

Matthew 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David. F. Maas

NASB Copyright 1995 by The Lockman Foundation

E-Prime consists of a paraphrase in which we have endeavored to replace all “to be” verbs (is, are were, was, etc.) with concrete active verbs, eliminating the “is of identity” (instead of “John is a teacher,” we use “John teaches.”), the “is of predication” (instead of “The apple is sweet,” we use “The apple tastes sweet.”), as well as the passive voice and phantom subjects (instead of “Blessed is the man,” we use “God blesses the man.”). By performing these linguistic procedures, we have hoped to create a crisp, direct, and sparkling document.

The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

¹The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

²Abraham we identify as the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.

³Judah we identify as the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez we identify as the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram.

⁴Ram we identify as the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.

⁵Salmon we identify as the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz we identify as the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse.

⁶Jesse we identify as the father of David the king. David we identify as the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had previously married Uriah.

⁷Solomon we identify as the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa.

⁸Asa we identify as the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah.

⁹Uzziah we identify as the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.

¹⁰Hezekiah we identify as the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah.

¹¹Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

¹²After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel.

¹³Zerubbabel we identify as the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor.

¹⁴Azor we identify as the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud.

¹⁵Eliud we identify as the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob.

¹⁶Jacob we identify as the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who we acknowledge as the Messiah.

¹⁷So all the generations from Abraham to David we calculate as fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

Conception and Birth of Jesus

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ we report as follows: when His mother Mary had become engaged to Joseph, before they came together she became impregnated by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹And Joseph her husband, wanting to do the right thing and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

²⁰But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has become conceived in her comes from the Holy Spirit.

²¹"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

²²Now all this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

²³"BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE A CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."

²⁴And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife,

²⁵but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.

Matthew 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Visit of the Magi

¹Now after the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,

²"Where do we find the one who has become born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him."

³When Herod the king heard this, he felt troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the birth of the Messiah would take place.

⁵They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for this the prophet has written:

⁶AND YOU, BETHLEHEM, LAND OF JUDAH, HAVE BECOME BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE LEADERS OF JUDAH; FOR OUT OF YOU SHALL COME FORTH A RULER WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL."

⁷Then Herod secretly called the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared.

⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him."

⁹After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over the place where the Child resided.

¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

¹¹After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹²And having received a warning by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.

The Flight to Egypt

¹³Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod plans to search for the Child to destroy Him."

¹⁴So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother at nighttime, and left for Egypt.

¹⁵He remained there until the death of Herod. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: "OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON."

Herod Slaughters Babies

¹⁶Then when Herod saw that the magi had tricked him, he became enraged, and sent and slew all the male children who lived in Bethlehem and all its vicinity, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the magi.

¹⁷Then what Jeremiah the prophet had spoken became fulfilled:

¹⁸"WE HEARD A VOICE IN RAMAH, WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING, RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN; AND SHE REFUSED COMFORT, BECAUSE THEY EXISTED NO MORE."

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, and said,

²⁰"Get up, take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child's life have died."

²¹So Joseph got up, took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

²²But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he feared to go there. Then after receiving a warning by God in a dream, he left for the regions of Galilee,

²³and came and lived in a city called Nazareth. This fulfilled what God spoke through the prophets: "He shall have the name Nazarene."

Matthew 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Preaching of John the Baptist

¹Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying,

²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has become available."

³For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT!'"

⁴Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food consisted of locusts and wild honey.

⁵Then Jerusalem went out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan;

⁶and they received baptism by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"

⁸"Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance;

⁹and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God has the ability to raise up children to Abraham.

¹⁰ God has already laid the axe at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit He cuts down and throws into the fire.

¹¹"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who comes after me has more might than I, and I do not consider myself fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹²"His winnowing fork He holds in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

The Baptism of Jesus

¹³Then Jesus arrived from Galilee at the Jordan coming to John, to receive baptism by him.

¹⁴But John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I have need that You baptize me, and do You come to me?"

¹⁵But Jesus answering said to him, "Permit it at this time; for in this way it has become fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he permitted Him.

¹⁶After receiving baptism, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him,

¹⁷and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This I proclaim My beloved Son, in whom I feel well-pleased."

Matthew 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Temptation of Jesus

¹ The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to receive temptation by the devil.

² And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.

³ And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You proclaim yourself the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

⁴But He answered and said, "The Scripture says, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"

⁵Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple,

⁶and said to Him, "If You proclaim yourself the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for the scriptures say, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

⁷Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, the scripture says, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

⁸Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

⁹and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For the scriptures say, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

¹¹Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.

Jesus Begins His Ministry

¹²Now when Jesus heard that the authorities had taken John into custody, He withdrew into Galilee;

¹³and leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which locates by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.

¹⁴This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet had spoken:

¹⁵"THE LAND OF ZEBULUN AND THE LAND OF NAPHTALI, BY THE WAY OF THE SEA, BEYOND THE JORDAN, GALILEE OF THE GENTILES—

¹⁶"THE PEOPLE WHO SAT IN DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT, AND THOSE WHO SAT IN THE LAND AND SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON THEM A LIGHT DAWNED."

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has become available."

The First Disciples

¹⁸Now as Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon who also had the name of Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they worked as fishermen.

¹⁹And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

²¹Going on from there He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and He called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Ministry in Galilee

²³Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

²⁴The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who became ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.

²⁵Large crowds followed Him from Galilee and the Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan.

Matthew 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Sermon on the Mount; The Beatitudes

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

²He opened His mouth and began to teach them, saying,

³"The poor in spirit receive blessings, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

⁴"Those who mourn receive blessings, for they shall receive comfort.

⁵"The gentle will receive blessings, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶"Those hungering and thirsting for righteousness shall receive blessings. They will find satisfaction.

⁷"The merciful shall receive blessings, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"The pure in heart shall receive blessings, for they shall see God.

⁹"The peacemakers shall receive blessings, for God shall call them sons of God.

¹⁰"Those who have received persecution for the sake of righteousness shall receive blessings, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

¹¹"When people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me, you will receive blessings.

¹²"Rejoice and feel glad, for your reward in heaven has become great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who lived before you.

Disciples and the World

¹³"You represent the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can we make it salty again? We find it no longer good for anything, except to throw it out where men will trample it under foot.

¹⁴"You symbolize the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot hide in the darkness;

¹⁵nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who live in the house.

¹⁶"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who dwells in heaven.

¹⁷"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

¹⁸"For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all becomes accomplished.

¹⁹"Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall have the least value in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, will have greatness in the kingdom of heaven.

²⁰"For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Personal Relationships

²¹"You have heard that the ancients received the warning, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER' and 'Whoever commits murder shall become liable to the court.'

²²"But I say to you that everyone who has anger with his brother shall have guilt before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall have guilt before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall have guilt enough to go into the fiery hell.

²³"Therefore if you present your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,

²⁴leave your offering there before the altar and go; first reconcile to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

²⁵"Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you travel with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge hand you to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison.

²⁶"Truly I say to you, you will not come out of there until you have paid up the last cent.

²⁷"You have heard that the scriptures say, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';

²⁸but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

²⁹"If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for you would find it better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than to have your whole body thrown into hell.

³⁰"If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it would prove better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹"The scriptures say, 'WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE';

³²but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³"Again, you have heard that the ancients received the warning, 'YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FALSE VOWS, BUT SHALL FULFILL YOUR VOWS TO THE LORD.'

³⁴"But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it represents the throne of God,

³⁵or by the earth, for it represents the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it represents THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING.

³⁶"Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

³⁷"But let your statement consist of, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond these derives from an evil intent.

³⁸"You have heard that the scriptures said, 'AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH.'

³⁹"But I say to you, do not resist an evil person; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also.

⁴⁰"If anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, let him have your coat also.

⁴¹"Whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two.

⁴²"Give to him who asks of you, and do not turn away from him who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³"You have heard that the scriptures said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.'

⁴⁴"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

⁴⁵God will recognize you as sons. He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

⁴⁶"For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

⁴⁷"If you greet only your brothers, what more do you do than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

⁴⁸"Therefore you must become perfect, as your heavenly Father has perfection.

Matthew 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Giving to the Poor and Prayer

¹"Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to become noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who dwells in heaven.

²"So when you give to the poor, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may receive honor from men truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

³"But when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand does,

⁴so that your giving will remain a secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

⁵"When you pray, do not behave like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that men do not see them. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

⁶"But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father secretly, and your Father who sees what you have done in secret will reward you.

⁷"And when you pray, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that God will hear for them for their many words.

⁸"So do not behave like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

⁹"Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who dwells in heaven, Hallowed we acknowledge Your name.

¹⁰Your kingdom come, We ask that You do Your will, On earth as You have done it in heaven.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread.

¹²And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours belong the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]'

¹⁴"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.

¹⁵"But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Fasting; The True Treasure; Wealth (Mammon)

¹⁶"Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites do, for they neglect their appearance so that men will notice them when they fast. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

¹⁷"But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face

¹⁸so that men will not notice your fasting, but by your Father who sees it in secret; and your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

²⁰"But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;

²¹for where you consider your treasure, there your heart will reside also.

²²"The eye serves as the lamp of the body; so then if your eye has clearness, your whole body will become full of light.

²³"But if your eye does not work, your whole body will have darkness. If then the light in you becomes darkness, how great the darkness will grow!

²⁴"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will devote himself to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

The Cure for Anxiety

²⁵"For this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Does not life consist of more than food, and the body more than clothing?

²⁶"Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Do you not know that you have more worth than they?"

²⁷"And who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"

²⁸"And why do you worry about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,

²⁹yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.

³⁰"But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which lives today and tomorrow gets thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!"

³¹"Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'"

³²"For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

³³"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will accrue to you.

³⁴"So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Judging Others

¹"Do not judge so that you will not receive judgment.

²"For in the way you judge, you will receive judgment; and by your standard of measure, it will come back to you in like measure.

³"Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?"

⁴"Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log remains in your own eye?"

⁵"You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

⁶"Do not give holy things to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.

Prayer and the Golden Rule

⁷"Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and you will have it opened to you.

⁸"For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will open.

⁹"Or what man do you find among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone?

¹⁰"Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he?

¹¹"If you then, having evil in you, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

¹²"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this consists of the Law and the Prophets.

The Narrow and Wide Gates

¹³"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate proves wide and the way proves broad that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

¹⁴"For the gate proves small and the way proves narrow that leads to life, and few find it.

A Tree and Its Fruit

¹⁵"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly show themselves as ravenous wolves.

¹⁶"You will know them by their fruits. We do not gather grapes from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, do we?

¹⁷"So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

¹⁸"A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

¹⁹"Every tree that does not bear good fruit we cut down and throw into the fire.

²⁰"So then, you will know them by their fruits.

²¹"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who lives in heaven will enter.

²²"Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'

²³"And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

The Two Foundations

²⁴"Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, we may compare to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

²⁵"And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for he constructed on the rock.

²⁶"Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them compares to a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

²⁷"The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house. The house fell—and its fall proved devastating."

²⁸When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds showed amazement at His teaching;

²⁹for He taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

Matthew 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Cleanses a Leper; The Centurion's Faith

¹When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him.

²And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, "Lord, if You will, You can make me clean."

³Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I will it; become cleansed." And immediately Jesus cleansed his leprosy.

⁴And Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one; but go, show yourself to the priest and present the offering that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

⁵And when Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, imploring Him,

⁶and saying, "Lord, my servant lies paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented."

⁷Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

⁸But the centurion said, "Lord, I don't feel worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will receive healing.

⁹"For I also have authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it."

¹⁰Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who followed, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel.

¹¹"I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven;

¹²but the sons of the kingdom will find themselves cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will occur weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¹³And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go; I shall do for you as you have believed." And the servant received healing that very moment.

Peter's Mother-in-law and Many Others Healed

¹⁴When Jesus came into Peter's home, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick in bed with a fever.

¹⁵He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she got up and waited on Him.

¹⁶When evening came, they brought to Him many who had demon problems; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who had illness.

¹⁷This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet had said: "HE HIMSELF TOOK OUR INFIRMITIES AND CARRIED AWAY OUR DISEASES."

Discipleship Tested

¹⁸Now when Jesus saw a crowd around Him, He gave orders to depart to the other side of the sea.

¹⁹Then a scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go."

²⁰Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

²¹Another of the disciples said to Him, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father."

²²But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and allow the dead to bury their own dead."

²³When He got into the boat, His disciples followed Him.

²⁴And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat submerged in with the waves; but Jesus Himself slept.

²⁵And they came to Him and woke Him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we perish!"

²⁶He said to them, "Why do you fear, you men of little faith?" Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and it became perfectly calm.

²⁷The men felt amazed, and said, "What kind of a man can even command the winds and the sea obey Him?"

Jesus Casts Out Demons

²⁸When He came to the other side into the country of the Gadarenes, two men who had demon problems met Him as they came out of the tombs. They behaved so extremely violent that no one could pass by that way.

²⁹And they cried out, saying, "What business do we have with each other, Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?"

³⁰Now there roamed a herd of many swine feeding at a distance from them.

³¹The demons began to entreat Him, saying, "If You plan to cast us out, send us into the herd of swine."

³²And He said to them, "Go!" And they came out and went into the swine, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the waters.

³³The herdsmen ran away, and went to the city and reported everything, including what had happened to the demoniacs.

³⁴And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw Him, they implored Him to leave their region.

Matthew 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

A Paralytic Healed

¹Getting into a boat, Jesus crossed over the sea and came to His own city.

²And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, "Take courage, son; I have forgiven your sins."

³And some of the scribes said to themselves, "This fellow blasphemes."

⁴And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?"

⁵"Which do we find easier, to say, 'I forgive Your sins,' or to say, 'Get up, and walk'?"

⁶"But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—then He said to the paralytic, "Get up, pick up your bed and go home."

⁷And he got up and went home.

⁸But when the crowds saw this, they felt awestruck, and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

Matthew Called

⁹As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man called Matthew, sitting in the tax collector's booth; and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.

¹⁰Then it happened that as Jesus reclined at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and dined with Jesus and His disciples.

¹¹When the Pharisees saw this they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with the tax collectors and sinners?"

¹²But when Jesus heard this, He said, "Those who have good health do not need a physician, but those who have sickness.

¹³"But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

The Question about Fasting

¹⁴Then the disciples of John came to Him, asking, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵And Jesus said to them, "The attendants of the bridegroom cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom accompanies them, do they? But the days will come when the bridegroom will go away from them, and then they will fast.

¹⁶"But no one puts a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results.

¹⁷"Nor do people put new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the wine pours out and the wineskins will deteriorate; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both stay preserved."

Miracles of Healing

¹⁸While He said these things to them, a synagogue official came and bowed down before Him, and said, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live."

¹⁹Jesus got up and began to follow him, and so did His disciples.

²⁰And a woman, who had suffered from a hemorrhage for twelve years, came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak;

²¹for she said to herself, "If I only touch His garment, I will get well."

²²But Jesus turning and seeing her said, "Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well." At once the woman received healing.

²³When Jesus came into the official's house, and saw the flute-players and the crowd in noisy disorder,

²⁴He said, "Leave; for the girl has not died, but sleeps." And they began laughing at Him.

²⁵But when they sent the crowd out, He entered and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.

²⁶This news spread throughout all that land.

²⁷As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

²⁸When He entered the house, the blind men came up to Him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I have the ability to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

²⁹Then He touched their eyes, saying, "It shall happen to you according to your faith."

³⁰And their eyes opened. And Jesus sternly warned them: "See that no one knows about this!"

³¹But they went out and spread the news about Him throughout all that land.

³²As they went out, someone brought a mute, demon-possessed man to Him.

³³After he cast out the demon, the mute man spoke; and the crowds showed amazement, and said, "Nothing like this has ever taken place in Israel."

³⁴But the Pharisees said, "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

³⁵Jesus went through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

³⁶Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they looked distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

³⁷Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest appears plentiful, but the workers seem few.

³⁸"Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Matthew 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Twelve Disciples; Instructions for Service

¹Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

²Now the names of the twelve apostles consists of the following: The first, Simon, who also has the name of Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;

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

⁴Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans;

⁶but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

⁷"And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven has become near.'

⁸"Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

⁹"Do not acquire gold, or silver, or copper for your money belts,

¹⁰or a bag for your journey, or even two coats, or sandals, or a staff; for the worker has the right of his support.

¹¹"And whatever city or village you enter, inquire who proves worthy in it, and stay at his house until you leave that city.

¹²"As you enter the house, give it your greeting.

¹³"If the house proves worthy, give it your blessing of peace. But if it does not prove worthy, take back your blessing of peace.

¹⁴"Whoever does not receive you, nor heed your words, as you go out of that house or that city, shake the dust off your feet.

¹⁵"Truly I say to you, it will seem more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.

A Hard Road before Them

¹⁶"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so act as shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves.

¹⁷"But beware of men, for they will hand you over to the courts and scourge you in their synagogues;

¹⁸and governors and kings will bring you before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.

¹⁹"But when they hand you over, do not worry about how or what you will say; for you will receive in that hour what you should say.

²⁰"For you do not speak, but the Spirit of your Father will speak in you.

²¹"Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to receive execution.

²²"You will receive hate by all because of My name, but you who endure to the end will receive salvation.

²³"But whenever they persecute you in one city, flee to the next; for truly I say to you, you will not finish going through the cities of Israel until the Son of Man comes.

The Meaning of Discipleship

²⁴"A disciple does not have pre-eminence above his teacher, nor a slave above his master.

²⁵"It does not seem enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they malign the members of his household!

²⁶"Therefore do not fear them, for nothing will remain concealed that will not come to light, or hidden that will not become known.

²⁷"What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops.

²⁸"Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; but rather fear Him who has the ability to destroy both soul and body in hell.

²⁹"Do we not sell two sparrows for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

³⁰"But the very hairs of your head all have a numerical index number.

³¹"So do not fear; you have more value than many sparrows.

³²"Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who lives in heaven.

³³"But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who lives in heaven.

³⁴"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵"For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW;

³⁶and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL CONSIST OF THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD.

³⁷"He who loves father or mother more than Me does not prove worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me has not proved himself worthy of Me.

³⁸"And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me has not proved himself worthy of Me.

³⁹"He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.

The Reward of Service

⁴⁰"He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

⁴¹"He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.

⁴²"And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

Matthew 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

John's Questions

¹When Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He departed from there to teach and preach in their cities.

²Now when John, while imprisoned, heard of the works of Christ, he sent word by his disciples

³and said to Him, "Should we acknowledge You the Expected One, or shall we look for someone else?"

⁴Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you hear and see:

⁵the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT and the lame walk, the lepers have received healing and the deaf hear, the dead have become resurrected, and the POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM.

⁶"And one will receive blessings who does not take offense at Me."

Jesus' Tribute to John

⁷As these men went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?

⁸"But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Those who wear soft clothing live in kings' palaces!

⁹"But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and one who proves more than a prophet.

¹⁰"This one the scriptures have said, 'BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY BEFORE YOU.'

¹¹"Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist! Yet the one who we deem least in the kingdom of heaven has more greatness than he.

¹²"From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.

¹³"For all the prophets and the Law prophesied until John.

¹⁴"And if you have the willingness to accept it, John himself represents Elijah who would come.

¹⁵"He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶"But to what shall I compare this generation? It resembles children sitting in the market places, who call out to the other children,

¹⁷and say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.'

¹⁸"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon!'

¹⁹"The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom has vindication by her deeds."

The Unrepenting Cities

²⁰Then He began to denounce the cities in which most of His miracles took place, because they did not repent.

²¹"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

²²Nevertheless I say to you, it will seem more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you.

²³"And you, Capernaum, will not receive exaltation to heaven, will you? You will descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day.

²⁴Nevertheless I say to you that Sodom in the day of judgment will receive more tolerance than you."

Come to Me

²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.

²⁶"Yes, Father, for this way proves well-pleasing in Your sight.

²⁷"My Father handed all things over to Me; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

²⁸"Come to Me, all who feel weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

²⁹"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I have gentleness and humility in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.

³⁰"For My yoke you will find easy and My burden you will find light."

Matthew 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Sabbath Questions

¹(A)At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples became hungry and began to ^(B)pick the heads of grain and eat.

²But when the Pharisees saw this, they said to Him, "Look, Your disciples do what does not prove lawful to do on a Sabbath."

³But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he became hungry, he and his companions,

⁴how he entered the house of God, and ^(D)they ate the consecrated bread, which did not prove lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, but for the priests alone?

⁵"Or have you not read in the Law, that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple break the Sabbath we consider innocent?"

⁶"But I say to you that something ^(E)greater than the temple stands before you.

⁷"But if you had known what this means, '^(E)I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT A SACRIFICE,' you would not have condemned the innocent.

Lord of the Sabbath

⁸"For ^(G)the Son of Man I proclaim as Lord of the Sabbath."

⁹(H)Departing from there, He went into their synagogue.

¹⁰And a man came whose hand had withered. And they questioned Jesus, asking, " Do we consider it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"--so that they might accuse Him.

¹¹And He said to them, "^(J)What man living among you who has a sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will he not take hold of it and lift it out?

¹²"(K)How much more valuable then do we consider a man than a sheep! So then, it proves lawful to do good on the Sabbath."

¹³Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand!" ^(L)He stretched it out, and it became restored to normal, like the other.

¹⁴But the Pharisees went out and ^(M)conspired against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.

¹⁵But Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. Many followed Him, and ^(N)He healed them all,

¹⁶and ^(O)warned them not to reveal His identity .

¹⁷This was to fulfill what Isaiah the prophet spoke:

¹⁸"^(P)BEHOLD, MY SERVANT WHOM I HAVE CHOSEN;

^(Q)MY BELOVED IN WHOM MY SOUL feels WELL-PLEASED;

^(R)I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT UPON HIM,

^(S)AND HE SHALL PROCLAIM JUSTICE TO THE GENTILES.

¹⁹"^(T)HE WILL NOT QUARREL, NOR CRY OUT;

NOR WILL ANYONE HEAR HIS VOICE IN THE STREETS.

²⁰"^(U)A BATTERED REED HE WILL NOT BREAK OFF,
AND A SMOLDERING WICK HE WILL NOT PUT OUT,
UNTIL HE LEADS JUSTICE TO VICTORY.

²¹"^(V)AND IN HIS NAME THE GENTILES WILL HOPE."

The Pharisees Rebuked

²²^(W)Then people brought to Jesus a ^(X)demon-possessed man who had lived in blindness and mute , and He healed him, so that the mute man spoke and saw.

²³All the crowds felt amazed, and said, "This man cannot call himself the ^(Y)Son of David, can he?"

²⁴But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "This man ^(Z)casts out demons only by Beelzebul the ruler of the demons."

²⁵^(AA)And ^(AB)knowing their thoughts Jesus said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself suffers ruin; and any city or house divided against itself will not stand.

²⁶"If ^(AC)Satan casts out Satan, he divides himself against himself; how then will his kingdom stand?

²⁷"If I ^(AD)by Beelzebul cast out demons, ^(AE)by whom do your sons cast them out? For this reason they will judge you.

²⁸"But ^(AF)if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

²⁹"Or how can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.

The Unpardonable Sin

³⁰"^(AG)He who does not support Me places himself against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

³¹"^(AH)Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall receive forgiveness, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not receive forgiveness.

³²"^(AI)Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, shall receive forgiveness; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit shall not receive forgiveness, either in ^(AJ)this age or in the age to come.

Words Reveal Character

³³"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for ^(AK)the tree we know by its fruit.

³⁴"^(AL)You brood of vipers, how can you, having evil, speak good? ^(AM)For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

³⁵"^(AN)The good man brings out of his good treasure that which we know as good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what we know as evil.

³⁶"But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in ^(AO)the day of judgment.

³⁷"For by your words you will receive justification, and by your words you will receive condemnation."

The Desire for Signs

³⁸Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, "Teacher, ^(AP)we want to see a sign from You."

³⁹But He answered and said to them, "^(AQ)An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will come to you but the sign of Jonah the prophet;

⁴⁰for just as ^(AR)JONAH SPENT THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will ^(AS)the Son of Man remain ^(AT)three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

⁴¹"^(AU)The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because ^(AV)they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, ^(AW)something greater than Jonah stands before you.

⁴²"^(AX)The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, ^(AY)something greater than Solomon stands before you.

⁴³"^(AZ)Now when the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and does not find it.

⁴⁴"Then it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came'; and when it comes, it finds it unoccupied, swept, and put in order.

⁴⁵"Then it goes and takes along with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there; and ^(BA)the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. That is the way it will also go with this evil generation."

Changed Relationships

⁴⁶^(BB)While He was still spoke to the crowds, behold, His ^(BC)mother and ^(BD)brothers stood outside, seeking to speak to Him.

⁴⁷Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers stand outside seeking to speak to You."

⁴⁸But Jesus answered the one who told Him and said, "Who do I identify as My mother and who do identify as My brothers?"

⁴⁹And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers!

⁵⁰"For whoever does the will of My Father who lives in heaven, he consists of My brother and sister and mother."

Matthew 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Teaches in Parables

¹That day Jesus went out of ^(A)the house and was sat ^(B)by the sea.

²And large crowds gathered to Him, so ^(C)He got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood on the beach.

³And He spoke many things to them in ^(D)parables, saying, "Behold, the sower went out to sow;

⁴and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up.

⁵Others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil.

⁶But when the sun had risen, they became scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.

⁷Others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out.

⁸And others fell on the good soil and yielded a crop, some a ^(E)hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

⁹^(E)He who has ears, let him hear."

An Explanation

¹⁰And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?"

¹¹ You have received the privilege to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but they don't receive this privilege.

¹²^(H)For whoever has, he will receive more, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall lose.

¹³"Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while ^(I)seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

¹⁴"In their case the prophecy of Isaiah becomes fulfilled, which says,
^(J)YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND;
YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE;

¹⁵(K) FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL,
WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR,
AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES,
OTHERWISE THEY WOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES,
HEAR WITH THEIR EARS,
AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART AND RETURN,
AND I WOULD HEAL THEM.'

¹⁶"(L) But your eyes receive a blessing because they see; and your ears, because they hear.

¹⁷"For truly I say to you that ^(M)many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

The Sower Explained

¹⁸"(N) Hear then the parable of the sower.

¹⁹"When anyone hears ^(O)the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, ^(P)the evil one comes and snatches away what has the sower has placed in his heart. This represents the one on whom the sower planted beside the road.

²⁰"The one on whom the sower planted the seed on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

²¹yet he has no firm root in himself, but it has only temporary impact, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he ^(Q)falls away.

²²"And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this man hears the word, and the worry of ^(R)the world and the ^(S)deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

²³"And the one on whom the planter sowed the seed on the good soil, this represents the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some ^(T)a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."

Tares among Wheat

²⁴Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, "^(U)The kingdom of heaven we may compare to a man who sowed good seed in his field.

²⁵"But while his men slept, his enemy came and sowed ^[a]tares among the wheat, and went away.

²⁶"But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also.

²⁷"The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?'

²⁸"And he said to them, 'An enemy has done this!' The slaves said to him, 'Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?'

²⁹"But he said, 'No; for while you gather up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.

³⁰'Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but ^(V)gather the wheat into my barn.'"

The Mustard Seed

³¹He presented another parable to them, saying, "^(W)The kingdom of heaven resembles ^(X)a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field;

³²and this looks smaller than all other seeds, but when it becomes fully grown, it grows larger than the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that ^(Y)THE BIRDS OF THE AIR come and NEST IN ITS BRANCHES."

The Leaven

³³He spoke another parable to them, "^(Z)The kingdom of heaven resembles leaven, which a woman took and hid in ^(AA)three pecks of flour until it became all leavened."

³⁴All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables, and He did not speak to them ^(AB)without a parable.

³⁵This fulfilled what the prophet spoke:

^(AC)I WILL OPEN MY MOUTH IN PARABLES;
I WILL UTTER THINGS HIDDEN SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF THE
WORLD."

The Tares Explained

³⁶Then He left the crowds and went into ^(AD)the house And His disciples came to Him and said, "^(AE)Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

³⁷And He said, "The one who sows the good seed symbolizes ^(AF)the Son of Man,

³⁸and the field symbolizes the world; and as for the good seed, these symbolize ^(AG)the sons of the kingdom; and the tares symbolize ^(AH)the sons of ^(AI)the evil one;

³⁹and the enemy who sowed them symbolizes the devil, and the harvest symbolizes ^(AJ)the end of the age; and the reapers symbolizes angels.

⁴⁰"So just as the tares we gather up and burn with fire, so shall it occur ^(AK)the end of the age.

⁴¹"^(AL)The Son of Man ^(AM)will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all ^(AN)stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness,

⁴²and ^(AO)will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place will occur weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁴³"^(AQ)Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father ^(AR)He who has ears, let him hear.

Hidden Treasure

⁴⁴"^(AS)The kingdom of heaven resembles a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and ^(AT)sells all that he has and buys that field.

A Costly Pearl

⁴⁵"Again, ^(AU)the kingdom of heaven resembles a merchant seeking fine pearls,

⁴⁶and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

A Dragnet

⁴⁷"Again, ^(AV)the kingdom of heaven resembles a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind;

⁴⁸and when it had filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away.

⁴⁹"So it will happen at ^(AW)the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous,

⁵⁰and ^(AX)will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place ^(AY)there will occur weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to Him, "Yes."

⁵²And Jesus said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple of the kingdom of heaven resembles a head of a household, who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

Jesus Revisits Nazareth

⁵³^(AZ)When Jesus had finished these parables, He departed from there.

⁵⁴^(BA)He came to His hometown and ^(BB)began teaching them in their synagogue, so that ^(BC)they became astonished, and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?"

⁵⁵"Do we not know him as the carpenter's son? Is not ^(BD)His mother called Mary, and His ^(BE)brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?"

⁵⁶"And ^(BF)His sisters, do they not all reside with us? Where then did this man get all these things?"

⁵⁷And they took ^(BG)offense at Him But Jesus said to them, "^(BH)A prophet has honor except in his hometown and in his own household."

⁵⁸And He did not do many miracles there because of their unbelief.

Matthew 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

John the Baptist Beheaded

¹At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the news about Jesus,

²and said to his servants, "This looks like John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead, and miraculous powers work in him."

³For when Herod had John arrested, he bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip.

⁴For John had said to him, "You disobey the law for you to have her."

⁵Although Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded John as a prophet.

⁶But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before them and pleased Herod,

⁷so much that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked.

⁸Having received the prompt by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist."

⁹Although he felt grieved, the king commanded his beheading because of his oaths, and because of his dinner guests.

¹⁰He sent and had John beheaded in the prison.

¹¹And servants brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and she brought it to her mother.

¹²His disciples came and took away the body and buried it; and they went and reported to Jesus.

Five Thousand Fed

¹³Now when Jesus heard about John, He withdrew from there in a boat to a secluded place by Himself; and when the people heard of this, they followed Him on foot from the cities.

¹⁴When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.

¹⁵When it became evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This place looks desolate and the hour has become late; so send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

¹⁶But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away; you give them something to eat!"

¹⁷They said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."

¹⁸And He said, "Bring them here to Me."

¹⁹Ordering the people to sit down on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food, and breaking the loaves He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds,

²⁰and they all ate and felt satisfied. They picked up what the crowd had left over of the broken pieces, twelve full baskets.

²¹There numbered about five thousand men who ate, besides women and children.

Jesus Walks on the Water

²²Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.

²³After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it became evening, He stood there alone.

²⁴But the boat had already drifted a long distance from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind seemed contrary.

²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea.

²⁶When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they became terrified, and said, "We see a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.

²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, you look upon me; do not fear."

²⁸Peter said to Him, "Lord, if You really have come, command me to come to You on the water."

²⁹And He said, "Come!" And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

³⁰But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

³²When they got into the boat, the wind stopped.

³³And those who sat in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "We certainly acknowledge You as God's Son!"

³⁴When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

³⁵And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent word into all that surrounding district and brought to Him all who had become sick;

³⁶and they implored Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it received healing.

Matthew 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

Tradition and Commandment

¹Then some Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,

²"Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread."

³And He answered and said to them, "Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?"

⁴"For God said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER,' and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER WILL SUFFER DEATH.'

⁵"But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever I have that would help you I have given to God,"

⁶he does not honor his father or his mother.' And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.

⁷"You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:

⁸"THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART STAYS FAR AWAY FROM ME.

⁹"BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN."

¹⁰After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, "Hear and understand.

¹¹"We do not consider what enters into the mouth that defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man."

¹²Then the disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees became offended when they heard this statement?"

¹³But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant He shall uproot.

¹⁴"Let them alone; they serve as blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit."

The Heart of Man

¹⁵Peter said to Him, "Explain the parable to us."

¹⁶Jesus said, "Do you still lack in understanding also?"

¹⁷"Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and becomes eliminated?"

¹⁸"But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.

¹⁹"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and slanders.

²⁰"These things defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man."

The Syrophenician Woman

²¹Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²²And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and began to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter has become cruelly possessed by a demon."

²³But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, "Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us."

²⁴But He answered and said, "My Father sent me only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵But she came and began to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

²⁶And He answered and said, "I do not find it good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

²⁷But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

²⁸Then Jesus said to her, "O woman, you have great faith; you shall receive what you wish." And her daughter received healing at once.

Healing Crowds

²⁹Departing from there, Jesus went along by the Sea of Galilee, and having gone up on the mountain, He sat there.

³⁰And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them those who had become lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them.

³¹So the crowd marveled as they saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.

Four Thousand Fed

³²And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way."

³³The disciples said to Him, "Where would we get so many loaves in this desolate place to satisfy such a large crowd?"

³⁴And Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven, and a few small fish."

³⁵And He directed the people to sit down on the ground;

³⁶and He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

³⁷And they all ate and felt satisfied, and they picked up what people had left over of the broken pieces, seven large baskets full.

³⁸And those who ate numbered four thousand men, besides women and children.

³⁹And sending away the crowds, Jesus got into the boat and came to the region of Magadan.

Matthew 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

Pharisees Test Jesus

¹The Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Jesus, they asked Him to show them a sign from heaven.

²But He replied to them, "When it has become evening, you say, 'It will become fair weather, for the sky looks red.'

³"And in the morning, 'A storm will occur today, for the sky looks red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times?

⁴"An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign; and they will not receive a sign, except the sign of Jonah." And He left them and went away.

⁵And the disciples came to the other side of the sea, but they had forgotten to bring any bread.

⁶And Jesus said to them, "Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

⁷They began to discuss this among themselves, saying, "He said that because we did not bring any bread."

⁸But Jesus, aware of this, said, "You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread?

⁹"Do you not yet understand or remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets full you picked up?

¹⁰"Or the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many large baskets full you picked up?"

¹¹"How do you not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

¹²Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Peter's Confession of Christ

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "How do people identify the Son of Man?"

¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets."

¹⁵He said to them, "But how would you identify me?"

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "I acknowledge You as the Christ, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷And Jesus said to him, "Blessings belong to you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who lives in heaven.

¹⁸"I also say that I acknowledge you as Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

¹⁹"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth God shall bind in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth God shall have loose in heaven."

²⁰Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one His identity as the Christ.

Jesus Foretells His Death

²¹From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and suffer death, and become raised up on the third day.

²²Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You."

²³But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You seem a stumbling block to Me; for you do not set your mind on God's interests, but man's."

Discipleship Costs Dearly

²⁴Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

²⁵"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

²⁶"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

²⁷"For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and WILL THEN REPAY EVERY MAN ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS."

²⁸"Truly I say to you, some of you standing here will not taste death until you see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

Matthew 17

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Transfiguration

¹Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves.

²And He became transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light.

³And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

⁴Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it seems good for us to stand here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁵While he still spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "I acknowledge My beloved Son, with whom I feel well-pleased; listen to Him!"

⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and felt terrified.

⁷And Jesus came to them and touched them and said, "Get up, and do not fear."

⁸And lifting up their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus Himself alone.

⁹As they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man has risen from the dead."

¹⁰And His disciples asked Him, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

¹¹And He answered and said, "Elijah will come and will restore all things;

¹²but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man will suffer at their hands."

¹³Then the disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist.

The Demoniac

¹⁴When they came to the crowd, a man came up to Jesus, falling on his knees before Him and saying,

¹⁵"Lord, have mercy on my son, for he behaves like a lunatic and has become very ill; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

¹⁶"I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him."

¹⁷And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I remain with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me."

¹⁸And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy received healing at once.

¹⁹Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?"

²⁰And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will seem impossible to you.

²¹["But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."]

²²And while they gathered together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man will become delivered into the hands of men;

²³and they will kill Him, and He will become raised on the third day." And they felt deeply grieved.

The Tribute Money

²⁴When they came to Capernaum, those who collected the two-drachma tax came to Peter and said, "Does your teacher not pay the two-drachma tax?"

²⁵He said, "Yes." And when he came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth collect customs or poll-tax, from their sons or from strangers?"

²⁶When Peter said, "From strangers," Jesus said to him, "Then the sons remain exempt.

²⁷"However, so that we do not offend them, go to the sea and throw in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up; and when you open its mouth, you will find a shekel. Take that and give it to them for you and Me."

Matthew 18

NASB E-Prime DFM

Rank in the Kingdom

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who then do we consider greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

²And He called a child to Himself and set him before them,

³and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you become converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Whoever then humbles himself as this child, we will call him the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵"And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;

⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would seem better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to drown in the depth of the sea.

Stumbling Blocks

⁷"Woe to the world because of its stumbling blocks! For inevitably stumbling blocks come; but woe to that man through whom the stumbling block comes!

⁸"If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; it will seem better for you to enter life crippled or lame, than to have two hands or two feet and fall into the eternal fire.

⁹"If your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and throw it from you. It would seem more desirable for you to enter life with one eye, than to have two eyes and for people to cast him into the fiery hell.

¹⁰"See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who dwells in heaven.

¹¹["For the Son of Man has come to save that which we had considered lost.]

Ninety-nine Plus One

¹²"What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go and search for the one that strays?

¹³"If it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine which have not gone astray.

¹⁴"So your Father who lives in Heaven does not will that one of these little ones perish.

Discipline and Prayer

¹⁵"If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

¹⁶"But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY REACH CONFIRMATION.

¹⁷"If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him become to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸"Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth your Father shall have bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth your Father shall have loosed in heaven.

¹⁹"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, My Father in Heaven will do for you in heaven.

²⁰"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I will dwell there in their midst."

Forgiveness

²¹Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"

²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

²³"For this reason we may compare the kingdom of heaven to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

²⁴"When he had begun to settle them, servants brought him one who owed him ten thousand talents.

