

# IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

## **“THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS” ~ Mark 1:9-34**

September 18, 2022 – Pastor D. R. Hilken

### John the Baptizer's role

- A messenger with a message of repentance leading to baptism which was widely known (Apollos, Aquilla, Priscilla, Ephesus)
- Pointing to the arrival of the KING
- Mutual respect

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus ~ His \_\_\_\_\_ (vss 9-11)

- Jesus from Nazareth
- First recorded meeting of these relatives since the womb
- Visible & audible presence of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Filled with the Holy Spirit
- Why was Jesus baptized?  
*Matthew 3:15---Jesus answered (John), “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.*

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (vss 12-13)

- The Pharisees opposite challenge as Satan  
Pharisees demanded that He \_\_\_\_\_ His divinity  
Satan invites Jesus to reject His \_\_\_\_\_ (Apostle's Creed)
- Angels “ministering” = the Father's affirmation

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (vss 14-15)

- The time is fulfilled (chiroi not chronos)
- I must decrease and He must increase

### The \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (vss 16-20)

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (



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■ A messenger with a message of repentance leading to baptism which was widely known (Apollos, Aquilla,

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# The CORONATION of Jesus~His BAPTISM

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

<sup>10</sup> And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Mark 1:9–11

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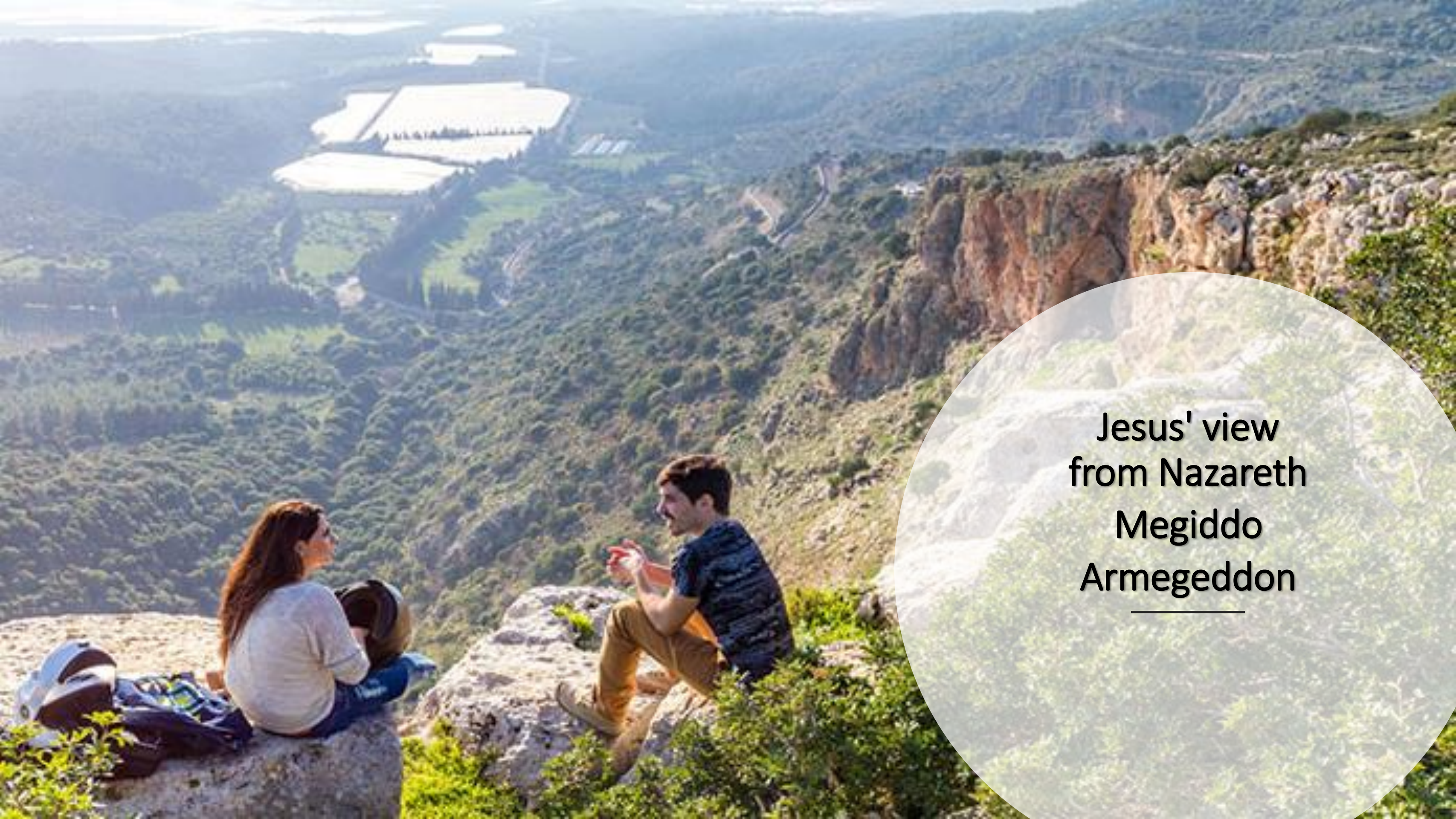


