

THE GREAT NEWS
as reported by
LUKE

Luke 1

Luke's Reason for Writing This Report

1 Most Honorable Theophilus: Acts 1:1

You know that many have undertaken the task of writing a report about the astounding events that have taken place here.

²Those who wrote these reports for us had been eyewitnesses of these events from the very beginning, and were responsible guardians of the message.

³However, it occurred to me that because I also have been accurately acquainted with the details of the facts from the very beginning, it would be good for me to send an orderly report to you,

⁴so that you might know with certainty that the events you were told about did indeed take place.
Jn. 20:31

John the Baptizer Is Born

⁵During the time that Herod was king of Judea, there was a certain priest by the name of

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Zachariah, who belonged to the Abijah division of priests. His wife, also a descendant of Aaron,* was named Elizabeth.

**Lk. 1:5 – “A descendant of Aaron,”* ... from whom all the priests of Israel are descendants.*

⁶God was pleased with both of them, because they fully obeyed all that He had commanded them, and most carefully obeyed His instructions about religious rites and duties.

⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth hadn't been able to give birth to any, and now they were both quite old.

⁸But it so happened that while Zachariah was serving as priest before God, when it was his group's turn to serve,

⁹he drew the assignment by lot* (which was the way the priests decided what work each of them would do) to burn incense on the altar inside the Temple of the Lord.

**Lk. 1:9 – “He drew the assignment by lot,”* by throwing dice or drawing straws, or some such means, after prayer had been made, asking God to decide the outcome.*

¹⁰When the time came for him to burn the incense, there was a large crowd of people outside praying.

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11But as Zachariah went inside and approached the altar of incense, he was suddenly aware that an angel of the Lord was standing at the right side of the altar. Acts 5:19

12When Zachariah saw him, he was startled, then terrified.

13But then the angel spoke to him and said, “Don’t be afraid, Zachariah, because God has heard your earnest pleading in prayer. Your wife Elizabeth will give birth to a son for you, and you are to name him John. Jn. 1:6

14“He will be a source of extreme joy and happiness to you, and many others will rejoice with you when he is born.

15“God will regard him as a very special person. And he will be filled with the Holy Spirit from the time he is in his mother’s womb, and shall never drink wine or strong drink. Num. 6:3; Judg. 13:4

16“He will convince many of the people of Israel to turn to the Lord their God.

17“Just before the Messiah begins His ministry, John will preach in the same spirit and with the same power that Elijah did. He will soften the hearts of fathers toward their children, and will cause those who are disobedient to turn back and live in wisdom by doing what’s right. In other words, he will get the people prepared and ready to welcome their Lord.” Mal. 4:6

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18“But how can I be sure that this will really happen?” Zachariah asked the angel. “Because both my wife and I are much too old now to have children.”

19“I am Gabriel,” the angel replied. “I stand in the presence of God, and it was God who sent me to tell you this great news.

20“But because you have not believed the message I brought you, which will happen at the proper time, your mouth will be silenced and you will not be able to speak until what I told you about has taken place.”

21Meanwhile, the people waiting outside for Zachariah began to wonder why he was in the Temple so long.

22But when he finally came out, he couldn’t speak to them. Then they realized he must have seen a vision in the Temple, because he kept making signs to them, but he couldn’t say a word.

23When his time of service was completed, he returned home.

24Soon after that his wife Elizabeth was expecting a baby, and for five months she didn’t leave the house.

25“Just think of what the Lord has done for me!” she exclaimed. “He has taken pity on me, and now people won’t be looking down on me.”*

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***Lk. 1:25** – “Now people won’t be looking down on me”* ... *for not being able to have children.*

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin named Mary, who lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee.

27 She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David.

28 “Greetings, highly favored one!” the angel addressed her. “The Lord is with you! You have reason to be the happiest woman on earth.”

29 But when Mary saw him and then heard what he said, she was confused and perplexed, wondering what he could ever mean by such a greeting.

30 “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel continued, “because God is greatly pleased with you.

31 “Listen carefully! You will very soon conceive a child in your womb and give birth to a Son. You are to name Him Jesus.* Mt. 1:21

***Lk. 1:31** – “You are to name Him Jesus.*” The name “Jesus” means “Savior” or “Jehovah is salvation.”

32 “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make Him King of Israel, the same as His ancestor King David was.

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33“And He will reign over the people of Israel forever. There will never be an end to His Kingdom.”* Mic. 4:7; Isa. 9:7; Dan. 2:44

***Lk. 1:30-33** – A good portion of this prophecy has already been fulfilled. The Messiah has been born of Mary. He has already been declared *great*. But not until His second coming will Christ reign over all nations of the earth as King of kings and Lord of lords (Isaiah 2:1-5). His reign will last forever (Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 7:13-14, 18, 27).

34“How can that happen,” Mary asked the angel, “since I’m a virgin?”

35“**The Holy Spirit will come upon you,**” the angel replied, “and the power of the Most High God will hover over you. For that reason, the Holy One who will be born to you will be called the Son of God.

36“Even your cousin Elizabeth will have a son. She is now an old woman, and everyone knows that now, because of her age, she will never have any children. But she is now in the sixth month of her pregnancy,

37because nothing is impossible for God.” Gen. 18:4

38“Sir,” Mary replied, “I am a willing servant of the Lord. So may it all happen as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

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Mary Visits Elizabeth

39Very soon after that Mary hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea.

40There she entered the home of Zachariah and greeted Elizabeth.

41The moment Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the babe in her womb made a leap, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

42Then with a loud voice she exclaimed, "Of all women you are the one most favored by God! What a blessing to the world that Child will be to whom you will give birth.

43"But why am I so privileged that the mother of my Lord should visit me?"

44"I tell you the truth, the moment I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

45"You are blessed by God because you believed He would do what He said He would. And God will indeed keep the promise He made to you."

Mary's Song of Praise

46Then Mary said,

"My whole being overflows with praise to the Lord!

47And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!* Hab. 3:18

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*Lk. 1:47 – Mary was a wonderful woman, but not perfect. Even she needed a Savior.

48 Because in spite of the low and humble position of this servant* of the Lord, He didn't ignore me. Just think of it—from this time onward people in all generations will speak of me as the one who was so blessed and made so happy by God.

*Lk. 1:48 – “**Humble position of this servant.**”^{*} Literally *bond maid*. A true follower of the Lord gladly serves such a wonderful and living Lord. It is an honor to live for Him and serve Him.

49 Because He who is the Mighty One has done such great things for me! Truly, His name is to be most highly revered!

50 From one generation to the next, He continues to be big-hearted toward those who continue to have reverence and worship for Him. Ex. 20:6

51 He has done such great things by His powerful might. He has scattered those who are proud, who had such lofty ideas about what they by themselves would do.

52 He has pulled down the mighty from their thrones and elevated and promoted those who are humble.

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53 He has filled the hungry with good things, but those who considered themselves to be rich,* He sent away with empty hearts.*

Lk. 1:53 – “Those who considered themselves to be rich.” ... *believing themselves to have everything, and sensing no need* ... “He sent away with empty hearts,”* or “empty-handed.”

54 He has helped His servant Israel. He has faithfully honored His promise
55 to Abraham and our other forefathers, *when He told them He would be merciful to their descendants forever.*”

56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months, and then returned home.*

*Lk. 1:56 – It would seem likely that she stayed until Elizabeth’s baby was born.

The Birth of John the Baptizer

57 When the time came for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a boy.

58 And when her neighbors and relatives heard how good the Lord had been to her, they rejoiced with her.

59 Eight days after the baby was born, they came to be present when the child was circumcised, and they wanted to name him Zachariah, after his father.

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60But his mother spoke up and said, “No, his name is to be John.”

61“But why?” they asked her. “None of your relatives have that name.”

62So they made signs to the child’s father, asking him what he wanted the boy to be named.

63And he made signs asking for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s amazement he wrote, “His name is John.”

64As soon as he wrote that, he could speak again, and he began praising God.

65All the people in that area were deeply shaken by the circumstances of John’s birth. People throughout all the hill country of Judea were talking about it.

66Everyone who heard about it made a mental note of it, saying, “What kind of person will this child grow up to be?” because it was very evident that the hand of the Lord was upon him in a very special way.

Zachariah’s Prophecy

67Another happening was that John’s father, Zachariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying:

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68“May the Lord God of Israel be praised! He saw our great need, and has provided a ransom for His people. Ps. 41:13; Ps. 72:18; Ps. 106:48

69Through a descendant of His servant David, He has raised up One with great power to save us. Ps. 132:17

70From the time God created man He prophesied through His holy prophets that He would do this.*

*Lk. 1:70 – See Genesis 3:15.

71Those prophets told how we would be saved from our enemies and from the power of all who hate us.*

*Lk. 1:71 – See Isaiah 14:1; 44:24-26; 54:7-17; Jeremiah 30:9-11; 33:14-16; Zechariah 9:9-10, etc.

72God promised our forefathers that He would remember His unbreakable promise and be merciful and kind to us.

73With a solemn oath He promised our father Abraham Gen. 26:3; 1 Chron. 16:15-16; Ps. 105:8-9

74that He would free us from the power of our enemies, so that we could serve Him without fear, Rom. 6:18

75 In holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

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⁷⁶And you, my child, will be called the prophet of the Most High God. You will go on the scene ahead of the Lord to prepare the people for His coming.

⁷⁷You will tell His people how they can receive forgiveness for their sins and be saved.

⁷⁸Because of His tender mercy, God has visited us from Heaven with the dawning of a New Day,

⁷⁹for the purpose of giving us light and understanding. We have been living in darkness and in fear of death, but now God will guide us into a life of peace.”

⁸⁰The child grew and became strong in spirit.* When he grew up, he lived in the wilderness until he entered his public ministry to Israel.

Lk. 1:80 – “Strong in spirit,” or “in the Spirit,” or “spiritually strengthened.”

The Birth of Jesus (Mt. 1:18-25; Lk. 2:1-7)

2 It was during that time that an order went out from Caesar Augustus, the Roman Emperor, that a census was to be taken throughout all the inhabited world.

²This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. Acts 5:37

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³So everyone went to register for the census, each going to the city where his family register was kept.

⁴And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem, the city of David, in Judea.

⁵Both he and Mary went there to register. Mary was engaged to him, and was expecting a baby.*

Lk. 2:5 – “Mary was engaged to him, and was expecting a baby.” See Matthew 1:18-25.

⁶It so happened that while they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.

⁷But since there was no room for them in the inn, they went into a cattle shed. And there she gave birth to her first child, a Son. She wrapped Him in wide strips of cloth* and laid Him in a manger.*

Lk. 2:7 – “She wrapped Him in wide strips of cloth,” literally, *swaddling cloths*. This was how young babies were dressed. They were called *swaddling cloths* (to swathe, to wrap, around like a bandage). **“And laid Him in a manger.”*** A feeding trough for animals.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸Out in the fields nearby were some shepherds staying with their sheep, watching over their flock through the night.

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⁹Suddenly, without warning, an angel of the Lord stood in front of them, and the whole area became most brilliantly illuminated by the Lord's glory. The shepherds were terrified.

¹⁰"Don't be afraid," the angel said. "Listen, I am bringing you Great News—news that will bring great joy! It is Great News for everyone everywhere!

¹¹"Because today in the city of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah,* the Lord! Isa. 9:6

Lk. 2:11 – "Messiah." The Greek word is *Christ*, but the Hebrew translation is *Messiah*, meaning the *anointed One*. Usually this term referred to the *anointed King*.

¹²"And this is the sign by which you can know that I am telling you the truth: You will find a baby wrapped in wide strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

¹³Then suddenly a massive throng of the millions of angels in Heaven* joined the angel who had just spoken, all praising God and loudly proclaiming:

Lk. 2:13 – "A massive throng of the millions of angels in Heaven." Literally, "A multitude of heavenly host."

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14“Give glory to God in the highest heavens!
And on earth peace, and goodwill among men.”*

Lk. 2:14 – “And on earth peace, and goodwill among men.”
Some manuscripts read *and peace on earth for all those pleasing God.*

15When that great throng of angels had left and had gone back to Heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go to Bethlehem, right now, and see for ourselves this great happening that the Lord has just told us about!”

16So off they went, and they did indeed find Mary and Joseph. And there was the Baby, lying in a manger.

17After they had seen Him, they went out and told people everywhere what they had been told about this Child.

18And all who heard what the shepherds reported were amazed and wondered what this could mean.

19But Mary treasured all their words, and thought about them often.

20When the shepherds went back to their sheep they kept talking to each other about how great God is, and continued praising Him for everything they had just seen and heard. They had found everything just as the angel had said they would.

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21 When the time came to circumcise the Child, which was eight days after His birth, He was named Jesus, the name given Him by the angel even before He was conceived.

Jesus is Presented in the Temple

22 And when the days for Mary's purification had been completed, in obedience to the Law of Moses,* Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord.

***Lk. 2:22** – “When the days for Mary's purification had been completed, in obedience to the Law of Moses.”* This was forty days for a son. See Leviticus 12:1-4.

23 The Law of the Lord commands:

‘Every firstborn baby that's a boy is to be dedicated to the Lord for His service.’ (*Exodus 13:2, 12*)

24 They also went to offer the sacrifice they were instructed to make in obedience to the Law of the Lord. They were to offer at least

‘a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.’ (*Leviticus 12:8*) Lev. 14:22; Lev. 15:14-15

25 Now at that time there was a devout, truly good man living in Jerusalem named Simeon, who was faithfully waiting for God to send the Messiah to save and restore Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him. Mk. 15:43

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26The Holy Spirit had actually told him he would not die before he had seen the Messiah, whom God had promised.

27And at the same time that the parents of the Child Jesus brought Him into the Temple courts to do for Him what the Law required, the Holy Spirit led Simeon to go there too.

28When he saw the Child he took Him in his arms and thanked God, saying:

29“Lord, You have kept Your promise! Now I can leave this life in peace.

30Because with my own eyes, I have seen the One through whom You will bring salvation,

31which You have provided for all people.

32He will be a Light to reveal Your truth to people in all nations, and He will be the glory of Your people Israel!” Acts 13:47

33Joseph and Jesus’ mother continued to be amazed at the things that were said about Him.

34Then Simeon pronounced God’s blessing on them. Then he said to Mary, Jesus’ mother, “Listen, Mary, this Child is destined to bring about the fall of many in Israel. He will also cause many in Israel to rise.

35“He will be a wonder that will be spoken against, so that the deepest thoughts of many

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hearts may be revealed. And a sword will also pierce through your own soul.”

³⁶There was also a prophetess in Jerusalem at that time named Anna, a daughter of Phanuel, a member of the tribe of Asher. She was now 84 years old.

³⁷She had been married for seven years, but had now been a widow ever since her husband’s death. She never left the Temple, but continued to worship the Lord day and night by praying and often fasting.

³⁸When she came to where Mary and Joseph and the Baby were, just as Simeon was talking to them, she also began praising God for sending Jesus. And she spoke about Him to everyone in Jerusalem who was waiting to be set free.

³⁹When they had performed all that the Law of the Lord required, they returned home to their own city of Nazareth in Galilee.*

Lk. 2:39 – “They returned home to their own city of Nazareth in Galilee.” Matthew 2:1-23 reveals that before returning to Nazareth they returned to Bethlehem, then escaped to Egypt, then home to Nazareth.

⁴⁰And the Child grew and became strong in spirit.* He was continually being filled with wisdom, and God’s blessing was upon Him.

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Lk. 2:40 – “Became strong in spirit,” that is, with desire and determination to live only to please God.

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

41 His parents went to Jerusalem every year for the Passover Feast. Ex. 23:14

42 And when Jesus was 12 years old, they went up for the Feast, as usual.

43 When the days of the Feast ended, they started for home. But without Joseph or His mother knowing it, Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem.

44 They thought He was somewhere in the crowd they were traveling with, so they traveled a whole day before they finally missed Him when they looked for Him among their friends and relatives.

45 When they couldn't find Him they traveled all the way back to Jerusalem to look for Him.

46 Not until three days later did they find Him. There He was, sitting in the Temple in the middle of a group of teachers, both listening to them and asking questions.

47 All who heard Him were amazed at how much He knew, and His wise answers.

48 When His parents finally found Him, they, too, were amazed. “Son, why did You do this to us?” His mother heartrendingly implored. “Your father and I have been frantically looking everywhere for You!”

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49“Why did you need to look for Me?” He replied. “Didn’t you know it would only be right that I would be here, busy in the affairs of My Father?”

50But they didn’t understand what He was talking about.

51Then He went with them, back home to Nazareth, and He was always obedient to them. But what He had done and said were just more things that Mary continued to treasure and wonder about.

52Loved by both God and man, Jesus continued to grow in wisdom and in physical stature.

The Preaching of John the Baptizer (Mt. 3:1-12; Mk. 1:2-8; Jn. 1:19-28)

3 It was during the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea; Herod was ruler of Galilee; his brother Philip, ruler of Iturea and Trachonitis; and Lysanias, ruler of Abilene.

2 Annas and Caiaphas were the High Priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zachariah, while he was out in the wilderness.

3After hearing from God, John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan River, proclaiming

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to everyone, “Turn away from your sins and be baptized, and God will forgive your sins.” Mt. 3:1-2; Mk. 1:4-5

⁴He was fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah the prophet, who had declared:

“Listen to the one crying out in the wilderness:
Prepare for the coming of the Lord! Make His
paths straight!*

***Lk. 3:4** – “**Make His paths straight!**”* or “Make a straight path for Him!” or “Straighten out your ways for Him!” In Greek this word is not only used of straight and level roads but also of a right way of life. The hearts of the people need to prepare for His entrance.

⁵Every valley will be filled, every mountain and hill will be leveled, the crooked places will be straightened, and the rough places will be smoothed out.

⁶Then people everywhere on the earth will see the salvation that God has made available for all mankind.” (*Isaiah 40:3-5*)

⁷Great crowds of people were continually coming out to be baptized by John. “You children of snakes!” he challenged some of them.* “Who told you that you could escape the coming judgment of God’s fierce anger? Mt. 3:7

***Lk. 3:7** – ‘**“You children of snakes!” he challenged some of them.**’* Matthew 3:7 records that he said this to the Pharisees and Sadducees. They merely came to look and criticize. They didn’t

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come with open hearts, willing to be converted and baptized. See Luke 7:30.

8“Bring forth fruits that prove that you have indeed turned from your sins! And don’t think you are safe just because you can say, ‘Godly Abraham is our forefather.’ Because God is able to take even these stones and raise up descendants for Abraham.* Mt. 3:9

***Lk. 3:8 – God doesn’t have any grandchildren. Depending upon the faith of your mother or father to gain Heaven will do you no good! You must personally become a child of God by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ (as your Savior and surrendering to Jesus as your Lord) Acts 20:21; Rom. 10:9.**

9“Indeed, I warn you, the axe of God’s judgment is already being employed in cutting the very roots of the trees, and every tree that is not producing good fruit is being cut down and thrown into the fire!” Mt. 3:10; Jn. 15:6

10“Then what should we do?” the crowds imploringly asked him.

11“If you have two coats,” he replied, “give one to the person who doesn’t have any. If you have food, share it with others.”

12Some tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?”

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13“Don’t charge anyone more tax than the government has told you to charge,”* he told them.

Lk. 3:13 – “Don’t charge anyone more tax than the government has told you to charge.” Many of these tax collectors would charge more than they were instructed to charge, and keep the extra for themselves.

14Then some soldiers asked him, “What should we do?”

“Don’t take property or money from anyone by unlawful force,” he replied. “Also, don’t accuse anyone with wrong that you know he didn’t do. And be content with your pay.”

15The people were expecting the Messiah to appear any time now, and they were all seriously wondering whether or not John might be the Messiah.

16But John told all of them plainly, “I baptize you in water, but Someone far more powerful than I am is coming. I’m not even worthy to unloose the straps in His sandals. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire. Mt. 3:11; Mk. 1:7-8

17“His winnowing fork is already in His hand, and He will separate the chaff from the grain and clear His threshing floor of everything. He will bring His wheat into His barn, but He will burn the chaff with fire that can never be put out.” Mt.

3:12

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18He also taught them many other things as he continued to preach the Great News to them.

19Now John had repeatedly reproved Herod, the ruler of Galilee, for marrying Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, and for many other evils Herod had done. Mt. 14:3; Mk. 6:17

20Herod then added this evil to all his former wrongdoings; he locked John up in jail. Mt. 14:3; Mk. 6:17

21In the course of John's ministry of baptizing all the people who came to him, Jesus was also baptized. As He was praying,* Heaven opened up! Mt. 3:16; Mk. 1:10; Jn. 1:32-33

Lk. 3:21 – “As He was praying” ... *after coming out of the water* ...

22And the Holy Spirit came down upon Him in the form of a dove. Then a voice came from Heaven, saying, “You are My Son whom I love so dearly. With You I am well pleased.” Mt. 3:17; Mk. 1:11

The Family History of Jesus (Mt. 1:1-17; Lk. 3:23-38)

23Jesus was about 30 years of age when He began His public ministry. He was considered to be the son of Joseph.

Joseph was the son of Heli;

24Heli, the son of Matthat;

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- Matthat, the son of Levi;
Levi, the son of Melchi;
Melchi, the son of Janna;
Janna, the son of Joseph;
- 25 Joseph, the son of Mattathiah;
Mattathiah, the son of Amos;
Amos, the son of Nahum;
Nahum, the son of Esli;
Esli, the son of Naggai;
- 26 Naggai, the son of Maath;
Maath, the son of Mattathiah;
Mattathiah, the son of Semei;
Semei, the son of Joseph;
Joseph, the son of Judah;
- 27 Judah, the son of Joannas;
Joannas, the son of Rhesa;
Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel;
Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel;
Shealtiel, the son of Neri;
- 28 Neri, the son of Melchi;
Melchi, the son of Addi;
Addi, the son of Cosam;
Cosam, the son of Elmodam;
Elmodam, the son of Er;
- 29 Er, the son of Jose;
Jose, the son of Eliezer;
Eliezer, the son of Jorim;
Jorim, the son of Matthat;

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- Matthat, the son of Levi;
30 Levi, the son of Simeon;
Simeon, the son of Judah;
Judah, the son of Joseph;
Joseph, the son of Jonan;
Jonan, the son of Eliakim;
31 Eliakim, the son of Melea;
Melea, the son of Menan;
Menan, the son of Mattathah;
Mattathah, the son of Nathan;
Nathan, the son of David;
32 David, the son of Jesse;
Jesse, the son of Obed;
Obed, the son of Boaz;
Boaz, the son of Salmon;
Salmon, the son of Nahshon;
33 Nahshon, the son of Amminadab;
Amminadab, the son of Aram;
Aram, the son of Hezron;
Hezron, the son of Perez;
Perez, the son of Judah;
34 Judah, the son of Jacob;
Jacob, the son of Isaac;
Isaac, the son of Abraham;
Abraham, the son of Terah;
Terah, the son of Nahor;
35 Nahor, the son of Serug;
Serug, the son of Reu;

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- Reu, the son of Peleg;
Peleg, the son of Eber;
Eber, the son of Shelah;
36Shelah, the son of Cainan;
Cainan, the son of Arphaxad;
Arphaxad, the son of Shem;
Shem, the son of Noah;
Noah, the son of Lamech;
37Lamech, the son of Methuselah;
Methuselah, the son of Enoch;
Enoch, the son of Jared;
Jared, the son of Mahalalel;
Mahalalel, the son of Cainan;
38Cainan, the son of Enos;
Enos, the son of Seth;
Seth, the son of Adam; and
Adam, the son of God.

The Temptation of Jesus (Mt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13)

4 When Jesus left the Jordan River He was full of the Holy Spirit,* and the Spirit led Him into the wilderness, where He was tempted by the devil for 40 days. Mt. 4:1; Mk. 1:12

**Lk. 4:1 – “He was full of the Holy Spirit”* ... after the Holy Spirit had come upon Him at His baptism ... See John 3:34.*

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²He ate nothing during that time, but when the 40 days came to an end, He was hungry. Mt. 4:2; Mk. 1:13

³So the devil said to Him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Mt. 4:3

⁴But Jesus replied, “**The Scriptures declare, ‘Man will not survive on bread alone. He must also feast upon every word of God.’ ”**
(Deuteronomy 8:3) Mt. 4:4

⁵Then the devil took Him up on a high mountain, and in a fraction of a second* showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. Mt. 4:8

Lk. 4:5 – “In a fraction of a second,” that is, “a moment of time.”

⁶“I will give you all the glory and wealth of all these kingdoms, and make you Ruler over them,” the devil told Him, “because they have all been put under my authority, and I can give them to anyone I wish. Mt. 4:9

⁷“So if you will just kneel down and worship me, it will all be yours.” Mt. 4:9

⁸But Jesus answered, “**Get behind Me, Satan! Because the Scriptures declare, ‘You shall worship the Lord, your God, and He is the only One you shall serve!’ ”**
(Deuteronomy 6:13) Mt. 4:10

Luke 4

⁹Then the devil brought Him to Jerusalem, and had Him stand on the highest part of the Temple, and said to Him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here. Mt. 4:5-6

¹⁰“Because the Scriptures declare:

‘God will put His angels in charge of You, and order them to protect You. Mt. 4:6

¹¹They will catch You in their hands, so that not even Your feet will be injured on the stones below.’ ” (*Psalm 91:11-12*) Mt. 4:6

¹²But Jesus replied, “It also says,

‘You shall not try to force the Lord your God into a situation where He must prove Himself.’

” (*Deuteronomy 6:16*) Mt. 4:7

¹³When the devil had finished all of these temptations, he left Him for a while.* Mt. 4:11

*Lk. 4:13 – See 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth (Mt. 4:12-17; Mk. 1:14-15)

¹⁴Then Jesus, full of the Spirit’s power, returned to Galilee. And the news of how the Holy Spirit was working in a powerful way through Him was the big news throughout the whole region.

¹⁵He went from synagogue to synagogue, teaching; and everyone who heard His teaching praised Him.

Luke 4

16 When He came to Nazareth, His hometown, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath,* as He always did, and stood up to read the Scriptures.*

Lk. 4:16 – “Sabbath.” Saturday, the Jewish day of rest. “As He always did, and stood up to read the Scriptures.”* See Matthew 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-6.

17 He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and read from the place where it is written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me. He has given Me this special anointing for the purpose of announcing the Great News to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to those who are enslaved in any way, to give sight to the blind, and to restore liberty to those who are crushed down.

19 He has sent Me to proclaim that the time to preach and to accept this Great News is NOW.” (*Isaiah 61:1-2*)

20 Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue was now looking at Him most intently.

21 Then He began to speak to them, saying, “This Scripture has come true today, even while you were listening.”

Luke 4

²²Everyone continued listening carefully. They were amazed at all He said and how eloquently He said it. “But, isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they then said.

²³Then Jesus said to them, “You will most certainly quote to Me the proverb, ‘Doctor, heal yourself,’ by which you will mean, ‘We heard about the miraculous things you did in Capernaum. Let’s see now what you can do here in your hometown.’”

²⁴“But I must remind you,” He added, “that no prophet is welcomed in his hometown. Mt. 13:57; Mk. 6:4

²⁵“During the time of Elijah, when the heavens were closed up tight and it didn’t rain for three-and-a-half years, there was famine everywhere.

1 Ki. 18:1; Jas. 5:17

²⁶“There were many widows in Israel at that time, but God didn’t send Elijah to help any of them. Instead, he was sent to a widow in the small town of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon.

1 Ki. 17:9

²⁷“Also, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet, but he didn’t heal any of them. He healed only Naaman, the Syrian.” 2 Ki. 5:14

²⁸When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were furious.

Luke 4

29 They leaped up and drove Him out of town and led Him to the top of the hill on which their town was built. Their plan was to throw Him off the cliff.

30 But when they got there, He just walked through the middle of the crowd, and went on His way. Jn. 8:59; Jn. 10:31, 39

Jesus Drives out an Evil Spirit (Mk. 1:21-28)

31 He went back to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and continued to teach the people there on the Sabbath days. Mk. 1:21

32 They were continually amazed at the way He taught, because He spoke with such confident authority.* Mt. 7:29; Mk. 1:22

Lk. 4:32 – “He spoke with such confident authority,” that is, “with power.”

33 *One time as* He was teaching in the synagogue, a man possessed by a demon screamed out as loud as he could,

34 “Leave us alone! What business do You have being here with us, You Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are! You’re the Holy One of God!” Mk. 1:24

35 “**Be quiet, and come out of him!**” Jesus sharply commanded the demon. And after it had thrown

Luke 4

the man down in front of everyone, it came out without doing him any harm. Mk. 1:25-26

36The people were all amazed, and said among themselves, “What kind of teaching is this? Why, with real authority and power He commands the demons to come out! And they always obey Him!” Mk. 1:27

37So the news about what He was doing continued to spread **throughout** the whole region. Mk. 1:28

Jesus Heals Many People (Mt. 8:14-17; Mk. 1:29-34)

38When He left the synagogue He went to Simon’s house. On arriving there, they found that Simon’s mother-in-law was sick with a high fever, so they asked Jesus to help her. Mt. 8:14

39He went in and stood by her bed and commanded the fever to leave her, and it left! So she got right up and began to prepare a meal for them. Mt. 8:15

40As soon as the sun had set, everyone who had family members or friends who were sick with various diseases brought them to Him. He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them. Mt. 8:16-17

41One after another, demons came out of many of them, crying out and saying, “You are the Messiah, the Son of God!” *because they knew*

Luke 4, 5

*from past experience that He was the Messiah.**
But He rebuked them, and wouldn't allow them
to continue speaking.* Mk. 1:34

Lk. 4:41 – “Because they knew from past experience that He was the Messiah.” Pluperfect tense – positive, completed action in past time. They had seen Him in His Divine glory in eternity past. He is well known to all the spirit world. **“He rebuked them, and wouldn't allow them to continue speaking.”*** Christ doesn't desire nor does He need Satan's testimony.

42At daybreak Jesus left Capernaum and went to a deserted area. But the people came looking for Him, and when they found Him, they tried to keep Him from leaving them. Mk. 1:35

43But He said, **“I must preach the Great News about the Kingdom of God to people in other cities, too, because that's the reason God sent Me here.”** Mk. 1:38

44So He continued to preach in synagogues all over Galilee. Mt. 4:23; Mk. 1:39

Jesus Calls His First Followers

5 One day as Jesus was teaching the crowds that had gathered around Him on the shore of Lake Galilee, they pressed hard against Him to hear God's message.

²Then He saw two empty boats at the water's edge that the fishermen had left while they washed their nets.

Luke 5

³He got into one of the boats, owned by Simon, and asked him to push out a little way from shore. Then He sat down and taught that great crowd from the boat.

⁴When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, “**Now head out for deep water and lower your nets for some fish.**”

⁵“But Master,” Simon objected, “we worked hard all night and didn’t catch a thing. But if You say so, I will let the nets down again.”

⁶And when they did, they caught such an enormous number of fish that their nets began to break!