²⁵"But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded that someone sell him, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and he stay in custody until he could repay.

²⁶"So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.'

²⁷"And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸"But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and began to choke him, saying, 'Pay back what you owe.'

²⁹"So his fellow slave fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, 'Have patience with me and I will repay you.'

³⁰"But he seemed unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what he had owed.

³¹"So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they felt deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened.

³²"Then summoning him, his lord said to him, 'You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

³³'Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?'

³⁴"And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that he owed.

³⁵"My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart."

Matthew 19

NASB E-Prime DFM

Concerning Divorce

¹When Jesus had finished these words, He departed from Galilee and came into the region of Judea beyond the Jordan;

²and large crowds followed Him, and He healed them there.

³Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, "Do we consider it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?"

⁴And He answered and said, "Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,

⁵and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND JOIN TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?

⁶"So they no longer shall remain two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

⁷They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY?"

⁸He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning God has not intended it this way.

⁹"And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery."

¹⁰The disciples said to Him, "If the relationship of the man with his wife has degenerated to this, it seems better not to marry."

¹¹But He said to them, "Not all men can accept this statement, but only those to whom have received it.

¹²"For some eunuchs came that way from their mother's womb; and other eunuchs became made eunuchs by men; and some eunuchs made

themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who can accept this, let him accept it."

Jesus Blesses Little Children

¹³Then parents brought some children to Him so that He might lay His hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴But Jesus said, "Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

¹⁵After laying His hands on them, He departed from there.

The Rich Young Ruler

¹⁶And someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?"

¹⁷And He said to him, "Why do you ask Me about goodness? Only One can claim goodness; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."

¹⁸Then he said to Him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER; YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY; YOU SHALL NOT STEAL; YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS;

¹⁹HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER; and YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

²⁰The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept; what do I still lack?"

²¹Jesus said to him, "If you wish to have completeness, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

²²But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he owned much property.

²³And Jesus said to His disciples, "Truly I say to you, it seems hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

²⁴"Again I say to you, it seems easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁵When the disciples heard this, they seemed very astonished and said, "Then who can have salvation?"

²⁶And looking at them Jesus said to them, "With people they would find it impossible, but with God all things can happen."

The Disciples' Reward

²⁷Then Peter said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will we have left?"

²⁸And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

²⁹"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life.

³⁰"But many who originally appeared first will go to the back; and the last, first.

Matthew 20

NASB E-Prime DFM

Laborers in the Vineyard

¹"For the kingdom of heaven resembles a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

²"When he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard.

³"And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the market place;

⁴and to those he said, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever you consider right I will give you.' And so they went.

⁵"Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing.

⁶"And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why have you stood here idle all day long?'

⁷"They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.'

⁸"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last group to the first.'

⁹"When those hired about the eleventh hour came, each one received a denarius.

¹⁰"When those hired first came, they thought that they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.

¹¹"When they received it, they grumbled at the landowner,

¹²saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the scorching heat of the day.'

¹³"But he answered and said to one of them, 'Friend, I do you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?"

¹⁴"Take what you have earned and go, but I wish to give to this last man the same as to you.

¹⁵"Do you not consider it lawful for me to do what I wish with what belongs to me? Or does your eye envy because I have demonstrated generosity?"

¹⁶"So the last shall become first, and the first last."

Death, Resurrection Foretold

¹⁷As Jesus prepared to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and on the way He said to them,

¹⁸"Behold, we plan to go up to Jerusalem; and people will deliver the Son of Man to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death,

¹⁹and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day the Father will resurrect Him."

Preferment Asked

²⁰Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, bowing down and making a request of Him.

²¹And He said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to Him, "Command that in Your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit one on Your right and one on Your left."

²²But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you ask. Can you drink the cup that I will soon drink?" They said to Him, "We can."

²³He said to them, "My cup you shall drink; but to sit on My right and on My left, this does not belong to Me to give, but my Father has prepared these positions."

²⁴And hearing this, the ten became indignant with the two brothers.

²⁵But Jesus called them to Himself and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them.

²⁶"You should not behave this way, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall serve as a servant,

²⁷and whoever wishes to become first among you shall serve as a slave;

²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come for someone to serve him, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Sight for the Blind

²⁹As they left Jericho, a large crowd followed Him.

³⁰And two blind men sat by the road, hearing that Jesus would pass by, cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!"

³¹The crowd sternly told them to remain quiet, but they cried out all the more, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

³²And Jesus stopped and called them, and said, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

³³They said to Him, "Lord, we want our eyes opened."

³⁴Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him.

Matthew 21

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Triumphal Entry

¹When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,

²saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me.

³"If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."

⁴This took place to fulfill what the prophet spoke:

⁵"SAY TO THE DAUGHTER OF ZION, 'BEHOLD YOUR KING COMES TO YOU, GENTLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY, EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A BEAST OF BURDEN.'"

⁶The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them,

⁷and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats.

⁸Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them in the road.

⁹The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David; WE CONSIDER BLESSED WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Hosanna in the highest!"

¹⁰When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city stirred, saying, "Who comes here?"

¹¹And the crowds said, "This we recognize as the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee."

Cleansing the Temple

¹²And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

¹³And He said to them, "The scriptures say, 'MY HOUSE SHALL SERVE AS A HOUSE OF PRAYER'; but you make it a ROBBERS' DEN."

¹⁴And the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.

¹⁵But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that He had done, and the children who shouted in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became indignant

¹⁶and said to Him, "Do You hear what these children say?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'OUT OF THE MOUTH OF INFANTS AND NURSING BABIES YOU HAVE PREPARED PRAISE FOR YOURSELF'?"

¹⁷And He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

The Barren Fig Tree

¹⁸Now in the morning, when He returned to the city, He became hungry.

¹⁹Seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only; and He said to it, "No longer shall any fruit come from you." And at once the fig tree withered.

²⁰Seeing this, the disciples felt amazed and asked, "How did the fig tree wither all at once?"

²¹And Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what I did to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Remove yourself and become cast into the sea,' it will happen.

²²"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Authority Challenged

²³When He entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to Him while He taught, and said, "By what authority do You do these things, and who gave You this authority?"

²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵"The baptism of John came from what source, from heaven or from men?" And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?'

²⁶"But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the people; for they all regard John as a prophet."

²⁷And answering Jesus, they said, "We do not know." He also said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

Parable of Two Sons

²⁸"But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.'

²⁹"And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he regretted it and went.

³⁰"The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, 'I will, sir'; but he did not go.

³¹"Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.

³²"For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing this, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.

Parable of the Landowner

³³"Listen to another parable. A landowner PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey.

³⁴"When the harvest time approached, he sent his slaves to the vine-growers to receive his produce.

³⁵"The vine-growers took his slaves and beat one, and killed another, and stoned a third.

³⁶"Again he sent another group of slaves larger than the first; and they did the same thing to them.

³⁷"But afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

³⁸"But when the vine-growers saw the son, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.'

³⁹"They took him, and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰"Therefore when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vine-growers?"

⁴¹"They said to Him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine-growers who will pay him the proceeds at the proper seasons."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT APPEARS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"

⁴³"Therefore I say to you, My Father will take the kingdom of God away from you and give to a people, producing the fruit of it.

⁴⁴"And he who falls on this stone will break to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they understood that He spoke about them.

⁴⁶When they sought to seize Him, they feared the people, because they considered Him a prophet.

Matthew 22

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parable of the Marriage Feast

¹Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying,

²"The kingdom of heaven we may compare to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.

³"And he sent out his slaves to call those who had received invitations to the wedding feast, and they expressed unwillingness to come.

⁴"Again he sent out other slaves saying, 'Tell those who have received invitations, "Behold, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and my fattened livestock I have all butchered and made everything ready; come to the wedding feast.'"

⁵"But they paid no attention and went their way, one to his own farm, another to his business,

⁶and the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them.

⁷"But the king became enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire.

⁸"Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding has become ready, but those who received invitations did not prove worthy.

⁹'Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find there, invite to the wedding feast.'

¹⁰"Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall filled with dinner guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who did not dress in wedding clothes,

¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?' And the man became speechless.

¹³"Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there people will weep and gnash their teeth.'

¹⁴"For many have received the calling, but few will become chosen."

Tribute to Caesar

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted together how they might trap Him in what He said.

¹⁶And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You tell the truth and teach the way of God in truth, and defer to no one; for You do not show partiality to any.

¹⁷"Tell us then, what do You think? Do you consider it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?"

¹⁸But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites?

¹⁹"Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax." And they brought Him a denarius.

²⁰And He said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription do you find on this coin?"

²¹They said to Him, "Caesar's." Then He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar; and to God the things that belong to God."

²²And hearing this, they felt amazed, and leaving Him, they went away.

Jesus Answers the Sadducees

²³On that day some Sadducees (who don't believe in a resurrection) came to Jesus and questioned Him,

²⁴asking, "Teacher, Moses said, 'IF A MAN DIES HAVING NO CHILDREN, HIS BROTHER AS NEXT OF KIN SHALL MARRY HIS WIFE, AND RAISE UP CHILDREN FOR HIS BROTHER.'

²⁵"Now there lived seven brothers with us; and the first married and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother;

²⁶so also the second, and the third, down to the seventh.

²⁷"Last of all, the woman died.

²⁸"In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife of the seven will she belong to? For they all had married her."

²⁹But Jesus answered and said to them, "You made a mistake, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God.

³⁰"For in the resurrection they neither marry nor become given in marriage, but live like angels in heaven.

³¹"But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what God spoke to you by God:

³²"I PROCLAIM MYSELF THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB'? He does not serve as the God of the dead but of the living."

³³When the crowds heard this, they felt astonished at His teaching.

³⁴But when the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered themselves together.

³⁵One of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him,

³⁶"Teacher, which do you consider the great commandment in the Law?"

³⁷And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

³⁸"This we acknowledge as the great and foremost commandment.

³⁹"The second compares to it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

⁴⁰"On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees gathered together, Jesus asked them a question:

⁴²"What do you think about the Christ, whose son do you consider Him?" They said to Him, "The son of David."

⁴³He said to them, "Then how does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying,

⁴⁴"THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, 'SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I PUT YOUR ENEMIES BENEATH YOUR FEET'?"

⁴⁵"If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how could He become his son?"

⁴⁶No one could answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him another question.

Matthew 23

NASB E-Prime DFM

Pharisaism Exposed

¹Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples,

²saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses;

³therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them.

⁴"They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but they themselves show unwillingness to move them with so much as a finger.

⁵"But they do all their deeds to receive notice by men; for they broaden their phylacteries and lengthen the tassels of their garments.

⁶"They love the place of honor at banquets and the chief seats in the synagogues,

⁷and respectful greetings in the market places, and receiving the approbation of Rabbi by men.

⁸"But do not desire the approbation Rabbi; for One serves as your Teacher, and you all call yourselves brothers.

⁹"Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One you may call your Father, He who lives in heaven.

¹⁰"Do not desire the approbation leaders; for One you must consider your Leader, namely, Christ.

¹¹"But the greatest among you shall become a servant.

¹²"Whoever exalts himself shall become humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall receive exaltation.

Eight Woes

¹³"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who desire to enter to go in.

¹⁴["Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you will receive greater condemnation.]

¹⁵"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

¹⁶"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that counts for nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple obligates himself.'

¹⁷"You fools and blind men! Which do you consider more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold?

¹⁸"And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, that counts for nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he has obligated himself.'

¹⁹"You blind men, which has more importance, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering?

²⁰"Therefore, whoever swears by the altar, swears both by the altar and by everything on it.

²¹"And whoever swears by the temple, swears both by the temple and by Him who dwells within it.

²²"And whoever swears by heaven, swears both by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it.

²³"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these things you should have done without neglecting the others.

²⁴"You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

²⁵"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they show themselves full of robbery and self-indulgence.

²⁶"You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

²⁷"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you resemble whitewashed tombs, which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they look like dead men's bones having all uncleanness.

²⁸"So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you prove yourselves full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

²⁹"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous,

³⁰and say, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have accompanied them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'

³¹"So you testify against yourselves, that you act like the sons of those who murdered the prophets.

³²"Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

³³"You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?

³⁴"Therefore, behold, I send you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,

³⁵so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

³⁶"Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

Lament over Jerusalem

³⁷"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones the ones sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you showed yourself unwilling.

³⁸"Behold, your house will become to you desolate!

³⁹"For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'WE CONSIDER BLESSED THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

Matthew 24

NASB E-Prime DFM

Signs of Christ's Return

¹Jesus came out from the temple and walked away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

²And He said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will remain upon another, which will not become torn down."

³As He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what can we see as the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

⁴And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

⁵"For many will come in My name, saying, 'I proclaim myself as the Christ,' and will mislead many.

⁶"You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you do not become frightened, for those things must take place, but that does not constitute the end.

⁷"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will come famines and earthquakes.

⁸"But all these things merely begin the birth pangs.

⁹"Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and all nations will hate you because of My name.

¹⁰"At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another.

¹¹"Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.

¹²"Because lawlessness will increase, most people's love will grow cold.

¹³"But the one who endures to the end, he will receive salvation.

¹⁴"This gospel of the kingdom shall become preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Perilous Times

¹⁵"Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which Daniel the prophet spoke of, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

¹⁶then those who dwell in Judea must flee to the mountains.

¹⁷"Whoever finds himself on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that he has left in his house.

¹⁸"Whoever works in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.

¹⁹"But woe to those who become pregnant and to those who nurse babies in those days!

²⁰"But pray that your flight will not occur in the winter, or on a Sabbath.

²¹"For then there will come a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.

²²"Unless those days had shortened, no life would have received salvation; but for the sake of the elect those days will shorten.

²³"Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here we find the Christ,' or 'There we find Him,' do not believe him.

²⁴"For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.

²⁵"Behold, I have told you in advance.

²⁶"So if they say to you, 'Behold, we see Him in the wilderness,' do not go out, or, 'Behold, we see Him in the inner rooms,' do not believe them.

²⁷"For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man seem.

²⁸"Wherever the corpse lies, there the vultures will gather.

The Glorious Return

²⁹"But immediately after the tribulation of those days THE SUN WILL DARKEN, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will shake.

³⁰"And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

³¹"And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Parable of the Fig Tree

³²"Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer draws near; ³³so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He draws near, right at the door.

³⁴"Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

³⁵"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

³⁶"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

³⁷"For the coming of the Son of Man will resemble the days of Noah.

³⁸"For as in those days before the flood they ate and drank, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,

³⁹and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man occur.

⁴⁰"Then two men will work in the field; God will take one and leave the other.

⁴¹"Two women will grind at the mill; God will take one and leave the other.

Prepare Yourself for His Coming

⁴²"Therefore stay alert, for you do not know which day your Lord comes.

⁴³"But have certainty of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief had come, he would have stayed alert and would not have allowed the thief to break into his house.

⁴⁴"For this reason you also must remain ready; for the Son of Man comes at an hour when you do not think He will.

⁴⁵"Who then serves as the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?

⁴⁶"Blessings accrue to that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.

⁴⁷"Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

⁴⁸"But if that evil slave says in his heart, 'My master will not come for a long time,'

⁴⁹and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards;

⁵⁰the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour which he does not know,

⁵¹and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there people will weep and gnash their teeth.

Matthew 25

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parable of Ten Virgins

¹"Then the kingdom of heaven compares to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

²"Five of them acted foolishly, and five acted prudently.

³"For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,

⁴but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps.

⁵"Now while the bridegroom delayed, they all got drowsy and began to sleep.

⁶"But at midnight a shout resounded, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'

⁷"Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps.

⁸"The foolish said to the prudent, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps have gone out.'

⁹"But the prudent answered, 'No, we will not have enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰"And while they had gone away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who had readied themselves went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door closed.

¹¹"Later the other virgins also came, saying, 'Lord, lord, open up for us.'

¹²"But he answered, 'Truly I say to you, I do not know you.'

¹³"Stay alert then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

Parable of the Talents

¹⁴"For it resembles a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them.

¹⁵"To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.

¹⁶"Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents.

¹⁷"In the same manner the one who had received the two talents gained two more.

¹⁸"But he who received the one talent went away, and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹"Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰"The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.'

²¹"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You proved faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

²²"Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.'

²³"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You proved faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

²⁴"And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you seemed a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no seed.

²⁵"And I felt afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what belongs to you.'

²⁶"But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no seed.

²⁷"Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my money back with interest.

²⁸"Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

²⁹"For to everyone who has, I will give more, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have I will take away.

³⁰"Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place people will weep and gnash their teeth.

The Judgment

³¹"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

³²"All the nations will gather before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

³³and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

³⁴"Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who have received blessings from My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

³⁵'For I hungered, and you gave Me something to eat; I thirsted, and you gave Me something to drink; you considered a stranger, and you invited Me in;

³⁶naked, and you clothed Me; I became sick, and you visited Me; I went to prison, and you came to Me.'

³⁷"Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink?

³⁸'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?

³⁹'When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

⁴⁰"The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.'

⁴¹"Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which God prepared for the devil and his angels;

⁴²for I hungered, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I thirsted, and you gave Me nothing to drink;

⁴³You considered me a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.'

⁴⁴"Then they themselves also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?'

⁴⁵"Then He will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'

⁴⁶"These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

Matthew 26

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Plot to Kill Jesus

¹When Jesus had finished all these words, He said to His disciples,

²"You know that after two days the Passover will come, and the Son of Man will become handed over for crucifixion."

³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas;

⁴and they plotted together to seize Jesus by stealth and kill Him.

⁵But they said, "Not during the festival, otherwise a riot might occur among the people."

The Precious Ointment

⁶Now when Jesus stayed in Bethany, at the home of Simon the leper,

⁷a woman came to Him with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at the table.

⁸But the disciples became indignant when they saw this, and said, "Why this waste?

⁹"For we might have sold this perfume for a high price and the money given to the poor."

¹⁰But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you bother the woman? For she has done a good deed to Me.

¹¹"For you always have the poor with you; but you do not always have Me.

¹²"For when she poured this perfume on My body, she did it to prepare Me for burial.

¹³"Truly I say to you, wherever this gospel becomes preached in the whole world, what this woman has done people will speak of in memory of her."

Judas's Bargain

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, named Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests

¹⁵and said, "What will you give me to betray Him to you?" And they weighed out thirty pieces of silver to him.

¹⁶From then on he began looking for a good opportunity to betray Jesus.

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

¹⁸And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time has drawn near; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.'""

¹⁹The disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

The Last Passover

²⁰Now when evening came, Jesus reclined at the table with the twelve disciples.

²¹As they ate, He said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me."

²²Being deeply grieved, they each one began to say to Him, "Surely not I, Lord?"

²³And He answered, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl will betray Me.

²⁴"The Son of Man will go, just as the scriptures say of Him; but woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would have proven preferable for that man if he had not entered this world."

²⁵And Judas, who betrayed Him, said, "Surely you don't think I will betray you, Rabbi?" Jesus said to him, "You have said it yourself."

The Lord's Supper Instituted

²⁶While they had eaten, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this represents My body."

²⁷And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you;

²⁸for this represents My blood of the covenant, which I will pour out for many for forgiveness of sins.

²⁹"But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

³⁰After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me this night, for the scriptures read, 'I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL SCATTER.'

³²"But after My Father has resurrected me, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

³³But Peter said to Him, "Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away."

³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

³⁵Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You." All the disciples said the same thing too.

The Garden of Gethsemane

³⁶Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

³⁷And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to have grief and distress.

³⁸Then He said to them, "My soul feels deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me."

³⁹And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if you deem it possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

⁴⁰And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour?"

⁴¹"Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit seems willing, but the flesh proves weak."

⁴²He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, "My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it; I submit to your will."

⁴³Again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes had become heavy.

⁴⁴And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more.

⁴⁵Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Do you still sleep and rest? Behold, the hour has come when the Son of Man will suffer betrayal into the hands of sinners.

⁴⁶"Get up, let us go; behold, the one who betrays Me has shown up!"

Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest

⁴⁷While He still spoke, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people.

⁴⁸Now he who betrayed Him gave them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, seize Him."

⁴⁹Immediately Judas went to Jesus and said, "Hail, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

⁵⁰And Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what have you come for." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him.

⁵¹And behold, one of those who accompanied Jesus reached and drew out his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear.

⁵²Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all those who take up the sword shall perish by the sword.

⁵³"Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

⁵⁴"How then will the Scriptures become fulfilled, which say that it must happen this way?"

⁵⁵At that time Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me as you would against a robber? Every day I used to sit in the temple teaching and you did not seize Me.

⁵⁶"But all this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures of the prophets." Then all the disciples left Him and fled.

Jesus before Caiaphas

⁵⁷Those who had seized Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders gathered together.

⁵⁸But Peter followed Him at a distance as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and entered in, and sat down with the officers to see the outcome.

⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death.

⁶⁰They did not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward,

⁶¹and said, "This man stated, 'I can destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

⁶²The high priest stood up and said to Him, "Do You not answer? What do these men testify against You?"

⁶³But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You consider yourself the Christ, the Son of God."

⁶⁴Jesus said to him, "You have said it yourself; nevertheless I tell you, hereafter you will see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN."

⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy;

⁶⁶what do you think?" They answered, "He deserves death!"

⁶⁷Then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped Him,

⁶⁸and said, "Prophecy to us, You Christ; who hit You?"

Peter's Denials

⁶⁹Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came to him and said, "You too accompanied Jesus the Galilean."

⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you talk about."

⁷¹When he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who stood there, "This man accompanied Jesus of Nazareth."

⁷²And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."

⁷³A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Surely you too belong to them; for even the way you talk gives you away."

⁷⁴Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know the man!" And immediately a rooster crowed.

⁷⁵And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Matthew 27

NASB E-Prime DFM

Judas's Remorse

¹Now when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death;

²and they bound Him, and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor.

³Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had suffered condemnation, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

⁴saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What does that have to do with us? See to that yourself!"

⁵And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.

⁶The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "We do not deem it lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it represents the price of blood."

⁷And they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers.

⁸For this reason that field has received the label the Field of Blood to this day.

⁹Then that which Jeremiah the prophet spoke reached fulfillment: "AND THEY TOOK THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, THE PRICE OF THE ONE WHOSE PRICE HAD BECOME SET by the sons of Israel;

¹⁰AND THEY GAVE THEM FOR THE POTTER'S FIELD, AS THE LORD DIRECTED ME."

Jesus before Pilate

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned Him, saying, "Do you call yourself King of the Jews?" And Jesus said to him, "You speak the truth."

¹²And while the chief priests and elders accused her, He did not answer.

¹³Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?"

¹⁴And He did not answer him with regard to even a single charge, so the governor seemed quite amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor had the custom to release for the people any one prisoner whom they wanted.

¹⁶At that time they held a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas.

¹⁷So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who also has the name of Christ?"

¹⁸For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over.

¹⁹While he sat on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."

²⁰But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death.

²¹But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who also has the name of Christ?" They all said, "Crucify Him!"

²³And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!"

²⁴When Pilate saw that he could accomplish nothing, but rather that a riot had started, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I declare myself innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves."

²⁵And all the people said, "We shall assume His blood on us and on our children!"

²⁶Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to suffer crucifixion.

Jesus Suffers Mockery

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole Roman cohort around Him.

²⁸They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him.

²⁹And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

³⁰They spat on Him, and took the reed and began to beat Him on the head.

³¹After they had mocked Him, they took the scarlet robe off Him and put His own garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him.

³²As they came out, they found a man of Cyrene named Simon, whom they pressed into service to bear His cross.

The Crucifixion

³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull,

³⁴they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting it, He showed unwillingness to drink.

³⁵And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots.

³⁶And sitting down, they began to keep watch over Him there.

³⁷And above His head they put up the charge against Him which read, "THIS IDENTIFIES JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

³⁸At that time two robbers suffered crucifixion with Him, one on the right and one on the left.

³⁹And those passing by hurled abuse at Him, wagging their heads

⁴⁰and saying, "You who had intended to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You proclaim yourself the Son of God, come down from the cross."

⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, mocked Him and said,

⁴²"He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He proclaims Himself the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him.

⁴³"HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE Him now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, 'I proclaim myself the Son of God.'"

⁴⁴The robbers who had suffered crucifixion with Him also insulted Him with the same words.

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour.

⁴⁶About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?" namely, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"

⁴⁷And some of those who stood there, when they heard it, began saying, "This man calls for Elijah."

⁴⁸Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink.

⁴⁹But the rest of them said, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him."

⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

⁵¹And behold, the veil of the temple tore in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks split.

⁵²The tombs opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep came to life;

⁵³and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they entered the holy city and appeared to many.

⁵⁴Now the centurion, and those who accompanied him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, became very frightened and said, "Truly we have seen the Son of God!"

⁵⁵Many women there looked on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee while ministering to Him.

⁵⁶Among them included Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

The Burial of Jesus

⁵⁷When it became evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.

⁵⁸This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered that Joseph receive the body.

⁵⁹And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,

⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

⁶¹And Mary Magdalene stood there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave.

⁶²Now on the next day, the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate,

⁶³and said, "Sir, we remember that when He still lived that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.'

⁶⁴"Therefore, give orders for securing the grave until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will grow worse than the first."

⁶⁵Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how."

⁶⁶And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.

Matthew 28

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Has Risen!

¹Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

²And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.

³And his appearance resembled lightning, and his clothing appeared as white as snow.

⁴The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not fear; for I know that you look for Jesus who has suffered crucifixion.

⁶"He does not lie here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He had lain.

⁷"Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He goes ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you."

⁸And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.

⁹And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him.

¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not fear; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me."

¹¹Now while they went on their way, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened.

¹²And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

¹³and said, "You will say, 'His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we slept.'

¹⁴"And if this should come to the governor's ears, we will win him over and keep you out of trouble."

¹⁵And they took the money and did as they had received instruction; and this story widely spread among the Jews, and still does to this day.

The Great Commission

¹⁶But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated.

¹⁷When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

¹⁸And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority my Father has given to Me in heaven and on earth.

¹⁹"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

²⁰teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I will remain with you always, even to the end of the age."

Mark 1

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Preaching of John the Baptist

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As Isaiah the prophet wrote: "BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY;

³THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.'"

⁴John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵And all the country of Judea went out to him, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they received baptism by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁶John clothed himself with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and his diet consisted of locusts and wild honey.

⁷And he preached, and said, "After me One will come who has more might than I, and I do not consider myself fit to stoop down and untie the thong of His sandals.

⁸"I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Baptism of Jesus

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and received baptism by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him;

¹¹and a voice came out of the heavens: "I acknowledge You as My beloved Son, in You I feel well-pleased."

¹²Immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness.

¹³And He dwelled in the wilderness forty days having subjected Himself to temptation by Satan; and He dwelled with the wild beasts, and the angels ministered to Him.

Jesus Preaches in Galilee

¹⁴Now after the authorities took John into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God,

¹⁵and saying, "The time has come, and the kingdom of God has drawn near; repent and believe in the gospel."

¹⁶As He went along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they worked as fishermen.

¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

¹⁸Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

¹⁹Going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who worked also in the boat mending the nets.

²⁰Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.

²¹They went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach.

²²They felt amazed at His teaching; for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

²³Just then a man came in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

²⁴saying, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I acknowledge You as the Holy One of God!"

²⁵And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Quiet, and come out of him!"

²⁶Throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a loud voice and came out of him.

²⁷They all felt amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, "What do we find here? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him."

²⁸Immediately the news about Him spread everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee.

Crowds Healed

²⁹And immediately after they came out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law had become sick with a fever; and immediately they spoke to Jesus about her.

³¹And He came to her and raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she waited on them.

³²When evening came, after the sun had set, they began bringing to Him all who became ill and those who suffered demon-possession.

³³And the whole city had gathered at the door.

³⁴And He healed many who were ill with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He did not permit the demons to speak, because they knew His identity.

³⁵In the early morning, while it still remained dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and prayed there.

³⁶Simon and his companions searched for Him;

³⁷they found Him, and said to Him, "Everyone looks for You."

³⁸He said to them, "Let us go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may preach there also; for that reason I came."

³⁹And He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out the demons.

⁴⁰And a leper came to Jesus, beseeching Him and falling on his knees before Him, and saying, "If You will, You can make me clean."

⁴¹Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I will; become cleansed."

⁴²Immediately the leprosy left him and he became cleansed.

⁴³And He sternly warned him and immediately sent him away,

⁴⁴and He said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

⁴⁵But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and to spread the news around, to such an extent that Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed out in unpopulated areas; and they came to Him from everywhere.

Mark 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Paralytic Healed

¹When He had come back to Capernaum several days afterward, people heard that He had come home.

²And many gathered together, so that they no longer had room, not even near the door; and He spoke the word to them.

³And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men.

⁴Having the inability to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay.

⁵And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, "Son, I forgive your sins."

⁶But some of the scribes sat there and reasoning in their hearts,

⁷"Why does this man speak that way? He blasphemes; who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they reasoned that way within themselves, said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?"

⁹"Which do you find it easier, to say to the paralytic, 'I forgive Your sins'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk'?"

¹⁰"But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"--He said to the paralytic,

¹¹"I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home."

¹²And he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone, so that they expressed amazement and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."

¹³And He went out again by the seashore; and all the people came to Him, and He taught them.

Levi (Matthew) Called

¹⁴As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.

¹⁵And it happened that He reclined at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners dined with Jesus and His disciples; for there numbered many of them, and they followed Him.

¹⁶When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He ate with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why does He eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹⁷And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "The healthy do not need a physician, but those who have become sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

¹⁸John's disciples and the Pharisees fasted; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁹And Jesus said to them, "While the bridegroom remains with them, the attendants of the bridegroom cannot fast, can they? So long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast.

²⁰"But the days will come when the bridegroom will go away from them, and then they will fast in that day.

²¹"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results.

²²"No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine becomes lost and the skins as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

Question of the Sabbath

²³And it happened that He passed through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads of grain.

²⁴The Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why do they do what we do not deem lawful on the Sabbath?"

²⁵And He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he found himself in need and he and his companions became hungry;

²⁶how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which we do not deem lawful for anyone to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who accompanied him?"

²⁷Jesus said to them, "God made the Sabbath for man, and not man for the Sabbath.

²⁸"So the Son of Man has Lordship even of the Sabbath."

Mark 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

¹He entered again into a synagogue; and a man lived there who had a withered hand.

²They watched Him to see if He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him.

³He said to the man with the withered hand, "Get up and come forward!"

⁴And He said to them, "Do you deem it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to kill?" But they kept silent.

⁵After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and Jesus restored his hand.

⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately began conspiring with the Herodians against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.

⁷Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed; and also from Judea,

⁸and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great number of people heard of all that He did and came to Him.

⁹And He told His disciples that a boat should stand ready for Him because of the crowd, so that they would not crowd Him;

¹⁰for He had healed many, with the result that all those who had afflictions pressed around Him in order to touch Him.

¹¹Whenever the unclean spirits saw Him, they would fall down before Him and shout, "We acknowledge the Son of God!"

¹²And He earnestly warned them not to tell His identity.

Jesus Chooses The Twelve

¹³And He went up on the mountain and summoned those whom He Himself wanted, and they came to Him.

¹⁴And He appointed twelve, so that they would accompany Him and that He could send them out to preach,

¹⁵and to have authority to cast out the demons.

¹⁶And He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom He gave the name Peter),

¹⁷and James, the son of Zebedee, and John the brother of James (to them He gave the name Boanerges, which means, "Sons of Thunder");

¹⁸and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot;

¹⁹and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Him.

²⁰And He came home, and the crowd gathered again, to such an extent that they could not even eat a meal.

²¹When His own people heard of this, they went out to take custody of Him; for they said, "He has lost His senses."

²²The scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has become possessed by Beelzebul," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

²³And He called them to Himself and began speaking to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan?

²⁴"If a kingdom has become divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

²⁵"If a house has become divided against itself, that house will not stand.

²⁶"If Satan has risen up against himself and has become divided, he cannot stand, but has become finished!

²⁷"But no one can enter the strong man's house and plunder his property unless he first binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house.

²⁸"Truly I say to you, the sons of men shall receive forgiveness for all sins, and whatever blasphemies they utter;

²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but makes himself guilty of an eternal sin"--

³⁰because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."

³¹Then His mother and His brothers arrived, and standing outside they sent word to Him and called Him.

³²A crowd sat around Him, and they said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers wait outside looking for You."

³³Answering them, He said, "Who do you consider My mother and My brothers?"

³⁴Looking about at those who sat around Him, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers!"

³⁵"For whoever does the will of God, he makes himself My brother and sister and mother."

Mark 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parable of the Sower and Soils

¹He began to teach again by the sea. And such a very large crowd gathered to Him that He got into a boat in the sea and sat down; and the whole crowd came to the sea on the land.

²And He taught them many things in parables, and said to them in His teaching,

³"Listen to this! Behold, the sower went out to sow;

⁴as he sowed, some seed fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate it up.

⁵Other seed fell on the rocky ground where it did not have much soil; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of soil.

⁶And after the sun had risen, it became scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

⁷Other seed fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it yielded no crop.

⁸Other seeds fell into the good soil, and as they grew up and increased, they yielded a crop and produced thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

⁹And He said, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

¹⁰As soon as He found Himself alone, His followers, along with the twelve, began asking Him about the parables.

¹¹And He said to them, "I have given you the mystery of the kingdom of God, but those who remain outside get everything in parables,

¹²so that WHILE SEEING, THEY MAY SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE, AND WHILE HEARING, THEY MAY HEAR AND NOT UNDERSTAND, OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT RETURN AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS."

Explanation

¹³And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How will you understand all the parables?"

¹⁴"The sower sows the word.

¹⁵"These symbolize the ones who fall beside the road where they sow the word; and when they hear, immediately Satan comes and takes away the word which God has sown in them.

¹⁶"In a similar way these represent the ones on whom the farmer sowed the seed on the rocky places, who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy;

¹⁷and they have no firm root in themselves, but have only temporariness; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.

¹⁸"And others represent the ones on whom the farmer sowed seed among the thorns; these represent the ones who have heard the word,

¹⁹but the worries of the world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

²⁰"And those represent the ones on whom the farmer sowed the seed on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold."

²¹And He said to them, "We do not bring a lamp to put it under a basket, do we, or under a bed? Do we not bring it to put it on the lampstand?"

²²"For we can hide nothing, except to become revealed; nor has anything remained secret, but that it would come to light.

²³"If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

²⁴And He said to them, "Take care what you listen to. By your standard of measure people will measure it to you; and they will give you more besides.

²⁵"For whoever has, God will give more; and whoever does not have, even what he has God shall take away from him."

Parable of the Seed

²⁶And He said, "The kingdom of God resembles a man who casts seed upon the soil;

²⁷and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows--how, he himself does not know.

²⁸"The soil produces crops by itself; first the blade, then the head, then the mature grain in the head.

²⁹"But when the crop permits, he immediately puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

Parable of the Mustard Seed

³⁰And He said, "How shall we picture the kingdom of God, or by what parable shall we present it?"

³¹"It resembles a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the soil, though it is smaller than all the seeds that fall upon the soil,

³²yet when we sow it, it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and forms large branches; so that THE BIRDS OF THE AIR can NEST UNDER ITS SHADE."

³³With many such parables He spoke the word to them, so far as they could hear it;

³⁴and He did not speak to them without a parable; but He explained everything privately to His own disciples.

Jesus Stills the Sea

³⁵On that day, when evening came, He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side."

³⁶Leaving the crowd, they took Him along with them in the boat, just as He went; and other boats came with Him.

³⁷And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves broke over the boat so much that the boat had already filled up.

³⁸Jesus Himself reclined in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we perish?"

³⁹And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Hush, calm yourself." And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm.

⁴⁰And He said to them, "Why do you fear? Do you still have no faith?"

⁴¹They became very much afraid and said to one another, "Who has this power, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?"

Mark 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Gerasene Demoniac

¹They came to the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gerasenes.

²When He got out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an unclean spirit met Him,

³and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, even with a chain;

⁴because people had often bound him with shackles and chains, and he often tore the chains apart and broke the shackles in pieces, and no one had enough strength to subdue him.

⁵Constantly, night and day, he screamed among the tombs and in the mountains, and gashing himself with stones.

⁶Seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him;

⁷and shouting with a loud voice, he said, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God, do not torment me!"

⁸For He had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!"

⁹And He asked him, "What do you call yourself?" And he said to Him, "I call myself Legion; for we number more than one."

¹⁰And he began to implore Him earnestly not to send them out of the country.

¹¹Now a large herd of swine fed nearby on the mountain.

¹²The demons implored Him, saying, "Send us into the swine so that we may enter them."

¹³Jesus gave them permission. And coming out, the unclean spirits entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, about two thousand of them; and they drowned in the sea.

¹⁴Their herdsman ran away and reported it in the city and in the country. And the people came to see what had happened.

¹⁵They came to Jesus and observed the man who had suffered demon-possession sitting down, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the "legion"; and they became frightened.

¹⁶Those who had seen it described to them how it had happened to the demon-possessed man, and all about the swine.

¹⁷And they began to implore Him to leave their region.

¹⁸As He got into the boat, the man who had suffered demon-possession implored Him that he might accompany Him.

¹⁹And He did not let him, but He said to him, "Go home to your people and report to them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He had mercy on you."

²⁰And he went away and began to proclaim in Decapolis what great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone felt amazed.

Miracles and Healing

²¹When Jesus had crossed over again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around Him; and so He stayed by the seashore.

²²One of the synagogue officials named Jairus came up, and on seeing Him, fell at His feet

²³and implored Him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter has deteriorated to the point of death; please come and lay Your hands on her, so that she will get well and live."

²⁴And He went off with him; and a large crowd followed Him and pressed in on Him.

²⁵A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years,

²⁶and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and received no help at all, but rather had grown worse--

²⁷after hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak.

²⁸For she thought, "If I just touch His garments, I will get well."

²⁹Immediately the flow of her blood dried up; and she felt in her body that she received healing of her affliction.

³⁰Immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My garments?"

³¹And His disciples said to Him, "You see the crowd pressing in on You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'"

³²And He looked around to see the woman who had done this.

³³But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.

³⁴And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and receive healing of your affliction."

³⁵While He still spoke, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?"

³⁶But Jesus, overhearing what people had spoken, said to the synagogue official, "Do not fear any longer, only believe."

³⁷And He allowed no one to accompany Him, except Peter and James and John the brother of James.

³⁸They came to the house of the synagogue official; and He saw a commotion, and people loudly weeping and wailing.

