

2020-2021 CMA Matthew Reference Material

- ¶ Matthew 1:18 - This is **how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.**
- Matthew 1:19 - **Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.**
- ¶ Matthew 1:20 - But **after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**
- Matthew 1:21 - She will give birth to a son, and **you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."**
- ¶ Matthew 1:22 - **All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:**
- Matthew 1:23 - **"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").**
- ¶ Matthew 1:24 - **When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.**
- Matthew 1:25 - But he did **not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.**
- ¶ Matthew 2:1 - After **Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem**
- Matthew 2:2 - and asked, **"Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:3 - **When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.**
- Matthew 2:4 - When he **had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.**
- Matthew 2:5 - "In Bethlehem in **Judea,**" **they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:**
- ¶ Matthew 2:6 - **"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:7 - **Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.**
- Matthew 2:8 - He **sent them to Bethlehem** and said, **"Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:9 - After they **had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.**
- Matthew 2:10 - When they saw the star, they **were overjoyed.**
- Matthew 2:11 - **On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.**
- Matthew 2:12 - **And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.**
- ¶ Matthew 2:13 - When they had **gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:14 - So he got up, took the child and his **mother during the night and left for Egypt,**
- Matthew 2:15 - where **he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:16 - **When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.**
- Matthew 2:17 - Then what was said through the **prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:**
- ¶ Matthew 2:18 - **"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."**
- ¶ Matthew 2:19 - **After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt**

Matthew 2:20 - and **said**, "**Get** up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of **Israel**, **for those** who **were trying** to take **the child's life are dead**."

¶ **Matthew 2:21** - So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

Matthew 2:22 - But when **he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place** of his **father Herod**, **he was afraid** to go there. **Having** been warned in a **dream**, **he withdrew** to the **district of Galilee**,

Matthew 2:23 - and he went and **lived** in a **town called Nazareth**. **So** was fulfilled what was said through the **prophets**, **that he would** be called a **Nazarene**.

¶ **Matthew 3:1** - **In those days John** the **Baptist came**, **preaching in** the **wilderness of Judea**

Matthew 3:2 - and **saying**, "**Repent**, for the **kingdom of heaven has** come **near**."

Matthew 3:3 - This is he who was **spoken of through** the **prophet Isaiah**: "**A voice of one calling in** the **wilderness**, '**Prepare the way for the Lord**, **make straight paths for him**.'"

¶ **Matthew 3:4** - **John's clothes were made of camel's hair**, and he **had a leather belt around his waist**. **His food was locusts and wild honey**.

Matthew 3:5 - **People went** out to **him from Jerusalem** and **all Judea** and the **whole region** of the **Jordan**.

Matthew 3:6 - **Confessing their sins**, **they were baptized by him** in the **Jordan River**.

¶ **Matthew 3:7** - But **when** he **saw many of the Pharisees** and **Sadducees coming to where** he was **baptizing**, **he said to them**: "**You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?**"

Matthew 3:8 - **Produce fruit in keeping with repentance**.

Matthew 3:9 - And do not **think you can say to yourselves**, '**We have Abraham as our father**.' **I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham**.

Matthew 3:10 - **The ax is already at the root of the trees**, and **every tree** that **does not produce good fruit** will **be cut down** and **thrown** into the fire.

¶ **Matthew 3:11** - "**I baptize you with water for repentance**. **But after me comes one who is more powerful than I**, **whose sandals I am not worthy to carry**. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire**."

Matthew 3:12 - **His winnowing fork is in his hand**, and he **will clear his threshing floor**, **gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire**."

¶ **Matthew 3:13** - Then Jesus came from **Galilee** to the **Jordan** to be baptized **by John**.

Matthew 3:14 - **But John tried to deter him**, **saying**, "**I need** to be baptized **by you**, and do you come to me?"

¶ **Matthew 3:15** - Jesus **replied**, "**Let it be so now**; it is **proper for us** to do **this to fulfill all righteousness**." **Then John consented**.

¶ **Matthew 3:16** - As **soon** as Jesus **was baptized**, **he went up out of the water**. **At that moment heaven was opened**, and he saw the Spirit of **God descending like a dove and alighting on him**.

Matthew 3:17 - And a voice from **heaven said**, "**This is my Son, whom I love**; with him I am **well pleased**."

¶ **Matthew 4:1** - Then Jesus **was led by** the **Spirit into** the **wilderness** to **be tempted by** the devil.

Matthew 4:2 - **After fasting forty days and forty nights**, **he was hungry**.

Matthew 4:3 - **The tempter came** to him and said, "**If you are the Son of God**, **tell these stones to become bread**."

¶ **Matthew 4:4** - Jesus **answered**, "**It is written**: '**Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God**.' "

¶ **Matthew 4:5** - Then the devil took him to the **holy city** and **had him stand on** the **highest point** of the **temple**.

Matthew 4:6 - "**If you are the Son of God**," **he said**, "**throw yourself down**. **For** it is written: "**He will command his angels concerning you**, and they **will lift you up** in their **hands**, **so** that you will **not strike your foot against a stone**.' "

¶ **Matthew 4:7** - Jesus answered him, "**It is also written**: '**Do not put the Lord your God to the test**.' "

¶ **Matthew 4:8** - **Again**, the devil took him to a **very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor**.

Matthew 4:9 - "**All this I will give you**," he said, "**if you will bow down and worship me**."

¶ **Matthew 4:10** - Jesus said to him, "**Away** from me, **Satan!** For it is written: '**Worship the Lord** your God, **and serve him only.**' "

¶ **Matthew 4:11** - Then the **devil left** him, **and angels came and attended him.**

¶ **Matthew 4:12** - **When** Jesus **heard** that John had **been** put in **prison**, **he withdrew** to Galilee.

Matthew 4:13 - **Leaving Nazareth**, **he** went and **lived** in **Capernaum**, **which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali--**

Matthew 4:14 - to **fulfill what** was said **through** the **prophet Isaiah**:

¶ **Matthew 4:15** - "Land of Zebulun **and land of Naphtali**, **the Way** of the **Sea**, **beyond the Jordan**, **Galilee of the Gentiles--**

Matthew 4:16 - the **people living in darkness have seen a great light**; **on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**"

¶ **Matthew 4:17** - From that **time** on Jesus **began to preach**, "**Repent**, for the kingdom of **heaven** has come **near.**"

¶ **Matthew 4:18** - **As** Jesus **was walking beside the** Sea of Galilee, he saw two **brothers**, **Simon called Peter** and his brother **Andrew**. **They were casting a net into the lake**, for they were **fishermen.**

Matthew 4:19 - "Come, **follow me**," Jesus said, "and I will **send you out to fish for people.**"

Matthew 4:20 - **At once they left their nets and** followed him.

¶ **Matthew 4:21** - **Going** on from **there**, he saw **two other brothers**, **James** son of Zebedee and his brother **John**. **They** were in a **boat with their father Zebedee**, **preparing their nets**. Jesus called them,

Matthew 4:22 - **and immediately** they **left the** boat and their father and followed him.

¶ **Matthew 4:23** - Jesus **went throughout Galilee**, **teaching** in their **synagogues**, **proclaiming** the **good** news of the kingdom, and **healing** every **disease** and **sickness among** the people.

Matthew 4:24 - News **about him spread all over Syria**, and people **brought** to him all **who were ill with various diseases**, **those suffering severe pain**, **the demon-possessed**, **those having seizures**, and the **paralyzed**; and he **healed** them.

Matthew 4:25 - **Large crowds from Galilee**, **the Decapolis**, **Jerusalem**, **Judea** and the **region across the Jordan** followed him.

¶ **Matthew 5:1** - **Now when Jesus saw** the **crowds**, he **went up** on a **mountainside** and **sat down**. **His disciples came to him**,

Matthew 5:2 - and he **began to teach them.**

¶ **Matthew 5:3** - "Blessed are the **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those **who mourn**, for they will be **comforted**.

Matthew 5:5 - Blessed are **the meek**, for they will **inherit the** earth.

Matthew 5:6 - Blessed are those **who hunger and thirst for righteousness**, for they will **be filled**.

Matthew 5:7 - Blessed are **the merciful**, for they will **be shown mercy**.

Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are **the pure in heart**, for they will **see God**.

Matthew 5:9 - Blessed are **the peacemakers**, for they will be **called children** of God.

Matthew 5:10 - Blessed are those who are **persecuted because** of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¶ **Matthew 5:11** - "Blessed are **you when people insult you**, **persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me**.

Matthew 5:12 - **Rejoice and be glad**, because **great** is **your reward** in heaven, for in the same **way they persecuted the prophets who were before you**.

¶ **Matthew 5:13** - "You are the **salt of the earth**. **But** if the **salt loses its saltiness**, **how can it be made salty again?** It is no **longer good for anything**, except to be **thrown out and trampled underfoot**.

¶ **Matthew 5:14** - "You are the **light of the world**. **A town built on a hill cannot be hidden**.