⁷So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. When they got there they filled both boats so full that they were on the verge of sinking.

⁸When Simon looked at all those fish, he fell to his knees in front of Jesus, and said, “Lord, You must leave me, because I am a sinful man.”

⁹Simon said this because both he and all who were with him were totally overwhelmed at the great number of fish they had caught.

¹⁰The same was true of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon’s partners.

“**Don’t be afraid,**” Jesus replied to Simon. “**From now on you will be catching people instead of fish.**” Mt. 4:18-21; Mk. 1:16-20

Luke 5

¹¹So as soon as they got their boats to shore, they left everything and followed Him. Mt. 4:22; Mk. 1:20

A Man with Leprosy Healed (Mt. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45)

¹²When Jesus came to one town, a man covered with leprosy saw Him. He came to Jesus and fell to his knees in front of Him and pleaded, “Lord, if You want to, I know You can make me well.” Mt. 8:2; Mk. 1:40

¹³Jesus reached out His hand and touched him, and said, “**I do want to. Be healed!**” Instantly the leprosy was gone! Mt. 8:3; Mk. 1:41

¹⁴“**Don’t talk to anyone about this,**” Jesus ordered the man. “**But go immediately and show the priest what’s happened to you. Then as a testimony to everyone that you are healed, offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded.**”* Mt. 8:4; Mk. 1:44

***Lk. 5:14** – “**The sacrifices that Moses commanded.**”* See Leviticus 13:1-46; 14:1-32.

¹⁵But following this, the news about Him continued to spread farther and faster than ever, and huge crowds gathered to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses.

¹⁶But instead of always staying with the crowds, He would often slip away into wilderness areas to pray.

Luke 5

Jesus Heals A Paralyzed Man (Mt. 9:1-8; Mk. 2:1-12)

17 One day as He was teaching, there were Pharisees and teachers of the Law sitting in His audience. They had come from every town in Galilee and Judea, and also from Jerusalem. The power of the Lord was there, enabling Jesus to heal the sick.

18 *Then an amazing thing happened.* Several men brought a paralyzed man to Him on a stretcher. They tried to carry him inside the house and place him in front of Jesus.

19 But when they couldn't find any way to get him in, because of the crowd, they carried him up on the roof. After removing some tile they lowered the man and the stretcher down into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. Mk. 2:4

20 When Jesus saw the determined faith these men had, He said to the man, “**My friend, your sins are forgiven you.**” Mt. 9:2; Mk. 2:5

21 On hearing this, the teachers of the Law of Moses and the Pharisees began thinking to themselves, “Just who does this fellow think he is, blaspheming like that! Who can forgive sins, except God alone?” Mt. 9:3; Mk. 2:7

22 But Jesus knew what they were thinking, so He asked, “**Why are you thinking such things in your hearts?**” Mt. 9:4; Mk. 2:8

Luke 5

Lk. 5:22 – “Why are you thinking such things in your hearts?”
Their hearts (the emotional centers of their beings) were the cause of their conclusions, not merely their minds. They were jealous, and were looking for ways to discredit Him.

23“Which is easier to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or, ‘Get up and walk’? Mt. 9:5; Mk. 2:9

24“**But, so you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins ...**” He then said to the paralytic, **“I say to you, ‘Stand up, and pick up your stretcher and be on your way home!’”** Mt. 9:6; Mk. 2:10-11

25Instantly, as everyone was watching, the man got up, took up his stretcher, and started for home praising God! Mt. 9:7; Mk. 2:12

26The people were all amazed, and they, too, praised God, and kept on praising Him. They were totally overwhelmed with awe, and kept saying to one another, “We have seen some astounding things today! Wasn’t that something!” Mt. 9:8

The Calling of Levi (Mt. 9:9; Mk. 2:14)

27After that Jesus went out, and as He was walking along He noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tollbooth. **“Come along and follow Me,”** Jesus invited him. Mt. 9:9; Mk. 2:14

Luke 5

28 And he got right up and left everything, and went with Him. Mt. 9:9

29 Then Levi put on a lavish dinner for Jesus in his home. A large number of tax collectors and other guests were also invited to eat with them. Mt. 9:10; Mk. 2:15

30 But the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees of that area began to complain bitterly to Jesus' followers, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with these crooked tax collectors* and other sinners?" Mt. 9:11; Mk. 2:16

***Lk. 5:30** – "Crooked tax collectors."* Tax collectors were despised in Israel, because they were Jews who collected taxes for the hated Roman government. And they were often dishonest in the amount they collected.

31 "Those who are well don't need a doctor," Jesus responded. "But the sick do. Mt. 9:13; Mk. 2:17

32 "I haven't come to call those who consider themselves so godly that they have no need of further help. I'm here to call sinners to turn from their sins, and to live unto God." Mt. 9:13; Mk. 2:17

A Question About Fasting (Mt. 9:14-17; Mk. 2:18-22)

33 Then they asked Him, "Why is it that John's followers and the followers of the Pharisees often fast* and pray, but yours are always eating and drinking?" Mt. 9:14; Mk. 2:18

Luke 5, 6

Lk. 5:33 – “Fast.” To go without eating.

34“Would you expect the happy friends of the bridegroom to stop eating while the bridegroom is still with them?” He replied. Mt. 9:15; Mk. 2:19

35“But the time will come when the Bridegroom will be taken from them. They will indeed fast when that time comes.” Mt. 9:15; Mk. 2:20

36Then He told them a parable: “No one cuts a piece of cloth from a new garment to repair an old one. If you did, you would ruin the new garment by taking the piece from it, and the new piece wouldn’t match the old garment anyway. Mt. 9:16; Mk. 2:21

37“**In the same way, no one puts new wine into old wineskins. The new wine would burst the old skins and the wine would run out, and the used skins would also be ruined.** Mt. 9:17; Mk. 2:22

38“**New wine must be put into new wineskins. Then both are preserved.**

39“**And no one who drinks old wine will immediately develop a taste for new wine. Because he keeps insisting, ‘The old is better.’”**

A Question About the Sabbath (Mt. 12:1-8; Mk. 2:23-28)

6 On the second Sabbath* after the first special Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Jesus and His followers were walking by some

Luke 6

wheat fields. His followers broke off some heads of wheat, then rubbed the husks off between their hands and ate the kernels. Mt. 12:1; Mk. 2:23

Lk. 6:1 – “The second Sabbath.” There were two special Sabbaths (which were extra Sabbaths) during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Leviticus 23:4-8. Read all of Leviticus 23 regarding extra Sabbaths.

2“Why are you harvesting grain?” some Pharisees challenged them. “That’s unlawful on the Sabbath!” Mt. 12:2; Mk. 2:24

3“Haven’t you read what David did when he and his men were hungry?” Jesus responded. Mk. 2:25

4“He went right into the house of God and ate the sacred bread, which wasn’t lawful for him to eat. Only the priests were allowed to eat it, but he also gave some to his men. Mt. 12:4; Mk. 2:26

5“Also, I, the Son of Man, am the Lord who decides what can and what cannot be done even on the Sabbath,” He concluded. Mt. 12:8; Mk. 2:28

6On another Sabbath when Jesus went into the synagogue and was teaching, a man with a withered right hand was there. Mt. 12:10; Mk. 3:1

7The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law kept watching Him closely, to see if He would heal this man on the Sabbath. They were so anxious to accuse Him of doing something wrong. Mt. 12:10

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⁸Jesus knew what they were thinking, but in spite of that He said to the crippled man, “**Stand up, and come and stand over here.**”^{*} So he got to his feet and stood where Jesus told him.

^{}Lk. 6:8 - “Stand up, and come and stand over here.” ... where everyone can see you.*

⁹“**Let Me ask you a question,**” Jesus then said to these religious critics. “**Is it lawful to do good deeds on the Sabbath, or are we to do evil? Can we take action to save life, or are we to destroy life?**”^{*} Mt. 12:12; Mk. 3:4

^{}Lk. 6:9 - “Is it lawful to do good deeds on the Sabbath, or are we to do evil?” ... by refusing to do the good we are capable of doing? “Can we take action to save life, or are we to destroy life?” ... by refusing to save the life we are capable of saving?*

¹⁰After looking around at each one of them, He said to the man, “**Stretch out your hand.**” And when he did so, it was restored, just as full of life and strength as the other! Mt. 12:13; Mk. 3:5

¹¹But the teachers and the Pharisees were furious, and began to discuss among themselves what they should do to Jesus. Mt. 12:14; Mk. 3:6

Luke 6

Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles (Mt. 10:1-4; Mk. 3:13-19)

¹²One day during that time, He went off into the hills to pray, and He continued in prayer to God all night.

¹³When morning came, He called His followers to Him. And from among them He chose twelve, whom He called apostles.*

***Lk. 6:13** – “**Apostles.**”* The word *apostle* means *one who is sent*. An apostle could be called an envoy, one who is sent to accomplish a certain mission or work – an officially authorized messenger or representative.

¹⁴First there was Simon (whom He named Peter), and his brother Andrew; then James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Mt. 10:2

¹⁵Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon (who was called the Zealot), Mt. 10:3

¹⁶Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who later became the traitor. Mt. 10:4

Blessings and Woes (Mt. 5:3; Mk. 3:7)

¹⁷Then He came down from the hills with them and stood in a level area where He met with a crowd of His other followers. There was also a very large crowd of people there from Jerusalem and all over Judea, and from the seacoast area of Tyre and Sidon—all of whom had come to hear

Luke 6

Him speak and to be healed of their diseases. Mt. 4:25; Mk. 3:7

18 There were also many there who were tormented by evil spirits, and they were healed.

19 Everyone in that great crowd was trying to touch Him, because out from Him was coming power that was healing everyone. Mt. 14:36; Mk. 6:56

20 Then He looked at all these people who were following Him and said:

“There is extreme happiness, both now and forever, for those of you who are poor,* because the Kingdom of God belongs to you. Mt. 5:3

Lk. 6:20 – “Poor.” Matthew 5:3 records that Jesus said, “... *for those who are poor in spirit ...*” No one inherits the Kingdom of God simply because he or she is poor.

21 “There is extreme happiness, both now and forever, for those of you who hunger now *with desire to please God*, because you will be completely fulfilled. There is also extreme happiness both now and forever, for those of you who weep now, because the time is coming when you will rejoice. Mt. 5:6

22 “There is also extreme happiness both now and forever for you, even when people hate you, when they exclude you from their company and speak angrily against you and curse your name

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all because of the firm stand you take for the Son of Man. Mt. 5:11

23“Always rejoice when this happens, and even leap for joy, because your reward in Heaven will indeed be extremely great! Remember, this was also the way the prophets before your time were treated by the fathers of those who now mistreat you. Mt. 5:12

24“But woe to you who are rich now, because you are already receiving what you are living for.

25“Woe to you who are full now, because a day and time definitely is coming when you will experience awful hunger. Woe to you who laugh now, because the time is coming when you will hysterically weep and mourn.

26“Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, because that’s how the fathers of those who speak well of you now treated the false prophets who gave false hope to the people of their time.

Love Your Enemies (Mt. 5:38-48; Mt. 7:12)

27“But to those of you whose hearts and ears are open to what I’m saying, I have this to say: Always make a practice of being kind and considerate* even toward your enemies. Always do good to those who hate you.

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Lk. 6:27, 35 – “Kind and considerate. The Greek word is *agapao* and is translated by the English word *love* in most versions. This primarily means “to treat others the way you want others to treat you” (Lk. 6:31).

28“Continue to speak kindly to those who curse you, and even help them. And continue to pray for those who treat you with contempt, or threaten and mistreat you. Mt. 5:44

29“If someone hits you on the cheek, offer the other cheek to him too. If he takes your coat, don’t keep him from taking your shirt as well. Mt. 5:40

30“Make a practice of giving to everyone who asks you for something. And if someone takes something that belongs to you, don’t demand that he return it. Mt. 5:42

31“Always treat others in exactly the same way that you want others to treat you. Mt. 7:12

32“If you love only those who love you, why should you be praised or rewarded for doing that? Even sinners love those who love them. Mt. 5:46

33“If you make a practice of doing good only to those who treat you right, why should you be praised or rewarded for doing that? Even sinners do that.

34“If you lend only to those whom you are sure will pay you back, why should you be praised or rewarded for doing that? Even sinners lend to

Luke 6

other sinners if they're sure they'll get back what they loaned.

35“**But** as for you, always be kind and considerate* toward your enemies. Do good to them! Lend to them, and don't feel sorry for yourself if they never pay you back, because then you can look forward to a great reward. You will in that way prove yourselves to be true children of the Most High God, because He is kind even to those who are ungrateful and wicked. Mt. 5:45

36“**So** always have pity* on others, in the same way that your Father has shown pity* toward you.

Lk. 6:36 – “Pity,” that is, *merciful*.

On Judging Others

37“**Never** unjustly judge others in a careless and judgmental way, and you will not be judged. Always forgive others, and God will forgive you.* Mt. 7:2

Lk. 6:37 – “Always forgive others, and God will forgive you.”
See Matthew 6:14-15; 18:23-35.

38“**Make** it your practice to give. When you do so, you will find that others will give to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over is the way they will pour it into

Luke 6

your lap, because the same measure you use in giving to others will be used in giving back to you.” Mt. 7:2; Mk. 4:24

39 Then He gave them this parable: “Can a blind man lead another blind man? If they try that, won’t they both fall into the ditch?*” Mt. 15:14

Lk. 6:39 – “Both fall into the ditch.” People will sit under the kind of teaching they want to hear (See 2 Timothy 4:3-4). Those who are honest, and desire the truth, no matter what the cost, will seek an honest teacher. Those who want the truth watered down or explained away will seek a false prophet who will tell them what they want to hear.

40 “The student doesn’t know more than his teacher, but every student will be just like his teacher after he’s fully trained.

41 “And why do you continue to look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye, while you constantly ignore the big log in your own eye?

42 “Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take that speck out of your eye,’ when look, you can’t even see the big log in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the log from your own eye, then you’ll be able to see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye. Mt. 7:5

Luke 6

A Tree and Its Fruits (Mt. 12:33-35; Mt. 7:15-20)

43“Another way of putting it is: You will never find a good tree that produces poisonous or worthless fruit, nor will you ever find a worthless tree that produces good fruit. Mt. 7:18

44“So every tree is known by the fruit it bears. No one ever gathers figs from thorn bushes, nor grapes from bramble bushes. Mt. 7:16

45“A good person says and does what’s good and right because of all the good thoughts, instructions, and desires that fill his heart. But an evil person says and does what’s evil and wrong because his heart is full of evil thoughts and desires. Because whatever fills a person’s heart comes out when he speaks. Mt. 12:35

The Wise and Foolish Builders (Mt. 7:24-27)

46“And why do you people keep calling Me Lord, but still refuse to do what I tell you?

47“Let Me tell you who the person is like who comes to Me and always listens carefully to what I tell him to do, and then makes a practice of doing* what I tell him: Mt. 7:24

Lk. 6:47 – “Makes a practice of doing.” To confess Christ with the lips, but not with the life, has always been a false confession.

Luke 6, 7

48“He’s like a man who built a house and dug deep in order to build his foundation on the rock. When the river flooded over and the torrent of water hit that house, it couldn’t even shake it, because it was built upon the rock. Mt. 7:25

49“**But the person who hears what I say yet does nothing about it is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the torrent of flood waters from the river hit that house and beat violently against it, it immediately fell apart. So the destruction of that house was total.**” Mt. 7:27

The Faith of the Army Captain (Mt. 8:5-13)

7 When Jesus had finished saying all these things to the people, He went back into Capernaum. Mt. 8:5

2A Roman army captain stationed there had a servant of whom he was very fond, who was sick and very near death. Mt. 8:5

3He’d heard about Jesus, so He sent some of the leading Jews to plead with Him to come and heal his servant.

4When they came to Jesus they pleaded earnestly with Him, saying, “This man deserves your help.

5“He loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue.”

Luke 7

⁶So Jesus went with them. But He wasn't far from the captain's house when the captain sent some of his friends to Him with a message, "Sir, don't go to any trouble for me, because I'm not worthy even to have You enter my home. Mt. 8:8

⁷"That's why I didn't consider myself worthy to come to You. But just give the command, and my servant will be healed. Mt. 8:8

⁸"Because I also am a man under the authority of others, and I have soldiers under my authority. I say, 'Go,' to this one, and he goes. To another I say, 'Come,' and he comes. I tell my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." Mt. 8:9

⁹When Jesus heard this, He was amazed at the man, and said to the crowd following Him, "**I tell you, I haven't found such great faith anywhere, not even among the Jews.**" Mt. 8:10

¹⁰When those who had been sent by the captain returned to the house, they found that the sick servant was already well. Mt. 8:13

A Widow's Son Brought Back to Life

¹¹The next day Jesus went to the city of Nain. Many of His followers went with Him, and also a large crowd of other people.

¹²As He approached the city gate, a funeral procession was coming out. A large crowd from

Luke 7

the city was with the widowed mother, whose only son was the dead man being carried out.

13 When the Lord saw her, His heart went out to her with deep tenderness, and He said to her, “**Don’t cry.**”

14 Then He went over to the open coffin* and touched it, and those carrying it stood still. “**Young man,**” He said, “**I say to you, rise up!**”

*Lk. 7:14 – “**He went over to the open coffin.**”* The Jews wrapped their dead in linen cloths and laid them on a stretcher-type bier.

15 And the man who had been dead a moment before sat up and began to speak! Then Jesus gave him back to his mother.

16 Everyone was overwhelmed with awe, and they praised God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us! God has *again* visited His people!”

17 The news about what He had done there spread throughout all of Judea and all the surrounding territory.*

*Lk. 7:17 – “**All of Judea and all the surrounding territory.**”* This happened up in Nain, Galilee. So the news traveled throughout Israel, way down into Judea.

Luke 7

Messengers from John the Baptizer (Lk. 7:18-35;
Mt. 11:2-19)

18 When John's followers told him about all that was happening,

19 he called two of his followers to him, and sent them to ask Jesus, "Are You the One we were told was coming,* or are we to continue looking for someone else?" Mt. 11:3

Lk. 7:19 – "The One we were told was coming." See Deuteronomy 18:15, 18; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Micah 5:2; Zechariah 9:9.

20 When the men arrived where Jesus was, they asked Him John's question.

21 Now during the short time they had been there, Jesus had cured many people of diseases, sicknesses, and evil spirits. He had also caused many who were blind to see.

22 So Jesus replied, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard. Those who were blind now see. Those who were lame are now walking. Those with dreaded skin diseases have been cured. The deaf now hear. The dead are being raised back to life, and the Great News is being preached to the poor. Mt. 11:4-5

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23“Happy and blessed by God is the person to whom I will not prove to be a stumbling block.”

Mt. 11:6

24When these men left, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John, “What kind of person were you looking for when you went out into the wilderness? Were you looking for someone like tall grass that is easily swayed this way or that by whichever way the wind is blowing? Mt. 11:7

25“What kind of man did you actually go out to see? Were you looking for someone dressed in expensive clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes and indulge in luxurious living live in expensive homes. Mt. 11:8

26“What were you really looking for? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and you found one who is far greater than a prophet. Mt. 11:9

27“Because John is the one about whom God was speaking when He said to His Son:

‘Listen! I will send My messenger ahead of You. He will prepare the people to receive You.’ (*Malachi 3:1*) Mt. 11:10; Mk. 1:2

28“‘I tell you, no woman has ever given birth to a greater prophet than John the Baptizer. But even the lowest person in the Kingdom of God is greater than John is now.’” Mt. 11:11

29On hearing this, all the people (including the tax collectors) agreed with Jesus that God had

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indeed sent John. They had earlier been baptized by him.

30 But the Pharisees and the experts in the Law had refused to receive God's message for themselves, and had refused to be baptized by John.

31 "To what then shall I compare the religious leaders of this generation?" the Lord continued. "What are they like? Mt. 11:16

32 "They're like children sitting in a marketplace, whose playmates call out to them and complain, 'We played wedding music for you on the flute, but you wouldn't dance! We sang funeral songs, but you wouldn't cry!'

33 "Because when John the Baptizer came, he didn't eat bread or drink wine, and they said, 'He has a demon.'" Mt. 11:18

34 "But when the Son of Man goes among you both eating and drinking, they say, 'Look at that man, he's nothing but a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners.'" Mt. 11:19

35 "But wise actions are always later proved to be right by the results." Mt. 11:19

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A Sinful Woman Forgiven (Mt. 26:6-13; Mk. 14:3-9; Jn. 12:1-11)

36 One of the Pharisees then asked Jesus to have dinner with him. So He went to the Pharisee's house and reclined* at the table to eat.

Lk. 7:36 – “Reclined.” The custom was to recline on couches while eating, reclining on the left elbow and eating with the right hand – and the reverse, no doubt, for left handers.

37 When a woman in that city who had lived a sinful life found out that Jesus was reclining at the table there, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume. Mt. 26:7; Mk. 14:3; Jn. 11:2

38 She then stood behind Him at the foot of His couch, weeping. And as her tears wet His feet she began wiping them with her hair. Then she affectionately and repeatedly kissed them, after which she poured the perfume on them. Mt. 26:7; Jn. 12:3

39 When the Pharisee who was Jesus' host saw this, he thought to himself, “If this man really were a prophet of God, he would know who this woman is that's touching him, and the kind of woman she is—a vile sinner!”

40 So Jesus answered the man's thoughts by saying, “**Simon, I have something to say to you.**”

“Yes?” he replied. “What is it, Teacher?”

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41“ A moneylender loaned money to two men— 500 silver coins to one and 50 to the other.

42“ But neither of them was able to pay him back, so he kindly canceled and forgave both debts. Tell Me now, which of them will love him the most?”

43“ I suppose it would be the one whom he forgave the most,” Simon replied.

“ You are right,” Jesus said.

44 Then turning toward the woman He said to Simon, “ Do you see this woman? When I entered your home, you didn’t even give Me water to wash the dust from My feet.* But she has washed My feet with her tears and dried them with the hair of her own head.

Lk. 7:44 – “ Wash the dust from My feet.” Guest were ordinarily offered water and basins to wash their feet, after walking the dusty streets and roads in their sandals. They were also greeted with a kiss on each cheek.

45“ You didn’t greet Me with a kiss of welcome, but this woman hasn’t stopped kissing My feet since I came in.

46“ You provided no olive oil for My head, but she has bathed My feet with perfume.

47“ Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are indeed many, are forgiven, because she has loved

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so deeply. But the one who is forgiven little loves little.”

48 Then He said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven.”

49 Some of the guests reclining at the table with Him then began to say to themselves, “Who is this who dares to think he can even forgive sins?”

50 Then He said to the woman, “Your earnest faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

The Parable of the Sower (Mt. 13:1-13, 18-23; Mk. 4:1-20)

8 After that, Jesus traveled about with His twelve followers, going through city after city and town after town, preaching and telling the Great News about the Kingdom of God.

² Several women who had been cured of various diseases and demon possession were also with Him—including Mary, called Magdalene,* from whom seven demons had been driven out; Mk. 16:9

Lk. 8:2 – “Mary called Magdalene.” Meaning *from Magdala*.

³ Joanna, the wife of Chuza, who was Herod’s palace manager; Susanna; and many others. These women used their own money to support Jesus and His followers.

⁴ On one occasion when a huge crowd was gathering around Him, and while others

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continued to arrive from all over the country, Jesus told them this parable: Mt. 13:3; Mk. 4:3-4

5“**A farmer went out to sow his seed. And in the scattering of the seed, some fell on the hard path alongside the field. It was trampled on, and then the birds flew down and quickly ate it.** Mt. 13:4; Mk. 4:15

6“**Some fell on shallow soil covering a rock. But as soon as the sprouts came up they withered away because the thin soil couldn't hold any moisture.** Mt. 13:5; Mk. 4:5

7“**Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorn bushes grew up with the grain and choked it.** Mt. 13:7; Mk. 4:18

8“**But the seeds that fell on good soil grew and produced a crop a hundred times the amount sown.”** Mt. 13:8; Mk. 4:8-9

When He had finished the parable He called out, “**Let the one who has been given ears for the purpose of hearing, pay close attention to what I say!**”

9His followers then asked Him, “**What's the meaning of that parable?**” Mk. 4:10

10“**You have been given the privilege of understanding the mysteries of the Kingdom of God,**” He replied. “**But the rest hear only the parable, because**

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‘Although they are looking, they really aren’t able to see. And although they are listening, they really aren’t able to understand.’ (*Isaiah 6:9*) Mt. 13:15; Mk. 4:12; Jn. 12:39-42

11“‘The meaning of the parable is this: The seed is God’s message to mankind. Mt. 13:3; Mk. 4:3

12“‘The seed that fell on the hard path alongside the field is a picture of people who hear God’s message, but they allow the devil to come along and take the words from their hard hearts, so they won’t really believe it and be saved. Mt. 13:4; Mk. 4:4

13“‘Those who receive the seed in the shallow soil on the rock are people who receive the message with joy when they hear it, but they don’t allow the message to take deep root into their lives. They believe for awhile, but when temptations or persecutions come along, they fall away. Mt. 13:5; Mk. 4:16

14“‘Those who receive the seed among thorns are the people who listen to God’s message, but as they go on their way, God’s words in their hearts are choked by their anxious concern about their earthly problems and their interest in money and pleasure. So they never become mature and produce fruit. Mt. 13:7; Mk. 4:19

15“‘But those who receive the seed in good soil are the people who listen to the message, and with honest and sincere hearts obey it, and then

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patiently persevere in continuing to bear fruit.”

Mt. 13:8

Let Your Light Shine (Mk. 4:21-25; Mt. 5:15; Lk. 11:33)

16 Then He said, “No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a large container or puts it under a bed. No, he puts it on a table or stand, so that everyone coming into the room may be able to see by means of the light. Mt. 5:15

17 “Because there’s nothing that is now hidden that won’t be brought out where it will be clearly seen. And there’s nothing that is now kept secret that won’t be known and revealed. Mt. 10:26

18 “So you must continue to be very concerned about how you are listening to what you are hearing. Because whoever receives the truth and makes it his own, will be given more truth. But whoever doesn’t vigorously take hold of the truth, will have even what truth he thinks he has taken from him.”* Mt. 13:12; Mk. 4:25

*Lk. 8:18 – Matthew 13:12; Mark 4:25; Luke 19:26.

Jesus’ Mother and Brothers (Mt. 12:46-50; Mk. 3:31-35)

19 One day His mother and brothers came to visit Him, but they couldn’t even get near Him because of the crowd. Mt. 12:46; Mk. 3:31

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20 Then someone told Him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, and wish to see You.” Mt. 12:47; Mk. 3:35

21 But His reply was, “**My mother and My brothers are those who carefully listen to God’s message and obey it.**” Mt. 12:50; Mk. 3:35

Jesus Calms a Storm (Mt. 8:23-37; Mk. 4:35-41)

22 Another day Jesus said to His followers, “**Let’s cross over to the other side of the lake.**” So they got into a boat and launched out. Mt. 8:18

23 As they got under way, He lay down for a nap. But a short while later a violent storm swept down the lake, and the boat began filling with water until they were in very great danger. Mt. 8:24; Mk. 4:37

24 In great fear, they rushed over to Jesus and shook Him awake, saying, “Master! Master! We’re about to die!” He got up and told the wind and the waves to stop their violence. And they stopped! All became perfectly calm. Mt. 8:26; Mk. 4:39-41

25 “**Where is your faith?**” He asked them. In fear and amazement they looked at one another, and said, “Who is this Man? Why, He even gives orders to the wind and the water, and they obey Him!” Mt. 8:27; Mk. 4:41

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Man with Demons Delivered (Mt. 8:28-34; Mk. 5:1-20)

26 Then they continued on to the territory of the Gadarenes, which is directly across the lake from Galilee. Mt. 8:28; Mk. 5:1-2

27 As Jesus stepped ashore, He was met by a demon-possessed man from the nearby town. This man hadn't worn any clothes for a long time, and didn't live in a house, but among the tombs in the burial caves. Mt. 8:28

28 Jesus immediately recognized the condition of the man, and commanded the demon to come out of him. When the demon recognized Jesus, the man let out a loud shriek, and then fell to his knees in front of Him and in a loud voice demanded, "What is it that You want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I plead with You, don't torment me!" Mt. 8:29; Mk. 5:7

29 Many times that demon had controlled the man's actions. And although he had been bound with chains and leg irons and kept under guard at such times, he had broken the chains and irons and been driven by the demon into the wilderness. Mk. 5:4

30 "What's your name?" Jesus then asked him.

"Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. Mk. 5:9

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31 Then the demons began begging Him not to send them into the Bottomless Pit.* Mk. 5:10

**Lk. 8:31 – “The Bottomless Pit.”* ... where they would be punished.*

32 A large herd of pigs was feeding nearby on a hillside. So they begged Him to let them go into the pigs, and He let them go. Mt. 8:31; Mk. 5:12

33 So the demons went out of the man and into the pigs. But immediately that whole herd of pigs ran madly down the steep bank and into the lake, and drowned. Mt. 8:32; Mk. 5:13

34 When the men herding the pigs saw this happen, they ran to the town and told the people there and also in the country what had happened. Mt. 8:33; Mk. 5:14

35 And the people rushed out to see for themselves what had actually taken place. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind. That really frightened them. Mk. 5:15

36 Those who had seen what happened then told the others how the demon-possessed man had been healed. Mk. 5:16

37 Then, because of their great fear, that whole crowd of Gadarenes asked Jesus to leave their

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area. So He got into the boat and went back to Galilee. Mt. 8:34; Mk. 5:17

38But before He left, the man from whom the demons had gone out pleaded with Jesus to let him go with Him. Mk. 5:18

39But Jesus had sent him on his way, saying, **“Return to your home and tell your people about all the great things that God has done for you.”** So he left and went throughout the whole town, telling everyone about all the great things that Jesus had done for him. Mk. 5:20

A Sick Woman and a Dead Girl (Mt. 9:18-26; Mk. 5:21-43)

40When Jesus returned across the lake, there was a large crowd there to welcome Him. They had all been waiting for Him to return. Mk. 5:21

41Almost immediately an official of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and fell at Jesus’ feet and begged Him to come to his home, Mt. 9:18; Mk. 5:22-23

42because his only daughter, a girl of about 12, was dying. But as Jesus went with him the crowd almost crushed Him. Mt. 9:19; Mk. 5:24

43And in that crowd was a woman who had suffered a severe bleeding problem for 12 years. She had spent all her money on doctors, but still hadn’t found anyone who could cure her. Mt. 9:20

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44 She came up behind Jesus and just touched the fringe of His prayer shawl,* and immediately her bleeding stopped. Mt. 9:21-22; Mk. 5:25-29

Lk. 8:44 – “His prayer shawl,” or “border of his garment” or “Jesus’ robe.”

45 “Who touched Me?” Jesus demanded.

