

Mark.

A translation.



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GreyBurro@ScriptureOnline.org.

<http://www.ScriptureOnline.org>.

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The cover exhibits a panel from the arch of Titus. This panel displays the removal of spoils from the destruction of Jerusalem. The arch of Titus is located on the main street of ancient Rome, the Via Sacra, its original site.

Ancient reliefs and statues were likely painted, not viewed only with the color of the building material. In fact, traces of the original paint are still detectable on the monument. A team of scholars worked with the Institute for the Visualization of History in Massachusetts to produce this reconstructed colorization.

The arch of Titus commemorates the victories of the Roman general, and later emperor, Titus. It was constructed by his brother, the Emperor Domitian, in 82 AD. These victories occurred during the summer of 71 AD. The arch is composed of marble.

The depiction includes various items carried away from the temple. This includes the golden lampstand, the gold trumpets, the ash pans from the altar, and the table of showbread.

The destruction of the temple is discussed in the gospel of Mark (13:1-20).

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Mark.

Dunker John and Jesus are in the wilderness (1:1-13).

Dunker John proclaims immersion (1:1-8).

¹This begins the good news about Jesus the messiah.

²Just like it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

Look, I send my angel before you.

He will prepare your way.^a

³His voice cries in the wilderness,

“Get the lord’s way ready.

Make his path right away.”^b

⁴Dunker John was in the wilderness. He was proclaiming immersion for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵Every Jewish region and all the citizens of Jerusalem traveled out to him. He immersed them in the river Jordan when they confessed their sins.

⁶John wore camel hair clothing with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷He proclaimed, “My superior comes after me. I do not deserve to stoop down to loosen the straps on his feet. ⁸I immerse you all in the water, but he will immerse you in the holy spirit.”

John immerses Jesus (1:9-13).

⁹At that time, Jesus of Nazareth in Galilee arrived. John immersed him in the Jordan River. ¹⁰As he came out of the water, the sky opened up. The spirit came down on him like a dove. ¹¹A voice came out of the sky, “You are my beloved son. I am pleased with you.”

a) Malachi 3:1.

b) Isaiah 40:3.

¹²The spirit took him to the wilderness right away. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days. He was tempted by the Opposer. He was out there with the wild animals, but the angels took care of him.

Jesus goes to Galilee (1:14-6:23).

Jesus proclaims the good news (1:14-22).

¹⁴After John's arrest, Jesus went to Galilee. He proclaimed the good news about God, ¹⁵"The time has been fulfilled. The kingdom of God is near. Repent. Believe in the good news."

¹⁶While he was passing by Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew, Simon's brother. They were casting nets in the lake because they were fishermen. ¹⁷Jesus said to them, "Come. Follow me. I will make you into fishers of men." ¹⁸They immediately dropped their nets. They followed him.

¹⁹He went on a little further. He saw Jacob, Zebedee's son, and John, his brother. They were casting nets from their boat. ²⁰He called them right away. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the workers. They went away with him.

²¹They traveled to Capernaum. Right away, he taught in the synagogue on the Sabbath. ²²They were amazed by his teaching because he taught like someone who had authority. It was nothing like the scribes.

Jesus heals a man with an impure spirit (1:23-28).

²³Right then, there was a man with an impure spirit in their synagogue. He cried out, ²⁴"What is it with you and us, Jesus the Nazarene? Did you come to destroy us? I know who you are. You are the holy one from God."

²⁵Jesus rebuked him, "Be quiet. Come out of him." ²⁶The impure spirit shook the man. With a loud shout, he came out of him.

²⁷Everybody was amazed. They debated between themselves, "What is this? Is it some kind of new teaching that he commands the impure spirits, and they obey him?" ²⁸The news about him went out everywhere over the entire region of Galilee.

Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law (1:29-31).

²⁹Right away, he left the synagogue. He came to the home of Simon and Andrew, together with Jacob and John. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was lying down with a fever. They spoke to him about her right away. ³¹He came over to her and lifted her up by the hand. Her fever left. She started serving them.

Jesus heals all the sick people (1:32-39).

³²When it was evening, after the sun set, they brought all the sick and the demon-possessed to him. ³³The whole city was gathered at the door. ³⁴He healed all the sick people with various diseases. He cast out demons. The demons did not speak because they were terrified of him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still really dark, he left. He went into a place in the wilderness. He prayed there. ³⁶Simon and his associates were searching for him. ³⁷They found him and spoke to him, "Everyone is looking for you."

³⁸He told them, "Let us go somewhere else, into the rural areas. I will preach there. That is why I left." ³⁹Then he left. He proclaimed in their synagogues all over Galilee. He cast out demons.

A leper approaches Jesus (1:40-45).

⁴⁰A leper approached him. He asked him while bowing down, "If you want to, you are capable of healing me." ⁴¹With compassion, reached out his hand. He spoke to him, "I am willing. Be healed." ⁴²The leprosy left him right away. He was healed.

⁴³He warned him sternly. He sent him on right away. ⁴⁴He spoke to him, "Make sure that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest. Offer the purification gift which Moses commanded as a testimony to them."^a

⁴⁵Instead the man left. He started telling everyone and spreading the news. Jesus could not openly enter the cities any more, so he went to more remote places. People started coming to him from everywhere.

a) Leviticus 14:1-32.

They bring a paralyzed man (2:1-12).

²He went back to Capernaum. After a few days, the news was that he was at home.

²So many people gathered that there was no more room. Nothing could even get through the door. He was speaking to them about the word.

³Some people arrived who brought a paralyzed man. Four men were carrying him. ⁴They were not able to bring him inside because of the crowd. So, they removed part of the roof where he was. They opened it up, then lowered down the stretcher where the paralyzed man was lying.

⁵When Jesus noticed their faith, he spoke to the paralyzed man, “Child, your sins are forgiven.”

⁶Now some of the legal experts were sitting there. They started reasoning in their hearts, ⁷“What is this that he speaks in this manner? He uses profanity. Who can forgive sins except for the one God?”

⁸Jesus realized right away in his spirit that they were debating this among themselves. He spoke to them, “What are you debating in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier, to say to the paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or, ‘Get up. Pick up your stretcher and walk?’ ¹⁰But, so that you can know that the son of man has the authority on earth to forgive sins, he spoke to the paralyzed man, ¹¹I say to you, ‘Get up. Pick up your stretcher. Go back to your house.’”

¹²The man got up. He picked up his stretcher right then. He left in full view of everyone. Everybody was astonished. They praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this.”

Jesus meets Levi (2:13-15).

¹²Then he went back to the lake. The entire crowd went with him. He was teaching them.

¹⁴While passing by, he met a man named Levi, the son of Alphaeus, sitting with the tax-collectors. He spoke to him, “Follow me.” He stood up and followed him. ¹⁵Then he went with him to eat at his house. Lots of tax-collectors and sinners were there to eat with Jesus and his disciples, because many of them were following him.

Jesus eats with sinners and tax-collectors (2:16-17).

¹⁶The scribes who were Pharisees saw that he ate with sinners and tax-collectors. They spoke with his disciples, “Why does he eat with the tax-collectors and sinners?”

¹⁷When Jesus heard this, he spoke to them, “Healthy people do not need a doctor. Sick people do. I came to invite sinners, not righteous people.

Why do your disciples not fast (2:18-22)?

¹⁸The disciples of John and the Pharisees practiced fasting. Some people arrived and spoke to him, “Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?”

¹⁹Jesus spoke to them, “Can the wedding guests fast while the groom is with them? As long as the groom is with them they cannot fast. ²⁰After some time, when the groom has left them, then they can fast at that time.”

²¹No one can sew an unshrunk piece of cloth onto old clothing. Otherwise, the patch will rip the new part from the old. The tear will become worse. ²²No one pours fresh wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins. Both the wine and the skins will be ruined. Instead, fresh wine belongs in new wineskins.

The disciples pick grain on the Sabbath (2:23-28).

²³It so happened that he was passing by the fields on the Sabbath. While making their way, his disciples started picking grain.

²⁴The Pharisees spoke to him, “Look. Why are they doing what is not allowed on the Sabbath?”

²⁵He spoke to them, “Have you never read what David did? He had needs, and both he and those with him were hungry. ²⁶Did he not go into the house of God during the period of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the sacred bread? It was not allowed for anyone to eat it except for the priests. But he gave it both to him and also those with him.”^a

²⁷He spoke to them, “The Sabbath is for man. Man was not given for Sabbath. ²⁸The son of man is also the lord of the Sabbath.”

a) 1 Samuel 21:1-6.