Matthew 5:15 - **Neither** do **people light a lamp and** put it **under a bowl**. **Instead they put it on its stand**, and it **gives light to everyone in the house**.

Matthew 5:16 - In the same **way**, **let your light shine before** others, that they **may see your good deeds and glorify your** Father in heaven.

¶ **Matthew 5:17** - "Do not **think that** I have come to **abolish the Law or the Prophets**; I have not come to **abolish them** but to **fulfill them**.

Matthew 5:18 - For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Matthew 5:19 - Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:20 - For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

¶ Matthew 5:21 - "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.'

Matthew 5:22 - But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

¶ Matthew 5:23 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you,

Matthew 5:24 - leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

¶ Matthew 5:25 - "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.

Matthew 5:26 - Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

¶ Matthew 5:27 - "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

Matthew 5:28 - But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matthew 5:29 - If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

Matthew 5:30 - And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

¶ Matthew 5:31 - "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.'

Matthew 5:32 - But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

¶ Matthew 5:33 - "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.'

Matthew 5:34 - But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne;

Matthew 5:35 - or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King.

Matthew 5:36 - And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black.

Matthew 5:37 - All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

¶ Matthew 5:38 - "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'

Matthew 5:39 - But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

Matthew 5:40 - And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well.

Matthew 5:41 - If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

Matthew 5:42 - Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

¶ Matthew 5:43 - "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

Matthew 5:44 - But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 5:45 - that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Matthew 5:46 - If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

Matthew 5:47 - And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?

Matthew 5:48 - Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

¶ **Matthew 6:1** - "Be **careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them**. If you do, you will **have no reward from** your Father in heaven.

¶ **Matthew 6:2** - "So when you give to the needy, do **not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others**. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

Matthew 6:3 - But when you give to the needy, do not **let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,**

Matthew 6:4 - so that **your giving may be in secret**. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

¶ **Matthew 6:5** - "And when you pray, do not be like the **hypocrites, for they love to pray standing** in the synagogues and on the **street corners to be seen by others**. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

Matthew 6:6 - But when you **pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to** your Father, who is **unseen**. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:7 - And when you pray, do **not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words**.

Matthew 6:8 - Do not be **like them**, for your Father **knows what you need before you ask him**.

¶ **Matthew 6:9** - "**This, then, is how you should pray:**" **"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

Matthew 6:10 - your **kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven**.

Matthew 6:11 - **Give us today our daily bread**.

Matthew 6:12 - **And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors**.

Matthew 6:13 - **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.** '

¶ **Matthew 6:14** - For if you **forgive other people when they sin against you, your** heavenly Father will **also forgive you**.

Matthew 6:15 - But if you do not **forgive others their sins, your** Father will not forgive your sins.

¶ **Matthew 6:16** - "When you **fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting**. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

Matthew 6:17 - But when you **fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,**

Matthew 6:18 - so that it will not **be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you**.

¶ **Matthew 6:19** - "Do **not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal**.

Matthew 6:20 - **But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal**.

Matthew 6:21 - For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also**.

¶ **Matthew 6:22** - "The **eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your** whole body will be full **of light**.

Matthew 6:23 - But if your eyes **are unhealthy, your** whole body will be full **of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!**

¶ **Matthew 6:24** - "No **one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money**.

¶ **Matthew 6:25** - "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your **life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?**

Matthew 6:26 - Look **at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?**

Matthew 6:27 - **Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?**

¶ **Matthew 6:28** - "And **why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin**.

Matthew 6:29 - **Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these**.

Matthew 6:30 - **If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you--you of little faith?**

Matthew 6:31 - So do not **worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'**

Matthew 6:32 - For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

Matthew 6:33 - But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:34 - Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

¶ Matthew 7:1 - "Do not judge, or you too will be judged.

Matthew 7:2 - For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

¶ Matthew 7:3 - "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?

Matthew 7:4 - How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?

Matthew 7:5 - You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

¶ Matthew 7:6 - "Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

¶ Matthew 7:7 - "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:8 - For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¶ Matthew 7:9 - "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

Matthew 7:10 - Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

Matthew 7:11 - If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Matthew 7:12 - So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

¶ Matthew 7:13 - "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

Matthew 7:14 - But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

¶ Matthew 7:15 - "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.

Matthew 7:16 - By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?

Matthew 7:17 - Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

Matthew 7:18 - A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.

Matthew 7:19 - Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Matthew 7:20 - Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

¶ Matthew 7:21 - "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 7:22 - Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?'

Matthew 7:23 - Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

¶ Matthew 7:24 - "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:25 - The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

Matthew 7:26 - But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

Matthew 7:27 - The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

¶ Matthew 7:28 - When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,

Matthew 7:29 - because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

¶ Matthew 8:1 - When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him.

Matthew 8:2 - A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

¶ Matthew 8:3 - Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean! Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy."

Matthew 8:4 - Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

¶ Matthew 8:5 - When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help.

Matthew 8:6 - "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly."

¶ Matthew 8:7 - Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?"

¶ Matthew 8:8 - The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed."

Matthew 8:9 - For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

¶ Matthew 8:10 - When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith."

Matthew 8:11 - I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 8:12 - But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¶ Matthew 8:13 - Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that moment.

¶ Matthew 8:14 - When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever.

Matthew 8:15 - He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.

¶ Matthew 8:16 - When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.

Matthew 8:17 - This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases."

¶ Matthew 8:18 - When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake.

Matthew 8:19 - Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

¶ Matthew 8:20 - Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

¶ Matthew 8:21 - Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

¶ Matthew 8:22 - But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

¶ Matthew 8:23 - Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him.

Matthew 8:24 - Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping.

Matthew 8:25 - The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"

¶ Matthew 8:26 - He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

¶ Matthew 8:27 - The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

¶ Matthew 8:28 - When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way.

Matthew 8:29 - "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"

¶ Matthew 8:30 - Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding.

Matthew 8:31 - The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."

¶ Matthew 8:32 - He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water.

Matthew 8:33 - Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.

Matthew 8:34 - Then the **whole town went out to meet Jesus**. And when they saw him, **they pleaded with him to leave their region**.

¶ Matthew 9:1 - **Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town**.

Matthew 9:2 - **Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith**, he said to the **man**, "**Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven**."

¶ Matthew 9:3 - At **this**, **some** of the **teachers** of the **law** said **to themselves**, "**This fellow is blaspheming!**"

¶ Matthew 9:4 - **Knowing** their **thoughts**, **Jesus** said, "Why do **you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?**"

Matthew 9:5 - **Which** is **easier**: **to say**, '**Your sins are forgiven**,' **or to say**, '**Get up and walk**'?

Matthew 9:6 - But I **want you to know** that the Son of Man **has authority on earth to forgive sins**." So he said to the paralyzed **man**, "**Get up, take your mat and go home**."

Matthew 9:7 - Then the **man got up and went home**.

Matthew 9:8 - When the **crowd saw** this, they were **filled with awe**; and they **praised God**, who had **given such authority to man**.

¶ Matthew 9:9 - As Jesus went on from there, he saw a **man named Matthew sitting** at the **tax collector's booth**. "**Follow me**," he **told** him, and **Matthew got up** and followed him.

¶ Matthew 9:10 - While Jesus **was having dinner at Matthew's house**, **many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with** him and his disciples.

Matthew 9:11 - When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his **disciples**, "**Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?**"

¶ Matthew 9:12 - **On hearing this**, Jesus said, "It is not **the healthy who need a doctor**, but the **sick**."

Matthew 9:13 - But go and **learn what this means**: '**I desire** mercy, not **sacrifice**.' **For** I have not come to **call** the **righteous, but sinners**."

¶ Matthew 9:14 - **Then John's** disciples came and asked **him**, "**How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?**"

¶ Matthew 9:15 - Jesus **answered**, "**How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken** from them; then they **will fast**."

¶ Matthew 9:16 - "No **one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse**."

Matthew 9:17 - **Neither** do **people pour** new wine **into old wineskins**. If they do, **the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined**. **No, they pour** new wine **into new wineskins, and both are preserved**."

¶ Matthew 9:18 - While he **was saying this**, a **synagogue leader came** and **kneled before** him and said, "**My daughter has just died. But come** and put your **hand on her**, and she **will live**."

Matthew 9:19 - **Jesus got up** and went with him, and **so did his** disciples.

¶ Matthew 9:20 - Just then a **woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him** and touched the **edge** of his cloak.

Matthew 9:21 - She said **to herself**, "**If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed**."

¶ Matthew 9:22 - Jesus **turned** and **saw her**. "**Take heart, daughter**," he said, "**your faith has healed you**." And the **woman was** healed at that **moment**.

¶ Matthew 9:23 - When Jesus **entered the synagogue leader's house** and saw **the noisy crowd and people playing pipes**,

Matthew 9:24 - he said, "Go **away**. **The girl is not dead but asleep**." **But they laughed at** him.

Matthew 9:25 - **After** the crowd had been **put outside**, he **went in** and **took** the **girl by the hand**, and she got up.

Matthew 9:26 - News of **this spread through** all that region.

¶ Matthew 9:27 - As Jesus went on from **there**, **two blind men followed him, calling out**, "**Have** mercy on **us**, Son of **David!**"

¶ Matthew 9:28 - When he had **gone indoors**, the blind **men came** to him, and he asked them, "**Do you believe that I am able to do this?**" "**Yes, Lord**," they **replied**.

¶ Matthew 9:29 - Then he touched their **eyes** and **said**, "**According to your faith let it be done to you**";

Matthew 9:30 - and their **sight was restored**. **Jesus warned them sternly**, "**See** that no one **knows about** this."

Matthew 9:31 - But they went out and **spread the news** about him all **over that** region.

¶ **Matthew 9:32** - While they were **going out**, a man who **was demon-possessed and could not talk** was brought to Jesus.

Matthew 9:33 - And when the **demon was driven out**, the man who had **been mute spoke**. **The crowd was amazed** and **said**, "**Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel**."

¶ **Matthew 9:34** - But the **Pharisees said**, "It is by the **prince** of demons that **he drives** out demons."

¶ **Matthew 9:35** - Jesus went through all the **towns and villages**, **teaching** in their **synagogues**, **proclaiming** the **good** news of the **kingdom** and **healing every disease** and **sickness**.

Matthew 9:36 - When he saw the **crowds**, he had **compassion** on **them**, **because** they **were harassed and helpless**, **like sheep without a shepherd**.

Matthew 9:37 - Then he said to his **disciples**, "**The harvest is plentiful** but the **workers are few**."

Matthew 9:38 - **Ask the** Lord of the **harvest**, **therefore**, **to send out workers into his harvest field**."

¶ **Matthew 10:1** - Jesus called his twelve **disciples** to him and **gave them authority to drive out impure spirits** and **to heal every disease** and **sickness**.

¶ **Matthew 10:2** - These are **the names** of the **twelve apostles**: **first**, **Simon** (who is called **Peter**) and his brother **Andrew**; **James** son of **Zebedee**, and his brother **John**;

Matthew 10:3 - **Philip and Bartholomew**; **Thomas and Matthew the tax collector**; **James** son of **Alphaeus**, and **Thaddaeus**;

Matthew 10:4 - **Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed** him.

¶ **Matthew 10:5** - **These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions**: "**Do not go among** the **Gentiles** or **enter any town of the Samaritans**."

Matthew 10:6 - **Go rather** to the **lost** sheep of Israel.

Matthew 10:7 - As you **go**, **proclaim this message**: '**The kingdom** of heaven has come **near**.'

Matthew 10:8 - **Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those** who have **leprosy**, **drive out demons**. **Freely you** have **received**; **freely give**.

¶ **Matthew 10:9** - "Do not **get any gold or silver or copper to take with** you in **your belts** --

Matthew 10:10 - **no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff**, **for the worker is worth his keep**."

Matthew 10:11 - **Whatever town or village you enter**, **search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave**.

Matthew 10:12 - As you enter the **home**, **give it your greeting**.

Matthew 10:13 - If the **home is deserving**, let your **peace rest on it**; if it is not, let your **peace return** to you.

Matthew 10:14 - If **anyone will not welcome you or listen** to your **words**, **leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet**.

Matthew 10:15 - Truly I tell you, it will be more **bearable** for **Sodom and Gomorrah** on the **day of judgment** than **for that town**.

¶ **Matthew 10:16** - "**I am sending you out like sheep among wolves**. **Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves**."

Matthew 10:17 - Be on your **guard**; you will be **handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues**.

Matthew 10:18 - On **my account** you will **be brought before governors and kings as witnesses** to them and to the Gentiles.

Matthew 10:19 - But when **they arrest you**, do not **worry about** what to **say or how** to say it. **At that time you** will be **given what** to say,

Matthew 10:20 - for it will not **be you speaking**, but the **Spirit** of your **Father speaking through you**.

¶ **Matthew 10:21** - "**Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put** to death."

Matthew 10:22 - You will **be hated by everyone because** of **me**, but the one **who stands firm to the end** will be **saved**.

Matthew 10:23 - When you are **persecuted in one place**, **flee to another**. Truly I tell you, you will not **finish going through** the **towns of Israel** before the Son of **Man comes**.

¶ **Matthew 10:24** - "**The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master**."

Matthew 10:25 - It **is enough for students** to be like their **teachers**, and **servants like their masters**. If the head of the **house has been called Beelzebul**, **how much more the members of his household!**

¶ **Matthew 10:26** - "So do not be afraid of them, for there **is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.**

Matthew 10:27 - What I tell you in **the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.**

Matthew 10:28 - Do not be afraid of those **who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.**

Matthew 10:29 - Are **not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care.**

Matthew 10:30 - And even the **very hairs of your head are all numbered.**

Matthew 10:31 - **So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.**

¶ **Matthew 10:32** - **"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven.**

Matthew 10:33 - But **whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.**

¶ **Matthew 10:34** - **"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.**

Matthew 10:35 - For I have come to **turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law --**

Matthew 10:36 - **a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'**

¶ **Matthew 10:37** - **"Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.**

Matthew 10:38 - Whoever **does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me.**

Matthew 10:39 - **Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.**

¶ **Matthew 10:40** - **"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.**

Matthew 10:41 - Whoever welcomes a **prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.**

Matthew 10:42 - And if **anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."**

¶ **Matthew 11:1** - **After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.**

¶ **Matthew 11:2** - **When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples**

Matthew 11:3 - to **ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"**

¶ **Matthew 11:4** - Jesus **replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see:**

Matthew 11:5 - The **blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.**

Matthew 11:6 - **Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."**

¶ **Matthew 11:7** - **As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind?**

Matthew 11:8 - **If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces.**

Matthew 11:9 - Then what did you go out to see? A **prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.**

Matthew 11:10 - This is the **one about whom it is written: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'**

¶ **Matthew 11:11** - **Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.**

Matthew 11:12 - From **the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.**

Matthew 11:13 - For all the **Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.**

Matthew 11:14 - And if you are **willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come.**

Matthew 11:15 - **Whoever has ears, let them hear.**

¶ **Matthew 11:16** - **"To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:**

¶ **Matthew 11:17** - **"We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'**

¶ **Matthew 11:18** - For John **came neither eating nor drinking**, and they **say**, 'He has a **demon**.'

Matthew 11:19 - The Son of Man **came eating and drinking**, and they **say**, 'Here is a **glutton and a drunkard**, a **friend of tax collectors** and **sinners**.' **But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.**"

¶ **Matthew 11:20** - Then Jesus began **to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, because** they did not **repent**.

Matthew 11:21 - "Woe to **you, Chorazin!** **Woe to you, Bethsaida!** **For** if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed **in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.**

Matthew 11:22 - But I tell you, it will be more bearable **for Tyre and Sidon on** the day of judgment than for you.

Matthew 11:23 - And **you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades.** **For** if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed **in Sodom, it would have remained to** this day.

Matthew 11:24 - But I tell you that it will be more bearable **for Sodom on** the day of judgment than for you."

¶ **Matthew 11:25** - **At that time** Jesus **said**, "**I praise you, Father, Lord** of heaven and **earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.**

Matthew 11:26 - **Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.**

¶ **Matthew 11:27** - "All **things have been committed to me by my Father.** **No** one knows the **Son except** the Father, **and no** one knows the **Father except** the Son and those to **whom the Son chooses to reveal him.**

¶ **Matthew 11:28** - "Come to **me, all** you who **are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**

Matthew 11:29 - **Take my yoke upon** you and **learn from** me, for I **am gentle and humble in heart,** and you will **find rest for your souls.**

Matthew 11:30 - For my **yoke is easy and my burden is light."**

¶ **Matthew 12:1** - At that **time** Jesus went through **the grainfields on** the **Sabbath.** His disciples were **hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them.**

Matthew 12:2 - When the Pharisees **saw** this, they said to **him**, "**Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on** the Sabbath."

¶ **Matthew 12:3** - He **answered**, "**Haven't** you read **what David did when** he and his **companions were hungry?**

Matthew 12:4 - He **entered** the house of God, and he and his **companions ate the consecrated bread-** **-which** was not lawful for them to **do, but only for** the priests.

Matthew 12:5 - **Or haven't** you read in the **Law that the priests on Sabbath duty in the temple desecrate the Sabbath and yet are innocent?**

Matthew 12:6 - I tell you **that something** greater than the **temple is here.**

Matthew 12:7 - If you **had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent.**

Matthew 12:8 - For the Son of Man is **Lord** of the Sabbath."

¶ **Matthew 12:9** - **Going** on from that **place, he went into their synagogue,**

Matthew 12:10 - and a man with **a shriveled hand was there.** **Looking for a reason to bring charges against** Jesus, they **asked him**, "**Is it lawful to heal on** the Sabbath?"

¶ **Matthew 12:11** - He said to them, "**If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out?**

Matthew 12:12 - How **much more valuable is a person than a sheep! Therefore it is lawful to do good on** the Sabbath."

¶ **Matthew 12:13** - Then he said to the **man**, "**Stretch out your hand.**" **So he stretched it out** and it was **completely restored, just as sound as** the other.

Matthew 12:14 - But the Pharisees went out **and plotted how they might kill Jesus.**

¶ **Matthew 12:15** - **Aware** of this, Jesus **withdrew from that place.** **A large crowd followed** him, and he healed all who were **ill.**

Matthew 12:16 - **He warned them not to tell others about** him.

Matthew 12:17 - This was to **fulfill** what was spoken through the prophet **Isaiah:**

¶ **Matthew 12:18** - "Here is my **servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on** him, and he **will proclaim justice to** the nations.

Matthew 12:19 - He will **not quarrel or cry out**; **no one will hear his voice** in the **streets**.

Matthew 12:20 - **A bruised reed** he will not **break**, and a **smoldering wick** he will **not snuff out**, **till he has brought justice through to victory**.

Matthew 12:21 - In **his name** the nations will put their **hope**."

¶ Matthew 12:22 - Then they brought him **a demon-possessed man** who **was blind and mute**, and **Jesus healed him**, so that he **could both talk and see**.

Matthew 12:23 - All the people were **astonished** and **said**, "**Could this be** the Son of David?"

¶ Matthew 12:24 - But when the Pharisees **heard** this, they said, "It is **only by Beelzebul**, the **prince** of demons, **that this fellow drives** out demons."

¶ Matthew 12:25 - **Jesus knew their thoughts** and said to **them**, "**Every kingdom divided** against itself will be **ruined**, and every **city or household divided** against itself will **not stand**."

Matthew 12:26 - **If Satan drives out Satan**, he is **divided against himself**. **How then can his kingdom stand?**

Matthew 12:27 - And if I drive out **demons by Beelzebul**, **by whom do your people drive them out?** **So then**, they will be **your judges**.

Matthew 12:28 - But if it is by the Spirit of **God that I drive out demons**, **then** the kingdom of God has **come upon** you.

¶ Matthew 12:29 - "**Or again**, **how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man?** **Then he can plunder his house**."

¶ Matthew 12:30 - "Whoever is **not with me** is against me, and whoever does **not gather with me scatters**."

Matthew 12:31 - And **so I tell you**, every **kind of sin and slander** can be forgiven, **but blasphemy against** the Spirit will not be forgiven.

Matthew 12:32 - Anyone who **speaks a word against** the Son of Man will be forgiven, **but anyone who speaks against** the **Holy** Spirit will not be **forgiven**, **either in this age or in the age to come**.

¶ Matthew 12:33 - "Make a **tree good** and its fruit will **be good**, or make a **tree bad** and its fruit will **be bad**, for a **tree is recognized by its fruit**."

Matthew 12:34 - You **brood** of **vipers**, **how** can you who are **evil say anything good?** For the **mouth speaks what the heart is full of**.

Matthew 12:35 - A **good man brings good things** out of the **good stored** up in him, and an **evil man brings evil things** out of the **evil stored** up in him.

Matthew 12:36 - But I tell you **that everyone will** have to **give account on** the **day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken**.

Matthew 12:37 - **For by** your words you will **be acquitted**, and **by** your words you will **be condemned**."

¶ Matthew 12:38 - Then some of the Pharisees and **teachers** of the law said to **him**, "**Teacher, we want to see a sign from you**."

¶ Matthew 12:39 - He **answered**, "**A wicked and adulterous generation asks** for a sign! But **none** will be **given it except** the sign of the **prophet Jonah**."

Matthew 12:40 - **For as Jonah was three** days and three nights in **the belly of a huge fish**, so the Son of Man will **be three** days and three nights in the **heart of the earth**.

Matthew 12:41 - The **men of Nineveh will stand up at** the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for **they repented at the preaching of Jonah**, and now something greater **than Jonah is** here.

Matthew 12:42 - **The Queen of the South will rise at** the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for **she came** from **the ends** of the earth to **listen to Solomon's wisdom**, and now something greater **than Solomon is** here.

¶ Matthew 12:43 - "**When an impure spirit comes** out of a **person**, it goes through **arid places seeking rest and** does not **find** it."

Matthew 12:44 - Then **it says**, '**I will return** to the **house I left**.' **When it arrives**, it **finds the house unoccupied**, **swept clean and put in order**.

Matthew 12:45 - Then it goes **and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself**, and they **go in and live there**. And **the final condition** of that **person is worse** than the **first**. **That is how it will be with this wicked generation**."

¶ Matthew 12:46 - **While** Jesus was **still talking** to the **crowd**, his mother and **brothers stood outside**, wanting to speak to him.

Matthew 12:47 - **Someone told him**, "**Your mother and brothers are standing outside**, wanting to speak to you."

¶ Matthew 12:48 - He **replied** to him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?"

Matthew 12:49 - **Pointing to** his disciples, he **said**, "**Here are** my mother and my brothers.

Matthew 12:50 - For whoever does the will of my **Father** in **heaven** is my **brother and sister and** mother."

¶ Matthew 14:1 - At that **time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus**,

Matthew 14:2 - and he said to his **attendants**, "**This is John the Baptist; he has risen** from the **dead!** **That is why miraculous powers are at work** in him."

¶ Matthew 14:3 - **Now Herod had arrested John and bound** him and **put** him in **prison** because of **Herodias, his brother Philip's wife**,

Matthew 14:4 - for John had **been saying** to him: "It is not **lawful** for you to **have her**."

Matthew 14:5 - **Herod wanted to kill John**, but he was afraid of the **people**, because they **considered John a prophet**.

¶ Matthew 14:6 - **On Herod's birthday the daughter of Herodias danced for the guests and pleased Herod so much**

Matthew 14:7 - that **he promised with an oath** to give **her whatever she asked**.

Matthew 14:8 - **Prompted by her mother, she said**, "**Give me here on a platter the** head of John the Baptist."

Matthew 14:9 - The **king was distressed**, but because of his **oaths and his dinner guests**, he **ordered that her request be granted**

Matthew 14:10 - and **had John beheaded in the prison**.

Matthew 14:11 - His **head was brought in on a platter and given** to the **girl, who carried it** to her mother.

Matthew 14:12 - **John's** disciples came and **took his body and buried it**. Then they went and **told Jesus**.

¶ Matthew 14:13 - When Jesus **heard what** had **happened**, **he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place**. **Hearing of this**, the crowds **followed** him **on foot from the towns**.

Matthew 14:14 - When **Jesus landed and** saw a **large crowd**, **he had compassion** on them and **healed their** sick.

¶ Matthew 14:15 - **As evening approached**, the disciples came to him and said, "This is **a remote place, and it's already getting late**. **Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food**."

¶ Matthew 14:16 - Jesus **replied**, "**They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat**."

¶ Matthew 14:17 - "**We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish**," they answered.

¶ Matthew 14:18 - "**Bring them here** to me," he said.

Matthew 14:19 - And **he directed the** people to **sit** down on the **grass**. **Taking the** five loaves and the two fish **and looking up to heaven**, he **gave thanks and broke the loaves**. **Then** he gave them to the disciples, and the **disciples gave** them to the people.

Matthew 14:20 - They all ate and were **satisfied**, and the disciples **picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces** that were **left** over.

Matthew 14:21 - The **number** of those who ate **was about** five **thousand** men, **besides women** and **children**.

¶ Matthew 14:22 - Immediately Jesus **made** the **disciples get into** the boat and **go on ahead** of him to the **other side, while he dismissed the** crowd.

Matthew 14:23 - **After he had dismissed them**, he went up on a **mountainside by himself to pray**. **Later that night, he** was **there alone**,

Matthew 14:24 - and the **boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it**.

¶ Matthew 14:25 - **Shortly before dawn** Jesus went out to **them, walking** on the lake.

Matthew 14:26 - When the disciples saw **him walking** on the **lake, they were terrified**. "**It's a ghost**," they said, **and cried out in fear**.

¶ Matthew 14:27 - But **Jesus immediately said** to **them**: "**Take courage! It is I. Don't** be afraid."

¶ Matthew 14:28 - "Lord, **if it's you**," **Peter replied**, "**tell me** to come to you on the water."

¶ Matthew 14:29 - "**Come**," he said. **Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on** the water and **came toward Jesus**.

Matthew 14:30 - But when he saw the **wind**, he was **afraid and, beginning to sink**, **cried** out, "Lord, **save me!**"

¶ **Matthew 14:31** - Immediately Jesus **reached** out his **hand and caught him**. "You of **little faith**," he said, "**why did you doubt?**"

¶ **Matthew 14:32** - And when **they climbed** into the **boat**, the **wind died down**.