# Jesus from Nazareth (of Galilee)

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Jesus' view  
from Nazareth  
Megiddo  
Armageddon



# The CORONATION of Jesus~His BAPTISM

## ▪First recorded meeting of these relatives since the womb

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# When the two families got together in Jerusalem when John and Jesus were both 12

THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS THE MESSIAH, 1 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET: "I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY"—A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS, "PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE STRAIGHT THE PATHS." 2 JOHN THE BAPTIST CAME IN THE WILDERNESS, PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. 3 HE WAS PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE MESSIAH, THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM WENT OUT TO HIM, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. 4 THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN. 5 JOHN WAS BELIEVING THAT HE WAS THE ONE COMING AFTER ME, WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND REMOVE. 6 AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE ONE WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND REMOVE. 7 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. 8

**ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS**  
9 AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE, PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 10 "THE TIME HAS COME," HE SAID, "AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

**CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES**  
11 JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW SIMON AND HIS BROTHER ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 12 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISH FOR PEOPLE." 13 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

14 WHEN HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF ZEBOEDI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS. 15 WITHOUT DELAY HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER AND BROTHERS IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

**DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT**  
16 JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 17 THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 18 JUST THEN A MAN IN THEIR SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 19 "WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF NAZARETH? HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY US? I KNOW WHO YOU ARE—THE HOLY ONE OF GOD!"

20 JESUS SILENTLY LOOKED AT HIM AND SAID, "BE QUIET!" HE SAID STERNLY, "COME OUT OF HIM!" 21 THE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM. 22 THE PEOPLE WERE ALL SO AMAZED THAT THEY ASKED EACH OTHER, "WHAT IS THIS? A NEW TEACHING—AND WITH AUTHORITY! HE EVEN ORDERS THE IMPURE SPIRITS TO OBEY HIM!" 23 NEWS OF THIS WENT SPREADING QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

**HEALS MANY**  
24 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO A VILLAGE. THERE HE HEALED MANY. 25 THEN HE RETURNED TO NAZARETH, HIS HOME TOWN. 26 AS USUAL, HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND TOOK THE BOOK. HE UNROLLED IT AND FOUND THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN: "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANointed ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO ANNOUNCE THE GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO SAY, 'SEND ME BACK TO THE ONE WHO SENT ME,' AND TO SAY, 'BRING THE BLIND TO SEE.'"

27 HE ROLLED UP THE BOOK AND GAVE IT BACK TO THE ATTENDANTS. 28 THEN HE LOOKED UP AND SAID TO THEM, "THIS DAY HAS BEEN FULFILLED IN YOUR HEARING." 29 ALL WERE PRAISING HIM AND SAYING, "WE HAVE HEARD AND SEEN WONDERFUL THINGS TODAY. EVERYTHING THAT WAS WRITTEN ABOUT THIS MAN IN THE SCRIPTURES HAS COME TRUE." 30 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "YOU WILL SAY TO ME, 'YOU ARE TEACHING US LIKE A MAN WHO HAS BEEN TAUGHT.' BUT I SAY TO YOU, HERE IN NAZARETH I HAVE FOUND ONLY THIS: THAT YOU HAVE COME TO ME AND HAVE SAID, 'YOU ARE THE SON OF JOSEPH.'"

31 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 32 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH."

**JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH**  
33 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 34 SOME OF THEM WERE LOOKING FOR A REASON TO ACCUSE JESUS, SO THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY TO SEE IF HE WOULD HEAL HIM ON THE SABBATH. 35 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE." 36 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY REMAINED SILENT.

