I thank You Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, for hiding these things from the wise and careful and choosing to reveal them to small children. This is as it should be Father because it seemed right in Your eyes."

22 "All things have been delivered to me by You and no man knows who the Son is except You, Father. Or who the Father is except the Son and to those who the Son reveals Him."

23 Then Jesus turned to His disciples and said quietly, "You are blessed for what you have seen."

24 "Because I'm telling you many prophets and kings wanted to see what you have seen and haven't and to hear what you have heard and haven't."

25 A scribe stood up and tested Jesus by saying, "Master, what do I have to do to gain eternal life?"

26 Jesus responded, "What is written in the law of Moses? How do you understand these things?"

27 The scribe replied, "You will love the Lord your God with all of your heart, all of your soul, all of your strength and all of your mind. You will also love your neighbor as you love yourself."

28 And Jesus told the scribe, "You have answered correctly. Do these things and you will gain eternal life."

29 But the scribe, trying to justify his lifestyle, said to Jesus, "But exactly who is my neighbor?"

30 Jesus answering him by saying, "A certain person left Jerusalem to go to Jericho. Along the way he happened across some thieves who stripped him of his clothing and wounded him. They left thinking he was dead."

31 "By coincidence a priest went by his way and when the priest saw him, he crossed the road and passed the injured man by on the other side."

32 "The same thing happened with a Levite who came to where the injured man was and looked at him and passed him by on the other side of the road."

33 "But then a Samaritan happened across the injured man as he was passing by. When the Samaritan saw him, he had compassion on the injured man."

34 "He went to him, bandaged his wounds, poured ointment on them, placed him on his own animal, brought him to an inn and took care of him."

35 "In the morning as he left he two out some money and gave it to the innkeeper and said, 'Take good care of this man. Whatever you spend in excess of what I have given you when I return again I will pay you back.'"

36 "Now which of these three do you think was a real neighbor to the injured man?"

37 The scribe answered, "The one who had mercy and compassion for the injured man." Jesus said to him, "You go and do the same thing."

38 Later as they were going along the way Jesus entered into a village where He was welcomed into a house owned by a woman named Martha.

39 Martha had a sister named Mary who sat at Jesus' feet and heard His teachings.

40 Martha was burdened by all the serving to be done. She went to Jesus and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me alone to serve all of you? Please tell her to help me."

41 Jesus replied, "Martha, Martha, you are a woman filled with cares and are troubled by many worries."

42 "There is only one thing to care about and Mary has chosen that good part which will never be taken away from her."

Luke 11:1-end

1 At a later date Jesus was praying at a certain place. When He stopped one of His disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray like John taught his disciples."

2 Jesus said to His disciples, "Whenever you pray, pray like this, 'Our Father who is in Heaven. Holy is Your name. May Your kingdom come to us. Your will be done, as it is in Heaven may it be also on earth.'"

3 "'Please give us our daily bread today.'"

4 "'Please forgive us our sins and show us how to forgive everyone who has hurt us. Keep us from the path of temptation and deliver us from evil.'"

5 Then Jesus told them, "Let us say one of you has a friend who you go to at midnight and say, 'My friend, please lend me three loaves of bread.'"

6 "'Another of my friends stopped to visit me during his trip and I don't have anything to feed him.'"

7 "Without opening the door the man replies, 'Don't bother me, the door is locked and both the children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you what you want.'"

8 "I'm telling you that while he won't get up and give you what you ask for because of your friendship, he will get up and give you what you need if you are determined."

9 "I'm also telling you to ask and it will be given to you. Seek and you will find. Knock and it will be opened to you."

10 "Everyone that asks receives. Whoever seeks finds. And for the one who knocks the door will be opened."

11 "If any of you fathers has a son who asks for a loaf of bread would you give him a stone? Or if he asked for a fish to eat would you give him a snake?"

12 "Or if he asked for an egg would you offer him a scorpion?"

13 "So then, if you who are of this world and sinful know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Heavenly Father give of the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

14 Jesus was healing a demon-possessed person who could not speak. After the demon was cast out the person spoke and everyone was surprised.

15 But some of them said, "He casts out demons by the power of Beelzebub, the leader of demons."

16 To test Him others asked Jesus to give them a sign from Heaven.

17 Knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be destroyed. When a house is divided against a house it falls."

18 "If Satan is also divided against himself how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you said I have thrown out demons by the power of Beelzebub."

19 "If I throw out demons by the power of Beelzebub, by whose power do your sons throw them out? Therefore they will be your judges."

20 "But if I by the hand of God throw out demons, then without doubt the kingdom of God has come upon you."

21 "When an armed strong man guards his home his goods are safe."

22 "But when someone stronger comes to him and overpowers him the stronger man takes all the armor the weaker man trusted and then he sells the goods he took."

23 "Whoever is not with me is against me. Those who aren't gathering with me are scattering."

24 "When a demon leaves a person's body it walks through desert places seeking rest. When it doesn't find any it says 'I will go back to the house I just left.'"

25 "When it comes back it finds the dwelling swept out and cleaned."

26 "Then it goes and finds seven other demons more evil than the first. They enter in and live there and the final condition of that man is worse than the first."

27 While He was still talking a woman who had been following them said, "Blessed is the one who brought you into the world and nursed you."

28 But Jesus responded, "Instead, they are blessed who hear the word of God and do it."

29 When the crowd grew very large He started to tell them, "This is an evil generation. You seek a sign but no sign will be given you except the sign of the prophet Jonah."

30 "Just as Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites, so the Son of man will be a sign to this generation."

31 "The queen of the south will rise in the judgment with men from this generation and condemn them. She came from the farthest parts of the earth to hear Solomon's wisdom and one greater than Solomon is here."

32 "The men of Nineveh will rise in judgment with this generation and condemn it. They repented at the preaching of Jonah and one greater than Jonah is here."

33 "Nobody lights a candle and hides it in a secret location. They don't put it under a basket either. They place the lighted candle on a candlestick so those coming in can see the light."

34 "The light of the body is the eye. So when you only have a single focus the entire body is full of light. When your eye turns to evil it becomes dim and your entire body is then also dark."

35 "Therefore be careful that the light which is in you is not darkness."

36 "So if your entire body is full of light without any dark parts everything in you will be light just like the bright shining candle gives you light."

37 As Jesus was speaking a Pharisee begged him to have dinner with him. So Jesus went in and was seated for dinner.

38 When the Pharisee saw Jesus sit down he wondered why Jesus hadn't first washed before dinner.

39 Jesus told him, "You Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and saucer but your inward parts are unsatisfied and evil."

40 "You fools, didn't the Creator who made your outer side also make the inner person?"

41 "So you give pennies to the poor from the wealth you have and you think everything in you is clean."

42 "Grief to you Pharisees! You even give the temple ten percent of your mint leaves, rue and all sorts of kitchen herbs and yet you forget about the God's

mercy and love. You should have considered these first while doing the other."

43 "Grief to you Pharisees! You love the highest seats in the temple and to be greeted by others in the marketplace."

44 "Grief to you scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like graves without markers where people walking over them aren't even aware they are there."

45 One of the men trained in the law who was there said to Him, "Master, by saying these things you are reprimanding us too."

46 Jesus replied, "Grief to you also men of the law! You load men with burdens that are too heavy to be carried while you yourselves wouldn't even touch the load with a single one of your fingers."

47 "Grief to you! You built monuments to the prophets and your fathers were the very ones who killed them."

48 "Truly you bear witness against yourselves that you permitted the deeds of your fathers. While they indeed killed the prophets you memorialized their killings by building monuments to them."

49 "In the wisdom of God this has been all been recorded,"

'I will send them prophets and apostles.
They will persecute some and murder others.'

50 "So the blood of all the prophets spilled from the foundation of this world can be demanded from this generation."

51 "From the blood of Abel to the blood of Zacharias who perished between the altar and the temple. This is the truth, every single drop of this blood will be paid for by this generation."

