

The *Divine Feminine Version* (DFV) of the New Testament is made publicly available through the Creative Commons License – **Attribution, Noncommercial, Share Alike 3.0 United States**. See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us> for full details.

When quotations from the *Divine Feminine Version* are used, the initials (DFV) may be used at the end of each quotation.

The Good News According to the Tradition of Mark

Chapter One

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of Godde. ²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“Look, I send my messenger before you,
who will prepare your way.

³The voice of one crying in the wilderness,
‘Make ready the way of the Lady!
Make her paths straight!’”

⁴John came baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of change for forgiveness of offenses. ⁵All the country of Judea and all those of Jerusalem flocked to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan river, confessing their offenses. ⁶John was clothed with camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷“After me comes one who’s greater than I,” he proclaimed. “I’m not worthy to bend down and loosen the thong of his sandals. ⁸I baptized you in water, but he’ll baptize you in the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰As soon as he came up from the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit coming down to him as a dove. ¹¹A voice came out of heaven, “You are my beloved Son! I am very pleased with you.”

¹²Immediately the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was tempted by the Satan for forty days in the wilderness. He was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus entered Galilee, proclaiming the good news of Godde’s reign. ¹⁵“It’s time,” he said, “and Godde’s reign is near! Change, and trust in the good news!”

¹⁶Passing by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, because they were fishermen. ¹⁷“Follow me,” Jesus said, “and I’ll send you out to fish for people.”

¹⁸They immediately left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹Going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and his brother John in the boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and went after him.

²¹They went into Capernaum. On the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were amazed at his teaching, because he taught with authority – not like the scholars. ²³A man in their synagogue with a corrupting spirit immediately cried out, ²⁴“What do you want with us, Jesus the Nazarene? Have you come to destroy us? I know you who you are: Godde’s Holy One!”

²⁵Jesus rebuked him. “Shut up,” he said, “and come out of him!”

²⁶The corrupting spirit shook him violently with a loud scream and came out of him. ²⁷They were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching with authority? He orders even the corrupting spirits, and they obey him!” ²⁸Immediately word about him spread everywhere through all the surrounding region of Galilee.

²⁹They immediately left the synagogue with James and John and entered the house of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹He approached, took her by the hand, and helped her up. The fever left her and she ministered to them.

³²When evening came at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and oppressed by demons. ³³The whole town was gathered at the door. ³⁴He healed many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons. He didn't let the demons speak because they knew who he was.

³⁵He got up early while it was still dark, went to a remote place, and prayed. ³⁶Simon and the others went looking for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said, "Everyone is looking for you."

³⁸He said, "Let's go to the nearby towns so I can proclaim the message there too, because that's why I came." ³⁹He proclaimed the message in their synagogues throughout all Galilee and cast out demons.

⁴⁰Someone who had leprosy approached, knelt down, and begged him. "If you want to, you can cure me," he said.

⁴¹Moved with compassion, he reached out and touched him. "I want to," he said. "Be cured." ⁴²The leprosy disappeared and he was cured immediately. ⁴³He sternly warned him and immediately sent him away. ⁴⁴"Look, don't say anything to anybody," he said, "but go show yourself to the priest and offer for your cure what Moses said to, to witness to them."

⁴⁵But he left and started to proclaim it so much that Jesus could no longer enter a town publicly. He stayed outside in remote places, and they came to him from everywhere.

Chapter Two

When he went back to Capernaum after a few days, news spread that he was at home. ²So many gathered around that there was no more room, not even around the door. He shared the message with them. ³Four people came to him, carrying a man who was paralyzed. ⁴When they couldn't reach him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him. When they had made an opening, they let down the man who was paralyzed on his mat. ⁵Seeing their trust, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Son, you're forgiven."

⁶But some of the scholars sat there and said to themselves, ⁷"Who is he to talk like that? This is sacrilege! Who can forgive except Godde?"

⁸Immediately Jesus knew that they were discussing this among themselves, so he said, "What are you thinking? ⁹Is it easier to say to the man who's paralyzed, 'You're forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat, and walk?' ¹⁰But to show you that the Son of Woman has the right to forgive on earth ..." he said to the paralyzed man, ¹¹"I say to you, Get up! Take your mat and go home."

¹²He got up, immediately took the mat, and went outside in front of everyone. They were all amazed and praised Godde. "We've never seen anything like this!" they said.

¹³He went out again by the seashore. The whole crowd came to him, and he taught them. ¹⁴As he passed by he saw Levi, son of Alphaeus, sitting at the toll booth. "Follow me," he said. He got up and followed him.

¹⁵As he sat in his house, many toll collectors and outsiders sat down with Jesus and his disciples, because many people followed him. ¹⁶When the scholars who were Pharisees saw that he was eating with the outsiders and toll collectors, they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with toll collectors and outsiders?"

¹⁷When Jesus heard them, he said, "Those who are healthy have no need for a doctor, but those who are sick do. I didn't come to summon those who are 'just,' but outsiders."

¹⁸Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some approached and asked him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples don't?"

¹⁹Jesus answered, "How can the friends of the groom fast while the groom is still with them? As long as they have the groom with them, they can't fast. ²⁰The time will come when the groom will be taken from them, and then they'll fast in that day.

²¹"No one sews a patch of new cloth on an old coat; otherwise, the new patch would tear away from the old and make the hole worse. ²²Nor do people put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins and the wine and the skins would be ruined; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins."

²³On the Sabbath he was passing through the grain fields. As his disciples made their way, they started to pluck the heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees asked him, "Look, why are they doing what's not permissible on the Sabbath?"

²⁵He answered, "Have you never read what David and those with him did when they needed food and were hungry? ²⁶How he entered Godde's house when Abiathar was high priest and ate the show bread that only the priests are permitted to eat, and also gave some to those who were with him?" ²⁷He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for women and men, not women and men for the Sabbath. ²⁸So the Son of Woman is lord even of the Sabbath."

Chapter Three

He went to the synagogue again, and a man with a withered hand was there. ²In an attempt to incriminate him, they watched him to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath. ³He said to the man with the withered hand, "Stand up in front of everyone." ⁴He said to them, "Is it permissible to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath? To give life, or to destroy?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them furiously and was grieved because of their closed minds. He said to the man, "Hold out your hand." He held it out and it was restored. ⁶Then the Pharisees left and immediately started plotting with the Herodians to destroy him.