Matthew 14:33 - **Then those** who were in the **boat worshiped** him, **saying**, "**Truly you** are the **Son of God**."

¶ **Matthew 14:34** - When they **had crossed over**, they **landed at Gennesaret**.

Matthew 14:35 - And when the men of that **place recognized Jesus**, they **sent word** to all the **surrounding country**. **People brought all their sick** to him

Matthew 14:36 - and **begged** him to **let** the **sick just touch the edge** of his **cloak**, and all **who touched it were healed**.

¶ **Matthew 15:1** - Then **some** Pharisees and **teachers** of the **law** came to Jesus from **Jerusalem** and asked,

Matthew 15:2 - "Why do your **disciples break the tradition** of the **elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!**"

¶ **Matthew 15:3** - Jesus replied, "And why do **you break the command** of God for the sake of your tradition?"

Matthew 15:4 - **For God said**, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone **who curses their** father or mother is to **be put to death**.'

Matthew 15:5 - But you **say** that if **anyone declares that what might have been used to help their** father or mother **is 'devoted** to God,'

Matthew 15:6 - they are not to **'honor their** father or **mother' with it**. **Thus you nullify the word** of God for the sake of your tradition.

Matthew 15:7 - You **hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about** you:

¶ **Matthew 15:8** - "'These **people honor me with their lips**, but **their hearts are far from me**."

Matthew 15:9 - **They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.** ' "

¶ **Matthew 15:10** - Jesus called the crowd to him and **said**, "**Listen and understand**."

Matthew 15:11 - **What goes into someone's mouth does** not defile them, but **what comes** out of **their mouth, that is what defiles them**."

¶ **Matthew 15:12** - Then the disciples came to him and **asked**, "**Do you know** that the Pharisees **were offended when they heard** this?"

¶ **Matthew 15:13** - He **replied**, "**Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots**."

Matthew 15:14 - **Leave them**; they **are blind guides**. If the **blind lead the blind**, **both will** fall into a **pit**."

¶ **Matthew 15:15** - **Peter said**, "**Explain the parable** to us."

Matthew 15:16 - "Are you **still so dull?**" Jesus asked them.

Matthew 15:17 - "Don't you **see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body?**"

Matthew 15:18 - But the **things that come** out of **a person's mouth come** from the heart, and **these defile** them.

Matthew 15:19 - For out of the **heart come evil thoughts--murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander**.

Matthew 15:20 - These **are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does** not defile them."

¶ **Matthew 15:21** - **Leaving that** place, Jesus **withdrew** to the **region of Tyre** and **Sidon**.

Matthew 15:22 - **A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came** to him, **crying** out, "Lord, **Son of David**, have **mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly**."

¶ **Matthew 15:23** - **Jesus did not answer a word**. So his disciples came to him and **urged him**, "**Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us**."

¶ **Matthew 15:24** - He answered, "I **was sent only** to the **lost sheep** of Israel."

¶ **Matthew 15:25** - The woman came and **knelt** before him. "**Lord, help me!**" **she** said.

¶ **Matthew 15:26** - He **replied**, "**It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it** to the dogs."

¶ **Matthew 15:27** - "**Yes it is, Lord**," **she** said. "**Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table**."

¶ **Matthew 15:28** - Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

¶ **Matthew 15:29** - Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down.

Matthew 15:30 - Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.

Matthew 15:31 - The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.

¶ **Matthew 15:32** - Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

¶ **Matthew 15:33** - His disciples answered, "Where could we get enough bread in this remote place to feed such a crowd?"

¶ **Matthew 15:34** - "How many loaves do you have?" Jesus asked. "Seven," they replied, "and a few small fish."

¶ **Matthew 15:35** - He told the crowd to sit down on the ground.

Matthew 15:36 - Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, and when he had given thanks, he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and they in turn to the people.

Matthew 15:37 - They all ate and were satisfied. Afterward the disciples picked up seven basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

Matthew 15:38 - The number of those who ate was four thousand men, besides women and children.

Matthew 15:39 - After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.

¶ **Matthew 16:1** - The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven.

¶ **Matthew 16:2** - He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,'

Matthew 16:3 - and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.

Matthew 16:4 - A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah." Jesus then left them and went away.

¶ **Matthew 16:5** - When they went across the lake, the disciples forgot to take bread.

Matthew 16:6 - "Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

¶ **Matthew 16:7** - They discussed this among themselves and said, "It is because we didn't bring any bread."

¶ **Matthew 16:8** - Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, "You of little faith, why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread?"

Matthew 16:9 - Do you still not understand? Don't you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered?

Matthew 16:10 - Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered?

Matthew 16:11 - How is it you don't understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

Matthew 16:12 - Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

¶ **Matthew 16:13** - When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

¶ **Matthew 16:14** - They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

Matthew 16:15 - "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

¶ **Matthew 16:16** - Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¶ **Matthew 16:17** - Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Matthew 16:18 - And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:19 - I will give you **the keys of** the kingdom of **heaven**; **whatever** you **bind** on earth will be **bound** in heaven, and whatever you **loose** on earth will be **loosed** in heaven."

Matthew 16:20 - Then he **ordered his disciples not** to tell **anyone that** he was the Messiah.

¶ **Matthew 16:21** - From that **time** on Jesus began to **explain to** his **disciples that** he **must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at** the **hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers** of the **law**, and that he must **be killed and** on the **third day be raised** to life.

¶ **Matthew 16:22** - **Peter took him aside** and began to **rebuke him**. "**Never, Lord!**" he said. "**This shall never happen to** you!"

¶ **Matthew 16:23** - Jesus **turned** and said to **Peter**, "**Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to** me; you do not **have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.**"

¶ **Matthew 16:24** - Then Jesus said to his **disciples**, "**Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves** and take **up** their **cross** and **follow** me.

Matthew 16:25 - For whoever wants to **save their** life will **lose** it, but whoever **loses** their life for me will **find** it.

Matthew 16:26 - What **good will it** be for **someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or** what **can anyone give in exchange for their** soul?

Matthew 16:27 - For the Son of Man is **going to come in his Father's glory with** his **angels, and** then he will **reward each person according** to **what they** have **done**.

¶ **Matthew 16:28** - "**Truly** I tell **you, some who** are **standing here will not taste death before they see** the Son of **Man coming in** his kingdom."

¶ **Matthew 17:1** - **After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.**

Matthew 17:2 - There he **was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white** as the **light**.

Matthew 17:3 - **Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with** Jesus.

¶ **Matthew 17:4** - Peter said to **Jesus**, "**Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.**"

¶ **Matthew 17:5** - **While** he was **still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said**, "This is my Son, whom I **love**; with him I **am well pleased. Listen** to him!"

¶ **Matthew 17:6** - When the disciples **heard** this, **they fell facedown to the ground, terrified.**

Matthew 17:7 - But Jesus came and **touched them**. "**Get up,**" he **said**. "**Don't be afraid.**"

Matthew 17:8 - When they **looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.**

¶ **Matthew 17:9** - As they **were coming down** the **mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what** you have **seen, until** the Son of Man has **been** raised from the **dead.**"

¶ **Matthew 17:10** - The **disciples asked him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?"**

¶ **Matthew 17:11** - Jesus replied, "To **be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things.**

Matthew 17:12 - But I tell **you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way** the Son of Man is going to **suffer at** their hands."

Matthew 17:13 - Then the **disciples understood** that he was talking to **them about** John the **Baptist**.

¶ **Matthew 17:14** - When they came to the **crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt** before him.

Matthew 17:15 - "Lord, have **mercy** on my son," he said. "He **has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls** into the **fire or into** the **water**."

Matthew 17:16 - **I brought** him to your **disciples, but** they **could not heal** him."

¶ **Matthew 17:17** - "**You unbelieving and perverse generation,**" Jesus replied, "**how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.**"

Matthew 17:18 - **Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.**

¶ **Matthew 17:19** - Then the disciples came to **Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"**

¶ **Matthew 17:20** - He **replied, "Because** you **have so little faith. Truly** I tell you, if you have **faith as small as a mustard seed, you can** say to this **mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for** you."

¶ **Matthew 17:22** - When they came **together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered** into the hands of **men.**

Matthew 17:23 - They **will kill** him, and on the **third day** he will be raised to **life**." And the disciples were **filled with grief**.

¶ **Matthew 17:24** - After Jesus and his **disciples arrived in Capernaum**, the **collectors of the two-drachma temple tax** came to Peter and **asked**, "**Doesn't your teacher pay** the temple tax?"

¶ **Matthew 17:25** - "**Yes, he does**," he replied. **When Peter** came into the **house**, **Jesus** was the **first to speak**. "**What do you think, Simon?**" he asked. "**From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes** --from their **own children or from others?**"

¶ **Matthew 17:26** - "From **others**," **Peter answered**. "**Then** the children **are exempt**," **Jesus** said to him.

