

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

IS JESUS CRAZY?

Mark 3:20–35

October 16, 2022 – Pastor D R Hilken

Mark 3:28 --- “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”

Jesus! What are you thinking? ... signed “_____”

- a. he left a family business to become a homeless prophet
- b. religious and political leaders want him gone
- c. crowds and infatuation grow to dangerous levels
- d. new to us—where did the _____ and _____ come from
- e. your picker seems to be broke – assessment of disciples
- f. you are running at a pace _____ to your health

The religious elites send in _____

Accusation: not just a demon – _____

A response based on simple logic

Jesus’ counter _____ – blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
the _____ sin

a warning to:

_____ the comfortable and _____ the frightened

Jesus: “as Messiah, faith family trumps _____ family”

CS Lewis’ “Lunatic–Liar–Lord”

John 12:36–37 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,

Mary – James – Jude

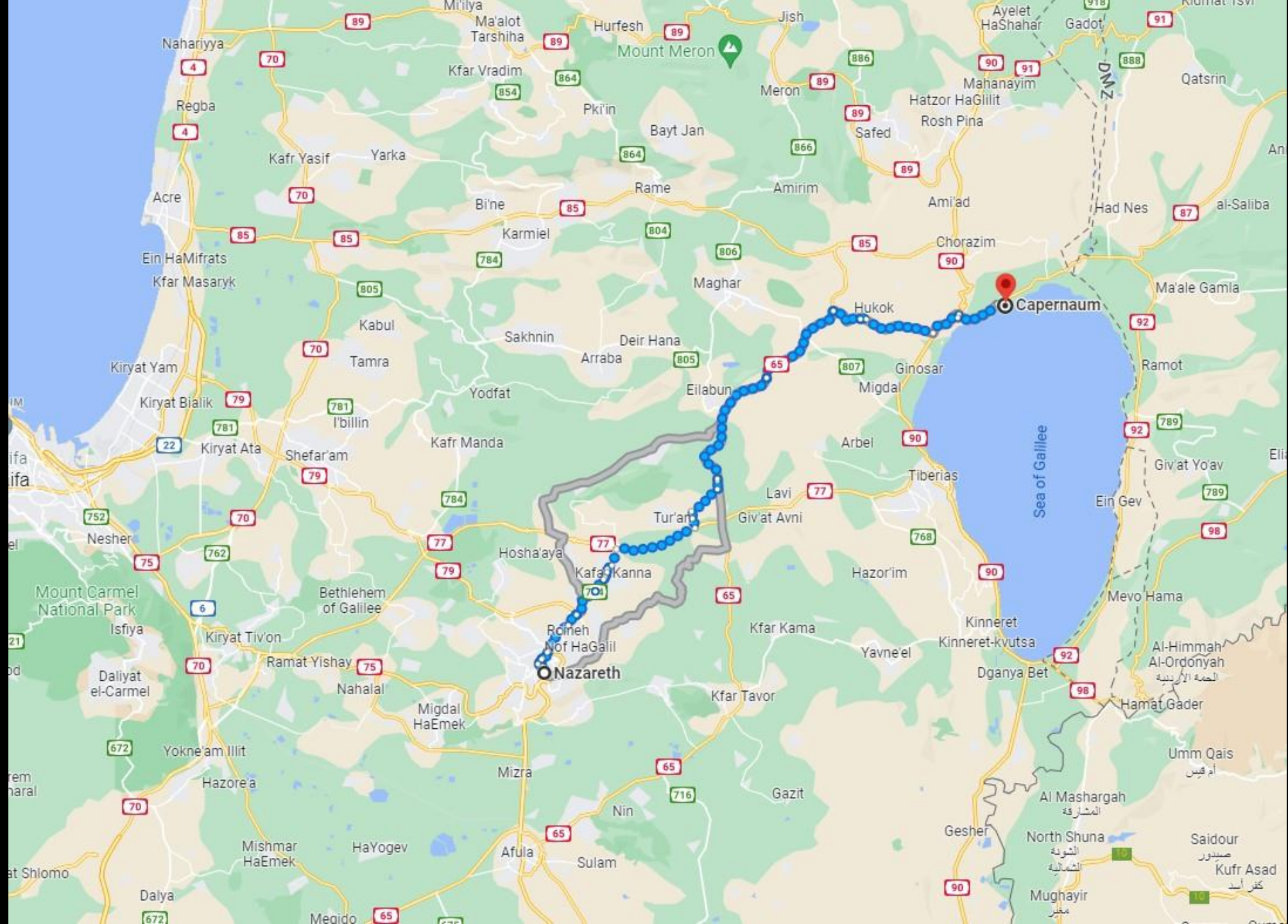
Belief manifest in _____

“Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but only a sin that leads to eternal destruction.”

Mark 3:28

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THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK



OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
AND TO STRAIGHTEN THE PATHS FOR HIM."

JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY 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
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 WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS
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 THE HEAVENS OPENING AND THE SPIRIT
DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 HE HEARD A VOICE FROM
HEAVEN SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO LOVES ME."

THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS HE WAS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY THE
DEVIL. 14 HE WAS WITH THE WILDLIFE AND HE LIVED ON ACORN

AND ANNOUNCES THE KINGDOM OF GOD
"THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE
THE GOOD NEWS!"

CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES
JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW TWO
OTHER MEN, ANDREW AND PETER, WHO WERE NETTING FISH. 17
"COME FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU OUT TO FISH FOR PEOPLE." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR
NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM. 19
ON HE HAD GONE A LITTLE, HE SAW ANOTHER BOAT THERE. HE
WENT TO IT AND CALLED THE MEN WHO WERE IN IT. HE SAID
"FOLLOW ME, AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISH FOR PEOPLE." 20
HE LEFT THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

"BE QUIET!" SAID JESUS STERNLY. "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM.
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." 28 NEWS
OF WHAT HE WAS DOING SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

AND HEALS MANY
ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO THE LEPROSY. 29 HE TOOK HIM BY THE HAND AND
SAID, "BE CLEAN." 30 HIS KNEES TOUCHED THE FLOOR, AND HE
WAS GLAD. 31 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND
TOUCHED THE MAN. 32 "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,
35 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM."
36 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES.
YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 SINCE THEY COULD NOT GET HIM TO JESUS BECAUSE OF
THE CROWD, THEY MADE AN OPENING IN THE ROOF ABOVE JESUS BY
REMOVING THE TILES. THEN THEY LOWERED THE MAT ON WHICH THE
PARALYZED MAN WAS LYING, AND THEY DROPPED HIM ON JESUS' FEET.

"I KNOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WHO SIT THERE, SAYING
THEY ARE NOT SINNERS. 7 'WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?'"

JESUS HEARD THEM SAYING THIS. HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED
MAN, "YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN." 10 BUT THEY DID NOT BELIEVE
HIM. 11 JESUS SAID TO THEM, "I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE
SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS." SO HE
SAID TO THE MAN, "GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO." 12
THE MAN GOT UP AND WENT HOME. 13
JESUS CALLED LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS.
ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT TO THE SEA, AND A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM. HE TAUGHT THEM AND HEALS THEM. 14
JESUS HEARD THAT THE PHARISEES AND SOME OF THE JEWS
WERE SAYING, "THIS MAN IS RECEIVING SINNERS AND EATING WITH
THEM."

JESUS CALLS LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS
ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT TO THE SEA, AND A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM. HE TAUGHT THEM AND HEALS THEM. 14
JESUS HEARD THAT THE PHARISEES AND SOME OF THE JEWS
WERE SAYING, "THIS MAN IS RECEIVING SINNERS AND EATING WITH
THEM." 15 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. 16 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?"

"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
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?"

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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

WILL FAST. OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE." 22 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."
JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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."
37 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 38 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 SOME OF THEM WERE
LOOKING FOR A REASON TO ACCUSE HIM, SO THEY WATCHED HIM
CAREFULLY. 3 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN, "STAND UP, COME FORWARD,
AND SHOW US YOUR HANDS." 4 THEN HE 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.