52 "Grief to you men who know the law! You have stolen the key of knowledge. You didn't go in yourselves and you tried to prevent others who were going in."

53 While Jesus spoke these things the scribes and the Pharisees questioned Him angrily trying to provoke Him into saying things He might not mean.

54 They were laying a trap for Him so they could catch Him by something He said and then accuse Him of doing wrong.

Luke 12:1-end

1 Meanwhile there was such a large crowd that the people couldn't be counted and they were stepping on each other. Jesus told His disciples, "I want you to stay away from the yeast the Pharisees use, in other words hypocrisy."

2 "Nothing is covered that won't be uncovered and nothing is hidden that won't be known."

3 "Whatever you say in darkness will be heard in the light. What you whisper in prayer closets will be shouted from the rooftops."

4 "I say this to you, my friends, don't be afraid of those who can kill the body and afterwards there is nothing else they can do."

5 "But listen to my warning. Fear Him who after He has killed the body also has the power to throw it into hell. Yes, I'm telling you, fear Him."

6 "Aren't five sparrows sold for a few coins and not one of them is ever forgotten by God?"

7 "Even the very hairs on your head are each numbered. Therefore don't be afraid, surely you are more valuable than many sparrows."

8 "Let me also say to you, whoever will confess me in front of other people I will confess that person before God's angels."

9 "But whoever denies me before other people will be denied before God's angels."

10 "If anyone speaks a word against the Son of man it will be forgiven them. But if someone blasphemes the Holy Spirit it will not be forgiven."

11 "When they bring you to the temples and judges and other authorities don't give any thought to how you will answer or what you will say."
12 "In that same hour the Holy Spirit will teach you what you should say."
13 One of the people in the crowd said to Him, "Master, tell my brother to divide our inheritance with me."
14 Jesus replied, "Sir, who made me a judge or a divider over you?"
15 Then Jesus told them, "Beware of coveting another's goods. A person's life doesn't consist of the richness of things one owns."
16 So He told them a parable, "A rich man owned land that produced large crops."
17 "The rich man thought to himself, 'What should I do? I don't have any room in my barns to store my grain?'"
18 "Then he said, 'This is what I will do. I will tear my barns down and build even larger barns so I have room to store all of my grain and possessions.'"
19 "'Then I can say to myself, 'Self, you have enough possessions stored up to last for many years. Take it easy, eat, drink and be happy.'"
20 "But God said to the rich man, 'You fool, tonight your soul will be taken from you. Then who will own everything you have stored up?'"
21 "This is the way it is with someone who stores treasure here on earth and is poor in God's ways."
22 So Jesus said to his disciples, "Because of this I'm telling you, don't be concerned about your life. Don't worry about what you will eat or regarding your body, what you will wear."
23 "Life is more than food and the body is more than clothing."
24 "Consider the birds. They don't sow seeds or harvest crops and they don't have a grainery or barn. Yet God feeds them. How much more important to God are you than birds?"
25 "Who of you by thinking about it can even add one inch to his height?"
26 "If you can't even do the smallest miracle why worry about the rest?"
27 "Then too consider the lilies and how they grow. They don't work and they don't spin yarn. But yet I'm telling you that even Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as well as one of these."
28 "So if God even clothes the grass like this, which is in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much better will He clothe you? Oh you of little faith?"
29 "Don't search for food and drink and don't have doubts about these things."
30 "This is what worldly people search for. Your Father already knows you need these things."
31 "Instead seek the kingdom of God and everything else will be given to you."
32 "Don't be afraid, my little sheep. It's your Father's pleasure to give you His kingdom."
33 "Sell everything you have and give it to the poor. Store your treasure in Heaven where it is safe from thieves and it will not rust or decay."
34 "Wherever your treasure is that's where your heart will be too."
35 "Be dressed and ready at all times and keep your light burning."
36 "Be like people waiting for their master to return from a wedding. He comes and knocks and they are waiting for him so they can open the door immediately."
37 "Blessed are the servants who the master finds watching when he returns. This is true, he will make himself ready and he will tell them to sit down to eat then he will come and serve them."
38 "If he comes during the second or third watch and finds them waiting for his return those servants will be blessed."
39 "Know this also. If the man of the house would have known at what hour the thief was coming he would have watched and wouldn't have allowed his house to be broken into to."
40 "You be ready too. Because the Son of man comes at an hour when you think

he isn't coming."

41 Peter said to Him, "Lord, tell us about this parable or even tell it to the entire crowd?"

42 The Lord said, "The faithful and wise servant is the one who the master will make supervisor over his entire household. This is the one who feeds everyone their portion of food at the appointed time."

43 "If the master finds his servant doing this when he returns the servant will be blessed."

44 "This is the truth, he will make that servant ruler over everything he has."

45 "But if that servant says to himself, 'My lord isn't coming home for awhile' and starts drinking heavily and mistreats his fellow servants,"

46 "Then the lord of the servant will come back on a day when the servant doesn't expect him and cut him down like wheat and give him the reward he deserves."

47 "This servant who knew his lord's will and failed to get himself ready and didn't do his master's will be punished with many lashes of the whip."

48 "But the one who didn't know any better even though he committed the same offenses will be beaten with only a few lashes of the whip. Much will be required of those who are given much. Those trusted with a lot will be expected to give a lot more."

49 "I have come to bring fire to the earth and what will I do if it's already kindled?"

50 "I have a baptism that I must be baptized with and I am determined to do it until it's accomplished!"

51 "Do you think I came to earth to give peace? This isn't the case. I came to divide."

52 "From now on, there will be five in a house divided. Three against two and two against three."

53 "The father will be divided against the son and the son against the father. The mother against the daughter and the daughter against the mother. The mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

54 Jesus also told the people, "When you see a cloud rising in the western sky you immediately say, 'A shower is coming' and it rains."

straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is.

55 "When you hear the south wind blow you say, 'It's going to be a hot day' and later it gets hot."

56 "You hypocrites. You can read the faces of the earth and sky but you aren't able to understand what going on around you."

57 "Even among yourselves you can't figure out what's right."

58 "When your adversary takes you to the magistrate while you are going along with him to court pay proper attention so you can stay out of court. Otherwise he will take you to the judge and the judge will hand you over to the officer who will throw you in jail."

59 "You will not get out until you have paid the very last penny for your trespasses."

Luke 13:1-end

1 Some people were with Jesus at that time and they told Him about the Galileans whose blood had been mixed by Pilate with their sacrifices.

2 Jesus told them, "Do you think these Galileans were greater sinners than any other Galileans because they suffered such terrible deaths?"

3 "It's not so. In fact, unless you repent you are going to die the same way."

4 "What about the eighteen the tower in Siloam fell on and killed. Do you

think they were the worst sinners living in Jerusalem?"

5 "No, they weren't. However, unless you repent of your sins you will all die the same way they did."

6 Then Jesus told them the following parable. "In his vineyard one man had a fig tree. One day he came to pick fruit from the fig tree and there wasn't any."

7 "He told his gardener, 'Listen, for three years I've come out to this fig tree looking for fruit and haven't found any. Cut the tree down, it's taking up valuable space.'"

8 "The gardener answered his master, 'Lord, leave it alone this year too until I loosen it's roots and feed it.'"

9 "'Then if it bears fruit it will be good. If not, then you can cut it down.'"

10 Jesus was teaching in one of the temples on the sabbath.

11 There was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years. She was all bent over and nobody could straighten her up.

12 When Jesus saw her He called her over and said, "Woman you have been freed from your illness."

13 Then Jesus laid His hands on her and right away her body was straightened and she glorified God.

14 The ruler of the temple was very upset because Jesus was healing people on the Sabbath. He told the them,

"People should only work on the six days provided. Come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

15 The Lord answered him by saying, "You hypocrite. Everyone of you turns his oxen and donkeys loose from the barn and lead them away to water on the Sabbath."