⁷Jesus withdrew to the lake with his disciples, and a large crowd followed him from Galilee, Judea, ⁸Jerusalem, Idumaea, beyond the Jordan, and the region around Tyre and Sidon. Hearing everything he was doing, a large crowd approached him. ⁹He told his disciples to have a boat ready for him so the crowd wouldn't crush him. ¹⁰Because he had healed many, those who had diseases pushed forward to touch him. ¹¹Whenever the corrupting spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried, "You're the Son of Godde!" ¹²He sternly warned them not to reveal him.

¹³He went up the mountain and called those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴He chose twelve and designated them apostles to go with him and to send them out to proclaim the message, ¹⁵and to have authority to heal sicknesses and cast out demons. ¹⁶These are the twelve he chose:

Simon, whom he named Peter;

¹⁷James, the son of Zebedee;

John, his brother; he called them "Boanerges," which means "Sons of Thunder";

¹⁸Andrew;

Philip;

Bartholomew;

Matthew;

Thomas;

James, the son of Alphaeus;

Thaddaeus;

Simon the Zealot;

¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

²⁰He entered a house. Again such a large crowd came together that they couldn't even eat. ²¹When his family heard about it, they came to get him because people were saying, "He's lost his mind!" ²²The scholars who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, because by the prince of the demons he casts out the demons."

²³He called them over and taught them through stories. "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If an empire is divided against itself, that empire will fall. ²⁵If a house is divided against itself, that house will fall. ²⁶If the Satan has risen up against itself and is divided, it will fall and come to an end. ²⁷But no one can break into the house of the strong to loot it without first binding the strong. Then one can loot the house.

²⁸“Believe me when I say that everyone’s offenses and slander will be forgiven, ²⁹but whoever slanders the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, but is guilty of eternal offense!”³⁰He said this because they had said, “He has a corrupting spirit.”

³¹His mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him. They said, “Look, your mother and brothers and sisters are outside looking for you.”

³³He answered, “Who are my mother, sisters, and brothers?” ³⁴Looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Look, my mother and sisters and brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of Godde is my sister, brother, and mother.”

Chapter Four

He started to teach by the seaside again. A large crowd gathered around him, so he got into a boat in the sea and sat. The crowd was on the land by the sea. ²He taught them many things through stories, and in his teaching he said, ³“Listen! A farmer went out to sow.

⁴“As he sowed, some seed fell by the roadside, and the birds came and devoured it.

⁵“Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it didn’t have much soil. It sprouted immediately because the soil was so shallow. ⁶When the sun rose, it was scorched. Because it had no root, it withered.

⁷“Other seed fell into thorns. The thorns grew up and choked it, and it didn’t yield any fruit.

⁸“Other seed fell into good soil, and yielded fruit, growing up and increasing: some yielding thirty times as much, some sixty, and some one hundred.”

⁹He said, “If anyone has ears, listen up!”

¹⁰When he was alone, those who were around him with the twelve asked him about the stories. ¹¹“The mystery of Godde’s reign has been revealed to you,” he told them, “but to those outside everything comes in stories, ¹²so that:

‘they may see, even if they don’t perceive;
and they may hear, even if they don’t understand,
because they don’t want to change their ways and be forgiven.’”

¹³He asked, “Don’t you understand this story? How will you understand all the stories? ¹⁴The farmer sows the message. ¹⁵These are the ones by the roadside where the message is sown: when they hear, immediately the Satan comes and takes away the message which has been sown in them.

¹⁶“These are the ones who are sown on the rocky ground: when they hear the message, they joyfully accept it right away. ¹⁷But it doesn’t sink in and they don’t last very long. When they’re oppressed or harassed because of the message, they’re tripped up right away.

¹⁸“Others are those who are sown into thorns: these are those who’ve heard the message, ¹⁹but the concerns of this age, the trap of money, and the desire for other things come in and choke the message, and they become unfruitful.

²⁰“These are the ones who are sown on the good soil: they hear the message, accept it, and bear fruit; some thirty times as much, some sixty, and some one hundred.”

²¹He asked, “Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed instead of on a stand? ²²Nothing is hidden that won’t be revealed, nor secret that won’t come to light. ²³If anyone has ears, listen up!”

²⁴He said, “Consider this: You’ll be measured the way that you measure, and even more so. ²⁵Whoever has will be given more, and whoever doesn’t have will lose even what little they do have.”

²⁶He said, “This is what Godde’s reign is like. A man throws seed on the soil, ²⁷and sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows -- he doesn’t know how. ²⁸The soil bears fruit: first the

blade, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the fruit is ripe, he cuts it with the sickle immediately, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He asked, "To what should we compare Godde's reign, or what story can we use? ³¹It's like a mustard seed which is sown on the soil; it's smaller than all the seeds on earth. ³²When it's sown, it grows and becomes greater than all the plants. It makes great branches so that the birds of the sky can nest under its shadow."

³³With many similar stories he shared the message with them, as much as they could understand. ³⁴He didn't teach them anything without a story, but he explained everything privately to his own disciples.

³⁵That evening, he said, "Let's go over to the other side." ³⁶Leaving the crowd, they took him as he was in the boat. Other boats were also with him. ³⁷A violent windstorm came, and the waves slammed into the boat so much that it was nearly swamped. ³⁸He was in the stern, sleeping on the cushion. They woke him up. "Teacher," they cried, "don't you care that we're dying?"

³⁹He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Be quiet! Calm down!" The wind died down and there was a great calm. ⁴⁰He asked, "Why are you afraid? Do you still not have trust?"

⁴¹They were very afraid. "Who is this," they asked each other, "whom even the wind and sea obey?"

Chapter Five

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ²As soon as he had come out of the boat, he was met by a man from among the tombs who had a corrupting spirit. ³He lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him with chains anymore ⁴because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he had torn the chains apart and broken the shackles in pieces. No one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵Day and night he cried out among the tombs and on the mountains, bruising himself with stones. ⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed before him, ⁷crying out with a loud voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High Godde? I urge you by Godde, don't harass me!" ⁸Because Jesus had said, "Come out of him, you corrupting spirit!"

⁹"What's your name?" he asked.

"My name is 'Legion,'" he said, "because there are so many of us!" ¹⁰He begged Jesus intently not to send them away out of the country.

¹¹Now there was a large herd of pigs feeding near the mountain. ¹²They begged him. "Send us to the pigs," they said, "so we can enter them!"

¹³He gave them permission. The corrupting spirits came out and entered the pigs. The herd of about two thousand charged down the steep bank into the sea and drowned. ¹⁴Those who fed them ran away and spread the news in the town and in the countryside.