JESUS LOOKED AT THEM AND SAID, "I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE
SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS." SO HE
SAID TO THE MAN, "GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO." 12
THE MAN GOT UP AND WENT HOME. 13
JESUS CALLED LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS.
ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT TO THE SEA, AND A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM. HE TAUGHT THEM AND HEALS THEM. 14
JESUS HEARD THAT THE PHARISEES AND SOME OF THE JEWS
WERE SAYING, "THIS MAN IS RECEIVING SINNERS AND EATING WITH
THEM."

CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS
JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE
CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 8 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS
DISCIPLES TO GET A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
CROWDS FROM FOLLOWING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT
THE CROWDS WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11
WHEN THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE
HIM, CRYING OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE
THEM A STRICT ORDER NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE
JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE
HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 14 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, THOMAS
JAMES SON OF ALPHEAUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE CANANAEAN,
JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 20
JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW
JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 21
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM. FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."
22 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."

JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

MAN STANDS AGAINST HIMSELF, HE IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF. THAT MAN
CANNOT STAND. 25 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
WHICH THEY SPEAK AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT. 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."

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
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER."

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS IN PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID, 3 "LISTEN! A
SEEDFALLER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
THE SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH
SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
DIED. 6 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS. SO THAT THE
SEEDS DIED. 7 OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL,
AND IT GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTYFOLD,
SOME FIFTYFOLD, AND SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

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

WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE?
FARMER SOWS THE WORD. 15 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. 16
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY. 17 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. 18
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD. 19
THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT
DIES. 20 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE
WORD, ACCEPT IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME
FIFTY, AND SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE.

CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW YOU USE THE MEASURE YOU
USE. IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE.

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
TO STRAIGHTEN THE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM."

SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY 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
OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST,
EATING LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS
MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE
SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS
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
SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

AT ONCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDING HIM.

AT THAT TIME JESUS ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS
AND JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON. JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE,
PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 15 "THE TIME HAS COME," HE
SAID, "AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE
THE GOOD NEWS!"

JESUS CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES
JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW SIMON AND
ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY
WAS FISHERMEN. 17 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU OUT TO BE FISH FOR PEOPLE." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR
NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

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

JESUS DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE WENT
INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

"BE QUIET!" SAID JESUS STERNLY. "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM
WITH A SHRIEK.

ALL 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." 28 NEWS
OF THIS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

JESUS HEALS MANY
ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO A TOWN CALLED BETHSAIDA. 30 THERE HE HEALED
A MAN WHO WAS LAME. 31 "IF YOU ARE WILLING," YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN,"
HE SAID. 32 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT IN THAT HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND
TOUCHED THE MAN. 33 "I AM WILLING," HE SAID, "BE CLEAN!" 34
IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED.
35 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING,
36 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM."
37 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES.
YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

5 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

JESUS HEARD THEIR THOUGHTS AND HE SAID TO THEM, "WHY DO YOU
THINK LIKE THIS IN YOUR HEARTS? WHY DO YOU SAY THAT IT IS EASIER
FOR ME TO SAY 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN' OR TO SAY, 'GET UP, TAKE
YOUR MAT AND WALK'?" 10 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE
SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS." SO HE
SAID TO THE MAN, 11 "I TELL YOU, GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO
HOME." 12 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
ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

15 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. 16 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?"

17 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
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?"

19 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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

ONE SLEWS A PATCH OF WINE CLOTH ON A NEW CLOTH. OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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."
JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
23 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?"
25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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."
27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

4 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.

JESUS HEARD THEIR THOUGHTS AND HE SAID TO THEM, "WHY DO YOU
THINK LIKE THIS IN YOUR HEARTS? WHY DO YOU SAY THAT IT IS EASIER
FOR ME TO SAY 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN' OR TO SAY, 'GET UP, TAKE
YOUR MAT AND WALK'?" 10 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE
SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS." SO HE
SAID TO THE MAN, 11 "I TELL YOU, GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO
HOME." 12 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 HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES
JESUS WENT INTO A TOWN CALLED CAPERNAUM. HE CALLED TO HIM
SOME DISCIPLES. 16 WHEN HE HAD CHOSEN THEM, HE SENT THEM
TWO BY TWO TO EVERY TOWN AND VILLAGE IN THE REGION OF GALILEE
AND JUDEA. 17 HE SAID TO THEM, "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT
HAND. REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR. 18 HEAL THE
SICK, PURSUE THE LOST, BRING THE DEAD TO LIFE, AND PREACH THE
GOOD NEWS. I AM WITH YOU, AND I WILL BE WITH YOU UNTIL THE
END OF THE AGE." 19 AFTER HE HAD SAID THIS, HE CAME DOWN
TO NAZARETH. 20 HE WENT INTO HIS SYNAGOGUE AS USUAL AND
STOOD UP TO READ. HE UNROLLED THE BOOK AND FOUND WHERE
IT WAS WRITTEN, 21 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,
BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO THE
POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES,
TO BRING THE EYES OF THE BLIND TO BE OPENED, TO SEND THE
DEAF TO HEAR, TO RESTORE THE LOST, AND TO PRAISE THE FATHER
OF THE LORD." 22 HE ROLLED UP THE BOOK, GAVE IT BACK TO THE
ATTENDANT, AND SAT DOWN. THE EYES OF ALL IN THE SYNAGOGUE
WERE FIXED ON HIM. 23 HE BEGAN TO SAY, "TODAY THIS SCRIPTURE
HAS BEEN FULFILLED IN YOUR HEARING." 24 ALL PRAISED HIM
AND WERE SAYING, "WE HAVE SEEN AND HEARD EVERYTHING THAT
WAS SAID TO US IN THE BOOKS." 25 THEN HE SAID, "I AM
SURE THAT YOU ALL KNOW WHAT I AM SAYING. I HAVE BEEN
BAPTIZED BY JOHN WITH WATER, BUT NOW I AM BAPTIZING YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE. 26 MY BAPTISM IS WITH WATER, BUT HIS
BAPTISM IS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE. 27 HE WILL BAPTIZE
YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE. 28 HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU
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BAPTIZE

a. he left a family business to become a homeless prophet

b. religious and political leaders want him gone

c. crowds and infatuation grow to dangerous levels

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

d. new to us – where did the **PREACHING** and **MIRACLES** come from

e. your picker seems to be broke – assessment of disciples

f. you are running at a pace **DANGEROUS** to your health

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
AND TO STRAIGHTEN THE PATHS FOR HIM."

5 JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY 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
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 WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
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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
SPIRIT OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE FROM
HEAVEN SAID, "YOU ARE MY SON, THE FAVORITE."

12 AT ONCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS, FOR 40 DAYS, HE WAS TEMPTED BY SATAN.

14 AFTER HE HAD ANNOUNCED THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS COME NEAR, REPENT AND BELIEVE
IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

15 JESUS CALLED HIS FIRST DISCIPLES. 16 HE WALKED BY THE SEA OF GALILEE,
AND HE SAW TWO BROTHERS, SIMON AND ANDREW, WHO WERE
CASTING A NET INTO THE SEA. THEY WERE PARTNERS IN BUSINESS
WITH THEIR BROTHERS. 17 "COME FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS
AND FOLLOWED HIM.

19 WHEN HE HAD GONE A SHORT WAY, HE SAW OTHER DISCIPLES
STANDING THERE, AND HE CALLED THEM. AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHERS
AND CAME WITH HIM IN THE BOAT. 20 HE LEFT THEM AND FOLLOWED HIM.

DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT

21 JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, "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!"

24 "BE QUIET!" SAID JESUS STERNLY. "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM
WITH A SHRIEK.

27 ALL 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!" 28 NEWS
OF THIS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

29 JESUS HEALS MANY PEOPLE. 30 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN. 31 THE LEPROSIOUS MAN CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED
HIM TO HEAL HIS KNEES. "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN,"
HE SAID. 32 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND
TOUCHED THE MAN. "I AM WILLING," HE SAID, "BE CLEAN!" 33
IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSIOUS MAN LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED.
34 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING,
"SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM."
35 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK 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.
21 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 22 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 23 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 24 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. 25 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE MAN,
"GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK." 26 AT ONCE HE GOT UP AND
WALKED. 27 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING
TO THEMSELVES, 28 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

29 JESUS KNEW WHAT THEY WERE THINKING. HE SAID TO THEM,
"WHY DO YOU QUESTION THIS? IT IS EASIER FOR ME TO SAY, 'YOUR
SIN IS FORGIVEN,' THAN TO SAY, 'GET UP AND WALK.' 30 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE
SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS, SO HE SAYS TO THAT
MAN, 'GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK.' 31 AND HE GOT UP AND
WALKED. 32 THEN ALL THE PEOPLE WERE GLAD, AND THEY
GAVE PRAISE TO GOD FOR WHAT HE HAD DONE THROUGH JESUS."