16 "Shouldn't this daughter of Abraham, who has been bound by Satan with this illness for eighteen years, be set loose from this imprisonment on the Sabbath?"

17 After He said these things all of His opponents were embarrassed. The people all rejoiced for every miracle Jesus performed.

18 Then Jesus said, "What is the kingdom of God like? How should I compare it?"

19 "The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and threw into his garden. It grew and became such a great tree that the birds of the air nested in its branches."

20 Again He said, "What would I compare the kingdom of God to?"

21 "It's like the yeast a woman took and mixed with three cups of flour so all of the flour would rise."

22 Jesus went through the cities and villages teaching while He was on His way to Jerusalem.

23 Then someone said to Him, "Lord, are there many who will be saved?" Then Jesus told them,

24 "Try to enter by the narrow gate. I will tell you this, many will try to come in and won't be able to."

25 "Once the master of the house has gotten up and locked the door even though some are standing outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, Lord, please open the door for us.' He will answer you, 'I'm sorry I don't know where you came from.'"

26 "Then you will start to say, 'We ate and drank with you and you taught in our streets.'"

27 "But he will say, 'I'm telling you I know you where you came from. Now leave me you workers of iniquity.'"

28 "There will be bitter crying and grinding of teeth in anger when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the prophets inside the kingdom of God while you

yourselves are thrown out."

29 "They will come from the east, the west, the north and the south and will be seated in the kingdom of God."

30 "And the last will be first and the first will be last."

31 On the same day certain Pharisees came and told Jesus, "Leave here, Herod is seeking to kill you."

32 Jesus told them, "Go tell that fox, 'Look, I have thrown out demons and I heal today and tomorrow and on the third day I will be complete.'"

33 "But today, tomorrow and the following day I must walk for a prophet must not die outside of Jerusalem."

34 "Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who killed the prophets and stoned those who were sent to you. How many times I wanted to gather your children together like a hen gathers her chicks together under her wings and you wouldn't come!"

35 "Look, your house is left vacant and empty. This is also true, you won't see me again until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Luke 14:1-end

1 Later one Sabbath Jesus went into the one of the chief Pharisees' houses to eat and they were watching Him.

2 A man who had the dropsy was brought to Jesus.

3 Jesus asked the scribes and Pharisees, "Is it legal to heal on the Sabbath?"

4 They didn't answer Him. Then Jesus took the man, healed him and left him go.

5 Then Jesus told them, "If your donkey or ox falls into a ditch which one of you wouldn't pull them out of the ditch on the Sabbath?"

6 They couldn't answer His questions.

7 Jesus noticed how the guests picked out the best rooms so He told them another parable.

8 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding don't choose the best place to sit because a more important guest than you might have been invited."

9 "Then you host might have to come to you and say, 'Let this guest sit there' and then you have to move to a less important seat in embarrassment."

10 "Instead when you are invited take the least important seat. Then when your host comes in he will tell you, 'Friend, come up and sit near me.' Then everyone who sits down to dinner with you will honor you."

11 "Whoever will raises themselves up will be lowered. The ones who humble themselves will be raised up."

12 Then Jesus told His Pharisee host, "When you prepare a banquet or a feast don't call your friends, your family, your relations or your neighbors. They will respond by returning the invitation so they can repay the favor."

13 "But when you prepare a feast invite the poor, the injured, the crippled and the blind."

14 "Then you will be blessed because they can't repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the holy."

15 When one of the other dinner guests heard what was said he told Jesus, "A person is blessed if they eat bread in the kingdom of God."

16 Then Jesus told him, "One person prepared a large feast to celebrate and he invited many other people."

17 He sent his servant out to call the guests when everything was ready to tell them, 'Come, everything has been prepared for you.'

18 Every guest began to make the same excuse. The first said to the servant, "I bought a piece of land and I have to go look it over. Please see that I am excused."

19 Another told him, "I bought five pairs of oxen and I'm on my way to try them out. Please apologize to your master for me."

20 Yet another guest said to the servant, "I just got married and I can't leave my wife right now."
21 The servant went back to his master's house and told his lord what had happened. The servant's master was angry and told him, "Hurry out to all the streets and alleys of the city and bring the poor, injured, crippled and the blind in to the feast."
22 Then the servant said, "Lord, as you commanded it has been done and we still have a lot of room for others."
23 So the lord told his servant, "Then go out to the highways and fields and urge them to come in so my house will be filled with guests."
24 "I'm telling you this, none of the others who were invited will taste the feast that has been prepared for them."
25 Large crowds were following Jesus. He turned to them and said,
26 "If anyone comes to me without forsaking his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters and even their own life they can't be my disciples."
27 "Also, anyone who doesn't carry their own cross and follow me can't be my disciple."
28 "Because who of you with the intention of building a tower doesn't sit down first and calculate the cost to see if they have enough money to finish it?"
29 "Otherwise you might find out after you have built the foundation you aren't able to finish the rest of the building and everyone who sees it would laugh at you and say,"
30 "This person started to build and wasn't able to finish."
31 "Then too, what king who intends to war against another king fails to sit down first and decide whether or not he can meet his adversary who has twenty thousand while he only has ten thousand to fight?"
32 "In this case while the other is a long way off in the distance the first king sends ambassadors to the second king to submit his request for peace."
33 "It will be the same for any of you who fail to give up everything you have. You can't be my disciple."
34 "Salt is good. But if the salt loses its saltiness what good is it for seasoning?"
35 "It isn't suitable to be put on a field or in the compost pile. People can only throw it away. If you have ears to hear, hear what has been said."

Luke 15:1-end

1 Then all the tax collectors and sinful, worldly people came close to Him to hear what He had to say.
2 The Pharisees and scribes grumbled among themselves and said, "This man welcomes sinners and even eats with them."
3 So Jesus told them this parable,
4 "Which one of you if you owned a hundred sheep and lost one wouldn't leave the other ninety-nine in the desert and go searching for the one that was lost until you found the lost one?"
5 "Then after you found it you would place it on your shoulders and start singing."
6 "Then when you got home you would call your friends over and tell them, 'Sing with me because I found my lost sheep.'"
7 "I'm telling you the same kind of joy exists in Heaven when a single sinner repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who don't need to repent."
8 "Similarly if a woman had ten silver coins and lost one wouldn't she light and sweep the house searching thoroughly until she found it?"
9 "When she found it wouldn't she call her neighbors to her house and say, 'Let's celebrate. I found the precious thing I had lost.'"
10 "Again I tell you, the angels of God sing with joy about one sinful person

who repents."

11 Then Jesus told them, "One father had two sons."

12 "The younger one said to him, 'Father, give me my part of our inheritance.'

So the father divided his possessions among the two sons."

13 "The younger son gathered up everything his father had given him and when off to a distant country. He wasted all of his money and goods during a racey, drunken spending spree."

14 "After he spent everything there was a terrible famine in that country and he became very hungry."

15 "So he took a job with a citizen from that country who sent him into the fields to feed his pigs."

16 "He was so hungry he wanted to eat the corn husks he was feeding the pigs but still nobody gave him anything to eat."

17 "When he came to his senses he said to himself, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough to eat and plenty to spare while I'm dying from hunger!'"

18 "I will get up and return to my father and tell him, 'Father, I have sinned against you and Heaven.'"

19 "'I'm not worthy to be called your son any longer. Just allow me to be one of your hired hands.'"

20 "So the son got ready and went back to his father. When he was still a long ways off the father saw him coming and felt compassion for him. The father ran to him and hugged and kissed him."

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have done wrong to you and Heaven and I'm no longer worthy to be called your son.'"

22 "The father told his servants, 'Bring out the best robe we have and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and new shoes on his feet.'"

23 "'Also bring out the calf we have been fattening and butcher it. Let us celebrate, eat and be glad,'"

24 "'Because this is my son who was dead to me and now he is alive again. He was lost and now he is found.' And they began to celebrate."