People came to see what had happened. ¹⁵They came to Jesus and saw the one who had been oppressed by demons sitting, clothed, and in his right mind, the very man who had the 'Legion'; and they were afraid. ¹⁶Those who had seen it described what had happened to the one who was oppressed by demons and to the pigs. ¹⁷They started to beg him to leave their region.

¹⁸As he was getting into the boat, the one who had been oppressed by demons begged to go with him. ¹⁹He didn't let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them everything the Lady has done for you, and how she had mercy on you."

²⁰He left and started to proclaim in Decapolis everything Jesus had done for him, and everyone was amazed.

²¹When Jesus had crossed back over in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him by the sea. ²²One of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came, saw him, and fell at his feet. ²³He begged him intently. "My little daughter is dying," he said. "Come and lay your hands on her so that she'll be healed and live!" ²⁴He went with him, and a large crowd followed and pressed in on him.

²⁵There was a woman who had had hemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶She had suffered much under many doctors and had spent all that she had, but instead of getting better she got worse. ²⁷When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his coat, ²⁸because she thought, "If I just touch his coat, I'll be healed." ²⁹Her hemorrhage stopped immediately, and she realized that she was healed of her suffering.

³⁰Immediately Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd.

"Who touched my coat?" he asked.

³¹His disciples said, "You see the crowd pressing in on you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'"

³²He looked around to see who had done this. ³³But the woman knew what had happened to her, so she came and fell down before him, trembling with fear, and told him the whole truth.

³⁴"Daughter," he said, "your trust has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

³⁵While he was still speaking, people came from the synagogue leader's house. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the Teacher anymore?"

³⁶But when Jesus heard what they said, he said to the leader of the synagogue, "Don't be afraid, only trust." ³⁷He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and his brother John. ³⁸When he came to the synagogue leader's house, he saw the commotion, crying, and loud wailing. ³⁹When he had entered, he said, "Why all this commotion and crying? The child isn't dead, but sleeping."

⁴⁰They laughed at him. But he put them all out, took her mother and father and his disciples, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹Taking the child by the hand, he said, "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, get up!") ⁴²The girl got up immediately and walked around (she was twelve years old). They were completely amazed. ⁴³He instructed them not to tell anyone about this and told them to give her something to eat.

Chapter Six

He left and went to his own country, followed by his disciples. ²On the Sabbath he started to teach in the synagogue. Many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get all this?" they asked. "What is this wisdom that has been given to him, and how does he do such mighty deeds? ³Isn't this the carpenter, Mary's son, and the brother of James, Joses, Judah, and Simon? Aren't his sisters around?" They were scandalized by him.

⁴Jesus said, "A prophet is respected, except in their own country, among their own relatives, and in their own house." ⁵He was not able to do any mighty deeds there, except that he laid his hands on a few people who were sick and healed them. ⁶He was amazed by their lack of trust.

He went around the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and started sending them out in pairs, giving them authority over the corrupting spirits. ⁸He instructed them to take nothing for their journey except a staff — no bread, no bag, no copper in their money belt — ⁹but to tie on sandals and not dress with two shirts. ¹⁰He said, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave. ¹¹If any place won't welcome you or listen to you, shake off the dust under your feet as you leave as a warning to them."

¹²They went out and proclaimed that people should change. ¹³They cast out many demons, anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.

¹⁴King Herod Antipas heard about it, because his name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the Baptizer has been raised from the dead! That's why he has these powers." ¹⁵But others were saying, "It's Elijah." Still others were saying, "He's a prophet like one of the ancient prophets." ¹⁶But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised!"

¹⁷Herod himself had ordered John's arrest and bound him in prison because Herod had married Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. ¹⁸John had told Herod, "It isn't right for you to marry your brother's wife." ¹⁹Herodias nursed a grudge against him and wanted to execute him, but she couldn't ²⁰because Herod was afraid of John. Knowing that John was a just and holy man, he protected him. He liked to listen to him, even though he was very conflicted.

²¹Then an opportunity came. On his birthday, Herod gave a banquet for his courtiers and military commanders and the leading citizens of Galilee. ²²When Herodias' daughter came in and danced, Herod and his guests were delighted. The king said to the young lady, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." ²³He swore to her, "Whatever you ask for, I'll give you, up to half my kingdom!"

²⁴She went out and asked her mother, "What should I ask for?"

She answered, "The head of John the Baptizer."

²⁵She hurried in right away to the king and said, "I want you to give me the head of John the Baptizer on a platter immediately."

²⁶The king was very sorry, but because of his promises and the guests, he didn't want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He left, beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸and brought his head on a platter. He gave it to the young lady, and the young lady gave it to her mother.

²⁹When his disciples heard this, they came, took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him everything they had done and taught. ³¹So many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat. He said, "Let's go to a remote place and rest a while." ³²So they sailed in the boat to a remote place by themselves. ³³But many people saw them going, recognized them, ran ahead on foot from all the towns, and arrived before them. ³⁴Jesus came ashore, saw a large crowd, and had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he started to teach them many things.

³⁵When it was getting late, his disciples approached him. "This place is remote," they said, "and it's already late. ³⁶Send them away so they can go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

³⁷But Jesus answered, "You give them something to eat."

They asked, "Should we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread to give them to eat?"

³⁸"How many loaves do you have?" He asked. "Go see."

When they found out, they said, "Five, and two fish."

³⁹He instructed everyone to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰They sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹He took the five loaves and two fish, and looking up to heaven, he prayed. He broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to share with the people, and divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²They all ate until they were satisfied. ⁴³They picked up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and fish. ⁴⁴Five thousand ate the loaves.

⁴⁵Immediately Jesus told his disciples to get into the boat and go ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he sent the crowd away. ⁴⁶After saying goodbye, he went up the mountain to pray.

⁴⁷When evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea and he was alone on the land. ⁴⁸Seeing that they were worn out because the wind was against them, at three in the morning he approached them, walking on the sea. He would have passed by them, ⁴⁹but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost. They cried out ⁵⁰because they all saw him and were worried. But immediately Jesus spoke. "Cheer up!" he said. "It's me! Don't be afraid." ⁵¹He got into the boat with them and the wind died down. They were very amazed ⁵²because they didn't understand about the loaves; their minds were closed.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and tied up the boat. ⁵⁴People recognized them as soon as they got out of the boat. ⁵⁵They ran around the whole surrounding area and started to bring those who were sick on their mats to where they heard he was. ⁵⁶Wherever he went – into villages, towns, or the countryside – they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him to let them just touch the tassel of his garment. All who touched it were healed.