37 HE LOOKED AROUND AT THEM IN ANGER AND, DEEPLY DISTRESSED AT THEIR STUBBORN HEARTS, SAID TO THE MAN, "STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND." HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS COMPLETELY RESTORED. 38 THEN THE PHARISEES WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT WITH THE HERODIANS HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.

**CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS**  
39 JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 40 WHEN THEY HEARD ABOUT ALL HE WAS DOING, MANY PEOPLE CAME TO HIM FROM JUDEA, JERUSALEM, IDUMEA, AND THE REGIONS ACROSS THE JORDAN AND AROUND TYRE AND SIDON. 41 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 42 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 43 WHENEVER THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 44 BUT HE GAVE THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

**JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE**  
45 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 46 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH AND TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS. 47 THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE THE NAME PETER), 48 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN (TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS "SONS OF THUNDER"), 49 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW, JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE KNAVE, JUDAS ISCARIOT WHO BETRAYED HIM, 50 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 51 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED, SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 52 WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."

53 AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO CAME DOWN FROM JERUSALEM SAID, "HE IS POSSESSED BY BEELZEBUL, BY THE PRINCE OF DEMONS. HE IS DRIVING OUT DEMONS."

54 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 55 IF A

MAN DIVIDES AGAINST HIMSELF, HE CANNOT STAND. 56 IF A HOUSE DIVIDES AGAINST ITSELF, IT CANNOT STAND. 57 IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF, HOW CAN HE STAND? HIS END HAS COME. 58 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN ENTER A STRONG MAN'S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP, HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 59 TRULY I TELL YOU, NO ONE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER UTTERED AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FORGIVEN. 60 BUT WHOEVER BLASPHEMES AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT, HE WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN, NEITHER IN THIS AGE NOR IN THE AGE TO COME. 61 THEN JESUS' MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 62 A CROWD WAS SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, "YOUR MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU." 63 "WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?" HE ASKED. 64 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM AND SAID, "HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS!" 65 WHOEVER GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.

**THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**  
66 AGAIN JESUS BEGAN TO TEACH BY THE LAKE. THE CROWD THAT GATHERED AROUND HIM WAS SO LARGE THAT HE GOT INTO A BOAT AND SAT IN IT OUT ON THE LAKE, WHILE ALL THE PEOPLE WERE ALONG THE SHORE AT THE WATER'S EDGE. 67 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 68 "LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 69 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 70 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 71 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 72 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 73 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

74 THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR!"

75 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND HIM ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 76 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 77 SO THAT, WHILE THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, WHILE THEY MAY BE EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING, THEY WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN."

78 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? A FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 79 SOME PEOPLE ARE LIKE SEED ALONG THE PATH, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN. AS SOON AS THEY HEAR IT, SATAN COMES AND TAKES AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEM. 80 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD AT ONCE BUT RECEIVE IT WITH JOY. 81 BUT SINCE THEY HAVE NO ROOT, THEY LAST ONLY A SHORT TIME. WHEN TROUBLE OR PERSECUTION COMES BECAUSE OF THE WORD, THEY QUICKLY FALL AWAY. 82 STILL OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD. 83 BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND THE DESIRES OF OTHER THINGS choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. 84 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE WORD AND ACCEPT IT AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

85 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU BRING IN A LAMP TO PUT UNDER A BUSH OR A BED? INSTEAD, DON'T YOU PUT IT ON ITS STAND? 86 WHATEVER IS HIDDEN IS MADE MANIFEST, AND WHATEVER IS CONCEALED IS BROUGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN. 87 IF ANYONE HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

88 THEN HE CONTINUED, "CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR." HE CONTINUED, "THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE."

89 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU BRING IN A LAMP TO PUT UNDER A BUSH OR A BED? INSTEAD, DON'T YOU PUT IT ON ITS STAND? 90 WHATEVER IS HIDDEN IS MADE MANIFEST, AND WHATEVER IS CONCEALED IS BROUGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN. 91 IF ANYONE HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

92 THEN HE CONTINUED, "CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR." HE CONTINUED, "THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE."

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# When the two families got together in Jerusalem when John and Jesus were both 12

MY CHILD IS AN  
HONOR ROLL STUDENT  
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PERFECT

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- Visible & audible presence of the **TRINITY**
- Filled with the Holy Spirit
- Why was Jesus baptized?

Matthew 3:15——Jesus answered (John), “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.