When everyone denied it, Peter and those with him said, “Master, with all these people pressing in on You, are You really asking, ‘Who touched Me?’” Mk. 5:31

46 “But someone deliberately touched Me,” Jesus replied, “because I felt power going out from Me.” Mk. 5:30

47 When the woman realized she couldn’t hide what she had done, she came trembling to Jesus and fell to her knees in front of Him, and in the presence of all the people told Him why she had touched Him and how she had been instantly healed. Mk. 5:33

48 “Cheer up, My daughter,” Jesus told her. “You are healed because you believed. Go in peace.” Mt. 9:22; Mk. 5:34

49 While He was still speaking to her, someone came from the home of Jairus, the synagogue official, and told him, “Your daughter has died. Don’t bother the Teacher any further.” Mk. 5:35

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50 But when Jesus heard it, He told Jairus, “**Don’t be afraid! Only believe, and she will be healed.**”

Mk. 5:36

51 When Jesus arrived at the house, He didn’t allow anyone to enter with Him except Peter, James, John, and the father and mother of the girl.

Mk. 5:37

52 The people inside the house were all wailing and beating their breasts. But Jesus said, “**Don’t cry, she’s not dead; she’s only sleeping.**” Mt. 9:24;

Mk. 5:39-40

53 *They were shocked that He’d say such a thing, because they all knew she was dead. And they laughed at Him in scorn.* Mt. 9:24

54 So He sent them all out. Then He went in and took the girl by the hand and called to her, “**Little girl, get up!**” Mt. 9:25; Mk. 5:41

55 And her life returned to her body, and she immediately got up! Then Jesus ordered that she be given something to eat. Mk. 5:43

56 Her parents were ecstatically astounded and completely overwhelmed with amazement. But Jesus ordered them to tell no one what had happened. Mk. 5:43

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve (Mt. 10:5-15; Mk. 6:6-13; Lk. 10:1-11)

9 One day Jesus called His twelve followers together and gave them power and authority to

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drive out all demons and to cure diseases. Mt. 10:1

2 Then He sent them out to tell people about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

3 **“Take nothing with you for your trip, not even a walking stick or a knapsack, no money, no food, not even a change of clothes,”*** He told them. Mt. 10:10

Lk. 9:3 – “Take nothing ... not even a change of clothes.” The Lord wanted them to experience how He could supply all their needs as they looked to Him while they served Him. Do not spend your life making provision for self-support before obeying the call of God. Later (Luke 22:35-36) Jesus instructed His workers to bring along and use anything in their possession that could be used for their support.

4 **“When people welcome you into their home, stay there until you leave the area.** Mt. 10:11

5 **“But when you come to people who refuse to welcome you, shake off the very dust from your feet when you leave that town or city, as a warning to them.”*** Mt. 10:14

Lk. 9:5 – “Shake off the very dust from your feet ... as a warning to them.” This is a ritual act symbolizing God’s judgment against those who reject the Messiah. *“But when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, ‘Your blood be on your own heads! I am clear of my responsibility. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.’ ”* (Acts 18:6, NIV).

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⁶So they went on their way through the towns, telling the Great News and healing people everywhere.

⁷Now when Herod, the ruler of Galilee, heard about all that Jesus was doing, he was perplexed, because some people were claiming that Jesus was John the Baptizer, who had come back to life. Mt. 14:2; Mk. 6:14

⁸Others claimed He was Elijah who had now come back, as promised;* and others, that one of the other prophets of long ago had come back to life. Mt. 16:14; Mk. 6:15; Mk. 8:28

Lk. 9:8 – “Elijah who had now come back, as promised” ... in *Malachi 4:5*.

⁹“I had John’s head cut off,” Herod said. “But who is this about whom I keep hearing such strange reports?” So he kept trying to see Him.

Jesus Feeds More Than 5,000 People (Mt. 14:13-21; Mk. 6:30-44)

¹⁰When Jesus’ messengers returned, they gave Him a full report of all they had done. Then He took them away privately to a deserted area that belonged to the city of Bethsaida.

¹¹But when the crowds realized where He had gone, they followed Him. He graciously received

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them and talked to them about the Kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

12Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to Him and said, “You’d better send these crowds away, so they can go into the surrounding towns and countryside and find food and a place to stay. There’s nothing here in this deserted place.” Mt. 14:15; Mk. 6:35-36

13“**You feed them,**” Jesus replied.

“But we don’t have any food, except for five small loaves of bread and two small fish,” they replied, “unless we go out and buy food for all these people.” Mt. 14:17; Mk. 6:37-38; Jn. 6:9

14They were concerned because there were about 5,000 men there. But Jesus told His followers, “**Have the people sit down in groups of about 50.**” Mt. 14:19; Mk. 6:40-41

15After they did so, and all the people were seated, Mt. 14:19; Mk. 6:40-41; Jn. 6:10-11

16Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to Heaven He thanked God for the food and asked Him to bless it. Then He broke the bread and fish into pieces and began giving them to His followers to distribute to the people. Mt. 14:19; Mk. 6:39-41

17All the people ate until they were fully satisfied! And when they had gathered up the

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leftovers, they had 12 full baskets! Mt. 14:20; Mk. 6:42-43; Mk. 8:19; Jn. 6:12-13

Peter's Declaration About Jesus (Mt. 16:13-20; Mk. 8:27-30; Jn. 6:67-69)

18 One day when Jesus was alone, praying with His followers, He asked them, “**Who do the people in the crowds say that I am?**” Mt. 16:13; Mk. 8:27

19 “John the Baptizer,” they replied. “But some say you’re Elijah, and others, that You’re one of the other old prophets who’s come back to life.” Mt. 16:14

20 “**But what about you?**” He asked. “**Who do you say I am?**”

“You are the Messiah,* who has come to us from God!” Peter replied. Mt. 16:15; Mk. 8:29

Lk. 9:20 – “You are the Messiah,” or “Christ.”

21 Jesus then gave them strict orders not to tell this to anyone. Mt. 16:20; Mk. 8:30

22 Then He said, “**I, the Son of Man, must suffer in many ways. I will be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law, and then killed. But on the third day I will rise back to life again.**” Mt. 16:21; Mk. 8:31

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23 After that He said to all the people, “Whoever wants to become a follower of Mine must no longer live for himself. He must take up and shoulder his own cross* each day and follow for Me. Mt. 16:24; Mk. 8:34

Lk. 9:23 – “Shoulder his own cross.” The cross is a symbol of death. A person is to no longer live for himself but for God and the Savior.

24 “Because if you choose to continue to satisfy your desire to live as you yourself please, you will lose your soul! But if you will make it your definite purpose in life to lose your present life for My sake, you will save it. Mt. 10:39; Mk. 8:35; Jn. 12:25

25 “Because what good would it all do you even if you gained all the wealth and power and all the flesh-fulfilling experiences in all the world, but then found yourself barred from Heaven? Mt. 16:26; Mk. 8:36-37

26 “If you are ashamed of Me, and my words, I, the Son of Man, will also be ashamed of you when I come in My glory and in the glory of My Father and of the holy angels. Mt. 10:33

27 “But I tell you the truth: Some of you standing here right now will definitely not die before you

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have had a glimpse of the Kingdom of God.”* Mt. 16:28; Mk. 9:2-3

Lk. 9:27 – “Definitely not die before you have had a glimpse of the Kingdom of God.” Some believe Jesus referred to what would happen six days later on the Mount of Transfiguration. Others believe he referred to the coming of the Holy Spirit in great power on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-47), and what followed. He could have referred to both.

The Transfiguration (Mt. 17:1-9; Mk. 9:2-10)

28 About eight days after Jesus said this, He took Peter, John, and James with Him and went up on a mountain to pray. Mt. 17:1

29 As He was praying, the appearance of His face changed completely,* and His clothing became most brilliantly and dazzlingly white. Mt. 17:2; Mk. 9:2-3

Lk. 9:29 – “His face changed completely.” Matthew 17:2 states, “His face became as brilliant as the sun!” He evidently revealed Himself here in glorified form.

30 Suddenly Moses and Elijah were there talking with Him. Mt. 17:3; Mk. 9:4

31 They also appeared in glorified form, and talked with Jesus about His departure from this life, which He was soon to carry out in Jerusalem.

32 But Peter and those with him had been overcome with sleep. When they woke up they saw Him in His glory, and the two men standing with Him.

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33 And as Moses and Elijah were preparing to leave, Peter spoke up and said, “Master, it’s good for us to be here! Allow us to put up three shelters—one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” But he really didn’t realize what he was saying. Mt. 17:4; Mk. 9:5

34 And even as he was saying this, a cloud came and wrapped itself around them, which really frightened the three followers. Mt. 17:5; Mk. 9:7

35 Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My Son, whom I love dearly. You must hear Him.” Mt. 17:5; Mk. 9:7; 2 Pet. 1:17

36 When the voice had finished speaking, there stood Jesus, alone. But His three followers kept quiet about the entire event, not telling anyone at that time what they had seen. Mt. 17:9; Mk. 9:9

Jesus Heals a Boy with an Evil Spirit (Mt. 17:14-21; Mk. 9:14-29)

37 The next day when they came down from the mountain, Jesus was again met by a huge crowd.

38 And from the crowd a man burst out with a loud cry, “Teacher, I plead with You, please, do something for my son—my only child! Mt. 17:16; Mk. 9:17-18

39 “A demon is continually attacking him, causing him to scream and go into convulsions and foam at the mouth. It hardly ever leaves him

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alone, and when it does, it leaves him covered with bruises.

40“I begged Your followers to drive it out, but they couldn’t.” Mt. 17:16

41“**Oh, you unbelieving and perverted people!**” Jesus responded. “**How long must I continue with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.**” Mt. 17:16

42Even as the father was bringing the boy to Him, the demon again threw him to the ground and into a fit. Jesus then sternly commanded the evil spirit to leave, and then He healed the boy and gave him back to his father. Mt. 17:18; Mk. 9:25

43All the people continued to be utterly amazed at the display of God’s mighty power. And while everyone was still overwhelmed by all that Jesus had done, He said to His followers,

44“**I want you to store up in your memories with extreme care what you are hearing, because the Son of Man is about to be handed over into the grasping clutches of men.**” Mt. 16:21; Mk. 8:31

45But they didn’t understand what He was talking about. It was hidden from them, so that they did not understand. And they were afraid to ask Him what He meant. Mt. 16:21; Mk. 9:31-32; Lk. 24:7

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Who Will Be the Greatest (Mt. 18:1-5; Mk. 9:33-37)

46 Then an argument erupted among the followers as to which of them would be the greatest. Mt. 18:1; Mk. 9:34

47 So Jesus, knowing the thoughts of their hearts, took hold of a little child and had him stand by Him. Mt. 18:2

48 Then He said, “Whoever warmly welcomes one of these little children, because of Me,* is welcoming Me. And whoever welcomes Me is welcoming the One who sent Me. So whichever of you is willing to do that which will be least recognized and applauded by people will be the greatest.”* Mt. 10:40; Mk. 9:37; Jn. 13:20

Lk. 9:48 – “Because of Me.” Literally *Whoever shall receive this little child in My name ... “Will be the greatest.”** ... greatest in the eyes of God, and will therefore be greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. Matthew 18:4.

49 Then John spoke up and said, “Master, we saw someone driving out demons in Your name, and we told him to stop, because he’s not following You with us.” Mk. 9:38

50 “Don’t stop him,” Jesus replied, “because anyone who is not against us is for us.” Mk. 9:40

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A Samaritan Town Refuses Jesus

51 As the time drew near for Him to be taken up to Heaven, He headed for Jerusalem with strong determination.

52 One day He sent messengers ahead to reserve rooms for His group in a town in Samaria.

53 But when the Samaritans learned that He was on His way to Jerusalem, they wouldn't let Him stay in their town.

54 When Jesus' two followers James and John saw this rejection of Jesus, they asked Him, "Lord, do You want us to call down fire from Heaven and burn them up, the way Elijah did?"

2 Ki. 1:10; 2 Ki. 1:12

55 But He turned and rebuked them, saying, "You don't realize what kind of spirit has prompted you to have such a reaction!"

56 "The Son of Man hasn't come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." Then they went on to another town.

The Cost of Following Jesus (Mt. 8:18-22)

57 As they were traveling along the road, a man said to Him, "Lord, I will follow You wherever You go." Mt. 8:19

58 "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests," Jesus replied, "but the Son of Man has no

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home or possessions here, not even a pillow He can call His own.” Mt. 8:20

59 To another He invited, “Come along with Me.” But the man replied, “Lord, first let me go home and bury my father.”* Mt. 8:21-22

***Lk. 9:59** – “Lord, first let me go home and bury my father.”* This man wanted to follow Jesus, but wanted to first take care of his father until he had died. Christ wanted this man to know that following and serving Him was of far more importance than any other obligation.

60 But Jesus rebuked him. “Let the dead* bury their own dead!” He emphatically declared. “But as for you, go out and tell everyone everywhere about the Kingdom of God!”

***Lk. 9:60** – “Let the dead* bury their own dead!” Dead spiritually.

61 Another man said, “I will follow You, Lord, but first let me go and say good-bye to my family.”*

***Lk. 9:61** – “Go and say good-bye to my family.”* It appears that this man wanted to get some advice from family and friends as to the advisability of his leaving everything to follow Jesus.

62 But Jesus’ answer to him was, “Anyone who starts to plow, but keeps looking back,* isn’t fit for service in the Kingdom of God.”

Luke 10

Lk. 9:62 – “Keeps looking back.” Present tense in Greek, *looks and continues to look back.*

Jesus Sends Out the 70 Men (Mt. 10:5-15; Mk. 6:6-13)

10 After this the Lord chose 70 other men, and also sent them out by two's to go ahead of Him into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

² Before sending them out He told them, “The harvest is indeed great, but there are so few workers. So plead most earnestly with the Lord of the harvest so that He may send forth workers into His great harvest field!” Mt. 9:37-38

³ “Now be on your way. But realize that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves.” Mt. 10:16

⁴ “Don't bring a wallet with you to carry money, or a knapsack for food, or extra sandals. And don't stop along the way merely to visit with people.”* Mt. 10:9-10

Lk. 10:4 – “Don't stop along the way merely to visit with people,” that is, *attend strictly to the business you are sent to accomplish. Don't waste your time!*

⁵ “Whenever you enter a house, first of all say, ‘May God's peace rest upon everyone in this house.’” Mt. 10:11-13

Luke 10

6“If the man of the house is truly open to hearing from God, your message of peace with God will refresh his whole family. If he is not open, the peace meant for him will return to you.
Mt. 10:13

7“When you are welcomed into a home, don’t move around from one home to another, but stay in that one home, eating and drinking whatever they serve you, because the one who works deserves to be paid.

8“So when you enter a city and are welcomed, eat whatever they serve you.*

Lk. 10:8 – “Eat whatever they serve you.” Don’t be picky about the rations and accommodations. This could also refer to not making a fuss about being served non-kosher food.

9“Heal the sick there, and tell the people, ‘The Kingdom of God has come very close to you.’

10“But if you enter a city where they refuse to welcome you, go into their streets and say, Mt. 10:12-15

11‘We are wiping off the very dust from your city that clings to us as a public testimony against you. But we want you to know that the Kingdom of God has come very close to you.’ Mt. 10:14

12“‘I assure you that on Judgment Day God will be more merciful to the people of Sodom than to the people of that city. Mt. 10:15; Mt. 11:24

Luke 10

13“Woe to you people in Chorazin! Woe to you in Bethsaida! Because if the great miracles that were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, those people of long ago would have repented and worn sackcloth and sat in ashes to show how truly sorry they were. Mt. 11:21

14“Those former people of Tyre and Sidon will receive lighter punishment than you will on Judgment Day! Mt. 11:22

15“And you people of Capernaum—you have been lifted up to Heaven by what you have both seen and heard, but you will be thrown down into Hell!*

Mt. 11:23

**Lk. 10:15 – “You will be thrown down into Hell!* ... because although you were in attendance at the meetings, you refused to repent and turn to Me!*

16“*The person who makes a practice of sincerely listening to what you, My messengers, say, is actually sincerely listening to Me. But whoever continues to say ‘No’ to you is actually saying ‘No’ to Me. And the one who is saying ‘No’ to Me is actually saying ‘No’ to the One who sent Me.”* Mt. 10:40; Mk. 9:37; Jn. 13:20

17Later the 70 joyfully returned, saying, “Lord, even the demons obey us when we use Your name!”

Luke 10

18“**Yes,**” Jesus replied, “**I saw Satan fall from Heaven like a bolt of lightning.**

19“**But listen! I am the One who gives you the authority that enables you to trample on those snakes and scorpions! And I give you authority over all the power that the enemy* has. You won’t be hurt in any way when you use that authority.**

***Lk. 10:19** – “**The enemy,**”* that is, *Satan*.

20“**But you must stop finding your delight in the fact that the evil spirits obey you; instead, let your joy be in the fact that your names have been written down in Heaven among those who will be welcomed there.**”

21At the same time, the Holy Spirit filled Jesus with joy and ecstasy, and He said, “**I praise You, My Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, for hiding the truths concerning these things from those who consider themselves so wise and learned, and for revealing them instead to those who are childlike in faith and acceptance. Yes, My Father, because that’s the way You were pleased that it should be.**” Mt. 11:25-26

22Then turning to His followers He said to them privately, “**Everything has been handed over to Me by My Father. No one has a thorough**

Luke 10

comprehension of who the Son really is—only the Father does. And no one has a thorough comprehension of who the Father is, except the Son, and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. Mt. 11:27

23“How fortunate and blessed are the eyes that see what you are now seeing. Mt. 13:16

24“Because I tell you, many prophets and kings of the past were eager to see what you are seeing and to hear what you are now hearing. But they were never privileged to do so.”* Mt. 13:17

Lk. 10:24 – “They were never privileged to do so.” See 1 Peter 1:10-12.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

25One day one of the experts in the Law of Moses stepped forward to test Jesus. “Teacher, what must I do in order to inherit eternal life?” he questioned. Mt. 19:16

26“**What’s written in the Scriptures?**” Jesus replied. “**What does it say there?**”

27“**The Scripture says,**” he responded, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind.’ **(Deuteronomy 6:5)** And you must ‘love others in the same way that you love yourself.’ ” **(Leviticus 19:18)** Mt. 22:37-39; Mk. 12:30-31

Luke 10

28“**You are right,**” Jesus replied. “**Make a practice of doing what you’ve just said, and you will live forever.**”

29But wanting to justify his actions, he then asked Jesus, “And just who are the ‘others’ referred to there?”

30*Accepting the challenge,* Jesus responded, “**A man on his way down to Jericho from Jerusalem was attacked by robbers, who beat him up and robbed him of everything he had, and then left him half dead.**

31“**A certain priest happened to be traveling down the same road, but when he saw the battered and bloodied man, he passed by on the other side.**

32“**A Levite also came by. He looked at him lying there, and he also passed by on the other side.**

33“**But a Samaritan was also traveling down the road, and when he came by and saw the man, he was deeply touched by the man’s plight.**

34“**He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds, and bandaged them. Then he put him on his own donkey, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.**

Luke 10

35“**The next day, before he left, he gave the innkeeper enough money to pay for the man’s lodging. ‘Take care of him,’ he said. ‘And if it costs more than this, I’ll pay you when I return.’**”

36“**Now which of these three men would you say was a true friend to the victim of the robbers?”**”

37“**The one who took pity on him,**” he replied.
“**You go and do the same,**” Jesus told him.

At the Home of Martha and Mary

38As Jesus and His followers continued on their way, they came to a town where a woman named Martha welcomed them into her home.

39Now she had a sister named Mary, who joined the others and sat at Jesus’ feet, listening to what He was saying.

40But Martha was so concerned about the meal she was to serve that she came to Jesus and said, “**Lord, don’t You care that my sister has left me with all the work of preparing dinner? Tell her to help me!**”

41“**Martha, Martha,**” Jesus replied, “**you are so concerned and troubled about so many things.**”

42“**But there’s only one thing that is really important. And Mary has chosen to be concerned about that which will result in the greatest good, and it will not be taken from her.**”

Luke 11

Jesus Teaches How to Pray (Mt. 6:9-13; Mt. 7:7-11)

1 One day, immediately after Jesus had been praying in a certain place, one of His followers said to Him, “Lord, teach us how to pray, like John taught his followers.”

2 So He said to all of them, “**When you pray, pray like this:**

Our Father, who is in Heaven, may Your name be most highly revered.

Reign as King in every life. May Your will be done here on earth, just as it is in Heaven. Mt. 6:9-10

3 Continue to give us the food we need for each day. Mt. 6:11

4 And forgive us our sins in the same way that we ourselves also forgive everyone who sins against us.

Don’t allow us to be led into temptation, but rescue us from the Evil One.” Mt. 6:12

5 Then, teaching them more about how to pray, He said, “**Suppose one of you should go to a friend’s house at midnight and say to him,**

6 ‘My friend, please lend me three loaves of bread? A friend of mine has just arrived from a long distance and I don’t have a thing to give him to eat.’

Luke 11

7“Then suppose your friend, from an upstairs window, should answer, ‘Don’t bother us *at such an atrocious hour!* The doors are locked, and we’re all in bed. I can’t come down and give you anything now!’

8“But let Me tell you, even if he wouldn’t come down and give you the bread because you’re his friend, if you persisted and kept on knocking loudly on his door, he would get out of bed and give you all you need.

9“*The same thing happens when you really pray. You must persist and keep on asking.* And when you do, what you ask for definitely* will be given you. So keep on seeking,* and you definitely* will find what you are looking for. Keep on knocking,* and the door will be opened for you. Mt. 7:7*

10“*Because everyone who keeps on asking,* is definitely* in the process of receiving, and the one who keeps on seeking,* is definitely* in the process of finding, and for the one who keeps on knocking,* the door will be opened. Mt. 7:8*

Lk. 11:9, 10 – “Asking, seeking, knocking.” All are present tense in Greek, representing present continuous action. **“Definitely.”*** All are indicative mood, the mood of certainty. You *definitely will* receive – if you have met the conditions for answered prayer. See Luke 17:5-6; 18:1-8; Psalm 66:18; Matthew 5:23-24; Mark 11:22-26; John 15:1-7; James 1:5-8; 5:16; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 John 5:13-15; etc.

Luke 11

11“Which of you men who are fathers would give your son a stone if he asked you for bread? Or if he should ask for a fish, would you give him a snake instead?

12“Or if he asked for an egg, would you give him a scorpion? Mt. 7:9-10

13“If you, then, evil as you are, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask* Him!” Mt. 7:11

Lk. 11:13 – “To those who ask Him!” Present tense in Greek – continuous present action – action that refuses to be denied.

Jesus and Beelzebul (Mt. 12:22-30; Mk. 3:22-27)

14One day Jesus drove out a demon that had prevented a man from being able to speak. After the demon left the man, he had no problem speaking, which truly amazed the crowd. Mt. 9:33

15But some in the crowd said, “The only reason he’s able to drive out demons is because he’s doing it by power given him by Beelzebul,* the ruler of the demons.” Mt. 9:34; Mk. 3:22

Lk. 11:15 – “Beelzebul” means “lord of dung or filth,” that is, “lord of the flies.” Beelzebul was considered to be prince of the demons.

Luke 11

16Others tried to make Him prove Himself by asking for a sign from heaven. Mt. 12:38; Mk. 8:11

17But He even knew what they were thinking, so He said to them, “Any nation that allows its different states to fight one another is in the process of being destroyed. And any family that allows internal squabbling won’t last. Mt. 12:25

18“So if Satan allowed part of his forces to war against his other forces, how long could his kingdom continue under such conditions? And still you say I drive out demons with Beelzebul’s help. Mt. 12:26

19“Also, if I’m driving out demons with power from Beelzebul, who empowers your own followers to drive them out? So even they will refute you and cut the ground out from under your claim. Mt. 12:27

20“But if I’m driving out demons by the power of God, then surely the Kingdom of God has arrived among you. Mt. 12:28

21“When a strong man, fully armed, is guarding his home, his possessions are safe.

22“But when someone stronger* than he comes along and overpowers him, that one can then take all the armor in which he trusted, and also take anything else out of the house that he wants.

Luke 11

***Lk. 11:22 – “When someone stronger.”* Jesus is the *stronger* One who can overpower Satan’s demons.**

23“Anyone who is not actively with Me is against Me. So anyone who is not working with Me is actually working against Me (*there is no middle ground*). Mt. 12:30

The Return of the Evil Spirit (Mt. 12:43-45)

24“When an evil spirit comes out of a person, it goes through dry places, looking for a place to rest. But when it doesn’t find any, it says, ‘I’m going back to the house* I left.’ Mt. 12:44

***Lk. 11:24 – “Back to the house I left.”* The place it calls *the house* is the person it came out of.**

25“And when it returns, it finds the place all cleaned up, and everything in order. Mt. 12:44

26“Then it goes out and gets seven other spirits who are more evil than itself, and they all come and live there. As a result, the person is now in worse condition than before.”* Mt. 12:45

***Lk. 11:26 – “The person is now in worse condition than before.”* Even after Satan and his demons have been driven out of a person, they must sincerely invite Jesus to come into all areas of their life to take full possession, to guard and protect.**

Luke 11

27 As Jesus said this, a woman in the crowd broke in and shouted, “How blessed and happy the woman must be who gave birth to You and nursed You!”

28 “Yes,” Jesus replied, “but you would be more correct in saying, ‘How blessed and happy are those who pay close attention to God’s message, and continue to keep,* guard, defend, preserve, and obey it.’ ”

Lk. 11:28 – “Keep, guard, defend, preserve, and obey.” This is the full meaning of the word *phulassontes* in the Greek.

The Demand for a Miracle (Mt. 12:38-42)

29 While the crowd was gathering in increasing numbers, Jesus said, “You people of today are an evil generation! You’re looking for a miraculous sign from Heaven before you’ll believe. But you won’t be given a sign, except the sign that will resemble what happened to the prophet Jonah. Mt. 12:39; Mk. 8:12

30 “Because in the way that Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, in that same way the Son of Man will become a sign to the people of today.* Mt. 12:40

*Lk. 11:30 – Jonah became a sign to Nineveh because he miraculously survived inside a whale for three days and three nights. (See the book of Jonah). Likewise, Jesus became a sign by dying and being buried three days and three nights, and then rising back to life again.

Luke 11

31“**The Queen of the South*** will rise up on Judgment Day with you, and she will condemn you, because she came from a great distance to listen to the wisdom of Solomon. And the truth is, **One who is far greater than Solomon is here now!**”* Mt. 12:42

Lk. 11:31 – “The Queen of the South.” See 1 Kings 10:1-13. **“One who is far greater than Solomon is here now!”*** ... *and you refuse to listen, believe, and obey Him.*

32“**The people of Nineveh** will also stand up on Judgment Day and accuse you, because they repented when Jonah preached to them.* And the truth is, **One who is far greater than Jonah is here now!**

Lk. 11:32 – “Jonah preached to them.” See Jonah 3:1-10.

Let Your Light Shine! (Mt. 5:14-15; Mt. 6:22-23; Mk. 4:21-22; Lk. 8:16-17)

33“**You don’t light a lamp, and then hide it or cover it with a basket. No, you put it on a table or stand, so that those who come into the room may be able to see by means of its light.** Mt. 5:15

34“**Your eyes act as lights for your body. When your eyes are in good physical condition, your whole body is full of light. But if your eyes have gone bad and are now useless, your body is full of darkness.** Mt. 6:23

Luke 11

35“**So make sure, then, that the light you claim to have within you isn’t actually darkness instead.***

***Lk. 11:35 – To be in darkness of physical blindness is tragic, but spiritual blindness is far more devastating.**

36“**So, if in your whole being as a person, you are fully open to receive light and truth, with no desire to continue living in darkness in any part of your life, your whole life will become full of light that you can share with others, in the same way that a brightly shining lamp gives light so that everything in a room can be seen.”**

Religious Leaders Strongly Warned (Mt. 23:23-36)

37When He stopped speaking, a Pharisee asked Him to eat lunch with him. So He went in and took His place at the table.

38But the Pharisee was surprised when he saw that Jesus didn’t ceremonially wash His hands before eating.*

***Lk. 11:38 – Christ evidently purposely omitted washing His hands in order to create a situation so He could give the following instructions.**

39So the Lord said to him, “**Listen to Me: You Pharisees are always washing the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of all kinds of robbery* and other wickedness.** Mt. 23:25

Luke 11

Lk. 11:39 – “All kinds of robbery,” or *greed*.

40“How foolish can you all be? Didn’t the One who made the outside make the inside as well?

Mt. 23:26

41“But now, take what you have gotten dishonestly* and give it to the poor. Then you will indeed be altogether clean.

Lk. 11:40 – “Have gotten dishonestly,” or “greedily possess.”

42“Awful trouble awaits you Pharisees! Because even though you are very careful to give God a tenth* of even all of the smallest vegetables from your garden, you have no concern about dealing in a just and honest way with others, nor do you truly love God. These last things are the things you should concentrate on being sure to do, but without stopping the good you are doing. Mt. 23:23

Lk. 11:42 – “A tenth,” that is, *a tithe*.

43“Woe to you Pharisees! Because, oh, how you love the seats of honor in the synagogues, and to be recognized and greeted with honor as you walk through the markets! Mt. 23:7; Mk. 12:38

44“Frightful trouble awaits you teachers of the Law. And the same applies to you Pharisees! You hypocrites! Because you are like graves that

Luke 11

can't be recognized as graves, and as people walk over them they don't realize they are walking over dead bodies."

45 Upon hearing this, one of the experts in the Mosaic Law challenged Jesus, saying, "Teacher, when you say that, you're insulting us too."

46 "Yes, woe to you also, you experts in the Law!" Jesus replied. "Because you load the people down with heavy religious requirements that almost crush them, but you won't move even a finger to lighten those burdens.* Mt. 23:4

Lk. 11:46 – "You won't move even a finger to lighten those burdens," that is, "you won't lift a finger to help."

47 "Yes, you too face frightful trouble! You honor the graves of the prophets with monuments, but it was your own fathers who killed them! Mt. 23:30

48 "In fact, by your actions* you approve of what your fathers did—they killed the prophets; and then you build monuments in their honor.

Lk. 11:47 – "By your actions." They would soon prove this verse to be true by killing Jesus.

49 "That's why God by His superior knowledge said, 'I will send them prophets and messengers,

Luke 11

but they will kill some of them and persecute others.’ Mt. 23:34

50“For that reason you people living today will be held responsible for all the blood of the prophets that has been shed since the creation of the world, Mt. 23:36

51“from the killing of Abel to the killing of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the Temple. Yes, I tell you, you people of today will be punished for all of it!”* Mt. 23:36

***Lk. 11:51 – “You people of today will be punished for all of it!”*
*That present generation would be punished for all of it because they would perform the final and crowning act of rebellion of rejecting God’s messengers by rejecting the Messiah and clamoring for His death.***

52“Woe to you experts in the Law! Because you have taken away the key that unlocks the door to knowledge about God! You yourselves wouldn’t go in, and you have kept the people out who are trying to get in.”