25 "The man's older son was working in the field. While he was leaving the field to come back to the house he heard he heard music and dancing."

26 "He called one of the servants and asked what was going on."

27 "The servant told him, 'Your brother has returned home and your father ordered the fattened calf to be prepared because he came home safe and sound.'"

28 "The older brother was angry and wouldn't go into the house so his father came out and begged him to come in."

29 "He responded to his father, 'I've served you for many years and I've done everything you have ever commanded me to do. And yet you have never even given me a lamb to roast so I could have a party with my friends.'"

30 "'But as soon as your other son, who wasted your money with prostitutes, comes home you welcome him with a feast by butchering the fattened calf.'"

31 "The father told the older son, 'My son, you have always been here with me and everything I have is yours.'"

32 "'But it is right that we should be glad and celebrate because your brother who was dead is alive again. He was lost and now he has been found.'"

Luke 16:1-end

1 Jesus also told His disciples, "Once there was a wealthy person who had a household manager or steward. The steward had been accused of mismanaging the money and property of the house."

2 "The wealthy man called the manager, 'Is what I am hearing about you true? I want you to give me a full accounting for the money and property you manage for me because you are no longer my steward.'"

3 "Then the manager thought to himself, 'What am I going to do? He's taking my job away from me. I can't plow the fields like a farm hand and I'm too ashamed to beg.'"

4 "'I know what I'll do so that when I lose my job they will still allow me to come into their home.'"

5 "The manager called all of his lord's debtors and told them, 'How much do you owe my lord?'"

6 "The first debtor said, 'A hundred barrels of olive oil.' The manager told the debtor, "Take your bill, sit down quickly and pay for fifty.'"

7 "Then he told another, 'How much do you owe?' And the second debtor said, 'A hundred bushels of wheat.' The manager told the second debtor, 'Take your bill and pay for eighty.'"

8 "The wealthy lord applauded the unfaithful manager because he had acted shrewdly. The children of this wicked world treat others of their generation better than the children of light treat theirs."

9 "So I'm telling you, try to make friends of those working for the temporal wealth of this wicked world so when you fail you will still be welcome in the house of eternal life."

10 "The one who is faithful with the least is also faithful with much. The one who is unfaithful with the least is also unfaithful with much."

11 "Therefore if you haven't been faithful with the riches of this wicked world, who is going to trust you with eternal wealth?"

12 "If you haven't been faithful with what belongs to another man who will give you what belongs to you?"

13 "No servant can serve two masters. They will either hate one and love the other. Or they will hold to one and despise the other. You can't serve God and wealth."

14 The covetous Pharisees heard Jesus tell these parables and they made fun of His teachings.

15 Jesus told them, "You are the steward who justified himself to other men or the debtors. But the wealthy lord is God who knows what you are thinking in your hearts. The things of this world that men highly value can not be looked at by the eyes of God."

16 "The law and the prophets applied until John came. Since then the kingdom of God has been preached and everybody thinks they can push their way in."

17 "But it's easier for Heaven and earth to pass away than it is for one dot of the law to be overlooked."

18 "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery. Whoever marries a divorced woman also commits adultery."

19 "A certain wealthy man who wore clothes of purple and fine linen and ate richly every day."

20 "There was also a beggar named Lazarus who laid at the wealthy man's gate. He had sores all over his body."

21 "Lazarus only wanted the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. The rich man's dogs even came and licked his sores."

22 "After awhile the beggar died and angels carried him to Abraham's arms. The rich man died too and was buried."

23 "In hell he raised his eyes. He was in torment and he saw Abraham a long distance away holding Lazarus to his chest."

24 "He cried out, 'Grandfather Abraham, show me mercy and send Lazarus so he can dip his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am tormented by these flames.'"

25 "But Abraham replied, 'My child, remember in your lifetime you received only good things while Lazarus only got the bad things of life. Now Lazarus is being comforted while you are tormented.'"

26 "In any case there is a great space that has been placed between you and us so those from here can't get to you and those with you can't get to us."
27 "The rich man said, 'Then please grandfather, send Lazarus to my father's home.'
28 "I have five brothers he can tell about this place of torment so they don't come here too."
29 "Abraham told him, 'They have the testimony of Moses and the prophets. Let them hear those witnesses.'
30 "Lazarus replied, 'No grandfather Abraham, they won't listen to them. But if someone came to them from the dead they would repent.'
31 "Abraham told Lazarus, 'If they don't listen to Moses and the prophets then they won't be persuaded even if one rose from the dead.'"

Luke 17:1-end

1 Then Jesus told His disciples, "Sinful events are coming which must come but grief to the one through whom they came."
2 "It would be better for that one to have a large boulder hung around their neck and be thrown into the sea than for the one who causes these little ones to sin."
3 "Be careful about your own way. If your brother wrongs you, scold him. If he is sorry, forgive him."
4 "If he wrongs you seven times in one day and seven times that day he comes to you and says, 'I'm sorry,' you are to forgive him seven times."
5 The apostles asked the Lord, "Help us increase our faith."
6 The Lord told them, "If you only had the faith a grain of mustard seed had you would tell this tree, 'Be pulled up by your roots and plant yourself in the sea,' and it would obey your command."
7 "Let's say you had a farm hand working in the field or feeding your cattle. After he had worked all day would you tell him, 'Go and sit down at my table for dinner and I will serve you.'"
8 "Or would you prefer to say, 'Get my dinner ready so I can eat. Serve me until I'm satisfied and then you can have what's left over.'"
9 "Do you thank the servant because he did the things he was told to do? I don't think so."
10 "Therefore, do the same after you've done everything you were commanded to do. Say, 'I am unworthy to be your servant because I have only done my duty.'"
11 As Jesus was enroute to Jerusalem He passed through the center of Samaria and Galilee.
12 When He came into a certain town He was met by ten lepers who stood quite a distance away from Him.
13 They called out, "Jesus, Master, show us your mercy."
14 Jesus saw them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they went on their way to the priests the lepers were healed.
15 After he noticed he had been healed one of the lepers came back to Jesus and praised God in a loud voice.
16 The man, a Samaritan, dropped face down at Jesus' feet and gave Him thanks.
17 Jesus asked him, "Weren't ten lepers healed? Where are the other nine?"
18 "None came back to give God the glory and thanks except this Gentile."
19 Jesus told the man, "Get up and go about your business. Your faith has healed you."
20 Then the Pharisees insisted on an answer from Him to tell them when the kingdom of God would come. Jesus responded to them by saying, "The kingdom of God doesn't come by eyesight."
21 "People aren't going to say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'Look, there it is!' No, because the kingdom of God is inside of you."

22 Then He told His disciples, "A day will come when you will want to see the day of the Son of man but it will not be seen."
23 "Then people will say, 'Look here!' or 'Look there!' See that you don't chase after or follow them."
24 "Just like a lightning bolt that strikes from one part of the sky but lights up the entire sky that's the way it will be when the Son of man returns."
25 "But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation of mankind."
26 "At the Son of man's coming it will be the same as it was in Noah's time."
27 "They were eating and drinking, marrying and being engaged to be married. All of these things took place until the very day that Noah entered the ark. Then the great flood came and destroyed everyone of them."
28 "The same thing happened in Lot's time. People were eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting and building."
29 "But on the very day Lot left Sodom fire and burning sulphur dropped from Heaven like rain and destroyed everyone of them."
30 "It will be the very same way on the day the Son of man returns."
31 "On that day if someone is on the roof and their possessions are in the house they had better not go into the house to get them. If someone is out in the field they had better not turn back."
32 "Remember what happened to Lot's wife."
33 "Whoever tries to save their life will lose it. Whoever loses their life will keep it."
34 "This is the truth, that night there will be two men in one bed. One will be taken while the other is left."
35 "Two women will be grinding flour. One will be taken while the other is left behind."
36 "Two men will be working in a field. One will be taken while the other is not."
37 His disciples said to Him, "When and where will this happen, Lord?" Jesus replied to them, "Wherever the body is that's where scavengers will flock together."