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# The TEMPTATION of Jesus (vss 12–13)

## The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

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# The TEMPTATION of Jesus (vss 12–13)

## ■ The Pharisees opposite challenge as Satan

➤ Pharisees demanded that Jesus REJECT His divinity

➤ Satan invites Jesus to reject His HUMILIATION (Apostle's Creed)

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And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was (1)conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
(2)born of the virgin Mary, (3)suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, (4)was crucified, (5)died and  
(6)was buried. (5)He descended into hell.  
The third day (4)He rose again from the dead.  
(3)He ascended into heaven and (2)sits  
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence (1)He will come to judge  
the living and the dead.

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# Angels “ministering” = The Father’s affirmation

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# The MESSAGE of Jesus (vss 14–15)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

- The time is fulfilled (chiros not chronos)
- I must decrease and He must increase

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# The CALL TO FOLLOW Jesus (vss 16–20)

“TEACHING OF THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS THE MESSIAH, OF GOD, 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET: 3 “I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY.” — THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS, TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE SON OF GOD. 4 THE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR THE SON OF GOD. 5 “TO JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARED THE WAY, BAPTIZING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM WENT OUT TO HIM, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. 6 JOHN WORE CLOTHING MADE OF CAMEL’S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE: “AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE SON OF GOD, WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND TOUCH. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

9 **BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS** 10 AT THE TIME JESUS CAME FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE AND WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE JORDAN. 11 JUST AS JESUS WAS COMING UP OUT OF THE WATER, HE SAW HEAVEN BEING TORN OPEN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 12 AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, SAYING, “YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.” 13 SINCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS, 14 JESUS WAS IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN. 15 THE SPIRIT WAS WITH HIM, AND ANGELS ATTENDED HIM.

16 **ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS** 17 AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE, PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 18 “THE TIME HAS COME,” HE SAID, “AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!”

19 **CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES** 20 JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW SIMON AND HIS BROTHER ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 21 “COME, FOLLOW ME,” JESUS SAID, “AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISH FOR PEOPLE.” 22 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

23 **IN THE BOAT** 24 WHEN HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF ZEBOEDAI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS. 25 WITHOUT DELAY HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER AND BROTHERS IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

26 **DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT** 27 THEY WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 28 THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE WHO HAS AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 29 JUST THEN A MAN IN THEIR SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 30 SAYING, “WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF NAZARETH? HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY US? I KNOW WHO YOU ARE, THE HOLY ONE OF GOD!”

31 JESUS SAID TO THEM, “BE QUIET!” HE SAID STERNLY. “COME OUT OF HIM!” 32 THE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM. 33 THE PEOPLE WERE ALL SO AMAZED THAT THEY ASKED EACH OTHER, “WHAT IS THIS? A NEW TEACHING—AND WITH AUTHORITY! HE EVEN COMMANDS THE IMPURE SPIRITS AND THEY OBEY HIM.” 34 THE NEWS ABOUT HIM SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

35 **HEALS MANY** 36 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES AND JOHN TO CAPERNAUM. 37 THEY WENT INTO A HOUSE, AND JESUS BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 38 THE PEOPLE WERE ALL SO AMAZED THAT THEY ASKED EACH OTHER, “WHAT IS THIS? A NEW TEACHING—AND WITH AUTHORITY! HE EVEN COMMANDS THE IMPURE SPIRITS AND THEY OBEY HIM.” 39 THE NEWS ABOUT HIM SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

40 **THE LEPROSY** 41 THEN A LEPROSY [H]AD CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED HIM TO TOUCH HIM. 42 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT [H] HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED THE MAN. 43 “I AM WILLING,” HE SAID, “BE CLEAN!” 44 IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSSED. 45 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING, SAYING, “DO NOT TELL ANYONE, BUT GO AND SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICE THAT MOSES COMMANDED, AS A WITNESS TO THEM.” 46 BUT THE NEWS, AS A RESULT, SPREAD, AND JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. 47 YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

48 **JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN** 49 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 50 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 51 SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. 52 SINCE THEY COULD NOT GET HIM TO JESUS BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, THEY MADE AN OPENING IN THE ROOF ABOVE JESUS BY DIGGING THROUGH IT AND THEN LOWERED THE MAT THE MAN WAS LYING ON. 53 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, “SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.”

54 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, 55 “WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE’S BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?”