JESUS CALLS LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS.
15 ONCE AGAIN JESUS CAME OUT OF THE SYNAGOGUE. A LARGE CROWD
FOLLOWED HIM, AND HE HEALED MANY OF THEIR DISEASES AND
PAIN. 16 HE WENT TO A RESTAURANT CALLED LEVI'S, AND HE SAT
DOWN TO EAT. MANY OF HIS DISCIPLES WERE SITTING THERE, TOO,
AS WELL AS SOME OF THE PHARISEES AND SOME OF THE TEACHERS
OF THE LAW. 17 WHEN JESUS SAW THAT THEY WERE QUESTIONING
HIM, HE SAID TO LEVI, "FOLLOW ME." 18 AT ONCE HE GOT UP AND
FOLLOWED HIM.

19 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. 20 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?"

21 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

22 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?"

23 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. 24 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

WILL FAST. 25 NO ONE SEWS A PATCH OF UNLIKE CLOTH ON AN OLD
GARMENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 26 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." 27 JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH.
28 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 29 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 30 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 31 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." 32 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 33 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

1 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 SOME OF THEM WERE
LOOKING FOR A REASON TO ACCUSE JESUS, SO THEY WATCHED HIM
CLOSELY TO SEE WHAT HE WOULD DO ON THE SABBATH. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN, "STAND UP, COME FORWARD, AND SHOW US
YOUR HAND." 4 HE THEN SAID TO THE CROWD, "DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY
REMAINED SILENT.

5 JESUS LOOKED AT THEM AND SAID, "I WANT TO DO GOOD HERE, BUT
I SEE THAT YOU WANT ME TO DO EVIL. BUT I WILL DO GOOD
ANYWAY, SO THAT YOU WILL KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS
AUTHORITY TO DO WHAT HE WANTS." 6 HE THEN SAID TO THE MAN,
"STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND." 7 HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS
HEALED. 8 ALL THE PEOPLE WERE GLAD, AND THEY GAVE PRAISE TO
GOD FOR WHAT HE HAD DONE THROUGH JESUS.

JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE.
13 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAIN AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE
HE HAD CHOSEN. 14 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE
WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH. 15
THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE
THE NAME PETER), 16 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN
(TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS "SONS OF
THUNDER"), 17 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW,
JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE LEVITE,
JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 18 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW.
19 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 20
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM. FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."

21 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."

22 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 23 IF A

MAN IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF, HE CANNOT STAND. 24 AND IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED,
HE CANNOT STAND. HIS END HAS COME. 25 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN
ENTER A STRONG MAN'S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP.
26 THEN HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 27 TRULY I TELL YOU,
PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER
UTTERED ABOUT THEM. 28 BUT WHOEVER BLASPHEMES AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT
WILL NEVER BE FORGIVEN, THEY ARE GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN.
29 HE SAID THIS BECAUSE THEY WERE SAYING, "HE HAS AN IMPURE
SPIRIT."

30 THEN JESUS' MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING
OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 31 A CROWD WAS
SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, "YOUR MOTHER AND
BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU." 32 "WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?" HE ASKED.
33 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM
AND SAID, "HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS!" 34 WHOEVER
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

1 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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID, 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
THE SEED, SOME OF IT FELL ON THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT. 5 SOME OF IT FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT GREW QUICKLY BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW,
BUT WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
DIED. 6 OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL, AND IT GREW AND
PRODUCED A CROP. SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTYFOLD, SOME FIFTYFOLD,
SOME HUNDREDFOLD." 7 THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

8 THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
9 "BUT THEY ARE NOT SEEING, BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND
THEY ARE NOT HEARING, BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING. OTHERWISE
THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

10 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE?
THE FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 11 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. 12
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 13 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. 14
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 15
BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH CHOKED THE WORD, AND IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 16 SOME, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR
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SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE. WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
EATING AND DRINKING NOTHING BUT BREAD AND WATER,
AND BEING WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDING HIM.

JESUS ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS

THE SPIRIT LED JESUS INTO GALILEE. 17 AND HE BEGAN TO
TEACH, SAYING, "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. REPENT,
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR!"

JESUS CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES

AS JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE, HE SAW SIMON AND
ANDREW HIS BROTHERS, CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY
WERE FISHERMEN. 17 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR
NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

ON ANOTHER DAY HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER. HE SAW JAMES SON OF
ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS
TO GO FISHING. HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER
ZEBEDEE IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

JESUS DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT

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IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 25 "WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF
NAZARETH? HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY US? I KNOW WHO YOU
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HE SAID. 31 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. 32 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,
35 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM."
36 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES.
YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN

A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

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 IN YOUR HEARTS? IT IS EASIER TO SAY TO THIS
FELLOW, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' THAN TO SAY TO HIM, 'GET UP, TAKE
UP YOUR BED, AND WALK!' BUT YOU KNOW WHAT HE WILL SAY TO HIM."
12 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

ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

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. 16 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?"

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

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?"

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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

ONE SLEWS A PATCH OF VIOLET CLOTH ON AN OLD
CLOENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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."
JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
23 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?"
25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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."
27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

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.

HE LOOKED AROUND AT THEM IN ANGER AND, DEEPLY DISTRESSED
AT THEIR STUBBORN HEARTS, SAID TO THE MAN, "STRETCH OUT YOUR
HAND." 5 HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS COMPLETELY
HEALED. 6 THE PHARISEES AND ALL THE PEOPLE ASKED HIM, "WHAT
SIGN OR MIRACLE DO YOU HAVE FOR US?" 7 JESUS ANSWERED THEM,
"HOW MANY COWS DO YOU HAVE AT HOME?"

8 HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE FOUR." 9 HE SAID, "HOW MANY
COWS FOLLOW YOU?" 10 HE SAID, "FOUR." 11 HE SAID, "HOW MANY
DONKEYS FOLLOW YOU?" 12 HE SAID, "FOUR." 13 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY SLAVERS FOLLOW YOU?" 14 HE SAID, "FOUR." 15 HE SAID,
"HOW MANY HOUSES DO YOU HAVE?" 16 HE SAID, "FOUR." 17 HE
SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF OXEN DO YOU HAVE?" 18 HE SAID,
"FOUR." 19 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF SHEEP DO YOU HAVE?"
20 HE SAID, "FOUR." 21 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF GOATS DO
YOU HAVE?" 22 HE SAID, "FOUR." 23 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS
OF PIGS DO YOU HAVE?" 24 HE SAID, "FOUR." 25 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF CATTLE DO YOU HAVE?" 26 HE SAID, "FOUR." 27
HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF HORSES DO YOU HAVE?" 28 HE
SAID, "FOUR." 29 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF MULES DO YOU
HAVE?" 30 HE SAID, "FOUR." 31 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF
DONKEYS DO YOU HAVE?" 32 HE SAID, "FOUR." 33 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF GOATS DO YOU HAVE?" 34 HE SAID, "FOUR." 35
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HAVE?" 38 HE SAID, "FOUR." 39 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF
HORSES DO YOU HAVE?" 40 HE SAID, "FOUR." 41 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF DONKEYS DO YOU HAVE?" 42 HE SAID, "FOUR." 43
HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF MULES DO YOU HAVE?" 44 HE
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GOATS DO YOU HAVE?" 48 HE SAID, "FOUR." 49 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF SHEEP DO YOU HAVE?" 50 HE SAID, "FOUR." 51
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DONKEYS DO YOU HAVE?" 56 HE SAID, "FOUR." 57 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF MULES DO YOU HAVE?" 58 HE SAID, "FOUR." 59
HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF PIGS DO YOU HAVE?" 60 HE
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SHEEP DO YOU HAVE?" 64 HE SAID, "FOUR." 65 HE SAID, "HOW
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HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF SHEEP DO YOU HAVE?" 92 HE
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HAVE?" 94 HE SAID, "FOUR." 95 HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF
HORSES DO YOU HAVE?" 96 HE SAID, "FOUR." 97 HE SAID, "HOW
MANY HERDS OF DONKEYS DO YOU HAVE?" 98 HE SAID, "FOUR." 99
HE SAID, "HOW MANY HERDS OF MULES DO YOU HAVE?" 100 HE
SAID, "FOUR."