Luke 18:1-end

1 He told them a parable that had this meaning: Mankind should always be in prayer and stand strong.
2 He told them, "In one city there was a judge who didn't fear or respect God and wasn't worried about any man."
3 "There was also a poor widow in that city and she came to the judge asking, 'Settle my complaint against my opponent.'"
4 "For awhile the judge wouldn't hear the case. However in due course he thought to himself, 'Even though I'm not worried about what either god or man thinks,'"
5 "'I will hear this widow's complaint and settle the matter. Otherwise she is going to tire me out by continually coming to me.'"
6 Jesus said, "Listen to what this worldly judge thought to himself."
7 "Won't God distribute justice and revenge for His own children who are crying out to Him day and night? Even though He seems to be taking a long time?"
8 "I'm telling you, when God's vengeance comes it will come quickly! Even so, when the Son of man comes will he find any faithful on the earth?"
9 Then Jesus told the following parable to certain people who were present and trusting in their own self-righteousness while they despised others.
10 "Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee while the other

was a tax collector."

11 "The Pharisee stood and prayed this way to himself, 'God, I'm grateful I'm not like other men who are criminals, sinners, committing sexual sins or even like this tax collector.'"

12 "'I fast twice during the week and I give ten percent of everything I own.'"

13 "Meanwhile the tax collector was standing a short distance away. He didn't even raise his eyes towards Heaven. All he did was pound his hand on his chest and pray, 'God have mercy on me as a sinful man.'"

14 "I will tell you this, the tax collector went home a blameless man while the Pharisee left as guilty as he came. Everyone who exalts himself will be brought down to nothing. Those who humble themselves will be raised up."

15 People were also bringing babies to Jesus hoping He would touch them. When His disciples saw this they scolded the people.

16 But Jesus called for His disciples saying, "Allow the little children to come to me and don't stop them. The kingdom of God is made up of made up of ones like these."

17 "I tell you the truth, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God with the faith of a little child will not come in."

18 A certain ruler asked Jesus, "Good Master, what must I do to gain eternal life?"

19 Jesus replied, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except one and that is God."

20 "You know all of the commandments:
Do not commit adultery.
Do not kill.
Do not steal.
Do not give false testimony.
Honor your father and mother."

21 The ruler replied, "Yes, and I have obeyed all of them since I was a small child."

22 After Jesus listened to his reply He told him, "But yet you still lack one thing. Go sell everything you have and give the money to the poor. Then you will have treasure in Heaven. Then come and follow me."

23 When the ruler heard this he was very sad because he was very wealthy.

24 When Jesus noticed he was so sad he told them, "It is very difficult for someone who loves his earthly treasures to get into the kingdom of God!"

25 "In fact it's easier for a camel to go through the Gate known as the Needle's Eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

26 After everyone heard this they remarked, "Well then, who can possibly be saved?"

27 Jesus told them, "With mankind these things are not possible but with God everything is possible."

28 Then Peter said, "But we left everything to follow you."

29 Jesus replied, "Truthfully I'm telling you nobody has left their home, parents, brothers and sisters, spouse or children for the sake of the kingdom of God,"

30 "But who will receive the same many times over in this present life and in the coming world eternal life."

31 Then Jesus took The Twelve aside and said to them, "Look, it is time for us to go to Jerusalem so that everything that was written by the prophets regarding the Son of man can be fulfilled."

32 "He will be delivered to the Gentiles, mocked, abused and spit on."

33 "They will beat him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again."

34 They didn't comprehend what He was talking about. These sayings were obscure to them and they had forgotten the prophecies.
35 Later, when Jesus and His disciples came near Jericho, a blind man sat by the side of the way begging for money or food.
36 He heard the crowd passing by and asked what was going on.
37 They told him Jesus of Nazareth was passing this way.
38 So he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, please have mercy on me."
39 The people who were walking in front of Jesus scolded the blind beggar and told him to keep quiet. But the beggar cried out even louder, "Son of David, please have mercy on me."
40 Jesus stopped and told the others to bring the blind beggar to Him. When he was close by Jesus asked him,
41 "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind beggar said, "Oh Lord, please give me my sight."
42 Jesus told him, "Your eyesight is restored and your faith has saved you."
43 Immediately the man's sight was restored. He followed Jesus praising God. When all the people had seen it they gave God the glory.

Luke 19:1-end

1 Then Jesus entered Jericho and was making His way through the city.
2 A man lived there named Zacchaeus. He was the highest ranking tax collector and very wealthy.
3 He wanted to meet Jesus to see who He was. He was unable to see Jesus because of the crowd and since Zacchaeus was very short.
4 He ran ahead of the crowd and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus because He was supposed to come that way.
5 When Jesus came to the sycamore tree He looked up. When He saw Zacchaeus Jesus said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly. Because I am coming to stay at your house today."
6 Zacchaeus hurried down from the tree and greeted Jesus with joy.
7 When the crowd saw this they grumbled to each other, "Look at this. He's going to be a house guest of a sinful man."
8 When he heard this Zacchaeus stopped and told the Lord, "Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor and if I get anything from anyone by false pretense I give back four times as much to him."
9 Jesus told him, "Salvation has come to this house today because this man is also a son of Abraham."
10 "The Son of man has come to seek and to save those who were lost."
11 While they were listening Jesus told them another parable because they were close to Jerusalem and all the people thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately.
12 So Jesus told them, "A man of nobility went to a distant country to set up a kingdom for himself and return home."
13 "He called his ten servants and gave them each ten pieces of gold and told them, 'Until I return I want you to rule in my place.'"
14 "But the citizens despised him and sent a message back that said, 'We will not allow this person to rule over us.'"
15 "Later, he returned and regained control over his kingdom. Then he ordered his servants that he had given money to be called so he could find out how much every servant had gained by investing his money."
16 "The first told him, 'Lord, your gold coin has gotten you ten others.'"
17 "The king told him, 'You have done well my good servant. Because you have been faithful with very little you will be given authority over ten cities.'"
18 "The second servant said, 'Lord, your gold coin has gained five others.'"
19 "The king said, 'You will rule over five cities.'"

20 "The third came and said, 'Look Lord, here is your gold coin. I kept it safe for you because I hid it.'"

21 "I was afraid of you because you are a difficult master. You take up what you didn't put down and you harvest where you did not sow."

22 "The king told him, 'I will judge you by the words that came out of your very own mouth. You knew I was a difficult man to work for picking up what I didn't put down and harvesting what I did not sow,'"

23 "And still you didn't place the money in the bank where I could have at least gotten interest on my investment when I came back?"

24 "Then the king told the others standing close by, 'Take the gold coin from him and give it to the one who gained ten gold coins.'"

25 "But they told him, 'Lord, he already has ten coins.'"

26 "'I'm telling you, everyone who has will be given more and to those who have gained nothing even what little they have will be taken away.'"

27 "'But for my enemies who didn't want me to rule over them before, bring them here and destroy them in front of my eyes.'"

28 After He told them these things He walked ahead of the crowd to Jerusalem.

29 Later when He arrived at the Mount of Olives near Bethphage and Bethany Jesus sent two of His disciples ahead.

30 He told them, "Go into the village over there. When you arrive you will find a colt tied up that no man has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here."

31 "If anyone asks you what you are doing answer them like this, 'Because the Lord needs it.'"

32 They went on their way and found the colt just as Jesus had told them.

33 While they were untying the colt its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

34 The disciples replied, "Because the Lord needs it."

35 They brought the colt to Jesus. After they put their clothes on top of the colt they sat Jesus on it.

36 As He went along the way others laid their clothes in front of the colt.

37 When He came close to hillside going down over the Mount of Olives the entire group of disciples started singing and praising God in loud voices for all of the miracles they had seen.