56 **IMMEDIATELY JESUS KNEW IN HIS SPIRIT THAT THIS WAS WHAT THEY WERE THINKING IN THEIR HEARTS, AND HE SAID TO THEM, “WHY ARE YOU THINKING THESE THINGS?” 57 WHICH IS EASIER, TO SAY TO THIS PARALYZED MAN, ‘YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,’ OR TO SAY, ‘GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK?’ 58 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS.”** 59 SO HE SAID TO THE MAN, 60 “GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME.” 61 HE GOT UP, TOOK HIS MAT AND WALKED OUT IN FULL VIEW OF THEM ALL. THIS AMAZED EVERYONE AND THEY PRAISED GOD, SAYING, “WE HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS!”

62 **JESUS CALLS LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS** 63 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE, A LARGE CROWD CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 64 AS HE WALKED ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHEAUS SITTING AT THE TAX COLLECTOR’S BOOTH. “FOLLOW ME,” JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

65 **WHILE JESUS WAS HAVING DINNER AT LEVI’S HOUSE, MANY TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS WERE EATING WITH HIM AND HIS DISCIPLES, FOR THERE WERE MANY WHO FOLLOWED HIM. 66 WHEN THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO WERE PHARISEES SAW HIM EATING WITH THE SINNERS AND TAX COLLECTORS, THEY ASKED HIS DISCIPLES, “WHY DOES HE EAT WITH TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS?”**

67 **ON HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO THEM, “IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY WHO NEED A DOCTOR, BUT THE SICK. I HAVE NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS.”**

68 **JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT FASTING** 69 NOW JOHN’S DISCIPLES AND THE PHARISEES WERE FASTING. SOME PEOPLE CAME AND ASKED JESUS, “HOW IS IT THAT JOHN’S DISCIPLES AND THE DISCIPLES OF THE PHARISEES ARE FASTING, BUT YOURS ARE NOT?”

70 **JESUS ANSWERED, “HOW CAN THE GUESTS OF THE BRIDEGROOM FAST WHILE HE IS WITH THEM? THEY CANNOT, SO LONG AS THEY HAVE HIM WITH THEM. 71 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY**

**72** 73 **ONE ONE SEWS A PATCH OF UNSHRUNK CLOTH ON AN OLD GARMENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 74 AND NO ONE POURS NEW WINE INTO OLD WINESKINS, OTHERWISE, THE WINE WILL BURST THE SKINS, AND BOTH THE WINE AND THE WINESKINS WILL BE RUINED. NO, THEY POUR NEW WINE INTO NEW WINESKINS.”** 75 JESUS IS THE SON OF THE SABBATH. 76 ONE SAID, “HE IS SAYING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH.” 77 HE ANSWERED, “HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 78 IN THE DAYS OF ABIATHAR THE HIGH PRIEST, HE ENTERED THE HOUSE OF GOD AND ATE THE CONSECRATED BREAD, WHICH IS LAWFUL ONLY FOR PRIESTS TO EAT, AND HE ALSO GAVE SOME TO HIS COMPANIONS.” 79 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, “THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 80 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH.”

81 **JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH** 82 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 83 SOME OF THEM WERE LOOKING FOR A REASON TO ACCUSE JESUS, SO THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY TO SEE IF HE WOULD HEAL HIM ON THE SABBATH. 84 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, “STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.”

85 **THEN JESUS ASKED THEM, “WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH, TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?” BUT THEY REMAINED SILENT.**

86 **HE LOOKED AROUND AT THEM IN ANGER AND, DEEPLY DISTRESSED AT THEIR STUBBORN HEARTS, SAID TO THE MAN, “STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND.” HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS COMPLETELY RESTORED. 87 THEN THE PHARISEES WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT WITH THE HERODIANS HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.**

88 **CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS** 89 JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 90 WHEN THEY HEARD ABOUT ALL HE WAS DOING, MANY PEOPLE CAME TO HIM FROM JUDEA, JERUSALEM, IDUMEA, AND THE REGIONS ACROSS THE JORDAN AND AROUND TYRE AND SIDON. 91 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 92 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 93 WHENEVER THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE HIM AND CRIED OUT, “YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD.” 94 BUT HE GAVE THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

95 **JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE** 96 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 97 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH 15 AND TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS. 16 THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE THE NAME PETER), 17 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN (TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS “SONS OF THUNDER”), 18 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW, WHO WAS A TAX COLLECTOR, 19 JAMES SON OF ALPHEAUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE KNAVE, AND JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 20 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW 21 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED, SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 22 WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, “HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND.” 23 AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO CAME DOWN FROM JERUSALEM SAID, “HE IS POSSESSED BY BEELZEBUL, BY THE PRINCE OF DEMONS. HE IS DRIVING OUT DEMONS.”