³⁹And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but he sleeps."

⁴⁰They began laughing at Him. But putting them all out, He took along the child's father and mother and His own companions, and entered the room where the child reclined.

⁴¹Taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").

⁴²Immediately the girl got up and began to walk, for she had reached twelve years old. And immediately they became completely astounded.

⁴³And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this, and He said that she should receive some food.

Mark 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

E-Prime DFM

Teaching at Nazareth

¹Jesus went out from there and came into His hometown; and His disciples followed Him.

²When the Sabbath came, He began to teach in the synagogue; and the many listeners became astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things, and who gave Him this wisdom, and such miracles as these performed by His hands?"

³"Don't we know him as the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? Do we not have His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him.

⁴Jesus said to them, "A prophet does not lack honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household."

⁵And He could do no miracle there except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them.

⁶And He wondered at their unbelief. And He went around the villages teaching.

The Twelve Sent Out

⁷And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits;

⁸and He instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff--no bread, no bag, no money in their belt--

⁹but to wear sandals; and He added, "Do not put on two tunics."

¹⁰And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town.

¹¹"Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them."

¹²They went out and preached that men should repent.

¹³And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many sick people and healed them.

John's Fate Recalled

¹⁴And King Herod heard of it, for His name had become well known; and people said, "John the Baptist has risen from the dead, and that explains why these miraculous powers work in Him."

¹⁵But others said, "He seems a reincarnation of Elijah" And others said, "He resembles a prophet, like one of the prophets of old."

¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he kept saying, "John, whom I beheaded, has risen!"

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, because he had married her.

¹⁸For John had said to Herod, "You do not behave lawfully to have your brother's wife."

¹⁹Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death and could not do so;

²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he lived as a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. And when he heard him, he felt very perplexed; but he used to enjoy listening to him.

²¹A strategic day came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his lords and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee;

²²and when the daughter of Herodias herself came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you want and I will give it to you."

²³And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask of me, I will give it to you; up to half of my kingdom."

²⁴And she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist."

²⁵Immediately she came in a hurry to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

²⁶Although the king regretted this decision, because of his oaths and because of his dinner guests, he didn't want to refuse her.

²⁷Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded him to bring back his head. And he went and had him beheaded in the prison,

²⁸and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.

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

³⁰The apostles gathered together with Jesus; and they reported to Him all that they had done and taught.

³¹And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while." (For many people continued to come and go, and they did not even have time to eat.)

³²They went away in the boat to a secluded place by themselves.

Five Thousand Fed

³³The people saw them going, and many recognized them and ran there together on foot from all the cities, and got there ahead of them.

³⁴When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they acted like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

³⁵When it grew quite late, His disciples came to Him and said, "This place looks desolate and it has already become quite late;

³⁶send them away so that they may go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

³⁷But He answered them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said to Him, "Shall we go and spend two hundred denarii on bread and give them something to eat?"

³⁸And He said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go look!" And when they found out, they said, "Five, and two fish."

³⁹And He commanded them all to sit down by groups on the green grass.

⁴⁰They sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.

⁴¹And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed the food and broke the loaves and He kept giving them to the disciples to set before them; and He divided up the two fish among them all.

⁴²They all ate and felt satisfied,

⁴³and they picked up twelve full baskets of the broken pieces, and also of the fish.

⁴⁴There numbered five thousand men who ate the loaves.

Jesus Walks on the Water

⁴⁵Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side to Bethsaida, while He Himself sent the crowd away.

⁴⁶After bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray.

⁴⁷When it became evening, the boat moved into the middle of the sea, and He stood alone on the land.

⁴⁸Seeing them straining at the oars, for the wind pressed against them, at about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea; and He intended to pass by them.

⁴⁹But when they saw Him walking on the sea, they supposed that they had seen a ghost, and cried out;

⁵⁰for they all saw Him and felt terrified. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them, "Take courage; you look at Me, do not feel afraid."

⁵¹Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they became utterly astonished,

⁵²for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart became hardened.

Healing at Gennesaret

⁵³When they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored to the shore.

⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him,

⁵⁵and ran about that whole country and began to carry here and there on their pallets those who had infirmities, to the place they heard He had come.

⁵⁶Wherever He entered villages, or cities, or countryside, they placed the sick in the market places, and imploring Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched it received healing.

Mark 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Followers of Tradition

¹The Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem,

²and had seen that some of His disciples ate their bread with impure hands, in other words, unwashed.

³(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the traditions of the elders;

⁴and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and many other things they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.)

⁵The Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?"

⁶And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as he stated: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART STRAYS FAR AWAY FROM ME.

⁷'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'

⁸"Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men."

⁹He also said to them, "You have become experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition.

¹⁰"For Moses said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER'; and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER, WILL RECEIVE DEATH';

¹¹but you say, 'If a man says to his father or his mother, whatever I have that would help you I have dedicated to Corban (namely, given to God),'

¹²you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or his mother;

¹³thus invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down; and you do many things such as that."

The Heart of Man

¹⁴After He called the crowd to Him again, He began saying to them, "Listen to Me, all of you, and understand:

¹⁵ nothing exists outside the man which can defile him if it goes into him; but the things which proceed out of the man defile the man.

¹⁶["If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."]

¹⁷When he had left the crowd and entered the house, His disciples questioned Him about the parable.

¹⁸And He said to them, "Do you so lack in understanding also? Do you not understand that whatever goes into the man from outside cannot defile him,

¹⁹because it does not go into his heart, but into his stomach, and becomes eliminated?" (Thus He declared all foods clean.)

²⁰And He said, "That which proceeds out of the man defiles the man.

²¹"For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,

²²deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

²³"All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

The Syrophenician Woman

²⁴Jesus got up and went away from there to the region of Tyre. And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know of it; yet He could not escape notice.

²⁵But after hearing of Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately came and fell at His feet.

²⁶Now the woman we identify as a Gentile, of the Syrophoenician race. And she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

²⁷And He said to her, "Let the children have satisfaction first, for we do not consider it good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

²⁸But she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children's crumbs."

²⁹And He said to her, "Because of this answer go; the demon has gone out of your daughter."

³⁰And going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, the demon having left.

³¹Again He went out from the region of Tyre, and came through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of Decapolis.

³²They brought to Him one who had deafness and spoke with difficulty, and they implored Him to lay His hand on him.

³³Jesus took him aside from the crowd, by himself, and put His fingers into his ears, and after spitting, He touched his tongue with the saliva;

³⁴and looking up to heaven with a deep sigh, He said to him, "Ephphatha!" namely, "Become open!"

³⁵And his ears opened, and the impediment of his tongue disappeared, and he began speaking plainly.

³⁶And He gave them orders not to tell anyone; but the more He ordered them, the more widely they continued to proclaim it.

³⁷They felt utterly astonished, saying, "He has done all things well; He makes even the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Mark 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Four Thousand Fed

¹In those days, when there again gathered a large crowd and they had nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples and said to them,

²"I feel compassion for the people because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat.

³"If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way; and some of them have come from a great distance."

⁴And His disciples answered Him, "Where will anyone find enough bread here in this desolate place to satisfy these people?"

⁵And He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven."

⁶And He directed the people to sit down on the ground; and taking the seven loaves, He gave thanks and broke them, and started giving them to His disciples to serve to them, and they served them to the people.

⁷They also had a few small fish; and after He had blessed them, He ordered His disciples to serve these as well.

⁸And they ate and became satisfied; and they picked up seven large baskets full of the leftovers of the broken pieces.

⁹About four thousand arrived there; and He sent them away.

¹⁰And immediately He entered the boat with His disciples and came to the district of Dalmanutha.

¹¹The Pharisees came out and began to argue with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, to test Him.

¹²Sighing deeply in His spirit, He said, "Why does this generation seek for a sign? Truly I say to you, I will give no sign to this generation."

¹³Leaving them, He again embarked and went away to the other side.

¹⁴And they had forgotten to take bread, and did not have more than one loaf in the boat with them.

¹⁵And He gave orders to them, saying, "Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."

¹⁶They began to discuss with one another the fact that they had no bread.

¹⁷And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart?"

¹⁸"HAVING EYES, DO YOU NOT SEE? AND HAVING EARS, DO YOU NOT HEAR? And do you not remember,

¹⁹when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?" They said to Him, "Twelve."

²⁰"When I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?" And they said to Him, "Seven."

²¹And He said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

²²And they came to Bethsaida and they brought a blind man to Jesus and implored Him to touch him.

²³Taking the blind man by the hand, He brought him out of the village; and after spitting on his eyes and laying His hands on him, He asked him, "Do you see anything?"

²⁴And he looked up and said, "I see men, for I see them like trees, walking around."

²⁵Then again He laid His hands on his eyes; and he looked intently and his vision became restored, and began to see everything clearly.

²⁶And He sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."

Peter's Confession of Christ

²⁷Jesus went out, along with His disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way He questioned His disciples, saying to them, "What do people say about my identity?"

²⁸They told Him, saying, "John the Baptist; and others say Elijah; but others, one of the prophets."

²⁹And He continued by questioning them, "But what do you believe about my identity?" Peter answered and said to Him, "We consider You the Christ."

³⁰And He warned them to tell no one about Him.

³¹And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and receive rejection by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and suffer execution, and after three days rise again.

³²And He stated the matter plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.

³³But turning around and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan; for you do not set your mind on God's interests, but man's."

³⁴And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

³⁵"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

³⁶"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?

³⁷"For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

³⁸"For whoever has shame for Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also have shame about him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Mark 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Transfiguration

¹And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, some of those who stand here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God after it has come with power."

²Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and brought them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He became transfigured before them;

³and His garments became radiant and exceedingly white, as no launderer on earth can whiten them.

⁴Elijah appeared to them along with Moses; and they talked with Jesus.

⁵Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it feels good for us to come here; let us make three tabernacles, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁶For he did not know what to answer; for they became terrified.

⁷Then a cloud formed, overshadowing them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "I give you My beloved Son, listen to Him!"

⁸All at once they looked around and saw no one with them anymore, except Jesus alone.

⁹As they came down from the mountain, He gave them orders not to relate to anyone what they had seen, until the Son of Man rose from the dead.

¹⁰They seized upon that statement, discussing with one another what rising from the dead meant.

¹¹They asked Him, saying, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

¹²And He said to them, "Elijah does first come and restore all things. And yet how do the scriptures state that the Son of Man will suffer many things and receive contemptuous treatment?"

¹³"But I say to you that Elijah has indeed come, and they did to him whatever they wished, just as the scriptures state of him."

All Things Possible

¹⁴When they came back to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.

¹⁵Immediately, when the entire crowd saw Him, they became amazed and began running up to greet Him.

¹⁶And He asked them, "What have you discussed with them?"

¹⁷And one of the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him mute;

¹⁸and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground and he foams at the mouth, and grinds his teeth and stiffens out. I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it."

¹⁹And He answered them and said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I live with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!"

²⁰They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth.

²¹And He asked his father, "How long has this happened to him?" And he said, "From childhood.

²²"It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, take pity on us and help us!"

²³And Jesus said to him, "'If You can?' All things become possible to him who believes."

²⁴Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe; help my unbelief."

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd rapidly gathered, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again."

²⁶After crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, "He has died!"

²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him; and he got up.

²⁸When He came into the house, His disciples began questioning Him privately, "Why could we not drive it out?"

²⁹And He said to them, "This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer."

Death and Resurrection Foretold

³⁰From there they went out and began to go through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know about it.

³¹For He taught His disciples and told them, "The Son of Man will fall into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and when they kill Him, He will rise three days later."

³²But they did not understand this statement, and they feared to ask Him.

³³They came to Capernaum; and when He came to the house, He began to question them, "What did you discuss on the way?"

³⁴But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them would become the greatest.

³⁵Sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall make himself last of all and servant of all."

³⁶Taking a child, He set him before them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them,

³⁷"Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me."

Dire Warnings

³⁸John said to Him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we tried to prevent him because he did not follow us."

³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not hinder him, for no one who will perform a miracle in My name, will have the ability afterward to speak evil of Me.

⁴⁰"For he who does not oppose us supports us.

⁴¹"For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of your name as followers of Christ, truly I say to you, he will not lose his reward.

⁴²"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe to stumble, he would find it preferable to him if, with a heavy millstone hung around his neck, someone had cast him into the sea.

⁴³"If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; you will find it better for you to enter life crippled, than, having your two hands, to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire,

⁴⁴[where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE DOES NOT QUIT.]

⁴⁵"If your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; you would find it better for you to enter life lame, than, having your two feet, to find yourself cast into hell,

⁴⁶[where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE DOES NOT QUIT.]

⁴⁷"If your eye causes you to stumble, throw it out; you will find it better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, than, having two eyes, for God to cast you into hell,

⁴⁸where THEIR WORM DOES NOT DIE, AND THE FIRE DOES NOT GO OUT.

⁴⁹"For God will salt everyone with fire.

⁵⁰"Salt has value; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and remain at peace with one another."

Mark 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus' Teaching about Divorce

¹Getting up, He went from there to the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan; crowds gathered around Him again, and, according to His custom, He once more began to teach them.

²Some Pharisees came up to Jesus, testing Him, and began to question Him whether He deemed it lawful for a man to divorce a wife.

³And He answered and said to them, "What did Moses command you?"

⁴They said, "Moses permitted a man TO WRITE A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND her AWAY."

⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment.

⁶"But from the beginning of creation, God MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE.

⁷"FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER,

⁸AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH; for God no longer regards them as two, but one flesh.

⁹"What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

¹⁰In the house the disciples began questioning Him about this again.

¹¹And He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her;

¹²and if she herself divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

Jesus Blesses Little Children

¹³And they brought children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, He became indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

¹⁵"Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all."

¹⁶And He took them in His arms and began blessing them, laying His hands on them.

The Rich Young Ruler

¹⁷As He set out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁸And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? We can call no one good except God alone.

¹⁹"You know the commandments, 'DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, Do not defraud, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.'"

²⁰And he said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up."

²¹Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

²²But at these words he became sad, and he went away grieving, for he owned much property.

²³And Jesus, looking around, said to His disciples, "How hard will those who have wealth find it to enter the kingdom of God!"

²⁴The disciples became amazed at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard one finds it to enter the kingdom of God!

²⁵"We would find it easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶They felt even more astonished and said to Him, "Then who can receive salvation?"

²⁷Looking at them, Jesus said, "With people it seems impossible, but not with God; for all things God makes possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You."

²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I say to you, no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or farms, for My sake and for the gospel's sake,

³⁰but that he will receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.

³¹"But many who arrived first will become last, and the last, first."

Jesus' Sufferings Foretold

³²They traveled on the road going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus walked on ahead of them; and they felt amazed, and those who followed feared. And again He took the twelve aside and began to tell them what would happen to Him,

³³saying, "Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and people will deliver the Son of Man to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles.

³⁴"They will mock Him and spit on Him, and scourge Him and kill Him, and three days later He will rise again."

³⁵James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, came up to Jesus, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You."

³⁶And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

³⁷They said to Him, "Grant that we may sit, one on Your right and one on Your left, in Your glory."

³⁸But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what ask. Can you drink the cup that I drink, or receive the baptism with which I have received?"

³⁹They said to Him, "We can." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you shall drink; and you shall receive the baptism which I have received."

⁴⁰"But to sit on My right or on My left, this does not belong to me; but God has prepared those positions."

⁴¹Hearing this, the ten began to feel indignant with James and John.

⁴²Calling them to Himself, Jesus said to them, "You know that those who receive recognition as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great men exercise authority over them."

⁴³"But it should not occur among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall become a servant;

⁴⁴and whoever wishes to become first among you shall make himself a slave of all.

⁴⁵"For even the Son of Man did not come to have someone serve him, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho, and as He left Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road.

⁴⁷When he heard that Jesus the Nazarene had arrived, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁸Many sternly told him to keep quiet, but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage, stand up! He calls for you."

⁵⁰Throwing aside his cloak, he jumped up and came to Jesus.

⁵¹And answering him, Jesus said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And the blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, I want to regain my sight!"

⁵²And Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him on the road.

Mark 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Triumphal Entry

¹As they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples,

²and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one yet has ever sat; untie it and bring it here.

³"If anyone says to you, 'Why do you do this?' you say, 'The Lord has need of it'; and immediately he will send it back here."

⁴They went away and found a colt tied at the door, outside in the street; and they untied it.

⁵Some of the bystanders said to them, "Why do you untie the colt?"

⁶They spoke to them just as Jesus had told them, and they gave them permission.

⁷They brought the colt to Jesus and put their coats on it; and He sat on it.

⁸And many spread their coats in the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields.

⁹Those who went in front and those who followed shouted: "Hosanna! We BLESS Him WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD;

¹⁰We bless the coming kingdom of our father David; Hosanna in the highest!"

¹¹Jesus entered Jerusalem and came into the temple; and after looking around at everything, He left for Bethany with the twelve, since it had become already late.

¹²On the next day, when they had left Bethany, He became hungry.

¹³Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it had not yet become the season for figs.

¹⁴He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again!" And His disciples listened.

Jesus Drives Money Changers from the Temple

¹⁵Then they came to Jerusalem. And He entered the temple and began to drive out those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves;

¹⁶and He would not permit anyone to carry merchandise through the temple.

¹⁷And He began to teach and say to them, "Do the scriptures not say, 'MY HOUSE SHALL SERVE AS A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL THE NATIONS'? But you have made it a ROBBERS' DEN."

¹⁸The chief priests and the scribes heard this, and began seeking how to destroy Him; for they feared Him, for the whole crowd felt astonished at His teaching.

¹⁹When evening came, they would go out of the city.

²⁰As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up.

²¹Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered."

²²And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God.

²³"Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Remove yourself and cast yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will happen.

²⁴"Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will receive them.

²⁵"Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who lives in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.

²⁶["But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who lives in heaven forgive your transgressions."]

Jesus' Authority Questioned

²⁷They came again to Jerusalem. And as He walked in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to Him,

²⁸and began saying to Him, "By what authority do You do these things, or who gave You this authority to do these things?"

²⁹And Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question, and you answer Me, and then I will tell you by what authority I do these things.

³⁰"Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or from men? Answer Me."

³¹They began reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Then why did you not believe him?'

³²"But shall we say, 'From men'?"--they feared the people, for everyone considered John a real prophet.

³³Answering Jesus, they said, "We do not know." And Jesus said to them, "Nor will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Mark 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parable of the Vine-growers

¹And He began to speak to them in parables: "A man PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT, AND DUG A VAT UNDER THE WINE PRESS AND BUILT A TOWER, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey.

²"At the harvest time he sent a slave to the vine-growers, in order to receive some of the produce of the vineyard from the vine-growers.

³"They took him, and beat him and sent him away empty-handed.

⁴"Again he sent them another slave, and they wounded him in the head, and treated him shamefully.

⁵"And he sent another, and that one they killed; and so with many others, beating some and killing others.

⁶"He had one more to send, a beloved son; he sent him last of all to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'

⁷"But those vine-growers said to one another, 'Here comes the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will belong to us!'

⁸"They took him, and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard.

⁹"What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the vine-growers, and will give the vineyard to others.

¹⁰"Have you not even read this Scripture: 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone;

¹¹'THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT APPEARS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"

¹²And they sought to seize Him, and yet they feared the people, for they understood that He spoke the parable against them. And so they left Him and went away.

Jesus Answers the Pharisees, Sadducees and Scribes

¹³Then they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him in order to trap Him in a statement.

¹⁴They came and said to Him, "Teacher, we know that You speak the truth and defer to no one; for You do not show partiality to any, but teach the way of God in truth. Do you consider it lawful to pay a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?"

¹⁵"Shall we pay or shall we not pay?" But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test Me? Bring Me a denarius to look at."

¹⁶They brought one. And He said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription do you see?" And they said to Him, "Caesar's."

¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things belong to Caesar, and to God the things that belong to God." And they felt amazement at Him.

¹⁸Some Sadducees (who believe in no resurrection) came to Jesus, and began questioning Him, saying,

¹⁹"Teacher, Moses wrote for us that IF A MAN'S BROTHER DIES and leaves behind a wife AND LEAVES NO CHILD, HIS BROTHER SHOULD MARRY THE WIFE AND RAISE UP CHILDREN TO HIS BROTHER.

²⁰"Let's say we know seven brothers; and the first took a wife, and died leaving no children.

²¹"The second one married her, and died leaving behind no children; and the third likewise;

²²and so all seven left no children. Last of all the woman died also.

²³"In the resurrection, when they rise again, which one's wife will she become? For all seven had married her."

²⁴Jesus said to them, "You have mistaken reasoning, that you do not understand the Scriptures or the power of God?"

²⁵"For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor become given in marriage, but resemble the angels in heaven.

²⁶"But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I PROCLAIM MYSELF THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, and the God of Jacob'?"

²⁷"He does not serve as the God of the dead, but of the living; you make a great mistake."

²⁸One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment do you consider the foremost of all?"

²⁹Jesus answered, "The foremost I consider, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD CONSTITUTES ONE LORD;

³⁰AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'

³¹"The second I consider this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' No other commandment do we find greater than these."

³²The scribe said to Him, "Right, Teacher; You have truly stated that HE CONSTITUTES ONE, AND NO ONE ELSE EXISTS BESIDES HIM;

³³AND TO LOVE HIM WITH ALL THE HEART AND WITH ALL THE UNDERSTANDING AND WITH ALL THE STRENGTH, AND TO LOVE ONE'S

NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF, amounts to much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴When Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, "You have placed yourself in close proximity to the kingdom of God." After that, no one would venture to ask Him any more questions.

³⁵And Jesus began to say, as He taught in the temple, "How do the scribes say that the Christ constitutes the son of David?"

³⁶"David himself said in the Holy Spirit, 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I PUT YOUR ENEMIES BENEATH YOUR FEET.'"

³⁷"David himself calls Him 'Lord'; so in what sense does He constitute his son?" And the large crowd enjoyed listening to Him.

³⁸In His teaching He said: "Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes, and like respectful greetings in the market places,

³⁹and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets,

⁴⁰who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers; these will receive greater condemnation."

The Widow's Mite

⁴¹And He sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the people put money into the treasury; and many rich people had put in large sums.

⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent.

⁴³Calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury;

⁴⁴for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."

Mark 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

Things to Come

¹As He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, "Teacher, behold what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!"

²And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will remain upon another which will not become torn down."

³As He sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew questioned Him privately,

⁴"Tell us, when will these things happen, and what sign will we recognize when all these things will become fulfilled?"

⁵And Jesus began to say to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

⁶"Many will come in My name, saying, 'I proclaim myself as He!' and will mislead many.

⁷"When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not fear; those things must take place; but the end has not yet come.

⁸"For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; earthquakes will occur in various places; there will also come famines. These things signal merely the beginning of birth pangs.

⁹"But remain on your guard; for they will deliver you to the courts, and you will receive flogging in the synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them.

¹⁰"The gospel must first reach all the nations.

¹¹"When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you will say, but say whatever inspiration you receive in that hour; for you do not speak, but the Holy Spirit speaks.

¹²"Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death.

¹³"You will receive hatred by all because of My name, but the one who endures to the end, he will receive salvation.

¹⁴"But when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION standing where it should not stand (let the reader understand), then those who live in Judea must flee to the mountains.

¹⁵"The one who finds himself on the housetop must not go down, or go in to get anything out of his house;

¹⁶and the one who finds himself in the field must not turn back to get his coat.

¹⁷"But woe to those who have become pregnant and to those who nurse babies in those days!

¹⁸"But pray that it may not happen in the winter.

¹⁹"For those days will prove a time of tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will.

²⁰"Unless the Lord had shortened those days, no life would have received salvation; but for the sake of the elect, whom He chose, He shortened the days.

²¹"And then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here we see the Christ'; or, 'Behold, He stands there'; do not believe him;

²²for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

²³"But take heed; behold, I have told you everything in advance.

The Return of Christ

²⁴"But in those days, after that tribulation, THE SUN WILL DARKEN AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT,

²⁵AND THE STARS WILL FALL from heaven, and the powers that locate in the heavens will become shaken.

²⁶"Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN CLOUDS with great power and glory.

²⁷"And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven.

²⁸"Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer has drawn near.

²⁹"Even so, you too, when you see these things happening, recognize that He has come near, right at the door.

³⁰"Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

³¹"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

³²"But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

³³"Take heed, keep on the alert; for you do not know when the appointed time will come.

³⁴"It resembles a man away on a journey, who upon leaving his house and putting his slaves in charge, assigning to each one his task, also commanded the doorkeeper to stay on the alert.

³⁵"Therefore, stay alert--for you do not know when the master of the house comes, whether in the evening, at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning--

³⁶in case he should come suddenly and find you asleep.

³⁷"What I say to you I say to all, 'Stay alert!'"

Mark 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Death Plot and Anointing

¹Now the Passover and Unleavened Bread we calculated as two days away; and the chief priests and the scribes were taught how to seize Him by stealth and kill Him;

²for they said, "Not during the festival, otherwise a riot of the people may occur."

³While He resided in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head.

⁴But some indignantly remarked to one another, "Why has this perfume gone to waste?

⁵"For we might have sold this perfume for over three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her.

⁶But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you bother her? She has done a good deed to Me.

⁷"For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them; but you do not always have Me.

⁸"She has done what she could; she has anointed My body beforehand for the burial.

⁹"Truly I say to you, wherever the gospel will become preached in the whole world, what this woman has done people will also speak of in memory of her."

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who belonged to the twelve, went off to the chief priests in order to betray Him to them.

¹¹They felt glad when they heard this, and promised to give him money. And he began seeking how to betray Him at an opportune time.

The Last Passover

¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

¹³And He sent two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him;

¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where can we find My guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?'"

¹⁵"And he himself will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; prepare for us there."

¹⁶The disciples went out and came to the city, and found it just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷When it became evening He came with the twelve.

¹⁸As they reclined at the table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me--one who eats with Me."

¹⁹They began to feel grieved and to say to Him one by one, "Surely not I?"

²⁰And He said to them, "One of the twelve, one who dips with Me in the bowl.

²¹"For the Son of Man will go just as the scriptures say; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man receives betrayal! It would have seemed good for that man if he had not received the opportunity to become born."

The Lord's Supper

²²While they ate, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this symbolizes My body."

²³And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

²⁴And He said to them, "This symbolizes My blood of the covenant, which I pour out for many.

²⁵"Truly I say to you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

²⁷And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, because the scriptures say, 'I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP SHALL SCATTER.'

²⁸"But after my Father will raise me, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

²⁹But Peter said to Him, "Even though all may fall away, yet I will not."

³⁰And Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you, that this very night, before a rooster crows twice, you yourself will deny Me three times."

³¹But Peter kept saying insistently, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And they all said the same thing also.

Jesus in Gethsemane

³²They came to a place named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here until I have prayed."

³³And He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to feel very distressed and troubled.

³⁴And He said to them, "My soul feels deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch."

³⁵And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground and began to pray that if could become possible, the hour might pass Him by.

³⁶And He said, "Abba! Father! All things you find possible to do; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will."

³⁷And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, do you sleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

³⁸"Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit feels willing, but the flesh proves weak."

³⁹Again He went away and prayed, saying the same words.

⁴⁰And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes felt very heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him.

⁴¹And He came the third time, and said to them, "Do you still sleep and rest? You have rested enough; the hour has come; behold, the Son of Man will now become betrayed into the hands of sinners.

⁴²"Get up, let us go; behold, the one who betrays Me has arrived!"

Betrayal and Arrest

⁴³Immediately while He still spoke, Judas, one of the twelve, came up accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs, who represented the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.

⁴⁴Now he who had betrayed Him had given them a signal, saying, "Whomever I kiss seize Him and lead Him away under guard."

⁴⁵After coming, Judas immediately went to Him, saying, "Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

⁴⁶They laid hands on Him and seized Him.

⁴⁷But one of those who stood by drew his sword, and struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his ear.

⁴⁸And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest Me, as you would against a robber?"

⁴⁹"Every day I stood with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me; but this has taken place to fulfill the Scriptures."

⁵⁰And they all left Him and fled.

⁵¹A young man followed Him, wearing nothing but a linen sheet over his naked body; and they seized him.

⁵²But he pulled free of the linen sheet and escaped naked.

Jesus before His Accusers

⁵³They led Jesus away to the high priest; and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes gathered together.

⁵⁴Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he sat with the officers and warmed himself at the fire.

⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, and they could not find any.

⁵⁶For many gave false testimony against Him, but their testimony didn't prove consistent.

⁵⁷Some stood up and began to give false testimony against Him, saying,

⁵⁸"We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.'"

⁵⁹Not even in this respect did their testimony prove consistent.

⁶⁰The high priest stood up and came forward and questioned Jesus, saying, "Do You not answer? What do these men testify about You?"

⁶¹But He kept silent and did not answer. Again the high priest questioned Him, and said to Him, "Do You call yourself the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?"

⁶²And Jesus said, "I do; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN."

⁶³Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses?"

⁶⁴"You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him as deserving of death.

⁶⁵Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, "Prophecy!" And the officers received Him with slaps in the face.

Peter's Denials

⁶⁶As Peter stood below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came,

⁶⁷and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also accompanied Jesus the Nazarene."

⁶⁸But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you talk about." And he went out onto the porch.

⁶⁹The servant-girl saw him, and began once more to say to the bystanders, "I recognize Him as one of them!"

⁷⁰But again he denied it And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Surely you belong to them, for you come from Galilee too."

⁷¹But he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this man you talk about!"

⁷²Immediately a rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had made the remark to him, "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." And he began to weep.

Mark 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus before Pilate

¹Early in the morning the chief priests with the elders and scribes and the whole Council, immediately held a consultation; and binding Jesus, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate.

²Pilate questioned Him, "Do You call Yourself the King of the Jews?" And He answered him, "You said it correctly."

³The chief priests began to accuse Him harshly.

⁴Then Pilate questioned Him again, saying, "Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!"

⁵But Jesus made no further answer; so Pilate felt amazed.

⁶Now at the feast he used to release for them any one prisoner whom they requested.

⁷The man named Barabbas had received imprisonment with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the insurrection.

⁸The crowd went up and began asking him to do as he had customarily done for them.

⁹Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

¹⁰For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy.

¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to ask him to release Barabbas for them instead.

¹²Answering again, Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?"

¹³They shouted back, "Crucify Him!"

¹⁴But Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify Him!"

¹⁵Wishing to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to suffer crucifixion.

Jesus Is Mocked

¹⁶The soldiers took Him away into the palace (namely, the Praetorium), and they called together the whole Roman cohort.

¹⁷They dressed Him up in purple, and after twisting a crown of thorns, they put it on Him;

¹⁸and they began to acclaim Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

¹⁹They kept beating His head with a reed, and spitting on Him, and kneeling and bowing before Him.

²⁰After they had mocked Him, they took the purple robe off Him and put His own garments on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

²¹They pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross.

The Crucifixion

²²Then they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which we translate, Place of a Skull.

²³They tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh; but He did not take it.

²⁴And they crucified Him, and divided up His garments among themselves, casting lots for them to decide what each man should take.

²⁵It became the third hour when they crucified Him.

²⁶The inscription of the charge against Him read, "THE KING OF THE JEWS."

²⁷They crucified two robbers with Him, one on His right and one on His left.

²⁸[And the Scripture became fulfilled which says, "And they numbered Him with transgressors."]

²⁹Those passing by hurled abuse at Him, wagging their heads, and saying, "Ha! You who planned to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days,

³⁰save Yourself, and come down from the cross!"

³¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes, mocked Him among themselves and said, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself.

³²"Let this Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, so that we may see and believe!" Those who suffered crucifixion with Him also insulted Him.

³³When the sixth hour came, darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour.

³⁴At the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "ELOI, ELOI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?" which we translate, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"

³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they began saying, "Behold, He calls for Elijah."

³⁶Someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink, saying, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down."

³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last.

³⁸And the veil of the temple ripped in half from top to bottom.

³⁹When the centurion, who stood right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly I acknowledge this man as the Son of God!"

⁴⁰Some women looked on from a distance, among whom included Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the Less and Joses, and Salome.

⁴¹When He lived in Galilee, they used to follow Him and minister to Him; and many other women came up with Him to Jerusalem.

Jesus' Burial

⁴²When evening had already come, because the preparation day had come, namely, the day before the Sabbath,

⁴³Joseph of Arimathea came, a prominent member of the Council, who himself waited for the kingdom of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus.

⁴⁴Pilate wondered if He had died by this time, and summoned the centurion, he questioned him as to whether He had already died.

⁴⁵And ascertaining this from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

⁴⁶Joseph bought a linen cloth, took Him down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in a tomb which they had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.

⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses looked on to see where they laid Him.

Mark 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Resurrection

¹When the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him.

²Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

³They said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴Looking up, they saw that someone had rolled the stone away, although it looked extremely large.

⁵Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they felt amazed.

⁶And he said to them, "Do not feel amazed; you look for Jesus the Nazarene, who suffered crucifixion He has risen; He no longer lies here; behold, here we see the place where they laid Him.

⁷"But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He goes ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'"

⁸They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they felt afraid.

⁹[Now after He had risen, early on the first day of the week He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons.

¹⁰She went and reported to those who had accompanied Him, while they mourned and wept.

¹¹When they heard that He lived and had that she had seen Him, they refused to believe it.

¹²After that, He appeared in a different form to two of them while they walked along on their way to the country.

¹³They went away and reported it to the others, but they did not believe them either.

The Disciples Commissioned

¹⁴Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they reclined at the table; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.

¹⁵And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

¹⁶"He who has believed and has received baptism shall receive salvation; but he who has disbelieved shall receive condemnation.

¹⁷"These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;

¹⁸they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

¹⁹So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, His Father received Him up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

²⁰And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.] [And they promptly reported all these instructions to Peter and his companions. And after that, Jesus Himself sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.]

Luke 1-24

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction

¹Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us,

²just as the eyewitnesses and servants of the word had sent us,

³it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus;

⁴so that you may know the exact truth about the things in which you have received instruction.

Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

⁵In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there lived a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife named Elizabeth.

⁶They both walked righteously in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord.

⁷But they had no child, because Elizabeth found herself barren, and they had both advanced in years.

⁸Now it happened that while he performed his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division,

⁹according to the custom of the priestly office, he became chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense.

¹⁰And the whole multitude of the people prayed outside at the hour of the incense offering.

¹¹And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense.

¹²Zacharias felt troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him.

¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not fear, Zacharias, for God has heard your petition, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

¹⁴"You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

¹⁵"For he will grow great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will become filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb.

¹⁶"And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God.

¹⁷"He who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

¹⁸Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this for certain? For I have grown old and my wife has advanced in years."

¹⁹The angel answered and said to him, "I proclaim myself as Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and God has sent me to speak to you and to bring you this good news.

²⁰"And behold, you shall become silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will reach fulfillment in their proper time."

²¹The people had waited for Zacharias, and wondered at his delay in the temple.

²²But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he kept making signs to them, and remained mute.

²³When the days of his priestly service ended, he went back home.

²⁴After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying,

²⁵"This proves the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked with favor upon me, to take away my disgrace among men."

Jesus' Birth Foretold

²⁶Now in the sixth month God sent the angel Gabriel to a city in Galilee called Nazareth,

²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man with the name of Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin with the name of Mary.

²⁸And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord dwells with you."

²⁹But she felt very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this proved.

³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not fear, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

³¹"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus.

³²"He will do great things and people will call Him the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;

³³and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this happen, since I find myself a virgin?"

³⁵The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason people will call the holy Child the Son of God.

³⁶"And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who had barrenness has now reached her sixth month of pregnancy.

³⁷"For God finds nothing impossible."

³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may you do to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah,

⁴⁰and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth became filled with the Holy Spirit.

⁴²And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "The Lord has blessed you among women, and the Lord blesses the fruit of your womb!

⁴³"And how has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me?

⁴⁴"For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy.

⁴⁵"And the Lord blesses her who believed that a fulfillment would occur that the Lord had spoken to her."

The Magnificat

⁴⁶And Mary said: "My soul exalts the Lord,

⁴⁷And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

⁴⁸"For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondservant; for behold, from this time on all generations will count me blessed.

⁴⁹"For the Mighty One has done great things for me; and holy we acknowledge His name.

⁵⁰"AND HIS MERCY FALLS UPON GENERATION AFTER GENERATION TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM.

⁵¹"He has done mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who behaved proudly in the thoughts of their heart.

⁵²"He has brought down rulers from their thrones, and has exalted those who demonstrated humility.

⁵³"HE HAS FILLED THE HUNGRY WITH GOOD THINGS; and sent away the rich empty-handed.

⁵⁴"He has given help to Israel His servant, in remembrance of His mercy,

⁵⁵As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and his descendants forever."

⁵⁶And Mary stayed with her about three months, and then returned to her home.

The Birth of John

⁵⁷Now the time had come for Elizabeth to give birth, and she gave birth to a son.

⁵⁸Her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord had displayed His great mercy toward her; and they rejoiced with her.

⁵⁹And it happened that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they wanted to call him Zacharias, after his father.

⁶⁰But his mother answered and said, "No indeed; but we shall call him John."

⁶¹And they said to her, "No one among your relatives has ever had that name."

⁶²And they made signs to his father, as to what he wanted him called.

⁶³And he asked for a tablet and wrote as follows, "We will name him John."
And they all felt astonishment.

⁶⁴And at once his mouth opened and his tongue loosed, and he began to speak in praise of God.

⁶⁵Fear came on all those living around them; and people talked about all these matters in all the hill country of Judea.

⁶⁶All who heard them kept them in mind, saying, "What then will this child become?" For the hand of the Lord has certainly come upon him.

Zacharias's Prophecy

⁶⁷And his father Zacharias became filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:

⁶⁸"We bless the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people,

⁶⁹And has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David His servant—

⁷⁰As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old —

⁷¹Salvation FROM OUR ENEMIES, and FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US;

⁷²To show mercy toward our fathers, and to remember His holy covenant,

⁷³The oath which He swore to Abraham our father,

⁷⁴To grant us that we, receiving rescue from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear,

⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

⁷⁶"And you, child, we will call the prophet of the Most High; for you will go on BEFORE THE LORD TO PREPARE HIS WAYS;

⁷⁷to give to His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God, with which the Sunrise from on high will visit us,

⁷⁹TO SHINE UPON THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

⁸⁰And the child continued to grow and to become strong in spirit, and he lived in the deserts until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Luke 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus' Birth in Bethlehem

¹Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that the Roman government take a census of all the inhabited earth.