Chapter Seven

Then the Pharisees and some of the scholars who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him. ²They saw some of his disciples eating bread with defiled – that is, unwashed – hands.

³The Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands according to the tradition of the elders. ⁴They don't eat anything from the marketplace unless they wash it, and there are many other traditions that they observe, washing cups, pitchers, and bronze kettles.

⁵So the Pharisees and the scholars asked him, "Why don't your disciples follow the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with defiled hands?"

⁶He answered, "Isaiah accurately described you hypocrites, as it is written:

'These people honor me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me.
⁷And they worship me pointlessly,
teaching rules made up by mortals as doctrine.'

⁸You abandon the precept of Godde and hold to the traditions of mortals."

⁹He said, "You're so good at rejecting the precept of Godde so you can keep your traditions. ¹⁰Moses said, 'Honor your mother and father,' and, 'Whoever badmouths mother or father, let them be executed.'
¹¹But you say, 'Whoever tells their mother or father, "Whatever I might have given to support you is Corban – that is, a gift devoted to Godde,"'
¹²then you don't allow them to do anything for their mother or father, ¹³voiding the word of Godde by the tradition you received. And you do many things like that."

¹⁴He called the crowd again and said, "Listen up, everyone! ¹⁵Nothing that goes into a person from outside can defile them, but what comes out of them can."

¹⁷When he went into a house away from the crowd, his disciples asked him about the story. ¹⁸He said, "Are you ignorant too? Don't you know that whatever goes into a person from outside can't defile them, ¹⁹because it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach and then out into the sewer, cleansing all foods?"

²⁰He said, "It's what goes out of the person that defiles. ²¹Because from within, from out of the person's heart, come bad thoughts: promiscuity, stealing, murders, ²²unfaithfulness, greed, evil, deceit, lewdness, jealousy, slander, pride, and foolishness. ²³All these evil things come from within and defile the person."

²⁴Jesus left that place and went to the region of Tyre. He went into a house and didn't want anyone to know it, but he couldn't escape notice. ²⁵A woman whose little daughter had a corrupting spirit heard about him and immediately came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶She was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷Jesus said to her, "Let the children eat first, because it's not right to throw the children's bread to the dogs."

²⁸"Lord," she replied, "even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

²⁹He said, "For saying that, you may go. The demon has left your daughter."

³⁰She went home and found the child lying on the bed. The demon was gone.

³¹He returned from the region of Tyre, going through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him someone who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside from the crowd, put his fingers into his ears, spat, and touched his tongue. ³⁴Looking up to heaven, he sighed and said, "Ephphatha!" which means, "Open up!"
³⁵Immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was loosened, and he spoke clearly. ³⁶He instructed them to tell no one, but the more he told them, the more widely they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were overcome with amazement. "How well he's done everything!" they said. "He causes even those who are deaf to hear, and those who are mute to speak!"

Chapter Eight

By that time there was a large crowd again and they had nothing to eat. Jesus called his disciples. ²"I have compassion on the crowd," he said, "because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. ³If I send them away to their homes, they'll faint on the way, because some of them have come a long way."

⁴His disciples asked, "Where in this remote place will anyone be able to find bread to feed these people?"

⁵"How many loaves do you have?" he asked.

"Seven," they answered.

⁶He instructed the crowd to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven loaves. He gave thanks and broke them. He gave them to his disciples and they gave them to the crowd. ⁷They had a few small fish too. He blessed them. "These are to be given too," he said. ⁸They ate until they were satisfied. They picked up seven baskets full of the broken pieces that were left over. ⁹There were about four thousand. He sent them away.

¹⁰He immediately got into the boat with his disciples and went to the region of Dalmanutha. ¹¹The Pharisees came out and started to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven to test him. ¹²He groaned under his breath and said, "Why does this generation look for a sign? Believe me when I say that no sign will be provided to this generation."

¹³He left them, got back into the boat, and went away to the other side. ¹⁴But they forgot to take bread; they didn't have more than one loaf in the boat with them. ¹⁵He instructed them: "Watch out, and look out for the yeast of the Pharisees and Herod."

¹⁶They talked among themselves. "It's because we have no bread," they said.

¹⁷Knowing what they were saying, he asked, "Why do you say that it's 'because you have no bread?' Don't you perceive yet or understand? Is your mind still closed? ¹⁸Can't you see with your eyes? Can't you hear with your ears? Don't you remember ¹⁹when I broke the five loaves among the five thousand? How many baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?"

"Twelve," they said.

²⁰"And the seven loaves among the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?"

"Seven," they said.

²¹"Don't you understand yet?" he asked.

²²They came to Bethsaida. They brought to him a man who was blind and begged him to touch him. ²³He took the man by the hand and brought him out of the village. He spit in his eyes, put his hands on him, and asked, "Do you see anything?"

²⁴He looked up and said, "I see people like trees walking around."

²⁵He laid his hands on his eyes again. His eyes were opened, he was healed, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶He sent him home, saying, "Don't go into the village."

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people think that I am?"

²⁸"John the Baptizer," they said. "Others say Elijah, but others say one of the prophets."

²⁹"But who do you think I am?" he asked.

Peter answered, "You're the Christ."

³⁰He warned them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹He started to teach them that the Son of Man had to suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scholars, be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He made this very clear.

Peter took him aside and started to rebuke him. ³³But he turned, looked at his disciples, and rebuked Peter. "Get out of my way, Satan!" he said. "You're not thinking about the things of God, but about the things of mortals."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples and said, "Whoever wants to follow me, let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me; ³⁵because whoever wants to gain their life will lose it, and whoever will lose their life for the sake of me and the good news will gain it. ³⁶What good will it do someone to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷What can someone give in exchange for their life? ³⁸If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this unfaithful and offensive generation, the Son of Woman will be ashamed of them when he comes in the glory of his Mother with the holy angels."

Chapter Nine

He said, "Believe me when I say that some people standing here won't die before they see that Godde's reign has come with power."

²Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a high mountain by themselves, where they were all alone. He was transformed right in front of them. ³His clothes became radiant, very white – whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. ⁴Elijah and Moses appeared and talked with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it's a good thing we're here. Let's put up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He didn't know what else to say because they were so afraid.

⁷Then a cloud formed and overshadowed them. A voice came out of the cloud: "This is my beloved Son! Listen to him!"

⁸They looked around suddenly, but they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, he instructed them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Son of Woman had risen from the dead. ¹⁰They kept it to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

¹¹They asked, "Why do the scholars say that Elijah must come first?"

¹²He answered, "Elijah does come first, and restores everything. Why then is it written that the Son of Woman will suffer so much and be rejected? ¹³But I say that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they wanted, just as it is written about him."

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them. Scholars were arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as the whole crowd saw him, they were amazed, and ran up to greet him. ¹⁶He asked them, "What are you arguing with them about?"

¹⁷One of the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought to you my son, who has a mute spirit. ¹⁸Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down. He foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes stiff. I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they couldn't."

¹⁹He answered, "You distrustful generation! How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me."

²⁰They brought him to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw him, it shook the boy violently. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹He asked his father, "How long has this been happening?"

"From childhood," he said. ²²"It has often thrown him into fire and water to destroy him. If you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us!"

²³"If you can?" Jesus said. "All things are possible for the one who trusts."

²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I trust. Help my lack of trust!"

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was rushing toward them, he ordered the corrupting spirit, "You mute and deaf spirit, I order you to come out of him and never enter him again!"

²⁶It cried out, shook him violently, and came out of him. The boy looked so much like a corpse that most of them said, "He's dead!" ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and pulled him up, and he got up.

²⁸When he entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why weren't we able to cast it out?"

²⁹He said, "This kind doesn't leave except by prayer."

³⁰They left that place and went on through Galilee. Jesus didn't want anyone to know where they were, ³¹because he was teaching his disciples, "The Son of Man is to be handed over to people who will kill him. Three days after he's killed, he will rise again."

³²But they didn't understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him.

³³They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house he asked, "What were you arguing about on the way?"

³⁴But they were silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.

³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and told them, "If anyone wants to be first, they must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶He took a child whom he set among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me doesn't welcome me, but the one who sent me."

³⁸"Teacher," John said, "we saw someone casting out demons in your name. We tried to stop him because he wasn't following us."

³⁹But Jesus said, "Don't try to stop him, because no one who does a mighty deed in my name will be able to say bad things about me so soon afterwards. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹Whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you carry the name of Christ – believe me when I say that they will in no way lose their reward.

⁴²"Whoever trips up one of these little ones who trust in me, it would be better for them if a huge millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea! ⁴³If your hand trips you up, cut it off. It's better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and be taken out with the trash and incinerated in the fire that can't be put out. ⁴⁵If your foot trips you up, cut it off. It's better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and be taken out with the trash and incinerated. ⁴⁷If your eye trips you up, pluck it out. It's better for you to enter Godde's reign with one eye than to have two eyes and be taken out with the trash and incinerated, ⁴⁸where their worm doesn't die, and the fire can't be put out.' ⁴⁹Everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its flavor, how can you get it back? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

Chapter Ten

He left that place and entered Judea and beyond the Jordan. Crowds flocked to him again. He taught them, as he usually did. ²Pharisees approached to test him and asked, "Is it okay for a husband to divorce his wife?"

³"How did Moses instruct you?" he asked.

⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

⁵Jesus said, "Because you are stubborn, he wrote you that precept. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, she 'made them female and male.'

⁷This is why a man will leave his mother and father, and will join his wife, ⁸and the two will become one flesh.'

They are no longer two, but one. ⁹So don't let mortals tear apart what Godde has joined together."

¹⁰Back in the house, his disciples asked him about this. ¹¹He said, "Whoever divorces his wife and remarries is unfaithful to her. ¹²If she divorces her husband and remarries, she's unfaithful."

¹³People brought children to him so he could lay his hands on them, but the disciples scolded them. ¹⁴When Jesus saw this, he got angry and said, "Welcome the children; don't stop them from coming to me, because Godde's reign belongs to ones like these. ¹⁵Believe me when I say that whoever will not welcome Godde's reign like a little child will ever enter it." ¹⁶He took them in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

¹⁷As he was starting on his way, someone ran to him, knelt before him, and asked, “Good Teacher, what can I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸Jesus answered, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except Godde alone. ¹⁹You know the precepts: ‘Do not murder.’ ‘Do not be unfaithful.’ ‘Do not steal.’ ‘Do not lie.’ ‘Do not cheat.’ ‘Honor your mother and father.’”

²⁰“Teacher,” he said, “I’ve done all these things since I was young.”

²¹Jesus looked at him with love and said, “You need only one more thing. Go, sell what you have and give to those who are poor, and you’ll have treasure in heaven; then come and follow me.”

²²But he was appalled at this and went away sad, because he had many things. ²³Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have riches to enter Godde’s reign!”

²⁴The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said, “Children, how difficult it is to enter Godde’s reign! ²⁵It’s easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for a rich person to enter Godde’s reign.”

²⁶They were very astonished and asked each other, “Then who can be given life?”

²⁷Looking at them, Jesus said, “With mortals this is impossible, but not with Godde, because all things are possible with Godde.”

²⁸Peter started to say, “Look, we’ve left everything and followed you.”

²⁹Jesus said, “Believe me when I say that there is no one who has left homes, sister, brothers, or mother, father, children, or property for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive one hundred times more now in this age – homes, sisters, brothers, mothers, children, and property, along with harassment; and in the age to come, eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and last who will be first.”

³²They were on their way up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was leading them. They were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and started to tell them what was going to happen to him. ³³“Look, we’re going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Woman will be handed over to the chief priests and the scholars. They’ll condemn him to death and hand him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴They’ll mock him, spit on him, flog him, and kill him. Three days later he’ll rise again.”

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached him and said, “Teacher, there’s something we want you to do for us.”

³⁶“What do you want me to do for you?” he asked.

³⁷They said, “Let us sit on either side of you in your glory.”

³⁸But Jesus answered, “You don’t know what you’re asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism that I’m baptized with?”

³⁹“We’re able,” they said.

“You will drink the cup that I drink and be baptized with the baptism that I’m baptized with,” Jesus said, ⁴⁰“but to sit on either side of me is not mine to grant; that belongs to those for whom it has been reserved.”

⁴¹When the ten heard that, they got angry at James and John.

⁴²Jesus called them and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great leaders exercise authority over them. ⁴³However, it isn’t that way among you, but whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant. ⁴⁴Whoever desires to be first among you will be the bondservant of all, ⁴⁵because the Son of Woman came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life to liberate many.”

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As Jesus went out from Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Timaeus’ son Bartimaeus, who was blind, was sitting by the road begging. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he started to cry out, “Jesus, son of Bathsheba and David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he cried out even more, “Son of Bathsheba and David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁹Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

They called the man who was blind. "Cheer up!" they said. "Get up. He's calling you!"

⁵⁰Throwing away his cloak, he jumped up and approached Jesus.

⁵¹Jesus asked, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The man answered, "Rabboni, I want to see."

⁵²"Go on," Jesus told him. "Your trust has healed you." Immediately his eyes saw and he followed Jesus on the way.

Chapter Eleven

When they approached Jerusalem, near Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²with these instructions: "Go to the village opposite you, and immediately when you enter you'll find a tied colt on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back immediately.'"

⁴They went, found a colt tied to a door out in the street, and untied it.

⁵Some bystanders asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?"

⁶They told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.

⁷They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their coats on it, and Jesus sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their coats on the road. Others spread leafy branches they had cut from the fields. ⁹Those around him kept shouting:

"Praise Godde!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lady!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming reign of our ancestors Bathsheba and David!

Praise to the highest!"

¹¹Jesus entered the temple in Jerusalem. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

¹²As they were coming back from Bethany the next day, he was hungry. ¹³In the distance he saw a fig tree with leaves, so he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴"May no one ever eat fruit from you again!" he said. And his disciples were listening.

¹⁵When they came to Jerusalem, he entered the temple and started to throw out those who did business there. He overturned the money changers' tables and the seats of those who were selling doves.

¹⁶He wouldn't let anyone carry anything through the temple. ¹⁷He taught them, "Isn't it written:

'My house is to be known as a house of prayer for all the peoples'?

But you've made it a den of robbers!"

¹⁸When the chief priests and scholars heard this, they looked for a way to destroy him. They were afraid of him because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching. ¹⁹When it got late, they left the city.

²⁰As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. ²¹Remembering, Peter said, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered away."

²²Jesus answered, "Trust in Godde. ²³Believe me when I say that whoever says to this mountain, 'Get up and throw yourself into the sea,' and doesn't doubt in their heart but trusts that what they say will happen, it will happen for them. ²⁴So I tell you that whatever you ask for in prayer, trust that you have received, and it will happen for you. ²⁵Whenever you stand and pray, forgive anyone you have anything against so that your Mother in heaven will forgive you for your faults too."

²⁷They came to Jerusalem again. As he was walking in the temple, the chief priests, scholars, and elders approached him. ²⁸“On whose authority do you do these things?” they asked. “Who gave you the authority to do these things?”

²⁹Jesus answered, “I’ll ask you one question. Answer me, and I’ll tell you on whose authority I do these things. ³⁰Did John get the authority to baptize from heaven, or from mortals? Answer me.”

³¹They talked among themselves. “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he’ll ask, ‘Then why didn’t you trust him?’ ³²But should we say, ‘From mortals?’” They were afraid of the crowd, because they all regarded John as really a prophet. ³³So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

“Nor will I tell you on whose authority I do these things,” Jesus told them.

Chapter Twelve

He started to speak to them in stories. “A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the winepress, built a tower, leased it out to sharecroppers, and left for another country.

²“When the season came, he sent a bondservant to the sharecroppers to receive his share of the fruit of the vineyard. ³But they took him, beat him, and sent him away empty-handed.

⁴“Then he sent another bondservant to them, but they beat him over the head and insulted him.

⁵“He sent another, but they killed him and many others, beating some and killing some.

⁶“He had one left, a son whom he loved. He sent him to them last, thinking, ‘They’ll respect my son.’

⁷“But those sharecroppers said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let’s kill him and his inheritance will be ours!’ ⁸So they grabbed him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.

⁹“So what will the lord of the vineyard do? He’ll come, destroy the sharecroppers, and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰Didn’t you ever read this Scripture:

‘The stone which the builders rejected
was made the cornerstone.

¹¹This was from the Lady.
It is marvelous in our eyes?’”

¹²They thought about seizing him because they understood that he was talking about them, but they were afraid of the crowd. So they left him and went away.

¹³They sent some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to trap him in his speech. ¹⁴“Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are honest no matter whom you teach, because you aren’t partial to anyone, but teach the way of Godde in truth. Is it okay to pay tribute to Caesar, or not? Should we pay or shouldn’t we?”

¹⁵But knowing their hypocrisy, he asked them, “Why do you test me? Bring me the money and let me see it.”

¹⁶They brought it.

“Whose image and inscription are on it?” he asked.

“Caesar’s,” they answered.

¹⁷Jesus said, “Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to Godde what belongs to Godde.”

They were amazed at him.

¹⁸Sadducees (who do not believe in resurrection) came to him. They asked, ¹⁹“Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves behind a wife but no child, his brother should marry his widow and raise children for his brother. ²⁰There were seven brothers. The first married a wife and died with no children. ²¹The second married her and died, leaving behind no child. The third too; ²²all seven left no child. After they all died, the woman died too. ²³In the resurrection, whose wife will she be? For all seven married her.”

²⁴Jesus asked them, “Aren’t you in error, not knowing the Scriptures or the power of Godde?”

²⁵Because when they rise from the dead, people aren’t married or given in marriage, but are like angels

in heaven. ²⁶Concerning the raising of those who are dead, haven't you read in the book of Moses about how Godde said to him at the bush, 'I am the Godde of Sarah and Abraham, the Godde of Rebekah and Isaac, and the Godde of Leah, Rachel and Jacob'? ²⁷She isn't the Godde of the dead, but of the living. So you're completely wrong."

²⁸One of the scholars came and heard them arguing. Seeing that he had answered them well, he asked, "Which precept is the first of all?"

²⁹Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, Israel, the Lady our Godde, the Lady is one; ³⁰love the Lady your Godde with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' ³¹The second is, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other precept greater than these."

³²The scholar said, "Well said, Teacher! You're right that she is one, and there is no other Godde but her, ³³and that to love her with all the heart, all the understanding, and all the strength; and to love the neighbor as oneself is more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said, "You're not far from Godde's reign." After that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

³⁵When he was teaching in the temple, Jesus said, "How can the scholars say that the Christ is the son of Bathsheba and David? ³⁶The Holy Spirit inspired David to say:

'The Lady said to my Lord,
"Sit at my right hand
until I make your enemies a footrest for your feet.'"

³⁷"David himself describes Christ as his Lord, so how can Christ be his son?"
The large crowd heard him gladly.

³⁸As he taught, he said, "Watch out for the scholars. They like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to take the best seats in the synagogues and the best places at feasts. ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and show off with long prayers. They'll receive greater judgment!"

⁴¹Jesus sat down across from the treasury and watched the crowd throw money into the treasury. Many who were rich threw in large amounts. ⁴²A widow who was poor came and threw in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³He called his disciples and said, "Believe me when I say that this widow who was poor gave more than all those who are contributing to the treasury, ⁴⁴because they all gave out of their abundance, but she, poor as she is, gave everything she had – all she had to live on."