Matthew 17:27 - "**But so that we may not cause offense**, **go** to the **lake** and **throw out your line**. **Take** the **first fish you catch**; **open its mouth and** you will **find a four-drachma coin**. **Take it and give** it to them for **my tax and yours**."

¶ **Matthew 18:1** - At that **time** the **disciples** came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

¶ **Matthew 18:2** - **He called a little child** to him, and **placed the child among** them.

Matthew 18:3 - And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless **you change and become like little children**, you will **never enter** the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:4 - **Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is** the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 18:5 - And whoever **welcomes one such child in my name** welcomes me.

¶ **Matthew 18:6** - "If **anyone causes one** of these little **ones--those who believe in me--to stumble**, it would be better for them to **have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea**.

Matthew 18:7 - Woe to the **world because** of the things **that cause people to stumble**! **Such things must** come, but woe to **the person through whom** they come!

Matthew 18:8 - If your **hand or your foot causes** you to stumble, **cut** it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter **life maimed or crippled than** to have **two hands or two feet** and be thrown **into eternal fire**.

Matthew 18:9 - And if your eye causes you to stumble, **gouge** it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter **life with one eye than** to have **two eyes** and be thrown into the fire of **hell**.

¶ **Matthew 18:10** - "See that you do **not despise one** of these little **ones**. **For** I tell you **that their angels** in **heaven always see the face of my Father** in heaven.

¶ **Matthew 18:12** - "What do you **think**? **If a man owns a hundred sheep**, and one of **them wanders away**, **will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off?**

Matthew 18:13 - And if **he finds it**, truly I tell you, he **is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off**.

Matthew 18:14 - In the **same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any** of these little **ones should perish**.

¶ **Matthew 18:15** - "If your brother or **sister sins**, **go and point out their fault**, **just between the two** of you. If **they listen** to you, you **have won them over**.

Matthew 18:16 - But if they will **not listen**, **take one or two others along**, **so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.'**

Matthew 18:17 - If **they still refuse to listen**, **tell it** to the church; and if **they refuse to listen even** to the **church**, **treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector**.

¶ **Matthew 18:18** - "Truly I tell you, whatever you **bind** on earth will be **bound** in heaven, and whatever you **loose** on earth will be **loosed** in heaven.

¶ **Matthew 18:19** - "**Again, truly** I tell you that **if two** of you on **earth agree about anything they ask** for, it will be **done for them by** my Father in heaven.

Matthew 18:20 - For **where two or three gather in my name**, **there am I with** them."

¶ **Matthew 18:21** - Then **Peter** came to Jesus and **asked**, "**Lord**, how **many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?**"

¶ **Matthew 18:22** - Jesus **answered**, "I tell you, **not seven times, but seventy-seven times**.

¶ **Matthew 18:23** - "**Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with** his servants.

Matthew 18:24 - As he **began the settlement**, a man who owed **him ten thousand bags of gold was brought** to him.

Matthew 18:25 - Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

¶ Matthew 18:26 - "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.'

Matthew 18:27 - The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

¶ Matthew 18:28 - "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

¶ Matthew 18:29 - "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

¶ Matthew 18:30 - "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.

Matthew 18:31 - When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

¶ Matthew 18:32 - "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

Matthew 18:33 - Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?'

Matthew 18:34 - In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

¶ Matthew 18:35 - "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

¶ Matthew 19:1 - When Jesus had finished saying these things, he left Galilee and went into the region of Judea to the other side of the Jordan.

Matthew 19:2 - Large crowds followed him, and he healed them there.

¶ Matthew 19:3 - Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"

¶ Matthew 19:4 - "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female,"

Matthew 19:5 - and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'?

Matthew 19:6 - So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¶ Matthew 19:7 - "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?"

¶ Matthew 19:8 - Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning.

Matthew 19:9 - I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

¶ Matthew 19:10 - The disciples said to him, "If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry."

¶ Matthew 19:11 - Jesus replied, "Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given.

Matthew 19:12 - For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others--and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it."

¶ Matthew 19:13 - Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them.

¶ Matthew 19:14 - Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:15 - When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there.

¶ Matthew 19:16 - Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

Matthew 19:17 - "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments."

¶ Matthew 19:18 - "Which ones?" he inquired. Jesus replied, "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony,

Matthew 19:19 - honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.' "

¶ **Matthew 19:20** - "All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?"

¶ **Matthew 19:21** - Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

¶ **Matthew 19:22** - When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

¶ **Matthew 19:23** - Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 19:24 - Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

¶ **Matthew 19:25** - When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, "Who then can be saved?"

¶ **Matthew 19:26** - Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

¶ **Matthew 19:27** - Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?"

¶ **Matthew 19:28** - Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Matthew 19:29 - And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Matthew 19:30 - But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

¶ **Matthew 20:1** - "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard.

Matthew 20:2 - He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

¶ **Matthew 20:3** - "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing.

Matthew 20:4 - He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

Matthew 20:5 - So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing.

Matthew 20:6 - About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

¶ **Matthew 20:7** - "'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

¶ **Matthew 20:8** - "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

¶ **Matthew 20:9** - "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.

Matthew 20:10 - So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

Matthew 20:11 - When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

Matthew 20:12 - 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

¶ **Matthew 20:13** - "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?'

Matthew 20:14 - Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.

Matthew 20:15 - Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

¶ **Matthew 20:16** - "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

¶ **Matthew 20:17** - Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them,

Matthew 20:18 - "We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death

Matthew 20:19 - and **will hand** him over to the **Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified**. On the **third** day he will be **raised** to life!"

¶ Matthew 20:20 - **Then** the **mother** of **Zebedee's sons** came to **Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor** of him.

¶ Matthew 20:21 - "What is it you **want**?" **he asked**. **She said**, "**Grant that** one of these two sons of **mine may sit** at your right and the **other at your left** in your kingdom."

Matthew 20:22 - "You don't know what you **are asking**," **Jesus** said to **them**. "**Can you drink the cup** I am going to **drink**?" "**We can**," **they** answered.

¶ Matthew 20:23 - **Jesus** said to them, "You **will indeed drink from my cup, but** to sit at my **right or left is not for me to grant**. **These places belong to those for whom** they have **been prepared by my Father**."

¶ Matthew 20:24 - When **the ten heard** about **this**, they were **indignant with** the two **brothers**.

Matthew 20:25 - **Jesus** called **them together and** said, "You know that the **rulers** of the **Gentiles lord it over** them, and **their high officials exercise authority over** them.

Matthew 20:26 - **Not so with you**. **Instead, whoever** wants to **become great among you must be your servant**,

Matthew 20:27 - and whoever wants to be **first must be your slave--**

Matthew 20:28 - **just** as the Son of **Man did** not **come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many**."

¶ Matthew 20:29 - As **Jesus** and his **disciples** were **leaving Jericho, a large** crowd followed him.

Matthew 20:30 - Two **blind men** were **sitting by the roadside, and** when they heard that **Jesus** was **going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"**

¶ Matthew 20:31 - The **crowd rebuked** them and told them to **be quiet, but** they shouted all the **louder, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"**

¶ Matthew 20:32 - **Jesus stopped and called them**. "**What** do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

¶ Matthew 20:33 - "Lord," they **answered, "we want our sight."**

¶ Matthew 20:34 - **Jesus had compassion** on them and **touched** their **eyes**. **Immediately** they received their **sight and** followed him.

¶ Matthew 21:1 - As **they approached Jerusalem** and came to **Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,**

Matthew 21:2 - saying to them, "Go to **the village ahead** of you, **and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring** them to me.

Matthew 21:3 - If **anyone says anything** to you, say that the **Lord needs them**, and he will **send them right away**."

¶ Matthew 21:4 - This took place to **fulfill** what was **spoken through** the prophet:

¶ Matthew 21:5 - "Say to **Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'**"

¶ Matthew 21:6 - The disciples went and did as **Jesus had instructed** them.

Matthew 21:7 - They **brought the donkey and the colt and placed their** cloaks on them for **Jesus to sit** on.

Matthew 21:8 - A **very large crowd spread their** cloaks on the **road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on** the road.

Matthew 21:9 - The **crowds that went** ahead of him and **those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

¶ Matthew 21:10 - When **Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and** asked, "Who is this?"

¶ Matthew 21:11 - The **crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."**

¶ Matthew 21:12 - **Jesus** entered the temple courts **and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves**.

Matthew 21:13 - "It is **written**," he said to them, "'**My house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers.**' "

¶ Matthew 21:14 - The **blind** and the **lame came** to him at the temple, and he **healed** them.

Matthew 21:15 - But when the chief priests and the **teachers** of the **law** **saw the wonderful things** he did and the **children shouting in** the temple **courts**, "**Hosanna** to the Son of David," they were **indignant**.

¶ **Matthew 21:16** - "Do you **hear what these children are saying?**" they asked him. "**Yes,**" replied **Jesus**, "**have** you never **read**, "**From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise?**"

¶ **Matthew 21:17** - And he **left** them and went out of the city **to Bethany**, where he **spent the night**.