53When He finished saying all this, the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees began to fiercely attack Him verbally, and to fire many questions at Him to get Him to say what He thought about many things.

54They did their best to trip Him up, to get Him to say something they could use against Him in accusing Him. Mt. 22:15; Mk. 12:13

Luke 12

Warnings and Encouragements (Mt. 10:26-33)

12Meanwhile an immense crowd had formed—so large, in fact, that people were stepping on each other. Then Jesus began to speak mainly to His close followers. “**Above all else,**” He said, “**you must be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees. I’m referring to the way they fool the people by their hypocrisy.** Mt. 16:6

2“**I give you this warning because nothing can now be covered up and ignored that won’t one day be uncovered. And there’s nothing hidden that won’t be exposed.** Mt. 10:26

3“**So whatever you have said in the dark will one day be heard in broad daylight. And whatever you whisper in private in the back rooms will be shouted from the housetops.** Mt. 10:27

4“**Now I tell you, My friends, never be afraid of people. They can kill your body, but after that, there is nothing more they can do.** Mt. 10:28

5“**But the One you must fear is God, because after He has killed, He has power to throw you into Hell. Believe Me, He is the One you must fear!*** Mt. 10:28

***Lk. 12:5 – The death of the body is a very unimportant thing when compared with eternal death. So Jesus is encouraging His listeners not to be alarmed at the prospect of even being killed for the stand they take for Him.**

Luke 12

6“Don’t they sell five sparrows for just two copper coins? Still, not one of them is forgotten by God. Mt. 10:29

7“And God even knows the number of hairs on your head. So don’t be fearful, because you are of far more value to God than a vast number of sparrows. Mt. 10:31

8“I also promise you that whoever shall confess Me before men, is the one’s whom I, the Son of Man, will confess and claim as My own before God’s angels. Mt. 10:32

9“But whoever disowns Me before men will be disowned by Me before God’s angels. Mt. 10:33

10“However, anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but whoever blasphemeth against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. Mt. 12:32

11“When they bring you before the rulers of the synagogues and other authorities, don’t worry about how you will answer or what you will say in your defense. Mt. 10:19

12“Because the Holy Spirit will give you the words to use when it’s time for you to speak.” Mt. 10:20

Luke 12

The Parable of the Rich Fool

13 Then someone in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the property with me that our father left us when he died.”

14 “Man, who appointed Me to be a judge or a referee to decide such matters?” Jesus replied.

15 Then He said to the crowd, “Watch out and guard yourselves against being greedy and grasping, always wanting more. Because a person’s happiness, contentment, safety, and length of life does not depend on obtaining a great amount of wealth.”

16 Then He told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich farmer produced an immense harvest.

17 ‘What shall I do?’ he thought. ‘I don’t have room to store all my crops!’

18 ‘I know what I’ll do,’ he said. ‘I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll have plenty of room to store all my grain and other goods. Mt. 6:19

19 ‘Then I’ll say to myself, “Man, you’ve got it made! You can retire now! You have enough stored up to last for many years. You can take it easy and just eat, drink, and enjoy the pleasures and other good things of life.”’

Luke 12

20“But God said to him, ‘You fool! Tonight you will die. Who then will get all these things you have piled up for yourself?’ Mt. 6:20

21“That’s how foolish God considers anyone who continues to store up wealth for himself in this brief life, but has little or no interest in really loving, obeying, and serving God, and thereby laying up wealth in Heaven.”*

***Lk. 12:21 – A person is a fool to store up earthly wealth but not heavenly wealth, that is, “is not rich toward God,” (having treasures that really count).**

Never Worry!

22Then He said to His followers, “This is why I tell you not to worry about your needs in this life, about the food you will need to stay alive or about the clothing you will need for your body.

Mt. 6:25

23“**You already have the miracle of life. Isn’t life itself a far greater wonder than food? And what a miracle the body is, much more so than the clothing you put on it.** Mt. 6:25

24“**Look at the crows. They don’t plant or harvest. They don’t have storerooms or barns in which to store their food, but still God feeds them. Just think how much more God treasures you than the birds!** Mt. 6:26

Luke 12

25“And which of you by worry and anxious care can add 18 inches to your height?*” Mt. 6:27

***Lk. 12:25 – “Add 18 inches to your height.”* Literally *a cubit* – between 18 and 22 inches.**

26“If you can’t do anything about that which is really of little importance, why are you so anxious about the rest? Mt. 6:28

27“Think for a moment about the lilies, how beautifully they grow. They don’t feverishly work to make clothes for themselves, and yet, I tell you that even Solomon, with all the wealth and power he had, was never able to dress himself as handsomely as one of these. Mt. 6:29

28“Now then, if God provides such beautiful clothes for the grass of the field, which is here today and thrown on the fire tomorrow, can’t He be trusted to provide clothing for you? O you of little faith! Mt. 6:30

29“And stop worrying about whether you’ll have enough to eat and drink. You must not be anxious at all about these matters. Mt. 6:31

30“Those are the things that people who don’t know God are always so concerned about. But your Father in Heaven knows all about your continual need for all of them. Mt. 6:32

Luke 12

31“Your main concern must be to continually seek* the Kingdom of God.* Then all these material things will also be given you.

Lk. 12:31 – “Continually seek.” This is present indicative in the Greek text, meaning positive, continuous concern and action. “The Kingdom of God”* means the Rule and Reign of God, His Kingly rule.

32“So don’t have any fears, little flock, because your Father is taking great pleasure in giving you the Kingdom.

33“Sell what you own and give the money to those who are in need. If you do that you will be putting your money in purses that will never get old and worn out. You’ll have investments in Heaven that will never fail, where no thief or swindler of any kind can steal them, where no moths can destroy them. Mt. 6:20; Mk. 10:21

34“Because where your treasure is, that’s where your heart will be also.

Faithful and Unfaithful Servants

35“Always be ready for action, with your lamps burning.

36“Be like servants who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding, always ready to open the door immediately when he returns and knocks.

Luke 12

37“Those servants will be happy indeed if their master finds them awake and alert when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will put on a servant’s jacket and have them sit down at the table, and will then proceed to serve them. Mt. 24:46

38“Whether he comes before midnight or long after midnight, they will be happy indeed if he finds them faithfully waiting for him.*

***Lk. 12:38 – Every Christian has a very special job to do! The Lord will be greatly pleased with those who are diligent in His service, busy with the work of His Kingdom, and constantly awaiting His return.**

39“Also consider this: If the man of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would have been ready for him and wouldn’t have allowed his house to be broken into. Mt. 24:43

40“**You, too, must always be ready, because the Son of Man will come at a time when you are least expecting Him.**” Mt. 24:44

41Peter then asked Him, “Does this parable apply only to us, or to everyone?”

42In response, the Lord continued, saying, “Where is the man with good sense who can be trusted? That’s the man the master will appoint as manager, and put in charge of his household to

Luke 12

regularly give everyone in the house the proper portion of nourishing food they need. Mt. 24:45

43“That servant will be a happy man indeed if he is found faithfully doing so when his master returns.* Mt. 24:46

***Lk. 12:43 – There are souls for whom we are responsible to give the proper portion of nourishing food they need. It is wisdom for each one of us to be found faithful, as ministers in our homes, in our communities, and to the ends of the earth. The Lord promises blessings of great worth to those who have been found faithful.**

44“Because I tell you the truth, his master will then put him in charge of everything he owns. Mt. 24:47

45“But suppose that servant says to himself, ‘It will be a long time before my master returns,’ and then begins to beat the servants in his care, both men and women, and spends his time eating and drinking and getting drunk. Mt. 24:49

46“**The master of that servant will return on a day when he’s not expecting him, and at the time of day he wouldn’t expect him. He will most severely punish him* and sentence him to share the punishment of the unbelievers.** Mt. 24:51

***Lk. 12:46 – “He will most severely punish him.”* Some translations say “will cut him in sunder,” meaning “will punish him severely or by death.”**

Luke 12

47“The servant who knows what his master wants him to do, but doesn’t prepare or do according to his will, shall be severely punished.

48“But the servant who didn’t know what his master wanted, and did things for which he deserved punishment will be given lighter punishment. Much will be required of the one who has been given much. And much more will be required of the one who was entrusted with greater responsibility.

Expect and Prepare for Trouble

49“The effect of My having come will be to cause fire to break out on the earth. And what greater wish could I have than that it had already begun to burn!

50“But I have a most fearful baptism to undergo,* and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!

**Lk. 12:50 – “A most fearful baptism to undergo.”* ... a baptism of rejection by both Jews and Gentiles, and physical pain and suffering and abandonment by God on the cross, ...*

51“Don’t get the idea that I’ve come to bring peace to the earth. That’s not the way it is at all. Instead, My coming will bring division.*

Luke 12

Lk. 12:51 – “My coming will bring division.” Christ did not come for the purpose of causing division, but this is one of the effects of His coming. Those who have no desire to believe Him often strongly oppose those who do believe. Their wickedness is the reason this happens.

52“From now on, where there are five in one family, they will many times be divided in their loyalty, three of them living for Me and two living to please themselves—or the other way around.

53“**The division will pit fathers against their sons and sons against their fathers; mothers will oppose their daughters and daughters oppose their mothers; mothers-in-law will clash with their daughters-in-law and daughters-in-law with their mothers-in-law.**” Mt. 10:35

Wake up to What Time it is!

54Then He said to the crowd, “**When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It’s going to rain,’ and rain it does.** Mt. 16:3

55“**And when you feel the south wind blowing, you say, ‘It’ll be a hot one today,’ and it is.**

56“**You hypocrites! You can predict the kind of weather ahead from the wind and sky, but how is it that you can’t determine the period of time in which you are living?** Mt. 16:3

Luke 12, 13

57“Yes, and why don’t you yourselves take the initiative to judge from what you have both seen and heard, and make a right decision?*

*Lk. 12:57 – “*Why do you refuse to see for yourselves what is right?*” (The Living Bible).

58“When you are taken to court by one who is suing you, make every effort to settle with him before you get there. If he drags you before the judge, the judge may turn you over to the jailer, who in turn will lock you up. Mt. 5:25

59“*I assure you, you won’t get out of there until you have paid the last penny you owe.*” Mt. 5:26

Turn from Your Sin or Die!

13Some who were there at that time told Jesus about some *rebellious* Galileans whom Pilate had killed, and had then mixed their blood with the sacrifices they were offering at the Temple.

2“Do you think that proves that those Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans,” Jesus replied, “just because of what happened to them?

3“Not at all! But unless you repent, and have a genuine change of heart, you too will all perish in a similar horrendous way.*

Luke 13

Lk. 13:3, 5 – “You too will all perish in a similar horrendous way.” Less than 40 years later, in A.D. 70, the inhabitants of Jerusalem were slaughtered by the Romans, and almost 100,000 led away captive. Christ could have been referring to this, and also to the great Judgment Day coming for all mankind (See Acts 17:30-31; 24:24-25).

4“Or do you think those 18 people who died when the tower of Siloam fell on them were worse sinners than all others living in Jerusalem?

5“Not at all! But unless you repent, and have a genuine change of heart, you too will all perish *in a similar horrendous way.*”*

6To make His point clear He told them this parable: “A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He kept looking for fruit on it, but never found any.

7“So finally he said to his gardener, ‘Look, for three years now I’ve been coming here looking for fruit on this fig tree, and I’ve never found any yet. Why continue to waste ground space on it? Cut it down!’

8“But the gardener said, ‘Sir, I urge you to leave it here for one more year. I’ll dig around it and fertilize it well.

9‘If it then bears fruit, fine. If not, then you should cut it down.’ ”

Luke 13

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman

10 One Sabbath Jesus was teaching in a synagogue.

11 A woman was there who had been crippled by an evil spirit for 18 years. She was so bent over that she couldn't straighten up at all.

12 When Jesus saw her He called her to Him. "Woman," He said, "you are now set free from your affliction."

13 As He said this He placed His hands on her, and immediately she stood up straight and began praising God!

14 But the ruler of the synagogue* was so angry that Jesus had healed someone on the Sabbath that he shouted to the crowd, "There are six days in a week when we can work! So come and be healed on one of those days, but not on the Sabbath!"

Lk. 13:14 – "The ruler of the synagogue," that is, "the leader of the synagogue."

15 "You hypocrite!" Jesus countered. "Don't each of you untie your ox or donkey from the stall on the Sabbath and lead it out to drink?"

16 "And look, here's a daughter of Abraham who has suffered in bondage under Satan for 18 long years. Shouldn't this woman be set free from this

Luke 13

bondage as soon as possible, even if it's the Sabbath?"

17 All who had opposed Him were ashamed of themselves after He pointed out how foolish they had been. But all the rest of the people were rejoicing over all the marvelous things He was doing.

Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast

18 Then He said, "What is the Kingdom of God like? What can I compare it with?" Mt. 13:31; Mk. 4:30-32

19 "It's like what happens when someone plants a tiny mustard seed in a garden. That little seed grows and becomes a large tree, so large that the birds of the air roost in its branches.

20 "What can I compare the Kingdom of God with?" He again asked.

21 "It's like what happens when a woman mixes yeast into a very large bowl of flour. She works it into every part of the dough, until the whole batch is completely saturated *and transformed by it*. Mt. 13:33

The Narrow Gate Leading to Heaven

22 Then He continued on His way through the cities and towns, teaching the people as He journeyed toward Jerusalem.

Luke 13

23 In one place a man asked Him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

24 “You must use extreme effort,”* Jesus replied, “in order to gain entrance through the narrow gate. Because I tell you, many will try to enter, but will not succeed. Mt. 7:13

Lk. 13:24 – “You must use extreme effort.” The words *extreme effort* have been translated from the Greek word *agoneezesthe*, which means *to struggle, to compete for a prize, to contend with an enemy, to endeavor to accomplish something, to fight, to labor fervently, to strive.*

25 “When the Master of the house finally gets up and locks the door, it won’t do you any good to stand on the outside knocking and calling out, ‘Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!’ Because His answer will be, ‘I don’t know you or where you are from.’

26 “Then you will begin to plead and say, ‘But Lord, we ate and drank with You! You even taught in our streets!’

27 “But He will reply, ‘I tell you, I don’t know you, or where you are from. Get out of My presence, all of you who have continued in the practice of living in sin!’* Mt. 7:23

Lk. 13:27 – “You who have continued in the practice of living in sin,” that is, “all you workers of iniquity” (those who practice unrighteousness).

Luke 13

28“There will then be uncontrollable weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets inside the Kingdom of God, while you yourselves are being driven away. Mt. 8:12

29“People will come from the east and from the west, from the north and the south, and will take their places *at the Feast* in the Kingdom of God. Mt. 8:11

Jesus' Sorrow for Jerusalem

30“In fact, there are some who are now considered to be of little or no importance, who will then be given the highest positions. And some who are now considered great, will then be considered of no importance at all.” Mt. 19:30

31That same day some Pharisees came to Him and said, “You’d better leave here and go somewhere else, because Herod wants you killed.”

32“*You go and tell that fox,*” Jesus replied, ‘Look, today and tomorrow I am driving out demons and healing people. On the third day I will finish My work.’

33“*But I must continue traveling today and tomorrow and the next day, because it’s unthinkable that a prophet should be put to death anywhere but in Jerusalem.*

Luke 13, 14

34“O Jerusalem! Jerusalem! You people who repeatedly kill the prophets and stone the messengers God sent to you. How often I have wanted to gather your people together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you wouldn't let Me.

35“Look! Your Temple is now being left to you utterly abandoned by God. And I tell you the truth when I tell you: There will be no way whatever by which you will then be able to see Me until the time comes when you will say, ‘God bless Him who is coming in the name of the Lord!’”* (*Psalm 118:26*)

Lk. 13:35 – “God bless Him who is coming in the name of the Lord!” A Messianic exclamation and greeting, here referring to an eschatological moment when Jesus is acknowledged as the Messiah.

Jesus in a Pharisee's Home

14One Sabbath when Jesus went to eat in the home of a leader of the Pharisees, He was being watched very closely,

²because there was a man there who was suffering from dropsy.*

Luke 14

Lk. 14:2 – “Dropsy.” *Watery fluid in the tissues or cavities of the body, that is, “swollen all over” or “whose body was swollen.”*

3 So Jesus asked the Pharisees and the experts in the Law, “Does our Law allow a person to be healed on the Sabbath?” Mt. 12:12

4 But there was no reply. So He took hold of the man and healed him, and then sent him on his way.

5 Then He asked them, “If your donkey or ox fell into a pit, which of you men wouldn’t immediately pull it out, even if it happened on a Sabbath?” Mt. 12:11

6 They couldn’t reply to that.

7 When He noticed how some of the guests were choosing the places of highest honor, He gave them this advice:

8 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, don’t take the best place, because the host may have invited someone he esteems more highly than you.

9 “Think how embarrassing it would be if the host, who had invited both of you, should say to you, ‘Will you please give this man your place?’ Humiliated, you would then have to take a place at the back of the room.

10 “So when you are invited anywhere, take the least desirable place. Then the host who invited

Luke 14

you may say, ‘Friend, take this better place.’ That would cause you to be highly regarded by those at the table with you.

11“Because everyone who seeks honor for himself will be brought down, but the one who humbles himself will be honored.” Mt. 23:12

12Then He said to the host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, don’t invite only your friends, your family, relatives, or your rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you back and you will be repaid.

13“But when you prepare a fine dinner, invite the poor, the disabled, the lame, and the blind:

14 “And you will be blessed indeed. They won’t be able to repay you, but you will be repaid by the Lord when you rise back to life again with all others who are in right standing with God.”

The Parable of the Great Dinner

15When one of the men at the table with Him heard this, he said, “Those who will sit down to eat in the Kingdom of God will surely be happy.”

16Jesus responded, saying, “There was a man who prepared a great dinner to which he invited many guests.

17“When it was time for the dinner, he sent his servant out to tell those invited, ‘Come now, everything is ready.’

Luke 14

18“But every one of them began to make excuses. ‘I just bought some land,’ the first one said, ‘and it’s important that I go out and look at it. So I ask that you please excuse me.’

19‘I’ve just bought five pair of oxen,’ another said, ‘and I need to try them out. So I must ask you to excuse me.’

20“Still another said, ‘I’ve just gotten married, so I can’t come.’

21“So the servant returned and told his master all this. The master was furious and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the city, and bring in the poor, the disabled, the lame, and the blind.’

22“When he returned he said, ‘Sir, I did as you told me, but there is still room for more.’

23“‘The master then told him, ‘Go out into the country roads and lanes and compel everyone you see there to come in, so that my house will be full.

24‘Because I tell you, none of those who were first invited will get even a small taste of my dinner!’”

The Cost of Being a Follower of the Lord

25Great crowds continued to follow Him. So He turned to them and said,

Luke 14

26“Anyone who wants to follow Me must be so thoroughly devoted to Me that he puts My interests, My concerns, and My desires far above his interest in pleasing even his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters—and yes, even above pleasing himself—otherwise he is no follower of Mine!*

***Lk. 14:26 – Jesus demands total commitment on the part of everyone who desires to follow Him.**

27“And whoever does not take up his own cross, and walk in My steps, cannot be a follower of Mine! Mt. 10:38

28“*So count the cost!* If any of you decided to put up a building, wouldn’t you first sit down and figure out the cost, and then see if you could raise enough money to finish it?

29“Otherwise, if you laid the foundation but couldn’t finish, you would be the laughingstock of everyone who saw the unfinished building.

30“People would say, ‘Look, there’s the man who started to put up that building, and then found he couldn’t finish it.’

31“Or suppose an enemy army is approaching—what king would be so foolish as to not first sit down and figure out if he can defeat the invading army of 20,000 with his army of 10,000?

Luke 14, 15

32“If he decides he can’t, won’t he send a delegation to meet the invaders while they are still a long way off and ask about the conditions for peace?

33“**And the conditions for being a follower of Mine* are that you must forsake all that you have. Otherwise you are no follower of Mine!**

*Lk. 14:33 – “**And the conditions for being a follower of Mine are that you must forsake all that you have.**”* The conditions of peace granted by a king to a lesser king who didn’t dare meet him in battle was always *total submission*. The lesser king became his vassal, paying tribute, with himself and all his possessions subject to the command of his lord. And Christ imposes the same conditions on all who would be His disciples.

34“Salt is very useful. But if the salt should lose its strength, how will its saltiness be restored? Mt. 5:13

35“Salt that has lost its saltiness is utterly worthless. It can’t be allowed on good soil or even on the manure pile. It must be thrown out as garbage. If you have been given ears for the purpose of hearing, then think seriously about what you have just heard!”

The Lost Sheep

15All the tax collectors and other known sinners were continually gathering around to listen to Him,

Luke 15

2causing the Pharisees and teachers of the Law to mutter in complaint, “This man is glad to have sinners as His audience. He even eats with them!” Mt. 9:11; Mk. 2:15-16; Lk. 5:30; Lk. 15:2

3So Jesus told them this parable:

4“**If any of you men had 100 sheep, and one of them got lost, wouldn’t you leave the 99 in the pasture and continue to look for the lost sheep until you found it?** Mt. 18:12; Lk. 15:4

5“**And when you found it, wouldn’t you carry it back on your shoulders, rejoicing?** Mt. 18:13; Lk. 15:5

6“**When you got home you would call your friends and neighbors together and say, ‘You must celebrate with me, because I found the sheep that was lost!**

7“**And I tell you, the same will be true in Heaven. There will be more rejoicing there over one sinner who turns from his sin* and lives unto God, than over the 99 persons who are already living for God, and don’t need to turn from sin.** (v. 10)

***Lk. 15:7 – “One sinner who turns from his sin.”* The English word is “repentance” and it means a change of heart and mind that results in moving a completely new direction (that direction is towards God). In “repentance” a person turns from darkness to light, from Satan unto God. In this turn the free gift of grace that results in forgiveness (righteousness) is granted to those who believe (See Acts 26:18; Mark 1:15). For more information about**

Luke 15

“repentance” read Jeremiah 18:11; Ezekiel 18:30; Daniel 4:27; Acts 3:19.

The Lost Coin

8“Or think of the woman who has ten silver coins. If she should lose one, wouldn’t she light a lamp and sweep the house and keep looking diligently until she found it?

9“And when she found it, she would call her friends and neighbors together and say, ‘You must celebrate with me, because I found the coin I had lost!’

10“**And I tell you, the angels of God rejoice in Heaven in the same way when even one sinner turns from his sin and lives unto God.***” v. 7

Lk. 15:10 – “One sinner turns from his sin and lives unto God.” In Greek a present tense is used, meaning, “There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth *and continues in repentance*.”

The Lost Son

11Then He said, “There was once a man who had two sons.

12“**One day the younger son said to his father, ‘Father, I want you to give me my share of what I will inherit from your estate now.’ So the man divided what he owned between them.**

Luke 15

13“ A few days later this younger son turned all of his part of the estate into cash, and headed for a distant province. There he squandered his entire inheritance, living it up in sin.

14“ When he had spent everything, a severe famine hit the area where he was, and he was having a hard time even getting enough to eat.

15“ Finally he arranged with a farmer for a place to stay in exchange for feeding the man’s pigs.

16“ He was so hungry that he was tempted to eat the pods he was feeding the pigs, because no one gave him anything to eat.

17“ When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘Even my father’s many hired servants have more food than they can eat, and here I am, starving to death!

18‘ I’m going to leave this place and go back to my father. I’ll tell him, “Father, I have sinned against God and against you.

19“ I’m no longer fit to be called your son. Give me a job as one of your hired men.””

20“ So he got up and went back to his father. But when he was still a long way off, his father saw him and his heart went out to him. And he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and fervently kissed him.

Luke 15

21“Then the son blurted out, ‘Father, I have sinned against God and against you, and I’m no longer fit to be called your son.’

22“But his father said to the servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his hand and shoes on his feet.

23‘Then bring the calf we’ve been fattening up, and kill it. We’ll have a great banquet and celebrate!

24‘Because this son of mine was dead, but now he’s alive again! He was lost, but now he’s been found!’ And the joyful celebration began.*

***Lk. 15:24 – Are you the prodigal who has left God? Maybe you have never been truly converted to God, or maybe you have backslidden and fallen back into sin. You have disgraced your God. But be assured that God has been watching all the time, and has been waiting for you to come back to Him.**

25“Meanwhile, the older son was out in a field. When he came in and got closer to the house he heard the sound of music and dancing.

26“So he called one of the servants and said, ‘What’s going on here? What’s this all about?’

27‘Your brother has just come back home,’ the servant answered. ‘And because he’s returned safe and sound, your father has killed the calf we’ve been fattening up.’

Luke 15, 16

28“That made the older son furious, and he wouldn’t go into the house. So his father came out and pleaded with him to come in and join the celebration.

29‘Look, I’ve been serving you all these years!’ he angrily replied. ‘I’ve never refused to obey you at any time! Still, you never gave me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.

30‘But the moment this son of yours who squandered your estate with harlots returns, you honor him and celebrate by killing the fattened calf!’

31‘My son,’ the father reasoned, ‘you are always right here with me. And everything I have is yours to do with as you please.

32‘But it’s only right that we should celebrate and be glad, because your brother was dead, but now he’s alive again! He was lost, but now he’s been found!’”

The Dishonest Manager

16One day Jesus said to His followers, “There was once a rich man who was told that his business manager was squandering his money.

2“So he called him in and said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Get all the accounts in order and

Luke 16

give me a full report, because if what I hear is true, you're fired!'

3 "The manager thought to himself, 'What can I do now? I've lost my job! I can't do any physical work, and I'd be ashamed to beg.'

4 'I know what I'll do, so that when I lose my job here, I'll have friends who will take me in.'

5 "So one by one he called in the people who were in debt to his employer. 'How much do you owe my boss?' he asked the first one.

6 '800 gallons of olive oil,' he replied.

'Yes, here's your contract. Tear it up and sit down here quickly,' the manager said, 'and write up and sign a new contract for 400.'

7 "To the next one he said, 'And how much do you owe?'

'1,000 bushels of wheat,' he replied.

'Tear up your bill,' he told him, 'and write up a new one here for 800.'

8 "His employer had to admit that this crooked manager certainly knew how to make plans that might improve his own future. Ironically, those who live only for this life prepare more effectively for their brief and uncertain future here, than those who have seen the light regarding eternal life.

9 "So I challenge you: Make eternal friends for yourselves in Heaven by means of the eternal

Luke 16

investments you can make with the right use of the untrustworthy and precarious riches of this world. Then, when you die, they will be there to welcome you into your everlasting home in Heaven.*

***Lk. 16:9** – Some believe the “they” in verse 9 means that Jesus, the angels, and others in Heaven will be there to welcome you into your everlasting home. Yes, that’s true, but this implies that the riches of this life that you sent on ahead will also be there to welcome you. Jesus commanded you to “Lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven” (Matthew 6:19-21).

10“**A person who is faithful in the smallest matters can also be trusted with large responsibilities. And one who is dishonest in small deals will also be dishonest in big deals.**

11“**So if you have not been faithful in your handling of the untrustworthy, precarious riches of this world that God has entrusted to you, how can He possibly entrust you with the true riches, which are eternal?**

12“**If you have not been faithful in your handling of that which doesn’t even belong to you, how could God possibly be wise and righteous in giving you that which would be your very own?***

***Lk. 16:12** – “How could God possibly be wise and righteous in giving you that which would be your very own?”* Or “And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else’s property, who will give you property of your own?” (NIV).

Luke 16

13“**No servant can serve two masters, because either he will hate one and love the other, or he will serve one with zeal and have little or no time for the other. You cannot serve both God and money!**” Mt. 6:24

Some Additional Sayings of Jesus

14But the Pharisees had great love for money.* So when they heard Him say all this about money, they ridiculed Him with a passion.

Lk. 16:14 – “Had great love for money.” Or “who were covetous.”

15“**You men are clever at convincing the crowd that whatever you do is right,**” Jesus replied. “**But God knows exactly how you are thinking and reasoning in your hearts. And be sure of this: Many of the things that people believe are so noble about you are detestable in God’s understanding of the true situation!**”

The Rich Man and Lazarus

16“**The teachings written in the books of the Law and in the books of the prophets guided you until John the Baptizer appeared on the scene. But since then, the Great News about how one may enter the Kingdom of God is being proclaimed.**”

Luke 16

And great throngs are now earnestly and forcefully pressing their way into it.* Mt. 11:13

Lk. 16:16 – “Earnestly and forcefully pressing their way into it.” See Matthew 11:12; Luke 13:24.

17“But in regard to the Law, it would be easier for both Heaven and earth to disappear than for the smallest detail of God’s laws to be set aside.
Mt. 5:18

18“For instance, whoever divorces his wife and marries someone else committeth adultery. And whoever marries a person who has been divorced committeth adultery. Mt. 5:32

19“There was once a rich man,” Jesus continued, “who dressed himself in the finest and most expensive clothes. He lived a life of luxury in brilliant and merry festivity every day.

20“Someone used to lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, at his front gate.

21“And the dogs would come and lick his sores. His only desire was to be fed the scraps of food left by the rich man.

22“Finally the poor man died and was carried by the angels to be with Abraham in Paradise. The rich man also died and was buried.

23“But he found himself in Hell, being frightfully tormented.* When he looked up, he saw

Luke 16

Abraham way off in the distance, and Lazarus was with him!

Lk. 16:23 – “Being frightfully tormented.” See Matthew 13:41-42; 25:41; Revelation 14:9-11; 20:10-15.

24“So he cried out, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me, and send Lazarus here so that he might at least dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I’m in terrible pain and torment in these flames!’

25“But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember, that in your lifetime you had all the good things, while Lazarus received the bad. But now, he is continually* experiencing joy and abundance, while you are continually* being tormented.

Lk. 16:25 – “Continually.” In Greek the present tense is used which reveals an *ongoing condition*.

26‘And besides all that, between you and us, an immense chasm has been fixed in place, so that it’s impossible for anyone desiring to go from here to you to do so, and no one can go from where you are to us.’

27“‘The man replied, ‘Then please, father Abraham, send him to my father’s house.

Luke 16, 17

28‘I have five brothers. Send him to warn them so they don’t also come to this terrible place of constant, unbearable pain.’

29‘They have the books of Moses and the prophets,’ Abraham replied. ‘Let them read them and be warned.’

30‘No, father Abraham,’ the man pleaded, ‘they won’t pay attention or even bother to read the warnings there. But if someone were to rise from the dead and warn them, they would turn from their sin and live for God!’*

Lk. 16:30 – “Turn from their sin and live for God!” See note at Luke 15:7.

31‘If they won’t listen to Moses and the prophets,’ Abraham replied, ‘neither will they listen and be persuaded to change even if someone came back from the dead to warn them.’**

Lk. 16:31 – “Neither will they listen and be persuaded to change even if someone came back from the dead to warn them.” Christ rose from the dead. But in spite of that, those who love their sin continue to turn their backs on the evidence.