²This constituted the first census taken while Quirinius served as governor of Syria.

³And everyone proceeded on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

⁴Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which we call Bethlehem, because he belonged to the house and family of David,

⁵in order to register along with Mary, who had agreed to marry him, and had become pregnant.

⁶While they stayed there, the days arrived for her to give birth.

⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because the inn had no room for them.

⁸In the same region some shepherds had stayed out in the fields and kept watch over their flock by night.

⁹And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they felt terribly frightened.

¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not fear; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will occur for all the people;

¹¹for today in the city of David there has arrived into the world for you a Savior, who we acknowledge as Christ the Lord.

¹²"This will constitute a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He feels pleased."

¹⁵When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

¹⁶So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.

¹⁷When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had they had heard about this Child.

¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at the things which they had heard from the shepherds.

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as they had heard.

Jesus Presented at the Temple

²¹And when eight days had passed, before His circumcision, people called His name Jesus, the name given by the angel before Mary had conceived Him in the womb.

²²And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses became complete, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

²³(as the scriptures stated in the Law of the Lord, "EVERY firstborn MALE THAT OPENS THE WOMB WE SHALL CALL HOLY TO THE LORD"),

²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what the scriptures said in the Law of the Lord, "A PAIR OF TURTLEDOVES OR TWO YOUNG PIGEONS."

²⁵And a man named Simeon lived in Jerusalem; and this man behaved with righteousness and devoutness, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit came upon him.

²⁶And the Holy Spirit revealed to him that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

²⁸then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

²⁹"Now Lord, You can release Your bond-servant to depart in peace, according to Your word;

³⁰For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

³¹Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, and the glory of Your people Israel."

³³And His father and mother felt amazed at the things which people said about Him.

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child has received appointment for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign which people will oppose--

³⁵and a sword will pierce even your own soul--to the end that thoughts from many hearts may reveal themselves."

³⁶And there lived a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She had advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,

³⁷and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers.

³⁸At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who looked for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Return to Nazareth

³⁹When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

⁴⁰The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God rested upon Him.

Visit to Jerusalem

⁴¹Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

⁴²And when He became twelve, they went up there according to the custom of the Feast;

⁴³and as they returned, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But His parents did not have any awareness of it,

⁴⁴but supposed Him to travel in the caravan, and went a day's journey; and they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances.

⁴⁵When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him.

⁴⁶Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.

⁴⁷And all who heard Him showed amazement at His understanding and His answers.

⁴⁸When they saw Him, they felt astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have anxiously looked for You."

⁴⁹And He said to them, "Why did you look for Me? Did you not know that I had to spend time in My Father's house?"

⁵⁰But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.

⁵¹And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

John the Baptist Preaches

¹Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate served as governor of Judea, and Herod served as tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip served as tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias served as tetrarch of Abilene,

²in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness.

³And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins;

⁴as scriptures say in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.

⁵EVERY RAVINE WILL FILL AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL WILL COLLAPSE; THE CROOKED WILL BECOME STRAIGHT, AND THE ROUGH ROADS SMOOTH;

⁶AND ALL FLESH WILL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD.'"

⁷So he began saying to the crowds who went out to receive baptism by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸"Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God can raise up children to Abraham.

⁹"Indeed the axe God lays at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit He cuts down and throws it into the fire."

¹⁰And the crowds questioned him, saying, "Then what shall we do?"

¹¹And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics should share with him who has none; and he who has food should do likewise."

¹²And some tax collectors also came to receive baptism, and they said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

¹³And he said to them, "Collect no more than what people have ordered you to do."

¹⁴Some soldiers questioned him, saying, "And what about us, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not take money from anyone by force, or accuse anyone falsely, and remain content with your wages."

¹⁵Now while the people had a state of expectation and all wondered in their hearts about John, as to whether they should acknowledge him as the Christ,

¹⁶John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One comes who has more might than I, and I do not consider myself fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹⁷"His winnowing fork he holds in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached the gospel to the people.

¹⁹But when Herod the tetrarch received a reprimand by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the wicked things which Herod had done,

²⁰Herod also added this to them all: he locked John up in prison.

Jesus Receives Baptism

²¹Now when all the people became baptized, Jesus also became baptized, and while He prayed, heaven opened,

²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "I acknowledge You as My beloved Son, in You I feel well-pleased."

Genealogy of Jesus

²³When He began His ministry, Jesus Himself had reached about thirty years of age, people supposed Him as the son of Joseph, the son of Eli,

²⁴the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph,

²⁵the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Hesli, the son of Naggai,

²⁶the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda,

²⁷the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri,
²⁸the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er,
²⁹the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi,
³⁰the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim,
³¹the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David,
³²the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon,
³³the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Ram, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of Judah,
³⁴the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor,
³⁵the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Heber, the son of Shelah,
³⁶the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech,
³⁷the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan,
³⁸the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Luke 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Temptation of Jesus

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and the Spirit led Him around in the wilderness

²for forty days, receiving temptation by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry.

³And the devil said to Him, "If You consider Yourself the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴And Jesus answered him, "The scriptures state, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE.'"

⁵And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

⁶And the devil said to Him, "I will give You all this domain and its glory; for I have received it, and I give it to whomever I wish.

⁷"Therefore if You worship before me, it shall all belong to You."

⁸Jesus answered him, "The scriptures state, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

⁹And he led Him to Jerusalem and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You consider Yourself the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here;

¹⁰for the scriptures state, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU,'

¹¹and, 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

¹²And Jesus answered and said to him, "The scriptures state, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

¹³When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

Jesus' Public Ministry

¹⁴And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district.

¹⁵And He began teaching in their synagogues and received praise from all.

¹⁶And He came to Nazareth, where He had grown up; and as He customarily had done, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read.

¹⁷And the authorities handed the book of the prophet Isaiah to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where the scriptures stated,

¹⁸"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD HAS COME UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO PEOPLE HAVE OPPRESSED,

¹⁹TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

²⁰And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue fixed on Him.

²¹And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has become fulfilled in your hearing."

²²And all spoke well of Him, and wondered at the gracious words which fell from His lips; and they said, "Do we not recognize Him as Joseph's son?"

²³And He said to them, "No doubt you will quote this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we heard became accomplished at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'"

²⁴And He said, "Truly I say to you, no prophet receives welcome in his hometown.

²⁵"But I say to you in truth, many widows lived in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky had closed up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land;

²⁶and yet God sent Elijah to none of them, but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who had become a widow.

²⁷"And there lived many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them received cleansing, but only Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸And all the people in the synagogue filled with rage as they heard these things;

²⁹and they got up and drove Him out of the city, and led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city had its foundation, in order to throw Him down the cliff.

³⁰But passing through their midst, He went His way.

³¹And He came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and He taught them on the Sabbath;

³²and they felt amazed at His teaching, for His message He delivered with authority.

³³In the synagogue there came a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice,

³⁴"Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I acknowledge You as the Holy One of God!"

³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Keep quiet and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst of the people, he came out of him without doing him any harm.

³⁶And amazement came upon them all, and they began talking with one another saying, "What does this message consist of? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out."

³⁷And the report about Him spread into every locality in the surrounding district.

Many Receive Healing

³⁸Then He got up and left the synagogue, and entered Simon's home. Now Simon's mother-in-law suffered from a high fever, and they asked Him to help her.

³⁹And standing over her, He rebuked the fever, and it left her; and she immediately got up and waited on them.

⁴⁰While the sun had set, all those who had any infirmities with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He healed them.

⁴¹Demons also came out of many, shouting, "We acknowledge You as the Son of God!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him as the Christ.

⁴²When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place; and the crowds searched for Him, and came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them.

⁴³But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for God sent me for this purpose."

⁴⁴So He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

Luke 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The First Disciples

¹Now it happened that while the crowd pressed around Him and listened to the word of God, He stood by the lake of Gennesaret;

²and He saw two boats lying at the edge of the lake; but the fishermen had gotten out of them and washed their nets.

³And He got into one of the boats, which belonged to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the land. And He sat down and began teaching the people from the boat.

⁴When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

⁵Simon answered and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say and let down the nets."

⁶When they had done this, they enclosed a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to break;

⁷so they signaled to their partners in the other boat for them to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, so that they began to sink.

⁸But when Simon Peter saw that, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Go away from me Lord, for I realize my sinfulness!"

⁹For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of the catch of fish which they had taken;

¹⁰and so also came James and John, sons of Zebedee, who had become partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear, from now on you will catch men."

¹¹When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

The Leper and the Paralytic

¹²While He traveled in one of the cities, behold, there came a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, "Lord, if You will, You can make me clean."

¹³And He stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I will; become cleansed." And immediately the leprosy left him.

¹⁴And He ordered him to tell no one, "But go and show yourself to the priest and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

¹⁵But the news about Him spread even farther, and large crowds gathered to hear Him and to receive healing of their sicknesses.

¹⁶But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray.

¹⁷One day He taught; and some Pharisees and teachers of the law sat there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord became available for Him to perform healing.

¹⁸And some men carried on a bed a man who had suffered paralysis; and they tried to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him.

¹⁹But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus.

²⁰Seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, I forgive your sins."

²¹The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "What kind of man do we hear who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

²²But Jesus, aware of their reasoning, answered and said to them, "Why do you reason in your hearts?"

²³"Which do you consider it easier, to say, 'I forgive your sins,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?"

²⁴"But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,"--He said to the paralytic--"I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home."

²⁵Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had reclined on, and went home glorifying God.

²⁶They all became struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they filled with fear, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today."

Call of Levi (Matthew)

²⁷After that He went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me."

²⁸And he left everything behind, and got up and began to follow Him.

²⁹And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there gathered a great crowd of tax collectors and other people who reclined at the table with them.

³⁰The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling at His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?"

³¹And Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who have attained wellness do not need a physician, but those who have become sick.

³²"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

³³And they said to Him, "The disciples of John often fast and offer prayers, the disciples of the Pharisees also do the same, but Yours eat and drink."

³⁴And Jesus said to them, "You cannot make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom remains with them, can you?

³⁵"But the days will come; and when the bridegroom moves away from them, then they will fast in those days."

³⁶And He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece of cloth from a new garment and puts it on an old garment; otherwise he will both tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old.

³⁷"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it will spill out, and the skins will deteriorate.

³⁸"But we must put new wine into fresh wineskins.

³⁹"And no one, after drinking old wine wishes for new; for he says, 'The old seems good enough.'"

Luke 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Proclaims Himself Lord of the Sabbath

¹Now it happened that He passed through some grainfields on a Sabbath; and His disciples picked the heads of grain, rubbing them in their hands, and eating the grain.

²But some of the Pharisees said, "Why do you do what we do not consider lawful on the Sabbath?"

³And Jesus answering them said, "Have you not even read what David did when he hungered, he and those who accompanied him,

⁴how he entered the house of God, and took and ate the consecrated bread which we do not consider lawful for any to eat except the priests alone, and gave it to his companions?"

⁵And He said to them, "The Son of Man proclaims Himself Lord of the Sabbath."

⁶On another Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught; and a man came there who had a withered right hand.

⁷The scribes and the Pharisees watched Him closely to see if He healed on the Sabbath, so that they might find reason to accuse Him.

⁸But He knew what they thought, and He said to the man with the withered hand, "Get up and come forward!" And he got up and came forward.

⁹And Jesus said to them, "I ask you, do you find it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to destroy it?"

¹⁰After looking around at them all, He said to him, "Stretch out your hand!" And he did so; and his hand became restored.

¹¹But they themselves filled with rage, and discussed together what they might do to Jesus.

Choosing the Twelve

¹² This time He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God.

¹³And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles:

¹⁴Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew;

¹⁵and Matthew and Thomas; James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who they called the Zealot;

¹⁶Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

¹⁷Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place; and there gathered a large crowd of His disciples, and a great throng of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon,

¹⁸who had come to hear Him and to receive healing of their diseases; and those who felt troubled with unclean spirits had become cured.

¹⁹And all the people tried to touch Him, for power came from Him and healed them all.

The Beatitudes

²⁰And turning His gaze toward His disciples, He began to say, "You receive blessings who have become poor, for to you belongs the kingdom of God.

²¹"You receive blessings who hunger now, for you shall become satisfied. You receive blessings who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²²"You receive blessings when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man.

²³"Have gladness in that day and leap for joy, for behold, you will receive great reward in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who consider yourself rich, for you receive your comfort in full.

²⁵"Woe to you who have become well-fed now, for you shall have hunger. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for their fathers used to treat the false prophets in the same way.

²⁷"But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

²⁹"Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either.

³⁰"Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

³¹"Treat others the same way you want them to treat you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit do you have? For even sinners love those who love them.

³³"If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit do you have? For even sinners do the same.

³⁴"If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit do you have? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount.

³⁵"But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and you will have great reward, and you will become sons of the Most High; for He Himself shows kindness to ungrateful and evil men.

³⁶"Be merciful, just as your Father expresses mercy.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not receive judgment; and do not condemn, and you will not receive condemnation; pardon, and you will receive pardon.

³⁸"Give, and people will give to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure--pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure they will measure to you in return."

³⁹And He also spoke a parable to them: "A blind man cannot guide a blind man, can he? Will they not both fall into a pit?"

⁴⁰"A pupil does not exalt himself above his teacher; but everyone, after he has received full training, will resemble his teacher.

⁴¹"Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that lodges in your own eye?"

⁴²"Or how can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that lodges in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that lodges in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that lodges in your brother's eye.

⁴³"For no good tree produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit.

⁴⁴"For each tree we know by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush.

⁴⁵"The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

Builders and Foundations

⁴⁶"Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

⁴⁷"Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he resembles:

⁴⁸he resembles a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had a good foundation.

⁴⁹"But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, resembles a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house became great."

Luke 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant

¹When He had completed all His discourse in the hearing of the people, He went to Capernaum.

²And a centurion's slave, whom he had highly regarded became sick and about to die.

³When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders asking Him to come and save the life of his slave.

⁴When they came to Jesus, they earnestly implored Him, saying, "He has worth for You to grant this to him;

⁵for he loves our nation and he built our synagogue."

⁶Now Jesus started on His way with them; and when He came not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself further, for I do not consider myself worthy for You to come under my roof;

⁷for this reason I did not even consider myself worthy to come to You, but just say the word, and my servant will receive healing.

⁸"For I also find myself a man placed under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it."

⁹Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled at him, and turned and said to the crowd that followed Him, "I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith."

¹⁰When those who he had sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

¹¹Soon afterwards He went to a city called Nain; and His disciples went along with Him, accompanied by a large crowd.

¹²Now as He approached the gate of the city, people carried out a dead man, the only son of his mother, and she had become a widow; and a sizeable crowd from the city accompanied her.

¹³When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her, and said to her, "Do not weep."

¹⁴And He came up and touched the coffin; and the bearers came to a halt. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise!"

¹⁵The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

¹⁶Fear gripped them all, and they began glorifying God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and, "God has visited His people!"

¹⁷This report concerning Him went out all over Judea and in all the surrounding district.

A Deputation from John

¹⁸The disciples of John reported to him about all these things.

¹⁹Summoning two of his disciples, John sent them to the Lord, saying, "Should we consider You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?"

²⁰When the men came to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, to ask, 'Should we consider You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?'"

²¹At that very time He cured many people of diseases and afflictions and evil spirits; and He gave sight to many who suffered blindness.

²²And He answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: the BLIND RECEIVE SIGHT, the lame walk, the lepers receive healing, and the deaf hear, the dead become resurrected, the POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM.

²³"Blessings accrue to him who does not take offense at Me."

²⁴When the messengers of John had left, He began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?

²⁵"But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Those who have become splendidly clothed and live in luxury live in royal palaces!

²⁶"But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and one who has become more than a prophet.

²⁷"This constitutes the one which the scriptures write, 'BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF YOU, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY BEFORE YOU.'

²⁸"I say to you, among those born of women s no one greater than John exists; yet he who will prove least in the kingdom of God will prove greater than he."

²⁹When all the people and the tax collectors heard this, they acknowledged God's justice, having received baptism with the baptism of John.

³⁰But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves, not having received the baptism by John.

³¹"To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, and to what do I compare them?

³²"They resemble children who sit in the market place and call to one another, and they say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'

³³"For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon!'

³⁴"The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

³⁵"Yet wisdom receives vindication by all her children."

³⁶Now one of the Pharisees requested Him to dine with him, and He entered the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.

³⁷And a sinful woman lived in the city; and when she learned that He reclined at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume,

³⁸and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet and anointing them with the perfume.

³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man proclaims himself a prophet He would know who and what sort of person this woman who touches Him, that she sins."

Parable of Two Debtors

⁴⁰And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹"A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

⁴²"When they found it impossible to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?"

⁴³Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly."

⁴⁴Turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

⁴⁵"You gave Me no kiss; but she, since the time I came in, has not ceased to kiss My feet.

⁴⁶"You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume.

⁴⁷"For this reason I say to you, her sins, which have multiplied, have received forgiveness, for she loved much; but he who has received little forgiveness, loves little."

⁴⁸Then He said to her, "I forgive your sins."

⁴⁹Those who reclined at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "What kind of man do we see who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰And He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Luke 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

Ministering Women

¹Soon afterwards, He began going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. The twelve accompanied Him,

²and also some women who had received healing from evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

³and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others who had contributed to their support out of their private means.

Parable of the Sower

⁴When a large crowd came together, and those from the various cities journeyed to Him, He spoke by way of a parable:

⁵"The sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and people trampled it under foot and the birds of the air ate it up.

⁶"Other seed fell on rocky soil, and as soon as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.

⁷"Other seed fell among the thorns; and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out.

⁸"Other seed fell into the good soil, and grew up, and produced a crop a hundred times as great." As He said these things, He would call out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

⁹His disciples began questioning Him as to what this parable meant.

¹⁰And He said, "You have received the ability to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest I speak in parables, so that SEEING THEY MAY NOT SEE, AND HEARING THEY MAY NOT UNDERSTAND.

¹¹"Now the parable consists of this: the seed represents the word of God.

¹²"Those beside the road symbolize those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and receive salvation.

¹³"Those on the rocky soil symbolize those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no firm root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away.

¹⁴"The seed which fell among the thorns, these symbolize the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they become choked with worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity.

¹⁵"But the seed in the good soil, these symbolize the ones who have heard the word in an honest and good heart, and hold it fast, and bear fruit with perseverance.

Parable of the Lamp

¹⁶"Now no one after lighting a lamp covers it over with a container, or puts it under a bed; but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light.

¹⁷"For nothing has become hidden that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not become known and come to light.

¹⁸"So take care how you listen; for whoever has, to him I shall give more; and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has I shall take away from him."

¹⁹And His mother and brothers came to Him, and they could not get to Him because of the crowd.

²⁰And someone reported to Him, "Your mother and Your brothers stand outside, wishing to see You."

²¹But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers I consider these who hear the word of God and do it."

Jesus Stills the Sea

²²Now on one of those days Jesus and His disciples got into a boat, and He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they launched out.

²³But as they sailed along He fell asleep; and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to sink and fall into danger.

²⁴They came to Jesus and woke Him up, saying, "Master, Master, we perish!" And He got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they stopped, and it became calm.

²⁵And He said to them, "Where have you left your faith?" They grew fearful and amazed, saying to one another, "Who then do we see here, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?"

The Demoniac Cured

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which locates opposite Galilee.

²⁷And when He came out onto the land, a man from the city had become possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and did not live in a house, but in the tombs.

²⁸Seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said in a loud voice, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me."

²⁹For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had seized him many times; and they bound him with chains and shackles

and kept under guard, and yet he would break his bonds and the demon would drive him into the desert.

³⁰And Jesus asked him, "What do you call yourself?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him.

³¹They implored Him not to command them to go away into the abyss.

³²Now a herd of many swine fed there on the mountain; and the demons implored Him to permit them to enter the swine. And He gave them permission.

³³And the demons came out of the man and entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they ran away and reported it in the city and out in the country.

³⁵The people went out to see what had happened; and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they became frightened.

³⁶Those who had seen it reported to them how the man who had become demon-possessed had become made well.

³⁷And all the people of the country of the Gerasenes and the surrounding district asked Him to leave them, for great fear gripped them; and He got into a boat and returned.

³⁸But the man from whom the demons had gone out begged Him that he might accompany Him; but He sent him away, saying,

³⁹"Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Miracles of Healing

⁴⁰And as Jesus returned, the people welcomed Him, for they had waited for Him.

⁴¹And there came a man named Jairus, and he served as an official of the synagogue; and he fell at Jesus' feet, and began to implore Him to come to his house;

⁴²for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she died. But as He went, the crowds pressed against Him.

⁴³And a woman who had a hemorrhage for twelve years, and no one could heal her,

⁴⁴came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped.

⁴⁵And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" And while they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people crowd and press in on You."

⁴⁶But Jesus said, "Someone did touch Me, for I felt aware that power had gone out of Me."

⁴⁷When the woman saw that she had not escaped notice, she came trembling and fell down before Him, and declared in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched Him, and how she had received healing immediately.

⁴⁸And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

⁴⁹While He still spoke, someone came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; do not trouble the Teacher anymore."

⁵⁰But when Jesus heard this, He answered him, "Do not fear any longer; only believe, and I will make you well."

⁵¹When He came to the house, He did not allow anyone to enter with Him, except Peter and John and James, and the girl's father and mother.

⁵²Now they all wept and lamented for her; but He said, "Stop weeping, for she has not died, but has fallen asleep."

⁵³And they began laughing at Him, knowing that she had died.

⁵⁴He, however, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Child, arise!"

⁵⁵And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately; and He gave orders that they give her something to eat.

⁵⁶Her parents felt amazed; but He instructed them to tell no one what had happened.

Luke 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

Ministry of the Twelve

¹And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases.

²And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.

³And He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, neither a staff, nor a bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not even have two tunics apiece.

⁴"Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that city.

⁵"And as for those who do not receive you, as you go out from that city, shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."

⁶Departing, they began going throughout the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

⁷Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that had happened; and he became greatly perplexed, because some had said that John had risen from the dead,

⁸and by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the prophets of old had risen again.

⁹Herod said, "I myself had John beheaded; but what man do we see about whom I hear such things?" And he kept trying to see Him.

¹⁰When the apostles returned, they gave an account to Him of all that they had done. Taking them with Him, He withdrew by Himself to a city called Bethsaida.

¹¹But the crowds became aware of this and followed Him; and welcoming them, He began speaking to them about the kingdom of God and curing those who had need of healing.

Five Thousand Fed

¹²Now the day had ended, and the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and get something to eat; for here find a desolate place."

¹³But He said to them, "You give them something to eat!" And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless perhaps we go and buy food for all these people."

¹⁴(For there numbered about five thousand men.) And He said to His disciples, "Have them sit down to eat in groups of about fifty each."

¹⁵They did so, and had them all sit down.

¹⁶Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them, and broke them, and kept giving them to the disciples to set before the people.

¹⁷And they all ate and became satisfied; and when they picked up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces which they had left over, they had twelve baskets full.

¹⁸And it happened that while He prayed alone, the disciples accompanied Him, and He questioned them, saying, "How do the people identify me?"

¹⁹They answered and said, "John the Baptist, and others say Elijah; but others, that one of the prophets of old has risen again."

²⁰And He said to them, "But how do you identify me?" And Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God."

²¹But He warned them and instructed them not to tell this to anyone,

²²saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and the elders and chief priests and scribes will reject Him and by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and become killed and raised up on the third day."

²³And He said to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

²⁴"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he will save it.

²⁵"For does a man profit if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?

²⁶"For whoever feels ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will feel ashamed of him when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

²⁷"But I say to you truthfully, some of those standing here will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God."

The Transfiguration

²⁸Some eight days after these sayings, He took along Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.

²⁹And while He prayed, the appearance of His face became different, and His clothing became white and gleaming.

³⁰And behold, two men talked with Him; and they appeared as Moses and Elijah,

³¹who, appearing in glory, spoke of His departure which He intended to accomplish at Jerusalem.

³²Now Peter and his companions had become overcome with sleep; but when they became fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.

³³And as these left Him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, we feel good to stand here; let us make three tabernacles: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah"--not realizing what he said.

³⁴While he said this, a cloud formed and began to overshadow them; and they felt afraid as they entered the cloud.

³⁵Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "You see My Son, My Chosen One; listen to Him!"

³⁶And when the voice had spoken, Jesus found Himself alone. And they kept silent, and reported to no one in those days any of the things which they had seen.

³⁷On the next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met Him.

³⁸And a man from the crowd shouted, said, "Teacher, I beg You to look at my only son.

³⁹and a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a convulsion with foaming at the mouth; and only with difficulty does it leave him, mauling him as it leaves.

⁴⁰"I begged Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not."

⁴¹And Jesus answered and said, "You unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I remain with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

⁴²While he still approached, the demon slammed him to the ground and threw him into a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.

⁴³And they felt all amazed at the greatness of God. But while everyone marvelled at all that He did, He said to His disciples,

⁴⁴"Let these words sink into your ears; for treacherous people will deliver the Son of Man into the hands of men."

⁴⁵But they did not understand this statement, and He concealed it from them so that they would not perceive it; and they feared to ask Him about this statement.

The Test of Greatness

⁴⁶An argument started among them as to which of them might have the greatest position.

⁴⁷But Jesus, knowing what they thought in their heart, took a child and stood him by His side,

⁴⁸and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me; for the one who considers himself least among all of you, this one we will consider great."

⁴⁹John answered and said, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name; and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow along with us."

⁵⁰But Jesus said to him, "Do not hinder him; for he who does not oppose you supports you."

⁵¹When the days approached for His ascension, He determined to go to Jerusalem;

⁵²and He sent messengers on ahead of Him, and they went and entered a village of the Samaritans to make arrangements for Him.

⁵³But they did not receive Him, because He travelled toward Jerusalem.

⁵⁴When His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?"

⁵⁵But He turned and rebuked them, [and said, "You do not know what kind of spirit you have;

⁵⁶for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them."] And they went on to another village.

Exacting Discipleship

⁵⁷As they went along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go."

⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

⁵⁹And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father."

⁶⁰But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God."

⁶¹Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home."

⁶²But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, can consider himself fit for the kingdom of God."

Luke 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Seventy Sent Out

¹Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself would come.

²And He said to them, "The harvest has become plentiful, but we have very few laborers; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

³"Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

⁴"Carry no money belt, no bag, no shoes; and greet no one on the way.

⁵"Whatever house you enter, first say, 'We offer peace to this house.'

⁶"If a man of peace lives there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you.

⁷"Stay in that house, eating and drinking what they give you; for the laborer has earned his wages. Do not keep moving from house to house.

⁸"Whatever city you enter and they receive you, eat what they set before you;

⁹and heal those in it who have become sick, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

¹⁰"But whatever city you enter and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say,

¹¹'Even the dust of your city which clings to our feet we wipe off in protest against you; yet remain sure of this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

¹²"I say to you, it will seem more tolerable in that day for Sodom than for that city.

¹³"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if I had performed the miracles in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

¹⁴"But it will seem more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment than for you.

¹⁵"And you, Capernaum, will not receive exaltation to heaven, will you? I will bring you down to Hades!

¹⁶"The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

The Happy Results

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, we even subject the demons in Your name."

¹⁸And He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like lightning.

¹⁹"Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.

²⁰"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits subject themselves to you, but rejoice that I will record your names in heaven."

²¹At that very time He rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit, and said, "I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way seems well-pleasing in Your sight.

²²"All things My Father has handed over to Me, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."

²³Turning to the disciples, He said privately, "Those who see the things you see receive blessings,

²⁴for I say to you, that many prophets and kings wished to see the things which you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and did not hear them."

²⁵And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶And He said to him, "What does the Law say? How does it read to you?"

²⁷And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

²⁸And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE."

²⁹But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who should I consider my neighbor?"

The Good Samaritan

³⁰Jesus replied and said, "A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.

³¹"And by chance a priest went down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

³²"Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

³³"But a Samaritan, who travelled on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,

³⁴and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

³⁵"On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'

³⁶"Which of these three do you think proved a real neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?"

³⁷And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

Martha and Mary

³⁸Now as they travelled along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.

³⁹She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet, listening to His word.

⁴⁰But Martha became distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."

⁴¹But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you worry and bother yourself about so many things;

⁴²but only one thing I find necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which she will not lose."

Luke 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

Instruction about Prayer

¹It happened that while Jesus prayed in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples."

²And He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, we acknowledge Your name as holy. Your kingdom come.

³'Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴'And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who has become indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.'"

⁵Then He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and goes to him at midnight and says to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves;

⁶for a friend of mine has come to me from a journey, and I have nothing to set before him';

⁷and from inside he answers and says, 'Do not bother me; the door has already shut and my children and I stay in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'

⁸"I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because of their friendship, yet because of his persistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

⁹"So I say to you, ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will open to you.

¹⁰"For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will open.

¹¹"Now suppose a son asks one of you fathers for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?

¹²"Or if he asks for an egg, you will not give him a scorpion, will you?

¹³"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Pharisees' Blasphemy

¹⁴And He cast out a demon which caused muteness. When the demon had gone out, the previously mute man spoke; and the crowds became amazed.

¹⁵But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons."

¹⁶Others, to test Him, demanded of Him a sign from heaven.

¹⁷But He knew their thoughts and said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself suffers ruin; and a house divided against itself falls.

¹⁸"If Satan also divides himself against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul.

¹⁹"And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? So they will serve as your judges.

²⁰"But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

²¹"When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions remain undisturbed.

²²"But when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied and distributes his plunder.

²³"He who does not support Me fights Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters.

²⁴"When the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'

²⁵"And when it comes, it finds it swept and put in order.

²⁶"Then it goes and takes along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first."

²⁷While Jesus said these things, one of the women in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "We consider blessed the womb that bore You and the breasts at which You nursed."

²⁸But He said, "On the contrary, blessed do I consider those who hear the word of God and observe it."

The Sign of Jonah

²⁹As the crowds increased, He began to say, "This generation proves itself wicked; it seeks for a sign, and yet they will receive no sign but the sign of Jonah.

³⁰"For just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so will the Son of Man become to this generation.

³¹"The Queen of the South will rise up with the men of this generation at the judgment and condemn them, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon stands here.

³²"The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah stands here.

³³"No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.

³⁴"The eye represents the lamp of your body; when your eye remains clear, your whole body also remains full of light; but when it becomes bad, your body also fills with darkness.

³⁵"Then watch out that the light in you doesn't darken.

³⁶"If therefore your whole body has become full of light, with no dark part in it, it will become wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays."

Woes upon the Pharisees

³⁷Now when He had spoken, a Pharisee asked Him to have lunch with him; and He went in, and reclined at the table.

³⁸When the Pharisee saw it, he felt surprised that He had not first ceremonially washed before the meal.

³⁹But the Lord said to him, "Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the platter; but inside of you, you have robbery and wickedness.

⁴⁰"You foolish ones, did not He who made the outside make the inside also?

⁴¹"But give that which dwells within as charity, and then all things remain clean for you.

⁴²"But woe to you Pharisees! For you pay tithe of mint and rue and every kind of garden herb, and yet disregard justice and the love of God; but these things you should have done without neglecting the others.

⁴³"Woe to you Pharisees! For you love the chief seats in the synagogues and the respectful greetings in the market places.

⁴⁴"Woe to you! For you resemble concealed tombs, and the people who walk over them have become unaware of it."

⁴⁵One of the lawyers said to Him in reply, "Teacher, when You say this, You insult us too."

⁴⁶But He said, "Woe to you lawyers as well! For you weigh men down with burdens hard to bear, while you yourselves will not even touch the burdens with one of your fingers.

⁴⁷"Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.

⁴⁸"So you serve as witnesses and approve the deeds of your fathers; because they killed them, and you build their tombs.

⁴⁹"For this reason also the wisdom of God said, 'I will send to them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and some they will persecute,

⁵⁰so that the blood of all the prophets, shed since the foundation of the world, someone may charge against this generation,

⁵¹from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who died between the altar and the house of God; yes, I tell you, people shall charge against this generation.'

⁵²"Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who entered."

⁵³When He left there, the scribes and the Pharisees began to act very hostile and to question Him closely on many subjects,

⁵⁴plotting against Him to catch Him in something He might say.

Luke 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

God Knows and Cares

¹Under these circumstances, after so many thousands of people had gathered together that they stepped on one another, He began saying to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, namely hypocrisy.

²"But nothing stays covered up that will not become revealed, and hidden that will not become known.

³"Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark people will hear in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms, people will proclaim upon the housetops.

⁴"I say to you, My friends, do not fear those who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do.

⁵"But I will warn you whom to fear: fear the One who, after He has killed, has authority to cast into hell; yes, I tell you, fear Him!

⁶"Do we not sell five sparrows for two cents? Yet God does not forget them.

⁷"Indeed, the very hairs of your head God has numbered. Do not fear; you have more value than many sparrows.

⁸"And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will confess him also before the angels of God;

⁹but he who denies Me before men I will deny before the angels of God.

¹⁰"And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, God will forgive him; but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, God will not forgive him.

¹¹"When they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you will speak in your defense, or what you will say;

¹²for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."

Covetousness Denounced

¹³Someone in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

¹⁴But He said to him, "Man, who appointed Me a judge or arbitrator over you?"

¹⁵Then He said to them, "Beware, and stay on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

¹⁶And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced much.

¹⁷"And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?'

¹⁸"Then he said, 'This I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

¹⁹"And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and make yourself merry."

²⁰"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night God will require your soul; and now who will own what you have prepared?'

²¹"So resembles the man who stores up treasure for himself, and has not riches toward God."

²²And He said to His disciples, "For this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on.

²³"For life consists of more than food, and the body more than clothing.

²⁴"Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap; they have no storeroom or barn, and yet God feeds them; how much more value you have than the birds!

²⁵"And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life's span?

²⁶"If then you cannot do even a very little thing, why do you worry about other matters?"

²⁷"Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.

²⁸"But if God so clothes the grass in the field, which live today and tomorrow we throw into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? You men of little faith!"

²⁹"And do not seek what you will eat and what you will drink, and do not keep worrying.

³⁰"For all these things the nations of the world eagerly seek; but your Father knows that you need these things.

³¹"But seek His kingdom, and these things God will add to you.

³²"Do not fear, little flock, for your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom.

³³"Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves money belts which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near nor moth destroys.

³⁴"For where you have your treasure, there your heart will reside also.

Show Readiness

³⁵"Put on readiness, and keep your lamps lit.

³⁶"Act like men who wait for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open the door to him when he comes and knocks.

³⁷"God will bless those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and will come up and wait on them.

³⁸"Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds them so, God will bless those slaves.

³⁹"But remain sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief would come, he would not have allowed a thief to break into his house.

⁴⁰"You too, stay ready; for the Son of Man comes at an hour that you do not expect."

⁴¹Peter said, "Lord, have You addressed this parable to us, or to everyone else as well?"

⁴²And the Lord said, "Who then do we find as the faithful and sensible steward, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time?"

⁴³"God blesses that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.

⁴⁴"Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

⁴⁵"But if that slave says in his heart, 'My master will take a long time in coming,' and begins to beat the slaves, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk;

⁴⁶the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and assign him a place with the unbelievers.

⁴⁷"And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes,

⁴⁸but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone whom God has given much, much will He require; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

Christ Divides Men

⁴⁹"I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish I had kindled it already !

⁵⁰"But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I feel until I have accomplished it!

⁵¹"Do you suppose that I came to grant peace on earth? I tell you, no, but rather division;

⁵²for from now on five members in one household will divide themselves, three against two and two against three.

⁵³"They will divide yourselves, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴"And He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'A shower comes,' and so it turns out.

⁵⁵"And when you see a south wind blowing, you say, 'we will have a hot day,' and it turns out that way.

⁵⁶"You hypocrites! You know how to analyze the appearance of the earth and the sky, but why do you not analyze this present time?

⁵⁷"And why do you not even on your own initiative judge righteously?

⁵⁸"For while you go with your opponent to appear before the magistrate, on your way there make an effort to settle with him, so that he may not drag you before the judge, and the judge turn you over to the officer, and the officer throw you into prison.

⁵⁹"I say to you, you will not get out of there until you have paid the very last cent."

Luke 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

Call to Repent

¹Now on the same occasion there came some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.

²And Jesus said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans proved greater sinners than all other Galileans because they suffered this fate?"

³"I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

⁴"Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them proved themselves worse culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem?"

⁵"I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

⁶And He began telling this parable: "A man had a fig tree which he had planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any.

⁷"And he said to the vineyard-keeper, 'Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?'

⁸"And he answered and said to him, 'Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer;

⁹and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down.'"

Healing on the Sabbath

¹⁰And He taught in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

¹¹And there lived a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she appeared bent double, and could not straighten up at all.

¹²When Jesus saw her, He called her over and said to her, "Woman, I free you from your sickness."

¹³And He laid His hands on her; and immediately she stood erect again and began glorifying God.

¹⁴But the synagogue official, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, began saying to the crowd in response, "We have six days in which we can work; so come and get healed, and not on the Sabbath day."

¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites, does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the stall and lead him away to water him?"

¹⁶"And this woman, a daughter of Abraham as we see her, whom Satan has bound for eighteen long years, should she not have received relief from this bond on the Sabbath day?"

¹⁷As He said this, all His opponents had become humiliated; and the entire crowd rejoiced over all the glorious things He had done.

Parables of Mustard Seed and Leaven

¹⁸So He said, "What does the kingdom of God resemble, and to what shall I compare it?"

¹⁹"It resembles a mustard seed, which a man took and threw into his own garden; and it grew and became a tree, and THE BIRDS OF THE AIR NESTED IN ITS BRANCHES."

²⁰And again He said, "To what shall I compare the kingdom of God?"

²¹"It resembles leaven, which a woman took and hid in three pecks of flour until it all leavened."

Teaching in the Villages

²²And He passed through from one city and village to another, teaching, and proceeding on His way to Jerusalem.

²³And someone said to Him, "Lord, will just a few receive salvation?" And He said to them,

²⁴"Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not find it possible.

²⁵"Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' then He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.'

²⁶"Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets';

²⁷and He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU EVILDOERS.'

²⁸"In that place you will weep and gnash teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but yourselves kept out.

²⁹"And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God.

³⁰"And behold, some who have come last who will appear first and some who have come first will appear last."

³¹Just at that time some Pharisees approached, saying to Him, "Go away, leave here, for Herod wants to kill You."

³²And He said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I reach My goal.'