¶ **Matthew 21:18** - **Early** in the **morning**, as **Jesus was on his way back** to the **city**, he was **hungry**.

Matthew 21:19 - **Seeing a fig tree by the road**, he went **up** to it **but found nothing on it except leaves**. Then he said to it, "**May you never bear fruit again!**" **Immediately the tree withered**.

¶ **Matthew 21:20** - When the disciples saw this, they were **amazed**. "**How** did the fig **tree wither so quickly?**" they asked.

¶ **Matthew 21:21** - **Jesus replied**, "**Truly** I tell you, if you have **faith and do not doubt**, **not only can** you do what **was done** to the fig **tree**, **but also you** can say to this **mountain**, '**Go, throw yourself into the sea,**' and it will be done.

Matthew 21:22 - If you **believe**, you will **receive whatever** you ask for **in prayer**."

¶ **Matthew 21:23** - **Jesus** entered the temple courts, and, while he **was teaching**, the chief priests and the **elders** of the **people came** to him. "By what **authority are** you doing these **things?**" they asked. "**And who gave you this authority?**"

¶ **Matthew 21:24** - **Jesus replied**, "**I will also ask you one question**. If you **answer me**, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

Matthew 21:25 - **John's baptism--where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?**" They **discussed it among themselves** and said, "If we **say**, '**From heaven,**' he **will ask**, '**Then why didn't** you believe him?'

Matthew 21:26 - But if we **say**, '**Of human origin--we are afraid** of the **people**, for they **all hold that John was** a prophet."

¶ **Matthew 21:27** - So they answered **Jesus**, "**We don't know**." Then he **said**, "**Neither will I** tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

¶ **Matthew 21:28** - "What do you **think?** **There** was a **man** who **had two sons**. He went to the first and **said**, '**Son, go and work today** in the vineyard.'

¶ **Matthew 21:29** - "'I will **not**,' he answered, **but later he changed his mind and** went.

¶ **Matthew 21:30** - "Then the **father went** to the **other son** and said the same **thing**. He answered, '**I will, sir,**' **but** he did not go.

¶ **Matthew 21:31** - "**Which** of the **two did what his father wanted?**" "**The first,**" they answered. **Jesus** said to them, "**Truly** I tell you, the tax collectors and the **prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead** of you.

Matthew 21:32 - For **John came** to you to **show you** the way of **righteousness**, and you did **not believe** him, but the tax collectors and the **prostitutes did**. And **even after you saw this**, you did not **repent and believe** him.

¶ **Matthew 21:33** - "**Listen to another parable**: **There** was a **landowner who planted a vineyard**. He **put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower**. Then he **rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place**.

Matthew 21:34 - When the harvest **time approached**, he sent his servants to the **tenants to collect his fruit**.

¶ **Matthew 21:35** - "The **tenants seized** his **servants**; they **beat one, killed another, and stoned a third**.

Matthew 21:36 - Then he **sent other** servants to **them**, **more than** the **first time**, and the **tenants treated them** the same way.

Matthew 21:37 - **Last of** all, he sent his **son** to them. 'They **will respect my son,**' he said.

¶ **Matthew 21:38** - "But when the **tenants saw** the **son**, they **said to each other**, '**This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.**'

Matthew 21:39 - So they took him **and threw him out** of the vineyard and **killed him**.

¶ **Matthew 21:40** - "**Therefore, when** the **owner** of the **vineyard comes**, **what will he do to those tenants?**"

¶ **Matthew 21:41** - "He **will bring those wretches to a wretched end,**" they replied, "and he **will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.**"

¶ Matthew 21:42 - Jesus said to **them**, "**Have** you never read in the **Scriptures**: "**The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes**'?"

¶ Matthew 21:43 - "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of **God will** be **taken** away from you and **given** to **a people** who **will produce its** fruit.

Matthew 21:44 - Anyone **who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.**"

¶ Matthew 21:45 - When the chief priests and the **Pharisees heard** Jesus' **parables**, **they knew he** was **talking about them.**

Matthew 21:46 - They **looked for a way to arrest** him, but they **were afraid** of the **crowd because** the **people held that** he was a prophet.

¶ Matthew 22:1 - **Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying:**

Matthew 22:2 - "The **kingdom** of heaven is like a king **who prepared a wedding banquet** for his son.

Matthew 22:3 - He sent his servants to those who had been **invited to the banquet to** tell them to come, but **they refused** to come.

¶ Matthew 22:4 - "Then he **sent some more servants and said**, 'Tell those who have been **invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything** is **ready. Come** to the wedding banquet.'

¶ Matthew 22:5 - "But **they paid no attention and** went **off--one to his field, another to his business.**

Matthew 22:6 - The **rest seized** his **servants, mistreated them** and **killed them.**

Matthew 22:7 - The king **was enraged. He** sent **his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.**

¶ Matthew 22:8 - "Then he said to his **servants**, 'The wedding **banquet is ready, but those I invited did** not **deserve** to come.

Matthew 22:9 - **So go** to the **street corners and invite** to the **banquet anyone you** find.'

Matthew 22:10 - So **the servants went** out into the **streets and gathered all** the people they **could find, the bad as well as the good**, and the **wedding hall was filled with guests.**

¶ Matthew 22:11 - "But when the **king came in to see** the guests, **he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding** clothes.

Matthew 22:12 - He **asked**, '**How** did you **get in here without wedding clothes, friend?**' The man was **speechless.**

¶ Matthew 22:13 - "Then the **king told the attendants**, '**Tie** him **hand and foot, and throw him outside**, into the **darkness, where** there will be **weeping and gnashing of teeth.**'

¶ Matthew 22:14 - "For **many are invited, but few are chosen.**"

¶ Matthew 22:15 - Then the Pharisees went out and **laid plans to trap him in his words.**

Matthew 22:16 - They **sent their disciples to him along** with the **Herodians**. "Teacher," they said, "**we know** that you are a **man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed** by **others**, because you pay no attention to who they are.

Matthew 22:17 - Tell **us then**, what is **your opinion? Is it right** to pay **the imperial tax to Caesar or not?**"

¶ Matthew 22:18 - But **Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said**, "You **hypocrites, why** are you **trying to trap me?**

Matthew 22:19 - **Show me the coin used for paying the tax.**" They **brought** him a **denarius**,

Matthew 22:20 - and he asked **them**, "**Whose image** is this? **And whose inscription?**"

¶ Matthew 22:21 - "**Caesar's,**" they replied. Then he said to **them**, "**So give back** to **Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.**"

¶ Matthew 22:22 - When they heard this, they were **amazed. So** they left him and went **away.**

¶ Matthew 22:23 - **That same day** the **Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came** to him with **a question.**

Matthew 22:24 - "Teacher," they **said**, "**Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring** for him.

Matthew 22:25 - **Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother.**

Matthew 22:26 - The same **thing happened** to the **second and third brother, right on down to the seventh.**

Matthew 22:27 - **Finally, the woman died.**

Matthew 22:28 - Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?"

¶ **Matthew 22:29** - Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

Matthew 22:30 - At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

Matthew 22:31 - But about the resurrection of the dead--have you not read what God said to you,

Matthew 22:32 - 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

¶ **Matthew 22:33** - When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

¶ **Matthew 22:34** - Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

Matthew 22:35 - One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

Matthew 22:36 - "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

¶ **Matthew 22:37** - Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

Matthew 22:38 - This is the first and greatest commandment.

Matthew 22:39 - And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 22:40 - All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

¶ **Matthew 22:41** - While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

Matthew 22:42 - "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?" "The son of David," they replied.

¶ **Matthew 22:43** - He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says,

¶ **Matthew 22:44** - "'The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'"

¶ **Matthew 22:45** - If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?"

Matthew 22:46 - No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

¶ **Matthew 26:1** - When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples,

Matthew 26:2 - "As you know, the Passover is two days away--and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified."

¶ **Matthew 26:3** - Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas,

Matthew 26:4 - and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him.

Matthew 26:5 - "But not during the festival," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

¶ **Matthew 26:6** - While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper,

Matthew 26:7 - a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.

¶ **Matthew 26:8** - When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. "Why this waste?" they asked.

Matthew 26:9 - "This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor."

¶ **Matthew 26:10** - Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me.

Matthew 26:11 - The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.

Matthew 26:12 - When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial.

Matthew 26:13 - Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

¶ **Matthew 26:14** - Then one of the Twelve--the one called Judas Iscariot --went to the chief priests

Matthew 26:15 - and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver.

Matthew 26:16 - From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

¶ **Matthew 26:17** - On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¶ **Matthew 26:18** - He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"

Matthew 26:19 - So the **disciples did** as Jesus **had directed them and prepared the** Passover.

¶ **Matthew 26:20** - When **evening came**, Jesus was reclining at the **table with** the Twelve.