Jesus heals a shriveled hand (3:1-6).

³He entered the synagogue again. A man was there with a shriveled hand. ²They watched whether he would heal the man on the Sabbath so that they could accuse him.

³He spoke to the man with the paralyzed hand, “Stand up here.”

⁴He spoke to them, “Which is allowed on the Sabbath, to do good or to do bad? To save a life or to kill?” They were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger. He was bothered by their hard hearts.

He turned to the man, “Extend your hand.” He did extend his hand. It was restored.

⁶The Pharisees left right away. They issued an investigation with the Herodians about him so that they could destroy him.

The impure spirits fall down before Jesus (3:7-18).

⁷Jesus went away to the lake with his disciples. A large group from Galilee followed him. There were also people from Judea, ⁸Jerusalem, Idumea, the other side of the Jordan, and the region of Tyre and Sidon. They paid attention to whatever he did. They came to him.

⁹He told his disciples to bring a boat to him so the crowds could not crush him. ¹⁰He healed lots of people. Whoever was suffering would throw themselves at him so they might touch him.

¹¹Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they would fall down before him. They would shout, “You are the son of God!” ¹²He strongly rebuked them so they would not reveal who he was.

Jesus appoints the twelve (3:13-19).

¹³He went up the mountain. He invited whoever he wanted. They came to him. ¹⁴He appointed the twelve so they could be with him. He sent them out to proclaim ¹⁵and to have authority to cast out demons.

¹⁶He appointed the twelve. He gave their names Simon called Peter, ¹⁷Jacob the son of Zebedee and John the brother of Jacob—he named them Boanerges, which means sons of thunder—¹⁸Andrew, Philip, Bartholemew, Matthew, Thomas, Jacob the son of Alphaeus, Thaddeus, Simon the zealot, ¹⁹and Judas from Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

They claim that Jesus has an impure spirit (3:20-35).

²⁰He arrived at the house. Another crowd gathered so that it was impossible for them to even eat a meal.

²¹When his people heard about it, they came out to take charge of him. They thought he was out of his mind.

²²The legal experts came down from Jerusalem, “He is possessed by Baal-Zebul,” and, “He casts out demons by the chief of the demons.”

²³He called them over. He objected, “How can the Opposer cast himself out? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot survive. ²⁵If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot survive. ²⁶If the Opposer rises up and is divided against himself, he cannot survive. That will bring about his end. ²⁷No one can break into the home of a strongman to plunder his property unless first he ties the strongman up. Only then can he plunder his home.”

²⁸“I guarantee you: The son of man will forgive everything, including sins and profanities, whatever nasty things they say. ²⁹But, anyone who slanders the holy spirit, he will never have any forgiveness. He is liable for an eternal sin.”

³⁰He said this because they claim he has an impure spirit.

³¹His mother and his brothers were standing outside. They sent someone to him to bring him.

³²The people were sitting around him. They spoke to him, “Look. Your mother and brothers are outside. They are looking for you.”

³³He answered them, “Who is my mother and my brothers?”

³⁴He looked at the people sitting around him in a circle, “Look. *You* are my mother and my brothers. ³⁵Anyone who wants to do my father’s wish is my brother, my sister, and my mother.”

The farmer goes out to sow seed (4:1-20).

⁴He started teaching by the lake again. Such a large crowd gathered around him that he climbed in a boat to teach from the lake. The entire crowd was on the lake shore. ²He taught them using many illustrations. He gave them his teaching.

³“Listen. Look, the farmer went out to sow seed. ⁴It happened that some of the seed fell by the road. The birds came and ate it up. ⁵Other seed fell on rocky ground with shallow soil. It grew quickly even though

it did not have deep soil. ⁶But then the sun came up. It burned and withered because it did not have deep roots. ⁷Other seed fell into the thorns. The thorns grew up and choked it. It gave no fruit.”

⁸“But some fell on fertile soil. It had abundant and plentiful fruit. Some bore thirty, sixty, or one hundred times over.”

⁹Then he said, “Whoever has ears that can hear should listen.”

¹⁰Later he was alone. Those around him and the twelve asked him about the illustration.

¹¹He spoke to them, “I will reveal the secret about the kingdom of God to you. But to those on the outside, everything is in illustrations.”

¹²Those who can look might look,
but they will not see.
Those who can hear might listen,
but they will not understand.
Otherwise, they might turn
and he would forgive them. ^a

¹³He told them, “You did not understand this illustration? How will you understand any illustration?”

¹⁴“The farmer is the one who sows the word. ¹⁵These are the ones by the road where he sows the word: When they hear it, the Opposer comes right away and takes the word away from them which he sowed. ¹⁶Some are like those sown in rocky soil: When they hear the word, they initially receive it joyfully. ¹⁷They have no roots in themselves—they live in the here and now. When troubles or persecution comes because of the word, they fall apart right away. ¹⁸Others are the ones sown in the thorns: They hear the word, ¹⁹but life’s worries, money’s deceit, and the passing desires for more stuff choke out the word. It becomes fruitless.”

²⁰“But then there are the ones sown in fertile soil: They hear the word and receive it. They bear fruit. Some bear thirty, sixty, or one hundred times over.”

Set a lamp on a lamp stand (4:21-23).

²¹He spoke to them, “When someone brings a lamp, does he set it under a basket or a bed? He sets it on a lamp stand, right? ²²Nothing is

a) Isaiah 6:9-10.

hidden unless it is then exposed. Nothing is revealed unless it becomes obvious.”

²³“If anyone has ears that can hear, then let him hear it.”

Watch out what you listen to (4:24-25).

²⁴He spoke to them, “Watch out what you listen to. Whatever measurement you use will be measured and pressed down back to you. ²⁵Whoever has will get more. Whoever has less, will lose what he does have.”

A man spreads some seed (4:26-29).

²⁶He spoke, “The kingdom of God is like this: Suppose man spreads some seed in the ground. ²⁷Then he sleeps and rises over a period of time. Those seeds will sprout and grow, even though he is not watching them.”

²⁸“The ground bears fruit by itself, first stalks, then grain, then a huge crop of wheat. ²⁹Whenever the crops are ready, then he swings the sickle, because it is time for a harvest.”

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed (4:30-32).

³⁰He spoke, “To what can we compare the kingdom of God? What illustration should we make for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed. Whenever someone sows it in the ground, it is the most tiny seed among those sown in the ground. ³²But once it is sown, it grows up and becomes the largest of all plants. It has huge branches. The birds in the sky can rest under its shade.”

³³He spoke about matters with them using numerous illustrations like this, as much as they were able to hear. ³⁴He did not speak with them except with illustrations. He explained everything privately to his own disciples.

Jesus rebukes the waves (4:35-41).

³⁵When it was evening, he spoke to them that day, “We need to travel to the other side of the lake.” ³⁶They left the crowd and took him away since he was already in the boat. There were some other boats near him.

³⁷A powerful wind storm arrived. The waves threatened to upset the boat. The boat was already full of water. ³⁸He was in the back of the boat,

sleeping on a pillow. They woke him and spoke to him, "Teacher! Does it not matter to you whether we are destroyed?"

³⁹When he got up, he rebuked the waves. Then he told the lake, "Silence. Be quiet." The wind stopped. It became absolutely calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you cowards? Do you not trust?"

⁴¹They were really afraid. They spoke to each other, "Who is this? Do the wind and the lake obey him?"

A man comes out of the tombs (5:1-20).

⁵He arrived on the other side of the lake in the area of Gerasene.

²As soon as he got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came out of the tombs to meet him. ³He had been living in the tombs. He was unchained only because no one could keep him bound. ⁴He had been bound with shackles and chains many times. He broke his chains and tore through the shackles. Nothing was strong enough to tame him. ⁵All day and all night in the tombs and in the mountains, he would yell and cut himself with stones.

⁶Look, he ran from far away toward Jesus. He bowed down before him. ⁷He shouted with a loud voice, "What is between me and you, Jesus, son of God most high? I beg you by God, do not torture me."

⁸He had told him, "Impure spirit, come out of that man."

⁹He asked him, "What is your name?"

He answered, "My name is Legion because we are many." ¹⁰He begged him many times not to send them outside the area.

¹¹There were a large herd of pigs grazing there by the mountain. ¹²They begged him, "Send us into the pigs. Let us enter them."

¹³He gave them permission. The impure spirits left him. They went into the pigs. The herd charged over the cliff into the lake. There were about two thousand of them. They drowned in the lake.