Sin, Faith, and Duty

17 Then He said to His followers, “**There will**

Luke 17

always be people causing others to sin, but woe to the one who is the cause of their sin. Mt. 18:7

2“**It would have been far better for that person if he had been thrown into the sea with a massive millstone tied around his neck, than that he should cause even one of these little ones to stumble.**

“So you must always be on your guard.”* Mt. 18:6; Mk. 9:42

***Lk. 17:2 – “So you must always be on your guard.”* ... so that what you say or do doesn’t become a stumbling block to someone. Luke 17:2 is a frightful warning for anyone who would tempt someone to sin.**

3**“If your brother sins against you, face him with the wrong he has done. If he repents,* forgive him.** Mt. 18:15

***Lk. 17:3 – “If he repents.”* See note at Luke 15:7.**

4**“Even if he sins against you seven times in one day,* and each time comes to you and says, ‘I repent,’ you are to forgive him.”** Mt. 18:22

***Lk. 17:4 – “Seven times in one day.”* See Matthew 18:21-35.**

5The apostles asked the Lord, “Help us to have more faith.”

Luke 17

6“**If you would continue to exercise* whatever faith you have, in the same determined, persistent way that a tiny mustard seed goes to work,**”* the Lord replied, **“you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.** Mt. 17:20; Mt. 21:21; Mk. 11:23

***Lk. 17:6 – “If you would continue to exercise.”* Imperfect tense. The imperfect tense (generally) represents continual or repeated action. “A tiny mustard seed goes to work.”* The tiny mustard seed proceeds with relentless perseverance, once it is planted in good soil, and is faithfully watered and fertilized. That’s the kind of determined, persistent faith we are to exercise. See Luke 11:5-13 and Luke 18:1-8 for illustrations Jesus gave as to how we are to be determined and persistent in the use of our faith.**

7“**Which of you would say to your servant who had just come in from plowing or looking after the sheep, ‘Come on in, sit down and eat’?**

8“**No! Wouldn’t you instead say to him, ‘Wash up now and put on an apron and prepare my supper, and wait on me while I eat and drink. After I’ve finished eating and drinking, then you can eat and drink’?**

9“**Would you thank that servant for obeying orders and doing the things you told him to do? I don’t think so.**

10“**You should have the same attitude. When you have done all you were told to do, you should**

Luke 17

say, ‘We’re not worthy of any praise. We did only our duty.’”

Ten Healed of Leprosy

11As Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem He went through the middle of both Samaria and Galilee.

12As He was entering one of the towns along the way, ten men who were lepers met Him. They didn’t come close, but called to Him from a long way off.

13“Jesus! Master! Have pity on us!” they cried out.

14When Jesus saw them He called out to them, “Be on your way, and show yourselves to the priest.”* And as they went, they were healed!

Lk. 17:14 – “Show yourselves to the priest.” See Leviticus 13 and 14.

15When one of them saw that he was healed, he hurried back to Jesus, loudly shouting praises to God.

16Then he threw himself face down at Jesus’ feet, and gratefully and profusely thanked Him. And he wasn’t even a Jew! He was a despised Samaritan.

17“Weren’t there ten who were healed?” Jesus questioned. “Where are the other nine?”

Luke 17

18“Were none except this foreigner grateful enough to return and praise God?”

19Then He said to the man, “Stand up now and be on your way. Your faith has made you well.”

The Coming of the Kingdom of God

20When the Pharisees asked Him when the Kingdom of God would come, He told them, “The Kingdom of God doesn’t come *at the present time* in a way that you can see it with your eyes.

21“People won’t say, ‘Look! Here it is!’ or ‘See, it’s over there!’ because actually, the Kingdom of God is within you.”*

Lk. 17:21 – “The Kingdom of God is within you,” or “among you,” or “in your midst.”

22Then He said to His followers, “The time will come when you will wish you could see the Son of Man here with you on earth for even one day. But that won’t happen.

23“People will even tell you, ‘Look! He’s over here!’ or ‘Look! He’s over there!’ Don’t make a move to follow them or have anything to do with them. Mt. 24:26

24“Because when the Son of Man comes to earth to reign, He will be as visible for all to clearly see as lightning is when it flashes in one part of the

Luke 17

heavens and then continues in spectacular brilliance across the whole sky.* Mt. 24:27

***Lk. 17:24** – Christ’s followers no doubt did not place as much importance upon His presence with them as they should have. But here the Lord tells them that *the time will come* when they will wish they could have Him with them again for even a single day. Their wish, however, will not be granted.

Instead, false Christ would appear. Certain deceivers and the deceived would claim that Christ was in a certain place or another. Jesus instructs His followers not to believe any such declarations, then or ever.

When Christ comes to earth the second time, his coming will be with such glory and power that the whole world will see Him and know that He has come (Revelation 1:7).

25“However, He must first endure extreme suffering and be rejected by the people of this generation.

26“Things will be the same on earth during the days when the Son of Man is preparing to return to earth as they were in Noah’s day. Mt. 24:37

27“Even during the days just before the flood, people were eating and drinking as usual. Men were marrying wives, and people were giving their daughters in marriage. They were living as usual even on the very day that Noah and his family entered the big ship he had built. Then the flood came and destroyed every one of them.*

***Lk. 17:27** – “The flood came and destroyed every one of them.”*
See Genesis 6:5-8; 7:21-23.

Luke 17

28“It will also be the same as it was when Lot lived in Sodom. They were eating and drinking as usual. They were buying and selling, planting and building.

29“**But the very day that Lot left Sodom, fire and brimstone rained down from the sky and destroyed every one of them.*** Gen. 19:24; Deut. 29:23; 2 Pet. 2:6; Jude 7

***Lk. 17:29 – See Genesis 19:23-25.**

30“**The same usual things will be happening up to the time when the Son of Man is revealed.***

***Lk. 17:30 – Jesus seems to be emphasizing the fact that only the watchful, waiting Christians will recognize the times and realize that the Lord’s coming is near.**

31“**If you are on your roof deck when the warning is sounded, and your valuables are inside the house, you must not go down into the house to save anything! The same applies if you are out in the field; you must not go back to the house for anything!** Mt. 24:18; Mk. 13:15-16

32“**Remember what happened to Lot’s wife when she looked back!**

33“**Whoever insists at this time on saving what he has gained in life, will lose his life! But whoever, without hesitation, abandons his possessions and**

Luke 17, 18

runs, will save his life. Mt. 10:39; Mk. 8:35; Jn. 12:25; Lk. 9:24

34“Two people will be sleeping in the same bed that night. One will be carried off and the other left.

35“Two women will be grinding grain together. One will be carried off and the other left. Mt. 24:41

36“Two men will be working together in the field. One will be carried off and the other left.”

37“Where will all this happen, Lord?” His followers asked Him.

“You’ll always find vultures gathered together,” Jesus replied, “wherever there’s a body about to die.”*

*Lk. 17:37 – The *day* of which the Lord speaks is very likely the day in which the Antichrist will turn against the Jews in Jerusalem. Daniel 8:11-12.

The Need for Persistence When Praying

18One day Jesus told them a parable to teach them that they should always persevere in their praying, and never give up.

2“**In a certain city,**” He said, “**there was a judge who had no fear of God and no desire to help anyone.**

3“**But a widow kept coming to him, continually begging for justice against someone who had wronged her.**

Luke 18

4“He totally ignored her for a long time. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I have no fear of God and no interest in pleasing anyone,

5‘still, because of the way this woman keeps pestering me, I’ll see that she gets justice. Otherwise, her continual pleading will drive me crazy.’

6“Think about what that ungodly judge said,” the Lord continued.

7“And won’t God grant justice to His own people when they continue to cry day and night to Him? Won’t He patiently listen to them, instead of ignoring them?

8“I tell you, He will indeed see that they get justice, and with great speed. The real question is, when the Son of Man returns, will He find that kind of persevering faith among His followers on earth?”*
*Lk. 18:8 – This section of Scripture has at least a twofold purpose. It first shows the power of persevering prayer, and secondly shows how God wants to answer such prayer.

A Pharisee and a Tax Collector Pray

9He also told the following parable to some people who were so sure that they themselves were righteous, but looked down on everyone else:

Luke 18

10“Once two men went up to the Temple to pray—one, a Pharisee, the other, a despised tax collector.

11“**The Pharisee stood there and began praying about himself, like this: ‘God, I thank You that I’m not like other men—greedy, deceitful and unjust, unfaithful in their marriages, or even like that detestable tax collector over there.**

12‘**I fast* two days a week, and I give You one tenth of all my income.’**

***Lk. 18:12 – “Fast,”* that is, “go without eating.” The Hebrew word means “to abstain from food.” “Fasting” was to be a means of humbling and seeking the guidance and help of God (Ezra 8:21; 2 Chron. 20:3). In the case of this Pharisee, fasting was made to be a religious work that caused this man to be self-righteous and look down on others who weren’t doing as he did. It had nothing to do with seeking God.**

13“**But the tax collector stood apart from the others, and didn’t think he was good enough to even lift his eyes to Heaven as he prayed. He was so sorry for what he had done that he just kept beating upon his chest and saying, ‘O God, have pity on me! I’ve been such a terrible sinner!’**

14“**I tell you that this man, not the Pharisee, went back to his home in right standing with God. Because everyone who thinks highly of himself will be brought down, and everyone who truly**

Luke 18

humbles himself before God will be lifted up.”

Mt. 23:12

Jesus Blesses Little Children

15 Some people even brought their babies to Jesus so He could touch *and bless them*. But when His followers saw this, they told the people to stop bothering Him with children. Mt. 19:13; Mk. 10:13

16 But Jesus called the parents and their children over to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and don’t hold them back. Because only those who become like these little children will gain entrance into the Kingdom of God. Mt. 19:14; Mk. 10:14

17 “I tell you the truth, that anyone who refuses to now humbly accept the rule of the Kingdom of God in his heart and life like a little child will definitely not be allowed to enter it.”

The Rich Ruler

18 A certain ruler* once asked Him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to receive everlasting life?” Mt. 19:16; Mk. 10:17; Lk. 10:25

Lk. 18:18 – “A certain ruler.” Evidently a ruler or official of the synagogue.

19 “Why do you call Me ‘good’?” Jesus replied. “There’s only One who is truly good, and that’s God. Mt. 19:17; Mk. 10:18

Luke 18

20“**You know the commandments God has given: ‘Do not commit adultery. Do not murder. Do not steal. Do not tell lies about anyone. Honor your father and mother.’**” Mt. 19:18; Mk. 10:19; Rom. 13:9

21“**I’ve obeyed all of these from the time I was a child,**” the man replied. Mt. 19:20; Mk. 10:20

22Upon hearing his reply, Jesus told him, “**You are still failing God in one area of your life. Sell everything you have and give the money to the poor, and you will be rich in Heaven. Then come follow Me.**” Mt. 6:20; Mk. 10:21

23But when he heard that, he became sad and *his heart sank*, because he was very rich. Mk. 10:22

24When Jesus saw how sad he became, He said to those standing there as the man left, “**It is so difficult for those that have riches to enter the Kingdom of God!**” Mt. 19:23; Mk. 10:23

25“**In fact, it’s easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to gain entrance into the Kingdom of God.**”* Mt. 19:24; Mk. 10:25

***Lk. 18:25 – Jesus is not against riches, but He points out the extreme danger of making riches one’s god, and of using them for self-satisfying purposes instead of under God’s approval and supervision. See Mark 10:27.**

Luke 18

26 Those who heard Him *were stunned*, and exclaimed, “Well, who then can be saved?” Mt. 19:25; Mk. 10:26

27 “Things that are impossible for men are possible with God,” Jesus replied. Mt. 19:26; Mk. 10:27

28 Then Peter spoke up, “Look, we left everything we had and followed You.” Mt. 19:27; Mk. 10:28

29 “I assure you I’m telling you the truth,” Jesus replied, “when I tell you that there is no one who has left home or parents or brothers or wife or children for the sake of the Kingdom of God, Mt. 19:29

30 who will not be repaid many times over in this present life, and will receive everlasting life in the age to come.”

Jesus Again Predicts His Death

31 Then He took the Twelve aside and said to them, “Listen now, we are on our way up to Jerusalem, and all the things that the prophets wrote about the Son of Man will take place when we get there.* Mt. 20:18; Mk. 10:33

*Lk. 18:31 – Psalm 22:1-21; 41:9; Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12; Daniel 9:25-26; Zechariah 11:12-13; 12:10.

32 “Because He will be handed over to the Gentiles, and they will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, Mt. 20:19; Mk. 10:34

Luke 18

33“flog Him, and kill Him. But three days later, He will rise back to life again.” Mt. 20:19; Mk. 10:34

34But they didn't understand a thing He said. In fact, this saying was hidden from them, so they didn't know what He was talking about.*

*Lk. 18:34 – They would remember after He died and rose again that He had prophesied several times that all this would happen.

A Blind Beggar is Healed

35As He was approaching Jericho, a blind man was sitting beside the road begging. Mt. 20:30; Mk. 10:46-47

36When he heard the great crowd going by, he asked those near him what was going on.

37“Jesus from Nazareth is passing by,” they told him.

38Upon hearing that, he shouted, “Jesus! Son of David! Have pity on me!” Mt. 20:30

39“Stop that! Calm down!” the people at the head of the procession scolded him, but he only shouted louder than ever, “Son of David! Have pity on me!” Mk. 10:48

40So Jesus stopped and asked someone to bring the man to Him. Mt. 20:33; Mk. 10:49

41When he came near, Jesus asked him, “**What is it that you want Me to do for you?**”

“Lord,” he said, “I want to be able to see.”

Luke 18, 19

42“**Receive your sight!**” Jesus responded. “**Your faith has made you well.**” Mk. 10:52

43And immediately he could see! So he too joined the crowd and followed Jesus, praising and thanking God. When all the people saw what had happened, they too praised God. Mt. 20:34

The Conversion of Zacchaeus

19Then Jesus went on into Jericho.

²As He was walking through it, a very rich man named Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector, heard He was there.

³So he went out to the street to get a look at Him, but he wasn't able to because of the crowd. He was too short to look over them.

⁴So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to get a look from there, because Jesus would be passing by that way.

⁵When Jesus came to the tree, He looked up and saw him. “**Zacchaeus,**” He said, “**hurry and come down, because I must stay at your house today.**”

⁶So he hurried and came right down. He was very happy to receive Jesus as his guest.

⁷But when the people saw Jesus go with this man they all began to grumble, saying, “He's gone to be the guest of a man who's a sinner!”

Luke 19

⁸*Later that day* Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Lord! I here and now give half of my possessions to the poor. If I have cheated anyone out of anything, I will pay him back four times as much as I took.”*

Lk. 19:8 - “Lord! I here and now give half of my possessions to the poor. If I have cheated anyone out of anything, I will pay him back four times as much as I took.” These words were no doubt spoken at the dinner table after Christ had spoken to Zacchaeus for some time, and he had come to realize he must repent and turn from his former life unto God. His willingness to make more than a full restitution shows that he had a true conversion to Jesus as his Lord (Romans 10:9).

⁹Jesus responded by saying, “Today salvation has come to this house, because you have shown that you are also *now* a true son of Abraham.

¹⁰“The reason the Son of Man has come to this world is to seek out and to save those who are lost.”

Parable of the Ten Gold Coins

¹¹While the people were thinking over what He had just said, He told them another parable in order to correct the idea many had that because He was approaching Jerusalem, the Kingdom of God would now immediately appear on the scene. So He said:

Luke 19

12“**A certain nobleman went to a distant country where he was to be crowned king, after which he would return.** Mt. 25:14

13“**Before leaving he called ten of his servants and gave each of them one mina.* ‘Put this money to work,’ he told them, ‘and see how much profit you can make with it while I’m gone.’** Mt. 25:15

***Lk. 19:13 – “Mina.”* A mina was worth about four months’ wages of a laboring man.**

14“**But some of the citizens of his country had a growing hatred for him, and sent a delegation to the emperor to say, ‘We absolutely refuse to have you as our king!’**

15“**He returned however as king, and sent for the ten servants to whom he had given the money, to find out how much profit each had made.** Mt. 25:19

16“**The first servant said, ‘Sir, your mina has produced ten minas,’** Mt. 25:20

17“**‘Well done!’ the king replied. ‘You are a good servant! Because you’ve been faithful in this very small matter, I am appointing you as governor over ten cities.’** Mt. 25:21

18“**The second servant came and reported, ‘Sir, your mina has produced five minas.’** Mt. 25:22

Luke 19

19“‘The king praised him as well, saying, ‘You will govern five cities.’ Mt. 25:23

20“‘Another came and said, ‘Sir, here is your mina, which I kept hidden safely in a handkerchief.

21‘I am in constant fear of you, because you are a hard man. You take what doesn’t belong to you, and harvest what you didn’t sow.’ Mt. 25:24

22‘You wicked servant!’ the king reprimanded him, ‘I will judge you by the very words you have spoken. So you know, do you, that I am a hard man, taking what doesn’t belong to me, and harvesting what I didn’t sow?’

23‘Why then didn’t you at least put my money in the bank, so that upon my return I could have collected it with interest?’ Mt. 25:27

24“‘Then he said to his guards, ‘Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who gained ten minas.’ Mt. 25:28

25‘But, sir,’ they objected, ‘he already has ten minas!’

26‘Yes, and I’m telling you,’ the king replied, ‘that everyone who has will be given more. But as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken from him.’* Mt. 13:12; Mk. 4:25

***Lk. 19:26 – Matthew 13:12; Mark 4:25; Luke 8:18**

Luke 19

27^c“But now, bring here those enemies of mine who refused to have me as their king, and execute them here in front of me.”* Mt. 25:30

*Lk. 19:27 – The Lord’s *enemies* will be judged (Matt. 25:31-46) and all the ungodly dead raised for final judgment (Rev. 20:11-15).

The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

28When Jesus finished the parable, He went on ahead of the rest, continuing on His way up to Jerusalem.

29As He was approaching Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His followers on a mission. Mt. 21:1

30“Go into the town up ahead,” He told them. “As you enter the town you’ll find a colt tied up. No one has ever ridden that colt, but untie it and bring it here.* Mt. 21:2

*Lk. 19:30 – The colt and the donkey were viewed as a Messianic sign based on Zechariah 9:9, which reads *Tell the people of Jerusalem, “Look, your King is coming to you! He is humble, riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the offspring of a beast of burden.”* On these animals, Jesus rode into the city on Palm Sunday as a public declaration of His Messiahship (See Matthew 21:1-11).

31“‘If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying that colt?’ just say, ‘Because its true Owner needs it.’”

Luke 19

Lk. 19:31 – “The Lord needs it,” that is, “its true Owner needs it.”

32 So the two men went into the town, and found everything just as Jesus had said. Mk. 11:4

33 But as they were untying the colt, the owners called out to them, “Hey! What are you doing there, untying that colt?” Mk. 11:5

34 “Its true Owner needs it,” they replied. Mk. 11:6

35 Then they brought it to Jesus, threw their robes on its back and helped Jesus get on it. Mt. 21:7

36 And as He rode along, others repeatedly spread their robes on the road. Mt. 21:8

37 Then, as He descended from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem, that whole crowd following Him began to joyfully and loudly shout praises to God for the great miracles they had seen.

38 “God bless the King who comes in the name of the Lord!” (*Psalm 118:26*) they were shouting.

“There is peace in Heaven, and glory in the presence of God in the highest Heaven!” Mt. 21:9

39 Some of the Pharisees then called out to Him from the crowd that was watching, “Teacher, tell your followers to stop shouting such nonsense!”

40 “I tell you the truth,” Jesus responded, “if these people were to keep silent, the very stones would

Luke 19

immediately cry out and say exactly what these people are saying.”*

***Lk. 19:40** – This was a very special time for God to be praised, just before the great and costly sacrifice for our sins. God’s great love for us is worthy of our loudest and most exuberant praise.

Jesus Weeps Over Jerusalem

41As He came closer to Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it.*

***Lk. 19:41** – “He wept over it.”* Jesus was overcome with compassion as He viewed the guilty city that he knew would soon receive one of the most awesome bloodbaths of history, and be left in ruins.

42“**If only you had known,**” He lamented, “at least you, the people of Jerusalem—if only you had known the wonderful peace that could be yours in this Day that was promised you and belongs to you. But now the precious truth is hidden from you!

43“**Because of this,** the time will come upon you when your enemies will pile up earth against your walls and surround you and close in on you on every side.

44“**They will so completely destroy both you and the people within your walls that not even one stone will be left upon another, because you did not recognize your God when He came to save you!**”* Mt. 24:2; Mk. 13:2

Luke 19, 20

*Lk. 19:44 – This prophecy was fulfilled in A.D. 70 when the Romans burned and leveled Jerusalem, and took almost 100,000 prisoners to Rome as slaves.

Jesus at the Temple

45When He arrived in the city, He went into the Temple area and began to drive out those who were buying and selling there. Mt. 21:12

46“**It is written in the Scriptures that God has said,**” He protested emphatically, **My house is to be a house of prayer, (Isaiah 56:7) but you have turned it into a place for thieves to do business!**”
(*Jeremiah 7:11*) Mt. 21:13; Mk. 11:17

47He taught every day in the Temple area. And all during that time, the chief priests, the teachers of the Law, and the leaders among the people were trying to find a way to destroy Him. Mk. 11:18

48But they were unable to do anything, because all the people were listening so very carefully to everything He said.* Mk. 11:18

Lk. 19:48 – “All the people were listening so very carefully to everything He said.” This implies that great numbers of Jews did follow Jesus. Historians claim that as many as a million Jews were followers of Jesus in the first century.

Jewish Leaders Question Jesus’ Authority

20One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the Temple courts and telling them the Great News, the chief priests and the teachers of the

Luke 20

Law, together with the elders, confronted Him.
Mt. 21:23

2“Tell us,” they demanded, “by whose authority did you do the things you’ve been doing in the Temple area recently? Just who do you think gave you such authority?” Mt. 21:23

3“**First give Me an answer to a question I have for you,**” He replied. Mt. 21:24; Mk. 11:29

4“**Where did John get his authority to baptize people—from God, or was it just his own idea?**”

5They talked it over among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘He received it from God,’ He will say, ‘Why, then, didn’t you believe him?’ Mt. 21:25

6“**But if we say, ‘It was just his own idea,’ this whole mob will stone us to death, because they’re all convinced that John was a prophet.**” Mt. 21:26

7So they said, “We don’t know where he got his authority.” Mt. 21:27

8“**And neither will I tell you who gave Me the right to do what I do,**” He responded. Mt. 21:27; Mk. 11:33

The Parable of the Sharecroppers

9Then He told the people this parable: “**There was once a man who planted a vineyard. He rented it out to sharecroppers, and then left the area for a long time.** Mt. 21:33; Mk. 12:1

Luke 20

10“At harvest time he sent one of his men to the renters to pick up his share of the fruit from the vineyard. But they beat him up and sent him away without a thing. Mt. 21:35

11“So he sent another man. But they treated him shamefully too, beating him up and sending him away empty-handed. Mt. 21:36

12“He sent a third one. They wounded this one too, and threw him out. Mt. 21:36

13‘What shall I do?’ the owner of the vineyard wondered. ‘I know,’ he said. ‘I’ll send my son, whom I love so dearly. Maybe they’ll show some respect when they see it’s my son I’m now sending.’ Mt. 21:37; Mk. 12:6

14“But when the renters saw him coming they went into a huddle and said, ‘Look! Here comes the heir. Let’s kill him, and we’ll get this vineyard for ourselves.’

15“So they dragged him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now what do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to those men? Mt. 21:41

16“‘I’ll tell you what he’ll do! He’ll come and utterly destroy those renters and rent the vineyard to others.’” Mt. 21:41

When the people heard this, they said, “May such a thing never happen!”

17But firmly fixing His eyes on them He said, “What does the Scripture mean then that says:

Luke 20

The Stone that the builders threw out as worthless has become the Chief Cornerstone?

(Psalms 118:22) Mt. 21:42; Mk. 12:10-11

18“Everyone who falls on that Stone will be broken, but on whomever It falls, It will grind him to powder!”* Mt. 21:44; Dan. 2:45

*Lk. 20:18 – All who cast themselves on Christ, the Rock of humanity’s salvation, and seek mercy from Him, must abandon themselves to Him. Those who reject His mercy and reject His Lordship over their lives will experience the awful descending blow of judgment (Acts 24:25; Jam. 2:13).

Paying Taxes to Caesar Questioned

19Knowing very well that Jesus had spoken that parable against them, the chief priests and teachers of the Law wanted desperately to arrest Him at once, but they were afraid of what the crowd would do if they did. Mt. 21:46; Mk. 12:12

20So after watching Him closely, they sent spies to Him who pretended to be friendly. But they were actually trying to get Him to say something they could report to the governor, so the governor would arrest Him.

21“Teacher,” they said, “we know you always speak the truth, and you teach what’s true. You’re not trying to gain the favor of anyone; but you teach God’s truth as it really is. Mt. 22:17; Mk. 12:14

Luke 20

22“So would you tell us: Is it right, according to the Laws God has given us, for us Jews to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor? Or should we refuse to pay them?” Mt. 22:17

23But He saw through the underhanded way they were trying to trap Him, so He said, “**Why are you testing Me? Show Me the coin you use to pay the tax.**” Mt. 22:18; Mk. 12:15-17

24When they handed Him the coin, He said, “**Whose picture and name are on here?**”
“Caesar’s,” they replied.

25“**In that case,**” He said, “**give Caesar what belongs to him, and give to God what belongs to God.**”

26So they didn’t get Him to say anything they could use against Him, and they were stunned by His answer. It completely silenced them. Mt. 22:22

The Question about Marriage in Heaven

27Then some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection back to life after death, came to Him with a question. Mt. 22:23; Mk. 12:18

28“Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote this law for us: ‘If a man dies and leaves a wife but no children, his brother must marry the widow, and raise up a child for his brother.’* Mt. 22:24; Mk. 12:19; Dt. 25:5

Luke 20

Lk. 20:28 – “Raise up a child for his brother.” ... *to inherit his property.*

29“Once there were seven brothers. The oldest married a wife, but he died without any children.
Mt. 22:25; Mk. 12:20

30“The second married the widow, and he too died childless. Mk. 12:21

31“Then the third married her. In fact, all seven married her, and all died childless.

32“Finally the woman died too. Mt. 22:27; Mk. 12:22

33“Now the question is: Whose wife will she be when those seven brothers are resurrected? After all, each of them was married to her.” Mt. 22:28; Mk. 12:23

34“**The people of this age marry and are given in marriage,**” Jesus replied.

35“**But those whom God considers worthy to live in the age to come, and are resurrected from the dead, will neither marry nor be given in marriage.**
Mk. 12:25

36“**Nothing will cause them to die anymore, so they will be like the angels. After God raises them back to life, they will all be children of God, being the children of the resurrection.**

37“**Even in the report Moses gave about the burning bush, it is clear that God was revealing that the dead will come back to life, when He told Moses that He’s the One who is worshiped as**

Luke 20

God by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.* Mt. 22:32; Mk. 12:26-27; Ex. 3:6; Ex. 4:5

Lk. 20:37 – “The One who is worshiped as God by Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.” See Exodus 3:6, 15.

38“**He’s not the God of people who are dead, but of those who are very much alive. And God speaks of all people as being alive *somewhere*.**”

39Some of the teachers of the Law then spoke up and agreed, “Teacher, that was a good answer.”

40After that no one dared to ask Him any more questions. Mt. 22:46; Mk. 12:34

Whose Son is the Messiah?

41Then Jesus asked them a question, “**How can the Scripture be true that says that the Messiah is to be a descendant of King David?**”

42“**Because in the Book of Psalms, David himself said:**

**God said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand
43until I put Your enemies under Your feet as a
footstool for Your feet.’ (*Psalm 110:1*)**

44“**So David calls the Messiah his ‘Lord’. How can He then be his descendant?”*** Mt. 22:45; Mk. 12:37

*Lk. 20:44 – Christ is actually the Son of God, therefore David’s Lord. But He took on human form, and received His human

Luke 20, 21

body through the ancestry of David. For that reason, He is a descendant of David.

45 Then while all the people were listening, He said to His followers,

46 “Be on your guard so you don’t become like the teachers of the Law. They love to walk around in long, flowing robes, and be honorably greeted in the markets. They want the prominent seats in the synagogues and a place at the head table at banquets. Mt. 23:7; Mk. 12:39

47 “Yet these are the same men who cheat widows out of their homes and other properties, and then pretend to be so godly by making long prayers. But be sure of this, those men will receive greater and more severe sentences on Judgment Day than other sinners!” Mt. 23:14; Mk. 12:40

The Widow’s Offering

21 As Jesus was later sitting down, He watched as the rich were putting their gifts into the offering box. Mk. 12:41

2 Then He also saw a very poor widow dropping in two tiny brass coins.* Mk. 12:42

Lk. 21:2 – “Two tiny brass coins.” Or *copper coins, tiny coins* (the cheapest kind of money).

Luke 21

3“**I tell you the truth,**” He said, “**that poor widow put in more than all the others.**” Mk. 12:43

4“**Everyone else put in gifts from their surplus, but even though she is poor she put in everything she had—even what she was to live on!**” Mk. 12:44

Signs of the End of the Age

5Then some of His followers remarked about the grandeur of the Temple, how beautifully adorned it was with beautiful stones and various gifts that had been dedicated to God. Mt. 24:1; Mk. 13:1

6“**As for all the beautiful things you see here,**” Jesus replied, “**the time will come when not one stone will be left upon another. They will all be torn down.**” Mt. 24:2; Mk. 13:2

7“Teacher!” they exclaimed, “when will all that happen? And what signal will there be that it’s about to happen?”* Mt. 24:3; Mk. 13:3-4

*Lk. 21:7 – It appears that the disciples asked Jesus, “Teacher, when will all this happen?” etc. They were asking about His statement that the Temple would be utterly destroyed. But He does more than answer their question. In verses 9-11 and 25-28 he tells them about events concerning the end of the age and of His coming *with power and great glory*.

8“**You must always be on your guard,**” He replied, “**so that no one deceives you. Because many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the**

Luke 21

Christ, and the time is near.’* Have nothing to do with them. Mt. 24:4-5; Mk. 13:5-6

Lk. 21:8 – “The time is near,” for Me to reign as King of kings.

9“ And don’t be afraid when you hear of wars and revolutions, because these events must take place first. But that doesn’t mean that the end will come immediately.” Mt. 24:6; Mk. 13:7

10Then He said to them, “*As the end approaches*, many nations will rise up against many other nations, and kingdoms against kingdoms. Mt. 24:7-8; Mk. 13:8

11“ And there will be great earthquakes, famines, and disease epidemics in various places. There will also be terrifying sights and incredible happenings threatening from the heavens.* Mt. 24:7-8

*Lk. 21:11 – In verses 9-11, Jesus goes into the matter of the end of the age before we come to verse 12 in which He begins to tell them about the coming destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple (A.D. 70), and of events immediately preceding that destruction.