³³Nevertheless I must journey on today and tomorrow and the next day; for it cannot occur that a prophet would perish outside of Jerusalem.

³⁴"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, just as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not have it!

³⁵"Behold, your house remains to you desolate; and I say to you, you will not see Me until the time comes when you say, GOD BLESSES THE ONE WHO COMES IN HIS NAME!"

Luke 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

¹It happened that when He went into the house of one of the leaders of the Pharisees on the Sabbath to eat bread, they watched Him closely.

²And there in front of Him stood a man suffering from dropsy.

³And Jesus answered and spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Do you consider it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?"

⁴But they kept silent. And He took hold of him and healed him, and sent him away.

⁵And He said to them, "Which one of you will have a son or an ox fall into a well, and will not immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?"

⁶And they could make no reply to this.

Parable of the Guests

⁷And He began speaking a parable to the invited guests when He noticed how they had picked out the places of honor at the table, saying to them,

⁸"When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for he may invite someone more distinguished,

⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this man,' and then in disgrace you proceed to occupy the last place.

¹⁰"But when you receive an invitation, go and recline at the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will have honor in the sight of all who sit at the table with you.

¹¹"For everyone who exalts himself will suffer humiliation, and he who humbles himself will become exalted."

¹²And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and that will serve as your repayment."

¹³"But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,

¹⁴and you will receive blessings, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will receive your reward at the resurrection of the righteous."

¹⁵When one of those who reclined at the table with Him heard this, he said to Him, "Blessings will accrue to everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"

Parable of the Dinner

¹⁶But He said to him, "A man gave a big dinner, and he invited many;

¹⁷and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had received invitations, 'Come; for everything we have made ready now.'

¹⁸"But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out and look at it; please consider me excused.'

¹⁹"Another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I need to try them out; please consider me excused.'

²⁰"Another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.'

²¹"And the slave came back and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.'

²²"And the slave said, 'Master, what you commanded we have done, and we still have room.'

²³"And the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel them to come in, so that I may fill my house.'

²⁴"For I tell you, none of those men who received invitations shall taste of my dinner.'"

Discipleship Tested

²⁵Now large crowds went along with Him; and He turned and said to them,

²⁶"If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot call himself My disciple.

²⁷"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot call himself My disciple.

²⁸"For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?

²⁹"Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and cannot finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him,

³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and could not finish.'

³¹"Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he has strength enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

³²"Or else, while the other remains still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

³³"So then, none of you can become My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

³⁴"Therefore, salt has value; but if even salt has become tasteless, with what will we season it?

³⁵"It proves useless either for the soil or for the manure pile; we throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Luke 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Lost Sheep

¹Now all the tax collectors and the sinners came near Him to listen to Him.

²Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, "This man receives sinners and dines with them."

³So He told them this parable, saying,

⁴"What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one he has lost until he finds it?

⁵"When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

⁶"And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which I lost!'

⁷"I tell you that in the same way, there will come more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

The Lost Coin

⁸"Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?

⁹"When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!'

¹⁰"In the same way, I tell you, we find much joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Prodigal Son

¹¹And He said, "A man had two sons.

¹²"The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' So he divided his wealth between them.

¹³"And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living.

¹⁴"Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to feel impoverished.

¹⁵"So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

¹⁶"And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave anything to him.

¹⁷"But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I die here with hunger!

¹⁸'I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight;

¹⁹'I do not feel any longer worthy for you to call me your son; make me as one of your hired men.'"

²⁰"So he got up and came to his father. But while he walked still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

²¹"And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I feel no longer worthy for you to call me your son.'

²²"But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;

²³and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;

²⁴for this son of mine had died and has come to life again; I lost him and now I found him.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his older son worked in the field, and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.

²⁶"And he summoned one of the servants and began inquiring what these things could mean.

²⁷"And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back safe and sound.'

²⁸"But he became angry and did not feel willing to go in; and his father came out and began pleading with him.

²⁹"But he answered and said to his father, 'Look! For so many years I have served you and I have never neglected a command of yours; and yet you have never given me a young goat, so that I might celebrate with my friends;

³⁰but when this son of yours came, who devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.'

³¹"And he said to him, 'Son, you have always remained with me, and all that I have belongs to you.

³²"But we had to celebrate and rejoice, for this brother of yours had figuratively died and has begun to live, and we lost him and now we found him.'"

Luke 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Unrighteous Steward

¹Now He said to the disciples, "There lived a rich man who had a manager, and people reported this manager as squandering his possessions.

²"And he called him and said to him, 'What do I hear about you? Give an accounting of your management, for you can no longer serve as my manager.'

³"The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master took the management away from me? I do not feel strong enough to dig; I feel ashamed to beg.

⁴'I know what I shall do, so that when he removes me from the management people will welcome me into their homes.'

⁵"And he summoned each one of his master's debtors, and he began saying to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶"And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'

⁷"Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' And he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'

⁸"And his master praised the unrighteous manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the sons of this age show more shrewdness in relation to their own kind than the sons of light.

⁹"And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by means of the wealth of unrighteousness, so that when it fails, they will receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰"He who shows faithfulness in a very little thing remains faithful also in much; and he who shows unrighteousness in a very little thing remains unrighteous also in much.

¹¹"Therefore if you have not acted in a faithful manner in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?

¹²"And if you have not proved faithful in the use of that which belongs to another, who will give you your own?

¹³"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will devote himself to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

¹⁴Now the Pharisees, who loved money, listened to all these things and scoffed at Him.

¹⁵And He said to them, "You justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which men highly esteem God detests.

¹⁶"We proclaimed the Law and the Prophets until John; since that time we proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom of God, and everyone forces his way into it.

¹⁷"But it would prove easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail.

¹⁸"Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery, and he who marries one who has divorced from a husband commits adultery.

The Rich Man and Lazarus

¹⁹"Now there lived a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day.

²⁰"And a poor man named Lazarus laid at his gate, covered with sores,

²¹and longing to receive the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²²"Now the poor man died and the angels carried him away to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and people buried him.

²³"In Hades he lifted up his eyes, feeling torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.

²⁴"And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I feel agony in this flame.'

²⁵"But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he receives comfort here, and you dwell in agony.

²⁶"And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm remains fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not have the ability, and that none may cross over from there to us.'

²⁷"And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house--

²⁸for I have five brothers--in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹"But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'

³⁰"But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!'

³¹"But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not allow themselves to become persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Luke 17

NASB E-Prime DFM

Instructions

¹He said to His disciples, "Inevitably stumbling blocks come, but woe to him through whom they come!

²"It would seem preferable for him if someone hung a millstone around his neck and threw him into the sea, than that he would cause one of these little ones to stumble.

³"Stay on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

⁴"And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' forgive him."

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

⁶And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Uproot yourself and plant yourself in the sea'; and it would obey you.

⁷"Which of you, having a slave plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come immediately and sit down to eat'?

⁸"But will he not say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat, and properly clothe yourself and serve me while I eat and drink; and afterward you may eat and drink'?

⁹"He does not thank the slave because he did the things which he commanded, does he?

¹⁰"So you too, when you do all the things which I command you, say, 'We consider ourselves unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'"

Ten Lepers Cleansed

¹¹While He went on the way to Jerusalem, He passed between Samaria and Galilee.

¹²As He entered a village, ten leprous men who stood at a distance met Him;

¹³and they raised their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

¹⁴When He saw them, He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they found themselves cleansed.

¹⁵Now one of them, when he saw that he had become healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice,

¹⁶and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he claimed Samaritan heritage.

¹⁷Then Jesus answered and said, "Did I not cleanse ten? But the nine--where have they gone?

¹⁸"Why did no one return to give glory to God, except this foreigner?"

¹⁹And He said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has made you well."

²⁰Now when the Pharisees questioned him as to when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God will not come with signs we can observe;

²¹nor will they say, 'Look, here we see it!' or, 'There we find it!' For behold, the kingdom of God stands in your midst."

Second Coming Foretold

²²And He said to the disciples, "The days will come when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it.

²³"They will say to you, 'Look there! Look here!' Do not go away, and do not run after them.

²⁴"For just like the lightning, when it flashes out of one part of the sky, shines to the other part of the sky, so will the Son of Man come in His day.

²⁵"But first He must suffer many things and receive rejection by this generation.

²⁶"And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it will occur also in the days of the Son of Man:

²⁷they ate, they drank, they married, they gave in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

²⁸"It looked the same as happened in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built;

²⁹but on the day that Lot went out from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.

³⁰"It will occur the same way on the day that the Son of Man reveals Himself.

³¹"On that day, the one on the housetop and who left his goods in the house must not go down to take them out; and likewise the one in the field must not turn back.

³²"Remember Lot's wife.

³³"Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

³⁴"I tell you, on that night there will lie two in one bed; and God will take one and will leave the other.

³⁵"Two women will grind at the same place; God will take one and leave the other.

³⁶["Two men will work in the field; God will take one and leave the other."]

³⁷And answering they said to Him, "Where, Lord?" And He said to them, "Where the body lies, the vultures will gather."

Luke 18

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parables on Prayer

¹Now He told them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart,

²saying, "In a certain city there lived a judge who did not fear God and did not respect man.

³"There lived a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Give me legal protection from my opponent.'

⁴"For a while he showed unwillingness; but afterward he said to himself, 'Even though I do not fear God nor respect man,

⁵yet because this widow bothers me, I will give her legal protection, otherwise by continually coming she will wear me out.'"

⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge said;

⁷now, will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?

⁸"I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

The Pharisee and the Publican

⁹And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they considered themselves righteous, and viewed others with contempt:

¹⁰"Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

¹¹"The Pharisee stood and prayed this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I do not behave like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

¹²'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'

¹³"But the tax collector, standing some distance away, didn't even feel willing to lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, have mercy to me, the sinner!'

¹⁴"I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will become humbled, but he who humbles himself will become exalted."

¹⁵And they brought even their babies to Him so that He would touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they began rebuking them.

¹⁶But Jesus called for them, saying, "Permit the children to come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

¹⁷"Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God resembles a child will not enter it at all."

The Rich Young Ruler

¹⁸A ruler questioned Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one can claim goodness except God alone.

²⁰"You know the commandments, 'DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER.'"

²¹And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth."

²²When Jesus heard this, He said to him, "One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

²³But when he had heard these things, he became very sad, for he had extreme riches.

²⁴And Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard people who have wealth find it to enter the kingdom of God!

²⁵"For a camel would find it easier to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

²⁶They who heard it said, "Then who can receive salvation?"

²⁷But He said, "The things that people find impossible God finds possible."

²⁸Peter said, "Behold, we have left our own homes and followed You."

²⁹And He said to them, "Truly I say to you, no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,

³⁰who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."

³¹Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, "Behold, we will go up to Jerusalem, and all things which the prophets write about the Son of Man will take place.

³²"For His people will hand Him over to the Gentiles, and people will mock and mistreat and spit upon him,

³³and after they have scourged Him, they will kill Him; and the third day He will rise again."

³⁴But the disciples understood none of these things, and the meaning of this statement remained hidden from them, and they did not comprehend the things that He said.

Bartimaeus Receives Sight

³⁵As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man sat by the road begging.

³⁶Now hearing a crowd going by, he began to inquire what this meant.

³⁷They told him that Jesus of Nazareth had passed by.

³⁸And he called out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

³⁹Those who led the way were sternly telling him to keep quiet; but he kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰And Jesus stopped and commanded that they bring him to Him; and when he came near, He questioned him,

⁴¹"What do you want Me to do for you?" And he said, "Lord, I want to regain my sight!"

⁴²And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well."

⁴³Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him, glorifying God; and when all the people saw it, they gave praise to God.

Luke 19

NASB E-Prime DFM

Zaccheus Converted

¹He entered Jericho and passed through.

²And there lived a man called by the name of Zaccheus; he served as a chief tax collector and he had become rich.

³Zaccheus tried to see Jesus, but could not because of the crowd, for he had small stature.

⁴So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He would soon pass through that way.

⁵When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

⁶And he hurried and came down and received Him gladly.

⁷When they saw it, they all began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to become the guest of a man who we know as a sinner."

⁸Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much."

⁹And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, demonstrates himself as a son of Abraham.

¹⁰"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which had become lost."

Parable of Money Usage

¹¹While they listened to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because He drew near to Jerusalem, and they supposed that the kingdom of God would appear immediately.

¹²So He said, "A nobleman went to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and then return.

¹³"And he called ten of his slaves, and gave them ten minas and said to them, 'Do business with this until I come back.'

¹⁴"But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to reign over us.'

¹⁵"When he returned, after receiving the kingdom, he ordered that these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to come before him so that he might know what business they had done.

¹⁶"The first appeared, saying, 'Master, your mina has made ten minas more.'

¹⁷"And he said to him, 'Well done, good slave, because you have proven faithful in a very little thing, you will have authority over ten cities.'

¹⁸"The second came, saying, 'Your mina, master, has made five minas.'

¹⁹"And he said to him also, 'And you will have authority over five cities.'

²⁰"Another came, saying, 'Master, I brought your mina, which I kept put away in a handkerchief;

²¹for I feared you, because you prove an exacting man; you take up what you did not lay down and reap what you did not sow.'

²²"He said to him, 'By your own words I will judge you, you worthless slave. Did you know that I prove an exacting man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow?

²³"Then why did you not put my money in the bank, and having come, I would have collected it with interest?'

²⁴"Then he said to the bystanders, 'Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.'

²⁵"And they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas already.'

²⁶"I tell you that to everyone who has, I will give him more, but from the one who does not have, even what he does have I shall take away.

²⁷"But these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slay them in my presence."

Triumphal Entry

²⁸After He had said these things, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹When He approached Bethphage and Bethany, near the mount that people call Olivet, He sent two of the disciples,

³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you; there, as you enter, you will find a colt tied on which no one yet has ever sat; untie it and bring it here.

³¹"If anyone asks you, 'Why do you untie it?' you shall say, 'The Lord has need of it.'"

³²So those who Jesus sent went away and found it just as He had told them.

³³As they untied the colt, its owners said to them, "Why do you untie the colt?"

³⁴They said, "The Lord has need of it."

³⁵They brought it to Jesus, and they threw their coats on the colt and put Jesus on it.

³⁶As He went, they spread their coats on the road.

³⁷As soon as He approached, near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles which they had seen,

³⁸shouting: "WE BLESS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples."

⁴⁰But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out!"

⁴¹When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it,

⁴²saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have become hidden from your eyes.

⁴³"For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side,

⁴⁴and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation."

Traders Driven from the Temple

⁴⁵Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold,

⁴⁶saying to them, "The scriptures say, 'AND MY HOUSE SHALL SERVE AS A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' but you have made it a ROBBERS' DEN."

⁴⁷And He went teaching daily in the temple; but the chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people tried to destroy Him,

⁴⁸and they could not find anything that they might do, for all the people hung on to every word He said.

Luke 20

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus' Authority Questioned

¹On one of the days while He taught the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders confronted Him, ²and they spoke, saying to Him, "Tell us by what authority do You do these things, or who gave You this authority?"

³Jesus answered and said to them, "I will also ask you a question, and you tell Me:

⁴"Did the baptism of John come from heaven or from men?"

⁵They reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why did you not believe him?'

⁶"But if we say, 'From men,' all the people will stone us to death, for they have convinced themselves that John served as a prophet."

⁷So they answered that they did not know where it came from.

⁸And Jesus said to them, "Nor will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Parable of the Vine-growers

⁹And He began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and rented it out to vine-growers, and went on a journey for a long time.

¹⁰"At the harvest time he sent a slave to the vine-growers, so that they would give him some of the produce of the vineyard; but the vine-growers beat him and sent him away empty-handed.

¹¹"And he proceeded to send another slave; and they beat him also and treated him shamefully and sent him away empty-handed.

¹²"And he proceeded to send a third; and this one also they wounded and cast out.

¹³"The owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.'

¹⁴"But when the vine-growers saw him, they reasoned with one another, saying, 'Here comes the heir; let us kill him so that the inheritance will become ours.'

¹⁵"So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What, then, will the owner of the vineyard do to them?

¹⁶"He will come and destroy these vine-growers and will give the vineyard to others "When they heard it, they said, "May this never happen!"

¹⁷But Jesus looked at them and said, "What then have we read in scripture: 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone'?"

¹⁸"Everyone who falls on that stone will break into pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust."

Tribute to Caesar

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests tried to lay hands on Him that very hour, and they feared the people; for they understood that He spoke this parable against them.

²⁰So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to act righteously, in order that they might catch Him in some statement, so that they could deliver Him to the rule and the authority of the governor.

²¹They questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, we know that You speak and teach correctly, and You show no partiality to any, but teach the way of God in truth.

²²"Do you consider it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

²³But He detected their trickery and said to them,

²⁴"Show Me a denarius. Whose likeness and inscription does it have?" They said, "Caesar's."

²⁵And He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar, and to God the things that belong to God."

²⁶And they could not catch Him in a saying in the presence of the people; and becoming amazed at His answer, they became silent.

Will a Resurrection occur?

²⁷Now there came to Him some of the Sadducees (who do not believe in a resurrection),

²⁸and they questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that IF A MAN'S BROTHER DIES, having a wife, AND HE HAS NO CHILDREN CHILDLESS, HIS BROTHER SHOULD MARRY THE WIFE AND RAISE UP CHILDREN TO HIS BROTHER.

²⁹"Now he had seven brothers; and the first took a wife and died childless;

³⁰and the second

³¹and the third married her; and in the same way all seven died, leaving no children.

³²Finally the woman died also.

³³"In the resurrection therefore, which one's wife will she become? For all seven had married her."

³⁴Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and become given in marriage,

³⁵but those who we consider worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor become given in marriage;

³⁶for they cannot even die anymore, because they resemble angels, and become sons of God, as sons of the resurrection.

³⁷"But that God raises the dead, even Moses showed, in the passage about the burning bush, where he calls the Lord THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB.

³⁸"Now He does not serve as the God of the dead but of the living; for all live to Him."

³⁹Some of the scribes answered and said, "Teacher, You have spoken well."

⁴⁰For they did not have courage to question Him any longer about anything.

⁴¹Then He said to them, "How can they say the Christ has become David's son?"

⁴²"For David himself says in the book of Psalms, 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

⁴³UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'"

⁴⁴"Therefore David calls Him 'Lord,' and how can He become his son?"

⁴⁵And while all the people listened, He said to the disciples,

⁴⁶"Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets,

⁴⁷who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."

Luke 21

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Widow's Gift

¹And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury.

²And He saw a poor widow putting in two small copper coins.

³And He said, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all of them;

⁴for they all out of their surplus put into the offering; but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on."

⁵And while some talked about the temple, that it appeared adorned with beautiful stones and votive gifts, He said,

⁶"As for these things which you look at, the days will come in which there will not remain one stone upon another which will people will not tear down."

⁷They questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, when therefore will these things happen? And what sign will occur when these things will take place?"

⁸And He said, "See to it that no one misleads you; for many will come in My name, saying, 'I proclaim myself as He,' and, 'The time draws near.' Do not go after them.

⁹"When you hear of wars and disturbances, do not become terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end does not follow immediately."

Things to Come

¹⁰Then He continued by saying to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom,

¹¹and great earthquakes will occur, and in various places plagues and famines; and there will come terrors and great signs from heaven.

¹²"But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name's sake.

¹³"It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony.

¹⁴"So make up your minds not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves;

¹⁵for I will give you utterance and wisdom which none of your opponents will resist or refute.

¹⁶"But your parents and relatives and friends will betray you and will put some of you to death,

¹⁷and all will hate you because of My name.

¹⁸"Yet not a hair of your head will perish.

¹⁹"By your endurance you will gain your lives.

²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation has come near.

²¹"Then those who live in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who dwell in the midst of the city must leave, and those who live in the country must not enter the city;

²²because these have become the days of vengeance, so that all things which the scriptures say will become fulfilled.

²³"Woe to those who have become pregnant and to those who nurse babies in those days; for there will come great distress upon the land and wrath to this people;

²⁴and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and people led them captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will become trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles have become fulfilled.

The Return of Christ

²⁵"Signs will occur in the sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay will arise among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves,

²⁶men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which come upon the world; for the powers of the heavens will shake.

²⁷"Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory.

²⁸"But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

²⁹Then He told them a parable: "Behold the fig tree and all the trees;

³⁰as soon as they put forth leaves, you see it and know for yourselves that summer now draws near.

³¹"So you also, when you see these things happening, recognize that the kingdom of God draws near.

³²"Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all things take place.

³³"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

³⁴"Stay on guard, so that your hearts will not become weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap;

³⁵for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth.

³⁶"But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will soon take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

³⁷Now during the day He taught in the temple, but at evening He would go out and spend the night on the mount that people call Olivet.

³⁸And all the people would get up early in the morning to come to Him in the temple to listen to Him.

Luke 22

NASB E-Prime DFM

Preparing the Passover

¹Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which some call the Passover, had drawn near.

²The chief priests and the scribes sought how they might put Him to death; for they feared the people.

³And Satan entered into Judas who also had the name Iscariot, belonging to the number of the twelve.

⁴And he went away and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Him to them.

⁵They felt glad and agreed to give him money.

⁶So he consented, and began seeking a good opportunity to betray Him to them apart from the crowd.

⁷Then came the first day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb would become sacrificed.

⁸And Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat it."

⁹They said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare it?"

¹⁰And He said to them, "When you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house that he enters.

¹¹"And you shall say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where can we find the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"'

¹²"And he will show you a large, furnished upper room; prepare it there."

¹³And they left and found everything just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

The Lord's Supper

¹⁴When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him.

¹⁵And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;

¹⁶for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until I have fulfilled it in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves;

¹⁸for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This symbolizes My body which I give for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

²⁰And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which I poured out for you symbolizes the new covenant in My blood.

²¹"But behold, the hand of the one betraying Me joins Mine on the table.

²²"For indeed, the Son of Man will go as God has predestined; but woe to that man who betrays Him!"

²³And they began to discuss among themselves which one of them might do this thing.

Who Desires Greatness

²⁴And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them God would regard as the greatest.

²⁵And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them people they call 'Benefactors.'

²⁶"But you should not behave this way, but the one who aspires to become the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant.

²⁷"For who do you regard greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Do you think of the one who reclines at the table? But I live among you as the one who serves.

²⁸"I know You have stood by Me in My trials;

²⁹and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, I grant you

³⁰that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat;

³²but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

³³But he said to Him, "Lord, with You I feel ready to go both to prison and to death!"

³⁴And He said, "I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me."

³⁵And He said to them, "When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?" They said, "No, nothing."

³⁶And He said to them, "But now, whoever has a money belt will take it along, likewise also a bag, and whoever has no sword should sell his coat and buy one.

³⁷"For I tell you that this which the scriptures say must become fulfilled in Me, 'AND HE BECAME NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS'; for that which refers to Me has its fulfillment."

³⁸They said, "Lord, look, here we have two swords." And He said to them, "We have enough."

The Garden of Gethsemane

³⁹And He came out and proceeded as He did customarily to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him.

⁴⁰When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

⁴¹And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray,

⁴²saying, "Father, if You will, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours have pre-eminence."

⁴³Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.

⁴⁴And feeling in agony He prayed very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

⁴⁵When He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow,

⁴⁶and said to them, "Why do you sleep? Get up and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Jesus Betrayed by Judas

⁴⁷While He still spoke, behold, a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, preceded them; and he approached Jesus to kiss Him.

⁴⁸But Jesus said to him, "Judas, do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

⁴⁹When those around Him saw what would soon happen, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

⁵⁰And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

⁵¹But Jesus answered and said, "Stop! No more of this." And He touched his ear and healed him.

⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders who had come against Him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as you would against a robber?"

⁵³"While I sat with you daily in the temple, you did not lay hands on Me; but this hour and the power of darkness seem to suit you well."

Jesus' Arrest

⁵⁴Having arrested Him, they led Him away and brought Him to the house of the high priest; but Peter followed at a distance.

⁵⁵After they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat among them.

⁵⁶And a servant-girl, seeing him as he sat in the firelight and looking intently at him, said, "This man accompanied Him too."

⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him."

⁵⁸A little later, another saw him and said, "You belong to them too!" But Peter said, "Man, I do not!"

⁵⁹After about an hour had passed, another man began to insist, saying, "Certainly this man also accompanied Him, for he speaks like a Galilean too."

⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you talk about." Immediately, while he still spoke, a rooster crowed.

⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, "Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times."

⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly.

⁶³Now the men who held Jesus in custody mocked Him and beat Him,

⁶⁴and they blindfolded Him and asked Him, saying, "Prophesy, who hit You?"

⁶⁵And they said many other things against Him, blaspheming.

Jesus before the Sanhedrin

⁶⁶When it became day, the Council of elders of the people assembled, both chief priests and scribes, and they led Him away to their council chamber, saying,

⁶⁷"If You proclaim yourself as the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe;

⁶⁸and if I ask a question, you will not answer.

⁶⁹"But from now on THE SON OF MAN WILL SEAT HIMSELF AT THE RIGHT HAND of the power OF GOD."

⁷⁰And they all said, "Do You proclaim yourself as the Son of God, then?" And He said to them, "Yes, I do."

⁷¹Then they said, "What further need do we have of testimony? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

Luke 23

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus before Pilate

¹Then the whole body of them got up and brought Him before Pilate.

²And they began to accuse Him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, and proclaiming Himself as Christ, a King."

³So Pilate asked Him, saying, "Do You proclaim yourself as the King of the Jews?" And He answered him and said, "You speak the truth."

⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no guilt in this man."

⁵But they kept on insisting, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching all over Judea, starting from Galilee even as far as this place."

⁶When Pilate heard it, he asked whether the man came from Galilee.

⁷And when he learned that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who himself also ruled in Jerusalem at that time.

Jesus before Herod

⁸Now Herod felt very glad when he saw Jesus; for he had wanted to see Him for a long time, because he heard about Him and hoped to see some sign performed by Him.

⁹And he questioned Him at some length; but He answered him nothing.

¹⁰And the chief priests and the scribes stood there, accusing Him vehemently.

¹¹And Herod with his soldiers, after treating Him with contempt and mocking Him, dressed Him in a gorgeous robe and sent Him back to Pilate.

¹²Now Herod and Pilate became friends with one another that very day; for before they had animosity toward each other.

Pilate Seeks Jesus' Release

¹³Pilate summoned the chief priests and the rulers and the people,

¹⁴and said to them, "You brought this man to me as one who incites the people to rebellion, and behold, having examined Him before you, I have found no guilt in this man regarding the charges which you make against Him.

¹⁵"No, nor has Herod, for he sent Him back to us; and behold, he has done nothing deserving death.

¹⁶"Therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

¹⁷[Now he felt obliged to release to them at the feast one prisoner.]

¹⁸But they cried out all together, saying, "Away with this man, and release for us Barabbas!"

¹⁹(The authorities threw him into prison for an insurrection made in the city, and for murder.)

²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again,

²¹but they kept on calling out, saying, "Crucify, crucify Him!"

²²And he said to them the third time, "Why, what evil has this man done? I have found in Him no guilt demanding death; therefore I will punish Him and release Him."

²³But they became insistent, with loud voices asking that they crucify Him. And their voices began to prevail.

²⁴And Pilate pronounced sentence to grant their demand.

²⁵And he released the man they asked for whom they had thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, but he delivered Jesus to their will.

Simon Bears the Cross

²⁶When they led Him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, coming in from the country, and placed on him the cross to carry behind Jesus.

²⁷And a large crowd of the people followed him, including women who mourned and lamented Him.

²⁸But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, stop weeping for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

²⁹"For behold, the days will come when they will say, 'We consider blessed the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.'

³⁰"Then they will begin TO SAY TO THE MOUNTAINS, 'FALL ON US,' AND TO THE HILLS, 'COVER US.'

³¹"For if they do these things when the tree still looks green, what will happen when it dries?"

³²They led two criminals to their execution with Him.

The Crucifixion

³³When they came to the place called The Skull, there they crucified Him and the criminals, one on the right and the other on the left.

³⁴But Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they do." And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves.

³⁵And the people stood by, looking on. And even the rulers sneered at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He proclaims Himself as the Christ of God, His Chosen One."

³⁶The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up to Him, offering Him sour wine,

³⁷and saying, "If You proclaim yourself as the King of the Jews, save Yourself!"

³⁸Now someone had posted an inscription above Him, "HERE WE SEE THE KING OF THE JEWS."

³⁹One of the criminals who hanged there hurled abuse at Him, saying, "Do You not proclaim Yourself the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

⁴⁰But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you have received the same sentence of condemnation?"

⁴¹"And we indeed suffer justly, for we receive what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴²And he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

⁴³And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall accompany Me in Paradise."

⁴⁴It had now become about the sixth hour, and darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour,

⁴⁵because the sun became obscured; and the veil of the temple ripped in two.

⁴⁶And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT." Having said this, He breathed His last.

⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had happened, he began praising God, saying, "Certainly this man we acknowledge as innocent."

⁴⁸And all the crowds who came together for this spectacle, when they observed what had happened, began to return, beating their breasts.

⁴⁹And all His acquaintances and the women who accompanied Him from Galilee stood at a distance, seeing these things.

Jesus' Burial

⁵⁰And a man named Joseph, who belonged to the Council, a good and righteous man

⁵¹(he had not consented to their plan and action), a man from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who waited for the kingdom of God;

⁵²this man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

⁵³And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain.

⁵⁴It had become the preparation day, and the Sabbath would soon begin.

⁵⁵Now the women who had come with Him out of Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how they laid His body.

⁵⁶Then they returned and prepared spices and perfumes. And on the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Luke 24

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Resurrection

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,

³but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

⁴While they felt perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing;

⁵and as the women felt terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead?"

⁶"You will not find Him here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He still lived in Galilee,

⁷saying that the authorities must deliver the Son of Man into the hands of sinful men, and suffer crucifixion, and the third day rise again."

⁸And they remembered His words,

⁹and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.

¹⁰Now they included Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them told these things to the apostles.

¹¹But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them.

¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.

The Road to Emmaus

¹³And behold, two of them went out that very day to a village named Emmaus, which located about seven miles from Jerusalem.

¹⁴And they talked with each other about all these things which had taken place.

¹⁵While they talked and discussed, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them.

¹⁶But their eyes could not recognize Him.

¹⁷And He said to them, "What words do you exchange with one another as you walked?" And they stood still, looking sad.

¹⁸One of them, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Have you visited Jerusalem and remained unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?"

¹⁹And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who lived as a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people,

²⁰and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him.

²¹"But we hoped that it would redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it has neared the third day since these things happened.

²²"But also some women among us amazed us. When they arrived at the tomb early in the morning,

²³and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He lived.

²⁴"Some of those who lived with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but they did not see Him."

²⁵And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

²⁶"Did it not seem necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"

²⁷Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

²⁸And they approached the village where they wanted to go, and He acted as though He would go farther.

²⁹But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it drew close toward evening, and the day had now drawn to a close." So He went in to stay with them.

³⁰When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them.

³¹Then their eyes opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.

³²They said to one another, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He spoke to us on the road, while He explained the Scriptures to us?"

³³And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who dwelled with them,

³⁴saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon."

³⁵They began to relate their experiences on the road and how they recognized them in the breaking of the bread.

Other Appearances

³⁶While they talked about these things, He Himself stood in their midst and said to them, "I bring peace to you."

³⁷But they felt startled and frightened and thought that they saw a spirit.

³⁸And He said to them, "Why do you trouble yourselves, and why does doubt arise in your hearts?"

³⁹"See My hands and My feet, You see Me; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

⁴⁰And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

⁴¹While they still could not believe it because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?"

⁴²They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish;

⁴³and He took it and ate it before them.

⁴⁴Now He said to them, "These words I spoke to you while I still lived with you, that all things which scriptures say about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must find fulfillment."

⁴⁵Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

⁴⁶and He said to them, "Thus the scriptures say, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day,

⁴⁷and that His disciples would proclaim repentance for forgiveness of sins in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

⁴⁸"You witness these things.

⁴⁹"And behold, I send forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you must stay in the city until you become clothed with power from on high."

The Ascension

⁵⁰And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them.

⁵¹While He blessed them, He parted from them and became carried up into heaven.

⁵²And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

⁵³and remained continually in the temple praising God.

John 1-21

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

The Deity of Jesus Christ

¹In the beginning existed the Word, and the Word existed with God, and the Word comprised God.

²He resided in the beginning with God.

³All things came into existence through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into existence that already existed.

⁴In Him resided life, and the life became the Light of men.

⁵The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

The Witness John

⁶There came a man sent from God, named John.

⁷He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.

⁸He did not claim identity with the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.

⁹There emanated the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

¹⁰He lived in the world, and God made the world through Him, and the world did not know Him.

¹¹He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

¹²But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

¹³who received birth, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

The Word Made Flesh

¹⁴And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This constitutes He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'"

¹⁶For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

¹⁷For the Law we received through Moses; grace and truth we received through Jesus Christ.

¹⁸No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who resides in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.

The Testimony of John

¹⁹This constitutes the testimony of John, when the Jews sent to him priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who should we call you?"

²⁰And he confessed and did not deny, but confessed, "I do not hold the office of the Christ."

²¹They asked him, "What then? Do you represent a reincarnation of Elijah?" And he said, "I do not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

²²Then they said to him, "Who do you claim to represent, so that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"

²³He said, "I constitute A VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE STRAIGHT THE WAY OF THE LORD,' as Isaiah the prophet said."

²⁴Now the Pharisees had sent them.

²⁵They asked him, and said to him, "Why then do you baptize, if you do not constitute the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶John answered them saying, "I baptize in water, but among you stands One whom you do not know.

²⁷"He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I do not feel worthy to untie."

²⁸These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John baptized.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

³⁰"This constitutes He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'

³¹"I did not recognize Him, but so that He might manifest Himself to Israel, I came baptizing in water."

³²John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.

³³"I did not recognize Him, but He who sent me to baptize in water said to me, 'He upon whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining upon Him, this One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.'

³⁴"I myself have seen, and have testified that we acknowledge Him as the Son of God."

Jesus' Public Ministry, First Converts

³⁵Again the next day John stood with two of his disciples,

³⁶and he looked at Jesus as He walked, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

³⁷The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸And Jesus turned and saw them following, and said to them, "What do you seek?" They said to Him, "Rabbi (which translated means Teacher), where do You stay?"

³⁹He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they came and saw where He stayed; and they stayed with Him that day, for it had become about the tenth hour.

⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him, we recognized as Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

⁴¹He found first his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which translated means Christ).

⁴²He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You have the name Simon the son of John; we shall call you Cephas" (which translates Peter).

⁴³The next day He purposed to go into Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow Me."

⁴⁴Now Philip came from Bethsaida, of the city of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom no deceit rests!"

⁴⁸Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you stood under the fig tree, I saw you."

⁴⁹Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, I acknowledge You as the Son of God; You will rule as the King of Israel."

⁵⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

⁵¹And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

John 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

Miracle at Cana

¹On the third day a wedding occurred in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus came there;

²and both Jesus and His disciples received invitations to the wedding.

³When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine."

⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does that have to do with us? My hour has not yet come."

⁵His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."

⁶Now there stood six stone water pots set there for the Jewish custom of purification, containing twenty or thirty gallons each.

⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the water pots with water." So they filled them up to the brim.

⁸And He said to them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it to him.

⁹When the headwaiter tasted the water which had turned into wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom,

¹⁰and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first, and when the people have drunk freely, then he serves the poorer wine; but you have kept the good wine until now."

¹¹This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

¹²After this He went down to Capernaum, He and His mother and His brothers and His disciples; and they stayed there a few days.

First Passover--Cleansing the Temple

¹³The Passover of the Jews drew near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

¹⁵And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables;

¹⁶and to those who sold the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a place of business."

¹⁷His disciples remembered that the scriptures had said, "ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME."

¹⁸The Jews then said to Him, "What sign do You show us as your authority for doing these things?"

¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

²⁰The Jews then said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?"

²¹But He spoke of the temple of His body.

²²So when God raised Him from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

²³Now when He travelled in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He did.

²⁴But Jesus, on His part, did not entrust Himself to them, for He knew all men,

²⁵and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what resided in man.

John 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

The New Birth

¹Now there lived a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews;

²this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God works with him."

³Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one becomes born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

⁴Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man become born when he has grown old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and become born, can he?"

⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one becomes born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

⁶"That which has become born of the flesh has the composition of flesh, and that which has become born of the Spirit has the composition of spirit.

⁷"Do not show amazement that I said to you, 'You must become born again.'

⁸"The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it goes; so does everyone who has the birth of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things occur?"

¹⁰Jesus answered and said to him, "Have you served as the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things?

¹¹"Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony.

¹²"If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

¹³"No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man.

¹⁴"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man must become lifted up;

¹⁵so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

¹⁷"For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might receive salvation through Him.

¹⁸"He who believes in Him does not receive judgment; he who does not believe has received judgment already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

¹⁹"This we acknowledge as the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds proved evil.

²⁰"For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will receive exposure.

²¹"But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may manifest as having become wrought in God."

John's Last Testimony

²²After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He spent time with them and baptizing.

²³John also baptized in Aenon near Salim, because there seemed much water there; and people came and received baptism--

²⁴for the authorities had not yet thrown John into prison.

²⁵Therefore there arose a discussion on the part of John's disciples with a Jew about purification.

²⁶And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who resided with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified, behold, He baptizes and all come to Him."

²⁷John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless God gives it to him from heaven.

²⁸"You yourselves witness that I said, Do not mistake me for the Christ; God has sent me before him.'

²⁹"The bridegroom has the bride; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has become full.

³⁰"He must increase, but I must decrease.

³¹"He who comes from above has pre-eminence, he who comes from the earth speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven has pre-eminence above all.

³²"What He has seen and heard, of that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony.

³³"He who has received His testimony has set his seal to this, that God proves true.

³⁴"For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure.

³⁵"The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand.

³⁶"He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

John 4

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Goes to Galilee

¹Therefore when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus had made and baptized more disciples than John

²(although Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples did),

³He left Judea and went away again into Galilee.

⁴And He had to pass through Samaria.

⁵So He came to a city of Samaria called Sychar, near the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph;

⁶and Jacob's well located there. So Jesus, feeling tired from His journey, sat by the well. It became the sixth hour.

The Woman of Samaria

⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink."

⁸For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

⁹Therefore the Samaritan woman said to Him, "How come You, a Jew, ask me for a drink since I have Samaritan ancestry?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

¹⁰Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who tells you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

¹¹She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well has great depth; where then do You get that living water?"