24 **SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES, “HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 25 IF A**

**26** 27 **STAND, 28 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND. AND IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED, HE CANNOT STAND. HIS END HAS COME. 29 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN ENTER A STRONG MAN’S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP, HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN’S HOUSE. 30 TRULY I TELL YOU, PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER THEY SPEAK AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT NOT THIS. FOR IF THEY ARE GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN, THEY WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN.”** 31 THEN JESUS’ MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 32 A CROWD WAS SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, “YOUR MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU.” 33 “WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?” HE ASKED. 34 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM AND SAID, “HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS! 35 WHOEVER DOES THE WILL OF GOD, GOD’S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.”

36 **THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER** 37 AGAIN JESUS BEGAN TO TEACH BY THE LAKE. THE CROWD THAT GATHERED AROUND HIM WAS SO LARGE THAT HE GOT INTO A BOAT AND SAT IN IT OUT ON THE LAKE, WHILE ALL THE PEOPLE WERE ALONG THE SHORE AT THE WATER’S EDGE. 38 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 39 “LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 40 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 41 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 42 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 43 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 44 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL, CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES.”

45 **THEN JESUS SAID, “WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR.”**

46 **WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND HIM ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 47 HE TOLD THEM, “THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 48 SO THAT,**

**49** 50 **“THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN.”**

51 **THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, “DON’T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? A FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 52 SOME PEOPLE ARE LIKE SEED ALONG THE PATH, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN. AS SOON AS THEY HEAR IT, SATAN COMES AND TAKES AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEM. 53 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD AT ONCE, BUT THEY DO NOT RECEIVE IT WITH JOY. 54 SINCE THEY HAVE NO ROOT, THEY LAST ONLY A SHORT TIME. WHEN TROUBLE OR PERSECUTION COMES BECAUSE OF THE WORD, THEY QUICKLY FALL AWAY. 55 STILL OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS choke the word, so that it is unfruitful. 56 BUT OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE WORD, ACCEPT IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN.”**

57 **A LAMP ON A STAND** 58 HE SAID TO THEM, “DO NOT BRING A LAMP TO PUT UNDER A BUSH OR A BED, BUT PUT IT ON A STAND. 59 IF YOU LIGHT A LAMP, IT WILL GIVE LIGHT TO ALL WHO ARE IN THE HOUSE. 60 BUT IF YOU PUT IT UNDER A BUSH, IT WILL BE CONCEALED, AND THE LAMP THAT WAS PUT UNDER A BUSH WILL BE CONCEALED. 61 BUT IF YOU PUT IT ON A STAND, IT WILL GIVE LIGHT TO ALL WHO ARE IN THE HOUSE. 62 IF ANYONE HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR.”

63 **CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR,” HE CONTINUED, “FOR THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND YOU**

IMMEDIATELY  
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK



# The AUTHORITY of Jesus (21–34)

“ANNOUNCING OF THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS THE MESSIAH, OF GOD, 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET: 3 ‘I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY’— 4 THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS, ‘PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, STRAIGHTEN THE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM.’ 5 ‘I’ AM JOHN THE BAPTIST, WHO I HAVE MADE REPENTANCE FOR THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM WENT OUT TO HIM, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. 6 JOHN WORE CLOTHING MADE OF CAMEL’S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE: ‘AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE SON OF GOD, WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND TOUCH. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.’”

**BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS**  
9 AT THAT TIME JESUS CAME FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE AND WAS BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE JORDAN. 10 JUST AS JESUS WAS COMING UP OUT OF THE WATER, HE SAW HEAVEN BEING TORN OPEN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, SAYING, “YOU ARE MY SON, WHOM I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED.”

12 SINCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS, 13 AND HE WAS IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN, 14 AND BEING WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDED HIM.

**ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS**  
15 AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE, ANNOUNCING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 16 “THE TIME HAS COME,” HE SAID, “AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!”

**CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES**  
17 JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW SIMON AND HIS BROTHER ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 18 “COME, FOLLOW ME,” JESUS SAID, “AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF PEOPLE.” 19 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

20 WHEN HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF ZEBOEDAI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS. 21 WITHOUT DELAY HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER AND BROTHERS IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

**DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT**  
22 THEY WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 23 THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE WHO HAS AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 24 JUST THEN A MAN IN THEIR SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 25 “WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF NAZARETH? HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY US? I KNOW WHO YOU ARE—THE HOLY ONE OF GOD!”