¹⁴The ones tending them ran away. They reported it in the city and in the countryside. People came to see what had happened. ¹⁵They came to Jesus. They saw the demon-possessed man. He was sitting down, fully clothed, in his right mind. He had been Legion. They were frightened. ¹⁶Some had seen him when he was demon-possessed and then the pigs. They described it to them. ¹⁷Then they asked him to leave their mountain.

¹⁸He got into his boat. The demon-possessed man asked him, “Let me come with you.”

¹⁹He did not give permission. Instead, he told him, “Go to your house and your people. Tell them what the lord has done to you and how he showed you mercy.”

²⁰Then he left. He started preaching in the Ten Cities what Jesus did to him. Everyone was amazed.

Jairus's daughter has a terrible illness (5:21-24).

²¹When Jesus crossed over again in the boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered to see him. He was by the lake shore.

²²One of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, arrived. Look, he fell down at his feet. ²³He urgently asked him, “My daughter has a terrible illness. Come place your hands on her so she might be cured and live.”

²⁴He left with him.

A woman has a hemorrhage (5:25-34).

A large crowd followed. They were tightly packed around him.

²⁵There was a woman who had a hemorrhage for twelve years. ²⁶She had suffered greatly with many doctors. She spent all her money. Nothing had helped. Instead, she got worse.

²⁷While listening to Jesus, she moved through the crowd from behind so that she could touch his clothes. ²⁸She thought, “If I could just touch his clothes, I might be cured.” ²⁹Her hemorrhage stopped right away. She could feel in her body that her suffering was over.

³⁰At that moment, Jesus sensed that some of his power left. He turned to the people and said, “Who touched my clothing?”

³¹His disciples said to him, “You can see that the people are tightly packed around you. Why do you still say, ‘Who touched me?’ ” ³²But he was looking around to see who had done it.

³³The woman was afraid. She was trembling, knowing it was her. She approached and bowed before him. She told him the whole truth. ³⁴He spoke to her, “Daughter, your faith healed you. Go in peace. You are healed from your suffering.”

The little girl starts walking around (5:35-43).

³⁵While he was still speaking, some of the synagogue leader's people arrived, "Your daughter died. Why are you still bothering the teacher?"

³⁶Jesus ignored them. He spoke to the synagogue leader, "Do not be afraid. Just trust me."

³⁷He did not allow anyone to come with him except Peter, Jacob, and John, Jacob's brother. ³⁸They went into the synagogue ruler's house. He observed a commotion, including crying and lots of wailing.

³⁹When he went in, he spoke to them, "Why are you upset? The child is not dead. She is just asleep."

⁴⁰They laughed at him. He kicked them all out. He took the father and mother of the child and their people. He went into the place where the child was.

⁴¹He grabbed the hand of the child. He spoke to her, "*Talitha koum.*" In translation, this means, "Little girl, I tell you, 'Get up.'"

⁴²The little girl got up right away. She started walking around. She was twelve years old. They were incredibly amazed. ⁴³He strongly ordered them that no one should know about this. He told them to give her something to eat.

A prophet is respected except in his own house (6:1-6).

⁶He left that place. He went to his own area. His disciples came with him. ²Since it was the Sabbath, he started teaching in a synagogue.

Many of those who heard him were amazed, "Where did he learn these things? Who gave him this wisdom? How does he do these miracles with his hands? ³Is he not the builder, the son of Mary and the brother of Jacob, Joseph, Judah, and Simon? Are these not his sisters here with us?" These things really bothered them.

⁴Jesus spoke to them, "A prophet is respected except in his own area, among his own people, and in his own house."

⁵He was not able to do any miracles there, except some healing by putting his hands on a few sick people. ⁶He was amazed by their disbelief. He traveled between the villages teaching all over.

Jesus sends out the twelve (6:7-13).

⁷He called together the twelve. He began to send them out in groups of two. He gave them authority over the impure spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing with them except for a single walking stick—no bread, no wallet, no coins in their belt. ⁹They may put on their sandals, but they may not wear two coats.

¹⁰He told them, “Whenever you enter a home, remain there until you leave that area. ¹¹Whatever place might not accept you or listen to you, go somewhere else. Shake the dust off your feet as a message against them. ¹²When you travel, proclaim that they must make changes. ¹³Cast out lots of demons. Anoint lots of ill people with oil. Heal them.”

Herod cuts John's head off (6:14-29).

¹⁴King Herod heard about him because he gained a huge reputation. He thought, “Dunker John must have risen from the dead. Some miraculous powers must be working through him.”

¹⁵Others said, “This is Elijah.” Others said, “He is a prophet like one of the famous prophets.”

¹⁶When Herod heard about this, he said, “I cut John’s head off, but he has risen.”

¹⁷Previously, Herod himself had his people arrest John. He shackled him in the prison because of Herodias, the wife of his brother, Philip. He even married her. ¹⁸John told Herod that he was not allowed to take the wife of his brother. ¹⁹Herodias did not like him at all. She wanted to kill him, but she was not able.

²⁰Herod was afraid of John because he knew that he was a righteous and holy man. He held him, listening to him with great curiosity. He enjoyed listening to him.

²¹After a period, and at the right time, Herod had a birthday party. Some important officials, high military officers, and the finest of Galilee were present. ²²Herodias’s daughter entered. She was dancing in a way that really pleased Herod and his guests. Herod told the young girl, “Ask me for anything that you want. I will give it to you.”

²³He swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give it to you, up to half of my kingdom.”

²⁴She went over to her mother and said, “What should I ask?” She said, “Ask for the head of Dunker John.”

²⁵She quickly went right back to the king. She asked him, “I want you to give me the head of Dunker John on a plate right now.”

²⁶The king became really upset that he made the oath. However, because of his guests he would not take it back. ²⁷The king sent for his executioner. He ordered him to bring back his head. He cut his head off in prison. ²⁸He brought his head on a plate. He gave it to the young girl. The girl gave it to her mother.

²⁹His disciples heard about this. They came and took his body. They buried it in a tomb.

Jesus goes beyond Galilee (6:30-9:32).

Jesus feeds five thousand men (6:30-43).

³⁰The disciples collected around Jesus. They told him about everything they had done and taught. ³¹He told them, “Come by yourselves privately into an isolated place in the wilderness. Rest for a while.” They had been busy coming and going. They had not had an opportunity to eat.

³²They left in the boat to go to an isolated place in the wilderness. ³³Some people saw them leaving. Many of them recognized them. People from numerous cities left on foot. They ran together to that place. They arrived ahead of them.

³⁴When they got out, he saw a large crowd. He felt compassion for them because they looked like sheep that had no shepherd. He began to teach them many things.

³⁵When it was getting late, his disciples came to him, “This place is the wilderness. It is getting late. ³⁶Let them leave so they can go into the nearby countryside and towns. They can buy themselves something to eat.”

³⁷He answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They said, “Do you want us to use 200 denarius coins to buy food, then give it to them to eat?”

³⁸He asked them, “How much bread do you have? Go find out.” When they looked, they said, “We just have five loaves, and also two fish.”

Jesus goes beyond Galilee (6:30-9:32).

Jesus feeds five thousand men (6:30-43).

³⁹He ordered everyone to sit in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰They grouped themselves on the lawn by hundred or fifties.

⁴¹He took the five loaves and two fish. He lifted them up toward the sky. He blessed them. He broke them into pieces. He gave them to his disciples so they could feed them. He also divided the two fish. ⁴²Everyone ate until they were full.

⁴³They picked up the pieces of bread and the fish. There were twelve baskets left over. ⁴⁴There were five thousand men that ate the bread.

Jesus walks on the lake (6:45-52).

⁴⁵Right away, he told his disciples to get into the boat so they could go to the other side of the lake near Bethsaida. He broke up the crowd there.

⁴⁶He said good-bye to them. He left to pray on the mountain.

⁴⁷When it was evening, the boat was in the middle of the lake. He was by himself on the lake shore. ⁴⁸All of a sudden, they were straining to row, because the wind was against them. It was late at night. There he was, walking on the lake toward them. He was going to pass them.

⁴⁹When they saw him walking on the lake, they wondered whether he was a phantom. They cried out ⁵⁰because they all saw him and were terrified. He spoke to them right away. He said to them, "Relax. It is me. Do not be afraid."

⁵¹He went up to them toward the boat. The wind stopped. They were quite surprised ⁵²because they did not understand what happened with the bread. They were being dull.

Whoever touches Jesus is healed (6:53-56).

⁵³When they crossed over, he landed at Gennesaret and set anchor.

⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people recognized him right away.

⁵⁵They traveled through that entire region. People began carrying those with sicknesses on stretchers wherever they heard he was.

⁵⁶Whenever he would travel to any area, a city, or a rural area, they would bring the ill into the market. They would ask him if they could touch the hem of his clothes. Whoever touched him was healed.

What comes out defiles a person (7:1-23)

⁷When the Pharisees and some of the legal experts came from Jerusalem, they met together. ²They observed some of his disciples using impure hands, which are unwashed, while eating their food.

³The Pharisees and all Jews will not eat if they do not properly wash their palms according to the ancient traditions. ⁴When they return from the market, they will not eat if they cannot wash. They practice many things like this, including washing pots, pitchers, and kettles.

⁵The Pharisees and legal experts asked him, “What is the reason your disciples do not practice the ancient traditions? They eat their food with impure hands.”

⁶He answered them, “The prophet Isaiah described you hypocrites well when he wrote,”

These people honor me with their lips.

Their hearts are far away from me.

⁷They worship me vainly.

They teach human rules.^a

⁸“You ignore God’s commands, but hold tightly to human tradition.”

⁹He told them, “You dismiss God’s command, but keep your tradition.

¹⁰Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’^b and ‘Anyone who slanders his father or mother must be put to death.’^c

¹¹“Instead, you say, ‘Suppose a man says to his father or mother, *Corban*, which means, *I have given it*. If he would have given anything to his father or mother, ¹²then you no longer require him to do it. ¹³You void God’s word for your tradition, which is just your invention. You do lots of similar things just like this.”

¹⁴Summoning the people again, he told them, “Everyone listen to me and understand. ¹⁵Nothing outside of a person can enter him and make him impure. Instead, it is what exits him that makes him impure.”^d

¹⁷When he entered the house away from the people, his disciples asked him about the illustration.

a) Isaiah 29:13.

b) Exodus 20:12.

c) Exodus 21:17.

d) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit 7:16.

¹⁸He told them, “Are you also so dull? Do you not know that anything that enters a man cannot make him impure? ¹⁹It does not enter his heart. It enters his belly, then he expels it into the toilet. Therefore, all food is pure.”

²⁰But, he said, “Things that come out of a person make him impure.

²¹From the inside, out of a person’s heart, comes evil thoughts, sexual misconduct, theft, murder, ²²adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, violence, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. ²³All these things come from the inside and make a person impure.”

A woman’s daughter has an impure spirit (7:24-30).

²⁴He left that place and went up to the area around Tyre. When he went into the house, he did not want anyone to notice. However, he was not able to avoid being noticed.

²⁵A woman heard about him right away. Her daughter had an impure spirit. When she arrived, she fell down at his feet. ²⁶She was a Greek woman, a Syrian-Phoenician by birth. She requested that he cast the demon out of her daughter.

²⁷He spoke to her, “Allow the natural children to be satisfied first. It is not right to take the children’s food and throw it at the dogs.”

²⁸She answered and said to him, “But even the dogs that sit under the table get to eat the crumbs of those little children.”

²⁹He said to her, “Because of your response, go. The demon has left your daughter.”

³⁰When she left to go to her house, she found the little child in bed. The demon was gone.

They bring a deaf man to Jesus (7:31-37).

³¹He left the area around Tyre again. He went through Sidon to Lake Galilee around the area of the Ten Cities.

³²They brought a deaf man with limited speech to him. They asked him to put his hand on him. ³³He took him out of the crowd by himself. He stuck his fingers into his ears. He put some spit on his tongue.

³⁴He looked up into the sky and groaned. He said to him, “*Ephatha.*” This means, “Open up.”

³⁵Then he could hear. The chains on his tongue were removed. He spoke clearly.

³⁶He ordered them not to tell anyone. As much he ordered them, they still proclaimed it. ³⁷They were completely amazed, “Everything he has done is incredible. He makes the deaf hear and the speechless speak.”

Jesus feeds about four thousand people (8:1-10).

⁸At that time, there was another large crowd. They did not have anything to eat. He summoned his disciples. He said to them, ²“I feel for the people. It is the third day they have stayed with me. They have not had anything to eat. ³If I send them home hungry, they will struggle on the way. Some have traveled from far away.”

⁴His disciples responded, “Where is anyone going to find food to fill them in the wilderness?”

⁵He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.”

⁶He ordered the people to sit on the ground. He took the seven loaves. He blessed them. He broke them. He gave them to his disciples. They set them out then distributed them to the people. ⁷He also had a few fish. He said a blessing for them. Then they distributed them. ⁸They ate. They were full. There were seven baskets full of the leftovers. ⁹There were about four thousand people. Then they sent them away.

¹⁰He got into the boat with his disciples. They went into the region of Dalmanoutha. ¹¹The Pharisees left. They debated with him. They wanted him to show them a sign from heaven so they could trap him.

¹²With a sigh in his soul, he said, “What is this generation that seeks a sign? I guarantee you this: This generation will receive no sign.”

Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees (8:13-21).

¹³He left them again. He got in the boat to depart to the other side of the lake.

¹⁴They neglected to bring bread. Except for one loaf, they had no bread in the boat.

¹⁵He warned them, “Look, watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and the Herodians.”

¹⁶They debated with each other because they had no bread.

¹⁷He realized this, so he said, “Why do you debate that you have no bread? Do you neither realize nor understand? Is your heart dull? ¹⁸Do you have eyes that cannot see? Do you have ears that cannot hear? Do you not remember ¹⁹when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand? How many baskets full of leftovers did you collect?”

The answered him, “Twelve.”

²⁰“What about the seven loaves for the four thousand? How many containers filled with leftovers did you collect?”

The answered him, “Seven.”

²¹He asked them, “Do you not yet understand?”

They bring a blind man to Jesus (8:22-26).

²²They arrived at Bethsaida. The brought a blind man to him. They requested that he touch him. ²³He took the blind man by the hand and lead him out of town. He spit into his eyes. He put his hands on him. He asked him, “Can you see?”

²⁴He responded, “I see men that look like trees. I see them moving around.”

²⁵He set his hands on him another time. Then he could see clearly. His vision was restored. He could see everything clearly from a distance.

²⁶He sent him back to his house, “Do not go into town.”

Who do you say I am (8:27-33)?

²⁷Jesus and his disciples went to the towns around Caesarea Philippi. Along the way, he asked his disciples a question. He said to them, “Who do people say that I am?”

²⁸They answered him, “Some Dunker John, others Elijah, and still others one of the prophets.”

²⁹He asked them, “Who do you say I am?”

Peter answered him, “You are the messiah.”

³⁰He charged them that they may tell no one about him.

³¹He began to teach them, “It is necessary for the son of man to suffer many things. The elders, high priest, and legal experts will reject and kill him. After three days, he will rise.”

³²He spoke about these matters boldly. Peter took him aside and started to correct him.

³³He turned and looked at his disciples. He rebuked Peter, “Get behind me, opposer. You are care about human concerns, not God.”

Deny yourself (8:34-9:1).

³⁴He summoned the people along with his disciples. He told them, “If someone wants to come with me, he must deny himself, carry his cross, and follow me.”

³⁵“Anyone who wants to preserve his life will destroy it. Anyone who destroys his life for me and the good news will preserve it. ³⁶How can it benefit a person to gain the entire world but injure his life? ³⁷What do you suppose a man will give in exchange for his life? ³⁸Suppose someone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation. Then the son of man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his father’s glory with the holy angels.”

⁹He told them, “I guarantee you this: Some of you standing here will never taste death before you see the kingdom of God coming with power.”

Elijah and Moses appear (9:2-13).

²After six days, Jesus took Peter, Jacob, and John. He brought them up a high mountain by themselves. He changed appearance before them.

³His clothes became a very bright white, beyond what a person who bleaches fabric for a living can make white.

⁴Elijah and Moses appeared to them. They were conversing with Jesus.

⁵Peter asked Jesus, “Rabbi. Is it appropriate for us to be here? Should we make three tents, one each for you, Moses, and Elijah?”

⁶Since they did not fully understand what they were asking, they became quite afraid.

⁷A cloud began to cast a shadow over them. A voice came out of the cloud, “This is my beloved son. Listen to him.”

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they could not see anyone with them other than just Jesus.

⁹When he came down from the mountain, he charged them that they may not tell anyone what they saw until after the son of man rises from the dead.

¹⁰They held the matter between themselves, wondering, “What is this resurrection from the dead?”

¹¹He answered, “The legal experts say, ‘First, Elijah must come.’^a”

¹²He said to them, “When Elijah comes first, he will restore everything. Why is it written that the son of man must suffer and be despised?^b ¹³But I tell you, Elijah has already come. He did whatever he wanted, just like it is written about him.^c”

A man has a seizure (9:14-29).

¹⁴When his disciples arrived, they saw a great crowd around them. The legal experts questioned them. ¹⁵Right away, observing him, the entire crowd was amazed. They rushed forward to greet him.

¹⁶He responded to them, “What do you want me to do for you?”

¹⁷One of those in the crowd replied, “Teacher, I brought my son to you. He has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸Wherever he goes, he might have a seizure and fall down. His mouth foams, he gnashes his teeth, and seizes up. Your disciples said they would try to cast it out, but they were not able.”

¹⁹He answered them, “Oh, what a faithless generation. How long do I have to be with you? How long do I have to tolerate you? Bring him to me.”

²⁰They brought him to Jesus. Look, the spirit threw him into a seizure right there. He fell on the ground, rolling around, and foaming at the mouth.

²¹He asked his father, “How long has this afflicted him?”

“Since childhood. ²²He often falls into the fire or water and hurts himself. But, if it is possible, help us. Have compassion on us.”

²³Jesus said to him, “Concerning whether it is possible—everything is possible for the those who believe.”

²⁴The father of the child shouted right away, “I do believe. Help me with my unbelief.”

a) Malachi 4:5.

b) Isaiah 53:3.

c) Malachi 4:6.

²⁵“Jesus saw that the people were pressed together. He strongly ordered the impure spirit. He spoke to him, “Speechless and deaf spirit, I command you: ‘Come out from him. You may not be in him any more.’”

²⁶With shouting and convulsing, it left him. He was like a corpse. Many said that he was dead. ²⁷Jesus grabbed him by the hand. He pulled him up. He got up.

²⁸When he went into the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why were we not able to cast it out?”

²⁹He told them, “This generation cannot cast them out except by prayer.”

Jesus returns to Galilee (9:30-50).

The son of man will be betrayed (9:30-32).

³⁰They left that place. They traveled through Galilee. He did not want anyone to notice.

³¹He taught his disciples. He spoke to them, “They will betray the son of man into the hands of some people. They will kill him. Three days after his murder, he will rise.”

³²Even though they did not follow this explanation, they were too afraid to ask.

Which of the twelve is the greatest (9:33-37)?

³³They arrived at Capernaum. While staying at someone’s home, he asked them, “What were you discussing while traveling on the road?”

³⁴They were quiet because they had been discussing between them along the road, “Which of us is the greatest?”

³⁵When he sat down, he summoned the twelve. He said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, let him be the very last and the servant of everyone.”

³⁶He took a child. He stood him up right in their midst. While hugging him, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever would receive a little child in my name receives me. Whoever would receive me does not just receive me, but also the one who sent me.”

Someone casts out a demon in Jesus' name (9:38-41).

³⁸John asked him, "Teacher, we saw someone cast out a demon in your name. We told him to stop because he does not follow us."

³⁹Jesus said, "Do not prevent him. No one who can do miracles in my name will be able to easily insult me. ⁴⁰Anyone who is not against me is for me. ⁴¹Suppose someone gives you water to drink in my name because you belong to the messiah. I guarantee you this: He will not lose his reward."

If your hand makes you stumble, cut it off (9:42-50).

⁴²"Suppose someone causes the least of those who believe in me to stumble. It would be better for him if he put a donkey-driven millstone around his neck, then throw himself into the lake."

⁴³"If your hand makes you stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to enter hell with two hands. The fire never ends there. ^a

⁴⁵If your foot makes you stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life limping than to be cast into hell with two feet. ^b ⁴⁷If your eye makes you stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with only one good eye than to be cast into hell with two eyes."

⁴⁸Its worms do not end

and the fire does not quench there. ^c

⁴⁹"Everyone will be salted by fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good. But if the salt becomes unsalty, how can you season anything with it? You have salt in yourself. Make peace with each other."

Jesus comes to Judea (10:1-52).

Can a man divorce his wife (10:1-11)?

¹⁰When he left that place, he came to the region of Judea and the area beyond the Jordan. The people went with him again. As usual, he taught them more.

a) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit 9:44.

b) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit 9:46.

c) Isaiah 66:24.

²They asked him if a man can divorce his wife. They were trying to bait him.

³Answering, he said to them, “What did Moses command you?”

⁴They said, “Moses allowed us to write separation papers and then divorce.”^a

⁵Jesus said to them, “He wrote this rule because of your hard hearts.

⁶But, from the beginning of creation, he made them both male and female.^b ⁷Because of this, a man will leave his father and mother. He will be connected to his wife. ⁸The two of them will become like one flesh.^c They are no longer two—they are one flesh. ⁹Whatever God pairs, people should not separate.”

¹⁰When they were back at home, the disciples asked him about this.

¹¹He told them, “If anyone divorces his wife and marries another, he commits adultery with her. ¹²If she divorces her husband and marries another, then she commits adultery.”

They bring some little kids (10:13-16).

¹³They brought some little kids so he would touch them. But, the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴Jesus was watching. He was upset with them. He said to them, “Allow the kids to approach me. Do not prevent them. The kingdom of God is composed of such folks. ¹⁵I guarantee you this: Suppose someone does not accept the kingdom of God like a kid would. Then he will not enter it.”

¹⁶Then he hugged them. He blessed them. He put his hands on them.

A wealthy man leaves sad (10:17-31).

¹⁷When he left, someone ran up to him on the road. He fell on his knees and asked him, “Good teacher, how can I inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except for the one God. ¹⁹You know the commands: Do not murder.^d Do not

a) Deuteronomy 24:1-4.

b) Genesis 1:27.

c) Genesis 2:24.

d) Exodus 20:13.

commit adultery.^a Do not steal.^b Do not testify falsely.^c Do not commit fraud.^d Honor your father and your mother.^e”

²⁰He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these things since I was a youth.”

²¹Jesus looked at him. He loved him. He said to him, “Go. Sell everything that you have. Give it to the poor. You will have treasure in heaven. Then, come, follow me.”

²²But he was shocked at this advice. He left sad because he had great wealth.

²³Looking around, Jesus spoke to his disciples, “Those with great wealth can hardly enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁴The disciples were troubled by his words. Responding, Jesus spoke to them, “Children, it is hard to enter the kingdom of God. ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the hole of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶This really troubled them. They asked each other, “How can anyone be saved?”

²⁷Observing them, Jesus said, “For people, it is impossible, but not for God. Everything is possible for God.”

²⁸Peter began to speak to him, “Look, we left everything to follow you.”

²⁹Jesus said, “I guarantee you this: Everyone who left homes, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, or property because of me and the good news ³⁰will receive one hundred times now in this life, homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, or property. They will also experience persecution. In the future period they will receive eternal life. ³¹Many who are first will be last. Many who are last will be first.”

Jesus heads toward Jerusalem (10:32-34).

³²They were on the road leading up to Jerusalem. Jesus went ahead of them. They were astounded. But those following were afraid.

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- a) Exodus 20:14.
 - b) Exodus 20:15.
 - c) Exodus 20:16.
 - d) Deuteronomy 24:14-15.
 - e) Exodus 20:12.

He took the twelve aside again. He began to speak to them about what was going to happen, ³³“Look, we are going up to Jerusalem. The son of man will be delivered to the high priest and legal experts. They will sentence him to death. They will deliver him to the foreigners. ³⁴They will ridicule, spit, beat, then kill him. After three days, he will rise up.”

Jacob and John ask to sit beside Jesus (10:35-45).

³⁵Jacob and John, Zebedee’s sons, approached him. They spoke to him, “Teacher, we would like it if you give us whatever we ask.”

³⁶He said to them, “You want me to give you whatever you ask?”

³⁷They said to him, “Allow one of us to sit at your right and one at your left when you are honored.”

³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not understand what you are asking. Can you drink from the cup that I drink from? Can you be plunged into the immersion that I am plunged in?”

³⁹They said to him, “We can.”

Jesus said to them, “You will drink from the cup that I drink from. You will be plunged into the immersion that I am plunged in. ⁴⁰However, it is not my decision who sits at my right or left. They have already been selected.”

⁴¹The twelve were listening. They started to get upset with Jacob and John.

⁴²Jesus summoned them. He spoke to them, “You know that foreigner rulers tend to be dictators. Their great leaders are tyrants. ⁴³This is not how it should be with you. Instead, whoever wants to be great among you must become a servant to you. ⁴⁴Whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone. ⁴⁵The son of man did not come to be served. He came to give his life as a ransom for many.”

A blind beggar shouts (10:46-53).

⁴⁶They arrived at Jericho. He, his disciples, and a large crowd left Jericho. There was a blind beggar named Bar-Timaeus, which means the son of Timaeus. He was sitting by the road.

⁴⁷He heard that Jesus was from Nazareth. He started to shout and say, “Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁸They sternly rebuked him to be quiet. But, he just shouted even more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁹While standing there, Jesus said, "Bring him here."

They brought the blind man. They said to him, "Be encouraged. Get up. He wants to talk to you."

⁵⁰He took his coat off. He jumped up. He came over to Jesus.

⁵¹Jesus answered him and said, "What do you want me to do?"

The blind man spoke to him, "Rabbi, make me see again."

⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go. Your faith has delivered you."

Right away his sight was restored. He followed him in his travels.

Jesus enters Jerusalem (11:1-15:47).

Jesus rides a colt (11:1-11).

¹¹They came close to Jerusalem into Beth-Phage and Bethany near Mount Olive. He sent two of his disciples.

²He told them, "Go into the opposite town. Right after you enter it, you will find a colt tied up. No person has ever rode it. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, 'What are you doing with this colt?' Then you should say, 'My master needs it.' " Then he sent them to do it right away.

⁴They left. They found the colt tied to an outside gate near an intersection. They untied it. ⁵Some people standing there said to them, "What are you doing loosing that colt?" ⁶They answered them just like Jesus said. Then they left them.

⁷They brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their coats on it. He rode it. ⁸Many spread their clothes in the road. Others scattered branches on the ground.

⁹They were both going ahead and following behind shouting, "Hosanna! The blessed one is coming in the name of the lord. ^a ¹⁰Blessed is the coming of the kingdom of our father, David. Hosanna in the highest!"

a) Psalm 118:25-26.

Jesus sees a fig tree (11:11-14).

¹¹They entered Jerusalem to the temple. Since it was already late in the day, he just looked around at everything. He returned to Bethany with the twelve.

¹²The next day, when they left Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³He saw a fig tree with leaves far off. He went over to determine whether it had any fruit on it. When he arrived, he discovered that it had nothing but just leaves. It was not the right period for figs.

¹⁴Responding, he said about it, “No one may eat fruit from you ever again.” His disciples paid close attention to him.

Jesus clears the temple (11:15-19).

¹⁵They came to Jerusalem. He went into the temple. He started throwing the merchants and businessmen out of the temple. He started turning over the bankers’ tables and the chairs of those who sold doves. ¹⁶He did not allow anyone to bring their products into the temple.

¹⁷He taught and spoke to them, “Is it not written, ‘They call my father’s house a place of prayer for all the nations’?^a But you made it a hideaway for thieves.^b”

¹⁸The high priests and legal experts heard about this. They considered how they could kill him because the people were amazed at his teaching.

¹⁹It got late. He left the city.

The fig tree withers (11:20-25).

²⁰In the morning, they were traveling by. They noticed that the fig tree had withered from the roots. ²¹Peter remembered. He spoke to him, “Rabbi, the fig tree that you cursed has withered.”

²²Jesus answered. He spoke to them, “Have faith in God. ²³I guarantee you this: Suppose someone would tell this mountain, ‘Get up and fall into the lake.’ He does not doubt but believes what he said will happen. Then it will happen. ²⁴This is why I tell you, ‘Everything that you pray and ask, believe that you will get it.’ You will. ²⁵When you have stood up

a) Isaiah 56:7.

b) Jeremiah 7:11.

and prayed, forgive him if you have anything against someone. Then your father in heaven will forgive your faults.”^a

By what authority do you do these things (11:27-33)?

²⁷He returned to Jerusalem. When he walked into the temple, the high priests, legal experts, and the elders approached him.

²⁸They asked him, “By what authority do you do these things? Who gave you the authority to do them?”

²⁹Jesus said to them, “I just have one question for you. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things: ³⁰Is John’s immersion from heaven or just from man? Now answer me.”

³¹They discussed it among themselves, “What should we say? If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Then why do you not believe him?’ ³²But, if we say, ‘From man’”

They feared the people because they all believed that John definitely was a prophet.

³³So, they answered Jesus, “We do not know.”

Jesus said to them, “Then I will not tell you by what authority I do these things.”

A man rents out a vineyard (12:1-12).

¹²He started speaking to them using illustrations.

“A man planted a vineyard. He built a fence around it. He dug a press. He built a tower. He rented it to some farmers. Then he traveled far away.”

²At some point, he sent his representative to these farmers. He intended to get his portion of the fruit from the farmers. ³They grabbed him, beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴He sent another representative to them. They knocked him in the head and treated him terribly. ⁵He sent one more. They killed this one too. They did this to many others. Some they beat, others they killed.”

⁶“He still had one, his beloved son. Finally, he sent him to them, thinking, ‘They will show my son respect.’”

a) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit 11:26.

⁷“Those farmers debated between themselves, ‘This is his heir. Come on, we must kill him. Then his inheritance will become ours.’ ⁸They grabbed him, killed him, and threw his body outside the vineyard.”

⁹“What will the master do to those farmers? He will go and massacre the farmers. Then he will give the vineyard to some other people.”

¹⁰“Have you not read the scriptures?”

The stone which the builders rejected
became the corner stone.

¹¹This is from the lord.

It is amazing from our view.^a

¹²They wanted to grab him because they knew that he told the illustration about them. However, they were afraid of the people. So, they left him and went away.

Is it allowed to pay taxes to Caesar (12:13-17)?

¹³They sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to him. They wanted to catch him with his words. ¹⁴When they arrived, they spoke to him, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere. You do not care what anyone thinks about you. You do not consider any person’s reputation. You teach the true way of God. Is it allowed to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay or not?”

¹⁵He knew they were hypocrites. He spoke to them, “Hand me a denarius coin so I can look at it.”

¹⁶They brought one. He spoke to them, “Who is this image and whose name is on the inscription?”

They said to him, “Caesar.”

¹⁷Jesus spoke to them, “Pay Caesar what belongs to Caesar. Pay God what belongs to him.” He amazed them.

Is there a resurrection (12:18-27)?

¹⁸Some Sadducees came to him. (They are the ones who say there is no resurrection.) They asked him, ¹⁹“Teacher, Moses wrote us: Suppose a person dies, leaves a wife, and has no children. Then his brother must take the wife and raise up descendants for his brother.^b”

a) Psalm 118:22-23.

b) Deuteronomy 25:5-6.

²⁰“Suppose there are seven brothers. The first takes the wife. But he dies and leaves no descendants. ²¹The second takes her, but he also dies. He fails to produce descendants. The same for the third. ²²None of the seven produce any descendants. Finally, the woman dies.”

²³“In the resurrection, when they all rise, which of them gets the woman? All seven had her.”

²⁴Jesus said to them, “Do not be fooled about this. Do you not understand the scriptures or the power of God? ²⁵When the dead rise, they do not marry. They are not given in marriage. They are like angels in heaven.”

²⁶“Regarding the dead being raised, Do you not know in the book of Moses regarding the bush? God spoke to him, ‘I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.’^a ²⁷He is not the God of the dead but the living. You are quite mistaken.”

What is the first command (12:28-34)?

²⁸One of the legal experts arrived. He was listening to their questioning. He noticed that he answered skillfully. He asked him, “What is the first command among all?”

²⁹Jesus answered, “The first is: Listen, Israel. The lord our God is one. ³⁰You must love the lord your God with your entire heart, your entire life, your entire mind, and your entire strength.^b”

³¹“This is the second: Love your neighbor like yourself.^c There are no greater commands.”

³²The legal expert said to him, “Excellent, teacher. You speak from the truth that he is one. There is no one other than him. ³³To love him with your entire heart, your entire mind, and your entire strength, and to love your neighbor like yourself is better than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

³⁴When Jesus observed that he answered with integrity, he said, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” No one dared ask him anything else.

a) Exodus 3:6.

b) Deuteronomy 6:4-5.

c) Leviticus 19:18.

Is the messiah the son of David (12:35-37)?

³⁵While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he asked, “How can the legal experts say that the messiah is the son of David? ³⁶David himself said by the holy spirit,”

I said to my lord,

‘Sit on my right until your enemies are placed under your feet.’^a

³⁷“If David calls himself lord, then who is his son?”

The huge crowd listened to him with pleasure.

Watch out for the legal experts (12:38-40).