¹²"You do not have pre-eminence over our father Jacob, do You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself and his sons and his cattle?"

¹³Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again;

¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

¹⁵The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, so I will not have thirst nor come all the way here to draw."

¹⁶He said to her, "Go, call your husband and come here."

¹⁷The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have correctly said, 'I have no husband';

¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have you cannot call your husband; this you have said truly."

¹⁹The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive You as a great prophet.

²⁰"Our fathers worshiped in this mountain, and you people say that we should regard Jerusalem as the place where men ought to worship."

²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, an hour comes when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

²²"You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation comes from the Jews.

²³"But an hour comes, and now has arrived, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to worship Him.

²⁴"God constitutes spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

²⁵The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah will come (He who we call Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us."

²⁶Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you constitute this Messiah."

²⁷At this point His disciples came, and they appeared amazed that He had spoken with a woman, yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why do You speak with her?"

²⁸So the woman left her water pot, and went into the city and said to the men,

²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all the things that I have done; this we must acknowledge as the Christ, don't we?"

³⁰They went out of the city, and came to Him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

³²But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

³³So the disciples said to one another, "No one brought Him anything to eat, did he?"

³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food consists of doing the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.

³⁵"Do you not say, 'We still have yet four months, and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they appear white for harvest.

³⁶"Already he who reaps receives wages and gathers fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.

³⁷"For in this case the saying has accuracy, 'One sows and another reaps.'

³⁸"I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor."

The Samaritans

³⁹From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all the things that I have done."

⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they asked Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days.

⁴¹Many more believed because of His word;

⁴²and they said to the woman, "We do not only rely on your words for what we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and acknowledge this One as indeed the Savior of the world."

⁴³After the two days He went forth from there into Galilee.

⁴⁴For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.

⁴⁵So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things that He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they themselves also went to the feast.

Healing a Nobleman's Son

⁴⁶Therefore He came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there lived a royal official whose son had become sick at Capernaum.

⁴⁷When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son; for he had arrived at the point of death.

⁴⁸So Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe."

⁴⁹The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Go; your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off.

⁵¹As he had now gone down, his slaves met him, saying that his son lived.

⁵²So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. Then they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."

⁵³So the father knew that it coincided with that hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives"; and he himself believed and his whole household.

⁵⁴This we recognize as a second sign that Jesus performed when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

John 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Healing at Bethesda

¹After these things there came a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now there locates in Jerusalem by the sheep gate a pool, which people call in Hebrew Bethesda, having five porticoes.

³In these lay a multitude of those who had become sick, blind, lame, and withered, [waiting for the moving of the waters;

⁴for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and stirred up the water; whoever then first, after the stirring up of the water, stepped in became well from whatever disease with which had afflicted him.]

⁵A man came there who had suffered illness for thirty-eight years.

⁶When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had already suffered a long time in that condition, He said to him, "Do you wish to get well?"

⁷The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water becomes stirred up, but while I come, another steps down before me."

⁸Jesus said to him, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk."

⁹Immediately the man became well, and picked up his pallet and began to walk. Now it occurred on the Sabbath on that day.

¹⁰So the Jews said to the man who had become healed, "The Sabbath has come, and we do not permit you to carry your pallet."

¹¹But he answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your pallet and walk.'"

¹²They asked him, "Who said to you, 'Pick up your pallet and walk'?"

¹³But the man who received healing did not know who had healed him, for Jesus had slipped away while a crowd gathered in that place.

¹⁴Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you."

¹⁵The man went away, and told the Jews that Jesus had made him well.

¹⁶For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, because He did these things on the Sabbath.

¹⁷But He answered them, "My Father has worked until now, and I myself work."

Jesus' Equality with God

¹⁸For this reason therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He had not only broken the Sabbath, but also called God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

¹⁹Therefore Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it resembles something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.

²⁰"For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel.

²¹"For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.

²²"For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son,

²³so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

²⁴"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

Two Resurrections

²⁵"Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour comes and now has arrived, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

²⁶"For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself;

²⁷and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He serves as the Son of Man.

²⁸"Do not marvel at this; for an hour comes, in which all who lie in the tombs will hear His voice,

²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

³⁰"I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and I use just judgment, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

³¹"If I alone testify about Myself, My testimony does not have truth.

³²"There exists another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me consists of the truth.

Witness of John

³³"You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth.

³⁴"But the testimony which I receive does not come from man, but I say these things so that you may receive salvation.

³⁵"He resembled the lamp that burned and shone and you showed willingness to rejoice for a while in his light.

Witness of Works

³⁶"But the testimony which I have proves greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish--the very works that I do--testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

Witness of the Father

³⁷"And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.

³⁸"You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent.

Witness of the Scripture

³⁹"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; these scriptures testify about Me;

⁴⁰and you have become unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

⁴¹"I do not receive glory from men;

⁴²but I know you, that you do not have the love of God in yourselves.

⁴³"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him.

⁴⁴"How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that comes from the one and only God?"

⁴⁵"Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; Moses accuses you Moses, in whom you have set your hope.

⁴⁶"For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me.

⁴⁷"But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

John 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Five Thousand Fed

¹After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias).

²A large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs which He had performed on those who fell sick.

³Then Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples.

⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, drew near.

⁵Therefore Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd had come to Him, said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread, so that these may eat?"

⁶This He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He had intended to do.

⁷Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread does not seem sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a little."

⁸One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him,

⁹"There comes a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what do these amount to for so many people?"

¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there grew much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed to those who seated themselves; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted.

¹²When they had become filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments so that nothing will become lost."

¹³So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which those who ate them had left over.

¹⁴Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "We have truly seen the Prophet who came into the world."

Jesus Walks on the Water

¹⁵So Jesus, perceiving that they intended to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.

¹⁶Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea,

¹⁷and after getting into a boat, they started to cross the sea to Capernaum. It had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.

¹⁸The sea began to stir up because a strong wind blew.

¹⁹Then, when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near to the boat; and they all became frightened.

²⁰But He said to them, "I have returned; do not fear."

²¹So they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land to which they had gone.

²²The next day the crowd that stood on the other side of the sea saw that no other small boat had come there, except one, and that Jesus had not entered with His disciples into the boat, but that His disciples had gone away alone.

²³There came other small boats from Tiberias near to the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks.

²⁴So when the crowd saw that Jesus had not come there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the small boats, and came to Capernaum seeking Jesus.

²⁵When they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You get here?"

Words to the People

²⁶Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and became filled.

²⁷"Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal."

²⁸Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?"

²⁹Jesus answered and said to them, "This constitutes the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

³⁰So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform?"

³¹"Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as the scriptures say, 'HE GAVE THEM BREAD OUT OF HEAVEN TO EAT.'"

³²Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread out of heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.

³³"For the bread of God comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world."

³⁴Then they said to Him, "Lord, always give us this bread."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I present myself as the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst.

³⁶"But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe.

³⁷"All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.

³⁸"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

³⁹"This constitutes the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

⁴⁰"For this constitutes the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."

Words to the Jews

⁴¹Therefore the Jews who grumbled about Him, because He said, "I constitute the bread that came down out of heaven."

⁴²They said, "Do we not know this Jesus as the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, 'I have come down out of heaven'?"

⁴³Jesus answered and said to them, "Do not grumble among yourselves.

⁴⁴"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day.

⁴⁵"The scriptures said in the prophets, 'AND GOD SHALL TEACH THEM.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me.

⁴⁶"Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who has come from God; He has seen the Father.

⁴⁷"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.

⁴⁸"I constitute the bread of life.

⁴⁹"Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

⁵⁰"This bread comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.

⁵¹"I constitute the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world represents My flesh."

⁵²Then the Jews began to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?"

⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves.

⁵⁴"He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

⁵⁵"For My flesh constitutes true food, and My blood constitutes true drink.

⁵⁶"He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

⁵⁷"As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me.

⁵⁸"This constitutes the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."

Words to the Disciples

⁵⁹These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

⁶⁰Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this said, "This sounds like a difficult statement; who can listen to it?"

⁶¹But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, "Does this cause you to stumble?"

⁶²"What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He had come from?"

⁶³"The Spirit gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you constitute spirit and life.

⁶⁴"But some of you do not believe " For Jesus knew from the beginning who did not believe, and who would betray Him.

⁶⁵And He said, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless the Father granted it."

Peter's Confession of Faith

⁶⁶As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and did not walk with Him anymore.

⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?"

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.

⁶⁹"We have believed and have come to acknowledge Him as the Holy One of God."

⁷⁰Jesus answered them, "Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve, and yet one of you has become a devil?"

⁷¹Now He meant Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, had plans to betray Him.

John 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Teaches at the Feast

¹After these things Jesus walked in Galilee, for He showed reluctance to walk in Judea because the Jews sought to kill Him.

²Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, drew near.

³Therefore His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You have done.

⁴"For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to become known publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

⁵For not even His brothers believed in Him.

⁶So Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet arrived, but your time always proves opportune.

⁷"The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds have become evil.

⁸"Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come."

⁹Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee.

¹⁰But when His brothers had gone up to the feast, then He Himself also went up, not publicly, but as if, in secret.

¹¹So the Jews sought Him at the feast and said, "Have you seen Him?"

¹²There grew much grumbling among the crowds concerning Him; some said, "We know Him as a good man"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He leads the people astray."

¹³Yet no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

¹⁴But when it had become the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and began to teach.

¹⁵The Jews then became astonished, saying, "How has this man become learned, having never received formal education?"

¹⁶So Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching does not belong to Me, but belongs to Him who sent Me.

¹⁷"If anyone shows willingness to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it comes from God or whether I speak from Myself.

¹⁸"He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him, He constitutes truth, and no unrighteousness exists in Him.

¹⁹"Did not Moses give you the Law, and yet none of you carries out the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"

²⁰The crowd answered, "You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?"

²¹Jesus answered them, "I did one deed, and you all marvel.

²²"For this reason Moses has given you circumcision (not because it comes from Moses, but from the fathers), and on the Sabbath you circumcise a man.

²³"If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that you will not break the Law of Moses, have you become angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath?

²⁴"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

²⁵So some of the people of Jerusalem said, "Do they seek to kill this man?

²⁶"Look, He speaks publicly, and they say nothing to Him. The rulers do not really know that this man constitutes the Christ, do they?

²⁷"However, we know where this man comes from; but whenever the Christ may come, no one knows where He comes from."

²⁸Then Jesus cried out in the temple, teaching and saying, "You both know Me and know where I come from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me embodies the truth, whom you do not know.

²⁹"I know Him, because I come from Him, and He sent Me."

³⁰So they sought to seize Him; and no man laid his hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.

³¹But many of the crowd believed in Him; and they said, "When the Christ comes, He will not perform more signs than those which this man has, will He?"

³²The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to seize Him.

³³Therefore Jesus said, "For a little while longer I remain with you, then I go to Him who sent Me.

³⁴"You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I go, you cannot come."

³⁵The Jews then said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He does not intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks, does He?"

³⁶"What does this statement mean that He said, 'You will seek Me, and will not find Me; and where I go, you cannot come'?"

³⁷Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

³⁸"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

³⁹But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him would receive; for God had given the Spirit, because Jesus had not yet received his glorification.

Division of People over Jesus

⁴⁰Some of the people therefore, when they heard these words, said, "This certainly looks like the Prophet."

⁴¹Others said, "We acknowledge Him as the Christ." Still others said, "Surely the Christ would not come from Galilee, would He?"

⁴²"Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the descendants of David, and from Bethlehem, the village where David came from?"

⁴³So a division occurred in the crowd because of Him.

⁴⁴Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

⁴⁵The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, and they said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?"

⁴⁶The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks."

⁴⁷The Pharisees then answered them, "You have not also fallen under His spell, have you?"

⁴⁸"No one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he?"

⁴⁹"But this crowd which does not know the Law has become accursed."

⁵⁰Nicodemus (he who came to Him before, having belonged to them) said to them,

⁵¹"Our Law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he does, does it?"

⁵²They answered him, "You do not also come from Galilee, do you? Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee."

⁵³Everyone went to his home.

John 8

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Adulterous Woman

¹But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

²Early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and began to teach them.

³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court,

⁴they said to Him, "Teacher, we have caught this woman in adultery, in the very act.

⁵"Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?"

⁶They said this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground.

⁷But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who has no sin among you, let him throw a stone at her."

⁸Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹When they heard it, they began to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and nobody remained, and the woman stood in the center of the court.

¹⁰Straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where did they go? Did no one condemn you?"

¹¹She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more."

Jesus Serves as the Light of the World

¹²Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I serve as the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

¹³So the Pharisees said to Him, "You testify about Yourself; Your testimony does not prove true."

¹⁴Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I testify about Myself, My testimony proves true, for I know where I came from and where I go; but you do not know where I come from or where I go to.

¹⁵"You judge according to the flesh; I do not judge anyone.

¹⁶"But even if I do judge, My judgment proves true; for I remain not alone in it, but I and the Father who sent Me.

¹⁷"Even in your law the scriptures state that the testimony of two men proves true.

¹⁸"I testify about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me."

¹⁹So they said to Him, "Where does Your Father live?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also."

²⁰These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.

²¹Then He said again to them, "I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin; where I go, you cannot come."

²²So the Jews said, "Surely He will not kill Himself, will He, since He says, 'Where I go, you cannot come'?"

²³And He said to them, "You dwell below, I come from above; you derive from this world, I do not come from this world.

²⁴"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I serve as your Savior, you will die in your sins."

²⁵So they said to Him, "Who do You call yourself?" Jesus said to them, "What have I said to you from the beginning?"

²⁶"I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me embodies truth; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world."

²⁷They did not realize that He had spoken to them about the Father.

²⁸So Jesus said, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I serve as the Savior, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.

²⁹"And He who sent Me lives with Me; He has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that please Him."

³⁰As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him.

The Truth Will Make You Free

³¹So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you truly serve as My disciples;

³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

³³They answered Him, "We descend from Abraham and have never yet serves as slaves to anyone; how do You say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin has enslaved himself to sin.

³⁵"The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever.

³⁶"So if the Son makes you free, you will have freedom indeed.

³⁷"I know that you descend from Abraham; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

³⁸"I speak the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father."

³⁹They answered and said to Him, "We have Abraham as our father." Jesus said to them, "If you consider yourself Abraham's children, do the deeds of Abraham.

⁴⁰"But as it turns out, you seek to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do.

⁴¹"You do the deeds of your father" They said to Him, "We did not have our origin in fornication; we have one Father: God."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "If you consider God as your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me.

⁴³"Why do you not understand what I say? Has it occurred because you cannot hear My word?

⁴⁴"You come from your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father He proved himself a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because no truth exists in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he lies and has become the father of lies.

⁴⁵"But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.

⁴⁶"Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?

⁴⁷"He who comes from God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because do not come from God."

⁴⁸The Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not say rightly that You have Samaritan ancestry and have a demon?"

⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.

⁵⁰"But I do not seek My glory; there exists One who seeks and judges.

⁵¹"Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he will never see death."

⁵²The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon Abraham died, and the prophets also; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste of death.'

⁵³"Surely You do not consider yourselves greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; whom do You make Yourself out to be?"

⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify Myself, My glory amounts to nothing; My Father glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'We acknowledge Him as our God';
⁵⁵and you have not come to know Him, but I know Him; and if I say that I do not know Him, I will lie like you, but I do know Him and keep His word.
⁵⁶"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and felt glad."
⁵⁷So the Jews said to Him, "You have not reached not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"
⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham came into the world, I already existed."
⁵⁹Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

John 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

Healing the Man Born Blind

¹As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.
²And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would come into this world blind?"
³Jesus answered, "Neither that this man neither sinned, nor had his parents; but took place so that the works of God might become displayed in him.
⁴"We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it remains day; night comes when no one can work.
⁵"While I remain in the world, I serve as the Light of the world."
⁶When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,
⁷and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which has the translation, Sent). So he went away and washed, and came back seeing.
⁸Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, said, "Did this one used to sit and beg?"
⁹Others said, "We recognize him as the blind one who used to beg," still others said, "No, but he looks like him." He kept saying, "You have the right one."
¹⁰So they said to him, "How then did your eyes become opened?"

¹¹He answered, "The man who we call Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went away and washed, and I received sight."

¹²They said to him, "Where did He go?" He said, "I do not know."

Controversy over the Man

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly suffered from blindness.

¹⁴Now it occurred on a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

¹⁶Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This man does not come from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who sins perform such signs?" And a division erupted among them.

¹⁷So they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "I consider Him a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews then did not believe it of him, that he had formerly suffered blindness and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight,

¹⁹and questioned them, saying, "Did you say your son came into the world blind? Then how does he now see?"

²⁰His parents answered them and said, "We acknowledge our son, and that he came into the world blind;

²¹but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he has reached adulthood, he will speak for himself."

²²His parents said this because they had fear of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him as Christ, we would put him out of the synagogue.

²³For this reason his parents said, "He has reached adulthood; ask him."

²⁴So a second time they called the man who had entered the world blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God; we acknowledge this man as a sinner."

²⁵He then answered, "Whether He has sinned, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I suffered blindness, now I see."

²⁶So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

²⁷He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear it again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?"

²⁸They reviled him and said, "You serve as His disciple, but we serve as disciples of Moses.

²⁹"We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from."

³⁰The man answered and said to them, "Well, here we find an amazing thing, that you do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes."

³¹"We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone fears God, and does His will, He hears him."

³²"Since the beginning of time no one has ever heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind."

³³"If this man did not come from God, He could do nothing."

³⁴They answered him, "You had your birth entirely in sins, and do you teach us?" So they put him out.

Jesus Affirms His Deity

³⁵Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶He answered, "Where can I find Him, Lord, that I may believe in Him?"

³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He talks with you right now."

³⁸And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him.

³⁹And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind."

⁴⁰Those of the Pharisees who stayed with Him heard these things and said to Him, "So you consider us blind too?"

⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you considered yourselves blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

John 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

Parable of the Good Shepherd

¹"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, we acknowledge as a thief and a robber."

²"But he who enters by the door serves as a shepherd of the sheep."

³"To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."

⁴"When he puts forth all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

⁵"A stranger they simply will not follow, but will flee from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers."

⁶This figure of speech Jesus spoke to them, but they did not understand those things which He had said to them.

⁷So Jesus said to them again, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I serve as the door of the sheep.

⁸"All who came before Me proved themselves thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.

⁹"I represent the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will receive salvation, and will go in and out and find pasture.

¹⁰"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

¹¹"I serve as the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

¹²"He who serves as a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

¹³"He flees because he serves as a hired hand and does not concern himself about the sheep.

¹⁴"I serve as the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me,

¹⁵even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

¹⁶"I have other sheep, which do not belong to this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd.

¹⁷"For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again.

¹⁸"No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father."

¹⁹A division occurred again among the Jews because of these words.

²⁰Many of them said, "He has a demon and has gone insane. Why do you listen to Him?"

²¹Others said, "These do not represent the sayings of one demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of the blind, can he?"

Jesus Asserts His Deity

²²At that time the Feast of the Dedication took place at Jerusalem;

²³winter had arrived, and Jesus walked in the temple in the portico of Solomon.

²⁴The Jews then gathered around Him, and said to Him, "How long will You keep us in suspense? If You consider yourself the Christ, tell us plainly."

²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me.

²⁶"But you do not believe because you do not belong to My sheepfold.

²⁷"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;

²⁸and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

²⁹"My Father, who has given them to Me, has more greatness than all; and no one could snatch them out of the Father's hand.

³⁰"I and the Father consist of one."

³¹The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.

³²Jesus answered them, "I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them do you stone Me?"

³³The Jews answered Him, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, only a man, make Yourself out as equivalent to God."

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Has the scripture not stated in your Law, 'I SAID, I CONSIDER YOU GODS'?"

³⁵"If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture we cannot break),

³⁶do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You blaspheme,' because I said, 'I acknowledge God as my Father'?"

³⁷"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

³⁸but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father dwells in Me, and I in the Father."

³⁹Therefore they seek again to seize Him, and He eluded their grasp.

⁴⁰And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John first baptized, and He stayed there.

⁴¹Many came to Him and said, "While John performed no sign, yet everything John said about this man proved true."

⁴²Many believed in Him there.

John 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Death and Resurrection of Lazarus

¹Now a certain man became sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

²Mary had previously anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus had become sick.

³So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love has become sick."

⁴But when Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness does not end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may receive glorification by it."

⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.

⁶So when He heard that he had become sick, He then stayed two days longer in the place where He resided.

⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

⁸The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews seek to stone You, and You go there again?"

⁹Jesus answered, "Do we not have twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.

¹⁰"But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light does not reside in him."

¹¹This He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I go, so that I may awaken him out of sleep."

¹²The disciples then said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."

¹³Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that He spoke of literal sleep.

¹⁴So Jesus then said to them plainly, "Lazarus has died,

¹⁵and I feel glad for your sakes that I could not get there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him."

¹⁶Therefore Thomas, who also has the name of Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, so that we may die with Him."

¹⁷So when Jesus came, He found that he had already lain in the tomb four days.

¹⁸Now Bethany located near Jerusalem, about two miles off;

¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to console them concerning their brother.

²⁰Martha therefore, when she heard that Jesus had come, went to meet Him, but Mary stayed at the house.

²¹Martha then said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had arrived here sooner, my brother would not have died.

²²"Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I represent the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,

²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed and acknowledge You as the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world."

²⁸When she had said this, she went away and called Mary her sister, saying secretly, "The Teacher has come here and calls for you."

²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and came to Him.

³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but remained still in the place where Martha met Him.

³¹Then the Jews who gathered with her in the house, and consoling her, when they saw that Mary got up quickly and went out, they followed her, supposing that she would go to the tomb to weep there.

³²Therefore, when Mary came where Jesus stood, she saw Him, and fell at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had come here earlier, my brother would not have died."

³³When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, He felt deeply moved in spirit and felt troubled,

³⁴and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see."

³⁵Jesus wept.

³⁶So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

³⁷But some of them said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?"

³⁸So Jesus, again being deeply moved within, came to the tomb. Now it consisted of a cave, and a stone lying against it.

³⁹Jesus said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will emanate a stench, for he died four days ago."

⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.

⁴²"I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me."

⁴³When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth."

⁴⁴The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face had a cloth wrapped around. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

⁴⁶But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done.

Conspiracy to Kill Jesus

⁴⁷Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and said, "What can we do? For this man performs many signs.

⁴⁸"If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

⁴⁹But one of them, Caiaphas, who served as high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all,

⁵⁰nor do you take into account that it becomes expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish."

⁵¹Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but having served as high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation,

⁵²and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who had scattered abroad.

⁵³So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.

⁵⁴Therefore Jesus no longer continued to walk publicly among the Jews, but went away from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim; and there He stayed with the disciples.

⁵⁵Now the Passover of the Jews drew near, and many went up to Jerusalem out of the country before the Passover to purify themselves.

⁵⁶So they sought Jesus, and said to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think; that He will not come to the feast at all?"

⁵⁷Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where they could find Him, he should report it, so that they might seize Him.

John 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Mary Anoints Jesus

¹Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.

²So they made Him a supper there, and Martha served; but Lazarus reclined at the table with Him.

³Mary then took a pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who intended to betray Him, said,

⁵"Why did you not sell this perfume for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?"

⁶Now he said this, not because he concerned himself about the poor, but because he proved a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what we put into it.

⁷Therefore Jesus said, "Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial.

⁸"For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me."

⁹The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He had arrived there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead.

¹⁰But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also;

¹¹because on account of him many of the Jews had gone away and also believed in Jesus.

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

¹²On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus had come to Jerusalem,

¹³took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! BLESSED DO WE ACKNOWLEDGE AS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, even the King of Israel."

¹⁴Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it says in the scriptures,

¹⁵"FEAR NOT, DAUGHTER OF ZION; BEHOLD, YOUR KING COMES, SEATED ON A DONKEY'S COLT."

¹⁶These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus became glorified, then they remembered that these things people had written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.

¹⁷So the people, who lived with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him.

¹⁸For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign.

¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you have done any good; look, the world has gone after Him."

Greeks Seek Jesus

²⁰Now there lived some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the feast;

²¹these then came to Philip, who came from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

²²Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came and told Jesus.

²³And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to receive glorification.

²⁴"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵"He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.

²⁶"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I go, there My servant will go also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

Jesus Foretells His Death

²⁷"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

²⁸"Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."

²⁹So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered; others said, "An angel has spoken to Him."

³⁰Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes.

³¹"Now judgment has come upon this world; now I will cast out the ruler of this world.

³²"And I, if I become lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."

³³But He said this to indicate the kind of death by which He would die.

³⁴The crowd then answered Him, "We have heard out of the Law that the Christ would remain forever; and how can You say, 'The Son of Man must become lifted up'? Who do we mean as the Son of Man?"

³⁵So Jesus said to them, "For a little while longer the Light resides among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes.

³⁶"While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light." These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them.

³⁷But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they did not believe in Him.

³⁸This would fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BECOME REVEALED?"

³⁹For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah said again,

⁴⁰"HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE HARDENED THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BECOME CONVERTED AND I HEAL THEM."

⁴¹These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him.

⁴²Nevertheless many of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, for fear that would become expelled from the synagogue;

⁴³for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.

⁴⁴And Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me.

⁴⁵"He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me.

⁴⁶"I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.

⁴⁷"If anyone hears My sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.

⁴⁸"He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke will judge him at the last day.

⁴⁹"For I did not speak on My own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.

⁵⁰"I know that His commandment leads to eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me."

John 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Lord's Supper

¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who lived in the world, He loved them to the end.

²During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him,

³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and would go back to God,

⁴got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

⁵Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He had girded himself.

⁶So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?"

⁷Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter."

⁸Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."

⁹Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head."

¹⁰Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but has become completely clean; and you have become clean, but not all of you."

¹¹For He knew the one who betrayed Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you can we regard as clean."

¹²So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"

¹³"You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you acknowledge correctly, for I serve as your teacher and Lord.

¹⁴"If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁵"For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

¹⁶"Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave has no more greatness than his master, nor does the one sent consider himself greater than the one who sent him.

¹⁷"If you know these things, you receive blessings if you do them.

¹⁸"I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but that the Scripture may become fulfilled, 'HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.'

¹⁹"From now on I tell you before it comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I have become sent to You.

²⁰"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."

Jesus Predicts His Betrayal

²¹When Jesus had said this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me."

²²The disciples began looking at one another, at a loss to know of which one of which He spoke.

²³There reclined on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.

²⁴So Simon Peter gestured to him, and said to him, "Tell us of whom He speaks."

²⁵He, leaning back thus on Jesus' bosom, said to Him, "Lord, who will betray you?"

²⁶Jesus then answered, "The one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.

²⁷After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

²⁸Now no one of those reclining at the table knew for what purpose He had said this to him.

²⁹For some supposed, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy the things we have need of for the feast"; or else, that he should give something to the poor.

³⁰So after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it had become night.

³¹Therefore when he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now will the Son of Man receive glorification, and God becomes glorified in Him;

³²if God becomes glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and will glorify Him immediately.

³³"Little children, I dwell with you a little while longer You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I go, you cannot come.'

³⁴"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

³⁵"By this all men will know that you serve as My disciples, if you have love for one another."

³⁶Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, where do You go?" Jesus answered, "Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later."

³⁷Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You."

³⁸Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times."

John 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Comforts His Disciples

¹"Do not let your heart become troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.

²"In My Father's house exist many dwelling places; if they did not exist, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.

³"If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I have gone, there you may go also.

⁴"And you know the way where I go."

⁵Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You go going, how do we know the way?"

⁶Jesus said to him, "I proclaim myself the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Oneness with the Father

⁷"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him."

⁸Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will consider it enough for us."

⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I stayed so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

¹⁰"Do you not believe that I dwell in the Father, and the Father dwells in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.

¹¹"Believe Me that I reside in the Father and the Father resides in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves."

¹²"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

¹³"Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may receive glorification in the Son.

¹⁴"If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

¹⁵"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

Role of the Spirit

¹⁶"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may stay with you forever;

¹⁷namely the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will dwell in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

¹⁹"After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also.

²⁰"In that day you will know that I dwell in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

²¹"He who has My commandments and keeps them loves Me; and he who loves Me will receive love by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, what then has happened that You will disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?"

²³Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

²⁴"He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear does not belong to Me, but the Father's who sent Me.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you.

²⁶"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

²⁷"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart become troubled, nor let it fear.

²⁸"You heard that I said to you, 'I go away, and I will come to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father has more greatness than I.

²⁹"Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.

³⁰"I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world comes , and he has nothing in Me;

³¹but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.

John 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus as the Vine--Followers as the Branches

¹" Symbolically I represent the true vine, and My Father represents the vinedresser.

²"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.

³"You have become cleansed already because of the word which I have spoken to you.

⁴"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.

⁵"I represent the vine, you represent the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

⁶"If anyone does not abide in Me, he becomes thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they burn.

⁷"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and My Father will do it for you.

⁸"My Father receives glorification by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to serve as My disciples.

⁹"Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.

¹⁰"If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

¹¹"These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may reside in you, and that your joy may become full.

Disciples' Relation to Each Other

¹²"This I command you, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

¹³"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

¹⁴"You prove My friends if you do what I command you.

¹⁵"No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master does; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.

¹⁶"You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

¹⁷"This I command you, that you love one another.

Disciples' Relation to the World

¹⁸"If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.

¹⁹"If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own; but because you do not belong to the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

²⁰"Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave does not have greater worth than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

²¹"But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.

²²"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

²³"He who hates Me hates My Father also.

²⁴"If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well.

²⁵"But they have done this to fulfill the word that the scriptures state in their Law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.'

²⁶"When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, namely the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me,

²⁷and you will testify also, because you have remained with Me from the beginning.

John 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus' Warning

¹"These things I have spoken to you so that you may keep from stumbling.

²"They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour comes for everyone who kills you to think that he offers service to God.

³"These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me.

⁴"But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I dwelt with you.

The Holy Spirit Promised

⁵"But now I go to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where do You go?'

⁶"But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

⁷"But I tell you the truth, it falls to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

⁸"And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;

⁹concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;

¹⁰and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me;

¹¹and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has received judgment.

¹²"I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what will come.

¹⁴"He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

¹⁵"All things that the Father has belong to me; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Jesus' Death and Resurrection Foretold

¹⁶"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me."

¹⁷Some of His disciples then said to one another, "What does he mean, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?"

¹⁸So they said, "What does He say when He says, 'A little while'? We do not know what He refers to."

¹⁹Jesus knew that they wished to question Him, and He said to them, "Do you deliberate together about this, that I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me'?"

²⁰"Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will turn into joy.

²¹"Whenever a woman begins labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has come into the world.

²²"Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you.

Prayer Promises

²³"In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you.

²⁴"Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may become full.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour comes when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father.

²⁶"In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf;

²⁷for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.

²⁸"I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; I will leave the world again and going to the Father."

²⁹His disciples said, "Lo, now You speak plainly and do not use a figure of speech.

³⁰"Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God."

³¹Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe?"

³²"Behold, an hour comes, and has already come, for you to scatter, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I find myself not alone, because the Father dwells with Me.

³³"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

John 17

NASB E-Prime DFM

The High Priestly Prayer

¹Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You,

²even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life.

³"This constitutes eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

⁴"I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.

⁵"Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world existed.

⁶"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; You owned them and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

⁷"Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me comes from You;

⁸for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me.

⁹"I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they belong to You;

¹⁰and all things that belong to Me, belong to You, and Yours belong to Me; and I have received glorification in them.

¹¹"I no longer will reside in the world; and yet they themselves reside in the world, and I come to You Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may become one even as We have become one.

¹²"While I lived with them, I kept them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would have fulfillment.

The Disciples in the World

¹³"But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.

¹⁴"I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they do not belong to the world, even as I do not belong to the world.

¹⁵"I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.

¹⁶"They do not belong to the world, even as I do not belong to the world.

¹⁷"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word constitutes truth.

¹⁸"As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

¹⁹"For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may receive sanctification in truth.

²⁰"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

²¹that they may all become one; even as You, Father, dwell in Me and I in You, that they also may dwell in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

Their Future Glory

²²"The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may become one, just as We have unity;

²³I in them and You in Me, that they may receive perfection in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

²⁴"Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, reside with Me where I reside, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me;

²⁶and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may dwell in them, and I in them."

John 18

NASB E-Prime DFM

Judas Betrays Jesus

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, He went forth with His disciples over the ravine of the Kidron, where there existed a garden, in which He entered with His disciples.

²Now Judas also, who betrayed Him, knew the place, for Jesus had often met there with His disciples.

³Judas then, having received the Roman cohort and officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

⁴So Jesus, knowing all the things that came upon Him, went forth and said to them, "Whom do you seek?"

⁵They answered Him, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, "You found Him." And Judas also, who betrayed Him, stood with them.

⁶So when He said to them, "You have found me," they drew back and fell to the ground.

⁷Therefore He again asked them, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus the Nazarene."

⁸Jesus answered, "I told you that you found me; so if you seek Me, let these go their way,"

⁹to fulfill the word which He spoke, "Of those whom You have given Me I lost not one."

¹⁰Simon Peter then, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear; and the slave had the name of Malchus.

¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, "Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?"

Jesus before the Priests

¹²So the Roman cohort and the commander and the officers of the Jews, arrested Jesus and bound Him,

¹³and led Him to Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas; who served as high priest that year.

¹⁴Now Caiaphas had advised the Jews that it might become expedient for one man to die on behalf of the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, as well as another disciple. Now the high priest knew that disciple, and entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest,

¹⁶but Peter stood at the door outside. So the other disciple, an acquaintance of the high priest, went out and spoke to the doorkeeper, and brought Peter in.

¹⁷Then the slave-girl who kept the door said to Peter, "Did not you serve this man as one of His disciples?" He said, "I did not."

¹⁸Now the slaves and the officers stood there, having made a charcoal fire, for it felt cold and they warmed themselves; and Peter joined them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples, and about His teaching.

²⁰Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret.

²¹"Why do you question Me? Question those who have heard what I spoke to them; they know what I said."

²²When He had said this, one of the officers standing nearby struck Jesus, saying, "Watch how You answer the high priest?"

²³Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify of the wrong; but if rightly, why do you strike Me?"

²⁴So Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Peter's Denial of Jesus

²⁵Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. So they said to him, "You follow Him as one of His disciples, do not you?" He denied it, and said, "I do not."

²⁶One of the slaves of the high priest, being a relative of the one whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?"

²⁷Peter then denied it again, and immediately a rooster crowed.

Jesus before Pilate

²⁸Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas into the Praetorium, and it seemed early; and they themselves did not enter into the Praetorium so that they would not defile themselves, but might eat the Passover.

²⁹Therefore Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?"

³⁰They answered and said to him, "If this Man had not done evil, we would not have delivered Him to you."

³¹So Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves, and judge Him according to your law." The Jews said to him, "We do not have permission to put anyone to death,"

³²to fulfill the word of Jesus which He spoke, signifying by what kind of death He would experience.

³³Therefore Pilate entered again into the Praetorium, and summoned Jesus and said to Him, "Do you proclaim yourself the King of the Jews?"

³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own initiative, or did others tell you about Me?"

³⁵Pilate answered, "I do not have Jewish ancestry, do I? Your own nation and the chief priests delivered You to me; what have You done?"

³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom has no part of this world. If My kingdom existed in this world, then My servants would fight so that no one would hand me over to the Jews; but as it demonstrates, My kingdom does not belong to this realm."

³⁷Therefore Pilate said to Him, "So You consider yourself a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I serve as a king. For this I reason I came into this world, to testify to the truth. Everyone adhering to the truth hears My voice."

³⁸Pilate said to Him, "What does truth consist of?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews and said to them, "I find no guilt in Him.

³⁹"But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover; do you wish then that I release for you the King of the Jews?"

⁴⁰So they cried out again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas." Now Barabbas had the reputation of a ruthless robber.

John 19

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Crown of Thorns

¹Pilate then took Jesus and scourged Him.

²And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and put a purple robe on Him;

³and they began to come up to Him and say, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and to slap Him on the face.

⁴Pilate came out again and said to them, "Behold, I bring Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."

⁵Jesus then came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold, the Man!"

⁶So when the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out saying, "Crucify, crucify!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no guilt in Him."

⁷The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He proclaimed Himself as the Son of God."

⁸Therefore when Pilate heard this statement, he grew even more afraid;

⁹and he entered into the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where do You come from?" But Jesus gave him no answer.

¹⁰So Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?"

¹¹Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless God had given it to you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

¹²As a result of this Pilate made efforts to release Him, but the Jews cried out saying, "If you release this Man, you cannot claim friendship with Caesar; everyone who proclaims himself as a king opposes Caesar."

¹³Therefore when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out, and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

¹⁴Now the day of preparation for the Passover had arrived; it had reached about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold, your King!"

¹⁵So they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar."

The Crucifixion

¹⁶So he then handed Him over to them to suffer crucifixion.

¹⁷They took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which has the name in Hebrew, Golgotha.

¹⁸There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between.

¹⁹Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. He wrote, "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS."

²⁰Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus suffered crucifixion located near the city; and Pilate wrote it in Hebrew, Latin and in Greek.

²¹So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; but that He said, 'I proclaim myself as the King of the Jews.'"

²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts, a part to every soldier and also the tunic; now the tunic had no seams, woven in one piece.

²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, to decide whose it shall have it"; this fulfilled the Scripture: "THEY DIVIDED MY OUTER GARMENTS AMONG THEM, AND FOR MY CLOTHING THEY CAST LOTS."

²⁵Therefore the soldiers did these things. But Jesus mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood by the cross.

²⁶When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!"

²⁷Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own household.

²⁸After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already taken place, to fulfill the Scripture, said, "I thirst."

²⁹A jar full of sour wine stood there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine upon a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth.

³⁰Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It has come to a conclusion!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Care of the Body of Jesus

³¹Then the Jews, because the day of preparation had arrived, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath people also acknowledged as a high day), asked Pilate that they may break legs , and that they might take them away.

³²So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who had suffered crucifixion with Him;

³³but coming to Jesus, when they saw that He had already died, they did not break His legs.

³⁴But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

³⁵And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony proves true; and he knows that he tells the truth, so that you also may believe.

³⁶For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "NOT A BONE OF HIM SHALL BREAK."

³⁷And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."

³⁸After these things Joseph of Arimathea, serving as a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate granted permission. So he came and took away His body.

³⁹Nicodemus, who had first come to Him by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds weight.

⁴⁰So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen wrappings with the spices, just as the burial custom of the Jews.

⁴¹Now in the place where He had suffered crucifixion there existed a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet occupied.