12“ But before all these end-time events happen, they will arrest you and treat you brutally with contempt. You will be dragged into synagogues* and thrown into jails. And you will be brought before kings and rulers because of the stand you will take for Me. Mt. 10:18; Mk. 13:9

Luke 21

Lk. 21:12 – “You will be dragged into synagogues”* ... *for trial

13“**But this will all turn out to be your opportunity to tell them the Great News.** Mt. 10:18; Mk. 13:9

14“***So when you are arrested, make up your minds not to worry or even think about what you will say in your defense.***

15“**Because I will work through your mind and mouth, and give you such words of wisdom that none of your enemies will be able to successfully prove you wrong or contradict what you say.***

***Lk. 21:15 – Verses 14-15 were instructions for those living before Jerusalem was destroyed in A.D. 70, but the same applies today.**

16“**But you will be betrayed by even your own parents, brothers, relatives, and friends and turned over to those who want your mouth closed. They will even send some of you to your death.** Mt. 10:21

17“***And as a rule, you will be hated by people everywhere because of the stand you take for Me.*** Mt. 10:22

18“**But not even a single hair from your heads will be lost.**

19“**You will save your souls by standing firm, and patiently enduring *whatever God allows to come your way.***

Luke 21

20“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, that will be the sign by which you will know that the city will soon be destroyed.* Mt. 24:15-16; Mk. 13:14

Lk. 21:20 – In verses 20-22 the Lord begins answering His followers’ question as to how they would know when the Temple was about to be destroyed. The sign would be, *when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies.

21“Those living in Judea must then make their escape into the hills. Those in Jerusalem must leave at the earliest opportunity, and those outside the city must not attempt to enter it.

22“Because this will be the time of the judgment of Israel, in fulfillment of all that the prophets have written.*

Lk. 21:22 – “In fulfillment of all that the prophets have written.” That is, all that the prophets had written about the destruction of Jerusalem. Judgment had been threatened by almost all the prophets against the people of that city.

23“**And woe to women who are pregnant or have nursing babies at that time, because there will be frightful disaster throughout the land and wrath against this people.** Mt. 24:19; Mk. 13:17

24“**Great numbers will be slaughtered by the sword. Others will be led away as slaves into all nations.* And Jerusalem will be trampled on by**

Luke 21

the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles comes to an end.

Lk. 21:24 – “Others will be led away as slaves into all nations.”
The Romans killed over one million Jews in A.D. 70, and carried almost 100,000 into slavery.

25“*And as the times of the Gentiles are coming to an end*, strange things will happen to the sun, moon, and stars. People in the nations on earth will be utterly confused, baffled, and panic-stricken when mammoth waves surge and roar in the oceans and giant tides violently sweep in over the land.

26“Many will die of heart failure because of being terror-stricken, resulting from the frightful things that are happening to the earth, and as they wonder what will happen next. Because the natural forces in the heavens controlling the planets will be violently shaken.

27“*And it is during the time of this great chaos that the Son of Man will be seen coming to earth in a cloud, with power and great glory.* Mt. 24:30; Mk. 13:26

28“*But even when the end-time happenings are just beginning to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because all of this will mean that the time of the fulfillment of your redemption is near.*”

Luke 21

29 Then He told them another parable. “Look at the fig tree and all the other trees,” He said. Mt. 24:32

30 “When you look at those trees and see them beginning to sprout leaves, you know very well that summer is almost here. Mt. 24:32; Mk. 13:28

31 “In the same way, when you see these things happening you can know that the Kingdom of God is soon to be established on earth.* Mt. 24:33; Mk. 13:29

***Lk. 21:31 – In verses 29-31, many have taught that *the fig tree* here refers to the Jews. But notice that Jesus also adds the phrase *and all the other trees*. Jesus is simply pointing out the fact that when the trees of the field and forest begin shooting forth leaves, it is obvious that summer is close at hand. Likewise, Christ wants us to know that when we *see these things happening*, we are to know that *the Kingdom of God is soon to be established on earth*.**

32 “I tell you the solemn truth, this generation will positively not pass away before all of these things have taken place. Mt. 24:34; Mk. 13:30

33 “Heaven and earth will indeed pass away, but there’s no possibility whatever that what I say will come to nothing. Mk. 13:31

34 “So you must always be on your guard. Don’t allow yourselves at any time to indulge in harmful and illicit practices—getting drunk, for instance, or even getting so burdened down and depressed by the cares of this life, that the Great

Luke 21

Day suddenly overtakes you when you are least expecting it.

35“Because the end will come upon everyone living upon the face of the entire earth with the suddenness and unexpectedness of the springing of a trap.*

***Lk. 21:35 – Don’t count on getting ready to meet God at the time of your choosing. Your last day in this life could be today. Prepare to meet God!**

36“**So keep awake and be alert, and continually pray that you will have the strength to escape being overwhelmed by all the temptations and judgments of the end times, and that you will be one who will stand acquitted* in the presence of the Son of Man.**”*

Lk. 21:36 – “That you will be one who will stand acquitted.” Passive voice, in which the subject (you) receives the action. This has nothing to do with your physical position as you stand before the Lord. It has to do with your standing, your status or condition, as you appear before *the Son of Man*. “In the presence of the Son of Man.” Christ was giving warning here to His followers to make sure they didn’t allow themselves to be caught up in all the sinfulness and subtle temptations of the last days, nor to be shaken by the judgment that would result. We are warned in Daniel 8:23 that the latter days will see sin permeating the earth to its fullest extent. It was of these times and temptations of which Christ warned here, challenging His hearers to *watch* their lives most carefully.

Luke 21, 22

³⁷Every day Jesus taught in the Temple courts, and when evening came, He would go out to the hill called the Mount of Olives and spend the night there.

³⁸Then early in the morning, all the people would return to the Temple courts to listen to Him.

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

22The time was now very near for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover.*

***Lk. 22:1** – “The Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover.”* The seven-day festival beginning with the Feast of Passover, during which only bread made without yeast is eaten.

²And the chief priests and teachers of the Law were still looking for a way to kill Jesus, because they were really afraid of the way the people were taking hold of every word He said.* Mt. 26:4; Mk. 14:1

***Lk. 22:2** – “They were really afraid of the way the people were taking hold of every word He said.”* Or *Looking for a way to do away with Jesus without attracting the attention of the people.*

³Then Satan entered into Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve.

Luke 22

⁴He then went to the chief priests and captains of the Temple guard, and talked with them about how he could betray Jesus to them. Mt. 26:14-15; Mk. 14:10-11

⁵Delighted with his plan, they agreed to give him money.

⁶So he promised them he would indeed turn Jesus over to them, and began looking for a time and place to do so when there wouldn't be a crowd. Mt. 26:16

The Last Supper

⁷Then came the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lambs were to be killed and then eaten with bread made without yeast.

⁸So Jesus sent Peter and John to Jerusalem, and instructed them, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.” Mt. 26:17

⁹“Where do You want us to prepare it?” they asked Him.

¹⁰“As soon as you enter the city,” He replied, “you will meet a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him into the house he enters. Mk. 14:13

¹¹“Then say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher told us to ask you, ‘Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My followers?’”

Luke 22

12“**He will then show you a large upstairs room, all furnished. Get things ready for us there.**”

Mk.14:15

13So they left, and found everything just as Jesus had said. And they went ahead and prepared the Passover meal. Mt. 26:19

14When it was time for the meal, Jesus reclined at the table with His twelve apostles. Mt. 26:20

15Then He said to them, “**It has been with fervent desire that I have looked forward to eating this Passover with you before I suffer.**

16“**Because I’m telling you, I will not eat the Passover again until I eat it in the Kingdom of God, after its true meaning has been fulfilled.**”

17Then He took the cup, and after giving thanks to God, He said to His followers, “**Take this and share it among yourselves.** Mt. 26:27; Mk. 14:23

18“**Because I’m telling you, I will not drink again of the produce of the vineyard until the Kingdom of God comes.**” Mt. 26:29; Mk. 14:25

19Then He took bread, and after giving thanks to God, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “**This is My body* which is given for you. Eat it in remembrance of Me.**” Mt. 26:26; Mk. 14:22

Lk. 22:19 – “This is My body,”* possibility meaning *this represents or is a picture of or will bring to your remembrance My body.

Luke 22

20In the same way He picked up the cup after supper, saying, “The contents of this cup represents God’s New Agreement with you, sealed and guaranteed by My blood which is being poured out for you. Mt. 26:28; Mk. 14:24

21“*But listen! The one who is in the process of betraying Me is at the table here with Me as a friend!*

22“*It’s true that the Son of Man will go from this life in the very way the Scriptures have declared,* but woe to the man by whom He is betrayed!*” Mt. 26:24

Lk. 22:22 – “The Scriptures have declared.” See Psalm 22:1-21; 41:9; Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12; Daniel 9:25-26; Zechariah 11:12-13; 12:10.

23The followers then began to ask among themselves which of them would ever do such a thing.

24Then, too, there was rivalry among them, since they were concerned about which of them would be considered the greatest.

25So Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over the people. And those who exercise authority over others call themselves benefactors.*

Luke 22

***Lk. 22:25 – The word “Benefactors”* is best understood as a title which kings and princes claim for themselves.**

26“**But that’s not the way it’s to be among you. The greatest among you must be as humble as if he were the youngest, and let the one who leads act as a servant.**

27“**Because who is greater, the one who sits and is served, or the one who serves? Isn’t it the one who is served by others? And still, I am among you as a servant.**

28“**But you are those who have continued to stand by Me in My trials.**

29“**So I will give you authority to rule as kings, just as My Father has given Me authority to rule.**

30“**And for that reason you may 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! Listen carefully! Satan has demanded that he be allowed to thresh all of you as wheat.***

***Lk. 22:31 – “Satan has demanded that he be allowed to thresh all of you as wheat.”* Or *Satan has desired to separate all of you from Me.* The Greek is plural.**

32“**But I have most earnestly prayed for you, Simon, and asked the Father to make sure that**

Luke 22

your faith doesn't fail. And when you have returned to Me,* strengthen your brothers."

Lk. 22:32 – “And when you have returned to Me.” The English word is “converted” meaning *a turning about, or round*. See Acts 3:19; 1 Thess. 1:9.

33“But, Lord,” Peter replied, “I’m even ready to go to jail with You! Or even die with You!” Mt. 26:35; Mk. 14:31

34“I tell you the truth, Peter,” Jesus replied. “Before the rooster crows this morning you will have said three times that you don’t even know Me.” Mt. 26:34; Mk. 14:30; Jn. 13:38

35Then He asked them, “When I sent you out to preach the Great News without money, suitcase, or extra clothing, you didn’t lack anything, did you?”

“No, nothing at all,” they replied.

36“**But now, if any of you have money, take it along,**” He said. “**Do the same if you have a suitcase. If you don’t have a sword, sell some of your clothes if necessary and buy one.**”

37“**Because I tell you that the Scripture about Me that says, ‘He was condemned as a criminal,’ (Isaiah 53:12) must take place. Because all that has been written about Me has an ultimate purpose in view.**” Mk. 15:28

Luke 22

38“Look, Lord,” His followers then said, “here are two swords.”

“**That’s enough**,” He replied.

Jesus Prays on the Mount of Olives

39Then He left, and as He had been in the habit of doing, He went out to the Mount of Olives, and His followers went with Him.

40On reaching the place, He said to them, “**You must pray now that you won’t fall into temptation.**” Mt. 26:41

41Then He walked away from them about as far as a man can throw a stone, and knelt down, and prayed.

42“**Father!**” He earnestly prayed, “**if there is any possibility at all that You are willing, please take away from Me this horrendous cup of suffering! But I definitely want Your will to be done, not Mine.**” Mt. 26:42

43Then an angel from Heaven appeared, and strengthened Him.

44Because He was in such awful agony, He prayed so earnestly that His sweat was like great drops of blood falling to the ground.

45When He got up from praying and went back to His followers, He found them asleep, exhausted as a result of their deep sorrow. \

Luke 22

46“Why are you sleeping?” He asked them. “Get up and keep on praying, so you won’t fall into temptation!”

The Arrest of Jesus

47But while He was still speaking, suddenly there was a crowd of people there. And Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them! He went right up to Jesus and greeted Him with a kiss on the cheek. Mt. 26:47; Mk. 14:43

48“Judas!” Jesus responded, “are you actually betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

49When those around Him saw what was about to happen, they exclaimed, “Lord, shall we strike them down with the sword?”

50And one of them slashed out at the servant of the High Priest and cut off his right ear. Mt. 26:51; Mk. 14:47; Jn. 18:10

51“That’s enough!” Jesus demanded. Then He touched the man’s ear and healed him.

52Then He said to the chief priests and captains of the Temple guard and the elders who had come to arrest Him, “Have you come out to arrest Me with swords and clubs, as if I were a thief? Mt. 26:55; Mk. 14:48

53“When I was with you daily in the Temple you didn’t dare to even lay a hand on Me. But this is your brief hour, when the power of darkness is being allowed to take over.” Mk. 14:49

Luke 22

Peter Disowns Jesus

54 Then they grabbed hold of Him and led Him away, and brought Him to the house of the High Priest. And following behind at a distance was Peter. Mt. 26:58; Mk. 14:54

55 After kindling a fire in the middle of the courtyard, the soldiers and the servants of the High Priest sat down, and Peter sat down with them. Mt. 26:58

56 A servant girl saw him sitting there by the fire, and after looking intently at him she said, “This man was also with him.” Mt. 26:69

57 But he denied even knowing Him. “Woman,” he said, “I haven’t even met the man.”

58 A short while later someone else looked at him and said, “You are also one of them.”

“No, sir,” Peter replied, “I most certainly am not!” Mt. 26:72; Jn. 18:25

59 About an hour later another person strongly affirmed, “This man has got to be one of those who were with him. It’s very plain that he’s a Galilean.” Mt. 26:73

60 “Listen, man!” Peter replied, “I don’t know what you’re talking about.” And immediately, even while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. Mt. 26:75; Mk. 14:71

61 The Lord then turned and looked at Peter. Suddenly Peter remembered what the Lord had

Luke 22

said when He had told him, “**Before the rooster crows this morning you will have said three times that you don’t even know Me.**”

62 And Peter walked out of there weeping bitterly.
Mt. 26:75; Mk. 14:72; Jn. 18:27

63 Meanwhile the men guarding Jesus began mocking and ridiculing Him, and then beating Him.

64 After blindfolding Him, they kept striking Him in the face, and demanding, “Prophecy! Who hit you that time?” Mt. 26:68

65 They also threw many other insults at Him as they abused Him with foul language.

Jesus Before the Council

66 As soon as daybreak arrived, the elders of the people, and both the chief priests and teachers of the Law, came together and led Jesus before their Council.

67 “Tell us,” they demanded, “are you the Messiah?”

“**If I did tell you,**” He replied, “**there’s no possibility that you would believe Me.**”

68 “**If, on the other hand, I were to ask you why you are so convinced that I am not the Messiah, you wouldn’t answer Me, or let Me go.**”

Luke 22, 23

69“**But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Almighty God.**”

Mt. 26:64; Mk. 14:62

70“Are you claiming, then, that you are the Son of God?” they all then demanded.

“**You are stating the truth when you say that I am,**” He replied.

71“**What more testimony do we need!**” they then shouted. “We’ve all heard him say it with his own lips!” Mt. 26:65; Mk. 14:63

Jesus Before Pilate and Herod

23 Then the entire Council got up and led Him off to Pilate. Mt. 27:2; Mk. 15:1

2 There they began to accuse Him, saying, “This man is misleading our nation! For one thing, he keeps telling the people to refuse to pay taxes to Caesar. And then he claims he’s the Messiah, a King.”

3 So Pilate asked Him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

“**Yes, what you say is true,**” He replied. Mt. 27:11; Mk. 15:2; Jn. 18:33, 37

4 Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd, “I don’t find this man guilty of any crime.” Jn. 18:38; Jn. 19:4

5 “But, Sir!” they fiercely insisted, “he is continually stirring up the people all over Judea

Luke 23

with his teaching! He started in Galilee, and he's been stirring up the people all the way from there to here!"

⁶When Pilate heard about Galilee, he asked if the man were a Galilean.

⁷And as soon as he learned that Jesus was from the region ruled by Herod, he sent Him to Herod, who happened to be in Jerusalem at the time.

⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was extremely glad, because he had been wanting to see Him for a long time. He had heard so many things about Him that he hoped he could see Him perform a miracle.

⁹So he showered Him with many questions. But Jesus gave him no answer.

¹⁰During all this time, the chief priests and teachers of the Law had been standing there hurling vicious charges against Him.

¹¹Finally Herod and his soldiers began to treat Him with contempt, and ridicule and mock Him. Last of all, in scorn they dressed Him in a royal robe, and sent Him back to Pilate.

¹²That day marked the beginning of friendship between Pilate and Herod. Before that they had been enemies.

¹³Pilate then called the people together along with the chief priests and other Jewish leaders.

Luke 23

14“**You brought this man to me,**” he said to them, “**charging him with misleading the people. I have examined him here in your presence, and I have not found him guilty of any of the charges you’ve made against him.**”

15“**No, and neither did Herod when I sent you up to him. The truth is, he has done nothing to deserve death.**”

16“**So I will have him severely whipped, and then let him go.**”

17He said this because it was necessary to release one prisoner to the people during the Feast. Mt. 27:15; Mk. 15:6; Jn. 18:39

18But the whole crowd immediately shouted, “**Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!**” Jn. 18:40

19Now Barabbas had been thrown in jail for his part in starting a riot in the city, and for murder.

20But Pilate really wanted to release Jesus, so again he appealed to the crowd.

21But they just kept shouting, “**Crucify him! Crucify him!**”

22A third time Pilate called out to them, “**Why? What wrong has he done? I haven’t found any reason why he should die! I will therefore have him severely whipped and let him go!**”

Luke 23

23But they kept shouting loudly and insistently, demanding that He be crucified. So the shouting mob and the chief priests finally won out.

24Pilate finally caved in and sentenced Jesus to death, even the kind of death that the mob demanded.

25Surrendering to their persistent demand, he also released Barabbas to them, the one who had been thrown in jail for starting a riot and committing murder. But he turned Jesus over to them to do with as they wished.

Jesus Is Crucified

26As they led Him away, they grabbed hold of a man from Cyrene* named Simon. He was on his way into the city from the country, and they made him carry the cross and walk behind Jesus. Mt. 27:32; Mk. 15:21

Lk. 23:26 – “Cyrene.” Cyrene was a city in the ancient province of Cyrenaica, in Libya, North Africa.

27A great crowd of people followed Him, including several grief-stricken women who continued to mourn and weep for Him.

28But Jesus turned to them and said, “**Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for Me, but begin to weep for yourselves and for your children.**”

Luke 23

29“Because the time will surely come when people will say, ‘Women who couldn’t give birth, and those who never gave birth to children or nursed them are the fortunate ones.’”

30“Then is when people will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us!’”(Hosea 10:8) Rev. 6:16

31“Because if they do this when the wood is green, what will they do when it’s dry?”*

*Lk. 23:31 – This appears to be a proverbial expression. It’s not easy to burn a green tree, but a dry one is easily kindled and burns rapidly. The meaning is: “If the Romans do this to Me, One who is innocent and blameless, what will they do later to this guilty nation?” And it was fulfilled in A.D. 70. See Luke 21:5-6, 20-24.

32Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be put to death.

33When they arrived at the place called The Skull,* they nailed Him to a cross. They also crucified the criminals, one on His right, and the other on His left. Mt. 27:33; Mk. 15:22; Jn. 19:17

Lk. 23:33 – “The Skull,” also known as *Calvary*.

34And while hanging there on the cross, Jesus prayed, “Father, forgive these people. They don’t know what they’re doing.” Meanwhile, the

Luke 23

soldiers threw dice to decide who would get His clothes.* Mt. 27:35; Mk. 15:24; Jn. 19:24

***Lk. 23:34 – See Matthew 27:35; John 19:23-24.**

³⁵The people then just stood there, watching. But some were making snide remarks, being joined by the Jewish leaders. “He saved others,” they sneered, “let him save himself now if he’s really the Messiah, God’s Chosen One.”

³⁶The soldiers kept mocking Him too, offering Him vinegar to drink! Mt. 27:34; Mk. 15:23

³⁷“If you are the King of the Jews,” they jeered, “save yourself!”

³⁸On a board above His head were these words, written in Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: Mt. 27:37; Mk. 15:26; Jn. 19:19

THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS

³⁹Then one of the criminals hanging there also began shouting insults at Him, saying, “If you’re the Messiah, save yourself. And while you’re working that out, how about saving us too?”

⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him, saying, “Don’t you even fear God? You’re in the same predicament He’s in.

Luke 23

41“After what we did, we deserve what we’re getting. But this man hasn’t done anything wrong!”

42Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom.”

43“**Yes, I promise you,**” Jesus replied, “**today you will be with Me in Paradise.**”

The Death and Burial of Jesus

44Then at 12 noon, an amazing thing happened—the sun stopped shining, and the whole earth was enveloped in darkness until 3 o’clock in the afternoon! Mt. 27:45; Mk. 15:33

45And then suddenly, at 3 o’clock,* the great curtain separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place in the Temple was torn in two!* Mt. 27:51; Mk. 15:38

***Lk. 23:45 – “Suddenly, at 3 o’clock”* ... *there was a great earthquake and rocks split ... See Matthew 27:51. “The great curtain separating the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place in the Temple was torn in two.”** The great curtain separated the Holy Place in the Temple from the Most Holy Place. The Most Holy Place has usually been considered to represent Heaven, and the tearing of the great curtain by the miraculous, Divine hand of God, indicates that the way into Heaven and into the very presence of our Holy God is now open for everyone to enter.**

46Then Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “**Father, I entrust My spirit into Your hands!**” After saying this, He died. Mt. 27:50; Jn. 19:30

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47 When the captain of the soldiers considered all that had happened, he glorified God, and said, “Without a doubt, this Man was innocent!” Mt. 27:54; Mk. 15:39

48 And when the whole crowd that had come to see the crucifixion saw all that had taken place, they returned to the city beating their breasts in deep sorrow and distress.*

Lk. 23:48 – “Returned to the city beating their breasts in deep sorrow and distress.” Even some who had jeered at Him may have now become convinced that they had just seen the Son of God crucified.

49 But all who knew Him personally, including the women who had followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching all this take place. Mt. 27:56; Mk. 15:40-41

50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a good, honest, and upright man from the Judean town of Arimathea, who was a member of the Jewish Council. Mt. 27:57; Jn. 19:38

51 He had not agreed with the rest of the Council in their decision about Jesus, nor in what they had done. He was one who was earnestly waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Mk. 15:43

52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Mt. 27:58

53 After getting permission, he took the body down from the cross and wrapped it in a linen

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cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been carved out of a wall of rock. No one had ever been laid in this tomb before. Mt. 27:60; Mk. 15:45; Jn. 19:40

⁵⁴That was the day when preparations were being made for the Sabbath that would follow. Mt. 27:62; Jn. 19:42

⁵⁵Now the women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed the body to the tomb, so they saw where the tomb was and how the body was laid in it.

⁵⁶Then they went back to where they were staying and prepared spices and perfumes for His burial. And in obedience to God's command, they then rested on the Sabbath.

The Resurrection

24Then very early on Sunday morning, together with several other women, they went to the tomb, bringing the spices they had prepared. Mt. 28:1; Mk. 16:1; Jn. 20:2

²And when they got there, they found that the large stone had already been rolled away from the entrance to the tomb. Mt. 28:2

³But when they went inside, the body of Jesus was gone!

⁴They were greatly puzzled as to what had happened, when suddenly, two men in the most

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brilliantly gleaming clothing were standing with them.

⁵Terrified, the women bowed low and stared at the ground. The men then said to them, “Why are you looking among the dead for the One who is alive?

⁶“He is not here. He has risen back to life! Remember what He told you when He was still in Galilee. Mt. 28:6; Mk. 16:6

⁷“He said, ‘**The Son of Man must be handed over into the hands of sinful men. He will be crucified, but on the third day He will rise to live again.**’” Mt. 16:21; Mk. 9:31-32

⁸Then they remembered that He had told them this. Mt. 16:21; Jn. 2:22

⁹So they rushed from the tomb to tell the Eleven and all the rest about all that had happened. Mt. 28:8; Mk. 16:8

¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who came to the apostles with the report.

¹¹But the apostles didn’t believe them, because the report they gave sounded like nonsense. Mk. 16:11

¹²But Peter got right up and ran to the tomb. When he got there he leaned inside and looked, but all that was there were the linen cloths. As he

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left he kept wondering to himself what ever could have happened! Jn. 20:6

On the Way to Emmaus

13 Later that same day, two of Jesus' followers were on their way to Emmaus, a town about seven miles from Jerusalem.

14 As they walked along, they were talking with each other about all the bewildering events of the last few days.

15 And while they were discussing these things, trying to figure out just what had happened, Jesus came alongside and began walking with them.

16 But God made it impossible for them to recognize Him.

17 “What are you men discussing that causes you to look so sad as you walk along?” He asked them.

18 One of them, named Cleopas, replied, “You must be the only visitor* in Jerusalem who doesn't know anything about the things that have been happening there the last few days.”

Lk. 24:18 – “You must be the only visitor.” They likely recognized Him as a visitor to Jerusalem by His Galilean accent.

19 “What things?” He asked them.

“The things that happened to Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was acknowledged

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by God and recognized by the people as being a powerful prophet, both because of what He did and what He said.

20“But the chief priests and our rulers turned Him over to the Romans to be condemned to death. And they crucified Him!

21“But we had been hoping that He was the One through whom Israel would regain her freedom. But now it’s been three days since He died.

22“And not only that, but some of our women who went to the tomb early this morning, have now deeply shaken us with their report.

23“When they didn’t find His body in the tomb, they came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels who had told them that He’s alive!

24“So some of our men hurried off to the tomb, and they found everything just as the women had reported, but they found no trace of Him at all.”

25“**Oh, how foolish you men are!**” Jesus replied. **“You are so slow to allow the heart-center of your emotions to lead you to believe all that the prophets have said would happen!**

26“**Haven’t the prophets plainly told us that the Messiah must suffer these things,* and that then He would enter into the brilliance and splendor of His glory?**”

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***Lk. 24:26 – “The Messiah must suffer these things.”* See Psalm 22:1-21; 41:9; Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:1-12; Daniel 9:25-26; Zechariah 11:12-13; 12:10.**

27 And beginning with the very first books of the Bible and going through the writings of all the prophets, He clearly pointed out to them what had been written about Himself in all the Scriptures.

28 As they approached Emmaus, it became clear that Jesus planned to continue on down the road.

29 But they urgently pleaded with Him. “Stay with us!” they said. “It’s late, and it will soon be dark.” So He accepted their invitation and went in with them.

30 As He sat at the table with them, He took a loaf of bread in His hands and thanked God for the food. Then He broke the loaf and began giving it to them.

31 The instant He did that, they recognized Him—and just as instantly He vanished from their sight.

32 “So that’s why His words burned inside us as He was talking to us on the road and explaining the Scriptures to us!” they agreed with each other.

33 So they got right up and went back to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those who had come to Jerusalem with them, all gathered together.

34 “It’s true!” the crowd there shouted. “The Lord has indeed risen! Peter saw Him!”

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35 Then the two reported all that had happened to them on the road to Emmaus, and how they had recognized Him when He broke the bread.

Jesus Appears to His Followers

36 And while they were telling this, Jesus suddenly appeared, standing there among them! “Peace be with you,” He said. Jn. 20:19

37 They were terrified! They were frightened because they thought they were seeing a ghost.

38 “Why are you all so shaken up?” He asked them. “And why are you still allowing doubts to come into your minds?”

39 “Look at My hands and My feet. You can certainly tell by looking at the wounds in them that this is I Myself. Handle Me and see for yourselves that I am real. A spirit doesn’t have flesh and bones, as you can clearly see that I have.”

40 As He said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

41 And as they kept looking at Him in amazement, overjoyed—but still doubting, because it was just too good to be true—He asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

42 So they gave Him a piece of broiled fish and part of a honeycomb.

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43He accepted the food and ate it as they watched.

44Then He said, “What happened was what I told you must happen when I was still with you. I said, ‘Everything must take place that was written about Me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.’”

45Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures that referred to Him.

46“**This is what has been written about Me,**” He said. “**So it was necessary for the Messiah to both suffer and to rise from the dead* the third day.**

***Lk. 24:46 – “The Messiah ... to both suffer and to rise from the dead.”* *It was necessary* for Jesus to suffer and die in fulfillment of the Scriptures and in order to save His people from their sins. But it was also *necessary* that He rise from the dead the third day after being crucified to fulfill the many prophecies telling of His glorious eternal reign as King over all the earth (Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14, 18, 27; Rev. 11:15).**

47“**So it is also necessary that as My messengers you now inform people in all nations, beginning right here in Jerusalem, that they must both repent and turn from sin,* and accept the pardon offered them by means of My suffering and death for them, if they are to live.**

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Lk. 24:47 – “Repent and turn from sin.” There is no forgiveness of sin apart from repentance (a turning from sin). And repentance involves the whole of life. It is concerned, not merely with sorrow for the past, but even more with our intention for the future. It is the abandoning of our selfish ways to go God’s way in fellowship with Him (See Acts 3:19; 20:20-21; 26:18-20).

48“**I am sending you out as eyewitnesses of all that has happened.**

49“**And look, I will send upon you the gift that My Father has promised.* Now then, you are to remain here in the city of Jerusalem until you are given power from Heaven.”**

Lk. 24:49 – “The gift that My Father has promised.” See Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; John 1:31-33; 7:37-39; 14:15-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7; Acts 1:4-8; Acts 2; 5:32; 10:44-48; 19:1-7.

Jesus Ascends to Heaven

50After He had led them out as far as Bethany, He lifted up His hands and blessed them.

51And while He was standing there blessing them, He began to rise from the earth! He was parted from them there and carried up into Heaven. Mk. 16:19

52Standing there, they worshiped Him, after which they returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

53And they were continually in the Temple, praising and thanking God.* Amen.

***Lk. 24:53 – In verses 48-53, what is said and what happened in these six verses took place about 40 days after what Christ had said in the previous verses. After verse 47 Christ’s followers went back to Galilee. Peter even went briefly back into the fishing business (Jn. 21:1-25). Christ met them after an unsuccessful night of fishing. Then He told them to meet Him later at a certain mountain (Matt. 28:16-20). It may be that here is where He told them to return to Jerusalem. It was when they returned to Jerusalem that Christ told them to now stay in Jerusalem until they received power from Heaven (See Acts 1 and 2).**

Supplement – Bible Study Questions

Bible Study questions are prepared for group discussions using the Last Days Bible or a translation of your choice.*

Luke Chapter 1

1. Read Luke 1:1-4. (verse 2) How did Luke rely on eyewitnesses in writing his Gospel?
2. Read Luke 1:3-4. What reasons did Luke give for deciding to write his Gospel?
3. Read Luke 1:4. What did Luke hope would be the result of this Gospel in the life of Theophilus?
4. Are you a person who needs to be taught or a person who needs to be more certain of what you have already been taught?
5. Read Luke 1:5-25. (verses 5-7) What characteristics did Zechariah and Elizabeth have in common?
6. Read Luke 1:8-10. For what duty was Zechariah chosen by lot?