38 They said,

"Blessed is the King
who comes in the name of the Lord."

"Peace in Heaven and
Glory to the Highest."

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Master, reprimand your disciples."

40 Jesus answered them by saying, "I'm telling you if these people kept quiet the rocks would cry out immediately."

41 When He came close He saw the city of Jerusalem and cried over it.

42 He said, "If you Jerusalem, even you, had known that this was your day and how your peace would come --- but now it is hidden from your view."

43 "The days will come when your enemies will dig a trench around you. They will gather around you and hold you hostage from every side."

44 "Then they will level you and your children inside of you. They won't leave one stone stacked on top of another because you failed to accept the time appointed for your visit."

45 Then Jesus went into the temple and started throwing out those who were selling goods inside and those who were buying.

46 He told them, "It is written,"

'My house is the house of prayer,'
'But you have made it a den of crooks.'

47 Jesus taught every day in the temple. The chief priests and scribes and the people's leaders looked for ways to trap and destroy Him.

48 They were unable to find a way to do it because all of the people listened to Him so attentively.

Luke 20:1-end

1 During one of the days Jesus was teaching in the temple and preaching the Good News of the kingdom of God the chief priests and the scribes came to Him with the older, wiser men.

2 They asked Him, "Tell us, by whose authority do you do these things? Who is the person that gave you this power?"

3 Jesus told them, "I'll answer you if you can tell me one thing."

4 "Was the baptism of John from Heaven or was it from men?"

5 They discussed it among themselves saying, "If we say, 'From heaven' he will say, 'Why don't we believe him then?'"

6 "But if we say, 'From men' the people will stone us because they are convinced John was a prophet."

7 So they told Him they could not tell where it came from.

8 Then Jesus told them, "And neither will I tell you by whose authority I do these things."

9 Then Jesus started to tell the people this parable. "A landowner planted a grape arbor and rented it out to gardeners. Then he left to go to a country far away for a long period of time."

10 "At harvest time he sent one of his servants to the gardeners so he could collect his portion of the grape harvest. Instead the gardeners beat him and sent him away empty-handed."

11 "So he sent another servant and they beat him too and abused him terribly and sent him home empty-handed."

12 "Then he sent a third servant who they wounded and threw out."

13 "The lord of the vineyard remarked, 'What can I do? I know, I will send my dear son. Surely they will honor him when they see him coming because he is my son.'"

14 "However, when the husbandmen saw him they rationalized among themselves, 'This is his heir. If we kill him his inheritance will be ours.'"

15 "So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What do you think the lord of the vineyard should do to them?"

16 "He will return and destroy these gardeners and will give the grape arbor to others." When they heard this they said, "May God forbid this to happen."

17 Jesus looked at them and said, "Then what does this prophecy mean ---"

'The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone?'

18 "Whoever will fall on that stone will be broken. But whoever that stone falls on will grind him to powder."

19 That very hour the chief priests and scribes tried to arrest Him because they understood He was speaking this parable against them. But they were afraid to act because of the people.

20 So they watched Him and sent out spies against Him who would pretend to be holy men so they could record His teachings in order to have Him arrested and

tried by the governor.

21 These men asked him, "Master, we know what you are saying and teaching is true. You aren't concerned about any man's way instead truthfully teaching God's ways."

22 "So tell us, is it lawful for us to give tribute to Caesar or not?"

23 Jesus understood their craftiness and told them, "Why do you test me?"

24 "Show me a coin. Whose image and inscription is on it?" They replied, "Caesar's."

25 So Jesus told them, "Then give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and give to God the things that belong to God."

26 They couldn't grasp the meaning of His words to the people. They were surprised by His answer and kept quiet.

27 Then some of the Sadducees who deny the resurrection of souls came to Jesus and asked,

28 "Teacher, Moses wrote the following:"

'If a man's brother dies and has a wife
and he died without children
his brother should take his wife and
have children by her for his brother.'

29 "Let's say there were seven brothers and the first took a wife and died without children."

30 "Then the second brother married her as his wife and then he died childless."

31 "Then the third married her and similarly until all seven had married her and died without children."

32 "Finally the woman died too."

33 "In the resurrection whose wife would she be since she had been the wife of seven husbands?"

34 Jesus responded to them by saying, "Children of this world marry and are engaged to be married."

35 "But the ones who are called worthy to attain the other world and those resurrected from the dead won't marry or be engaged to be married."

36 "Also they won't die anymore because they are equal to the angels and are children of God as children of the resurrection."

37 "Even Moses showed at the burning bush that the dead are raised when he called the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."

38 "God is a God of the living not of the dead because to Him all are alive."

39 Then one of the scribes told Him, "Teacher, you have spoken well."

40 Afterwards they didn't dare ask Him any questions at all.

41 Jesus asked them, "How can they say the Christ will be David's son,"

42 "When David himself said in the book of Psalms,"

'The LORD said to my Lord,
You will sit at my right hand,
43 Until I make your enemies your foot rest.'

44 "If David called him 'Lord' then how can the Lord be his son?"

45 Then in front of all the people He told His disciples,

46 "Watch out for the scribes who like to walk around in long, flowing robes and enjoy being welcomed in the marketplace and choose the best seats in the temple and the best rooms at banquets."

47 "Then they swallow widows' homes and as a pretense they pray long prayers. These scribes will receive even greater condemnation than other sinners."

Luke 21:1-end

1 Then Jesus glanced up and saw the wealthy men throwing money gifts into the treasury.

2 He also saw a poor widow throwing into the treasury her two pennies.

3 So He said, "This is the truth I'm telling you, this poor widow has thrown in more than everyone else put together."

4 "Because everyone else gave offerings to God out of their bounty. But she in her poverty has given everything she had, even what she needed to live on."

5 Some people were talking about the temple and how beautifully it had been decorated with polished stones and gifts. Then Jesus said,

6 "The day is coming that these stones you are looking at will be toppled so that one is not left on top of the other that will not be thrown to the ground."

7 So they asked Him, "Master, when will all these things happen? What sign will we see when these things are about to happen?"

8 Jesus replied, "Be careful that you aren't fooled. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am the Christ' and 'The time has come' but don't follow them."

9 "Whenever you hear about wars and riots don't be worried because first these things must happen but the end has not yet come."

10 Then He told them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom."

11 "There will be great earthquakes in many different places along with famine, pestilences, disturbing sights and wondrous signs from Heaven."

12 "But before all these things happen they will arrest you, persecute you, deliver you to the temples and prisons to be brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake."

13 "It will come to you as a testimony against them."

14 "Therefore decide in your hearts not to meditate beforehand how you will answer them."

15 "I will give you words and wisdom that all of your adversaries will not be able to argue against or resist."

16 "You will be betrayed your parents, brothers, sisters, relatives and friends and they will cause some of you to be put to death."

17 "You will be hated by all men for my name's sake."

18 "But not one hair from your head will be lost."

19 "By standing your ground you will keep your souls."

20 "When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies then you will know the destruction is close by."

21 "Those who are in Judea at the time should run to the mountains. Those who are in Jerusalem should leave. Those in other areas should stay away."

22 "These are the days of the Lord's vengeance so everything that was prophesied can be fulfilled."

23 "Grief will come to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! Because there will be great discomfort and pain in the land and God's anger will come on all people."

24 "Many will be killed by the sword and will be led away captive into every nation. Jerusalem will be overrun by Gentiles so that the times of the Gentiles can be fulfilled."

25 "There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars. On the earth there will be international problems and people perplexed. The seas and waves will roar."

26 "Men will die from heart failure out of fear and from tending to the problems that have come over the earth due to the powers of Heaven shaking."