⁴²Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb located nearby, they laid Jesus there.

John 20

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Empty Tomb

¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it appeared dark, and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb.

²So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

³So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they went to the tomb.

⁴The two ran together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first;

⁵and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in.

⁶And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there,

⁷and the face-cloth which had lain on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.

⁸So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed.

⁹For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

¹⁰So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

¹¹But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb;

¹²and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had reclined.

¹³And they said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that Jesus had stood there.

¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why do you weep? Whom do you seek?" Supposing Him the gardener, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher).

¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

¹⁸Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and that He had said these things to her.

Jesus among His Disciples

¹⁹So when evening had arrived on that day, the first day of the week, and when the disciples had shut the doors for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "May you have Peace."

²⁰And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹So Jesus said to them again, "May you have Peace ; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

²²And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³"If you forgive the sins of any, they have received forgiveness for their sins; if you retain the sins of any, they have retained them."

²⁴But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, had not joined them when Jesus came.

²⁵So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

²⁶After eight days His disciples had shut themselves inside again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, moving through the closed doors, and stood in their midst and said, "May you have peace."

²⁷Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not have unbelief, but belief."

²⁸Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

²⁹Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? They receive blessings who do not see but still believe."

Why John Wrote This Gospel

³⁰Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which I have not written in this book;

³¹but these I have written so that you may believe that Jesus constitutes the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 21

NASB E-Prime DFM

Jesus Appears at the Sea of Galilee

¹After these things Jesus manifested Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He manifested Himself in this way.

²Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples gathered together.

³Simon Peter said to them, "I plan to go fishing." They said to him, "We will also come with you." They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.

⁴But when the day had now dawned, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that Jesus had approached.

⁵So Jesus said to them, "Children, you do not have any fish, do you?" They answered Him, "No."

⁶And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find a catch." So they cast, and then they could not haul it in because of the great number of fish.

⁷Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "The Lord has come to us." So when Simon Peter heard that the Lord had come, he put his outer garment on (for he had stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea.

⁸But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they had not gone too far from the land, but about one hundred yards away, dragging the net full of fish.

⁹So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread.

¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught."

¹¹Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there appeared so many, the net had not torn.

Jesus Provides

¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to question Him, about His identity, knowing that the Lord had visited them.

¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise.

¹⁴Three times Jesus manifested himself to the disciples, after God raised Him from the dead.

The Love Motivation

¹⁵So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs."

¹⁶He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep."

¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter felt grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep."

Our Times Are in His Hand

¹⁸"Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."

¹⁹Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!"

²⁰Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; the one who also had leaned back on His bosom at the supper and said, "Lord, who betrays You?"

²¹So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?"

²²Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, how does that concern you? You follow Me!"

²³Therefore this saying went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, how does that concern you?"

²⁴This disciple testifies to these things and wrote these things, and we know that his testimony proves true.

²⁵And there have occurred many other things which Jesus did, which if people wrote them in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that people could write.

Acts 1-28 NASB

Rendered into E-Prime by Dr. David F. Maas

Introduction

¹The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach,

²until the day when He ascended up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.

³To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

⁴Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;

⁵for John baptized with water, but you will receive baptism with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He said to them, " You cannot know the times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

⁸but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall serve as My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

The Ascension

⁹And after He had said these things, He ascended while they looked on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

¹⁰And as they gazed intently into the sky while He had gone, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.

¹¹They also said, " Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has ascended up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

The Upper Room

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which lies near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

¹³When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they had stayed; namely, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James.

¹⁴These all with one mind continually devoted themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

¹⁵At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (one hundred and twenty persons gathered there together), and said,

¹⁶"Brethren, the Scripture had to become fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.

¹⁷"For we had counted him among us and he received his share in this ministry."

¹⁸(Now this man acquired a field with the price of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out.

¹⁹And it became known to all who lived in Jerusalem; so that in their own language that field received the name Hakeldama, or, Field of Blood.)

²⁰"For the scriptures state in the book of Psalms,
' LET HIS HOMESTEAD BECOME DESOLATE,
AND LET NO ONE DWELL IN IT';
and,
' LET ANOTHER MAN TAKE HIS OFFICE.'

²¹"Therefore it has become necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us--

²²beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He became removed up from us--one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

²³So they put forward two men, Joseph called Barsabbas (who people also called Justus), and Matthias.

²⁴And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen

²⁵to occupy this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place."

²⁶And they drew lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias; and we added him to the eleven apostles.

Acts 2

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Day of Pentecost

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they all gathered together in one place.

²And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they sat.

³And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.

⁴And they all became filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit had given them utterance.

⁵Now certain Jews lived in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.

⁶And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and felt bewildered because each one of them had heard them speak in his own language.

⁷They seemed amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, do not all these come from Galilee?"

⁸"And how can we each hear them in our own language to which we had spoken?"

⁹"Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

¹¹Cretans and Arabs--we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."

¹²And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³But others mocked and said, "They sound full of sweet wine."

Peter's Sermon

¹⁴But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let you know this and give heed to my words.

¹⁵"For these men have not become inebriated, as you suppose, for we have come only to the third hour of the day;

¹⁶but Joel the prophet spoke this :

¹⁷'AND IT SHALL OCCUR IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says,
'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;
AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY,
AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS,
AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;

¹⁸EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN,
I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT
And they shall prophesy.

¹⁹'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE
AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW,
BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.

²⁰'THE SUN WILL TURN INTO DARKNESS
AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD,
BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.

²¹'AND IT SHALL OCCUR THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL RECEIVE SALVATION.'

²²"Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

²³this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

²⁴"But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it became impossible for Him to stay in death's power.

²⁵"For David says of Him,
' I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE;
FOR HE DWELLS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BECOME SHAKEN.

²⁶'THEREFORE MY HEART FELT GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED;
MOREOVER MY FLESH ALSO WILL LIVE IN HOPE;

²⁷'BECAUSE YOU WILL NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES,
NOR ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY.

²⁸'YOU HAVE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE WAYS OF LIFE;
YOU WILL MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH YOUR PRESENCE.'

²⁹"Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and received burial, and his tomb remains with us to this day.

³⁰"And so, because he served as a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,

³¹he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE SUFFERED ABANDONMENT TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

³²"This Jesus God raised up again, to which we all witnessed.

³³"Therefore having received exaltation to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

³⁴"For David did not ascend into heaven, but he himself says:

' THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD,
"SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

³⁵UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'"

³⁶"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

The Ingathering

³⁷Now when they heard this, they felt pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

³⁸Peter said to them, " Repent, and each of you receive baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹"For the promise goes to you and your children and for all who dwell far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

⁴⁰And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, " Save yourself from this perverse generation!"

⁴¹So then, those who had received his word became baptized; and that day about three thousand souls joined their ranks.

⁴²They continually devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

⁴⁴And all those who had believed gathered together and had all things in common;

⁴⁵and they began selling their property and possessions and shared them with all, as anyone might have need.

⁴⁶ Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they took their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people And the Lord added to their number day by day those who received salvation.

Acts 3

NASB E-Prime DFM

Healing the Lame Beggar

¹Now Peter and John went up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer.

²And people carried a man who suffered from lameness from his mother's womb , whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which people call Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who entered the temple.

³When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms.

⁴But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, "Look at us!"

⁵And he began to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

⁶But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene--walk!"

⁷And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles strengthened.

⁸With a leap he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God.

⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God;

¹⁰and they took note of him as the one who used to sit at the Beautiful Gate of the temple to beg alms, and they became filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Peter's Second Sermon

¹¹While he still clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them at the so-called portico of Solomon, full of amazement.

¹²But when Peter saw this, he replied to the people, "Men of Israel, why do you express amazement at this, or why do you gaze at us, as if by our own power or piety we had made him walk?"

¹³"The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus, the one whom you delivered and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him.

¹⁴"But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked Pilate to grant you a murderer,

¹⁵but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we witness.

¹⁶"And on the basis of faith in His name, the name of Jesus which has strengthened this man whom you see and know; and the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also.

¹⁸"But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.

¹⁹"Therefore repent and return, so that God may wipe your sins away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;

²⁰and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,

²¹whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.

²²"Moses said, ' THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.

²³' And it will come to pass that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall suffer destruction from among the people.'

²⁴"And likewise, all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and his successors onward, also announced these days.

²⁵" You sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, said to Abraham, ' AND IN YOUR SEED ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL RECEIVE BLESSING.'

²⁶"For you first, God raised up His Servant and sent Him to bless you by turning every one of you from your wicked ways."

Acts 4

E-Prime DFM

Peter and John Arrested

¹As they spoke to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to them,

²becoming greatly disturbed because they taught the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

³And they laid hands on them and put them in jail until the next day, for it already become evening.

⁴But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came number about five thousand.

⁵On the next day, their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem;

⁶and Annas the high priest lived there, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who belonged to high-priesthood.

⁷When they had placed them in the center, they began to inquire, "By what power, or in what name, have you done this?"

⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, " Rulers and elders of the people,

⁹if you try us today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has become well,

¹⁰let us proclaim to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead--by this name this man stands here before you in good health.

¹¹" He represents the STONE WHICH YOU HAD REJECTED, THE BUILDERS, but WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone.

¹²"And there comes salvation in no one else; for no other name under heaven men can use by which we must receive salvation."

Threat and Release

¹³Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they appeared uneducated and untrained men, they felt amazed, and began to recognize them as accompanying Jesus.

¹⁴And seeing the man who had received healing standing with them, they had nothing to say in reply.

¹⁵But when they had ordered them to leave the Council, they began to confer with one another,

¹⁶saying, " What shall we do with these men? For the fact that a noteworthy miracle has taken place through them becomes apparent to all who live in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.

¹⁷"But so that it will not spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no longer to any man in this name."

¹⁸And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

¹⁹But Peter and John answered and said to them, " Whether it proves right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you judge for yourself;

²⁰for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."

²¹When they had threatened them further, they let them go (finding no basis on which to punish them) on account of the people, because they all glorified God for what had happened;

²²for the man had reached more than forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had taken place.

²³When they had become released, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

²⁴And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, You who MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA, AND ALL THAT LIVES IN THEM,

²⁵who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said,

' WHY DID THE GENTILES RAGE,
AND THE PEOPLES DEVISE FUTILE THINGS?

²⁶ THE KINGS OF THE EARTH TOOK THEIR STAND,

AND THE RULERS GATHERED TOGETHER
AGAINST THE LORD AND AGAINST HIS CHRIST.'

²⁷"For truly in this city people gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,

²⁸to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.

²⁹"And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence,

³⁰while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus."

³¹And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together shook, and they all became filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

Sharing among Believers

³²And the congregation of those who believed had one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him as his own, but all things they considered common property to them.

³³And with great power the apostles gave testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace came upon them all.

³⁴For not a needy person existed among them, for all who had owned land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales

³⁵and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would distribute to each as any had need.

³⁶Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who people also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement),

³⁷and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 5

NASB E-Prime DFM

Fate of Ananias and Sapphira

¹But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,

²and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.

³But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land?"

⁴"While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after you sold it, did it not remain under your control? Why have you conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

⁵And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came over all who heard of it.

⁶The young men got up and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.

⁷Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

⁸And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, we sold it for that price."

⁹Then Peter said to her, "Why have you agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband have come to the door, and they will carry you out as well."

¹⁰And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last, and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

¹¹And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.

¹²At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders took place among the people; and they dwelled with one accord in Solomon's portico.

¹³But none of the rest dared to associate with them; however, the people held them in high esteem.

¹⁴And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, constantly added to their number,

¹⁵to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them.

¹⁶Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem came together, bringing sick people or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they all received healing.

Imprisonment and Release

¹⁷But the high priest rose up, along with all his associates (namely the sect of the Sadducees), and they all became jealous.

¹⁸They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public jail.

¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the prison, and taking them out he said,

²⁰"Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this Life."

²¹Upon hearing this, they entered into the temple about daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest and his associates came, they called the Council together, even all the Senate of the sons of Israel, and sent orders to the prison house to bring them.

²²But the officers who came did not find them in the prison; and they returned and reported back,

²³saying, "We found the prison house locked quite securely and the guards standing at the doors; but when we had opened up, we found no one inside."

²⁴Now when the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they felt greatly perplexed about them as to what would come of this.

²⁵But someone came and reported to them, "The men whom you put in prison stand in the temple and teach the people!"

²⁶Then the captain went along with the officers and proceeded to bring them back without violence (for they feared the people, that they might stone them).

²⁷When they had brought them, they stood them before the Council. The high priest questioned them,

²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man's blood upon us."

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

³⁰"The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.

³¹God exalted Him at His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

³²"And we witness these things; and so does the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Gamaliel's Counsel

³³But when they heard this, they felt cut to the quick and intended to kill them.

³⁴But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time.

³⁵And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men.

³⁶"For some time ago Theudas rose up, impressed with himself, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But someone killed him, and all who followed him dispersed and came to nothing.

³⁷"After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away some people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him scattered.

³⁸"So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action comes from men, it will become overthrown;

³⁹but if it comes from God, you will not have the capability of overthrowing them; or else you may even find yourselves fighting against God."

⁴⁰They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them.

⁴¹So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that Jesus had considered them worthy to suffer shame for His name.

⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Acts 6

NASB E-Prime DFM

Choosing of the Seven

¹Now at this time while the disciples increased in number, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the native Hebrews, because they had overlooked their widows the daily serving of food.

²So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It does not seem desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.

³"Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

⁴"But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

⁵The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and ^(L)Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.

⁶And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

⁷The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸And Stephen, full of grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.

⁹But some men from what people call the Synagogue of the Freedmen, including both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen.

¹⁰But they could not cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke.

¹¹Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God."

¹²And they stirred up the people, the elders and the scribes, and they came up to him and dragged him away and brought him before the Council.

¹³They put forward false witnesses who said, "This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the Law;

¹⁴for we have heard him say that this Nazarene, Jesus, will destroy this place and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us."

¹⁵And fixing their gaze on him, all who sat in the Council saw his face like the face of an angel.

Acts 7

NASB E-Prime DFM

Stephen's Defense

¹The high priest said, " Do these things add up?"

²And he said, "Hear me, brethren and fathers! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he lived in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran,

³and said to him, ' LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR RELATIVES, AND COME INTO THE LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU.'

⁴" Then he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran From there, after his father died, God had him move to this country in which you now live.

⁵"But He gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot of ground, and yet, even when he had no child, He promised that HE WOULD GIVE IT TO HIM AS A POSSESSION, AND TO HIS DESCENDANTS AFTER HIM.

⁶"But God spoke to this effect, that his DESCENDANTS WOULD LIVE AS ALIENS IN A FOREIGN LAND, AND THAT THEY WOULD BECOME ENSLAVED AND MISTREATED FOR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS.

⁷" 'AND WHATEVER NATION TO WHICH THEY WILL LIVE IN BONDAGE I MYSELF WILL JUDGE,' said God, 'AND AFTER THAT THEY WILL COME OUT AND SERVE ME IN THIS PLACE.'

⁸"And He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and so Abraham became the father of Isaac, and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac became the father of Jacob, and Jacob of the twelve patriarchs.

⁹"The patriarchs became jealous of Joseph and sold him into Egypt. Yet God stayed with him,

¹⁰and rescued him from all his afflictions, and granted him favor and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and he made him governor over Egypt and all his household.

¹¹"Now a famine came over all Egypt and Canaan, and great affliction with it, and our fathers could find no food.

¹²"But when Jacob heard that grain existed in Egypt, he sent our fathers there the first time.

¹³"On the second visit Joseph made himself known to his brothers, and Joseph's family became known to Pharaoh.

¹⁴"Then Joseph sent word and invited Jacob his father and all his relatives to come to him, seventy-five persons in all.

¹⁵"And Jacob went down to Egypt and there he and our fathers died.

¹⁶"From there they removed to Shechem and laid in the tomb which Abraham had purchased for a sum of money from the sons of Hamor in Shechem.

¹⁷"But as the time of the promise approached which God had assured to Abraham, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt,

¹⁸until THERE AROSE ANOTHER KING OVER EGYPT WHO KNEW NOTHING ABOUT JOSEPH.

¹⁹" He took shrewd advantage of our race and mistreated our fathers so that they would expose their infants and they would not survive.

²⁰" At this time Moses came into the world; and he appeared lovely in the sight of God, and he received nurturing three months in his father's home.

²¹"And after his family set him outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him away and nurtured him as her own son.

²²"Moses received education in all the learning of the Egyptians, and he became a man of power in words and deeds.

²³"But when he approached the age of forty, it entered his mind to visit his brethren, the sons of Israel.

²⁴"And when he saw one of them receiving unjust treatment, he defended him and took vengeance for the oppressed by striking down the Egyptian.

²⁵"And he supposed that his brethren understood that God had granted them deliverance through him, but they did not understand.

²⁶" On the following day he appeared to them as they fought together, and he tried to reconcile them in peace, saying, 'Men, do you brethren, why do you injure one another?'

²⁷"But the one who had injured his neighbor pushed him away, saying, 'WHO MADE YOU A RULER AND JUDGE OVER US?'

²⁸' YOU DO NOT MEAN TO KILL ME AS YOU KILLED THE EGYPTIAN YESTERDAY, DO YOU?'

²⁹"At this remark, MOSES FLED AND DWELLED AS AN ALIEN IN THE LAND OF MIDIAN, where he became the father of two sons.

³⁰"After forty years had passed, AN ANGEL APPEARED TO HIM IN THE WILDERNESS OF MOUNT Sinai, IN THE FLAME OF A BURNING THORN BUSH.

³¹"When Moses saw it, he marveled at the sight; and as he approached to look more closely, there came the voice of the Lord:

³²' I RULE AS THE GOD OF YOUR FATHERS, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM AND ISAAC AND JACOB.' Moses shook with fear and would not venture to look.

³³" BUT THE LORD SAID TO HIM, ' TAKE OFF THE SANDALS FROM YOUR FEET, FOR THE PLACE ON WHICH YOU STAND CONSTITUTES HOLY GROUND.

³⁴' I HAVE CERTAINLY SEEN THE OPPRESSION OF MY PEOPLE IN EGYPT AND HAVE HEARD THEIR GROANS, AND I HAVE COME DOWN TO RESCUE THEM; COME NOW, AND I WILL SEND YOU TO EGYPT.'

³⁵"This Moses whom they disowned, saying, 'WHO MADE YOU A RULER AND A JUDGE?' proved the one whom God sent to serve as both a ruler and a deliverer with the help of the angel who appeared to him in the thorn bush.

³⁶" This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in the land of Egypt and in the Red Sea and in the wilderness for forty years.

³⁷" Moses said to the sons of Israel, ' GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN.'

³⁸"This one who lived in the congregation in the wilderness together with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and who lived with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.

³⁹"Our fathers demonstrated unwillingness to obey him, but repudiated him and in their hearts turned back to Egypt,

⁴⁰ SAYING TO AARON, 'MAKE FOR US GODS WHO WILL GO BEFORE US; FOR THIS MOSES WHO LED US OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT--WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.'

⁴¹"At that time they made a calf and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their hands.

⁴²"But God turned away and delivered them up to serve the host of heaven; as the scriptures declare in the book of the prophets, ' YOU DID NOT OFFER VICTIMS AND SACRIFICES FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS, DID YOU, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL?

⁴³' YOU ALSO TOOK ALONG THE TABERNACLE OF MOLOCH AND THE STAR OF THE GOD ROMPHA, THE IMAGES WHICH YOU MADE TO WORSHIP. I ALSO WILL REMOVE YOU BEYOND BABYLON.'

⁴⁴"Our fathers had the tabernacle of testimony in the wilderness, just as He who spoke to Moses directed him to make it according to the pattern which he had seen.

⁴⁵"And having received it in their turn, our fathers brought it in with Joshua upon dispossessing the nations whom God drove out before our fathers, until the time of David.

⁴⁶" David found favor in God's sight, and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob.

⁴⁷"But Solomon built a house for Him.

⁴⁸"However, the Most High does not dwell in houses made by human hands; as the prophet says:

⁴⁹ MY THRONE LOCATES IN HEAVEN,
AND EARTH SERVES AS THE FOOTSTOOL OF MY FEET;
WHAT KIND OF HOUSE WILL YOU BUILD FOR ME?' says the Lord,
'OR WHAT PLACE DO YOU HAVE FOR MY REPOSE?

⁵⁰ DID MY HAND NOT MAKE ALL THESE THINGS?'

⁵¹"You men who remain stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears always resist the Holy Spirit; you do just as your fathers did.

⁵²" Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become;

⁵³you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."

Stephen Put to Death

⁵⁴Now when they heard this, they felt cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him.

⁵⁵But receiving a full measure of Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God;

⁵⁶and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse.

⁵⁸When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!"

⁶⁰Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 8

E-Prime DFM

Saul Persecutes the Church

¹ Saul agreed heartily with putting him to death And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.

²Some devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him.

³But Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.

Philip in Samaria

⁴Therefore, those who had become scattered went about preaching the word.

⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.

⁶The crowds with one accord gave attention to what Philip said, as they heard and saw the signs which he performed.

⁷For in the case of many who had unclean spirits, they came out of them shouting with a loud voice; and many who had suffered paralysis and lameness received healing.

⁸ Many rejoiced in that city.

⁹Now a man named Simon, who formerly practiced magic in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming to having attained greatness;

¹⁰and they all, from smallest to greatest, gave attention to him, saying, "This man people called the Great Power of God."

¹¹And they gave him attention because he had for a long time astonished them with his magic arts.

¹²But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they requested baptism, men and women alike.

¹³Even Simon himself believed; and after receiving baptism, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he felt constantly amazed.

¹⁴Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John,

¹⁵who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

¹⁶For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply received baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus.

¹⁷Then they began laying their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸Now when Simon saw that the Spirit transferred through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,

¹⁹saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

²⁰But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!

²¹"You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart has not become right before God.

²²"Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may receive forgiveness.

²³"For I see that you reside in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity."

²⁴But Simon answered and said, " Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

An Ethiopian Receives Christ

²⁵So, when they had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

²⁶But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (a desert road.)

²⁷So he got up and went; and there stood an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who she had placed in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship,

²⁸and he returned and sat in his chariot, and read the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."

³⁰Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you read?"

³¹And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

³²Now the passage of Scripture which he read stated:

" HE BECAME LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER;
AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER REMAINS SILENT,
SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH.

³³" IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT BECAME TAKEN AWAY;
WHO WILL RELATE HIS GENERATION?
FOR HIS LIFE WILL DISAPPEAR FROM THE EARTH."

³⁴The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?"

³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

³⁶As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from becoming baptized?"

³⁷[And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Son of God."]

³⁸And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he kept preaching the gospel to all the cities until he came to Caesarea.

Acts 9

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Conversion of Saul

¹ Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest,

² and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

³ As he travelled, it happened that he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him;

⁴ and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?"

⁵ And he said, "Who Do I Speak To, Lord?" And He said, "You know me as Jesus, the one you have persecuted,"

⁶ but get up and enter the city, and someone will tell you what you must do."

⁷ The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one.

⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes appeared open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus.

⁹And he endured three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there lived a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here You may find me, Lord."

¹¹And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he prays,

¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."

¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem;

¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."

¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for I have chosen him as an instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;

¹⁶for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."

¹⁷So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, " Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you came, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and become filled with the Holy Spirit."

¹⁸And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and received baptism;

¹⁹and he took food and received strength.

Saul Begins to Preach Christ

Now for several days he remained with the disciples who lived at Damascus,

²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, " We acknowledge Him as the Son of God."

²¹All those hearing him continued to show amazement, and said, "Did this one not, while in Jerusalem destroy those who called on this name, and who had come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?"

²²But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving Jesus as the Christ.

²³When many days had elapsed, the Jews plotted together to do away with him,

²⁴but their plot became known to Saul They watched the gates day and night so that they might put him to death;

²⁵but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a large basket.

²⁶ When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to associate with the disciples; but they all showed fear of him, not believing that he had become a disciple.

²⁷But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

²⁸And he stayed with them, moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord.

²⁹And he talked and argued with the Hellenistic Jews; but they attempted to put him to death.

³⁰But when the brethren learned of it, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

³¹So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, becoming built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.

Peter's Ministry

³²Now as Peter travelled through all those regions, he came down also to the saints who lived at Lydda.

³³There he found a man named Aeneas, who had become bedridden eight years, for he had suffered paralysis.

³⁴Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed." Immediately he got up.

³⁵And all who lived at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.

³⁶Now in Joppa there lived a disciple named Tabitha (which we translate in Greek as Dorcas); this woman abounded with deeds of kindness and charity which she continually did.

³⁷And it happened at that time that she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her body, they laid it in an upper room.

³⁸Since Lydda located near Joppa, the disciples, having heard that Peter stayed there, sent two men to him, imploring him, "Do not delay in coming to us."

³⁹So Peter arose and went with them. When he arrived, they brought him into the upper room; and all the widows stood beside him, weeping and

showing all the tunics and garments that Dorcas used to make while she stayed with them.

⁴⁰But Peter sent them all out and knelt down and prayed, and turning to the body, he said, " Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

⁴¹And he gave her his hand and raised her up; and calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

⁴²It became known all over Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

⁴³And Peter stayed many days in Joppa with a tanner named Simon.

Acts 10

NASB E-Prime DFM

Cornelius's Vision

¹Now there lived a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian cohort,

²a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually.

³About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"

⁴And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, "What do you want, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God.

⁵"Now dispatch some men to Joppa and send for a man named Simon, who has the name of Peter;

⁶he stays with a tanner named Simon, whose house lies by the sea."

⁷When the angel who spoke to him had left, he summoned two of his servants and a devout soldier of those who served as his personal attendants,

⁸and after he had explained everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹On the next day, as they proceeded on their way and approached the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray.

¹⁰But he became hungry and desired to eat; but while they made preparations, he fell into a trance;

¹¹and he saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground,

¹²and there appeared in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air.

¹³A voice came to him, "Get up, Peter, kill and eat!"

¹⁴But Peter said, "By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean."

¹⁵Again a voice came to him a second time, "What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy."

¹⁶This happened three times, and immediately the object disappeared into the sky.

¹⁷Now while Peter felt greatly perplexed in mind as to what the vision which he had seen might mean, behold, the men who Cornelius had sent, having asked directions for Simon's house, appeared at the gate;

¹⁸and calling out, they asked whether Simon, who also had the name of Peter, stayed there.

¹⁹While Peter reflected on the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men look for you.

²⁰"But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself."

²¹Peter went down to the men and said, "Behold, you look for me; for what reason did you come?"

²²They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, had received a divine direction by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you."

²³So he invited them in and gave them lodging.

Peter at Caesarea

And on the next day he got up and went away with them, and some of the brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

²⁴On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius awaited them and had called together his relatives and close friends.

²⁵When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him.

²⁶But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up; I share the same mortality and humanity as you do."

²⁷As he talked with him, he entered and found many people assembled.

²⁸And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful we have considered it for a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.

²⁹"Consequently, I came without even raising any objection when you sent for me. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me."

³⁰Cornelius said, "Four days ago to this hour, I prayed in my house during the ninth hour; and behold, a man stood before me in shining garments,

³¹and he said, 'Cornelius, God has heard and remembered your alms.

³²'Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who also has the name of Peter, to come to you; he stays at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.'

³³"So I sent for you immediately, and you have shown kindness enough to come. Now then, we all have come here present before God to hear all that God has commanded you."

Gentiles Hear Good News

³⁴Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God does not show partiality,

³⁵but in every nation the man who fears Him and does right He welcomes.

³⁶"The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (We acknowledge Him as Lord of all)--

³⁷you yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed.

³⁸"You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who received oppression by the devil, for God stayed with Him.

³⁹"We witness all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross.

⁴⁰"God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible,

⁴¹not to all the people, but to witnesses whom He had chosen beforehand by God, namely, to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.

⁴²"And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this One who God has appointed as Judge of the living and the dead.

⁴³"Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

⁴⁴While Peter still spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who listened to the message.

⁴⁵All the circumcised believers who came with Peter felt amazement, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had become poured out on the Gentiles also.

⁴⁶For they heard them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,

⁴⁷"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to receive baptism who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"

⁴⁸And he ordered them to receive baptism in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

Acts 11

NASB E-Prime DFM

Peter Reports at Jerusalem

¹Now the apostles and the brethren who lived throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.

²And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those who had received circumcision took issue with him,

³saying, "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them."

⁴But Peter began speaking and proceeded to explain to them in orderly sequence, saying,

⁵"I lived in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object coming down like a great sheet lowered by four corners from the sky; and it came right down to me,

⁶and when I had fixed my gaze on it and was observing it I saw the four-footed animals of the earth and the wild beasts and the crawling creatures and the birds of the air.

⁷"I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.'

⁸"But I said, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing unholy or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'

⁹"But a voice from heaven answered a second time, 'What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.'

¹⁰"This happened three times, and everything disappeared up into the sky.

¹¹"And behold, at that moment three men appeared at the house in which we stayed, having come to me from Caesarea.

¹²"The Spirit told me to go with them without misgivings. These six brethren also went with me and we entered the man's house.

¹³"And he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying, 'Send to Joppa and have Simon, who also has the name of Peter, brought here;

¹⁴and he will speak words to you by which you will receive salvation, you and all your household.'

¹⁵"And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.

¹⁶"And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will receive baptism with the Holy Spirit.'

¹⁷"Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who did I consider myself that I could stand in God's way?"

¹⁸When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life."

The Church at Antioch

¹⁹So then those who scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone.

²⁰But some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus.

²¹And the hand of the Lord rested with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord.

²²The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch.

²³Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;

²⁴for we considered him a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers added to the Lord.

²⁵And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul;

²⁶and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples called themselves Christians in Antioch.

²⁷*Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.*

²⁸One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly come a great famine all over the world And this took place in the reign of Claudius.

²⁹And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea.

³⁰And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

Acts 12

NASB E-Prime DFM

Peter's Arrest and Deliverance

¹Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church in order to mistreat them.

²And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword.

³When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also Now it occurred during the days of Unleavened Bread.

⁴When he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out before the people.

⁵So Peter remained in the prison, but the church prayed fervently to God.

⁶On the very night when Herod intended to bring him forward, Peter slept between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door watched over the prison.

⁷And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly " And his chains fell off his hands.

⁸And the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me."

⁹And he went out and continued to follow, and he did not know that what the angel did really happened, but thought he saw a vision.

¹⁰When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened for them by itself; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

¹¹When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people had expected."

¹²And when he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John who also had the name of Mark, where many gathered together and prayed.

¹³When he knocked at the door of the gate, a servant-girl named Rhoda came to answer.

¹⁴When she recognized Peter's voice, because of her joy she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood in front of the gate.

¹⁵They said to her, "You have taken leave of your senses!" But she kept insisting that she had seen him. They kept saying, "His angel must have appeared."

¹⁶But Peter continued knocking; and when they had opened the door, they saw him and felt amazed.

¹⁷But motioning to them with his hand to become silent, he described to them how the Lord had led him out of the prison And he said, "Report these things to James and the brethren." Then he left and went to another place.

¹⁸Now when day came, there occurred no small disturbance among the soldiers as to what could have become of Peter.

¹⁹When Herod had searched for him and had not found him, he examined the guards and ordered that they suffer execution Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and spent time there.

Death of Herod

²⁰Now he became very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon; and with one accord they came to him, and having won over Blastus the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country received their nourishment fed by the king's country.

²¹On an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them.

²²The people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!"

²³And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and the worms ate him and he died.

²⁴But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to multiply.

²⁵And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who also had the name of Mark.

Acts 13

NASB E-Prime DFM

First Missionary Journey

¹Now there lived at Antioch, in the church that met there, prophets and teachers: Barnabas, and Simeon who had the name Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen who had grown up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

²While they ministered to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

³Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

⁴So, after the Holy Spirit sent them out, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

⁵When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper.

⁶When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a magician, a Jewish false prophet who had the name of Bar-Jesus,

⁷who collaborated with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence. This man summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.

⁸But Elymas the magician (for so we translate his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.

⁹But Saul, who also has the name of Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him,

¹⁰and said, "You who have filled yourself of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord?"

¹¹"Now, behold, the hand of the Lord falls upon you, and you will become blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand.

¹²Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, feeling amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

¹³Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem.

¹⁴But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down.

¹⁵After the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, "Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it."

¹⁶Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said, "Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen:

¹⁷"The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it.

¹⁸"For a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness.

¹⁹" When He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance--all of which took about four hundred and fifty years.

²⁰"After these things He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet.

²¹"Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years.

²²"After He had removed him, He raised up David to serve as their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ' I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.'

²³" From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus,

²⁴after John had proclaimed before His coming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel.

²⁵"And while John had completed his course, he kept saying, 'What do you suppose that I represent? I do not claim His identity. But behold, one comes after me the sandals of whose feet I do not feel worthy to untie.'

²⁶"Brethren, sons of Abraham's family, and those among you who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has gone out.

²⁷"For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the prophets which they read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning Him.

²⁸"And though they found no ground for putting Him to death, they asked Pilate to put Him to death.

²⁹"When they had carried out all that people wrote concerning Him, they took Him down from the cross and laid Him in a tomb.

³⁰"But God raised Him from the dead;

³¹and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who serve now as His witnesses to the people.

³²"And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers,

³³that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as the scripture proclaims in the second Psalm, ' I ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.'

³⁴"As for the fact that He raised Him up from the dead, no longer to return to decay, He has spoken in this way: ' I WILL GIVE YOU THE HOLY and SURE blessings OF DAVID.'

³⁵"Therefore He also says in another Psalm, ' YOU WILL NOT ALLOW YOUR HOLY ONE TO EXPERIENCE DECAY.'

³⁶"For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and laid among his fathers and underwent decay;

³⁷but He whom God raised did not undergo decay.

³⁸"Therefore you need to know, brethren, that through Him we proclaim forgiveness of sins to you,

³⁹and through Him everyone who believes receives liberation from all things, from which the Law of Moses could not free you.

⁴⁰"Therefore take heed, so that the thing spoken of in the Prophets may not come upon you:

⁴¹' BEHOLD, YOU SCOFFERS, AND MARVEL, AND PERISH;
FOR I WILL ACCOMPLISH A WORK IN YOUR DAYS,
A WORK WHICH YOU WILL NEVER BELIEVE, THOUGH SOMEONE
SHOULD DESCRIBE IT TO YOU.'"

⁴²As Paul and Barnabas had gone out, the people kept begging that they speak these things to them the next Sabbath.

⁴³Now when the meeting of the synagogue had broken up, many of the Jews and of the God-fearing proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

Paul Turns to the Gentiles

⁴⁴The next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord.

⁴⁵But when the Jews saw the crowds, they became filled with jealousy and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and blasphemed.

⁴⁶Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, " We found it necessary to speak the word of God to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we have turned to the Gentiles.

⁴⁷"For so the Lord has commanded us,
' I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES,
THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"

⁴⁸When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had received appointment to eternal life believed.

⁴⁹And the word of the Lord spread through the whole region.

⁵⁰But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.

⁵¹But they shook off the dust of their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium.

⁵²And the disciples became continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 14

NASB E-Prime DFM

Acceptance and Opposition

¹In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks.

²But the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren.

³Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who testified to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders take place by their hands.

⁴ But the people of the city felt divided; and some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles.

⁵And when the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers made an attempt, to mistreat and to stone them,

⁶they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region;

⁷and there they continued to preach the gospel.

⁸At Lystra a man sat who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb, who had never walked.

⁹This man listened to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to receive healing,

¹⁰said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk.

¹¹When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us."

¹²And they began calling Barnabas, Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he served as the chief speaker.

¹³The priest of Zeus, whose temple located just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

¹⁴But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out

¹⁵and saying, "Men, why do you do these things? We have the same mortal nature as you, and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, WHO MADE THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH AND THE SEA AND ALL THAT DWELLS IN THEM.

¹⁶"In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways;

¹⁷and yet He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good and gave you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

¹⁸Even saying these things, with difficulty they restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

¹⁹But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him dead.

²⁰But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe.

²¹After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,

²²strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, " Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

²³When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

²⁴They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia.

²⁵When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

²⁶From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had received commendation to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished.

²⁷When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.

²⁸And they spent a long time with the disciples.

Acts 15

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Council at Jerusalem

¹ Some men came down from Judea and began teaching the brethren, "Unless you become circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot receive salvation."

²And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, the brethren determined that Paul and Barnabas and some others of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue.

³Therefore, having become sent on their way by the church, they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, describing in detail the conversion of the Gentiles, and bringing great joy to all the brethren.

⁴When they arrived at Jerusalem, the church and the apostles and the elders received them, and they reported all that God had done with them.

⁵But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, "We need to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses."

⁶The apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter.

⁷After there had occurred much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe.

⁸"And God, who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us;

⁹and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.

¹⁰"Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we have never found the ability to bear?

¹¹"But we believe that we receive salvation through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also have."

¹²All the people kept silent, and they listened to Barnabas and Paul as they related what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles.

James's Judgment

¹³After they had stopped speaking, James answered, saying, "Brethren, listen to me.

¹⁴" Simeon has related how God first concerned Himself about taking from among the Gentiles a people for His name.

¹⁵"With this the words of the Prophets agree, just as the scriptures say,

¹⁶ AFTER THESE THINGS I will return,
AND I WILL REBUILD THE TABERNACLE OF DAVID WHICH HAS
FALLEN,

AND I WILL REBUILD ITS RUINS,
AND I WILL RESTORE IT,

¹⁷ SO THAT THE REST OF MANKIND MAY SEEK THE LORD,
AND ALL THE GENTILES WHO RECEIVE CALLING BY MY NAME,'

¹⁸ SAYS THE LORD, WHO MAKES THESE THINGS KNOWN FROM LONG
AGO.

¹⁹"Therefore I make the judgment that we do not trouble those who turn to God from among the Gentiles,

²⁰but that we write to them that they abstain from things contaminated by idols and from fornication and from what they have strangled and from blood.

²¹"For Moses from ancient generations has in every city those who preach him, since they read him in the synagogues every Sabbath."

²²Then it seemed good to the apostles and the elders, with the whole church, to choose men from among them to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas--Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas, leading men among the brethren,

²³and they sent this letter by them, " The apostles and the brethren who serve as elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who derive from the Gentiles, greetings.

²⁴"Since we have heard that some of our number to whom we gave no instruction have disturbed you with their words, unsettling your souls,

²⁵it seemed good to us, having become of one mind, to select men to send to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

²⁶men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁷"Therefore we have sent Judas and Silas, who themselves will also report the same things by word of mouth.