7. Read Luke 1:11-12. What experience gripped Zechariah with fear?
8. Read Luke 1:13-17. What promises did Gabriel make concerning the child who would be born to this elderly couple?
9. Read Luke 1:16-17. How did Gabriel describe the main purpose of John's life?
10. Read Luke 1:26-38. (verse 26-28. How did Mary learn of her role in Jesus' birth?
11. Read Luke 1:31-33. How did Gabriel describe the child that would be born to Mary?
12. Read Luke 1:32. What title would Jesus have?
13. Read Luke 1:34, 38. How did Mary's response to the angel differ from Zechariah's?
14. Read Luke 1:39-45. (verse 41) What two remarkable things happened as soon as Mary called her greeting to Elizabeth?
15. Read Luke 1:43. In what significant way did Elizabeth address Mary?
16. Read Luke 1:45. What general spiritual principle did Elizabeth express?
17. Read Luke 1:46-56. What attributes of God are extolled in Mary's song?

18. Read Luke 1:47-48. How did Mary describe herself in her song?
19. Read Luke 1:50-55. According to Mary's song, what kinds of people are given special treatment by God?
20. Read Luke 1:57-66. (verse 61) What was the relatives' response when Elizabeth told them the child wouldn't be called Zechariah?
21. Read Luke 1:63-64. Why was Zechariah's voice restored?
22. Read Luke 1:64. How did Zechariah react when his voice was restored?
23. Read Luke 1:65-66. What was the effect of all these events on the people in the region in which Zechariah and Elizabeth lived?
24. Read Luke 1:66. What was the question on everybody's lips who heard about the birth of John?
25. Read Luke 1:67-80. (verse 69-71, 77) For whom and from what was the salvation that Zechariah described?
26. Read Luke 1:76. What title did Zechariah say would be given to his son?
27. Read Luke 1:76. For whom was John supposed to prepare a way? How?
28. In what way do we need to have the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of our sins?

Luke Chapter 2

29. Read Luke 2:1-7. (verse 1) Who decreed that a census be taken of the entire Roman world?
30. Read Luke 2:3. What did the Roman census require of everyone?
32. Read Luke 2:5. What was Joseph and Mary's marital status at the time of Jesus' birth?
33. Read Luke 2:5. Why was travel especially difficult for Mary?
34. Read Luke 2:7. What were the conditions in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born?
35. Read Luke 2:8-20. (verse 9) How did the shepherds react when they saw the angel?
36. Read Luke 2:10. To whom did the angel address his good news?
37. Read Luke 2:10, 12. What message did the angel tell the shepherds?
38. Read Luke 2:11. Who did the angel say the newborn child really was?
39. Read Luke 2:12. By what symbol or sign were the shepherds supposed to identify the Christ child?
40. Read Luke 2:15. What was the immediate reaction of the shepherds after the angels left?

41. Read Luke 2:21-40. (verses 22-23) Why did Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the temple?
42. Read Luke 2:25-32. How did Luke describe the man named Simeon?
43. Read Luke 2:26-29. What special significance did Christ's arrival have for Simeon?
44. Read Luke 2:32. How did Simeon's prophecy point out that Christ would be the Savior for the world?
45. Read Luke 2:34-35. What did Simeon say to Mary?
46. Read Luke 2:38. What was Anna's response to finding Mary, Joseph, and the Christ child in the temple?
47. Read Luke 2:40. What character qualities were apparent in Jesus during His childhood?
48. In what different ways did Anna and Simeon each receive the Christ child?
49. Read Luke 2:41-52. (verses 43-44) How did Jesus get left behind in Jerusalem?
50. Read Luke 2:46. What was Jesus doing during the three days that he was on His own?
51. Read Luke 2:51. After replying to His parents, what did Jesus do?
52. How does this story illustrate the tension Jesus may have felt between obedience to his Father and obedience to His earthly parents?

Luke Chapter 3

53. Read Luke 3:1-20. (verse 3) What was John's basic message?
54. Read Luke 3:4. What Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled by John the Baptist?
55. Read Luke 3:8-9. What responses did John expect from his listeners? Why?
56. Read Luke 3:10. How did people react to John's message?
57. Read Luke 3:11-14. What practical examples of repentance did John use to help people who asked for direction?
58. Read Luke 3:16. What was John's response to those who thought he might be the Messiah?
59. Read Luke 24:46-47. What connection is there between repentance and forgiveness?
60. Luke 3:21-38. (verse 22) To whom did the voice from heaven speak during Jesus' baptism?
61. Read Luke 3:22. What was Jesus doing when the Holy Spirit descended on Him?
62. Read Luke 3:23. When did Jesus start His ministry?
63. Read Luke 3:23. Whose ancestors did Luke list? Why?

Luke Chapter 4

64. Read Luke 4:1-13. (verse 2) After forty days of fasting and facing temptations, how did Jesus feel?
65. Read Luke 4:3, 9-10. How did the devil challenge Jesus to prove He was the Son of God?
66. Read Luke 4:4, 8, 12. Where did Jesus get the answers He gave the devil?
67. Read Luke 4:5. For his second temptation where did the devil take Jesus and what did he show Him?
68. Read Luke 4:6-7. What did the devil offer Jesus in exchange for His worship?
69. Read Luke 4:8. What was Jesus' reply to the devil's offer of power and authority?
70. Read Luke 4:12. Why wasn't the devil successful in enticing Jesus to jump off the temple?
71. Read Luke 4:13. What did the devil do after Jesus' third resistance to his temptations?
72. Since the Bible can be misused, how can we learn to use the Bible the right way?
73. Read Luke 4:14-30. (verse 16) What did Jesus customarily do on the Sabbath?
74. Read Luke 4:17-20. What did Jesus do when He was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah?

75. Read Luke 4:21. How did Jesus apply the passage He read from Isaiah?
76. Read Luke 4:28-30. How did the people express their anger at Jesus' message?
77. Read Luke 4:31-37. (verse 33) In what setting did Jesus drive out the demon from the man in Capernaum?
78. Read Luke 4:34. With what expressions did the demon-possessed man identify Jesus?
79. Read Luke 4:35. What happened to the man who was demon-possessed?
80. Read Luke 4:36. How was Jesus' reputation affected by the healing of the demon-possessed man?
81. Read Luke 4:32, 35-36. How did Jesus demonstrate the power of His teaching and actions?
82. What does this incident tell us about good and evil?
83. Read Luke 4:38-44. (verse 38) why did Jesus heal Simon's mother-in-law?
84. Read Luke 4:41. What did the demons shout about Jesus as they were expelled?
85. Read Luke 4:43. What did Jesus say was His mission?
86. What can a person accomplish in solitude that can't be accomplished with other people around?

Luke 5

87. Read Luke 5:1-11. (verses 4-5) How did Simon reply to Jesus' instructions to cast their nets again?
88. Read Luke 5:8-9. How did Simon react when he realized Jesus had just done a miracle for them?
89. How does a person go about being a fisher of men?
90. Read Luke 5:12-16. (verse 12) What did the leprous man do when he saw Jesus?
91. Read Luke 5:12. In what way did the man's words to Jesus show belief in Christ?
92. Read Luke 5:13. What did Jesus say to the sick man?
93. Read Luke 5:14. To whom was the healed man supposed to show himself? Why?
94. Read Luke 5:14. Besides showing the priest that he was healed, what else did Jesus tell the man to do?
95. Read Luke 5:15. In spite of Jesus' request that the man not tell anyone, what resulted from this healing?
96. Read Luke 5:17-26. (verse 18) Who came to see Jesus, and why did they come?
97. Read Luke 5:20. What did Jesus acknowledge as the paralytic man was lowered through the roof?
98. Read Luke 5:21. Why did the Pharisees and teachers think that Jesus' words to the paralytic man were blasphemous?

99. Read Luke 5:23. What challenging question did Jesus pose to the Pharisees?
100. Read Luke 5:25. How did the paralytic man respond to Jesus' invitation to "get up, take your mat and go home"?
101. Read Luke 5:26. What was the response of the crowd to what happened that day?
102. Read Luke 5:27-32. (verse 27) What was Levi's profession? How do you feel about the Internal Revenue Service?
103. Read Luke 5:28. What actions did Levi take upon hearing Jesus' invitation to follow Him?
104. Read Luke 5:28. What did Levi leave behind when he followed Jesus?
105. Read Luke 5:29. What was Levi's first action as a new follower of Jesus?
106. Read Luke 5:30. How did the Pharisees and others express their disapproval of Jesus' presence at Levi's banquet?
107. Read Luke 5:31. To what occupation did Jesus liken His ministry?
108. Read Luke 5:32. What reason did Jesus give for His coming?
109. Read Luke 5:33-39. (verse 33) Who asked Jesus about fasting?

110. Read Luke 5:34. How did Jesus identify Himself in His answer to the Pharisees?

111. Read Luke 5:34. What did Jesus say would cause His disciples to fast?

112. Read Luke 5:36. What was the point of Jesus' illustration about new and old garments?

113. Read Luke 5:37. What was the point of Jesus' illustration about new and old wineskins?

114. How can a person decide when differences between groups are unimportant and when they are crucial?

115. How can you show respect for the way other Christians honor God?

Luke 6

116. Read Luke 6:1-11. (verse 2) What were the disciples accused of doing when they picked the grain?

117. Read Luke 6:3-5. How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees' accusation?

118. Read Luke 6:5. What claim did Jesus make about Himself?

119. Read Luke 6:5. What did Jesus' identity as Lord of the Sabbath have to do with the disciples eating grain on the Sabbath?

120. Read Luke 6:9-10. What did Jesus ask the crowd? Why?

121. Read Luke 6:11. How did the Pharisees and teachers respond to the miracle Jesus did?
122. Read Luke 6:12-16. (verse 12) What did Jesus do before choosing the twelve apostles?
123. Read Luke 6:13. From what larger group did Jesus name His twelve apostles?
124. What is an apostle?
125. What do you want to keep in mind from this passage to help you in making choices in the future?
126. Read Luke 6:17-26. (verses 18-19) What effect did Jesus' presence have on the crowd?
127. Read Luke 6:20-22. What four groups did Jesus single out for receiving a blessing?
128. Read Luke 6:20-23. What blessings did Jesus promise then and which ones did He promise for the future?
129. Read Luke 6:24-26. What four groups did Jesus single out for woes?
130. In what way are these words of Jesus challenging?
131. Read Luke 6:27-36. (verses 27-31) How many positive responses to mistreatment did Jesus command?
132. Read Luke 6:31. Which statement best summarizes what Jesus said about responding to enemies?

133. Read Luke 6:32-35. What was Jesus' basic argument in backing up His command to love others unconditionally?
134. Read Luke 6:35. What title did Jesus give to those who love their enemies?
135. Read Luke 6:36. Who are we imitating when we love our enemies?
136. Read Luke 6:37-42. (verse 38) How did Jesus summarize the importance of extending grace, mercy, and help to others?
137. Read Luke 6:41-42. What is the main point of the parable of the plank and the sawdust?
138. Read Luke 6:42. What is required of a person before he or she can teach or instruct someone else?
139. Read Luke 6:43-45. (verse 45) What did Jesus describe as the source of good and evil things?
140. Read Luke 6:45. How do people ultimately know about the state of our hearts?
141. How can a person change his or her heart?
142. Read Luke 6:46-49. (verse 47) What three things did Jesus say the wise person did that are similar to building well?
143. Read Luke 6:47, 49. What did Jesus say His two house building examples were meant to illustrate?

144. Read Luke 6:47-49. How many differences can you find between the two people Jesus described in His story?

145. Read Luke 6:48-49. What event did Jesus describe as happening to both houses?

146. What specific actions was Jesus challenging His disciples to take?

Luke 7

147. Read Luke 7:1-10. (verse 3) What did the centurion ask Jesus to do?

148. Read Luke 7:3. What reason did the elders give Jesus to honor their request on behalf of the centurion?

149. Read Luke 7:3-8. What different character qualities were demonstrated by the centurion?

150. Read Luke 7:9. How did Jesus react to the centurion's words?

151. Read Luke 7:10. What happened to the centurion's servant?

152. Read Luke 7:11-17. (verses 14-15) How did the mother and her son react to Jesus?

153. Read Luke 7:16. Who did the people think Jesus was?

154. Read Luke 7:17. What was the result of the miracle?

155. Read Luke 7:18-35. (verse 19) For what two question did John want answers?
156. Read Luke 7:21-22. How did Jesus answer the visitors' questions?
157. Read Luke 7:35. What did Jesus conclude about the people of His day?
158. Read Luke 7:28. What is your response to Jesus' claim that the least in God's kingdom is greater than John the Baptist?
159. Read Luke 7:36-50. (verse 39) What did the Pharisee say about what the woman did?
160. Read Luke 7:40-43. How did Jesus respond to Simon the Pharisee's harsh thoughts?
161. Read Luke 7:49. How did the other guest react to Jesus' forgiveness of the woman?
162. Read Luke 7:50. Why, according to Jesus, was the woman saved?

Luke 8

163. Read Luke 8:1-15. (verse 4) What method did Jesus choose to use in communicating His message? Why?
164. Read Luke 8:5-8. What happened to each group of seeds?
165. Read Luke 8:8. How did Jesus conclude His parable?

166. Why is perseverance necessary for all who receive the Word?
167. Read Luke 8:16-18. (verse 16) According to Jesus, what is not done with a lamp? What is done with a lamp?
168. Read Luke 8:17. What will happen to those things that are hidden?
169. Read Luke 8:18. What are we to consider carefully?
170. Read Luke 8:19-21. (verse 20) How did Jesus hear of His family's arrival?
171. Read Luke 8:21. What did Jesus consider more important than family? With what is "hearing" closely associated?
172. How did Jesus identify those who heard God's Word and put it into practice?
173. Read Luke 8:22-25. (verse 23) How did Jesus react to the growing storm?
174. Read Luke 8:25. After the storm was calmed, what did Jesus ask the disciples? What did the disciples realize about Jesus' identity?
175. Read Luke 8:26-39. (verses 27, 29) What had the demon-possessed man's life been like until he met Jesus?
176. Read Luke 8:28. Of what was the man afraid?
177. Read Luke 8:31-32. What did the demons choose over life in the Abyss?

178. Read Luke 8:34-37. What emotion gripped all but the man who had been possessed by demons?

179. In what ways do people today ask Jesus to leave them alone?

180. Read Luke 8:40-56. (verses 41-42) What did Jairus want Jesus to do?

181. Read Luke 8:43-44. What do we know about the sick woman?

182. Read Luke 8:45-46. How did Jesus know that someone had been healed?

183. Read Luke 8:48. To what did Jesus attribute the woman's healing?

184. Read Luke 8:50, 52, 54. What commands did Jesus give before the girl was given new life?

185. Read Luke 8:55-56. What did Jesus tell the girl's parents?

186. What can we learn from the boldness of both the woman and Jairus?

Luke 9

187. Read Luke 9:1-9. (verses 1-2) What authority was granted to the Twelve?

188. Read Luke 9:3-5. How did Jesus instruct the Twelve to proceed?

189. Read Luke 9:7. What did Herod think of Jesus' healing and preaching?

190. Read Luke 9:7-8. What were the various explanations of Jesus?
191. Read Luke 9:9. What did Herod want to do? Why?
192. Read Luke 9:10-17. (verse 12) What did the apostles want to do with the crowd?
193. Read Luke 9:13. What did Jesus propose to do with the crowd?
194. Read Luke 9:17. What were the results of Jesus' miracle?
195. With what projects can your church or community group be involved to help people in need?
196. Read Luke 9:18-27. (verse 20) Who spoke up when Jesus brought up the question of His identity?
197. Read Luke 9:21. What was Jesus' reaction to the statement by Peter?
198. Read Luke 9:22. What kind of future did Jesus predict for Himself?
199. Read Luke 9:24-25. What kind of commitment does discipleship require?
200. Read Luke 9:28-36. (verse 28) Why did Jesus and His disciples go up the mountain?
201. Read Luke 9:29. What happened to Jesus while He was praying?

202. Read Luke 9:30-31. Who suddenly appeared, and what did they do?
203. Read Luke 9:33. How did Peter react to the amazing scene?
204. Read Luke 9:34. Why were the disciples suddenly afraid?
205. Read Luke 9:35. What did the voice from the cloud say about Jesus?
206. Read Luke 9:36. What happened to Moses and Elijah?
207. Read Luke 9:37-45. (verse 37) What did Jesus and His disciples encounter when they came down from the mountain?
208. Read Luke 9:38. Why did the man ask Jesus to look at his son?
209. Read Luke 9:39. What had been happening to the boy?
210. Read Luke 9:40. What had the father tried to no avail?
211. Read Luke 9:41. To what did Jesus attribute the disciples' failure to heal the boy?
212. Read Luke 9:42. What three things did Jesus do?
213. Read Luke 9:43. What was the crowd's reactions to what they saw?

214. Read Luke 9:43-44. How did Jesus respond to the people's admiration?
215. Read Luke 9:46-50. (verse 46) About what did the disciples argue?
216. Read Luke 9:47. What did Jesus use to reply to the disciples' ambition?
217. Read Luke 9:48. What opportunities do we have to welcome children (and thereby welcome Jesus and God the Father)?
218. Read Luke 9:49. How did John change the subject?
219. Read Luke 9:49. Why had the disciples tried to stop the man?
220. Read Luke 9:50. What reason did Jesus give for not stopping the man who was driving out demons?
221. Read Luke 9:51-56. (verse 51) Where was Jesus going?
222. Read Luke 9:53. Why didn't the Samaritans welcome Jesus?
223. Read Luke 9:54. What did James and John want to bring down on the Samaritans? Why?
224. Read Luke 9:55. What did Jesus think of His disciples' suggestion?
225. Read Luke 9:57-62. (verse 57) To what lengths did the first man say he would follow Jesus?

226. Read Luke 9:58. What was Jesus' reply to the first man's statement of devotion?

227. Read Luke 9:59. What did the second man want to do before following Jesus?

228. Read Luke 9:60. What was the second man to do instead of burying his father?

229. Read Luke 9:61. What did the third person want to do before following Jesus?

230. Read Luke 9:62. Who is not fit for the kingdom of God?

231. Read Luke 9:57-62. From this account, how would you summarize the costs of following Jesus?

Luke 10

232. Read Luke 10:1-24. (verse 2) According to Jesus, why were His followers to pray for more workers?

233. Read Luke 10:3. To what did Jesus liken His followers?

234. Read Luke 10:9. What were the seventy-two sent out to do?

235. Read Luke 10:9-11. What does preaching "the Kingdom of God" mean?

236. Read Luke 10:17. What did the disciples report upon their return?

237. Read Luke 10:20. Why were the seventy-two to rejoice?
238. Read Luke 10:25-37. (verse 27) How did the legal expert summarize the demands of the Law?
239. Read Luke 10:30-35. How did Jesus reply to the question, "Who is my neighbor?"
240. Read Luke 10:31-32. What did the priest and the Levite do to help the man who was robbed and beaten?
241. Read Luke 10:33-35. What was the Samaritan's response to what he saw?
242. Read Luke 10:33. Why did the Samaritan help the beaten man?
243. Read Luke 10:37. What did Jesus command the expert to do in response to the parable?
244. How does it feel when someone has mercy on you?
245. In what ways can we as individuals and as groups of Christians be more like the Samaritan?
246. Read Luke 10:38-42. (verse 38) What did Martha do for Jesus and His disciples?
247. Read Luke 10:39. Who was Mary?
248. Read Luke 10:39. Where was Mary while Jesus was talking?
249. Read Luke 10:39-40. What did Mary do while Martha attended to household preparations?

250. Read Luke 10:40. Of what did Martha accuse Jesus?

251. Read Luke 10:41-42. What did Jesus think of the sisters' choices?

Luke 11

252. Read Luke 11:1-13. (verse 1) What was the disciple's request?

253. Read Luke 11:2-4. What topics did Jesus' prayer cover?

254. Read Luke 11:4. With what is God's forgiveness of us linked?

255. Read Luke 11:5-10. What cause-and-effect connection did Jesus use to follow up on the parable?

256. Read Luke 11:13. Why do parents grant their children's requests?

257. Read Luke 11:14-28. (verse 16) What did some people say about Jesus' work?

258. Read Luke 11:23. If a person is not with Jesus, what is his status?

259. Read Luke 11:25-26. What happens to a person if an evil spirit is cast out of him or her and replaced with nothing?

260. Read Luke 11:28. Who is blessed, according to Jesus?

261. Read Luke 11:29-32. (verse 30) What did Jesus' generation want?
262. Read Luke 11:31. What made the Queen of the South fit for judging the people of Jesus' generation?
263. Read Luke 11:31-32. Who was to condemn Jesus' generation?
264. Read Luke 11:32. What had the men of Nineveh done?
265. Read Luke 11:33-36. (verse 34) What happens when the eyes are bad?
266. Read Luke 11:35. What did Jesus counsel His listeners to do?
267. Why did Jesus choose the illustration of light and darkness?
268. Read Luke 11:37-54. (verses 39-40) According to Jesus, what did the Pharisee emphasize and overlook?
269. Read Luke 11:42. What did the Pharisees neglect in favor of tithing herbs?
270. Read Luke 11:42-52. Why did Jesus say "woe" six times?
271. How can we be sure that we are emphasizing justice and the love of God instead of our own lists of things others ought to do?

Luke 12

272. Read Luke 12:1-12. (verses 4-5) What did Jesus say His disciples should and should not fear?

273. Read Luke 12:6-7. What proofs of God's care did Jesus offer to His disciples?

274. Read Luke 12:8-9. How was the disciples' loyalty to Jesus linked to Jesus' loyalty to them?

275. Read Luke 12:12. How were the disciples to know what to say?

276. Why are we important to God?

277. Read Luke 12:13-21. (verses 13-15) Against what did Jesus warn the crowd? Why?

278. Read Luke 12:19. How did the rich man view his possessions and good fortune?

279. Read Luke 12:21. To whom did Jesus apply His teaching about greed?

280. Why is it difficult for us to accept the fact that our life and things are temporary?

281. How is it possible to be rich toward God?

282. Read Luke 12:22-34. (verse 22) About what are we not to worry?

283. Read Luke 12:24. What are we to learn from birds?

284. Read Luke 12:27-28. What do flowers teach us?

285. Read Luke 12:31. What does God want us to seek?
286. Read Luke 12:33. What are we to do with our possessions?
287. Read Luke 12:33. Where can treasure be found?
288. How can a person seek God's kingdom?
289. What is the connection between seeking God's kingdom and the Father giving us the kingdom?
290. How can we store up treasure in heaven?
291. What step can you take this week to share your earthly treasures with others?
292. Read Luke 12:35-48. (verse 35) According to Jesus, what are the two traits of the one who is ready?
293. Read Luke 12:37. What happened to the servants who were watching properly?
294. Read Luke 12:45. How did some servants handle responsibilities in their masters' absence?
295. Read Luke 12:46. What happened to the foolish servants?
296. Read Luke 12:47. What was to be the fate of the servants who knew what to do but wouldn't do it?
297. Read Luke 12:48. What happened to the servants who acted out of ignorance?

298. Read Luke 12:48. What is expected of those who have been given and entrusted with much?

299. Read Luke 12:49-53. (verse 51) What, evidently, did most people think Jesus was bringing?

300. Read Luke 12:51. In what way did Jesus indicate that division would affect everyone until He returned?

301. Read Luke 12:52-53. What relationships would suffer division because of Christ?

302. In the context, what did Jesus mean by baptism?

303. Read Luke 12:54-59. (verse 57) What did Jesus want His audience to do?

304. Read Luke 12:58. Where did Jesus recommend the people patch up differences with others?

Luke 13

305. Read Luke 13:1-9. (verse 2) What explanation for the tragedy did Jesus propose?

306. Read Luke 13:3-5. What were Jesus' listeners to learn from the two stories?

307. Read Luke 13:6. In the parable, what did the man seek from his fig tree?

308. Read Luke 13:7. Why did the man want the fig tree chopped down?

309. Read Luke 13:8-9. What did the vineyard tender suggest?

310. What did Jesus mean by His warning, "But unless you repent, you too will all perish"?

311. Why did Jesus tell the fig tree parable after discussing the two tragic incidents?

312. What can we learn from this parable?

313. Read Luke 13:10-17. (verse 11) Whom did Jesus see in the synagogue?

314. Read Luke 13:12. What did Jesus do when He saw the crippled woman?

315. Read Luke 13:12-13. What led to the crippled woman's healing?

316. Read Luke 13:13. How did the woman respond to what Jesus had done?

317. Read Luke 13:14. Why was the synagogue ruler indignant?

318. Read Luke 13:15. What did Jesus think of the religious leaders?

319. Read Luke 13:15-16. What example did Jesus give to justify His healing of the woman?

320. What good deeds do we sometimes restrict because of traditions or rules?

321. Read Luke 13:18-21. (verse 19) How did the mustard seed start out?

322. Read Luke 13:19. What transformation did the mustard seed make?
323. What makes a mustard seed a good illustration of God's kingdom?
324. What makes yeast a good illustration of God's kingdom?
325. What do these two parables tell us about God's kingdom?
326. Read Luke 13:22-30. (verse 23) What did someone ask Jesus?
327. Read Luke 13:25. What happens once the door is shut?
328. Read Luke 13:26. How will those left outside try to appeal to the owner?
329. Read Luke 13:28. What will those who cannot enter hear?
330. What was Jesus saying about human relationships when He said that the first will be last?
331. In what way is the first last and the last first?
332. Read Luke 13:31-35. (verses 32-33) What were Jesus' goals?
333. Read Luke 13:34. How did Jesus want to show His compassion for Jerusalem?

334. Read Luke 13:35. What sad words did Jesus have for Jerusalem?

Luke 14

335. Read Luke 14:1-14. (verse 4) What was the Pharisees' and legal experts' reply to Jesus' question?

336. Read Luke 14:4. What happened to the man with dropsy?

337. Read Luke 14:5-6. Under what circumstance did the religious and legal experts allow work on the Sabbath?

338. Read Luke 14:6-7. Why did Jesus tell a parable?

339. Read Luke 14:11. How did Jesus communicate the value of humility?

340. Read Luke 14:13. Whom did Jesus want people to invite to dinner?

341. Read Luke 14:14. In what way would the host be repaid?

342. What caused the religious and legal experts to be speechless?

343. Why is it a blessing to invite those who cannot repay?

344. Read Luke 14:15-24. (verse 16) What did the man in the parable do?

345. Read Luke 14:17. How did the man let his guests know that the time for the banquet had arrived?

346. Read Luke 14:18. How did the guests respond to the invitation?

347. Read Luke 14:21. What was the master's reaction to the excuses people made?

348. Read Luke 14:21. Whom did the master invite to the banquet to replace the original invitees?

349. Read Luke 14:24. What was to become of the original guests?

350. Why was the master justified in his anger at the guests who made excuses?

351. Read Luke 14:25-35. What does it mean to "hate" your parents, wife, children, siblings, and your own life?

352. How do most people react to Jesus' terms of discipleship?

353. What costs do we need to count in responding to Jesus?

Luke 15

354. Read Luke 15:1-7. (verse 1) Who had gathered to hear Jesus?

355. Read Luke 15:2. Why were the Pharisees and teachers of the law grumbling?
356. Read Luke 15:5. How does a shepherd bring a lost sheep home?
357. Read Luke 15:6. What happens when a shepherd returns to his home and flock after finding a lost sheep?
358. Read Luke 15:7. How does heaven react when a sinner repents?
359. Read Luke 15:8-10. (verse 8) What steps did the woman take to find her lost coin?
360. Read Luke 15:9. What did the woman do when she finally found the lost coin?
361. Read Luke 15:10. Where is there rejoicing?
362. Read Luke 15:10. What causes angels to rejoice before God?
363. Read Luke 15:10. How many repenting sinners does it take to cause heavenly rejoicing?
364. What can we learn about God from this parable?
365. Read Luke 15:11-32. (verses 12-13) What did the younger son ask his father to do?
366. Read Luke 15:13. What did the younger son do after arriving in the distant country?
367. Read Luke 15:13-20. How did the younger son live once he was out on his own?

368. Read Luke 15:14-15. Why did the younger son have to hire himself out for work?
369. Read Luke 15:17-19. What made the younger son decide to return home?
370. Read Luke 15:20. How did the father respond to the younger son's return home?
371. Read Luke 15:22-24. Why did the father call for a celebration?
372. Read Luke 15:28. How did the older son respond to his brother's return and the celebration afterward?
373. Read Luke 15:31-32. Why did the father want the older brother to be happy?
374. What does the forgiving love of the father in this story represent?
375. From whom do we tend to withhold mercy?
376. What does this parable reveal to you about the Lord's love?

Luke 16

377. Read Luke 16:1-15. (verses 1-2) How did the rich man respond to the manager who was "wasting his possessions"?
378. Read Luke 16:3. Why was the manager scared to lose his job?

379. Read Luke 16:4-7. What plan did the manager devise to secure his future?
380. Read Luke 16:8. How did the rich master react to the dishonest dealings of the manager?
381. Read Luke 16:8. Who are the "people of light" to whom Jesus referred?
382. Read Luke 16:10-12. What main principle should govern the way we use our resources?
383. Read Luke 16:13. Why is it impossible to serve two masters?
384. Read Luke 16:16-18. (verse 16) What two eras did John the Baptist's ministry divide?
385. Read Luke 16:16. What changed after the ministry of John the Baptist?
386. Read Luke 16:16. What was being preached?
387. Read Luke 16:16. Who was "forcing his way" into the kingdom of God?
388. Read Luke 16:17. What is easier than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law?
389. Read Luke 16:17. Why did Jesus emphasize the importance of the Law?
390. Read Luke 16:18. What two conditions constitute adultery?

391. What attitude should we have toward God's Law today?
392. Read Luke 16:19-31. (verse 19) How did Jesus describe the rich man in the story?
393. Read Luke 16:20. What does the story tell us about Lazarus?
394. Read Luke 16:22. Where did the angels take Lazarus?
395. Read Luke 16:22-23. What difference did the rich man's wealth make in his eternal destiny?
396. Read Luke 16:22-31. What does this parable reveal about heaven and hell?
397. Read Luke 16:23. What did the rich man see from his place in hell?
398. Read Luke 16:25. How did Abraham respond to the request of the rich man?
399. Read Luke 16:26. What was the other reason why Lazarus could not help the rich man?
400. Read Luke 16:27-28. Why did the rich man want Lazarus to go to his father's house on earth?
401. Read Luke 16:30. What did the rich man think was necessary to convince his brothers to believe?
402. Read Luke 16:29, 31. Why did Abraham say that Moses and the Prophets should be enough for the rich man's brothers?