Matthew 26:21 - And while they were **eating**, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

¶ **Matthew 26:22** - They **were very sad and** began to say to him one after the **other**, "**Surely** you don't mean me, **Lord?**"

¶ **Matthew 26:23** - Jesus **replied**, "**The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with** me will betray me.

Matthew 26:24 - The Son of Man will **go just** as it is **written about** him. But **woe to that man who betrays the** Son of **Man!** It would be **better** for him if he **had not been born.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:25** - **Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said**, "Surely you don't mean **me, Rabbi?**" Jesus answered, "You have said so."

¶ **Matthew 26:26** - While they were **eating**, Jesus **took bread**, and when he had given thanks, he **broke it** and gave it to his **disciples, saying**, "**Take and eat; this is my body.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:27** - Then he **took a cup, and** when he had given thanks, he gave it to **them, saying**, "**Drink from it, all of you.**"

Matthew 26:28 - This is **my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.**

Matthew 26:29 - I tell you, I will **not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:30** - When they **had sung a hymn, they** went out to the **Mount of Olives.**

¶ **Matthew 26:31** - Then Jesus told **them**, "**This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'**"

¶ **Matthew 26:32** - But **after I have risen, I will go ahead** of you into Galilee."

¶ **Matthew 26:33** - Peter **replied**, "**Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:34** - "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very **night, before** the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

¶ **Matthew 26:35** - But **Peter declared**, "**Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.**" And all the **other disciples** said the same.

¶ **Matthew 26:36** - Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place **called Gethsemane, and** he said to **them**, "**Sit here while I go over there and pray.**"

Matthew 26:37 - He **took Peter** and the two **sons of Zebedee along** with him, and he began to **be sorrowful and troubled.**

Matthew 26:38 - Then he said to them, "**My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and** keep watch with me."

¶ **Matthew 26:39** - **Going a little farther, he fell** with his **face to the ground and** prayed, "My Father, if it **is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:40** - Then he returned to his disciples and found them **sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter.**

Matthew 26:41 - "**Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:42** - He went **away a second time** and prayed, "My Father, if it is **not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.**"

¶ **Matthew 26:43** - When **he came back, he again found** them **sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.**

Matthew 26:44 - So he **left** them and went **away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.**

¶ **Matthew 26:45** - Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you **still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.**"

Matthew 26:46 - **Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!**"

¶ **Matthew 26:47** - While he was still **speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people.**

Matthew 26:48 - Now **the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him."**

Matthew 26:49 - **Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.**

¶ Matthew 26:50 - Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him.

Matthew 26:51 - With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Matthew 26:52 - "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.

Matthew 26:53 - Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

Matthew 26:54 - But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

¶ Matthew 26:55 - In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me.

Matthew 26:56 - But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

¶ Matthew 26:57 - Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled.

Matthew 26:58 - But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

¶ Matthew 26:59 - The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death.

Matthew 26:60 - But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward

Matthew 26:61 - and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

¶ Matthew 26:62 - Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?"

Matthew 26:63 - But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

Matthew 26:64 - "You have said so," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven."

¶ Matthew 26:65 - Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.

Matthew 26:66 - What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered.

¶ Matthew 26:67 - Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him

Matthew 26:68 - and said, "Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"

¶ Matthew 26:69 - Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

¶ Matthew 26:70 - But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

¶ Matthew 26:71 - Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

¶ Matthew 26:72 - He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

¶ Matthew 26:73 - After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."

¶ Matthew 26:74 - Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed.

Matthew 26:75 - Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

¶ Matthew 27:1 - Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed.

Matthew 27:2 - So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

¶ Matthew 27:3 - When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders.

Matthew 27:4 - "I have sinned," he said, "for I have betrayed innocent blood." "What is that to us?" they replied. "That's your responsibility."

¶ **Matthew 27:5** - So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

¶ **Matthew 27:6** - The chief priests picked up the coins and said, "It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money."

Matthew 27:7 - So they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners.

Matthew 27:8 - That is why it has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

Matthew 27:9 - Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel,

Matthew 27:10 - and they used them to buy the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

¶ **Matthew 27:11** - Meanwhile Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" "You have said so," Jesus replied.

¶ **Matthew 27:12** - When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer.

Matthew 27:13 - Then Pilate asked him, "Don't you hear the testimony they are bringing against you?"

Matthew 27:14 - But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge--to the great amazement of the governor.

¶ **Matthew 27:15** - Now it was the governor's custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd.

Matthew 27:16 - At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas.

Matthew 27:17 - So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, "Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

Matthew 27:18 - For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him.

¶ **Matthew 27:19** - While Pilate was sitting on the judge's seat, his wife sent him this message: "Don't have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him."

¶ **Matthew 27:20** - But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed.

¶ **Matthew 27:21** - "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?" asked the governor. "Barabbas," they answered.

¶ **Matthew 27:22** - "What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" Pilate asked. They all answered, "Crucify him!"

¶ **Matthew 27:23** - "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!"

¶ **Matthew 27:24** - When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!"

¶ **Matthew 27:25** - All the people answered, "His blood is on us and on our children!"

¶ **Matthew 27:26** - Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

¶ **Matthew 27:27** - Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him.

Matthew 27:28 - They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,

Matthew 27:29 - and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said.

Matthew 27:30 - They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again.

Matthew 27:31 - After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

¶ **Matthew 27:32** - As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross.

Matthew 27:33 - They came to a place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull").

Matthew 27:34 - There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it.

Matthew 27:35 - When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Matthew 27:36 - And sitting down, they kept watch over him there.

Matthew 27:37 - Above his head they placed the written charge against him: this is Jesus, the king of the Jews.

¶ **Matthew 27:38** - Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

Matthew 27:39 - Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads

Matthew 27:40 - and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!"

Matthew 27:41 - In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him.

Matthew 27:42 - "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him.

Matthew 27:43 - He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

Matthew 27:44 - In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

¶ **Matthew 27:45** - From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

Matthew 27:46 - About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").

¶ **Matthew 27:47** - When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah."

¶ **Matthew 27:48** - Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink.

Matthew 27:49 - The rest said, "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him."

¶ **Matthew 27:50** - And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

¶ **Matthew 27:51** - At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split

Matthew 27:52 - and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.

Matthew 27:53 - They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

¶ **Matthew 27:54** - When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

¶ **Matthew 27:55** - Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs.

Matthew 27:56 - Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

¶ **Matthew 27:57** - As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus.

Matthew 27:58 - Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him.

Matthew 27:59 - Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

Matthew 27:60 - and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

Matthew 27:61 - Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.

¶ **Matthew 27:62** - The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate.

Matthew 27:63 - "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.'

Matthew 27:64 - So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

¶ **Matthew 27:65** - "Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how."

Matthew 27:66 - So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

¶ **Matthew 28:1** - After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

¶ **Matthew 28:2** - There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

Matthew 28:3 - His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.

Matthew 28:4 - The **guards were** so afraid of **him that they shook and became like dead men.**

¶ **Matthew 28:5** - The **angel said** to the **women**, "**Do** not be **afraid**, for I **know** that you **are looking** for Jesus, **who was crucified.**

Matthew 28:6 - He is **not here**; **he** has **risen, just** as he **said.** **Come** and see the **place** where **he lay.**

Matthew 28:7 - **Then go quickly and** tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the **dead and is going ahead** of you into Galilee. **There you will see him.'** **Now I have told you."**

¶ **Matthew 28:8** - So the **women hurried away** from the **tomb**, **afraid yet filled with joy**, and **ran to** tell his disciples.

Matthew 28:9 - **Suddenly Jesus met them.** "**Greetings,**" he **said.** They came to **him**, **clasped his feet** and worshiped him.

Matthew 28:10 - Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be **afraid.** **Go** and **tell my brothers to** go to Galilee; there they will **see me."**

¶ **Matthew 28:11** - While the women **were on their way**, some of the **guards went** into the **city** and **reported to** the chief **priests everything** that had **happened.**

Matthew 28:12 - When the chief **priests had met with the elders and devised a plan**, they **gave the soldiers a large sum of money**,

Matthew 28:13 - **telling** them, "You are to **say**, 'His disciples **came during** the **night and stole him away while we were asleep.'**

Matthew 28:14 - **If this report gets to** the **governor**, we will **satisfy him** and **keep you out of trouble."**

Matthew 28:15 - So the soldiers **took** the **money and did** as they **were instructed.** **And this story has been widely circulated among** the **Jews to** this **very day.**

¶ **Matthew 28:16** - Then **the eleven disciples** went to Galilee, to the **mountain where Jesus had told** them to go.

Matthew 28:17 - When they **saw** him, **they worshiped** him; **but some doubted.**

Matthew 28:18 - Then Jesus came to them and **said**, "**All authority in** heaven and on **earth has** been **given** to me.

Matthew 28:19 - **Therefore go and make disciples of all nations**, **baptizing them in** the **name** of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit**,

Matthew 28:20 - **and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.** **And surely I am with you always**, to the **very end of the age."**