Chapter Thirteen

As he was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said, "Look, Teacher! What large stones and what large buildings!"

²Jesus answered, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left on another without being thrown down."

³As he was sitting on the Mount of Olives across from the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew questioned him privately. ⁴"Tell us when these things will happen," they said. "What's the sign that all these things are about to take place?"

⁵Jesus started to tell them, "Be careful that no one misleads you. ⁶Many people will come in my name and say, 'I am!' and will mislead many.

⁷"When you hear about wars and rumors of wars, don't be anxious. All this must happen, but it's not the end. ⁸Peoples will rise against each other and empire against empire. There will be earthquakes in various places and there will be famines. These things are just the beginning of birth pains. ⁹But watch yourselves. They'll hand you over to courts and you'll be beaten in synagogues. You'll stand before governors and rulers for my sake to witness to them. ¹⁰The good news must first be proclaimed to all

peoples. ¹¹When they lead you away and turn you in, don't be anxious about what to say, but say whatever is given you at that time; for it's not you talking, but the Holy Spirit.

¹²"Sisters and brothers will turn each other in to be executed, and parents will turn in their children. Children will turn against parents and cause them to be executed. ¹³You'll be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who endures to the end will be given life.

¹⁴"But when you see the despicable outrage standing where he shouldn't (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains! ¹⁵Don't let the person on their housetop go down or go in to get the things in their house. ¹⁶Don't let the person in the field go back to get their clothes. ¹⁷How awful for those mothers who are pregnant and nursing in those days! ¹⁸Pray that it won't happen in the winter, ¹⁹because at that time there will be oppression, the likes of which have not happened from the beginning when Godde created the world until now, nor ever will again. ²⁰No one will survive unless the Lady shortens the days, but for the sake of the chosen ones, whom she picked out, she shortened the days.

²¹"Then if anyone tells you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or, 'Look, there!' don't trust them. ²²Because false Christs and false prophets will arise, and they will show signs and wonders to mislead the chosen ones if possible. ²³But you watch out. I've warned you about everything beforehand.

²⁴"But after the oppression of those days:

'the sun will go dark,
the moon will not give its light,
²⁵the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in heaven will be shaken.'

²⁶Then they'll see the Son of Woman coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he'll send out his angels, and will gather together his chosen ones from the four corners of the earth, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸"Now learn from this story of the fig tree: When its branch has become tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, at the doors. ³⁰Believe me when I say that all these things will happen before the end of this generation. ³¹(My words will last longer than heaven and earth.) ³²But no one knows when, not even the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Mother. ³³Watch out and stay alert, because you don't know when the time is.

³⁴"It can be compared to a man going into another country. He leaves his house and puts his bondservants in charge, each with their own work, and instructs the doorkeeper to keep watch. ³⁵So watch, because you don't know when the lord of the house is coming – whether at evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning – ³⁶or else he might find you sleeping when he suddenly arrives. ³⁷What I say to you, I say to everyone: Watch out!"

Chapter Fourteen

It was now two days before the feast of the Passover and the Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scholars were looking for a way to trick him so they could capture and kill him. ²They said, "Not during the feast, or else the people might riot."

³When he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the house of Simon who had leprosy, a woman approached him with an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured it over his head. ⁴But some got angry. "Why has this ointment been wasted?" they said to each other. ⁵"This ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to those who are poor." They scolded her.

⁶But Jesus said, "Leave her alone! Why are you bugging her? She's done a good deed for me. ⁷You'll always have people who are poor with you, and you can help them whenever you want to; but you won't always have me. ⁸She did what she could. She poured this ointment on my body to prepare me for burial. ⁹Believe me when I say that wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what this woman has done will be talked about in memory of her."

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to set him up. ¹¹They were glad when they heard it, and promised to give him money. So he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.

¹²On the first day of the Unleavened Bread Feast, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go to prepare the Passover meal for you?"

¹³Then he sent two of his disciples with these instructions: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Wherever he enters, tell to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover meal with my disciples?"' ¹⁵He will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Get ready for us there."

¹⁶His disciples left, went into the city, found things as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. ¹⁷Now when evening came, he arrived with the twelve. ¹⁸As they reclined at the table and were eating, Jesus said, "Believe me when I say that one of you will betray me—one who's eating with me!"

¹⁹They were saddened and started to ask, "It isn't me, is it?"

²⁰He answered, "It's one of the twelve, someone who's dipping with me in the dish. ²¹The Son of Woman will die as the Scriptures say he will, but how awful for that man who betrays the Son of Woman! It would be better for him if he hadn't been born."

²²As they were eating, he took bread, prayed over it, and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

²³He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them. They all drank from it. ²⁴He said, "This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many. ²⁵Believe me when I say that I won't drink wine from now on until I drink it anew in Godde's reign." ²⁶When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

²⁷Jesus said, "All of you will be tripped up, because it is written:

'I will strike the shepherd,
and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸But after I'm raised up, I'll go before you into Galilee."

²⁹But Peter answered, "Even if everybody else will be tripped up, I won't."

³⁰Jesus said, "Believe me when I say that today – yes, tonight – before the rooster crows twice, you'll disown me three times."

³¹But he insisted, "Even if I have to die with you, I won't disown you." All of them said the same thing.

³²They came to a place called Gethsemane. He said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³He took with him Peter, James, and John. He started to feel distressed and very anxious. ³⁴He said, "I'm so sad it's killing me. Stay here and watch."

³⁵He went forward a little, fell on his face, and prayed that, if possible, the time of suffering could pass him by. ³⁶He said, "Amma, Mother, all things are possible for you. Please take this cup from me. Yet not what I want, but what you want."

³⁷He came and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn't you watch for one hour? ³⁸Watch and pray that you aren't tempted. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

³⁹He went away again and prayed the same thing. ⁴⁰He came again and found them sleeping, because they couldn't keep their eyes open. They didn't know what to say.

⁴¹He came the third time and said, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The time has come, and look, the Son of Woman is being handed over to wrongdoers. ⁴²Get up; let's go. Look, the one who betrays me is near!"

⁴³Immediately, while he was still talking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived. He was with a crowd armed with swords and clubs. They were from the chief priests, the scholars, and the elders. ⁴⁴The betrayer had given them a sign: "Whoever I kiss is the one. Seize him, and lead him away under guard."

⁴⁵When he arrived, he immediately approached him and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.