Luke 17

403. Read Luke 17:1-10. (verse 1) What did Jesus say about people who tempt others to sin?
404. Read Luke 17:2. Who are the “little ones” Jesus cares so much about?
405. Read Luke 17:3-4. What advice did Jesus give His disciples about how to react when others sin against them?
406. Read Luke 17:4. According to Jesus, how often were His disciples to forgive those who sinned?
407. Read Luke 17:4. What principle of forgiveness was Jesus promoting?
408. Read Luke 17:5. What did the disciples ask Jesus to do?
409. Read Luke 17:6. How much faith is needed to do great things?
410. Read Luke 17:6. Why was Jesus’ example of the mustard seed so startling?
411. Read Luke 17:7-9. Why did Jesus tell the story of the servant and the master?
412. Read Luke 17:10. What attitude should we have in working for the Lord?
413. Read Luke 17:11-19. (verse 12) Who met Jesus as He entered the village?

414. Read Luke 17:13. What did the ten men want from Jesus?
415. Read Luke 17:14. How did Jesus respond to the ten men?
416. Read Luke 17:14. What happened to the men as they went to show themselves to the priest?
417. Read Luke 17:15. What did one of the ten do that the others did not?
418. Read Luke 17:17-19. How did Jesus respond to the one man who returned?
419. Read Luke 17:19. What did Jesus tell the man about his faith?
420. Read Luke 17:20-37. (verses 20-21) What prompted Jesus to say, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation?”
421. Read Luke 17:22. What did Jesus tell His disciples they would long to see?
422. Read Luke 17:24-30. How did Jesus describe what the days of the Son of Man will be like?
423. Read Luke 17:33. What will happen to the person who attempts to keep his life?
424. For what reason did Jesus warn, “Remember Lot’s wife”?

Luke 18

425. Read Luke 18:1-8. (verse 1) What was Jesus' purpose in telling His disciples this parable?
426. Read Luke 18:2. How did Jesus describe the judge in the story?
427. Read Luke 18:3. Why was the woman in the story especially helpless?
428. Read Luke 18:3. What did the woman need from the judge?
429. Read Luke 18:4-5. Why did the judge finally give in to the woman's request?
430. Read Luke 18:6. Why should we take note of how the unjust judge responded to persistence?
431. Read Luke 18:7. How will God's actions differ from those of the unjust judge?
432. Read Luke 18:7. What can Christians expect from God?
433. Read Luke 18:8. What promise does this parable offer to Christians?
434. Read Luke 18:8. To what kind of faith did Jesus refer at the end of this passage?
435. Read Luke 18:9-14. (verse 9) To whom did Jesus tell this parable?
436. Read Luke 18:9. Why did Jesus tell this parable?

437. Read Luke 18:10. Who were the two men described in the story?

438. Read Luke 18:11. What did the Pharisee do?

439. Read Luke 18:11. What motivated the Pharisee to pray?

440. Read Luke 18:11-12. How did the Pharisee pray?

441. Read Luke 18:11-12. Why was the Pharisee confident in his own righteousness?

442. Read Luke 18:13. Why did the tax collector stand at a distance?

443. Read Luke 18:13. What does the tax collector's posture reveal about his own attitude?

444. Read Luke 18:13. What prompted the tax collector to pray?

445. Read Luke 18:13. How did the tax collector pray?

446. Read Luke 18:14. What difference did it make how these men prayed?

447. Read Luke 18:14. What does it mean that one man was justified and the other wasn't?

448. Read Luke 18:14. What principle did Jesus stress?

449. In whose righteousness should we have confidence?

450. Read Luke 18:15-17. (verse 15) Why were people bringing babies to Jesus?

451. Read Luke 18:15. How did the disciples respond to what the parents were doing?
452. Read Luke 18:15-16. What was it about Jesus that motivated parents to bring their children to Him?
453. Read Luke 18:15. Why did the disciples rebuke those who were bringing their babies to Jesus?
454. Read Luke 18:16. How did Jesus react to His disciples' attitudes?
455. Read Luke 18:16. How did Jesus treat the children?
456. Read Luke 18:16. What did Jesus say about the children?
457. Read Luke 18:17. Why should we receive the kingdom of God like a child?
458. Read Luke 18:17. What will happen to those who do not receive the kingdom "like a little child"?
459. Read Luke 18:18-30. (verse 18) What did the ruler ask Jesus?
460. Read Luke 18:18. What does the wording of the ruler's question reveal about his attitude?
461. Read Luke 18:19. How did Jesus respond to the ruler's question?
462. Read Luke 18:20. Of what did Jesus remind the ruler?

463. Read Luke 18:21. What does the ruler's response to Jesus reveal about his character?

464. Read Luke 18:22. What did the ruler lack?

465. Read Luke 18:22. Why did Jesus advise this man to sell all he had, especially when He did not require this of others?

466. Read Luke 18:23. How did the ruler respond to Jesus' instructions?

467. Read Luke 18:23. How did the man's wealth interfere with his eternal salvation?

468. Read Luke 18:24-25. What was the rich man's problem?

469. Read Luke 18:26. How did Jesus' listeners respond to Jesus' harsh words?

470. Read Luke 18:27. What did Jesus reveal about how a person can inherit eternal life?

471. Read Luke 18:29-30. What did Jesus teach about sacrifice?

472. Read Luke 18:31-34. (verse 31) To whom was Jesus speaking?

473. Read Luke 18:31. Where were the disciples and Jesus planning to go?

474. Read Luke 18:31. To whom was Jesus referring when He spoke of the "Son of Man"?

475. Read Luke 18:31-32. What did Jesus reveal to the disciples about the future?
476. Read Luke 18:31. Why did Jesus take the Twelve aside from the crowds to tell them about certain events?
477. Read Luke 18:32. How did Jesus describe what would happen?
478. Read Luke 18:32. To whom would the Son of Man be handed over?
479. Read Luke 18:32. How would the Gentiles treat the Son of Man?
480. Read Luke 18:33. What did Jesus predict would happen after the Son of Man was killed by the Gentiles?
481. Read Luke 18:31-33. Why did Jesus reveal details of the future to His disciples?
482. Read Luke 18:34. How did the disciples respond to Jesus' prediction of the future?
483. Read Luke 18:34. What prevented the disciples from understanding what Jesus explained to them?
484. Read Luke 18:35-43. (verse 35) Where did this event take place?
485. Read Luke 18:35. What was the man by the roadside doing?
486. Read Luke 18:36. How did the blind man know that something unusual was happening?)

487. Read Luke 18:37-38. How did the blind man know who Jesus was?

488. Read Luke 18:38. How did the blind man respond to the situation?

489. Read Luke 18:39. How did the crowd respond to the blind man's actions?

490. Read Luke 18:39. What did the blind man do in response to the criticism of the crowd?

491. Read Luke 18:40. How did Jesus respond to the blind man?

492. Read Luke 18:41. If Jesus could see that the man was blind, why did He ask the man what he wanted?

493. Read Luke 18:42. Why did Jesus heal the blind man?

494. Read Luke 18:42. What role did the blind man's faith play in his healing?

495. Read Luke 18:43. How did the blind man and the crowds respond to the miracle Jesus performed?

Luke 19

496. Read Luke 19:1-10. (verse 1) Where did the events of this story take place?

497. Read Luke 19:2. How did Luke describe Zacchaeus?

498. Read Luke 19:3. What problem did Zacchaeus have?
499. Read Luke 19:4. How did Zacchaeus solve his problem?
500. Read Luke 19:5. What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus?
501. Read Luke 19:6. How did Zacchaeus respond to Jesus' request?
502. Read Luke 19:6, 8. What do Zacchaeus' actions reveal about his character?
503. Read Luke 19:7. Why did the crowds begin to mutter and gossip among themselves?
504. Read Luke 19:7. What reputation did Zacchaeus have in Jericho?
505. Read Luke 19:8. What changes did Zacchaeus make in his life in response to Jesus' interest in him?
506. Read Luke 19:9. How had salvation come to Zacchaeus' house?
507. Read Luke 19:10. How is the concluding verse of this passage significant?
508. Read Luke 19:11-27. (verse 11) For what reason did Jesus choose to tell this parable?
509. Read Luke 19:11. What false expectations did Jesus' followers have?

510. Read Luke 19:12. In the parable, why did the man of noble birth go to a distant country?
511. Read Luke 19:12-27. Whom do the king, the servants, and the subjects represent in this parable?
512. Read Luke 19:13. For what reason did the man call together ten of his servants?
513. Read Luke 19:13. What did the man want his servants to do with the money he gave them?
514. Read Luke 19:14. How did the people react to their new king?
515. Read Luke 19:15. After his return, why did the king send for his servants?
516. Read Luke 19:16-18. What did the first two servants do with the money the king entrusted to them?
517. Read Luke 19:17-19. How did the king respond to the first two servants?
518. Read Luke 19:20-21. What did the third servant think of the king?
519. Read Luke 19:20-21. How did the third servant's feelings for his king affect his actions?
520. Read Luke 19:22-24. How did the king treat the third servant?
521. Read Luke 19:26. What principle summarizes the parable?

522. Read Luke 19:27. Why did the king punish so severely those who did not want him to be king?
523. Why is it dangerous to neglect the truth we know about God?
524. Read Luke 19:28-44. (verses 28-29) Where did the events of this story take place?
525. Read Luke 19:30. Where did Jesus send two of His disciples?
526. Read Luke 19:30-31. What specific instructions did Jesus give two of His disciples?
527. Read Luke 19:32-34. What happened to the disciples who went ahead into the village?
528. Read Luke 19:35. Why did Jesus choose to ride into the city on a colt?
529. Read Luke 19:36-37. How did people react to Jesus' entrance into the city?
530. Read Luke 19:37. Why did all of the disciples begin to praise God?
531. Read Luke 19:38. In what way were the words of the disciples' praises significant?
532. Read Luke 19:39. Why were the Pharisees in the crowd upset?
533. Read Luke 19:40. How did Jesus respond to the Pharisees' rebuke?

534. Read Luke 19:41. How did Jesus react when He saw the city of Jerusalem?
535. Read Luke 19:44. In what way did the people of Jerusalem miss a golden opportunity?
536. Read Luke 19:45-48. (verse 45) What did Jesus do in the temple area?
537. Read Luke 19:45-47. Who was plotting to kill Jesus?
538. Read Luke 19:46. What attitude did Jesus have toward the merchants in the temple area?
539. Read Luke 19:46. Why did Jesus quote Scripture?
540. Read Luke 19:46. What did Jesus accuse the merchants of doing?
541. Read Luke 19:46. How had the temple area been misused?
542. Read Luke 19:46. What was the real purpose of the temple?
543. Read Luke 19:47. Why did the religious leaders want to kill Jesus?
544. Read Luke 19:48. Why were the religious leaders unable to carry out their plot?
545. Read Luke 19:48. How did the people respond to Jesus' teaching in the temple?

546. In what way can a church be made a "den of robbers"?

Luke 20

547. Read Luke 20:1-8. (verse 1) What was Jesus doing in the temple courts?

548. Read Luke 20:1. Who approached Jesus while He was preaching in the temple?

549. Read Luke 20:2. What question did the religious leaders ask Jesus?

550. Read Luke 20:2. How was Jesus put to the test?

551. Read Luke 20:2-7. In what way were the actions of the religious leaders hypocritical?

552. Read Luke 20:3. Why did Jesus answer the religious leaders' question with another question?

553. Read Luke 20:5-6. What was it about Jesus' question that stumped the religious leaders?

554. Read Luke 20:6. How did the crowds' beliefs affect the religious leaders' willingness to answer Jesus' question?

555. Read Luke 20:7. How did the leaders respond to Jesus' question?

556. Read Luke 20:8. In what way did Jesus demonstrate His wisdom?

557. Read Luke 20:9,19. Why did Jesus choose to tell the people a parable in this situation?
558. Read Luke 20:9-16. What are the main points of the parable Jesus told?
559. Read Luke 20:9. Whom does the man who planted the vineyard represent?
560. Read Luke 20:10-12. Whom do the servants the owner sent to the vineyard represent?
561. Read Luke 20:10-12. How were the servants treated?
562. Read Luke 20:10, 19. Whom do the tenants in the story represent?
563. Read Luke 20:13. Why did the owner send his son to the vineyard?
564. Read Luke 20:14. What is the inheritance to which the tenants referred?
565. Read Luke 20:16. How will the owner of the vineyard respond to the terrible actions of the tenants?
566. Read Luke 20:16. How did the people listening to Jesus respond to the parable?
567. Read Luke 20:17-18. What is the meaning of the Scripture that Jesus quoted?
568. Read Luke 20:19. How did the religious leaders react to Jesus' teaching?

569. Read Luke 20:19. How did the mood of the people affect the actions of the religious leaders?
570. Read Luke 20:20-26. Why did the religious leaders send spies?
571. Read Luke 20:20. Why did the religious leaders want to hand Jesus over to the governor?
572. Read Luke 20:21. What did the spies do to trap Jesus?
573. Read Luke 20:21. How did the spies demonstrate hypocrisy?
574. Read Luke 20:22. In what way was the question the spies asked a trick question?
575. Read Luke 20:23. What did Jesus think of the spies?
576. Read Luke 20:24. How did Jesus respond to the spies' question?
577. Read Luke 20:24-25. How was Jesus' response a show of His wisdom?
578. Read Luke 20:26. Why were the spies astonished by Jesus' answer?
579. Read Luke 20:27-40. (verse 27) How did Luke describe the Sadducees?
580. Read Luke 20:27. Why did the Sadducees approach Jesus?

581. Read Luke 20:28-33. What was the main point of the lengthy story the Sadducees told Jesus?
582. Read Luke 20:33. What controversial question did the Sadducees want Jesus to answer?
583. Read Luke 20:34-35. How did Jesus respond to the Sadducees' question?
584. Read Luke 20:35. What is the "age" to which Jesus referred?
585. Read Luke 20:35. Who is "considered worthy"?
586. Read Luke 20:36. In the age to come, what did Jesus promise to those who take part in the resurrection of the dead?
587. Read Luke 20:36. Who is like the angels?
588. Read Luke 20:37. For what reason did Jesus refer to Moses?
589. Read Luke 20:37-38. How did Jesus describe God?
590. Read Luke 20:38. Why did Jesus describe God as "the God of the living"?
591. Read Luke 20:40. Why did people stop asking Jesus questions?
592. How can we guard against misinterpreting Scripture, as the Sadducees did in Jesus' day?
593. Why do you think there will be no marriage in heaven?

594. Read Luke 20:41-47. (verse 41) What dilemma did Jesus set before His listeners?

595. Read Luke 20:41-44. What was Jesus revealing to His listeners about His own identity?

596. Read Luke 20:42-43. For what reason does Jesus quote the words of David to His listeners?

597. Read Luke 20:44. How does David refer to the Christ?

598. Read Luke 20:44. Why could Jesus' opponents not answer His question?

599. Read Luke 20:45-46. What did the teachers of the law seek?

600. Read Luke 20:45-47. About what did Jesus warn His disciples?

601. Read Luke 20:46-47. Of what were the teachers of the law guilty?

602. Read Luke 20:46-47. What point was Jesus trying to make about such religious behavior?

603. Read Luke 20:47. How did Jesus criticize the teachers of the law?

604. Read Luke 20:47. What did Jesus mean when He said, "They devour widows' houses"?

605. Read Luke 20:47. How did Jesus say proud people would be treated for their actions?

606. How is seeking the honor and respect of people related to the exploitation of the poor and defenseless?

Luke 21

607. Read Luke 21:1-4. (verse 1) What did Jesus notice?

608. Read Luke 21:1. What were the rich people doing?

609. Read Luke 21:2. How did Luke describe the woman Jesus saw?

610. Read Luke 21:2. What did the woman do that Jesus noticed?

611. Read Luke 21:1-2. How were the motives of the rich different from those of the woman?

612. Read Luke 21:3. How did Jesus use this situation as an opportunity to teach His followers?

613. Read Luke 21:3. How did the woman "put in more than all the others" when her gift was much smaller than the gifts of the rich?

614. Read Luke 21:4. What was lacking in the gifts the rich people gave?

615. Read Luke 21:4. What had the poor widow actually sacrificed?

616. Read Luke 21:4. What principle of giving did Jesus communicate?

617. Why did Jesus draw attention to a seemingly unremarkable event?
618. Read Luke 21:5-38. (verse 5) What did the disciples say about the temple that prompted a prophecy from Jesus?
619. Read Luke 21:7. How did the disciples respond to Jesus' prediction concerning the temple?
620. Read Luke 21:8. What did Jesus say could deceive Christians in the last days?
621. Read Luke 21:9-13. What signs of the end of the age did Jesus tell us to expect?
622. Read Luke 21:14. Why did Jesus advise His followers not to worry about what will happen to them?
623. Read Luke 21:18-19. What promises did Jesus give to His disciples?
624. Read Luke 21:19. What will be the result of "standing firm" in the last days?
625. Read Luke 21:22. Why will the "time of punishment" be necessary?
626. Read Luke 21:23-26. What signs will usher in the end of the age?
627. Read Luke 21:28. What should be the response of Christians to the many signs of the end?
628. Read Luke 21:29-31. For what purpose did Jesus tell the parable of the fig tree?

629. Read Luke 21:34-36. What final advice did Jesus give?

Luke 22

630. Read Luke 22:1-6. (verse 1) What event were the people anticipating?

631. Read Luke 22:1. Why was this event important?

632. Read Luke 22:2. What was the plan of the chief priests and teachers of the law?

633. Read Luke 22:2. Why were the religious leaders afraid of the people?

634. Read Luke 22:3. What motivated Judas to approach the religious leaders who wanted to get rid of Jesus?

635. Read Luke 22:3. In what way is Satan's role in this story significant?

636. Read Luke 22:4. What did Judas and the religious leaders discuss?

637. Read Luke 22:4. How did the leaders respond to Judas's willingness to betray Jesus?

638. Read Luke 22:5-6. What did Judas get in return for betraying Jesus?

639. Read Luke 22:6. How was Judas's plan deceitful?

640. Read Luke 22:6. Why was it important for Judas to hand Jesus over "when no crowd was present"?

641. What can we learn from the hypocritical actions of Judas?
642. Read Luke 22:7-38. (verse 7) What was significant about the day of Unleavened Bread?
643. Read Luke 22:8-13. What instructions did Jesus give to Peter and John?
644. Read Luke 22:15-16. Why did Jesus eagerly desire to eat the Passover with His disciples?
645. Read Luke 22:16. What did Jesus mean when He said, "I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God"?
646. Read Luke 22:17-20. What did Jesus instruct His disciples to do in remembrance of Him?
647. Read Luke 22:20. What did the cup represent?
648. Read Luke 22:23-24. Why did a dispute arise among the disciples?
649. Read Luke 22:25-27. What principle did Jesus promote in response to the disciples' disagreement?
650. Read Luke 22:31-32. What did Jesus tell Simon about his future?
651. Read Luke 22:33. How did Simon respond to Jesus' prediction?
652. Read Luke 22:35-37. How did Jesus warn His disciples of the difficult time ahead?

653. Read Luke 22:38. In what way did the disciples take Jesus' instructions too literally?
654. Read Luke 22:39-46. (verse 39) What does this passage reveal about Jesus' habits?
655. Read Luke 22:39. For what purpose did Jesus go to the Mount of Olives?
656. Read Luke 22:40. What instructions did Jesus give to His disciples?
657. Read Luke 22:41. Why did Jesus withdraw from His followers?
658. Read Luke 22:42. What does Jesus' prayer reveal about His own character and His relationship with the Father?
659. Read Luke 22:42. What did Jesus want to avoid if possible?
660. Read Luke 22:42. What was Jesus referring to when He said, "Take this cup from me"?
661. Read Luke 22:43. How was Jesus strengthened at this difficult time?
662. Read Luke 22:44. How did Jesus confront His own anguish and dread?
663. Read Luke 22:44. What does this passage tell us about Jesus' physical and emotional condition shortly before His death?

664. Read Luke 22:45. What did Jesus find when He returned to the disciples?
665. Read Luke 22:45. Why were the disciples so exhausted?
666. Read Luke 22:46. For what reason did Jesus advise His disciples to pray?
667. Read Luke 22:47-53. (verses 47-53) Who was leading the crowd that approached Jesus? Why?
668. Why did Judas approach Jesus?
669. Read Luke 22:47-48. What actions of Judas were hypocritical and insincere?
670. How did Jesus respond to Judas's greeting?
671. Read Luke 22:48. Why did Jesus reveal His identity to His opponents?
672. Read Luke 22:49. How did Jesus' followers respond to Jesus' arrest?
673. Read Luke 22:50. What motivated one of Jesus' followers to attack one of the servants?
674. Read Luke 22:50-51. How did Jesus react when one of His disciples tried to protect Him?
675. Read Luke 22:51. How did Jesus show compassion even to His captors?
676. Read Luke 22:51-53. What emotions did Jesus show during this difficult time?

677. Read Luke 22:52-53. What did Jesus say to the religious leaders who had come for Him?
678. Read Luke 22:53. What did Jesus mean when He said, "This is your hour—when darkness reigns"?
679. Read Luke 22:53. In what way did Jesus submit to the Father's will in this situation?
680. Read Luke 22:54-62. (verse 54) Where did the events of this story take place?
681. Read Luke 22:54. What had happened to Jesus?
682. Read Luke 22:54. For what reason did Peter follow Jesus "at a distance"?
683. Read Luke 22:54-62. What do the actions of Peter in this story reveal about his personal character?
684. Read Luke 22:56. Of what did the servant girl accuse Peter?
685. Read Luke 22:57. How did Peter respond to the servant girl?
686. Read Luke 22:56-59. How many times was Peter accused of knowing Jesus?
687. Read Luke 22:58-60. How did Peter respond to the second and third accusations put to him?
688. Read Luke 22:59. Why did the third person suspect Peter was a follower of Jesus?

689. Read Luke 22:60-61. What happened when Peter denied Jesus the third time?
690. Read Luke 22:60-61. What caused Peter to remember Jesus' earlier prediction?
691. Read Luke 22:61. What did Jesus do the third time Peter denied knowing Him?
692. Read Luke 22:61-62. Why was Peter so upset and bitter about his actions?
693. Read Luke 22:62. How did Peter respond to the realization that he had denied his Lord?
694. How was Peter's denial of Christ different from Judas's betrayal of Jesus?
695. What can we learn about repentance from Peter's example in this story?
696. How would you define true repentance?
697. Read Luke 22:63-65. (verse 63) In light of what had happened before this point, what was Jesus probably feeling?
698. Read Luke 22:63. Who had control of this situation?
699. Read Luke 22:63-64. How was Jesus treated by His guards?
700. Read Luke 22:63-64. In what way did the guards mock Jesus?

701. Read Luke 22:64. Why was Jesus blindfolded?
702. Read Luke 22:64. What prompted the guards to mock Jesus as they did?
703. Read Luke 22:64. How did news of Jesus' reputation influence the guards' actions?
704. What was the guards' purpose in demanding that Jesus prophesy for them?
705. Read Luke 22:64. What was so demeaning about the guards' treatment of Jesus?
706. Read Luke 22:63-65. What did Luke imply about Jesus' actions by not mentioning any details about how He responded to the guards?
707. Read Luke 22:63-65. In what way are the details of Christ's humiliation significant to the overall story?
708. Read Luke 22:66-70. (verse 66) Who was first to question Jesus?
709. Read Luke 22:67-70. How did Jesus respond to the question about His identity?

Luke 23

710. Read Luke 23:1-25. (verse 1) Where was Jesus taken?
711. Read Luke 23:2. Of what was Jesus accused?
712. Read Luke 23:2. How did Jesus respond to Pilate's question about His identity?

713. Read Luke 23:4. Of what did Pilate find Jesus guilty?
714. Read Luke 23:5, 9-11. How was Jesus treated throughout His trial?
715. Read Luke 23:5-7. For what reason did Pilate send Jesus to Herod?
716. Read Luke 23:8-9. Why was Herod pleased to see Jesus?
717. Read Luke 23:13-16. How did Pilate explain what he decided to do with Jesus?
718. Read Luke 23:18. How did the crowds respond to Pilate's ruling?
719. Read Luke 23:20-25. In what way did popular pressure influence Pilate's decisions?
720. Read Luke 23:25. What finally happened to Jesus at the conclusion of His trial?
721. Read Luke 23:26-43. (verse 26) Why did the soldiers seize Simon of Cyrene?
722. Read Luke 23:26. What do the soldiers' actions reveal about Jesus' condition?
723. Read Luke 23:27. Why did such a large crowd gather?
724. Read Luke 23:27. How did many of the women respond to Jesus' impending death?

725. Read Luke 23:28-31. How did Jesus treat the women mourning for Him?
726. Read Luke 23:28-31. Why did Jesus tell the women to weep for themselves?
727. Read Luke 23:31. What did Jesus mean when He said, "If men do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?"
728. Read Luke 23:34. What do Jesus' words on the cross reveal about His character?
729. Read Luke 23:35-39. How was Jesus treated by others while He was hanging on the cross?
730. Read Luke 23:39. What did the first criminal demand of Jesus?
731. Read Luke 23:42. What request did the second criminal on the cross make of Jesus?
732. Read Luke 23:43. How did Jesus respond to the criminal's plea?
733. Read Luke 23:44-49. (verses 44-45) What unusual natural occurrence took place and what did it signify?
734. Read Luke 23:45. What happened to the curtain in the temple?
735. Read Luke 23:45. What did the tearing of the temple curtain signify?
736. Read Luke 23:46. Why did Jesus call out from the cross?

737. Read Luke 23:46. What was significant about Jesus' words on the cross?
738. Read Luke 23:46. What occurred after Jesus called out to the Father?
739. Read Luke 23:47. How did the centurion in charge of the crucifixion react to Jesus' death?
740. Read Luke 23:47. What motivated the centurion to praise God?
741. Read Luke 23:47. Why did the centurion call Jesus a righteous man, and in what way was this declaration significant?
742. Read Luke 23:48. How did the witnesses to Christ's crucifixion react to His death?
743. Read Luke 23:49. Why did those people who knew Jesus watch from a distance?
744. Read Luke 23:50-56. (verse 50) Who was Joseph?
745. Read Luke 23:50. How did Luke describe Joseph's character?
746. Read Luke 23:51. How did Joseph feel about Jesus' trial and punishment?
747. Read Luke 23:51. What did Luke mean by describing Joseph as a man who was "waiting for the kingdom of God"?
748. Read Luke 23:51. What kind of man was Joseph?

749. Read Luke 23:52. What did Joseph ask of Pilate?

750. Why was it courageous for Joseph to approach Pilate for Jesus' body?

751. Read Luke 23:53. How did Joseph prepare Jesus' body?

752. Read Luke 23:55. Who followed Joseph?

753. Read Luke 23:55-56. What do the actions of the women reveal about their faith?

754. Read Luke 23:56. Why did the women not take their prepared spices and perfumes directly to Jesus' tomb?

Luke 24

755. Read Luke 24:1-12. (verse 1) Why did the women go to Jesus' tomb?

756. Read Luke 24:2. What did the women find once they arrived at the tomb?

757. Read Luke 24:4. What happened while the women were wondering what had happened to Jesus' body?

758. Read Luke 24:4. Who were the two men who appeared to the women?

759. Read Luke 24:5. How did the women respond to the angels?

760. Read Luke 24:5-7. What did the angels tell the women about Jesus?
761. Read Luke 24:7. Of what words of Jesus were the women reminded?
762. Read Luke 24:9. What did the women do after the men had told them that Jesus had risen from the dead as He had predicted?
763. Read Luke 24:11. How did the apostles react to the women's testimony?
764. Read Luke 24:11. Why did the apostles not believe the women?
765. Read Luke 24:12. In what way were Peter's actions different from the other apostles?
766. Read Luke 24:12. How did Peter respond to the sight of the empty tomb?
767. Why is Jesus' resurrection central to the Christian faith?
768. Read Luke 24:13-35. (verse 13) Who was going to Emmaus?
769. Read Luke 24:14. What were the two men discussing along the way?
770. Read Luke 24:15. Who appeared to the men on the way to Emmaus?
771. Read Luke 24:17. What did Jesus ask the two men?

772. Read Luke 24:17. What emotions did the two men display?
773. Read Luke 24:18. Why did Cleopas think that Jesus must have been a visitor to Jerusalem?
774. Read Luke 24:19-24. How did the two men describe Jesus and what had happened?
775. Read Luke 24:21. How had the events of the last few days crushed the expectations of the two men talking with Jesus?
776. Read Luke 24:25-27. Why did Jesus explain the Scriptures to the men?
777. Read Luke 24:31. When did the men finally recognize Jesus?
778. Read Luke 24:32. What did the men recall after they reflected on their conversation with Jesus?
779. Read Luke 24:33-35. How did these men respond to their encounter with Jesus?
780. Read Luke 24:36-49. (verse 36) How did Jesus approach the disciples?
781. Read Luke 24:37. Why were the disciples frightened?
782. Read Luke 24:38-39. How did Jesus try to calm and reassure the disciples?
783. Read Luke 24:39. What evidence did Jesus give to prove He was not a ghost?

784. Read Luke 24:41. How did the disciples react to the evidence and convincing words of Jesus?

785. Read Luke 24:41. What did the disciples' actions reveal about their understanding of what Jesus had told them earlier about His death and resurrection?

786. Read Luke 24:41. What emotions did the disciples display?

787. Read Luke 24:43. What was significant about Jesus' eating a piece of fish?

788. Read Luke 24:44-45. When did the disciples finally understand the Scriptures?

789. Read Luke 24:44-45. How were the disciples finally able to understand the prophecies about Christ in Scripture?

790. Read Luke 24:47. What did Jesus explain would be the result of His resurrection?

791. Read Luke 24:48. What instructions did Jesus give to His disciples?

792. Read Luke 24:48. What was Jesus going to send the apostles?

793. Read Luke 24:48. What was the "power from on high" to which Jesus referred?

794. Why did Jesus consider it important to teach the disciples from the Old Testament?

795. According to this passage, how can we expect to understand the Scriptures?
796. In what ways have you experienced the power Jesus promised us?
797. Read Luke 24:50-53. (verse 50) What did Jesus do for His disciples?
798. Read Luke 24:50. Why did Jesus bless His disciples at this point?
799. Read Luke 24:51. What happened while Jesus was blessing His disciples?
800. Read Luke 24:51. How did the disciples know that Jesus was taken up into heaven?
801. Read Luke 24:51. How was this time with Jesus significant for the disciples?
802. Read Luke 24:52. What was the response of the disciples to Jesus' ascension into heaven?
803. Read Luke 24:52. Why were the disciples so joyful?
804. Read Luke 24:52. What is significant about the fact that Jesus' followers worshipped Him?
805. Read Luke 24:52. Why did the disciples return to Jerusalem?
806. Read Luke 24:52-53. What did Jesus' followers do after He left them?

807. How can you honor Jesus for all He came and did for you?

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