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

STAND 25 IF A MAN STANDS AGAINST HIMSELF, HE CANNOT STAND. 26
IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED, HE CANNOT STAND. 27
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THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
4 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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG
THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY
DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL.
IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY
TIMES, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

WHEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
10 HE WENT AWAY. THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND HIM
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT
THEY MAY SEE BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND HEAR BUT NEVER
UNDERSTANDING, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

WHEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? IF
A FARMER SOWS THE SEED, 15 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. 16
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 17 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. 18
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19
BUT SINCE THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH,
AND THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH CHOKE THE WORD, IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 20 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR
THE WORD, 21 RECEIVE IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY,
SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

ALSO JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? IF
A FARMER SOWS THE SEED, 15 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. 16
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
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COMES BECAUSE OF THE WORD, THEY QUICKLY FALL AWAY. 18
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19
BUT SINCE THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH,
AND THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH CHOKE THE WORD, IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 20 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR
THE WORD, 21 RECEIVE IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY,
SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW YOU USE THE MEASURE YOU USE. IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND

The religious elites send in TOP GUN

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

Numbers 11:16 ---- Then the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you."

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
TO STRAIGHTEN PATHS FOR HIM."

SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDAEAN 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
OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST,
EATING LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS
MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE
SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS
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
SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE. WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

AND THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
EATING AND DRINKING NOTHING BUT BREAD AND WATER,
WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDED HIM.

ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS
AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE,
TEACHING AND PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF
GOD. 3 HE CALLED HIS FIRST DISCIPLES.

4 JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE. HE SAW SIMON AND
ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE
FISHERMEN. 5 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." 6 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR
NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

7 WHEN HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF
ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS
TO GO OUT TO FISH. 8 HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER
ZEBEDEE IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

25 BUT JESUS REPLIED, "SILENCE! COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM.
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." 28 NEWS OF
JESUS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

HEALS MANY
ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO LEPROSY. 29 HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED HIM.
41 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. 42 HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED THE MAN. 43 HE SAID, "BE CLEAN!" 44 HE IMMEDIATELY CURED THE LEPROSY. 45 HE LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSSED.
46 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING, 47 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM." 48 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

6 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

8 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? WHICH IS EASIER TO SAY TO THIS
PARALYZED MAN, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY, 'GET UP,
TAKE YOUR BED, AND WALK?' 9 WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK IS EASIER
TO SAY? 10 BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS
AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS." 11 HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "GET UP, TAKE YOUR BED, AND GO HOME." 12 HE GOT UP, TOOK HIS BED, 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
13 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

15 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. 16 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?"

17 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
18 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?"

19 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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

WILL FAST. 21 NO ONE SEWS A PATCH OF UNWORN CLOTH ON AN OLD
GARMENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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." 23 JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
24 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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." 27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
1 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

4 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.

5 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
HEALED. 6 THEY ALL WERE AMAZED AND GLORIFIED GOD, SAYING, "WE
HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THING DONE HERE." 7 JESUS WITHDREW
WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE
FOLLOWED. 8 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS
DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT
THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11
WHenever the IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE
HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE
THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE
13 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE
HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 14 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, JAMES
SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE CANANEA, AND JUDAS
ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 19 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW
20 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 21
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."
22 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."

23 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

MAN STANDS AGAINST HIMSELF, HE IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF. THAT MAN
CANNOT STAND. 25 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.
HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I TELL YOU,
ALL THE PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER
UTTERED. 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
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
4 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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG
THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY
DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL.
THEY CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING
THIRTYFOLD, SOME FIFTYFOLD, AND SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

9 HE SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
10 THEN HE CALLED THEM ALL TO HIM AND TAUGHT THEM. THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

13 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? IF
A FARMER SOWS THE WORD, 15 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. 16
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 17 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. 18
STILL OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19
BUT SINCE THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRES OF OTHER THINGS choke the word, 20 IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 21 BUT OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR
THE WORD, ACCEPT IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME
FIFTY, AND SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

22 JESUS CALLED THEM ALL TO HIM AND TAUGHT THEM. THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 23 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 24 SO THAT

25 "THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

Accusation: not just a demon – SATAN

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
TO STRAIGHTEN PATHS FOR HIM."

SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDAEAN 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
OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST,
EATING LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS
MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE
SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS
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
SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
EATING WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDING HIM.

ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS
AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE,
PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. 2 HE
SAID, "THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS
AT HAND. REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOOD NEWS!"

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

ON HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF
ZEBOEDI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS.
HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER
ZEBEDI IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

"BE QUIET!" SAID JESUS STERNLY. "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM.
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." 28 NEWS
OF THIS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

HEALS MANY
ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO A TOWN CALLED CAPHARNAUM. 29 THERE HE
HEALED MANY DISEASES AND INFIRMITIES. 30 THEN HE
CAME TO A TOWN CALLED NAZARETH, AND HE WENT INTO THE
SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO READ. 31 HE ROLLED UP THE
BOOK, AND HE 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 PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES, TO
RECOVER EYES FOR THE BLIND, TO SEND THE OPPRESSED
FREE, AND TO ANNOUNCE THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD'S
ANointed ME." 36 HE CLOSED THE BOOK, AND HE GAVE IT
BACK TO THE ATTENDANT. 37 THEN HE LOOKED UP AND
SAID TO THEM, "THIS DAY IS FULFILLED IN YOUR HEARINGS."

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
A LARGE CROWD THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

SOME OF THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

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? WHICH IS EASIER TO SAY TO THIS
PARALYZED MAN, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY TO HIM,
'GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT, AND WALK?' 12 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
ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

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. 16 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?"

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
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?"

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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY
WILL FAST."

ONE SLEWS A PATCH OF UNSOWN CLOTH ON AN OLD
GARMENT, OTHERWISE THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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." 24 JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
25 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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." 27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

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.

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
HEALED. 6 THE PHARISEES AND THE JEWS WERE ALL ASKING
ONE ANOTHER, "WHAT DOES THIS MAN DO? HE IS DOING SIGNS
AND MIRACLES IN THE NAME OF THE SON OF DAVID."

JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE
CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 8 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS
DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT
THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11
WHenever the IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE
HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE
THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM. 13 JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE
DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 14 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, THOMAS
JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE CANANAEAN,
JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 20 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 21
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."
22 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."

SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

MAN STANDS AGAINST HIMSELF, HE IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF. THAT MAN
CANNOT STAND. 25 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.
HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I TELL YOU,
ALL THE PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER
UTTERED. 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
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER."

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT SPANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG
THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY
DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL.
IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY,
SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
10 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? THE
FARMER SOWS THE WORD. 15 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. 16
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 17 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. 18
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19
BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 20 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."

AT LAST JESUS STOOD UP AND BEGAN TO TEACH THEM IN A PARABLE.
HE SAID, "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A
MAN STANDS AGAINST HIMSELF, HE IS DIVIDED AGAINST HIMSELF.
THAT MAN CANNOT STAND. 25 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. HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I
TELL YOU, ALL THE PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND
EVERY SLANDER UTTERED. 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 GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND
MOTHER."

CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW YOU USE THE MEASURE YOU USE. IT
WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND YOU WILL BE MEASURED BY THE
MEASURE YOU USE. IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND YOU
WILL BE MEASURED BY THE MEASURE YOU USE.

A response based on simple logic

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET: "I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY — THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, AND MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM.'"

3 SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS, PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY. 4 AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JUDAEA WENT OUT TO HIM, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. 5 JOHN WORE CLOTHING MADE OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 6 AND THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND UNLACE. 7 BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

8 AT THE 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 SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."

12 AND THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND IN THE WILDERNESS, FOR 40 DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN, HE WAS WITH THE WILDLIFE AND HE EAT LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY.