³⁸While teaching, he said, “Watch out for the legal experts. They prefer to walk around wearing robes and greeting people in the temple. ³⁹They sit in the nicest place in the synagogue and at the fancy table at the festival. ⁴⁰They devour widows homes. They give long, fake prayers. They will receive the harsher judgment.”

A poor widow gives everything (12:41-44).

⁴¹He sat by the money-box. He watched how much money the people put into the money-box. Many rich people put in large amounts.

⁴²One poor widow put in two tiny coins. They were worth a small amount.

⁴³He summoned his disciples. He told them, “I guarantee you: This poor widow put more in than everyone who donated to the money-box.

⁴⁴They all gave from their great wealth. Out of her need, she gave everything she had from her entire life.”

The temple will be destroyed (13:1-37).

What is the sign (13:1-8)?

¹³When he left the temple, one of his disciples spoke to him, “Teacher, look at how the stones and structure are built.”

²Jesus said back to him, “Do you see this huge building? There will not even be one stone which is not destroyed.”

a) Psalm 110:1.

³When they sat down alone at Mount Olive away from the temple, Peter, Jacob, John, and Andrew asked him a question.

⁴“Tell us when these things will happen. What is the sign that all these things will come to an end?”

⁵Jesus started to tell them, “Watch out that nobody deceives you. ⁶Many will come in my name claiming, ‘It is me.’ Many people will be fooled. ⁷When you hear about wars or rumors of war, do not let it bother you. They must happen, but that is not the end.”

⁸“Nations will rise against nations. Kingdoms will rise against kingdoms. Earthquakes will occur in some places. There will be famine. These things are only the beginning of birth pains.”

Remain firm to the end (13:9-13).

⁹“You must watch yourselves. They will betray you to the Jewish council and the synagogue. You will be beat. You will stand before leaders and kings because of me and as a testimony to them. ¹⁰First, it is necessary to preach the good news in every nation.”

¹¹“When they lead you to be handed over, do not consider what you should say beforehand. Instead, you will receive what to say at that time. It is not you speaking. It is the holy spirit. ¹²Brother will hand over brother to death. Father will hand over his child. Children will stand up against their parents. They will put them to death. ¹³You will be hated by everyone because of my name. However, those who remain firm to the end will be saved.”



The arch of Titus depicts the destruction of Jerusalem.

Those days will bring trouble (13:14-23).

¹⁴“When you see the abomination of desolation^a standing where it should not be, (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains.”

¹⁵“No one who is on the roof should come down. No one who brought anything into the house should remove it. ¹⁶No one who was in the field should turn around and go back if he left his coat.”

¹⁷“Woe to anyone who is with child or who is nursing in those days. ¹⁸Pray that it does not happen in winter. ¹⁹Those days will bring trouble like it has never been, from the beginning of creation that God created, up to the present, or might ever occur.”

²⁰“Unless the lord shortens the time, not all people will be saved. Only because of those he selected will he shorten the time.”

²¹“Suppose anyone says to you, ‘Look, this is the messiah. He is right here.’ Do not believe it. ²²Fake messiahs and false prophets will rise up. They will perform signs and wonders to seduce the selected if possible.”

²³“You must pay attention to everything I have told you before.”

The son of man will come on the clouds (13:24-27).

²⁴“At that time, after that trouble,”

The sun will be dark.

The moon will not shine.^b

²⁵The stars will fall from the sky.

The heavenly bodies will shake.^c

²⁶“Then they will see the son of man coming on the clouds with great power and honor. ²⁷He will send the angels. He will collect the chosen from the four winds beginning from the edge of the world to the limits of the sky.”

This generation will not pass (13:28-31).

²⁸“Learn from the illustration of the fig tree. When a branch is fresh and bears leaves, you can know that summer is near. ²⁹It is the same with

a) See Daniel 9:27, 11:31, 12:11.

b) Isaiah 13:10.

c) Isaiah 34:4.

you. When you see these things happening, you know that it is near by the door.”

³⁰“I guarantee you: This generation will not pass before all these things happen. ³¹The sky and the earth might disappear, but my words will not.”

Watch (13:32-37).

³²“No one knows the precise day or time—not the angels in heaven nor the son—only the father. ³⁴When a traveling man leaves his home, he gives his servants authority. Each has his job. He tells the doorman to maintain security.”

³⁵“You must watch. You do not know when the master of the home will return, whether in the evening, the middle of the night, the crack of dawn, or in the morning. ³⁶When he comes by surprise, do not let him find you asleep.”

³⁷“I am telling you what I say to everyone: Watch.”

A woman pours ointment on Jesus' head (14:1-9).

¹⁴The Passover and the festival were only two days away. The high priests and legal experts considered how they could kill him after quietly arresting him.

²They said, “Not during the festival, or else it will cause an uproar among the people.”

³He was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper. While he was sitting there, a woman came with a jar of expensive, precious, and pure nard ointment. After breaking the jar, she poured it on his head.

⁴Some were upset among themselves, “What is the reason she broke this ointment? ⁵It was possible to sell the this ointment for more than 300 denarius coins. That could have been given to the poor.” They grumbled about her.

⁶Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you want to cause her trouble? She did a good thing for me. ⁷You will always have the poor with you. You can do something nice to them any time that you want. But you will not have me forever. ⁸She used what she had. She had the forethought to anoint my body for burial. ⁹I guarantee you: Wherever they proclaim good news over the whole world, they will tell about her conduct and remember her.”

Judas decides to betray Jesus (14:10-11).

¹⁰Judas from Iscariot was one of the twelve. He went to the high priests so that he could turn him over to them. ¹¹When they heard about it, they were pleased. They promised to pay him with silver. He considered the right opportunity to turn him over.

Two disciples prepare the Passover (14:12-17).

¹²It was the first day of unleavened bread at the Passover sacrifice. His disciples spoke to him, “Where do you want us to go so that we can prepare to eat the Passover meal?”

¹³He sent two of his disciples. He spoke to them, “Go into the city. A man will meet you carrying a container of water. Follow him. ¹⁴Whatever place he enters, speak to the head person, ‘The teacher says: Reserve a room where I can eat the Passover with my disciples.’ ¹⁵He will show you a large upper room which is furnished and ready. Prepare it for us.”

¹⁶The disciples left. They went into the city. They discovered it just like he told them. They prepared for the Passover. ¹⁷When it was evening, he came with the twelve.

Jesus eats the Passover (14:18-26).

¹⁸When they sat down to eat, Jesus said, “I guarantee you: One of you eating with me will betray me.”

¹⁹This made them upset. One after another, they said to him, “Can it be me?”

²⁰He said to them, “It is one of the twelve. He is dipping with me in the dish. ²¹The son of man is going away just like it is written about him. Woe to that man who betrays the son of man. It would be better for that man if he was never born.”

²²While eating with them, he took some bread. He blessed it. He broke it. He gave it to them. He said, “Take this. It is my body.”

²³He took the cup. He gave thanks. He gave it to them. Everyone drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, “This is my contract of blood. It is poured out for many people. ²⁵I guarantee you: I will never drink from vineyard fruit again, until the new occasion when I drink in the kingdom of God.”

²⁶After singing hymns, they went to Mount Olive.

You will all stumble (14:27-31).

²⁷Jesus spoke to them, “You will all stumble. It is written,
I will strike the shepherd.

The sheep will scatter.^a

²⁸“But, after I rise, you will return to me in Galilee.”

²⁹Peter said to him, “Even if everyone stumbles, I will not.”

³⁰Jesus spoke to him, “I guarantee you: Today, before nighttime, you will deny me three times before the rooster crows twice.”

³¹He claimed even more strongly, “If necessary, I will die with you. I will never deny you.” They all claimed the same.

Jesus prays at Gethsemane (14:32-42).

³²They went to the place called Gethsemane. He spoke to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

³³He took Peter, Jacob, and John with him. He was bothered and distressed. ³⁴He spoke to them, “My soul is distressed to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch.”

³⁵He went ahead a little further. He fell on the ground. He prayed that if it was possible, let the situation pass him by. ³⁶He said, “*Abba* (that is, father), everything is possible for you. Take this cup away from me. However, it matters what you want, not what I want.”

³⁷He went back. He discovered them sleeping. He spoke to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Are you not strong enough to watch for just one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray, so you do not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

³⁹He went back to pray again. He said the same thing. ⁴⁰Going back, he found them asleep again. Their eyes became heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

⁴¹He went back a third time. He said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! It is time. Look, the son of man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Get up. We have to go. Look, my betrayal is near.”

a) Zechariah 13:7.

They arrest, crucify, and bury Jesus (14:43-16:8).

A squad arrests Jesus (14:43-52).

⁴³Right away, while he was still talking, Judas approached. (He was one of the twelve.) A squad from the high priests, legal experts, and elders were with him. They were carrying swords and clubs. ⁴⁴He betrayed him by giving a signal to them, "Whoever I kiss, this is the one. Arrest him. Take him away under guard." ⁴⁵When he arrived, he went to him right away. He spoke, "Rabbi." Then he kissed him.

⁴⁶They seized him. They arrested him. ⁴⁷One of those standing there drew his sword. He struck a representative of the high priest. He chopped off his ear.

⁴⁸Jesus responded. He said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me like a thief? ⁴⁹I came to you every day, teaching in the temple. You did not arrest me then. However, this happened to fulfill the scriptures."

⁵⁰They all left him. They ran away. ⁵¹A young man was following him. He was wearing a linen cloak wrapping covering himself. They grabbed him. ⁵²However, he slipped out of the cloak. He ran away naked.

The Jewish council sentences Jesus (14:53-65).

⁵³They led Jesus to the palace of the high priest. The high priests, elders, and legal experts were assembled together. ⁵⁴Peter followed him from a distance. He was in the inner courtyard of the palace of the high priest. ⁵⁵The high priests and the entire Jewish council had been looking for evidence against Jesus so they could kill him. However, they had not found anything.

⁵⁶They had many false witnesses testify against him. However, they could not get them to agree. ⁵⁷Some of them stood up to testify against him, ⁵⁸"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this handmade temple. After three days, I will build another handmade temple.'" ⁵⁹But they could not get their testimony to agree.

⁶⁰The chief priest stood up in the middle. He asked Jesus, "Are you not going to say anything? What do you think about their testimony against you?"

⁶¹He remained silent. He answered nothing. The chief priest asked him again. He spoke to him, “Are you the messiah, the son of the blessed one?”

⁶²Jesus said, “I am. I see the son of man sitting at the right hand with power. He is coming down from the clouds in the sky.”

⁶³The chief priest ripped his cloak, “What more testimony do we need?”

⁶⁴“You heard this blasphemy. How does it appear to you?”

They judged him guilty of death. ⁶⁵They began spitting on him. They blindfolded his face. They beat him. They told him, “Prophecy.” Their officers took him away and slapped him.

Peter denies Jesus (14:66-72).

⁶⁶Peter was still down in the courtyard. One of the slave-girls that belonged to the chief priest arrived. ⁶⁷She saw Peter keeping himself warm. She looked carefully at him, “You were with Jesus from Nazareth.”

⁶⁸He denied it. “I do not know him. I do not understand why you would say this.” Then he left. He went outside into the portico. The rooster crowed.

⁶⁹The same slave-girl saw him again. She started to say to those standing by, “He is one of them.”

⁷⁰He denied it again.

Shortly afterwards, those standing around were again saying to Peter, “You are definitely one of them. You are Galilean.”

⁷¹Peter started using curses. He swore, “I never knew this man you are talking about.”

⁷²Right away, the rooster crowed a second time. Peter remembered what Jesus told him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” He fell down and started crying.

The high priests bring Jesus to Pilatus (15:1-5).

¹⁵In the early morning, the high priests planned a conference with the elders, legal experts, and the entire Jewish council. They bound Jesus. They took him away. They brought him to Pilatus. ²Pilatus questioned him. “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Jesus answered him, “You are the one who said it.” ³The high priests strongly accused him.

⁴Pilatus questioned him again, “Do you offer no defense? Look, they issued many accusations against you.”

⁵Jesus offered no response. Pilatus was amazed.

Pilatus releases Bar-Abbas (15:6-15).

⁶After the festival, he would release one prisoner that they had pardoned. ⁷There was a man named Bar-Abbas. He was in prison with some rebels. During a revolt, they had committed murder.

⁸The people arrived. They started to make the request, just like he would normally do. ⁹Pilatus asked them, “Do you want me to release the king of the Jews?”

¹⁰He knew that the high priests had delivered him because of jealousy.

¹¹The high priests incited the people to release Bar-Abbas instead.

¹²Pilatus asked them again, “What do you want me to do with the one you call the king of the Jews?”

¹³They shouted back, “Crucify him!”

¹⁴Pilatus said to them, “Why are you doing this evil thing?”

They shouted even louder, “Crucify him!”

¹⁵Pilatus wanted to make the people happy. So, he released Bar-Abbas to them.

The soldiers mock Jesus (15:16-20).

¹⁶The soldiers took him into the courtyard of the Roman headquarters. They assembled the entire squad. ¹⁷They clothed him with purple. They placed a crown on him twisted with thorns. ¹⁸They started saluting him, “Greetings, king of the Jews.”

¹⁹They knocked him in the head with a stick. They spat on him. They got down on their knees and bowed to him. ²⁰They mocked him. They stripped off his purple clothing. They put his clothes back on him. They led him out so they could crucify him.

They crucify Jesus (15:21-32).

²¹They forced someone passing by named Simon to carry his cross. He came from the country of Cyrene. His was the father of Alexander and Rufus.

²²They brought him to the *Golgotha* District, translated the Skull District. ²³They gave him some myrrh-flavored wine. He would not take it.

²⁴They crucified him. They divided up his clothes. They bet on them to determine who would take them. ²⁵It was nine o'clock when they crucified him.

²⁶There was an inscription of his accusation, "The king of the Jews."

²⁷Two thieves were crucified with him. One was on the right, and one on the left.^a

²⁹Those who passed by issued insults at him. They wagged their heads, "He is going to tear down the temple and rebuilt it in just three days.

³⁰Save yourself. Come down from the cross."

³¹Similarly, the high priests along with the legal experts were mocking, "He saved others. He cannot save himself. ³²He is the messiah, the king of Israel. Now let him bring himself down from the cross."

Even those crucified with him insulted him.

Jesus stops breathing (15:33-41).

³³From about noon until three o'clock, the whole earth became dark.

³⁴At three o'clock, Jesus shouted with a great cry, "*Elabi, elabi, lemah sbachtani?*" Translated, this means, "My God, my God, why did you leave me?"^b

³⁵Some of those standing there heard him. They said, "Look, he is calling Elijah."

³⁶Someone ran off and filled a sponge with vinegar. Putting it on a stick, he gave it to him to drink. "Let us see whether Elijah is coming to take him down."

³⁷After Jesus let out a huge cry, he stopped breathing. ³⁸The temple curtain split into two pieces from top to bottom. ³⁹There was a military commander standing back from him. When he saw him stop breathing, he said, "This man really was the son of God."

⁴⁰Some women were watching from a distance. They included Mary from Magdala, Mary, the mother of the younger Jacob and Joseph, and Salome. ⁴¹While they were in Galilee, they followed and served him. Many others came up with him into Jerusalem.

a) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit 15:28.

b) Psalm 22:1.

Joseph takes the corpse of Jesus (15:42-47).

⁴²Evening was approaching. It was the Day of Preparation, the day before the Sabbath. ⁴³Joseph from Arimathea was an influential member of the Jewish council. He himself accepted the kingdom of God. He dared to go to Pilatus. He asked to have the body of Jesus.

⁴⁴Pilatus was surprised that he was already dead. He summoned the military commander. He asked him whether he died recently. ⁴⁵When he got confirmation from the commander, he granted the corpse to Joseph.

⁴⁶He purchased some linen. Taking the corpse, he wrapped him with the linen. He put him into a tomb which was cut in the rock. He rolled a stone door over the tomb.

⁴⁷Mary from Magdala and Mary the mother of Joseph noticed where he buried him.

The women go to the tomb (16:1-8).

¹⁶After the Sabbath, Mary from Magdala, Mary the mother of Jacob, and Salome bought some spices. They came so they could perfume the corpse. ²Really early in the morning of the first day of the week, they came to the tomb before the sun rose. ³They said to each other, "Who rolled the stone back from the tomb opening for us?"

⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone was rolled back. It was huge. ⁵They went into the tomb. They saw a young man seated on the right. He was wearing a white robe. They were frightened. ⁶He spoke to them, "Do not be frightened. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene who was crucified. He is not here. Look at the place where they set him. ⁷Go tell his disciples and Peter, 'He went ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just like he told you.' "

⁸They left, running away from the tomb. He left them trembling and disturbed. They said nothing to anyone because they were afraid.^a

a) Earlier and more reliable manuscripts omit the so-called ending of Mark (16:9-20).