27 "Then everyone will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with tremendous power and glory."
28 "When these things start to happen lift your eyes and heads and look towards Heaven because the time for your redemption is near."
29 Then He told them a parable, "Look at the fig tree and all other trees."
30 "When they send new sprouts out you look and know within yourselves summer can't be far behind."
31 "In like manner when you see these things happening you will know that the kingdom of God can't be very far away."
32 "Truthfully, this generation will not die until all of these things are fulfilled."
33 "Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away."
34 "Watch yourselves, otherwise your hearts will be overcome and waste away with drunkenness and worries about this life while that day slips up on you and catches you unaware."
35 "Because it's coming like a trap to all of those who live on the face of the entire earth."
36 "Therefore watch and pray always so you will be counted worthy to escape all these things that are going to happen and to stand in front of the Son of man."
37 During daylight hours Jesus taught in the temple. At nighttime He went out and stayed on the hill called the Mount of Olives.
38 Many people came to hear Him teach early in the morning in the temple.

Luke 22:1-end

1 The Feast of Unleavened Bread or Passover was coming up soon.
2 The chief priests and scribes plotted how they might kill Jesus because they were afraid of the people.
3 Satan then entered Judas Iscariot who was counted among The Twelve disciples.
4 Judas went about his business and met with the chief priests and leaders about how Judas could betray Jesus to them.
5 They were glad and promised to give him money.
6 So Judas promised and watched for an opportunity to betray Jesus to the chief priests when the crowd wasn't around.
7 The Day of Unleavened Bread came when the Passover lamb was to be killed.
8 Jesus sent Peter and John telling them, "Go prepare the Passover Supper for us so we can eat it."
9 They asked Him, "Where do you want us to go to prepare it?"
10 Jesus replied, "When you enter the city a man will meet you there carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him into the house he enters."
11 "Tell the owner of the house this, 'Our Master said to ask you, Where is the guestroom where I will eat the Passover with my disciples?'"
12 "Then he will show you a large furnished upper room. Prepare the Passover Supper there."
13 Peter and John went and found things as Jesus had described it to them. Then they prepared the Passover Supper.
14 When the time came Jesus sat down with The Twelve Apostles.
15 Jesus told them, "For a long time I have wanted to share this Passover with you before I suffer."
16 "Because I'm telling you I will not eat again until the fulfillment of the kingdom of God."
17 Then He took the cup and blessed it and said, "Take this cup and divide it among yourselves."
18 "I'm telling you I will not drink the fruit of the vine until the kingdom

of God comes."

19 Then He picked up some bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

20 Similarly He took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new promise in my blood, which will be poured out for you."

21 "Look, the hand of the one who has betrayed me is with mine on the table."

22 "While the Son of man is surely going as it was decided but grief is coming to the man who betrayed him."

23 The disciples started questioning among themselves which one of them would do such a thing.

24 There was also contention between them as to who would be considered the greatest among them.

25 Then Jesus told them, "The rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and the ones who mistreat them call themselves Patrons."

26 "Among you this is not to be. Instead the one who would be greatest among you should be like the younger ones and the highest should be like the lowest servant."

27 "Which is greater the one who sits at dinner or the one who serves him? Isn't it the one who is seated at dinner? But yet I am seated among you as the one who serves you!"

28 "You are the ones who have stayed by my side during my trials and testings."

29 "In return I give you a kingdom like my Father has given me."

30 "So you can eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

31 Then the Lord said, "Simon, Simon, Satan wanted to take you so he could sift you like wheat."

32 "But I prayed for you that your faith wouldn't fail. After you have returned strengthen your brothers."

33 Simon Peter told Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and even to death."

34 Jesus replied, "I'm telling you, Peter, before the rooster crows this morning you will have denied me three times."

35 Then He told them all, "When I sent you out without money, coins or shoes did you lack anything?" They all responded, "We lacked nothing."

36 He continued, "But now if you have money take it with you as well as coins. If someone doesn't have a sword let them sell their coat and buy one."

37 "I tell you that which was written must still happen:"

'And he was counted among criminals.'

"The things written about me will be fulfilled."

38 They told Him, "Lord, we have two swords here." He told them, "They are enough."

39 Then He went out as He usually did to the Mount of Olives and His disciples followed Him too.

40 When He got there He told them, "Pray that you don't fall into temptation."

41 When He was about a stone's throw away from them He knelt down and said this prayer:

42 "Father, if you are willing take this bitter cup away from me. But not my will but your will be done."

43 An angel from Heaven came to Him there and strengthened Him.

44 Since He was in agony He prayed even more in earnest. His sweat dropped to the ground like great drops of blood."

45 When He got up from prayer and came to where His disciples were He found them sleeping. They were exhausted from their sorrow.

46 Jesus told them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray so you don't fall into temptation."

47 While He was still speaking a mob with Judas, one of The Twelve, leading them. Judas came close to Jesus and kissed Him.
48 Jesus told him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of man with a kiss?"
49 When His disciples around Him saw what was about to happen they asked Jesus, "Lord, should we fight them with our swords?"
50 One of them struck the high priest's servant cutting off his right ear.
51 Then Jesus said, "No, this must come to pass." Then He touched the servant's ear and he was healed.
52 Jesus asked the chief priests, leaders of the temple and the older, wiser men who came for Him, "Do you come for me with swords and clubs like a common criminal?"
53 "When I was with you in the temple everyday you didn't raise a hand against me. But then again this is your hour and of the power of darkness."
54 Then they arrested Him and led Him off to the high priest's house. Peter followed them from a distance.
55 After they made a fire in the center of the hall and were seated together Peter sat down among them.
56 A young servant girl saw Peter as he sat by the fire and looked intently at him. She said, "This one was also with the man called Jesus."
57 Peter denied knowing Him and said, "I do not know him."
58 Afterwards someone else saw him and said, "You are also one of them." Peter replied, "No I am not."
59 After about one hour another said confidently, "It's true, this man was also with him because he is from Galilee too."
60 Peter said, "I don't know not what you are talking about." Immediately, while he was still talking the rooster crowed.
61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the words the Lord had spoken, 'Before the rooster crows you will deny me three times.'
62 So Peter went out and cried bitterly.
63 The men holding Jesus mocked Him and struck Him.
64 After they blindfolded Him they struck Him on the face and blasphemed Him by saying, "Give us a prophecy. Tell us who it is that's striking you?"
65 They spoke many other blasphemies against Him.
66 When daybreak came the older, wiser men, the chief priests and the scribes came together and led Him into the Sanhedrin. They said,
67 "Are you the Christ? Answer us!" Jesus told them, "If I told you it was so you would not believe me."
68 "And if I ask you if it is true you will not answer me or let me go."
69 "From this time on the Son of man will sit at God's right hand of power."
70 Then everyone ask Him, "Are you the Son of God?" And He replied, "You say that I am."
71 Then they said, "Do we need any further testimony? Each of us heard the words come from his own mouth."

Luke 23:1-end

1 So the entire group of them got up and took Jesus to Pilate.
2 They started to accuse Him there. They said, "We found this man causing rebellion in our country and forbidding people to pay tribute to Caesar and saying that he was the Christ a King."
3 Then Pilate asked Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered him, "You said so."
4 Then Pilate told the chief priests and the people, "I can't find any fault with this man."
5 They became even more determined and said, "He's stirring the people up, teaching wherever there are Jews from Galilee to this place."