14 AND HE ANNOUNCES THIS: "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. WHOEVER WANTS TO ENTER IT, LET HIM REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

15 AND HE CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES. 16 AND AS HE WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE, HE SAW TWO BROTHERS, SIMON AND ANDREW, CASTING A NET INTO THE SEA, BECAUSE THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 17 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

19 AND WHEN HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF ZEBOEDI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS TO GO OUT TO FISH. 20 HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER ZEBEDI IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

21 JESUS DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
22 JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE 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 WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 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!"

25 BUT JESUS SILENTLY STARED AT HIM. 26 THEN HE SAID TO THE SPIRIT, "COME OUT OF HIM!" 27 AND THE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM. ALL THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED.

28 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. WHOEVER WANTS TO ENTER IT, LET HIM REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

29 AND HE HEALS MANY DISEASES AND DRIVES OUT MANY DEMONS. 30 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES AND JOSEPH, WHO WERE HIS BROTHERS, AND THEY LEFT NAZARETH.

31 AND HE CAME TO CAPERNAUM, AND HE TAUGHT THEM IN THE SYNAGOGUE. 32 AND THEY WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING. 33 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU SAY, 'JESUS DOES MIRACLES IN NAZARETH.' 34 BUT I SAY TO YOU, THERE ARE FEWER MIRACLES HERE, BECAUSE MANY HERE ARE DISBELIEVERS. 35 FOR I SAY TO YOU, THAT IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL RECEIVE THE MIRACLES THAT I SAY TO YOU. 36 BUT IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THEM. 37 FOR I SAY TO YOU, THAT IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL RECEIVE THE MIRACLES THAT I SAY TO YOU. 38 BUT IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THEM. 39 FOR I SAY TO YOU, THAT IF YOU BELIEVE, YOU WILL RECEIVE THE MIRACLES THAT I SAY TO YOU. 40 BUT IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE, YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE THEM. 41 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT IN HIMSELF BECAUSE OF THEIR UNBELIEF. 42 AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU SAY, 'JESUS DOES MIRACLES IN NAZARETH.' 43 BUT I SAY TO YOU, THERE ARE FEWER MIRACLES HERE, BECAUSE MANY HERE ARE DISBELIEVERS. 44 'SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE, BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM.' 45 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TEACH FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE."

46 JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
47 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 48 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 49 SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. 50 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 MAN THE MAN WAS LYING ON. 51 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

52 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, 53 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

54 JESUS KNOWS THEIR THOUGHTS
55 JESUS CALLED LEVI AND EATS WITH SINNERS. 56 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 57 AS HE WALKED ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT UP AND FOLLOWED HIM. 58 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. 59 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?"

60 JESUS ANSWERED THEM, "IT IS NOT THE HEALTHY WHO NEED A DOCTOR, BUT THE SICK. I HAVE NOT COME TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS."

61 JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT FASTING
62 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?"

63 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. 64 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY WILL FAST."

65 JESUS HEALS A BLIND MAN
66 JESUS WENT TO JERUSALEM, AND HE TAUGHT THEM IN THE TEMPLE. 67 AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU SAY, 'JESUS DOES MIRACLES IN NAZARETH.' 68 BUT I SAY TO YOU, THERE ARE FEWER MIRACLES HERE, BECAUSE MANY HERE ARE DISBELIEVERS. 69 'SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE, BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM.' 70 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TEACH FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE."

71 JESUS HEALS A BLIND MAN
72 JESUS WENT TO JERUSALEM, AND HE TAUGHT THEM IN THE TEMPLE. 73 AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU SAY, 'JESUS DOES MIRACLES IN NAZARETH.' 74 BUT I SAY TO YOU, THERE ARE FEWER MIRACLES HERE, BECAUSE MANY HERE ARE DISBELIEVERS. 75 'SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE, BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM.' 76 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TEACH FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE."

77 JESUS HEALS A PATCH OF WITHERED CLOTH ON AN OLD WOMAN
78 JESUS WENT TO JERUSALEM, AND HE TAUGHT THEM IN THE TEMPLE. 79 AND HE SAID TO THEM, "I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU SAY, 'JESUS DOES MIRACLES IN NAZARETH.' 80 BUT I SAY TO YOU, THERE ARE FEWER MIRACLES HERE, BECAUSE MANY HERE ARE DISBELIEVERS. 81 'SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE, BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELVES TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM.' 82 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TEACH FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE."

83 JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
84 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 85 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. 86 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE."

87 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 WERE SILENT.

88 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
89 JESUS ASKED THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY WERE SILENT.

90 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
91 JESUS ASKED THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY WERE SILENT.

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96 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
97 JESUS ASKED THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY WERE SILENT.

98 THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
99 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. 100 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID, 101 "LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 102 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 103 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 104 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 105 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 106 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL, AND IT GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY TIMES, SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

107 THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR. 108 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 109 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 110 SO THAT THEY MAY NEVER SEE, BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND NEVER HEARING, BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

111 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
112 JESUS ASKED THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY WERE SILENT.

113 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
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115 JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND
116 JESUS ASKED THEM, "WHICH IS LAWFUL ON THE SABBATH: TO DO GOOD OR TO DO EVIL, TO SAVE LIFE OR TO KILL?" BUT THEY WERE SILENT.

Verses 28–30 — “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

Jesus' counter **WARNING**

blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
the **UNFORGIVABLE** sin

a warning to:

FRIGHTEN

COMFORT

the comfortable and

the frightened

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET: "I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY — THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, AND STRAIGHTEN THE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM.'"

3 SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS, PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF JERUSALEM WENT OUT TO HIM, CONFESSING THEIR SINS. THEY WERE BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. 4 JOHN WORE CLOTHING MADE OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST, AND HE ATE LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 5 AND THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND UNLACE. 6 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

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

11 AT ONCE THE SPIRIT SENT HIM INTO THE WILDERNESS. 12 AND IN THE WILDERNESS HE WAS TEMPTED BY SATAN. 13 WITH THE WILD ANIMALS AND BEASTS HE REMAINED HIMSELF. 14 HE ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 15 "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND. REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOOD NEWS!"

16 HE 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. THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 18 "COME, FOLLOW ME," HE SAID TO THEM. "I WILL SEND YOU OUT TO FISH FOR PEOPLE." 19 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 FATHERS' BOAT AND FOLLOWED HIM.

22 HE DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT. 23 JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 24 THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 25 JUST THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 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!"

26 HE SAID QUIETLY, "COME OUT OF HIM!" 27 THE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM WITH A GREAT SHRIEK.

28 ALL 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!" 29 HIS NEWS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

30 HE HEALS MANY. 31 AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES AND JOHN HIS BROTHERS TO CAPERNAUM.

32 HE CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED HIM TO GO WITH HIM. 33 "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN," HE SAID. 34 JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. "I HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND TOUCHED THE MAN. 'I AM WILLING,' HE SAID. 'BE CLEAN!' 35 IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED. 36 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING, SAYING, 'SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM.' 37 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE."

38 JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN. 39 A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 40 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 41 SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. 42 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 MAN THE MAN WAS LYING ON. 43 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

44 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE IS BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

45 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, WHICH IS EASIER, TO SAY TO THIS MAN, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY, 'GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND WALK?' 46 I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS THE AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS." 47 SO HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, "TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME." 48 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!" 49 JESUS WENT ON TO TEACH IN THE SYNAGOGUES. 50 EVERYONE WAS WONDERING, "WHY DOES HE DO THIS?" 51 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."

55 JESUS QUESTIONED ABOUT FASTING. 56 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?"

57 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. 58 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY WILL FAST."

59 ONE SLEWS A PATCH OF UNCLE TOM'S CLOTH ON AN OLD COAT. 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 IS LORD OF THE SABBATH. 62 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS OF GRAIN. 63 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 64 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 65 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." 66 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 67 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH."

68 JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH. 69 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 70 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. 71 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE."

72 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.

73 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. 74 THEN THE PHARISEES WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT WITH THE HERODIANS HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.