²⁸"For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials:

²⁹that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell."

³⁰So when they departed, they went down to Antioch; and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter.

³¹When they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement.

³²Judas and Silas, also serving as prophets themselves, encouraged and strengthened the brethren with a lengthy message.

³³After they had spent time there, they departed from the brethren in peace to those who had sent them out.

³⁴[But it seemed good to Silas to remain there.]

³⁵But Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch, teaching and preaching with many others also, the word of the Lord.

Second Missionary Journey

³⁶After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brethren in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they fare."

³⁷Barnabas wanted to take John, called Mark, along with them also.

³⁸But Paul kept insisting that they should not take him along who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work.

³⁹And there occurred such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

⁴⁰But Paul chose Silas and left, having received commitment by the brethren to the grace of the Lord.

⁴¹And he travelled through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

Acts 16

NASB E-Prime DFM

The Macedonian Vision

¹Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra And a disciple lived there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who believed, but his father had Greek ancestry,

²and the brethren who lived in Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him.

³Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in those parts, for they all knew that his father had Greek ancestry.

⁴Now while they passed through the cities, they delivered the decrees which the apostles and elders who lived in Jerusalem had decided for them to observe.

⁵So the churches received strengthening in the faith, and increased in number daily.

⁶They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region because the Holy Spirit had forbidden them to speak the word in Asia;

⁷and after they came to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;

⁸and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.

⁹A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia stood and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

¹⁰When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis;

¹²and from there to Philippi, a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a Roman colony; and we stayed in this city for some days.

¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we supposed that there would exist a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

First Convert in Europe

¹⁴A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, listened; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

¹⁵And when she and her household had become baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

¹⁶It happened that as we went to the place of prayer, a slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who had brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling.

¹⁷Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men have made themselves bond-servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation."

¹⁸She continued doing this for many days. But Paul grew greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment.

¹⁹But when her masters saw that their hope of profit had left, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,

²⁰and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, "These men have thrown our city into confusion, having identified themselves as Jews,

²¹and proclaim customs which we cannot lawfully accept or to observe, having identified ourselves as Romans."

Paul and Silas Imprisoned

²²The crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them and proceeded to order them to suffer beating with rods.

²³When they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely;

²⁴and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵But about midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners listened to them;

²⁶and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house shook; and immediately all the doors opened and everyone's chains unfastened.

²⁷When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and intended to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.

²⁸But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do not harm yourself, for we all remain here!"

²⁹And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas,

³⁰and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to receive salvation?"

The Jailer Converted

³¹They said, " Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will receive salvation, you and your household."

³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who lived in his house.

³³And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he received baptism, he and all his household.

³⁴And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household.

³⁵Now when day came, the chief magistrates sent their policemen, saying, "Release those men."

³⁶And the jailer reported these words to Paul, saying, "The chief magistrates have sent to release you Therefore come out now and go in peace."

³⁷But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial, men who have Roman citizenship, and have thrown us into prison; and now they send us away secretly? No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out."

³⁸The policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. They had fear when they heard that they had Roman citizenship,

³⁹and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.

⁴⁰They went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

Acts 17

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul at Thessalonica

¹Now when they had traveled through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there existed a synagogue of the Jews.

²And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures,

³explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, " This Jesus whom I proclaim to you we acknowledge as the Christ."

⁴ And some of them became persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a large number of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

⁵But the Jews, becoming jealous and taking along some wicked men from the market place, formed a mob and set the city in an uproar; and attacking the house of Jason, they sought to bring them out to the people.

⁶When they did not find them, they began dragging Jason and some brethren before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have upset the world have come here also;

⁷and Jason has welcomed them, and they all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying that there rules another king, Jesus."

⁸They stirred up the crowd and the city authorities who heard these things.

⁹And when they had received a pledge from Jason and the others, they released them.

Paul at Berea

¹⁰ The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.

¹¹Now these proved more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things really had veracity.

¹²Therefore many of them believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men.

¹³But when the Jews of Thessalonica found out that Paul had proclaimed the word of God in Berea also, they came there as well, agitating and stirring up the crowds.

¹⁴Then immediately the brethren sent Paul out to go as far as the sea; and Silas and Timothy remained there.

¹⁵Now those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they left.

Paul at Athens

¹⁶Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit had become provoked within him as he observed the city full of idols.

¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and in the market place every day with those who happened to mill around.

¹⁸And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers conversed with him. Some said, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to proclaim strange deities,"--because he preached Jesus and the resurrection.

¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching you proclaim?"

²⁰"For you bring some strange things to our ears; so we want to know what these things mean."

²¹(Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new.)

Sermon on Mars Hill

²²So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you show yourself very religious in all respects.

²³"For while I passed through and examined the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD ' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴" The God who made the world and all things in it, since He rules heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;

²⁵nor do human hands serve Him, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things;

²⁶and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

²⁷that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He does not dwell far from each one of us;

²⁸for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also consider ourselves His children.'

²⁹"Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature resembles gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

³⁰"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God now declares to men that all people everywhere should repent,

³¹because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

³²Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, "We shall hear you again concerning this."

³³So Paul went out of their midst.

³⁴But some men joined him and believed, among whom also consisted of Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Acts 18

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul at Corinth

¹After these things he left Athens and went to Corinth.

²And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them,

³and because he worked in the same trade, he stayed with them and they worked, for by trade they made tents.

⁴And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that we acknowledge Jesus as the Christ.

⁶But when they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood goes on your own heads! I remain clean From now on I will go to the Gentiles."

⁷Then he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God, whose house located next to the synagogue.

⁸ Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard believed and received baptism.

⁹And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not fear any longer, but go on speaking and do not remain silent;

¹⁰for I will accompany you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city."

¹¹And he settled there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

¹²But while Gallio ruled as proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat,

¹³saying, "This man persuades men to worship God contrary to the law."

¹⁴But when Paul prepared to open his mouth, Gallio said to the Jews, "If it consisted of a matter of wrong or of vicious crime, O Jews, I would put up with you;

¹⁵but if you bring up questions about words and names and your own law, look after it yourselves; I do not want to judge these matters."

¹⁶And he drove them away from the judgment seat.

¹⁷And they all took hold of Sosthenes, the leader of the synagogue, and began beating him in front of the judgment seat. But Gallio did not concern himself about any of these things.

¹⁸Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him came Priscilla and Aquila. In Cenchrea he had his hair cut, for he kept a vow.

¹⁹They came to Ephesus, and he left them there. Now he himself entered the synagogue and reasoned with the Jews.

²⁰When they asked him to stay for a longer time, he did not consent,

²¹but taking leave of them and saying, "I will return to you again if God wills," he set sail from Ephesus.

²²When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and went down to Antioch.

Third Missionary Journey

²³And having spent some time there, he left and passed successively through the Galatian region and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.

²⁴Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he seemed mighty in the Scriptures.

²⁵This man had received instruction in the way of the Lord; and having fervency in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus, acquainted only with the baptism of John;

²⁶and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

²⁷And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace,

²⁸for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus fulfilled the role of the Christ.

Acts 19

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul at Ephesus

¹It happened that while Apollos remained at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.

²He said to them, " Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether a Holy Spirit exists."

³And he said, "Into what then did you become baptized?" And they said, " Into John's baptism."

⁴Paul said, " John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who would come after him, namely, in Jesus."

⁵When they heard this, they received baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus.

⁶And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

⁷There numbered in all about twelve men.

⁸And he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God.

⁹But when some became hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he withdrew from them and took away the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

¹⁰This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

Miracles at Ephesus

¹¹God performed extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul,

¹²so that handkerchiefs or aprons which people carried from his body to the sick, caused the diseases to leave them and the evil spirits to go out.

¹³But also some of the Jewish exorcists, who went from place to place, attempted to name over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches."

¹⁴Seven sons of one Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, tried this.

¹⁵And the evil spirit answered and said to them, "I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but I absolutely do not know you?"

¹⁶And the man, in whom dwelled the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

¹⁷This became known to all, both Jews and Greeks, who lived in Ephesus; and fear fell upon them all and the name of the Lord Jesus became magnified.

¹⁸Many also of those who had believed kept coming, confessing and disclosing their practices.

¹⁹And many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and began burning them in the sight of everyone; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

²⁰So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.

²¹Now after these things had finished, Paul purposed in the Spirit to go to Jerusalem after he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, saying, "After I have gone there, I must also see Rome."

²²And having sent into Macedonia two of those who ministered to him, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while.

²³About that time there occurred no small disturbance concerning the Way.

²⁴For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, had brought in no little business to the craftsmen;

²⁵these he gathered together with the workmen of similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that our prosperity depends upon this business.

²⁶"You see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands do not consist of gods at all.

²⁷"Not only do we face the danger that this trade of ours fall into disrepute, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis become regarded as worthless and that she whom all of Asia and the world worship will even become dethroned from her magnificence."

²⁸When they heard this and became filled with rage, they began crying out, saying, "Great do we regard Artemis of the Ephesians!"

²⁹The city filled with the confusion, and they rushed with one accord into the theater, dragging along Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia.

³⁰And when Paul wanted to go into the assembly, the disciples would not let him.

³¹Also some of the Asiarchs who proved his friends sent to him and repeatedly urged him not to venture into the theater.

³²So then, some shouted one thing and some another, for the assembly fell into confusion and the majority did not know for what reason they had come together.

³³Some of the crowd concluded that Alexander had caused it, since the Jews had put him forward; and having motioned with his hand, Alexander intended to make a defense to the assembly.

³⁴But when they recognized that he had Jewish heritage, a single outcry arose from them all as they shouted for about two hours, "Great do we regard Artemis of the Ephesians!"

³⁵After quieting the crowd, the town clerk said, "Men of Ephesus, what man lives after all who does not know that the city of the Ephesians guards the temple of the great Artemis and of the image which fell down from heaven?"

³⁶"So, since these facts prove undeniable, you ought to keep calm and to do nothing rash.

³⁷"For you have brought these men here who have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess.

³⁸"So then, if Demetrius and the craftsmen who join with him have a complaint against any man, the courts have now gone into session and we have proconsuls available; let them bring charges against one another.

³⁹"But if you want anything beyond this, we shall settle it in the lawful assembly.

⁴⁰"For indeed we have danger of someone accusing us of starting a riot in connection with today's events, since there exists real cause for it, and in this connection we will not have the capability of accounting for this disorderly gathering."

⁴¹After saying this he dismissed the assembly.

Acts 20

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul in Macedonia and Greece

¹After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and when he had exhorted them and taken his leave of them, he left to go to Macedonia.

²When he had gone through those districts and had given them much exhortation, he came to Greece.

³And there he spent three months, and when the Jews formed a plot against him as he prepared to set sail for Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia.

⁴And he received companionship by Sopater of Berea, the son of Pyrrhus, and by Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and Tychicus and Trophimus of Asia.

⁵But these had gone on ahead and waited for us at Troas.

⁶We sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and came to them at Troas within five days; and there we stayed seven days.

⁷On the first day of the week, when we gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

⁸There hung many lamps in the upper room where we gathered together.

⁹And a young man named Eutychus sat on the window sill, sinking into a deep sleep; and as Paul kept on talking, he fell asleep and fell down from the third floor and died.

¹⁰But Paul went down and fell upon him, and after embracing him, he said, "Do not feel troubled, for his life renews in him."

¹¹When he had gone back up and had broken the bread and eaten, he talked with them a long while until daybreak, and then left.

¹²They took away the boy alive, and felt greatly comforted.

Troas to Miletus

¹³But we, going ahead to the ship, set sail for Assos, intending from there to take Paul on board; for so he had arranged it, intending himself to go by land.

¹⁴And when he met us at Assos, we took him on board and came to Mitylene.

¹⁵Sailing from there, we arrived the following day opposite Chios; and the next day we crossed over to Samos; and the day following we came to Miletus.

¹⁶For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he wanted to hurry to Jerusalem, if possible, to arrive on the day of Pentecost.

Farewell to Ephesus

¹⁷From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church.

¹⁸And when they had come to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I stayed with you the whole time,

¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews;

²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that proved profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house,

²¹solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

²²"And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I go on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,

²³except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.

²⁴"But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

²⁵"And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face.

²⁶"Therefore, I testify to you this day that I have innocence of the blood of all men.

²⁷"For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

²⁸"Stay on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

²⁹"I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

³⁰and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them.

³¹"Therefore remain on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

³²"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who receive sanctification.

³³" I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes.

³⁴"You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my own needs and to the men who lived with me.

³⁵"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'we have more blessings when we give than when we receive.'"

³⁶When he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

³⁷And they began to weep aloud and embraced Paul, and repeatedly kissed him,

³⁸grieving especially over the word which he had spoken, that they would not see his face again And they accompanied him to the ship.

Acts 21

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Sails from Miletus

¹When we had parted from them and had set sail, we ran a straight course to Cos and the next day to Rhodes and from there to Patara;

²and having found a ship crossing over to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail.

³When we came in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left, we kept sailing to Syria and landed at Tyre; for there the ship unloaded its cargo.

⁴After looking up the disciples, we stayed there seven days; and they kept telling Paul through the Spirit not to set foot in Jerusalem.

⁵When our days there ended, we left and started on our journey, while they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another.

⁶Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home again.

⁷When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and after greeting the brethren, we stayed with them for a day.

⁸On the next day we left and came to Caesarea, and entering the house of Philip the evangelist, who we acknowledged as one of the seven, we stayed with him.

⁹Now this man had four virgin daughters who served as prophetesses.

¹⁰As we stayed there for some days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea.

¹¹And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "The Holy Spirit says: 'In this way the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"

¹²When we had heard this, we as well as the local residents began begging him not to go up to Jerusalem.

¹³Then Paul answered, "What do you do this for, weeping and breaking my heart? For I feel ready not only for them to bind me, but even to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

¹⁴And since he would not let himself become persuaded, we fell silent, remarking, "May the will of the Lord take place!"

Paul at Jerusalem

¹⁵After these days we got ready and started on our way up to Jerusalem.

¹⁶Some of the disciples from Caesarea also came with us, taking us to Mnason of Cyprus, a disciple of long standing with whom we could lodge.

¹⁷After we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

¹⁸And the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders presented themselves.

¹⁹After he had greeted them, he began to relate one by one the things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

²⁰And when they heard it they began glorifying God; and they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there exist among the Jews of those who have believed, and they all show zeal for the Law;

²¹and they have received testimony about you, that you teach all the Jews who dwell among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.

²²"What, then, can we do? They will certainly hear that you have come.

²³"Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who made a vow;

²⁴take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads; and all will know that no truth exists concerning the things which they have heard about you, but that you yourself also walk orderly, keeping the Law.

²⁵"But concerning the Gentiles who have believed, we wrote, having decided that they should abstain from meat sacrificed to idols and from blood and from what they strangle and from fornication."

²⁶Then Paul took the men, and the next day, purifying himself along with them, went into the temple giving notice of the completion of the days of purification, until the sacrifice had become offered for each one of them.

Paul Seized in the Temple

²⁷When the seven days almost ended, the Jews from Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, began to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him,

²⁸crying out, "Men of Israel, come to our aid! This man preaches to all men everywhere against our people and the Law and this place; and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place."

²⁹For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

³⁰Then all the city became provoked, and the people rushed together, and taking hold of Paul they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately they shut the doors.

³¹While they sought to kill him, a report came up to the commander of the Roman cohort that all Jerusalem had fallen into confusion.

³²At once he took along some soldiers and centurions and ran down to them; and when they saw the commander and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

³³Then the commander came up and took hold of him, and ordered them to bind him with two chains; and he began asking his name and his reason for coming there.

³⁴But among the crowd some shouted one thing and some another, and when he could not find out the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.

³⁵When he got to the stairs, the soldiers carried Paul because of the violence of the mob;

³⁶for the multitude of the people kept following them, shouting, " Away with him!"

³⁷As they prepared to bring Paul into the barracks, he said to the commander, "May I say something to you?" And he said, "Do you know Greek?"

³⁸"Then you don't seem to fit the description of the Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?"

³⁹But Paul said, " I identify myself as a Jew of Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city; and I beg you, allow me to speak to the people."

⁴⁰When he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the stairs, motioned to the people with his hand; and when there a great hush fell upon the crowds, he spoke to them in the Hebrew dialect, saying,

Acts 22

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Defense before the Jews

¹" Brethren and fathers, hear my defense which I now offer to you."

²And when they heard that he addressed them in the Hebrew dialect, they became even more quiet; and he said,

³" I have Jewish heritage, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated under Gamaliel, strictly according to the law of our fathers, having zeal for God just as you do today.

⁴" I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons,

⁵as also the high priest and all the Council of the elders can testify From them I also received letters to the brethren, and started off for Damascus in order to bring even those who lived there to Jerusalem as prisoners to suffer punishment.

⁶" But it came to pass that as I moved on my way, approaching Damascus about noontime, a very bright light suddenly flashed from heaven all around me,

⁷and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?'

⁸"And I answered, 'Whom do I talk to, Lord?' And He said to me, ' You know me as Jesus the Nazarene, whom you persecute.'

⁹"And those who travelled with me saw the light, surely, but did not understand the voice of the One who spoke to me.

¹⁰"And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Get up and go on into Damascus, and there you someone will tell you of what I have appointed you to do.'

¹¹"But since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, someone led me by the hand by those who accompanied me and came into Damascus.

¹²"A certain Ananias, a man who people considered devout by the standard of the Law, and well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there,

¹³came to me, and standing near said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very time I looked up at him.

¹⁴"And he said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth.

¹⁵'For you will witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.

¹⁶'Now why do you delay? Get up and receive baptism, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

¹⁷"It happened when I returned to Jerusalem and prayed in the temple, that I fell into a trance,

¹⁸and I saw Him saying to me, 'Make haste, and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about Me.'

¹⁹"And I said, 'Lord, they themselves understand that in one synagogue after another I used to imprison and beat those who believed in You.

²⁰'And when the blood of Your witness Stephen had become shed, I also stood by approving, and watching out for the coats of those who slayed him.'

²¹"And He said to me, 'Go! For I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

²²They listened to him up to this statement, and then they raised their voices and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth, for we should not allow him to live!"

²³And as they cried out and throwing off their cloaks and tossing dust into the air,

²⁴the commander ordered the soldiers to bring him into the barracks, stating that he should receive scourging so that he might find out the reason why they had shouted against him that way.

²⁵But when they stretched him out with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, "Do you feel it lawful for you to scourge a man who has Roman citizenship and uncondemned?"

²⁶When the centurion heard this, he went to the commander and told him, saying, "What makes you think you can do what you do? For this man has Roman citizenship."

²⁷The commander came and said to him, "Tell me, do you have Roman citizenship?" And he said, "Yes."

²⁸The commander answered, "I acquired this citizenship with a large sum of money." And Paul said, "But I actually received this citizenship through birth."

²⁹Therefore those who readied themselves to examine him immediately let go of him; and the commander also felt fear when he found out that he Roman citizenship, and because he had put him in chains.

³⁰But on the next day, wishing to know for certain why he had received accusation by the Jews, he released him and ordered the chief priests and all the Council to assemble, and brought Paul down and set him before them.

Acts 23

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul before the Council

¹Paul, looking intently at the Council, said, "Brethren, I have lived my life with a perfectly good conscience before God up to this day."

²The high priest Ananias commanded those standing beside him to strike him on the mouth.

³Then Paul said to him, "God will strike you, you whitewashed wall! Do you sit to try me according to the Law, and in violation of the Law order someone to strike me?"

⁴But the bystanders said, "Do you revile God's high priest?"

⁵And Paul said, "I did not know, brethren, that he served as high priest; for the scriptures say, 'YOU SHALL NOT SPEAK EVIL OF A RULER OF YOUR PEOPLE.'"

⁶But perceiving that one group consisted of Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul began crying out in the Council, "Brethren, I belong to the Pharisees, a son of Pharisees; people have placed me on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead!"

⁷As he said this, there occurred a dissension between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the assembly became divided.

⁸For the Sadducees say that no resurrection exists, nor an angel, nor a spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all.

⁹And there occurred a great uproar; and some of the scribes of the Pharisaic party stood up and began to argue heatedly, saying, " We find nothing wrong with this man; suppose a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?"

¹⁰And as a great dissension developed, the commander feared they would tear Paul to pieces and ordered the troops to go down and take him away from them by force, and bring him into the barracks.

¹¹But on the night immediately following, the Lord stood at his side and said, " Take courage; for as you have solemnly witnessed to My cause at Jerusalem, so you must witness at Rome also."

A Conspiracy to Kill Paul

¹²When it had become day, the Jews formed a conspiracy and bound themselves under an oath, saying that they would neither eat nor drink until they had killed Paul.

¹³More than forty conspired in this plot.

¹⁴They came to the chief priests and the elders and said, "We have bound ourselves under a solemn oath to taste nothing until we have killed Paul.

¹⁵"Now therefore, you and the Council notify the commander to bring him down to you, as though you had determined to investigate this case more thoroughly; and we for our part intend to slay him before he comes near the place."

¹⁶But the son of Paul's sister heard of their ambush, and he came and entered the barracks and told Paul.

¹⁷Paul called one of the centurions to him and said, "Lead this young man to the commander, for he has something to report to him."

¹⁸So he took him and led him to the commander and said, "Paul the prisoner called me to him and asked me to lead this young man to you since he has something to tell you."

¹⁹The commander took him by the hand and stepping aside, began to inquire of him privately, "What do you have to report to me?"

²⁰And he said, " The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down tomorrow to the Council, as though they intended to inquire somewhat more thoroughly about him.

²¹"So do not listen to them, for more than forty of them lie in wait for him who have bound themselves under a curse not to eat or drink until they slay

him; and now they have made themselves ready, waiting for the promise from you."

²²So the commander let the young man go, instructing him, "Tell no one that you have notified me of these things."

Paul Moved to Caesarea

²³And he called to him two of the centurions and said, "Get two hundred soldiers ready by the third hour of the night to proceed to Caesarea, with seventy horsemen and two hundred spearmen."

²⁴They also provided mounts to put Paul on and bring him safely to Felix the governor.

²⁵And he wrote a letter having this form:

²⁶"Claudius Lysias, to the most excellent governor Felix, greetings.

²⁷"When the Jews arrested this man, intending to kill him, I came up to them with the troops and rescued him, having learned that he had Roman citizenship.

²⁸"And wanting to ascertain the charge for which they accused him, I brought him down to their Council;

²⁹and I found them accusing him over questions about their Law, but under no accusation deserving death or imprisonment.

³⁰"When I received information that they had plotted against the man, I sent him to you at once, also instructing his accusers to bring charges against him before you."

³¹So the soldiers, in accordance with their orders, took Paul and brought him by night to Antipatris.

³²But the next day, leaving the horsemen to go on with him, they returned to the barracks.

³³When these had come to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they also presented Paul to him.

³⁴When he had read it, he asked from what province he came from, and when he learned that he resided in Cilicia,

³⁵he said, "I will give you a hearing after your accusers arrive also," giving orders for him to remain in Herod's Praetorium.

Acts 24

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul before Felix

¹After five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders, with an attorney named Tertullus, and they brought charges to the governor against Paul.

²After Paul had received his summons, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying to the governor, "Since we have through you attained much peace, and since you carry out reforms for this nation,

³we acknowledge this in every way and everywhere, most excellent Felix, with all thankfulness.

⁴"But, that I may not weary you any further, I beg you to grant us, by your kindness, a brief hearing.

⁵"For we have found this man a real pest and a fellow who stirs up dissension among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.

⁶"And he even tried to desecrate the temple; and then we arrested him. [We wanted to judge him according to our own Law.

⁷"But Lysias the commander came along, and with much violence took him out of our hands,

⁸ordering his accusers to come before you.] By examining him yourself concerning all these matters you will ascertain the things of which we accuse him."

⁹ The Jews also joined in the attack, asserting that these things proved accurate.

¹⁰When the governor had nodded for him to speak, Paul responded: "Knowing that for many years you have judged this nation, I cheerfully make my defense,

¹¹since you can take note of the fact that no more than twelve days ago I went up to Jerusalem to worship.

¹²" Neither in the temple, nor in the synagogues, nor in the city itself did they find me carrying on a discussion with anyone or causing a riot.

¹³" Nor can they prove to you the charges of which they now accuse me.

¹⁴"But this I admit to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that accords with the Law that the Prophets write;

¹⁵having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly come a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.

¹⁶"In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.

¹⁷"Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings;

¹⁸in which they found me occupied in the temple, having received purification, without any crowd or uproar But there came in some Jews from Asia--

¹⁹who ought to have presented themselves before you and to make accusation, if they should have anything against me.

²⁰"Or else let these men themselves tell what misdeed they found when I stood before the Council,

²¹other than for this one statement which I shouted out while standing among them, 'For the resurrection of the dead I have become placed on trial before you today.'"

²²But Felix, having a more exact knowledge about the Way, put them off, saying, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will decide your case."

²³Then he gave orders to the centurion for him to remain in custody and yet have some freedom, and not to prevent any of his friends from ministering to him.

²⁴But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who had Jewish ancestry, and sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus.

²⁵But as he discussed righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you."

²⁶At the same time too, he hoped that Paul would give him money ; therefore he also used to send for him quite often and converse with him.

²⁷But after two years had passed, Felix became replaced by Porcius Festus, and wishing to do the Jews a favor, Felix left Paul imprisoned.

Acts 25

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul before Festus

¹Festus then, having arrived in the province, three days later went up to Jerusalem from Caesarea.

²And the chief priests and the leading men of the Jews brought charges against Paul, and they urged him,

³requesting a concession against Paul, that he might have him brought to Jerusalem (at the same time, setting an ambush to kill him on the way).

⁴Festus then answered that Paul would remain in custody at Caesarea and that he himself intended to leave shortly.

⁵"Therefore," he said, "let the influential men among you go there with me, and if there proves anything wrong about the man, let them prosecute him."

⁶After he had spent not more than eight or ten days among them, he went down to Caesarea, and on the next day he took his seat on the tribunal and ordered Paul brought.

⁷After Paul arrived, the Jews who had come down from Jerusalem stood around him, bringing many and serious charges against him which they could not prove,

⁸while Paul said in his own defense, "I have committed no offense either against the Law of the Jews or against the temple or against Caesar."

⁹But Festus, wishing to do the Jews a favor, answered Paul and said, "Will you go up to Jerusalem and stand trial before me on these charges?"

¹⁰But Paul said, "I stand before Caesar's tribunal, where I ought have trial. I have done no wrong to the Jews, as you also very well know.

¹¹"If, then, I have done wrong and have committed anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die; but if none of those things proves true of which these men accuse me, no one can hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar."

¹²Then when Festus had conferred with his council, he answered, "You have appealed to Caesar, to Caesar you shall go."

¹³Now when several days had elapsed, King Agrippa and Bernice arrived at Caesarea and paid their respects to Festus.

¹⁴While they spent many days there, Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, "There you see the man whom Felix left as a prisoner;

¹⁵and when I remained at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews brought charges against him, asking for a sentence of condemnation against him.

¹⁶"I answered them that it does not meet the custom of the Romans to hand over any man before the accused meets his accusers face to face and has an opportunity to make his defense against the charges.

¹⁷"So after they had assembled here, I did not delay, but on the next day took my seat on the tribunal and ordered the man to be brought before me.

¹⁸"When the accusers stood up, they began bringing charges against him not of such crimes as I expected,

¹⁹but they simply had some points of disagreement with him about their own religion and about a dead man, Jesus, whom Paul asserted to live.

²⁰" Feeling at a loss as to how to investigate such matters, I asked whether he wanted to go to Jerusalem and there stand trial on these matters.

²¹"But when Paul appealed to remain in custody for the Emperor's decision, I ordered him to be kept in custody until I send him to Caesar."

²²Then Agrippa said to Festus, "I also would like to hear the man myself." "Tomorrow," he said, "you shall hear him."

Paul before Agrippa

²³So, on the next day when Agrippa came together with Bernice amid great pomp, and entered the auditorium accompanied by the commanders and the prominent men of the city, at the command of Festus, they brought Paul in.

²⁴Festus said, "King Agrippa, and all you gentlemen here present with us, you see this man about whom all the people of the Jews appealed to me, both at Jerusalem and here, loudly declaring that he ought not to live any longer.

²⁵"But I found that he had committed nothing worthy of death; and since he himself appealed to the Emperor, I decided to send him.

²⁶"Yet I have nothing definite about him to write to my lord. Therefore I have brought him before you all and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that after the investigation has taken place, I may have something to write.

²⁷"For it seems absurd to me in sending a prisoner, not to indicate also the charges against him."

Acts 26

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul's Defense before Agrippa

¹ Agrippa said to Paul, "You can speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and proceeded to make his defense:

²"In regard to all the things of which the Jews accuse me, I consider myself fortunate, King Agrippa, that I will soon make my defense before you today;

³especially because I acknowledge you as an expert in all customs and questions among the Jews; therefore I beg you to listen to me patiently.

⁴"So then, all Jews know my manner of life from my youth up, which from the beginning I spent among my own nation and at Jerusalem;

⁵since they have known about me for a long time, if they willingly testify, that I lived as a Pharisee according to the strictest sect of our religion.

⁶"And now I stand trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers;

⁷the promise to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly serve God night and day And for this hope, O King, the Jews accuse me.

⁸"Why should some consider it incredible among you people if God does raise the dead?

⁹"So then, I thought to myself that I had to do many things hostile to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

¹⁰"And this I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they received execution I cast my vote against them.

¹¹"And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and having become furiously enraged at them, I kept pursuing them even to foreign cities.

¹²"While so engaged as I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests,

¹³at midday, O King, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining all around me and those who journeyed with me.

¹⁴"And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me? Do you find it hard for you to kick against the goads.'

¹⁵"And I said, 'Who do I speak to, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'You know me as Jesus whom you persecute.

¹⁶'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;

¹⁷rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I send you,

¹⁸to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have received sanctification by faith in Me.'

¹⁹"So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,

²⁰but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

²¹"For this reason some Jews seized me in the temple and tried to put me to death.

²²"So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said would take place;

²³ that the Christ would suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would first proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles."

²⁴While Paul said this in his defense, Festus said in a loud voice, "Paul, you seem out of your mind! Your great learning has driven you mad."

²⁵But Paul said, "I have not gone out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I utter words of sober truth.

²⁶"For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I feel persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not occurred in a corner.

²⁷"King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do."

²⁸Agrippa replied to Paul, "In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian."

²⁹And Paul said, "I would wish to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I have become, except for these chains."

³⁰The king stood up and the governor and Bernice, and those who sat with them,

³¹and when they had gone aside, they began talking to one another, saying, "This man has not done anything worthy of death or imprisonment."

³²And Agrippa said to Festus, "I may have set this man free if he had not appealed to Caesar."

Acts 27

NASB E-Prime DFM

Paul Gets Sent to Rome

¹When the decision came that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to deliver Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan cohort named Julius.

²And embarking in an Adramyttian ship, which we had intended to sail to the regions along the coast of Asia, we put out to sea accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica.

³The next day we put in at Sidon; and Julius treated Paul with consideration and allowed him to go to his friends and receive care.

⁴From there we put out to sea and sailed under the shelter of Cyprus because the winds seemed contrary.

⁵When we had sailed through the sea along the coast of Cilicia and Pamphylia, we landed at Myra in Lycia.

⁶There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship sailing for Italy, and he put us aboard it.

⁷When we had sailed slowly for a good many days, and with difficulty had arrived off Cnidus, since the wind did not permit us to go farther, we sailed under the shelter of Crete, off Salmone;

⁸and with difficulty sailing past it we came to a place called Fair Havens, near which people called the city of Lasea.

⁹When considerable time had passed and the voyage became now more dangerous, since even the fast had come to a conclusion, Paul began to admonish them,

¹⁰and said to them, "Men, I perceive that the voyage will certainly bring damage and great loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives."

¹¹But the centurion seemed more persuaded by the pilot and the captain of the ship than by what Paul said.

¹²Because the harbor did not seem suitable for wintering, the majority reached a decision to put out to sea from there, if somehow they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete, facing southwest and northwest, and spend the winter there.

¹³When a moderate south wind came up, supposing that they had attained their purpose, they weighed anchor and began sailing along Crete, close inshore.

Shipwreck

¹⁴But before very long there rushed down from the land a violent wind, called Euraquilo;

¹⁵and when the ship became caught in it and could not face the wind, we gave way to it and let ourselves drift along.

¹⁶Running under the shelter of a small island called Clauda, we could scarcely get the ship's boat under control.

¹⁷After they had hoisted it up, they used supporting cables in undergirding the ship; and fearing that they might run aground on the shallows of Syrtis, they let down the sea anchor and in this way let themselves drift along.

¹⁸The next day as we became violently storm-tossed, they began to jettison the cargo;

¹⁹and on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands.

²⁰Since neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small storm assailed us, from then on all hope of our someone saving us gradually dwindled.

²¹When they had gone a long time without food, then Paul stood up in their midst and said, " Men, you ought to have followed my advice and not to have set sail from Crete and incurred this damage and loss.

²²"Yet now I urge you to keep up your courage, for there will not occur loss of life among you, but only of the ship.

²³"For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me,

²⁴saying, 'Do not fear, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who sail with you.'

²⁵"Therefore, keep up your courage, men, for I believe God that it will turn out exactly as I have heard.

²⁶"But we must run aground on a certain island."

²⁷But when the fourteenth night came, as we became driven about in the Adriatic Sea, about midnight the sailors began to surmise that they had approached some land.

²⁸They took soundings and found it to measure twenty fathoms; and a little farther on they took another sounding and found it to measure fifteen fathoms.

²⁹Fearing that we might run aground somewhere on the rocks, they cast four anchors from the stern and wished for daybreak.

³⁰But as the sailors tried to escape from the ship and had let down the ship's boat into the sea, on the pretense of intending to lay out anchors from the bow,

³¹Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers, "Unless these men remain in the ship, you yourselves cannot become saved."

³²Then the soldiers cut away the ropes of the ship's boat and let it fall away.

³³Until the day just about to dawn, Paul encouraged them all to take some food, saying, "Today you have reached the fourteenth day that you have constantly watched and going without eating, having taken nothing.

³⁴"Therefore I encourage you to take some food, for this will help preserve you, for not a hair from the head of any of you will perish."

³⁵Having said this, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of all, and he broke it and began to eat.

³⁶All of them felt encouraged and they themselves also took food.

³⁷All of us in the ship numbered two hundred and seventy-six persons.

³⁸When they had eaten enough, they began to lighten the ship by throwing out the wheat into the sea.

³⁹When day came, they could not recognize the land; but they did observe a bay with a beach, and they resolved to drive the ship onto it if they could.

⁴⁰And casting off the anchors, they left them in the sea while at the same time they loosened the ropes of the rudders; and hoisting the foresail to the wind, they headed for the beach.

⁴¹But striking a reef where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern began to break up by the force of the waves.

⁴²The soldiers' planned to kill the prisoners, so that none of them would swim away and escape;

⁴³but the centurion, wanting to bring Paul safely through, kept them from their intention, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land,

⁴⁴and the rest should follow, some on planks, and others on various things from the ship. And so it happened that they all arrived safely on land.

Acts 28

NASB E-Prime DFM

Safe at Malta

¹When they had brought them safely through, then we found out that the island had the name of Malta.

²The natives showed us extraordinary kindness; for because of the rain that had set in and because of the cold, they kindled a fire and received us all.

³But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened itself on his hand.

⁴When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they began saying to one another, "Undoubtedly this man has murdered someone, and though he has received salvation from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live."

⁵However he shook the creature off into the fire and suffered no harm.

⁶But they expected that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead. But after they had waited a long time and had seen nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and began to view him as a god.

⁷Now in the neighborhood of that place we observed lands belonging to the leading man of the island, named Publius, who welcomed us and entertained us courteously three days.

⁸And it happened that the father of Publius had lain in bed afflicted with recurrent fever and dysentery; and Paul went in to see him and after he had prayed, he laid his hands on him and healed him.

⁹After this had happened, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases came to Paul, getting cured.

¹⁰They also honored us with many marks of respect; and when we set sail, they supplied us with all we needed.

Paul Arrives at Rome

¹¹At the end of three months we set sail on an Alexandrian ship which had wintered at the island, and which had the Twin Brothers for its figurehead.

¹²After we put in at Syracuse, we stayed there for three days.

¹³From there we sailed around and arrived at Rhegium, and a day later a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli.

¹⁴There we found some brethren, who invited us to stay with them for seven days; and thus we came to Rome.

¹⁵And the brethren, when they heard about us, came from there as far as the Market of Appius and Three Inns to meet us; and when Paul saw them, he thanked God and took courage.

¹⁶When we entered Rome, Paul received the privilege of staying by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.

¹⁷After three days Paul called together those who considered themselves the leading men of the Jews, and when they came together, he began saying to them, " Brethren, though I had done nothing against our people or the

customs of our fathers, yet I became delivered as a prisoner from Jerusalem into the hands of the Romans.

¹⁸"And when they had examined me, they felt willing to release me because there didn't appear any ground for putting me to death.

¹⁹"But when the Jews objected, I had no recourse but to appeal to Caesar, not that I had any accusation against my nation.

²⁰"For this reason, therefore, I requested to see you and to speak with you, for I wear this chain for the sake of the hope of Israel."

²¹They said to him, "We have neither received letters from Judea concerning you, nor have any of the brethren come here and reported or spoken anything bad about you.

²²"But we desire to hear from you what your views may consist of; for concerning this sect, we know that people speak against it everywhere."

²³When they had set a day for Paul, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he explained to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening.

²⁴Some felt persuaded by the things spoken, but others would not believe.

²⁵And when they did not agree with one another, they began leaving after Paul had spoken one parting word, "The Holy Spirit rightly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your fathers,

²⁶saying,

' GO TO THIS PEOPLE AND SAY,

" YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND;

AND YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE;

²⁷ FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL,

AND WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR,

AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES;

OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT SEE WITH THEIR EYES,

AND HEAR WITH THEIR EARS,

AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART AND RETURN,

AND I WOULD HEAL THEM."

²⁸"Therefore may you understand that God has sent this salvation to the Gentiles; they will also listen."

²⁹[When he had spoken these words, the Jews departed, having a great dispute among themselves.]

³⁰And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and welcomed all who came to him,

³¹ preaching the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all openness, unhindered.