⁴⁶They grabbed him and took him. ⁴⁷But one of those standing there drew his sword and lunged at the bondservant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

⁴⁸Jesus asked, "Have you come with swords and clubs to capture me like a rebel? ⁴⁹I was with you teaching in the temple every day, and you didn't arrest me. But this is to fulfill the Scriptures."

⁵⁰Everyone left him and fled. ⁵¹A young man wearing nothing but a linen sheet was following him. They grabbed him, ⁵²but he left the linen sheet and ran away naked. ⁵³They led Jesus away to the high priest. All the chief priests, the elders, and the scholars gathered.

⁵⁴Peter had followed from a distance to the court of the high priest. He was sitting with the officers and warming himself by the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole court looked for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they didn't find any evidence, ⁵⁶because many gave false testimony against him, but their stories didn't agree. ⁵⁷Some stood up and gave false testimony against him: ⁵⁸"We heard him say, 'I'll destroy this temple that's made with hands, and in three days I'll build another one that's not made with hands.'" ⁵⁹Even then, their stories didn't agree.

⁶⁰The high priest stood up among them and asked Jesus, "Don't you have an answer? What is it they're saying about you?"

⁶¹But he held his peace and didn't answer.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?"

⁶²"I am," Jesus said, "and you'll see the Son of Woman sitting at the right hand of Power and coming with the clouds of heaven."

⁶³Then the high priest tore his clothes and cried, "Why do we need any more witnesses? ⁶⁴You heard the sacrilege! What do you think?" They all condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵Some started to spit on him. They blindfolded him and beat him with their fists, saying, "Prophesy!" The officers slapped him.

⁶⁶As Peter was in the courtyard below, one of the high priest's maids came. ⁶⁷When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him and said, "You too were with Jesus, the Nazarene!"

⁶⁸But he denied it. "I don't know. I don't understand what you're talking about." He went out on the porch and the rooster crowed.

⁶⁹The maid saw him and started to tell the bystanders again, "This is one of them!"

⁷⁰Again he denied it.

After a little while the bystanders said to Peter, "You must be one of them, because you're a Galilean."

⁷¹Then he started to curse and swear. "I don't know this man you're talking about!" ⁷²Immediately the rooster crowed for the second time. Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you'll disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.

Chapter Fifteen

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests consulted with the elders and scholars and the whole court. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pontius Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

"Whatever you say," he answered.

³The chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, "Aren't you going to answer? Look at all the things they're saying about you!"

⁵But Jesus made no further reply; so Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the Feast he regularly released to them one prisoner, whomever they requested. ⁷A man known as Barabbas was in prison with those who had committed murder during the rebellion. ⁸The crowd came up and started to ask him to do what he usually did. ⁹Pilate asked, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰Because he knew that the chief priests had handed him over because of envy.

¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas instead. ¹²Pilate asked, "Then what do you want me to do with the one you call the King of the Jews?"

¹³"Crucify him!" they shouted back.

¹⁴But Pilate asked, "Why? What crime has he committed?"

But they cried out all the more, "Crucify him!"

¹⁵Deciding he had done enough for the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them, but he had Jesus flogged and handed over to be crucified. ¹⁶The soldiers led him away into the court, which is the Praetorium, and gathered the whole garrison together. ¹⁷They put a purple robe on him, then weaved a crown of thorns and put it on him. ¹⁸They started to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat on him, bent their knees, and bowed to him. ²⁰When they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe, put his clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

²¹A man of Cyrene known as Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was coming in from the country. They forced him to carry his cross. ²²They brought Jesus to the place called "Golgotha," which means "Place of the Skull." ²³They gave him wine mixed with myrrh, but he didn't take it. ²⁴Then they crucified him. They divided his clothes among themselves and cast lots to see who would get what.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the accusation over him read, "THE KING OF THE JEWS." ²⁷They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right hand and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by slandered him, shaking their heads. "Ha!" they said. "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, ³⁰rescue yourself and come down from the cross!"

³¹In the same way, the chief priests and the scholars mocked him among themselves. "He rescued others," they said, "but he can't free himself. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, and we will trust him." Those who were crucified with him leveled the same criticism.

³³At noon there was darkness over the whole land until three o'clock. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" Which means, "My Godde, my Godde, why have you abandoned me?"

³⁵When they heard it, some of those who stood there said, "Listen, he is calling Elijah."

³⁶Someone ran, filled a sponge with vinegar, put it on a reed, gave him a drink, and said, "Let him be. Let's see whether Elijah comes to take him down."

³⁷Jesus cried out with a loud voice and died. ³⁸The veil of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom. ³⁹When the centurion who stood in front of him saw how he died, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of Godde!"

⁴⁰Women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹They had followed him and ministered to him when he was in Galilee. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

⁴²That evening, because it was the Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath), ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea came. He was a prominent council member who was also looking forward to Godde's reign. He dared to go to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. ⁴⁴Pilate was amazed that he might already be dead. He called the centurion and asked him whether Jesus had been dead long. ⁴⁵When he confirmed it with the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶He bought a linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been cut from rock. He rolled a stone to the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Joses' mother Mary saw where he was laid.

Chapter Sixteen

After the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene, James' mother Mary, and Salome bought spices to go anoint him. ²When the sun had risen very early on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb. ³They were asking themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone had already been rolled away, even though it was very large.

⁵When they entered the tomb, they saw a young person dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were amazed. ⁶He said, "Don't be amazed. You're looking for Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He has gone before you into Galilee; you'll see him there, just as he told you.'"

⁸They left and ran from the tomb, awed and terrified. They didn't say anything to anyone because they were afraid.

The earliest versions end here.

A Shorter Ending

They briefed those around Peter with their instructions. And after that Jesus himself sent them out from east to west with the holy and undying proclamation of eternal life. Amen.

A Longer Ending

⁹When he had risen early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went and told those who had been with him as they were grieving and weeping. ¹¹When they heard her say that he was alive and that she had seen him, they didn't believe her.

¹²After that he appeared in another form to two of them while they were walking in the country. ¹³They returned and told the rest, but they didn't believe them either.

¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they reclined at the table. He criticized them for their lack of trust and stubbornness because they didn't believe those who had seen him after he had risen. ¹⁵"Go into all the world," he said to them, "and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ¹⁶Whoever trusts and is baptized will be given life, but whoever doesn't trust will be condemned. ¹⁷These signs will accompany those who trust: In my name they'll cast out demons, speak with new languages, ¹⁸and pick up serpents with their hands. If they drink anything deadly, it won't hurt them at all. They'll lay hands on those who are sick, and they'll get well."

¹⁹After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down at Godde's right hand. ²⁰They went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere. The Lady worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.