75 CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS. 76 JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 77 WHEN THEY HEARD ABOUT ALL HE HAD DONE FOR THE PARALYZED MAN, A CROWD CAME FOLLOWING HIM. 78 SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAD DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 79 WHENEVER THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD!" 80 BUT HE GAVE THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.

81 JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE. 82 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 83 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH. 84 AND TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS. 85 THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE THE NAME PETER), 86 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN (TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS "SONS OF THUNDER"), 87 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW, JAMES SON OF ALPHEAUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE ZEBULONITE, JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 88 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 89 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 90 WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE OF HIM. FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND!" 91 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."

92 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 93 IF A

STAND, 94 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND. 95 AND IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVIDED, HE CANNOT STAND. HIS END HAS COME. 96 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN ENTER A STRONG MAN'S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP. 97 HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 98 TRULY I TELL YOU, PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER UTTERED ABOUT THEM. 99 BUT WHOEVER BLASPHEMES AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL NEVER BE FORGIVEN. THEY ARE GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN. 100 HE SAID THIS BECAUSE THEY WERE SAYING, "HE HAS AN IMPURE SPIRIT."

101 THEN JESUS' MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 102 A CROWD WAS SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, "YOUR MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU." 103 "WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?" HE ASKED. 104 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM AND SAID, "HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS!" 105 WHOEVER DOES GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.

106 THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER. 107 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. 108 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID, 109 "LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 110 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 111 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 112 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 113 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THE THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 114 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY TIMES, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

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

116 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 117 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE WHO ARE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS IN PARABLES. 118 SO THAT

119 THEY MAY SEE BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND HEAR BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING. OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

120 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? A FARMER SOWS THE WORD. 121 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. 122 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 123 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. 124 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 125 BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT DOES NOT BEAR MUCH FRUIT. 126 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE WORD, 127 AND PRODUCE A CROP — SOME THIRTY, SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

128 AT LAST, HE LEFT THEM AND WENT AWAY. THEY WENT TO PUT THE PARABLE INTO HEARTS. 129 HE HAD SAID, "YOU WILL NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM SAYING UNTIL YOU ARE BORN AGAIN. 130 WHOEVER IS THIS NEW BORN MAN, HE WILL BE BORN OF WATER AND OF THE SPIRIT. 131 WHOEVER DOES NOT BELIEVE IN THIS, HE WILL NOT SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD. 132 WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THIS, HE WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED. 133 WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THIS, HE WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED. 134 WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THIS, HE WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED."

135 THEN JESUS SAID, "CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW YOU MEASURE. BY THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU — AND

Jesus: “as Messiah, faith family trumps BIOLOGICAL family”

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

The Gospel of Jesus by Mark

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, AND HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY — THE VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD, TO MAKE STRAIGHT PATHS FOR HIM."

SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS, PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS 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 WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS

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 SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."

THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND IN THE WILDERNESS, FOR 40 DAYS, HE WAS TEMPTED BY SATAN. 14 AND WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDED HIM.

ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS

THE NEXT DAY JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE. 2 AND HE ANNOUNCED THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. 3 HE SAID, "THE TIME IS FULFILLED, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES

AS JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE, HE SAW SIMON AND ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE FISHERMEN. 17 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF PEOPLE." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

THE NEXT DAY HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER. HE SAW JAMES SON OF ZEBOEDAI AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS. 20 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

THE NEXT DAY HE WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

JESUS SAID QUIETLY, "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM WITH A Loud SHRIEK.

ALL 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." 28 NEWS OF THIS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE AND THE DECADES AROUND IT.

HEALS MANY

AS THEY WERE LEAVING THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO LEPROSY. 31 HE CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED HIM TO TOUCH HIS KNEES. "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN," 32 JESUS SAID. 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, 35 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM." 36 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES. YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN

A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 2 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE IS BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

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? WHICH IS EASIER TO SAY, 'THEY ARE PARALYZED,' OR TO SAY, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,'? 10 I TELL YOU, THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS AS WELL AS TO HEAL. 11 NOW GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT, AND GO HOME." 12 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

ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

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. 16 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?"

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

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?"

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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

ONE SOWS A PATCH OF UNWEEDS CLOTHED WITH AN OLD CLOENT. OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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." 23 JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH. 24 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS OF GRAIN. 25 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 26 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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." 27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT OF EVERYONE."

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.

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 HEALED. 6 THEN THE JEWS WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.

CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS

JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 2 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11 WHENEVER THE IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM. 13 JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE. 14 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 15 HE APPOINTED TWELVE THAT THEY MIGHT BE WITH HIM AND THAT HE MIGHT SEND THEM OUT TO PREACH. 16 AND TO HAVE AUTHORITY TO DRIVE OUT DEMONS. 17 THESE ARE THE TWELVE HE APPOINTED: SIMON (TO WHOM HE GAVE THE NAME PETER), 18 JAMES SON OF ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN (TO THEM HE GAVE THE NAME BOANERGES, WHICH MEANS "SONS OF THUNDER"), 19 ANDREW, PHILIP, BARTHOLOMEW, MATTHEW, THOMAS, JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE CANANAN, 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."

SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

STAND, 25 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE CANNOT STAND. 26 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. 28 THEN HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 29 TRULY I TELL YOU, PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER UTTERED. 30 BUT WHOEVER BLASPHEMES AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL NEVER BE FORGIVEN, THEY ARE GUILTY OF AN ETERNAL SIN. 31 HE SAID THIS BECAUSE THEY WERE SAYING, "HE HAS AN IMPURE SPIRIT." 32 THEN JESUS' MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARRIVED, STANDING OUTSIDE. THEY SENT SOMEONE IN TO CALL HIM. 33 A CROWD WAS SITTING AROUND HIM, AND THEY TOLD HIM, "YOUR MOTHER AND BROTHERS ARE OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR YOU." 34 "WHO ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS?" HE ASKED. 35 THEN HE LOOKED AT THOSE SEATED IN A CIRCLE AROUND HIM AND SAID, "HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS! 36 WHOEVER DOES GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER."

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

4 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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND ATE IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW. 6 WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL. IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY TIMES, SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

9 THEN JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

10 WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING, AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

13 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? 14 THE FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 15 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. 16 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 17 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. 18 SOME OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19 BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND THE DESIRE FOR OTHER THINGS CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT DOES NOT BEAR FRUIT. 20 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR THE WORD, ACCEPT IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

ALAPMON A STAND

21 JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DO YOU UNDERSTAND THIS PARABLE? 22 HOW CAN YOU UNDERSTAND IT IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE KEY? 23 WHOEVER HAS THE KEY CAN OPEN THE DOOR, AND THEN HE CAN ENTER AND CONQUER. HIS NAME IS THE KEY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. 24 WHOEVER HAS THE KEY CAN OPEN THE DOOR, AND THEN HE CAN ENTER AND CONQUER. HIS NAME IS THE KEY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

25 "CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR. THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE."

CS Lewis' "Lunatic-Liar-Lord"

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

John 12:36–37 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him

IMMEDIATELY
EVENTUALLY

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS BY MARK

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
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SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF
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BAPTIZED BY HIM IN THE JORDAN RIVER. 6 JOHN WORE CLOTHING
OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST,
EATING LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS
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SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
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BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS

AT THAT TIME JESUS CAME FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE AND WAS
BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE JORDAN. 10 JUST AS JESUS WAS COMING UP
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SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

AND THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
EATING WITH THE WILD ANIMALS, AND ANGELS ATTENDING HIM.

JOHN ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS

AND WHEN JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE,
JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON. 2 JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE
TEACHING THE GOOD NEWS. 3 AND HE SAID, "THE KINGDOM OF GOD
IS AT HAND. REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS!"

JOHN CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES

WHEN JESUS WALKED BESIDE THE SEA OF GALILEE, HE SAW SIMON AND
ANDREW CASTING A NET INTO THE LAKE, FOR THEY WERE
FISHERMEN. 17 "COME, FOLLOW ME," JESUS SAID, "AND I WILL
MAKE YOU OUT TO BE FISH FOR PEOPLE." 18 AT ONCE THEY LEFT THEIR
NETS AND FOLLOWED HIM.

ON THE NEXT DAY HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER. HE SAW JAMES SON OF
ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS.
HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER ZEBEDEE
IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

JESUS DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT

HE WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, JESUS
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF
NAZARETH? HAVE YOU COME TO DESTROY US? I KNOW WHO YOU
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OF THIS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

JESUS HEALS MANY

ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO LEPROSY. 31 HE CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED
HIM TO HEAL HIS KNEES. "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN." 32
JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. 33 HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND
TOUCHED THE MAN. "I AM WILLING," HE SAID, "BE CLEAN!" 34
IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED.
41 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING,
42 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM." 45
INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY, BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES.
YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN

A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

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? 9 WHICH IS EASIER TO SAY, 'THIS
MAN'S SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY, 'STAND UP AND WALK'? 10
BUT THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY
ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS AS HE WANTS, I WILL SAY TO YOU, GET
UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO HOME." 12 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

ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

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. 16 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?"

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

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?"

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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

ONE SOWS A PATCH OF UNWEEDS CLOTHED ON AN OLD
GARMENT. OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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." 23 JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
23 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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." 27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH

ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

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.

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. 6 THEN THE PHARISEES WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO PLOT
WITH THE HERODIANS HOW THEY MIGHT KILL JESUS.

CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS

JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE
CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 8 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS
DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT
THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11
WHenever the IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE
HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE
THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM. 13 JESUS APPOINTED THE TWELVE
DISCIPLES TO FOLLOW HIM. 14 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, THOMAS
JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE CANNER, AND
JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM. 19 JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW
20 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 21
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."
22 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."

SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

STAND, 25 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE
CANNOT STAND. 26 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.
HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I TELL YOU,
ALL PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER
WHICH THEY HAVE SPOKE AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT. 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
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER."

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER

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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT SPRANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG
THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT THEY
DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL.
IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY,
SOME SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

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

WHEN HE WAS ALONE, THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? 13
THE FARMER SOWS THE SEED. 14 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. 15
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY, 16 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. 18
OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, 19
BUT THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRES OF OTHER THINGS CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CROP. 20 SOME OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL, HEAR
THE WORD, ACCEPT IT, AND PRODUCE A CROP—SOME THIRTY, SOME
SIXTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES WHAT WAS SOWN."

THE LEPROUS MAN

HE SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT TELL ANYONE WHAT YOU HAVE
HEARD OR SEEN. WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
22 THEN JESUS HEALED MANY OTHERS WHO WERE SICK AND
PARALYZED, AND WHO HAD LAMENESS OR WHO WERE BLIND. 23
AND HE SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT TELL ANYONE WHAT YOU HAVE
HEARD OR SEEN. WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."

CONSIDER CAREFULLY HOW THE MEASURE YOU USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND
WITH A FULL MEASURE, IT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU.

Mary – James – Jude

OF GOD. 2 AS IT IS WRITTEN IN ISAIAH THE PROPHET

SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU,
HE WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY —
A VOICE OF ONE CALLING IN THE WILDERNESS
TO MAKE THE WAY FOR THE LORD,
TO STRAIGHTEN THE PATHS FOR HIM."

SO JOHN THE BAPTIST APPEARED IN THE WILDERNESS,
PREACHING A BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF
THE WHOLE JUDEAN COUNTRY 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
OF CAMEL'S HAIR, WITH A LEATHER BELT AROUND HIS WAIST,
EATING LOCUSTS AND WILD HONEY. 7 AND THIS WAS HIS
MESSAGE: "AFTER ME COMES THE ONE MORE POWERFUL THAN I, THE
SON OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO STOOP DOWN AND
UNLACE. 8 I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER, BUT HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH
THE HOLY SPIRIT."

BAPTISM AND TESTING OF JESUS
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
SON OF GOD DESCENDING ON HIM LIKE A DOVE. 11 AND A VOICE CAME FROM
HEAVEN, SAYING, "YOU ARE MY SON, WHO I LOVE, WITH YOU I AM WELL
PLEASSED."

THE SPIRIT SENT HIM OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS. 13 AND
IN THE WILDERNESS FORTY DAYS, BEING TEMPTED BY SATAN,
EATING ONLY BREAD AND WATERS, AND HE WAS WITH THE WILD ANIMALS,
AND ANGELS ATTENDED HIM.

ANNOUNCES THE GOOD NEWS
AFTER JOHN WAS PUT IN PRISON, JESUS WENT INTO GALILEE,
PREACHING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD. 15 "THE TIME HAS COME,
AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN NEAR. REPENT AND BELIEVE
THE GOOD NEWS!"

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

ON HE HAD GONE A LITTLE FARTHER, HE SAW JAMES SON OF
ZEBEDEE AND HIS BROTHER JOHN IN A BOAT, PREPARING THEIR NETS
TO GO OUT TO FISH. HE CALLED THEM, AND THEY LEFT THEIR FATHER
ZEBEDEE IN THE BOAT WITH THE HIRED MEN AND FOLLOWED HIM.

DRIVES OUT AN IMPURE SPIRIT
JESUS WENT TO CAPERNAUM, AND WHEN THE SABBATH CAME, HE
WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE AND BEGAN TO TEACH. 22 THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED AT HIS TEACHING, BECAUSE HE TAUGHT THEM AS ONE
HAVING AUTHORITY, NOT AS THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. 23 JUST
THEN A MAN IN THE SYNAGOGUE WHO WAS POSSESSED BY AN
IMPURE SPIRIT CRIED OUT, 24 "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!"

"BE QUIET!" SAID JESUS STERNLY. "COME OUT OF HIM!" 26 THE
IMPURE SPIRIT SHOOK THE MAN VIOLENTLY AND CAME OUT OF HIM
WITH A SHRIEK.

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." 28 NEWS
OF JESUS SPREAD QUICKLY OVER THE WHOLE REGION OF GALILEE.

HEALS MANY
ON AS THEY LEFT THE SYNAGOGUE, THEY WENT WITH JAMES

AND JOHN TO LEPROSY. 31 HE CAME TO HIM AND BEGGED
HIM TO HEAL HIS KNEES. "IF YOU ARE WILLING, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN." 32
JESUS WAS INDIGNANT. 33 HE REACHED OUT HIS HAND AND
TOUCHED THE MAN. "I AM WILLING," HE SAID, "BE CLEAN!" 34
IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM AND HE WAS CLEANSED.
41 JESUS SENT HIM AWAY AT ONCE WITH A STRONG WARNING,
42 "SEE THAT YOU DON'T TELL THIS TO ANYONE. BUT GO, SHOW
YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST AND OFFER THE SACRIFICES THAT MOSES
COMMANDED FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS A TESTIMONY TO THEM."
45 INSTEAD HE WENT OUT AND BEGAN TO TALK FREELY, SPREADING
THE NEWS. AS A RESULT, JESUS COULD NO LONGER ENTER A TOWN
OPENLY BUT STAYED OUTSIDE IN LONELY PLACES.
YET THE PEOPLE STILL CAME TO HIM FROM EVERYWHERE.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYZED MAN
A FEW DAYS LATER, WHEN JESUS AGAIN ENTERED CAPERNAUM, THE
PEOPLE HEARD THAT HE HAD COME HOME. 7 THEY GATHERED IN SUCH
LARGE NUMBERS THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM LEFT, NOT EVEN
OUTSIDE THE DOOR, AND HE PREACHED THE WORD TO THEM. 3 SOME
MEN CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYZED MAN, CARRIED BY FOUR
OF THEM. 4 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 MAN THE MAN WAS
LYING ON. 5 WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE
PARALYZED MAN, "SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN."

6 NOW SOME TEACHERS OF THE LAW WERE SITTING THERE, THINKING
TO THEMSELVES, 7 "WHY DOES THIS FELLOW TALK LIKE THAT? HE'S
BLASPHEMING! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?"

8 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 IN YOUR HEARTS? 9 EASIER FOR YOU TO
SAY 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN' THAN TO STAND UP AND WALK!" 10
HE SAID TO THE MAN, "GET UP, TAKE YOUR MAT AND GO
HOME." 11 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
13 ONCE AGAIN JESUS WENT OUT BESIDE THE LAKE. A LARGE CROWD
CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. 14 AS HE WALKED
ALONG, HE SAW LEVI SON OF ALPHAEUS SITTING AT THE TAX
COLLECTOR'S BOOTH. "FOLLOW ME," JESUS TOLD HIM, AND LEVI GOT
UP AND FOLLOWED HIM.

15 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. 16 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?"

17 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
18 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?"

19 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. 20 BUT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE
BRIDEGROOM WILL BE TAKEN FROM THEM, AND ON THAT DAY THEY

ONE SOWS A PATCH OF WHEAT IN A CLOTH ON AN OLD
OMENT, OTHERWISE, THE NEW PIECE WILL PULL AWAY FROM THE
OLD, MAKING THE TEAR WORSE. 22 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."
JESUS IS LORD OF THE SABBATH
23 ONE SABBATH JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH THE GRAINFIELDS, AND
AS HIS DISCIPLES WALKED ALONG, THEY BEGAN TO PICK SOME HEADS
OF GRAIN. 24 THE PHARISEES SAID TO HIM, "LOOK, WHY ARE THEY
DOING WHAT IS UNLAWFUL ON THE SABBATH?" 25 HE ANSWERED, "HAVE YOU NEVER READ WHAT DAVID DID WHEN HE
AND HIS COMPANIONS WERE HUNGRY AND IN NEED? 26 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."
27 THEN HE SAID TO THEM, "THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT
MAN FOR THE SABBATH. 28 SO THE SON OF MAN IS LORD EVEN OF THE
SABBATH."

JESUS HEALS ON THE SABBATH
1 ANOTHER TIME JESUS WENT INTO THE SYNAGOGUE, AND A MAN
WITH A SHRIVELED HAND WAS THERE. 2 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. 3 JESUS
SAID TO THE MAN WITH THE SHRIVELED HAND, "STAND UP IN FRONT
OF EVERYONE."

4 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.

5 HE LOOKED AROUND AT THEM IN ANGER AND, DEEPLY DISTRESSED
AT THEIR STUBBORN HEARTS, SAID TO THE MAN, "STRETCH OUT YOUR
HAND." 6 HE STRETCHED IT OUT, AND HIS HAND WAS HEALED.
7 THEN THEY ALL WENT OUT, AND JESUS REMAINED IN THE
SYNAGOGUE.

CROWDS FOLLOW
7 JESUS WITHDREW WITH HIS DISCIPLES TO THE LAKE, AND A LARGE
CROWD FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED. 8 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. 9 BECAUSE OF THE CROWD HE TOLD HIS
DISCIPLES TO HAVE A SMALL BOAT READY FOR HIM, TO KEEP THE
PEOPLE FROM CROWDING HIM. 10 FOR HE HAD HEALED MANY, SO THAT
THOSE WITH DISEASES WERE PUSHING FORWARD TO TOUCH HIM. 11
WHenever the IMPURE SPIRITS SAW HIM, THEY FELL DOWN BEFORE
HIM AND CRIED OUT, "YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD." 12 BUT HE GAVE
THEM STRICT ORDERS NOT TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT HIM.
JESUS APPOINTS THE TWELVE
13 JESUS WENT UP ON A MOUNTAINSIDE AND CALLED TO HIM THOSE
HE WANTED, AND THEY CAME TO HIM. 14 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 THE
TAX COLLECTOR, 19 JAMES SON OF ALPHAEUS, THADDAEUS, SIMON THE
CANAANITE, WHO WAS A GENTILE, 20 AND JUDEAS ISCARIOT, WHO BETRAYED HIM.
JESUS ACCUSED BY HIS FAMILY AND BY TEACHERS OF THE LAW
20 THEN JESUS ENTERED A HOUSE, AND AGAIN A CROWD GATHERED
SO THAT HE AND HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOT EVEN ABLE TO EAT. 21
WHEN HIS FAMILY HEARD ABOUT THIS, THEY WENT TO TAKE CHARGE
OF HIM, FOR THEY SAID, "HE IS OUT OF HIS MIND."
22 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."

23 SO JESUS CALLED THEM OVER TO HIM AND BEGAN TO SPEAK TO
THEM IN PARABLES. "HOW CAN SATAN DRIVE OUT SATAN? 24 IF A

STAND, 25 IF A HOUSE IS DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF, THAT HOUSE
CANNOT STAND. 26 AND IF SATAN OPPOSES HIMSELF AND IS DIVI
HE CANNOT STAND. HIS END HAS COME. 27 IN FACT, NO ONE CAN
ENTER A STRONG MAN'S HOUSE WITHOUT FIRST TYING HIM UP.
HE CAN PLUNDER THE STRONG MAN'S HOUSE. 28 TRULY I TELL YOU,
PEOPLE CAN BE FORGIVEN ALL THEIR SINS AND EVERY SLANDER
UTTERED. 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
SAID, "HERE ARE MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS!" 35 WHOEVER
GOD'S WILL IS MY BROTHER AND SISTER AND MOTHER.

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER
4 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. 2 HE TAUGHT THEM MANY
THINGS BY PARABLES, AND IN HIS TEACHING SAID: 3 "LISTEN! A
FARMER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED. 4 AS HE WAS SCATTERING
SEED, SOME FELL ALONG THE PATH, AND THE BIRDS CAME AND
EAT IT UP. 5 SOME FELL ON ROCKY PLACES, WHERE IT DID NOT HAVE
MUCH SOIL. IT SPANG UP QUICKLY, BECAUSE THE SOIL WAS SHALLOW.
WHEN THE SUN CAME UP, THE PLANTS WERE SCORCHED, AND THEY
WITHERED BECAUSE THEY HAD NO ROOT. 7 OTHER SEED FELL AMONG
THORNS, WHICH GREW UP AND CHOKED THE PLANTS, SO THAT IT
DID NOT BEAR GRAIN. 8 STILL OTHER SEED FELL ON GOOD SOIL.
IT CAME UP, GREW AND PRODUCED A CROP, SOME MULTIPLYING THIRTY,
SOME FIFTY, SOME A HUNDRED TIMES."

9 JESUS SAID, "WHOEVER HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET THEM HEAR."
10 HE WAS ALONE. THE TWELVE AND THE OTHERS AROUND
ASKED HIM ABOUT THE PARABLES. 11 HE TOLD THEM, "THE SECRET
OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAS BEEN GIVEN TO YOU, BUT TO THOSE
OUTSIDE EVERYTHING IS SAID IN PARABLES. 12 SO THAT

"THEY MAY BE EVER SEEING BUT NEVER PERCEIVING,
AND EVER HEARING BUT NEVER UNDERSTANDING,
OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT TURN AND BE FORGIVEN!"

13 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THIS
PARABLE? HOW THEN WILL YOU UNDERSTAND ANY PARABLE? 14
THE FARMER SOWS THE WORD. 15 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.
16 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN ON ROCKY PLACES, HEAR THE WORD
AT ONCE, RECEIVE IT WITH JOY. 17 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. 18
19 OTHERS, LIKE SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS, HEAR THE WORD, BUT
THE WORRIES OF THIS LIFE, THE DECEITFULNESS OF WEALTH AND
THE DESIRES OF OTHER THINGS CHOKE THE WORD, AND IT DOES
NOT PRODUCE A CROP. 20 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."

ALAPMON A STAND
21 JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT THINK THAT I HAVE COME TO
BRING PEACE AND SILENCE. I HAVE COME TO BRING PEACE AND
SILENCE. 22 BUT PEACE AND SILENCE ARE NOT THE ONLY THINGS I
HAVE COME TO BRING. I HAVE COME TO BRING THE SWORD. 23
FOR WHERE THERE IS PEACE AND SILENCE, THERE WILL BE
CONCILIATION. 24 BUT WHERE THERE IS THE SWORD, THERE WILL
BE CONFLICT. 25 I HAVE COME TO BRING THE SWORD."

26 "CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHAT YOU HEAR. THE MEASURE YOU
USE, IT WILL BE MEASURED TO YOU—AND MORE."

Belief manifest in OBEDIENCE

IMMEDIATELY EVENTUALLY

The Gospel of Jesus by Mark