6 When Pilate heard the word Galilee he asked whether the man was a Galilean."
7 As soon as he was aware Jesus belonged in Herod's jurisdiction Pilate sent him to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at the time.
8 When Herod saw Jesus he was very glad for he wanted to see Him for a long time. Herod heard many things about Jesus and he hoped to see Him perform a miracle.
9 Then he questioned Him with many words but Jesus didn't answer Herod a word.
10 The chief priests and scribes stood and angrily accused Jesus.
11 Herod with his soldiers sat Him on the floor, mocked Him, dressed Him in a beautiful robe and sent Him back to Pilate.
12 The same day Pilate and Herod became friends with each other. Previously they had been each other's enemy.
13 After Pilate called the chief priests, the leaders of the temple and the people together,
14 He told them, "You brought this man to me accusing him of stirring the people up. I examined him in front of you and haven't found any fault in this man regarding the things you are accusing him of."
15 "Herod didn't find anything either because I sent you to him. The man has done nothing worthy of death."
16 "So I'm going to reprimand him and let him go."
17 (As his custom Pilate released one prisoner to them during the feast.)
18 They all cried out at once, "Take this man away and release Barabbas to us."
19 (Who was thrown into prison because of a murder he committed during an uprising in the city.)
20 Pilate, who was willing to release Jesus, talked to the crowd again.
21 But the crowd persisted in their plea, "Crucify him, crucify him."
22 Pilate asked them a third time, "Why, what has this man done wrong? I haven't found anything in him that would warrant his death. So I'm going to reprimand him and let him go."
23 Immediately they protested with loud voices demanding that Jesus be crucified. The voices of the crowd and the chief priests prevailed.
24 Pilate then sentenced Jesus to death as they demanded.
25 Then he released to the crowd Barabbas who was imprisoned for inciting a riot and murder. This is the one the crowd asked for. Then Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified as they asked.
26 As they were leading Him away they grabbed Simon the Cyrenian coming from the countryside. They laid the cross on his shoulders so he could carry it for Jesus.
27 A large group of people followed Jesus. There were also many women who were wailing and crying for Him.
28 But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, don't cry for me. Instead cry for yourselves and your children."
29 "The days are coming when they will say, 'They are blessed who have no children, wombs that never gave birth and breasts that never nursed a baby.'"
30 "In those days they will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us' and to the hills, 'Cover us over.'"
31 "If they do these things to a green tree what will they do when it is dry?"
32 There were also two others who were led out with Him to be put to death. They were called criminals.
33 When they arrived at the place called Calvary they crucified Him with one criminal at His right hand and the other on His left.
34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them because they don't know what they are doing." They divided His clothing and cast lots for it.
35 People stood by watching while the rulers who were with them ridiculed Him.

They said, "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the Christ the one chosen by God."
36 The soldiers mocked Him too by coming up to Him and offering vinegar.
37 They said, "If you are the King of the Jews save yourself."
38 An inscription was written over His head in Greek, Latin and Hebrew saying, 'THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.'
39 One of the criminals who was hanged also ridiculed Him by saying, "If you are the Christ save yourself and us."
40 But the other criminal scolded him, "Don't you even fear God when you are under the very same condemnation?"
41 "We are being punished correctly because we are receiving the rewards we are owed for our works, but this man hasn't done anything wrong."
42 Then he asked Jesus, "Lord, when you come into your kingdom please remember me."
43 Jesus answered him, "Truly I'm telling you, today you will be with me in Heaven."
44 It was around noon and there was darkness over the entire world until three o'clock.
45 The sun was dark and the veil in the temple was torn in two parts down the middle.
46 Then Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." After He said this He gave up His spirit.
47 When the centurion guarding Him saw what happened he gave God glory saying, "Truly this man was the Son of God."
48 Everyone who witnessed the scene and what had happened struck their chests and went home.
49 All of His acquaintances and the women who followed Him from Galilee stood off at a distance watching these things.
50 A man named Joseph, a lawyer, was there. He was a good man and righteous.
51 (He had not agreed to the council that tried Jesus or what they did.)
Joseph was from Arimathea, a Jewish city, and was also waiting for the coming of the kingdom of God.
52 He went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body.
53 He took it down from the cross, wrapped it in linen and laid it in a tomb cut from solid rock where nobody had ever been buried before.
54 That was on the day of preparation and the sabbath was coming.
55 The women who came with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb where Jesus' body was laid.
56 Then they went home and prepared spices and ointments and rested on the Sabbath in keeping with the commandment.

Luke 24:1-end

1 Very early in the morning on the first day of the week the women came to the tomb. They brought the spices they had prepared and were accompanied by others.
2 They found the large stone rolled away from the door of the tomb.
3 When they entered they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.
4 As they stood there very perplexed two men came and stood by them in shining clothing.
5 The women were afraid and bowed their faces towards the earth. The men said, "Why are you looking for the living among the dead?"
6 "Jesus is not here because He has risen. Remember the words He spoke to you while He was with you in Galilee."
7 "He said, 'The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and rise again on the third day.'"

8 Then they remembered His words.
9 They returned from the tomb and told everything that had happened to the eleven and to all the others who were there.
10 Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James and other women who were with them told these things to the apostles.
11 Their words seemed like idle tales to them and they didn't believe them.
12 Then Peter went out and ran to the tomb. Bending over he saw the linen clothes laid to one side and left wondering what had happened.
13 Two of the followers had gone the same day to a village called Emmaus, which was sixty furlongs away from Jerusalem.
14 They discussed everything that had happened.
15 As they were discussing these things Jesus himself came to them and walked with them.
16 Their eyes were affected so they would not recognize Him.
17 Then He told them, "What are you talking about so sadly as you walk?"
18 Cleopas, one of the two, answered Him by saying, "Are you a stranger in Jerusalem? You must be if you don't know what has taken place over the past few days?"
19 Then He asked them, "What things have happened?" And they told Him, "Regarding Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet powerful in deed and word in God's eyes and the eyes of all of the people."
20 "Haven't you heard how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death and to have Him crucified."
21 "We were trusting it was He who would be Israel's Redeemer. Today is the third day since these things happened."
22 "Yes, certain women within our group went early to the tomb."
23 "When they didn't find His body they astonished us when they came and said they had seen angels who said Jesus was alive."
24 "One of the men who was with us went to the tomb and verified it in the state described by the women but Jesus was not there."
25 Then He told them, "Oh you foolish men and slow to believe everything the prophets told you."
26 "Shouldn't the Christ have suffered all of these things and entered into his kingdom of glory?"
27 Beginning with Moses and the prophets He explained everything in the scriptures concerning Himself.
28 When they came close to the town where they were going He pretended He was going on further.
29 But they begged Him, "Stay with us because it's getting late and the day is almost over." Then He went in and waited with them.
30 As He sat at dinner with them He took some bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them.
31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew who He was. He disappeared from their sight.
32 They told each other, "Didn't our hearts burn inside us when He talked with us along the way and when He opened the scriptures for us?"
33 They left that very same hour to return to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven apostles gathered together with His other followers.
34 They said, "It's true, our Lord has risen and appeared to Peter."
35 Then they told them what happened along the way and how when He broke bread they recognized Him.
36 While they were talking Jesus Himself came and stood in the middle of all of them and said, "Peace to each one of you."
37 But they were terrified and frightened and thought they were seeing a ghost.
38 Then Jesus asked them, "Why are you so worried? Why are you thinking these

kinds of thoughts?"

39 "Look at my hands and my feet to see it is me. Touch me and see for yourselves. A ghost doesn't have flesh and bones like you see I have."

40 After He told them this He showed them His hands and feet.

41 They still weren't quite certain because of the excitement, joyfulness and amazement so He said to them, "Do you have any food here?"

42 Then they gave Him broiled fish and a honeycomb.

43 Jesus took it and ate it in front of them.

44 He said, "When I was still with you I said that everything written about me in the law, the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled."

45 Then He enlightened them so they could fully understand the scriptures.

46 He told them, "It is written and therefore it compelled Christ to suffer and rise from the dead on the third day."

47 "Repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name in every nation starting in Jerusalem."

48 "You are my witnesses to all of these things."

49 "I send my Father's promise upon you. Wait in Jerusalem until you are blessed with power from the highest."

50 Then He led them out as far as Bethany. He raised His hands and blessed them.

51 While He was blessing them He was taken up into Heaven.

52 Then they worshipped Him and returned joyfully to Jerusalem.

53 Afterwards they were in the temple continuously, praising and blessing God.
Amen.