26 JESUS SAID QUIETLY, “COME OUT OF HIM!” 27 THE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM. 28 EVERYONE WAS AMAZED.

29 ALL THE PEOPLE WERE ALL SO AMAZED THAT THEY ASKED EACH OTHER, “WHAT IS THIS? A NEW TEACHING—AND WITH AUTHORITY! HE EVEN ORDERS THE IMPURE SPIRITS TO OBEY HIM.” 30 THE NEWS ABOUT HIM SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

**HEALS MANY**  
31 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN THE LEPROSY [H]AD COME TO HIM AND BEGGED HIM ON HIS KNEES, “IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN.” 32 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT [H] HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED THE MAN. “I AM WILLING,” HE SAID, “BE CLEAN!” 33 IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED. 34 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING, “BE CAREFUL! DON’T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS.” 35 BUT HE DID NOT OBEY HIS WARNING. HE WENT OUT AND TALKED FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. 36 YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

**JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN**  
37 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 38 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 39 SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. 40 SINCE THEY COULD NOT GET HIM TO JESUS BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, THEY MADE AN OPENING IN THE ROOF ABOVE JESUS BY DIGGING THROUGH IT AND THEN LOWERED THE MAT THE MAN WAS LYING ON. 41 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, “SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.”

42 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, 43 “WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE’S BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?”

44 IMMEDIATELY JESUS KNEW IN HIS SPIRIT THAT THIS WAS WHAT THEY WERE THINKING IN THEIR HEARTS, AND HE SAID TO THEM, “WHY ARE YOU THINKING THESE THINGS?” 45 WHICH IS EASIER, TO SAY TO THIS PARALYZED MAN, ‘YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,’ OR TO SAY, ‘GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK’? 46 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS.” 47 SO HE SAID TO THE MAN, 48 “GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME.” 49 HE GOT UP, TOOK HIS MAT AND WALKED OUT IN FULL VIEW OF THEM ALL. THIS AMAZED EVERYONE AND THEY PRAISED GOD, SAYING, “WE HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS!”

**JESUS CALLS LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS**  
50 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 51 AS HE WALKED ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHEAUS SITTING AT THE TAX COLLECTOR’S BOOTH. “FOLLOW ME,” JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

52 WHILE JESUS WAS HAVING DINNER AT LEVI’S HOUSE, MANY TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS WERE EATING WITH HIM AND HIS DISCIPLES, FOR THERE WERE MANY WHO FOLLOWED HIM. 53 WHEN THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO WERE PHARISEES SAW HIM EATING WITH THE SINNERS AND TAX COLLECTORS, THEY ASKED HIS DISCIPLES, “WHY DOES HE EAT WITH TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS?”

54 ON HEARING THIS, JESUS SAID TO THEM, “IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY WHO NEED A DOCTOR, BUT THE SICK. I HAVE NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS.”

**JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT FASTING**  
55 IS NOW JOHN’S DISCIPLES AND THE PHARISEES WERE FASTING. SOME PEOPLE CAME AND ASKED JESUS, “HOW IS IT THAT JOHN’S DISCIPLES AND THE DISCIPLES OF THE PHARISEES ARE FASTING, BUT YOURS ARE NOT?”

56 JESUS ANSWERED, “HOW CAN THE GUESTS OF THE BRIDEGROOM FAST WHILE HE IS WITH THEM? THEY CANNOT, SO LONG AS THEY HAVE HIM WITH THEM. 57 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

58 WILL FAST. 59 NO ONE SEWS A PATCH OF UNSHRUNK CLOTH ON AN OLD GARMENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 60 AND NO ONE POURS NEW WINE INTO OLD WINESKINS. OTHERWISE, THE WINE WILL BURST THE SKINS, AND BOTH THE WINE AND THE WINESKINS WILL BE RUINED. NO, THEY POUR NEW WINE INTO NEW WINESKINS.” 61 JESUS ASKED THEM, “WHY DO YOU SAY ‘WE’ DO WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?” 62 HE ANSWERED, “HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 63 IN THE DAYS OF ABIATHAR THE HIGH PRIEST, HE ENTERED THE HOUSE OF GOD AND ATE THE CONSECRATED BREAD, WHICH IS LAWFUL ONLY FOR PRIESTS TO EAT, AND HE ALSO GAVE SOME TO HIS COMPANIONS.” 64 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, “THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 65 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH.”

**JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH**  
66 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 67 SOME OF THEM WERE LOOKING FOR A REASON TO ACCUSE JESUS, SO THEY WATCHED HIM CLOSELY TO SEE IF HE WOULD HEAL HIM ON THE SABBATH. 68 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, “STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.”

69 THEN JESUS ASKED THEM, “WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH, TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?” BUT THEY REMAINED SILENT.

70 HE LOOKED AROUND AT THEM IN ANGER AND, DEEPLY DISTRESSED AT THEIR STUBBORN HEARTS, SAID TO THE MAN, “STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND.” HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS COMPLETELY RESTORED. 71 THEN THE PHARISEES WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT WITH THE HERODIANS HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.

**CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS**  
72 JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 73 WHEN THEY HEARD ABOUT ALL HE WAS DOING, MANY PEOPLE CAME TO HIM FROM JUDEA, JERUSALEM, IDUMEA, AND THE REGIONS ACROSS THE JORDAN AND AROUND TYRE AND SIDON. 74 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 75 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 76 WHENEVER THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE HIM AND CRIED OUT, “YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD.” 77 BUT HE GAVE THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

**JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE**  
78 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 79 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH 80 AND TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS. 81 THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE THE NAME PETER), 82 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN (TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS “SONS OF THUNDER”), 83 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW (WHOM JESUS CALLED LEVI), 84 JAMES SON OF ALPHEAUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE KNAVE, AND JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 85 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW, 86 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED, SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 87 WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, “HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND.” 88 AND THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO CAME DOWN FROM JERUSALEM SAID, “HE IS POSSESSED BY BEELZEBUL, BY THE PRINCE OF DEMONS. HE IS DRIVING OUT DEMONS.”

89 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES. “HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 90 IF A

91 MAN STANDS 25 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND. AND IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED, HE CANNOT STAND. HIS END HAS COME. 27 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN ENTER A STRONG MAN’S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP. THEN HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN’S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I TELL YOU, PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER THEY UTTER. 29 BUT WHOEVER BLASPHEMES AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL NEVER BE FORGIVEN. THEY ARE GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN. 30 HE SAID THIS BECAUSE THEY WERE SAYING, “HE HAS AN IMPURE SPIRIT.” 31 THEN JESUS’ MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 32 A CROWD WAS SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, “YOUR MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU.” 33 “WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?” HE ASKED. 34 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM AND SAID, “HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS! 35 WHOEVER DOES THE WILL OF GOD IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.”

**THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER**  
36 AGAIN JESUS BEGAN TO TEACH BY THE LAKE. THE CROWD THAT GATHERED AROUND HIM WAS SO LARGE THAT HE GOT INTO A BOAT AND SAT IN IT OUT ON THE LAKE, WHILE ALL THE PEOPLE WERE ALONG THE SHORE AT THE WATER’S EDGE. 37 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 38 “LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 39 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 40 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 41 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 42 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 43 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL, CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY, SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES.”

44 THEN JESUS SAID, “WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR.”

45 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND HIM ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 46 HE TOLD THEM, “THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE SECRET, THE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 47 SO THAT,

48 ‘THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,’ OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN.”

49 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, “DON’T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? 50 A FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 51 SOME PEOPLE ARE LIKE SEED ALONG THE PATH, WHERE THE WORD IS SOWN. AS SOON AS THEY HEAR IT, SATAN COMES AND TAKES AWAY THE WORD THAT WAS SOWN IN THEM. 52 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD AT ONCE, BUT THEY DO NOT RECEIVE IT WITH JOY. 53 SINCE THEY HAVE NO ROOT, THEY LAST ONLY A SHORT TIME. WHEN TROUBLE OR PERSECUTION COMES BECAUSE OF THE WORD, THEY QUICKLY FALL AWAY. 54 STILL OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS choke the word, so that it is unfruitful. 55 BUT OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE WORD AND ACCEPT IT AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN.”

**A LAMP ON A STAND**  
56 HE SAID TO THEM, “DON’T YOU BRING A LAMP TO PUT UNDER A BOWL OR A CUP? 57 INSTEAD, DON’T YOU PUT IT ON ITS STAND? 58 WHATEVER IS HIDDEN IS MADE MANIFEST, AND WHATEVER IS CONCEALED IS BROUGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN. 59 IF ANYONE HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR.”

60 CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR,” HE CONTINUED. “FOR THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE.

IMMEDIATELY  
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK