

MARK

Chapter 1

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God,

Mark 1:2 Just as it stands written in Isaiah the prophet: “Behold, I am sending My [God the Father] messenger on a mission [John the Baptizer] before Your [Jesus] face who will prepare Your way,

Mark 1:3 A voice shouting in the desert wilderness: “Prepare [get ready] the way for the Lord; make straight [align with His will] His paths.”

Mark 1:4 John came forth, baptizing in the desert wilderness and preaching a baptism [water] related to [in conjunction with] repentance for the remission of sins [this baptism has no place and serves no purpose during the Church Age].

Mark 1:5 And every type of person [not all without exception] from the district of Judea came out face-to-face to him, especially all kinds of people [not all without exception] from Jerusalem, and they were baptized in the Jordan river as they were confessing their sins.

Mark 1:6 And there was John, who was clothed in camel hair accompanied by a leather belt around his waist, and who was accustomed to eating locusts and wild honey.

Mark 1:7 And he made a public proclamation, saying: “A man mightier than I is coming after me, whom I am not worthy to bend down for the purpose of unloosing the leather strap of His sandals.

Mark 1:8 As for me, I baptized you by means of water [ritual], but He Himself [Jesus Christ as the Agent] will baptize you in the Holy Spirit [reality].”

Mark 1:9 And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and He was baptized [water ritual] in the Jordan by John.

Mark 1:10 And immediately after coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens being split apart and the Spirit in the form of a dove [purity, gentleness, peacefulness, and graciousness] descending upon Him.

Mark 1:11 And a Voice [God the Father] came out from the heavens: “As for You [Jesus], You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased [He accomplished the Father’s plan on the cross].”

Mark 1:12 And immediately the Spirit [Trinity] sent Him out [on a predetermined mission] into the desert wilderness.

Mark 1:13 And He was in the desert wilderness forty days, being repeatedly tested by Satan, and lived among wild animals while angels took care of Him.

Mark 1:14 Now, after John was taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, announcing good news from God,

Mark 1:15 Specifically saying: “The fixed time [of the prophets] is over [completion of the prophetic program] and the Kingdom of God is drawing near [approaching]. Change your mind [repent] and believe in the good news [Kingdom gospel].”

Mark 1:16 Now, as He passed along the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, who were casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

Mark 1:17 And Jesus said to them: “Come, follow Me, and I will train you [evangelistic ministry] to become fishers of men.”

Mark 1:18 And immediately, after abandoning their nets, they followed Him.

Mark 1:19 And after He advanced a short distance, He saw James of Zebedee and John, his brother, and they were mending nets in a fishing boat.

Mark 1:20 And immediately He summoned them. And after leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with day laborers, they followed after Him.

Mark 1:21 Then they went into Capernaum and immediately on the sabbath, having entered the synagogue, He began to teach [Jesus made it a habit to teach in synagogues].

Mark 1:22 And they were amazed at His teaching, for He was teaching them as One who possesses authority [He knew what He was talking about] and not like the scribes [alleged experts in the law].

Mark 1:23 And immediately there was a man in their synagogue with a demonic spirit and it cried out,

Mark 1:24 Saying: “Why are we [the man and the demonic spirit] and You here, Jesus the Nazarene? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are - the Holy One of God.”

Mark 1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying: “Be silent and come out of him!”

Mark 1:26 And the demonic spirit, after causing him to convulse and scream with a loud voice, came out of him.

Mark 1:27 And they were all amazed to the point where they argued among themselves, saying: “What is this new teaching? On the basis of what authority does He command even demonic spirits and they obey Him?”

Mark 1:28 And immediately His fame began to spread in all regions neighboring Galilee.

Mark 1:29 And immediately, having come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew accompanied by James and John.

Mark 1:30 Now Simon’s mother-in-law was bedridden, suffering with a fever, and immediately they spoke to Him on her behalf.

Mark 1:31 And after He approached, He took her hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her and she began to serve them.

Mark 1:32 Now as evening began to arrive, when the sun was going down, they brought face-to-face to Him all those who had severe illnesses and were demon-possessed.

Mark 1:33 And the entire city [every or greater part] was gathered together at the entrance.

Mark 1:34 And He healed many who had a variety of severe illnesses and ejected many demons, but He did not permit the demons to speak, because they knew Him.

Mark 1:35 Now, early in the morning, while it was still dark, after getting up and preparing for the day, He departed and began searching for a solitary place where He could pray.

Mark 1:36 But Simon and others accompanying him began to search for Him.

Mark 1:37 Eventually they found Him and said: "Everyone is looking for You!"

Mark 1:38 And He said to them: "Let us go in another direction, into locations which have marketplaces, so that I may also preach there. For this purpose, I have come forward."

Mark 1:39 And so, He continued to appear before the public, preaching in their synagogues all over Galilee and ejecting demons.

Mark 1:40 Now a leper came face-to-face to Him, begging and kneeling down before Him, and saying to Him: "If You are willing, You have the power to cleanse me."

Mark 1:41 And being moved with compassion and extending His hand, He touched him and said: "I am willing. Be cleansed."

Mark 1:42 And immediately the leprosy departed from him and He was cleansed.

Mark 1:43 And after sternly warning him, He immediately dismissed him,

Mark 1:44 And said to him: "See to it that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and bring your purification offering [the local priest gets to hear the man's testimony first and doesn't feel like he has been circumvented or his authority challenged by an upstart, itinerant preacher], which Moses commanded for a testimony to them."

Mark 1:45 But after departing, he began to proclaim publicly often and spread the matter widely to the point where He was not able to openly enter into the city, but was outside in deserted places. However, they began to come out face-to-face to Him from all directions.

Chapter 2

Mark 2:1 And having entered Capernaum again after a few days, it was reported that He was at home.

Mark 2:2 And many gathered together so that there was no longer room, not even near the door, when He was speaking His message to them [inadequate venue].

Mark 2:3 Consequently, they came face-to-face to Him bearing a paralytic who had been picked up and was being carried by four men.

Mark 2:4 But because they were not able to bring him through the crowd, they uncovered a section of the roof where He was, and when they had dug through [roofing tiles, sod, etc.], they lowered the pallet upon which the paralytic was reclining.

Mark 2:5 And having seen their faith [an amazing display of faith by all those involved], Jesus said to the paralytic: "Child, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:6 Now, there were some of the scribes sitting there and reasoning in the mentality of their souls,

Mark 2:7 "How can this Man speak in this manner? He is blaspheming! Who is able to forgive sins except for one Person, God?"

Mark 2:8 And immediately, Jesus, having complete knowledge by means of His spirit, that they were discussing and arguing among themselves in this manner, said: "Why are you discussing and arguing about these things in the mentality of your souls?"

Mark 2:9 Which is easier to say to a paralytic: "Your sins are forgiven," or "Get up and pick up and carry your pallet and keep on walking?"

Mark 2:10 But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has the authority to forgive sins on the earth," He said to the paralytic,

Mark 2:11 "To you I say, Get up and pick up and carry your pallet and go into your house."

Mark 2:12 And he was caused to arise, and immediately after he picked up the pallet, he departed before all of them with the result that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying: "We have never seen it in this manner."

Mark 2:13 And He went out again along the seashore and all the common people kept coming face-to-face to Him and He continued to teach them.

Mark 2:14 And as He was passing by, He saw Levi, the one of Alphaeus, sitting at the tax revenue station, and He said to him: "Follow Me," and after standing up [leaving his official post], he began to follow Him.

Mark 2:15 And it came to pass while He was reclining and dining in his house, that many tax collectors and sinners [Jews who did not observe the rituals and ceremonies of their ancestors] were reclining and dining with Jesus and His student-disciples, for there were many, and they were following Him.

Mark 2:16 Now the scribes, a segment of the Pharisees, having seen that He was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to His student-disciples: "He is eating with tax collectors and sinners [how can He teach in the synagogue and socialize with these reprobates at the same time]!"

Mark 2:17 And when He heard, Jesus said to them: "Those who are strong [spiritually] have no need for a physician [spiritual leader], but those who are sick [habitual sinners], keep on having a need [spiritual guidance]. I did not come to call righteous ones, but rather sinners."

Mark 2:18 Likewise, John's student-disciples and the Pharisees were observing a fast [food restrictions]. And they came and said to Him: "Why are John's student-disciples and the student-disciples of the Pharisees observing a fast, but Your student-disciples are not observing a fast?"

Mark 2:19 And Jesus replied to them: “Are the attendants of the bridegroom able to observe a fast [socially speaking], during which time the bridegroom is with them? No, for the time that they have the bridegroom with them [social life among bachelors], they are not able to observe a fast.”

Mark 2:20 But days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them [marriage] and then they will observe a fast in that day [curtailed social life as a bachelor].

Mark 2:21 No one sews a non-preshrunk, patchwork, piece of cloth [*new* Israel: Messianic Kingdom] to an old piece of clothing [*old* Israel: Pharisaic Judaism]. Otherwise, the new which will patch it up will tear away from the old piece and the tear will become worse [incompatible protocols].

Mark 2:22 Furthermore, no one pours new wine [Israel in the kingdom] into old wineskins [Israel under Pharisaic Judaism]. Otherwise, the wine will burst the wineskins and the wine and the wineskins will be lost. Instead, new wine is poured into new wineskins [dispensational protocols are different].

Mark 2:23 And it came to pass that on the sabbath, He was proceeding through fields of grain and His student-disciples began to follow a path, picking grain [rolling wheat kernels in their hands].

Mark 2:24 Now the Pharisees repeatedly said to Him: “Observe, why are they working on the sabbath which is not permitted [allowed by their interpretation of the law]?”

Mark 2:25 And He replied to them: “Have you never read what David did when he had need [a bonified emergency was considered a greater priority than the requirements of the law] and was hungry, he and those with him,

Mark 2:26 How he entered into the house of God in the passage [1 Sam. 21:1] about Abiathar the high priest and ate the loaves of sacred showbread, which is not permitted to be eaten except by the priests, and he also shared with those who were together with him?

Mark 2:27 Then He said to them repeatedly: “The sabbath came into existence for the sake of man [as a day of refreshment] and not man for the sake of the sabbath [requiring additional legal burdens].

Mark 2:28 It follows that the Son of Man is also Lord [God] of the sabbath.”

Chapter 3

Mark 3:1 And again, He entered a synagogue, and there was a man there who had a withered hand.

Mark 3:2 And they [Sanhedrin] continued to spy on [lie in wait for] Him with malicious intent, as to whether He would heal him on the sabbath, in order that they might bring accusations against Him [before a tribunal].

Mark 3:3 And He said to the man who had a withered hand: “Stand up, front and center [in the midst or middle of the crowd].”

Mark 3:4 Then He asked them [spies from the Sanhedrin]: “Is it permitted on sabbath days to do a good thing or to do a bad thing, to save a life or to kill?” But they remained silent.

Mark 3:5 And as He looked at them [the Pharisaic spies] with righteous indignation, being grieved at the obstinacy of the mentality of their soul [scarred, uncaring, and corrupted by years of false teaching], He said to the man: “Stretch out your hand,” and he stretched it out and his hand was restored [brought back to its original condition].

Mark 3:6 And after departing, the Pharisees arranged a consultation [planning session] with the Herodians [set aside their differences] against Him, for the purpose of killing Him.

Mark 3:7 Meanwhile, Jesus withdrew with His student-disciples to the sea, and a large crowd from Galilee and from Judaea followed,

Mark 3:8 And from Jerusalem and from Idumaea and from the other side of the Jordan. Furthermore, a large crowd near Tyre and Sidon, having repeatedly heard about the things [miracles, healings] He was continually doing, came face-to-face to Him.

Mark 3:9 And He told His student-disciples that a boat should be made available for Him because of the crowd [having a boat handy would enable Him to escape the throng of people and allow Him enough space offshore to speak to them without incident.], so that they would not press in and crush Him,

Mark 3:10 For He healed many with the result that they eagerly approached and fell upon Him so that they might touch Him, since many had severe illnesses.

Mark 3:11 And demonic spirits, when they caught sight of Him, fell down before Him and screamed repeatedly [would you want this kind of public acknowledgement?], saying: “You are the Son of God.”

Mark 3:12 But He continued to rebuke many of them so that they would stop making Him known.

Mark 3:13 Then He hiked up a mountain and invited those whom He wished [inner circle] and they followed Him.

Mark 3:14 And He appointed twelve, whom He also designated apostles, for the purpose of remaining with Him [for the training phase] and with the result that He would eventually send them on a mission to preach publicly [as ministers of the Kingdom gospel],

Mark 3:15 And to have at their disposal the authority to eject [cast out] demons.

Mark 3:16 Then He gave the name Peter as an addition to Simon.

Mark 3:17 And He gave as an addition the name Boanerges, to James, the son of Zebedee, and to John, his brother, which means “sons of thunder.”

Mark 3:18 And there was Andrew and Philip and Bartholomew and Matthew and Thomas and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus and Simon the Canaanite,

Mark 3:19 And Judas Iscariot, who will also hand Him over [betrayal].

Mark 3:20 Then He returned home [to Capernaum]. And a crowd came together again, so that they were not even able to eat food among themselves.

Mark 3:21 And when they heard, those closest to Him [unbelieving family] came out for the purpose of restraining Him, for they assumed that He was on the verge of losing His mind [confused, out of His senses].

Mark 3:22 Now when the scribes from Jerusalem came down [descended to Capernaum], they maintained: “He has Beezeboul and by means of the ruler of demons He ejects demons.”

Mark 3:23 But after inviting them to Him, He replied to them with illustrations: “How is Satan able to eject Satan [compromising his own power base]?”

Mark 3:24 And if a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom will not be able to stand [continue existing due to self-destruction].

Mark 3:25 Furthermore, if a household is divided against itself, that household will not be able to stand [continue existing due to disagreement and bickering].

Mark 3:26 And if Satan rose up against himself and is divided, he is not be able to stand, but rather is coming to an end.

Mark 3:27 But no one is able, after entering a strong man’s house [Satan], to thoroughly plunder his property, unless he [Jesus] first binds the strong man [ties Satan up] and then he will thoroughly plunder his house [ejecting demons].

Mark 3:28 Truly I am saying to you, that all sins will be forgiven the sons of men [all subsequent generations of Jewish men], including as many malicious slanders as they might spread with irreverent speech [defiant hostility],

Mark 3:29 But whoever [Jewish citizen] spreads irreverent speech [malicious slander] against the Holy Spirit will not have forgiveness [They had already rejected God the Father. That’s strike one. They were full of hatred against Jesus, the Messiah. That’s strike two. If they reject and slander the Holy Spirit, that’s strike three.] during this age [of Israel], but is guilty of an everlasting sin [through the millennium and beyond],

Mark 3:30 Because they continued to say: ‘He has an unclean spirit [ascribing divine miracles to demons].’”

Mark 3:31 Then His mother and brothers arrived and while standing outside [since they were all unbelievers, they did not enter or join His followers], they sent for Him, summoning Him.

Mark 3:32 And a crowd was sitting around Him and they said to Him: “Behold, Your mother and Your brothers and Your sisters outside are looking for You [Jesus did not allow His family to interrupt His work].”

Mark 3:33 But responding to them, He replied: “Who is My mother and My brothers [true spiritual family]?”

Mark 3:34 And after looking around at those who were sitting around Him in a circle, He said: “Behold [mentally and spiritually see] My mother and My brothers [His growing spiritual family was a higher priority and a closer group of individuals mentally and spiritually than those who were related to Him by blood].

Mark 3:35 For whoever executes the will of God, this one is My brother and sister and mother [part of the true family.]”

Chapter 4

Mark 4:1 And again, He began to teach along the seashore. And a very large crowd gathered before Him so that He boarded the boat [reserved in 3:9] for the purpose of sitting at the seashore, and the entire crowd remained on land facing the sea.

Mark 4:2 And He continued to teach them many things in parables [biblical illustrations laced with profound applications to their daily life] and repeatedly assured [encouraged] them by means of His doctrinal teaching.

Mark 4:3 Keep on listening. Behold, a sower [Jesus] went out for the purpose of sowing seed [the kingdom gospel message per Matt. 3:19].

Mark 4:4 And it came to pass when he was sowing, some, on the one hand, fell beside the road and birds [the Pharisees and other enemies of the Messiah – some humans (the world) and some demonic] appeared and they devoured it.

Mark 4:5 And some fell upon rocky ground where it did not have much topsoil, and immediately it sprouted [Jewish believers] because it did not have deep soil.

Mark 4:6 And when the sun rose at dawn, it burned up [when persecution began, they went into hiding.], and because it had no root, it withered away [crashed and burned in the spiritual life, loss of spiritual growth and rewards].

Mark 4:7 And some fell among thorn plants [negative friends and family] and thorn plants came up and choked them [crowded them out] and it produced no fruit [priority distractions].

Mark 4:8 And other *seed* fell upon good soil and continued to produce fruit [spiritual crop] which sprang up and continued to increase and brought forth [spiritual production] some at thirty percent, and some at sixty percent, and some at one hundred percent.

Mark 4:9 And He said: “He who has ears to hear, let him keep on listening [positive momentum without distractions].”

Mark 4:10 And as soon as He was alone, those around Him, together with the Twelve, asked Him about the parables.

Mark 4:11 Then He said to them: “The mystery of the Kingdom of God has been given to you, but to those who *are* outside, all things [teachings, doctrinal instruction] are provided in parables [parables were meant to inform believers and baffle unbelievers],

Mark 4:12 Because though they are capable of seeing [with their eyes], they observe [perception] but do not obtain spiritual discernment [develop spiritual acumen], and though they are capable of hearing [with their ears], they listen [to what is being said] and do not understand [gain insight into what is being taught], with the result that they do not turn around [reverse direction: change protocol from *old* Israel to

new Israel] so He may be brought back into fellowship with them [experiential forgiveness leading to restored communion between Deity and humanity].”

Mark 4:13 Then He asked them: “Do you not understand this parable [basics]? Then how will you grasp other types of parables [advanced doctrine]?”

Mark 4:14 The one who sows [the Messiah, a disciple, an evangelist, a follower of Jesus, etc.] is sowing the Word [message: gospel of the kingdom].

Mark 4:15 And these are those beside the road where the Word was sown. And when they heard, immediately Satan came and carried away the Word which had been sown in them [snatched the doctrine he was listening to right out of the mentality of his soul].

Mark 4:16 And these are those [new believers] which were sown on rocky ground, who, when they heard the Word, immediately they received it with joy.

Mark 4:17 Furthermore, they have no root in themselves [spiritual perseverance], but they endure [continue to execute God’s plan] only for a short time; then, when outside pressure and persecution comes because of the Word, immediately they are shocked, become angry, and are led into sin [reverse process reversionism].

Mark 4:18 And these others are those who were sown among thorn plants [cares and worries of the age in which they live]. These are those who heard the Word,

Mark 4:19 And the anxieties of the age, and the deceitfulness of wealth, and the passionate desires with reference to other things entering in, continually choke [crowd out] the Word, and it becomes unfruitful [spiritually unproductive].

Mark 4:20 And these are those which were sown on good soil, which are of such a nature as hear the Word [familiarizes the mentality of his soul with biblical truth.] and accept *it* [saturates the mentality of his soul with biblical truth.] and bear fruit [applies that truth to daily life], in fact, some thirty percent and some sixty percent and some one hundred percent.”

Mark 4:21 Then He said to them: “A lamp does not appear in order to be placed under a bushel or under a bed [the ministry of the Twelve will not be done in seclusion], does it? Is it not for the purpose of being placed on a lampstand [it will be a face-to-face ministry in a public forum]?”

Mark 4:22 For there is nothing hidden except for the purpose of being revealed [according to God’s timing], nor was anything established as a secret [no agendas], but in order that it might come to be publicly revealed.

Mark 4:23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him keep on listening [listen to a message without allowing emotional subjectivity to interfere].”

Mark 4:24 Then He said to them: “Keep on paying close attention to what you are hearing. According to this measure [how often and how much you pay attention], it will be measured to you [rewards earned] and it will be added to you [rewards given].

Mark 4:25 For he who has at his disposal [doctrinal truth on the launching pad of the soul], it will be given to him [rewards], but he who does not have at his disposal [no doctrinal truth in the soul], even that which he has at his disposal [what little he knows about spiritual matters] will be taken away from him.”

Mark 4:26 Then He said: “In this manner, the kingdom of God will operate, as if a man cast seed [Bible doctrine, the Word of God] upon the earth [topsoil which represents the mentality of the soul of man],

Mark 4:27 And although he sleeps and rises up, night and day [continues with his daily Bible routine], and the seed continues to sprout and grow, how, he himself does not know [divine assistance].

Mark 4:28 The earth bears fruit [Christian character] spontaneously – first a stalk, then an ear or head of grain, then a fully-developed grain in its ear or head.

Mark 4:29 Then, when the fruit is ripe [ready to be harvested], immediately he [Jesus] puts the sickle into operation [spiritual protocol], because the harvest has arrived [rewards].”

Mark 4:30 Then He asked: “In what way can we compare the kingdom of God or by what parable can we explain this [how can He elaborate on the doctrine of rewards]?”

Mark 4:31 *It is* like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown on the ground [beginning of spiritual growth], is the smallest of all seeds on the ground,

Mark 4:32 And when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and grows great branches, so that the birds of the air are able to nest under its shade [blessing by association].”

Mark 4:33 And with many such parables He spoke to them the Word, to the degree that they were able to hear and understand.

Mark 4:34 As a matter of fact, He did not speak to them without parables. Furthermore, in private, He explained everything to His own student-disciples [when He spoke a doctrinal message for the benefit of believers only, He used parables].

Mark 4:35 Then He said to them [His disciples] later that day, when evening was about to arrive: “Let us go over to the other side [opposite shore of the lake].”

Mark 4:36 And after dismissing the crowd, they welcomed Him as He entered into a boat. There were also other boats accompanying Him.

Mark 4:37 And there arose a fierce gust of wind and the waves beat upon the boat so that the boat was really filling up [monsoon].

Mark 4:38 And yet, He was at the stern of the boat, sleeping on a pillow cushion. Consequently, they woke Him up and said to Him: “Teacher, don’t You [of all people] care that we are perishing?”

Mark 4:39 Then, after waking up, He rebuked the wind and said to the sea: “Silence! Be still!” And the wind abated and a great calm took place.

Mark 4:40 Then He said to them: “Why are you afraid? Do you not yet have faith [trust in the Lord]?”

Mark 4:41 Indeed, they had been afraid with great fear. And they said repeatedly to each other: “Who, then, is this Man, that even the wind and sea obey Him?”

Chapter 5

Mark 5:1 Then they came to the other side of the sea into the land of the Gerasenes [foreign occupied enemy territory].

Mark 5:2 And when He came out of the boat, immediately a man with an unclean spirit [demon possessed] out of the tombs [cemetery] met Him,

Mark 5:3 Who had a dwelling among the tombs. Furthermore, nobody, no longer, was able [had the power] to restrain him, not even with chains,

Mark 5:4 Since he had been restrained many times before with shackles and chains, but the chains had been torn apart by him and the shackles had been broken and nobody was strong enough to keep him subdued afterwards.

Mark 5:5 And continually, night and day, among the tombs and in the mountains, he was repeatedly screaming and repeatedly cutting himself with stones [mutilation].

Mark 5:6 But when he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran towards and began to worship Him [pay obeisance to, prostrate before],

Mark 5:7 And screaming with a loud voice, he said [demons speaking through the man]: “What do I have to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You as God, please do not start tormenting me.”

Mark 5:8 For He said to it: “Come out of the man, unclean [demonic] spirit!”

Mark 5:9 And He asked him: “What *is* your name?” And it replied to Him: “Legion [a unit of 6,000 Roman soldiers] is my name, because we are many.”

Mark 5:10 And he pleaded with Him many times that He would not send them outside of the region [they wanted to remain in a community run by Satan].

Mark 5:11 Now, there was a large herd of swine feeding [grazing] near the mountain,

Mark 5:12 And they begged Him saying: “Please send us into the hogs in order that we may enter into them.”

Mark 5:13 Consequently, He gave them permission. And after the unclean spirits came out, they entered into the hogs and the herd, about two thousand, rushed headlong down a steep slope [cliff, embankment] into the sea and were drown in the sea.

Mark 5:14 Now those who were feeding them fled and reported *it* [what happened to their hogs] in the city and in the country, and they came to see what it was that had happened.

Mark 5:15 And they came face-to-face to Jesus and observed the man who had been demon-possessed, sitting down, clothed, and in his right mind, the one who had the legion [of demons]. And they became afraid.

Mark 5:16 And those who saw described in detail to them [those who did not go and observe things firsthand] how the demon-possessed man appeared, and also about the hogs.

Mark 5:17 And they began to appeal to Him to depart from their district [they ranked their private businesses more important than the life of a man].

Mark 5:18 And when He was boarding the boat, the one who had been demon-possessed repeatedly pleaded with Him that he might continue to be with Him.

Mark 5:19 However, He sent him away, but said to him: “Return to your house face-to-face to your own people and tell them about the great things the Lord has done for you as well as His mercy and compassion for you.

Mark 5:20 So, he departed and began to announce publicly in Decapolis the great things Jesus did for him. Consequently, everyone was astonished.

Mark 5:21 Now, after Jesus crossed over again to the opposite shore in a boat, a large crowd gathered before Him when He was beside the seashore.

Mark 5:22 And one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jarius came and when he saw Him, he fell at His feet,

Mark 5:23 And he greatly implored Him, saying: “My little daughter is at the point of death, so You must come. Please place hands upon her, in order that she might be healed and live.”

Mark 5:24 And He went with him and a large crowd followed Him and pressed upon [crowded, closed in on] Him.

Mark 5:25 Meanwhile, a woman, who was with a flow of blood [urinary tract infection of some kind] for twelve years,

Mark 5:26 And had suffered many things at the hands of many physicians [hoping for a cure] and had spent freely all that she had, and obtained nothing of benefit, but rather came to be much worse,

Mark 5:27 After hearing *things* concerning Jesus and coming with a crowd from behind, she touched His garment,

Mark 5:28 For she maintained: “If I touch His garments, maybe I will be healed.”

Mark 5:29 And immediately the source of the flow of her blood dried up and she perceived bodily that she had been healed of the illness.

Mark 5:30 Now Jesus, immediately perceiving in Himself power exiting from Him, after being turned around by the crowd, asked: “Who touched My garments?”

Mark 5:31 But His student-disciples repeatedly said to Him: “You can see the crowd pressing in upon You, yet You are asking: ‘Who touched Me?’”

Mark 5:32 But He continued to look around to catch sight of the woman who had done this.

Mark 5:33 Now the woman, who was becoming afraid and was trembling with worry and apprehension, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the entire truth.

Mark 5:34 But He replied to her: “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace [as opposed to fear] and continue to be healed from your illness.”

Mark 5:35 While He was still speaking, they [messengers] came from *the home of* the leader of the synagogue, reporting that his daughter had died. “Why continue to bother the Teacher?”

Mark 5:36 But Jesus, overhearing the report which had been spoken, said to the leader of the synagogue: “Stop being afraid, only keep on believing.”

Mark 5:37 Furthermore, He did not allow anyone to follow after Him, except Peter and James and John, the brother of James.

Mark 5:38 Then He came into the house of the leader of the synagogue and observed the turmoil and *those* who were crying and many who were loudly wailing.

Mark 5:39 And when He came in, He asked them: “Why are you distressed and crying? The young girl has not died, but is rather sleeping.”

Mark 5:40 But they laughed at Him. Nevertheless, after He dismissed everyone, He took the father of the young girl and the mother and those with them [perhaps along with close family and friends] and He entered where the young girl was lying.

Mark 5:41 Then, after grasping the young girl’s hand, He said to her: “Talitha koum,” which translated means “Little girl,” I say to you, “stand up!”

Mark 5:42 And immediately the young girl stood up and walked around, for she was twelve years old. And they were immediately amazed with great astonishment.

Mark 5:43 And He gave orders to many of them [close family and friends] that no one should come to know about this. Then He said to give her *something* to eat.

Chapter 6

Mark 6:1 Then He departed from there and came into His own part of the country [hometown] and His disciples followed Him.

Mark 6:2 And when the sabbath arrived, He began to teach in the synagogue and many who were listening were amazed, saying: “From where *did* this Man *get* these things? And what wisdom is this which has been given to Him so that even supernatural powers such as these are taking place through His hands?”

Mark 6:3 Isn’t this the carpenter, the son of Mary and the brother of James and Joseph and Jude and Simon? And aren’t His sisters here face-to-face with us? Consequently, they were offended and repelled by Him.

Mark 6:4 Then Jesus said to them: “A prophet is not without honor and respect except in His own hometown [community] and among His relatives [countrymen] and in His own house [family].”

Mark 6:5 Consequently, He was not able to perform even one miracle there, except He healed a few sick people by laying hands on *them* [because there were few if any believers in His hometown, the opportunity for performing miracles there was virtually non-existent].

Mark 6:6 So, He marveled because of their unbelief, and traveled in a circle [roundabout] around small villages, teaching.

Mark 6:7 Then he called the twelve men [disciples] together. And He began to send them out as apostles on a divine mission, two by two. And He gave them authority over unclean [demonic] spirits.

Mark 6:8 And He commanded them that they should take nothing on the road except only a staff – no food, no traveler’s bag, no money in a belt,

Mark 6:9 But put on sandals and do not wear two shirts.

Mark 6:10 And He continued to say to them: “Whenever you enter a house, abide there [remain as a guest] until you are ready to leave from there.

Mark 6:11 But if whatever place does not welcome you, nor listen to you, as you are departing from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them.”

Mark 6:12 Subsequently, when they went out, they preached publicly that they should repent [those who previously rejected the apostles should change their minds].

Mark 6:13 Also, they ejected many demons and massaged with oil many sick people and healed *them*.

Mark 6:14 Now, King Herod heard, for His name became well known, and they [people in the streets] concluded that John the Baptizer had been raised from the dead, and because of this, miraculous powers were operating in him.

Mark 6:15 But others maintained that he was Elijah, and others asserted that *He was* a prophet similar to one of the prophets [not a resurrected old prophet but a new prophet].

Mark 6:16 Now when Herod heard, he asserted: “The man I beheaded, John, this man has been raised.”

Mark 6:17 For Herod himself, having sent a delegation of soldiers [dispatched them on a law enforcement mission], apprehended John and bound him in jail for the sake of Herodias, the wife [now divorced] of Philip, his brother, because he had married her.

Mark 6:18 For you see, John repeatedly said to Herod: “It is not permitted for you to have your brother’s wife [half-brother: Herod Philip].”

Mark 6:19 Consequently, Herodias had a grudge against him [due to public embarrassment] and wanted to kill him [revenge motivation], but she was not able to do so,

Mark 6:20 For Herod was afraid of John, because he knew him *to be* a righteous and holy man. Consequently, he protected him, and, because he listened to him, he was greatly disturbed, but gladly listened to him.

Mark 6:21 Now, when a strategic [convenient, opportune] day arrived, as Herod served dinner on his birthday to his business administrators and military leaders and prominent men of Galilee,

Mark 6:22 And the daughter of Herodias herself entered and began dancing. She pleased Herod and those who were dining with him. And the king said to the girl: “Ask me for anything you desire and I will give *it* to you.”

Mark 6:23 Then he swore an oath to her: “Whatever great things you ask from me, I will give *them* to you, up to half of my kingdom.”

Mark 6:24 And so, after she departed, she asked her mother [who orchestrated the dance to trap Herod]: “What shall I ask for myself?” And she replied: “The head of John the Baptizer.”

Mark 6:25 And after she entered, immediately, with haste, face-to-face to the king, she made *her* request, saying: “I desire that you give me the head of John the Baptizer on a platter.”

Mark 6:26 And though the king became deeply grieved, because of his oath and those who were dining with him, he did not wish to reject her.

Mark 6:27 Consequently, the king, immediately sending an executioner, issued an order to bring to bring his head. And after departing, he beheaded him in jail,

Mark 6:28 And brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother.

Mark 6:29 And when his student-disciples heard, they came and picked up his corpse and placed it in a tomb.

Mark 6:30 Now the apostles gathered together face-to-face with Jesus and reported to Him all the things which they had done and everything which they had taught.

Mark 6:31 And He said to them: “Come on, you alone, to a private place in the wilderness [retreat] and refresh yourselves for a little while,” for there were those who were coming and those who were going, many of them, and they had no opportunity to eat.

Mark 6:32 Accordingly, they departed by boat to a private location in the wilderness [deserted beach area].

Mark 6:33 However, they saw them as they were departing and many understood perfectly and ran together by land to the location [secret meeting area] from all the cities and preceded them.

Mark 6:34 And when He began to disembark, He saw a large crowd, and He had compassion for them because they were like sheep which did not have a shepherd. And He began to teach them many things.

Mark 6:35 And when the day was long gone, His student-disciples came to Him, saying: “This place is deserted and the day *is* long gone.

Mark 6:36 Please dismiss them to that, as they pass through nearby farms and villages, they may purchase for themselves something to eat.”

Mark 6:37 But replying to them, He said: “You give them *something* to eat.” And they asked Him as they were departing: “Should we purchase two hundred denarii of bread and give it to them to eat?”

Mark 6:38 Then He asked them: “How many loaves of bread do you have? Go, see.” And when they found out, they replied: “Five, and two fish.”

Mark 6:39 And He commanded them to have everyone sit down, group by group, upon the green grass.

Mark 6:40 And so, they reclined [leaning on elbows and each other], group by group, by hundreds and by fifties.

Mark 6:41 Then, after taking hold of the five loaves of bread and the two fish and looking up into heaven, He gave thanks and praise and broke the loaves of bread into pieces and kept on giving *bread* to His student-disciples so that they might continue to distribute *it* to them. Then He distributed the two fish to everyone.

Mark 6:42 And they all ate and were filled.

Mark 6:43 Furthermore, they picked up fragments [leftover pieces], twelve baskets full [one per disciple], including the count of fish.

Mark 6:44 And those who had eaten the loaves of bread were five thousand men.

Mark 6:45 Then immediately He urged His student-disciples to board the ship and proceed to the opposite shore, to Bethsaida, while He Himself dismissed the multitude.

Mark 6:46 And after saying farewell to them, He departed into a mountain to pray.

Mark 6:47 Now, when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea and He alone *was* upon the land.

Mark 6:48 And having seen them tormented [hard pressed, struggling and weary] as a result of constant rowing, because the wind was against them, around the fourth watch of the night [between 3:00 and 6:00 AM], He came face-to-face to them, walking upon the sea, and He wanted to pass by them.

Mark 6:49 But when they saw Him walking upon the sea, they thought that He was a ghost [apparition] and they screamed,

Mark 6:50 For they all saw Him and were troubled. But immediately He spoke with them and said to them: “Cheer up! It is I. Stop being afraid.”

Mark 6:51 And He climbed into the ship face-to-face with them and the wind ceased its hostility and they were exceedingly astounded beyond measure in themselves,

Mark 6:52 For they did not gain insight from the loaves of bread. In fact, the mentality of their soul remained in a state of spiritual blindness.

Mark 6:53 Now after they finished crossing over, they arrived near land at Gennesaret and anchored in the harbor.

Mark 6:54 And when they came out of the ship, immediately, having recognized Him,

Mark 6:55 They ran around the entire countryside itself and began to carry those who were sick on pallets, where they heard that He was.

Mark 6:56 And whenever He entered into villages, or into cities, or into agricultural areas, they laid those who were sick in the marketplaces, and repeatedly pleaded with Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were cured.

Chapter 7

Mark 7:1 Then the Pharisees and some of the Scribes who came from Jerusalem gathered together face-to-face before Him.

Mark 7:2 And having seen certain ones of His student-disciples, with impure hands that were ceremonially unwashed, eating loaves of bread, they found fault with *them*.

Mark 7:3 For the Pharisees and all the Jews, unless they ceremonially washed hands with a clenched fist [fists rubbed in palms of hands, diligently, assiduously], do not eat, because they hold fast to the tradition of the elders.

Mark 7:4 Even away from the marketplace, if they do not wash, they will not eat. Furthermore, there are many other things which they have purchased for the purpose of ownership – washings of cups and pitchers and copper vessels [bowls and plates] and dining furniture [couches].

Mark 7:5 Both Pharisees and Scribes asked Him: “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but instead they eat bread with ceremonially unclean hands?”

Mark 7:6 And He replied to them: “Well did Isaiah prophesy concerning you, hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honor Me with lips, but the mentality of their soul remains far from Me.’

Mark 7:7 In fact, they are worshipping Me in vain, because they are teaching the commandments of men as doctrines.

Mark 7:8 Having abandoned the commandment of God, you seize and hold fast to the tradition of men.”

Mark 7:9 And He said to them again: “You are successfully nullifying the commandment of God, so that you may keep and observe your tradition.

Mark 7:10 For Moses said: ‘Honor your father and your mother. And may the one who continually speaks evil of father or mother come to an end by death.’

Mark 7:11 But as for you, you claim: ‘If a man says to father or mother, Corban,’ which refers to a gift [donation to the Temple] which might be of benefit from me [in exchange for no government taxes],

Mark 7:12 You no longer permit him [according to the dictates of the socialistic government] to do anything for father or mother,

Mark 7:13 Invalidating the Word of God by your tradition [financial scam], which you have handed over [transmitted to the people]. Indeed, you are engaged in many similar [socialistic] practices [medical and retirement scams].”

Mark 7:14 Then, after again calling together the crowd to Himself, He said: “Listen to Me, everyone, and understand.

Mark 7:15 There is nothing from outside a man, which after entering him [by eating], is able to defile him, but rather the things which proceed out from the man [excrement: sinful words and deeds] are the things which defile the man.”

Mark 7:16 NA

Mark 7:17 And when He entered into a house away from the crowd, His student-disciples asked Him about the parable.

Mark 7:18 And He replied to them: “In the same manner, are you also clueless [their application of Bible doctrine on this point had malfunctioned.]? Do you not know that everything which enters into the man from the outside is not able to defile him,

Mark 7:19 Because it does not enter into the mentality of his soul but into the stomach, and exits into a latrine, by means of which he purges [cleans out his gastrointestinal tract] all kinds of food.”

Mark 7:20 Then He said: “That which proceeds out from the man [excrement: sinful thoughts, words, and deeds], that continually defiles the man.”

Mark 7:21 For from within, out of the mentality of the soul of men, proceeds evil thoughts and designs, sexual immorality, thefts, murders,

Mark 7:22 Adultery, greediness, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, an evil eye [desire to cause injury], abusive speech, arrogance, foolishness.

Mark 7:23 All these evil things from within proceed out of and continually defile the man.”

Mark 7:24 Then, after getting up from there, He departed into the districts of Tyre, and having entered into a house, He desired *that* nobody should find out. However, He was not able to be hidden.

Mark 7:25 In fact, immediately a woman, who had heard about Him, whose daughter herself had an unclean [demon] spirit, having come, fell at His feet.

Mark 7:26 And the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by race. And she begged Him: “Please eject the demon out from my daughter.”

Mark 7:27 And He replied to her: “Let the children [Israelites] first eat their fill, for it is not acceptable to take children’s food and toss *it* to the dogs [Gentiles].”

Mark 7:28 But she replied with discernment and said to Him: “Lord, even little dogs [Gentiles] under the table eat of the children’s [Jews] crumbs.”

Mark 7:29 And He said to her: “Because of this statement, go home. The demon has departed from your daughter.”

Mark 7:30 And when she left and went into her home, she found the child lying on a bed and the demon was gone.

Mark 7:31 And again, after departing from the region of Tyre, He went through Sidon to the sea of Galilee in the midst of the region of Decapolis.

Mark 7:32 And they brought a deaf and speech impaired man to Him and pleaded with Him to place a hand upon him.

Mark 7:33 So, after taking him aside away from the crowd, He privately put His fingertips into his ears. Then, after spitting, He touched his tongue.

Mark 7:34 And as He looked up into heaven, He sighed deeply and said to him: “Ephphatha,” which means, “Be opened.”

Mark 7:35 And immediately his ears opened up and his speech defect was removed and he began to speak normally.

Mark 7:36 And He ordered them to tell no one, but the more He ordered them, much more, to a greater degree, they themselves proclaimed *it* publicly.

Mark 7:37 Furthermore, they were amazed beyond measure, saying: “He has done all these things perfectly. Indeed, He made the deaf to hear and the speech impaired to speak.”

Chapter 8

Mark 8:1 In those days, again, there being a great crowd, and their having nothing to eat, after calling together the disciples, He said to them:

Mark 8:2 “I have sympathy for the crowd, because they have remained with Me now for three days and have not had anything to eat.

Mark 8:3 In fact, if I send them away to their home hungry, they may pass out on the road, since some of them came from far away.

Mark 8:4 And His disciples responded to Him with discernment: “From where is a person able to feed these men loaves of bread here in the desert?”

Mark 8:5 And He asked them: “How many loaves of bread do you have?” And they replied: “Seven.”

Mark 8:6 Then He ordered the crowd to recline upon the ground, and after taking the seven loaves of bread, having given thanks, He broke *them* and continued to give *them* to His disciples so that they might serve them. Consequently, they served the crowd.

Mark 8:7 They also had a few small fish. And after blessing them, He also told *them* to serve them.

Mark 8:8 And they ate and were filled to the point of satisfaction. Then they picked up seven baskets of leftover fragments.

Mark 8:9 Now, there were about four thousand men. And He sent them away.

Mark 8:10 Then immediately, after boarding a ship with His disciples, He went to the region of Dalmanoutha [ministry was shifting from evangelical to pastoral].

Mark 8:11 And the Pharisees came out and began to argue with Him, seeking for a miraculous sign from Him from heaven, for the purpose of testing Him.

Mark 8:12 And after sighing deeply in His [human] spirit, He said: “Why does this group of unbelieving religious contemporaries continue to seek for a miraculous sign? Truly I am saying to you: ‘A miraculous sign shall certainly not be given to this group of unbelieving religious contemporaries [unbelieving Pharisees who represented Israel].’”

Mark 8:13 And after sending them away, again, and boarding, He went to the other side [opposite shore].

Mark 8:14 Now they had forgotten [neglected] to bring loaves of bread, and except for one loaf of bread, they did not have *any* with them in the boat.

Mark 8:15 And He repeatedly warned them, saying: “Pay close attention to, beware of, the leaven [yeast: doctrine or teaching] of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.”

Mark 8:16 But they reasoned face-to-face with each other: “Because we have no loaves of bread.”

Mark 8:17 And when He came to know *this*, He asked them: “Why are you reasoning that you have no loaves of bread? Do you not yet understand nor comprehend? Do you have at your disposal a mentality of the soul which has been hardened [blinded]?”

Mark 8:18 Since you have eyes, can you not see, and since you have ears, can you not hear? And do you not remember [how soon we forget],

Mark 8:19 When I broke five loaves of bread among five thousand men, how many baskets full of fragments did you pick up?” They replied to Him: “Twelve.”

Mark 8:20 When *I broke* seven for four thousand men, how many baskets full of fragments did you pick up? They replied to Him: “Seven.”

Mark 8:21 And He repeatedly asked them: “Do you not yet understand?”

Mark 8:22 Next, they came into Bethsaida, and they brought a blind man to Him and pleaded with Him repeatedly that He might touch him.

Mark 8:23 And after taking hold of the hand of the blind man, He brought him outside of the small town, and having spit upon his eyes while placing hands upon him, He asked repeatedly: “Can you see anything?”

Mark 8:24 And as he looked up, he replied: “I am able to see men, like trees. I can see *them* walking around.”

Mark 8:25 And again [two-stage miracle that included a lesson], He placed hand upon his eyes. Then he looked intently and was cured and could see everything very clearly.

Mark 8:26 And He sent him away to his home, saying: “Do not go into town [the Lord’s ministry was focused on pastoral rather than evangelical concerns at this time].”

Mark 8:27 Then Jesus went out, as well as His disciples, into the small towns around Caesarea, Philippi. And on the road, He kept on asking His disciples, saying to them: “Who do men say that I am?”

Mark 8:28 And they replied to Him, saying: “John the Baptizer, and others, Elijah, and others, one of the prophets.”

Mark 8:29 Then He Himself asked them: “But as for you, who do you say I am?” Peter, answering with discernment, said to Him: “As for You, You are the Messiah.”

Mark 8:30 And He warned them that they should tell nobody concerning Him.

Mark 8:31 Then He began to teach them that it was necessary for the Son of Man to suffer many things, and to be rejected by the prominent senior citizens and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be killed, and after three days to rise [rejection, crucifixion, resurrection].

Mark 8:32 Furthermore, He communicated the message plainly and frankly. However, Peter, having taken Him aside, began to censure [argue with] Him.

Mark 8:33 But after being turned aside and observing His disciples, He rebuked Peter. Then He said: “Get behind Me, Satan [he may have been present next to Peter], because you do not focus your mind on the things of God [divine viewpoint], but rather the things of men [human viewpoint].”

Mark 8:34 Then, after calling the crowd together with His disciples, He said to them: “If anyone desires to follow after Me, let him deny himself, and pick up his cross, and continue to follow Me.”

Mark 8:35 For whoever desires to preserve his earthly [secular] life will compromise it. But whoever compromises his earthly [secular] life on account of Me and the gospel [spiritual life] will preserve it.

Mark 8:36 For what will a man be profited to gain the whole world but forfeit his life [spiritual priorities should be higher than earthly priorities]?

Mark 8:37 For what will a man give in exchange for his [spiritual] life?

Mark 8:38 For whoever has become ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous [physical and spiritual adultery] and sinful [totally depraved] generation, likewise the Son of Man will be ashamed of him, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Mark 8:39 Then He said to them: “Truly I am saying to you, There are certain ones standing here who are of such a nature that they may never experience death until such time as [immediate reference: transfiguration; remote reference: Second Advent] they see the Kingdom of God coming in power.”

Chapter 9

Mark 9:1 NA

Mark 9:2 Then, after six days, Jesus took along Peter and James and John, and led them onto a high mountain [Hermon] by themselves for privacy. And He was transfigured before them [a significant change in appearance, character and condition].

Mark 9:3 And His clothing became radiant, exceedingly white, such as a fuller on earth is not able to whiten to this degree [He radiated the divine, internal, celestial, Shekinah glory of God externally].

Mark 9:4 And Elijah appeared to them, together with Moses, and they were talking [engaged in a conversation] with Jesus.

Mark 9:5 And Peter, providing his opinion [timing error: Sukkot is the feast of Tabernacles; Pesach is the feast of Passover], said to Jesus: “Rabbi, it is a good thing for us to be here. So, let us make three booths – one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah [booths are made for Sukkot, but it was not time for Sukkot],”

Mark 9:6 For he did not know what to contribute to the occasion, because they had become frightened [misdirected fear].

Mark 9:7 But a cloud appeared which overshadowed them. Then a Voice [God the Father] came out of the cloud: “This [Jesus] is My beloved Son. Keep on listening to Him.”

Mark 9:8 And suddenly, as they were looking around, they no longer saw anyone except Jesus, alone, with them.

Mark 9:9 And while they were coming down the mountain, He ordered them that they should share this story about the things they saw with no one, until the time when the Son of Man rose [resurrected] out from the dead ones.

Mark 9:10 However, they held onto His message among themselves, debating on what He meant by “rose out from the dead ones.”

Mark 9:11 Consequently, they kept on asking Him, saying: “Why do the scribes claim that Elijah must come first [the literal fulfillment would come at a day in the future - Revelation: during the Tribulation; the spiritual fulfillment had already come in the person of John the Baptizer]?”

Mark 9:12 And He affirmed to them: “Elijah, to be sure, when he comes first, will restore all manner of things [related to the millennial kingdom on earth], as well as, how it stands written concerning the Son of Man, that He will suffer and be treated with contempt.

Mark 9:13 But I say to you: ‘Elijah has indeed come [John the Baptizer fulfilled the prophecies of the coming Elijah heralding His coming at the 1st advent] and they did to him everything they wanted [tortured and murdered by beheading], just as it stands written about him [Elijah will return to herald His coming at the 2nd advent.]’”

Mark 9:14 And when they [Jesus, Peter, James, and John] came face-to-face to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, including scribes who were debating face-to-face with them.

Mark 9:15 And immediately, the entire crowd, when they saw Him, were thoroughly amazed [He was exuding some “lingering luminosity” related to His transfiguration], and running to *Him*, they welcomed Him.

Mark 9:16 And He asked them: “What are you debating with them [referring to His disciples] about?”

Mark 9:17 And one person from the crowd replied to Him with discernment: “Teacher, I have brought my son, who has a speech-impaired spirit, face-to-face to you.

Mark 9:18 And whenever he [a demon] takes possession of him, he tears into him and foams at the mouth and grinds *his* teeth and becomes stiff and immovable [symptoms of epilepsy caused by extreme demon possession]. So, I spoke to your disciples so that they might eject it, but they were not powerful enough.”

Mark 9:19 And answering with discernment, He said to them: “O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be face-to-face with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him face-to-face to Me.”

Mark 9:20 Then they brought him [the demon-possessed epileptic] face-to-face to Him, and when he saw Him, the spirit immediately convulsed him, and as he fell upon the ground, foaming at the mouth, he was beginning to be rolled [the demon was having a temper tantrum].

Mark 9:21 And He asked his [the demon-possessed epileptic] father: “How long ago has it been since this happened to him?” And he replied: “From childhood.”

Mark 9:22 Furthermore, he [the demon] also casts him [the son] into the fire [attempts to burn him] and into the water [attempts to drown him], in order that he might destroy him. But if You have the power to do anything helpful for us, please have pity on us.”

Mark 9:23 And Jesus said to him: “If you are able [Jesus challenged the father of the demon-possessed, epileptic son], all things are possible to the one who believes.”

Mark 9:24 Immediately, the father of the young man crying out, said: “I believe! Please come to the aid of my lack of faith!”

Mark 9:25 Now, when Jesus saw that a crowd was running together [towards Him], He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: “Dumb and deaf spirit, I order you, come out of him and from now on do not enter into him.”

Mark 9:26 And after screaming and causing many severe convulsions, he [the demon] departed. Then he [the son] became like a dead man, to the extent that many concluded that he had died.

Mark 9:27 But Jesus, taking hold of his hand, raised him up and he stood upright.

Mark 9:28 Then, after He entered a house, His disciples questioned Him privately: “As for us, why were we not able to eject it [they were inadequate for the task]?”

Mark 9:29 And He said to them: “This kind [there is no equality in the demonic realm] is able to be removed by nothing except prayer [for divine assistance].”

Mark 9:30 And from there, after departing, they passed through Galilee, but He did not wish that anyone would come to know [secret meeting place] about *it*,

Mark 9:31 For He was teaching His disciples, even telling them that the Son of Man would be delivered into the hands of men, and they will murder Him, but three days after He is killed, He will rise up [betrayal, murder, resurrection].

Mark 9:32 But they did not understand the message and were afraid to ask Him questions.

Mark 9:33 Then they arrived in Capernaum. And after coming into a house, He continued to ask them: “What were you arguing about on the road?”

Mark 9:34 But they remained silent, for they had been discussing among themselves on the road who *was* the greatest [approbation lust].

Mark 9:35 Consequently, after sitting down, He summoned the Twelve and said to them: “If anyone desires to be first, let him be last of all and a minister [table waiter] of all.

Mark 9:36 And having taken an infant, He stood it in their midst. And after He had taken it in His arms, He said to them:

Mark 9:37 Whoever welcomes one such infant in My Name, is welcoming Me. And whoever welcomes Me, does not welcome Me, but rather the One [God the Father] who sent Me.”

Mark 9:38 John said to Him: “Teacher, we saw a certain person who was ejecting demons in Your Name, but we forbid him, because he does not follow us [Jesus and His disciples].”

Mark 9:39 But Jesus replied: “Stop forbidding him, for there is no one who will perform a miracle on the basis of My Name that can easily speak ill of Me.

Mark 9:40 For whoever is not against us is with us.

Mark 9:41 For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My Name [even the smallest thing] because you are related to the Messiah, truly I am saying to you, he will never lose his reward.”

Mark 9:42 Furthermore, whoever leads one of these little ones who believes on Me into sin [passive child abuse], it would be immensely better for him if a donkey-driven millstone was hung around his neck and he was thrown into the sea.

Mark 9:43 And if your hand leads you to stumble into sin, cut it off [to avoid divine discipline]. It is better for you to enter life deformed [crippled], than to enter Gehenna [garbage dump, not hell] with two hands into inextinguishable fire [divine displeasure].

Mark 9:44 NA

Mark 9:45 And if your foot leads you to stumble into sin, cut it off [to avoid divine discipline]. It is better for you to enter life deformed [crippled], than having two feet causing *you* to be cast into Gehenna [garbage dump, not hell].

Mark 9:46 NA

Mark 9:47 And if your eye leads you to stumble into sin, tear it out [to avoid divine discipline]. It is better for you to enter the Kingdom of God one-eyed, than having two eyes causing *you* to be cast into Gehenna [garbage dump, not hell],

Mark 9:48 Where their worm does not die and the fire is not extinguished [reference to the Evaluation Seat of Christ, not the Great White Throne judgment].

Mark 9:49 For each person [restricted to believers only] will be salted with fire [spiritual character].

Mark 9:50 Salt *is* good. But if salt becomes without saltiness [loss of spiritual momentum], with what will you restore saltiness to it? Keep on having salt [spiritual character] in yourselves, and keep on living in peace with each other.”

Chapter 10

Mark 10:1 Now, after getting up from there, He came into the regions [borderlands or riverbanks] of Judaea and on the other side of the Jordan, and again crowds came together face-to-face to Him, and as was His custom, He began to teach them again.

Mark 10:2 And Pharisees, approaching Him, asked repeatedly whether it was permitted for a husband to dismiss [euphemism for divorce] a wife, for the purpose of testing Him.

Mark 10:3 And responding to them with discernment, He asked: “What did Moses command?”

Mark 10:4 And they replied: “Moses permitted the writing of a certificate of divorce and dismissing *her*.”

Mark 10:5 And Jesus said to them face-to-face: “Because of your obstinacy, he wrote this mandate to you [they were dead set on using the divorce option and there was no convincing them otherwise].

Mark 10:6 But from the beginning of creation, He made them male and female.

Mark 10:7 Because of this [how God created man & woman], a man will leave behind his father and mother and will increasingly adhere [join together] faced-to-face to his wife.

Mark 10:8 And the two shall increasingly become one flesh, so that they shall no longer be two, but rather one flesh [physically and psychically].

Mark 10:9 Therefore, that which God joined together [one husband and one wife], let no man separate [divorce].

Mark 10:10 And inside the house, again, the student-disciples questioned Him about this.

Mark 10:11 And He replied to them: “Whoever dismisses his wife and marries another, has committed adultery against her.

Mark 10:12 And if she, after dismissing her husband, marries another, she has committed adultery.

Mark 10:13 And they continued to bring infants to Him, so that He might touch them. However, the student-disciples began to rebuke them [they had inserted themselves as intermediaries between the Messiah and the kingdom].

Mark 10:14 But when Jesus saw *this*, He became indignant and said to them: “Permit the infants to come face-to-face to Me. Stop hindering them, for the Kingdom of God is for such as these.

Mark 10:15 Truly, I am saying to you: ‘Whoever does not welcome the Kingdom of God in the same manner as an infant, will never enter into it [sanctification-salvation and rewards].’”

Mark 10:16 Then, after taking them [infants] in His arms, He blessed *them* while placing hands upon them.

Mark 10:17 Now, as He was going out into the road, one man [rich young ruler], running up and kneeling before Him, asked Him: “Good Teacher, what may I do in order that I may acquire [inherit] eternal life?”

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him: “Why do you call Me good [intrinsically benevolent]? No one is good except One: God [the Messiah].

Mark 10:19 You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.’”

Mark 10:20 And he affirmed to Him: “Teacher, I have observed all of these things from my youth.”

Mark 10:21 And Jesus, fixing His gaze upon him, expressed love and affection for him and said to him: “One thing is lacking by you; go home, sell everything you own, and give *the proceeds* to the poor, and you will have treasure [rewards] in heaven [he was seeking a qualitative, experiential life, not a temporal, positional life]. Then, come back here, *and* you may follow Me as a disciple.”

Mark 10:22 But he, becoming sad and dejected at the requirement, departed, being grieved and distressed, for he was in possession of great property [he possessed great wealth, and thought that would be a bonus, rather than a hindrance.].

Mark 10:23 Then Jesus, after looking around, said to His student-disciples: “How difficult will those who have wealth enter into the Kingdom of God [entering the kingdom is about how *well* you enter, not *if* you are allowed to enter.]”

Mark 10:24 And the student-disciples were astounded by His words. Then Jesus, speaking with discernment, again said: “How difficult it is to enter into the Kingdom of God.

Mark 10:25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a wealthy man to enter into the Kingdom of God [to obtain entrance with honor and a measure of maturity].”

Mark 10:26 And beyond measure they were amazed, saying face-to-face to each other: “Then who is able to be saved [*saving* in this context is experiential and tied to rewards]?”

Mark 10:27 After fixing His gaze upon them, Jesus said: “With men *it is* impossible [due to the sin nature], but with God *it is* not, for all things *are* possible with God [sovereignty and omnipotence].”

Mark 10:28 Peter began to say to Him [he started to understand what was being said]: “Remember, as for us, we abandoned everything and followed You.”

Mark 10:29 Jesus replied: “Truly I am saying to you, ‘There is no one who has abandoned house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for the sake of Me and for the sake of the gospel,

Mark 10:30 But that he will obtain as a result - now at this time - a hundred times as many [rewards] houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and fields - accompanied by religious persecutions - and during the age which is to come, eternal life [abundant inheritance in the future].

Mark 10:31 In fact, many prominent people [first by earthly standards] will be insignificant [low ranking in the kingdom of heaven] and insignificant people [by earthly standards] *will be* prominent [spiritually wealthy in the kingdom].”

Mark 10:32 Now they were on the road heading for Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them [couldn't wait to get to Jerusalem]. Consequently, they were amazed, but those [who understood what was going to happen in Jerusalem] who were following along [they were not in a hurry] were afraid [for Him and themselves]. And again, taking the Twelve aside, He began to tell them about the things which were destined [ordained by the plan of God] to happen to Him:

Mark 10:33 “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes [betrayed], and they will condemn Him to death [pass sentence on Him], and they will hand Him over to the Gentiles [Romans],

Mark 10:34 And they will mock Him and spit upon Him and scourge Him with a whip and kill *Him* [crucifixion], but on the third day, He will rise up [resurrection].”

Mark 10:35 Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward, asking Him: “Teacher, we hope that whatever we are about to ask You, You will do for us.”

Mark 10:36 And He asked them: “What do you want Me to do for you?”

Mark 10:37 And they replied to Him: “Please grant us that we might sit in the presence of Your glory, one at Your right side and one at Your left side.”

Mark 10:38 But Jesus said to them: “You do not understand what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup [of personal suffering and death] which I Myself will drink, or be baptized with the baptism [of death] which I Myself am going to be baptized with?”

Mark 10:39 And they replied to Him: “We are able.” And Jesus said to them: “The cup, which I Myself will drink [suffering], you will drink. And the baptism, which I Myself will be baptized [death], you will be baptized.

Mark 10:40 But to sit at My right side or left side is not Mine to give, but for those whom it has been prepared [previously selected and prepared by the Father].”

Mark 10:41 Now, when the ten heard, they began to continuously express displeasure [became indignant] about James and John.

Mark 10:42 So, Jesus, after calling them together, said to them: “You know that those who are recognized [delegated authority] to rule over the Gentiles, dominate and oppress [lord it over] them, and their high-ranking leaders [rich & powerful politicians and businessmen] bully and intimidate them.

Mark 10:43 But it will not be this way [during the millennium] among you [as My representatives]. Instead, whoever desires to become great among you [as My representatives], shall be a minister [table waiter] to all.

Mark 10:44 In fact, whoever desires to be prominent [first, superior] among you [as My representatives], shall be a slave to all.

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom [price of release] for [on behalf of, in place of, in exchange for] many [definite, effective atonement].

Mark 10:46 Then they came into Jericho. And as He and His student-disciples and a large crowd departed from Jericho, the son of Timaeus, Bartimaeus, a blind man, a beggar, was sitting alongside the road.

Mark 10:47 And when he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to shout and say repeatedly: “Son of David, Jesus, please have mercy on me.”

Mark 10:48 However, many rebuked him so that he might be quiet. But he cried out more, to a greater degree: “Son of David, please have mercy on me.”

Mark 10:49 So, having come to a standstill, Jesus said: “Call him.” And they called the blind man, saying to him: “Cheer up! Arise! He is calling for you.”

Mark 10:50 Then, after throwing off his garments and standing up, he came face-to-face to Jesus.

Mark 10:51 And Jesus, answering with discernment, said to him: “What do you want *Me* to do for you?” And the blind man replied to Him: “My Lord, that I might regain my sight.”

Mark 10:52 And Jesus said to him: “Go, your faith has healed you.” And immediately he recovered his sight and he began to follow Him on the road.

Chapter 11

Mark 11:1 And when they were approaching Jerusalem, Bethphage [the house of green figs] and Bethany [the house of dates], at the Mount of Olives, He sent [dispatched] two of His disciples on a mission,

Mark 11:2 And He said to them: “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you are entering into it, you will find a colt which has been tied up, upon which no men have ever sat. Untie and bring him.

Mark 11:3 And if anyone says to you: “Why are you doing this?” Say: “The Lord has need of him and will immediately return him here again.”

Mark 11:4 And so, they departed and found a colt tied to a door outside on the street and they untied him.

Mark 11:5 And certain persons who were standing there said to them: “What are you doing by untying the colt?”

Mark 11:6 And they replied to them just as Jesus had said and they sent them on their way.

Mark 11:7 And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw over him their clothing [robes in place of a saddle blanket] and He sat upon him.

Mark 11:8 And many spread their garments onto the road, but others, cutting down branches from the fields [agricultural areas].

Mark 11:9 And those who were leading the way and those who were following behind were shouting: “Hosanna [salvation prayers], blessed is the One [the Messiah] who is coming in the Name of the Lord.

Mark 11:10 Blessed is the kingdom [about to be restored] of our father, David, which is coming. Hosanna [salvation prayers: save us!] in the highest regions [heavens].”

Mark 11:11 And so, He entered into Jerusalem into the temple. And after inspecting everything [looking around, observing the pre-Passover activities], the late hour having arrived, He went out into Bethany with the Twelve.

Mark 11:12 Now, on the next day, after they [Jesus and the Twelve] had departed from Bethany, He began to get hungry.

Mark 11:13 And seeing a fig tree a considerable distance away, which had leaves, He came [before the tree], assuming that He would find *figs* upon it. But when He came to it, He found nothing except leaves. For it was not the season for figs.

Mark 11:14 And speaking with discernment, He said to it [the fig tree]: “No one will eat fruit from you from now to the end of the age.” And the disciples heard Him.

Mark 11:15 Then they came into Jerusalem. And when He entered the temple, He began to eject those who were selling [livestock & birds] and those who were buying [sacrifices] in the temple, and He overturned the tables of the money changers [foreign currency translators] and the chairs of those who were selling doves,

Mark 11:16 And He would not permit anyone to carry an object [goods to trade for a sacrifice] through the temple.

Mark 11:17 And He continued teaching and saying to them: “Does it not stand written that My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you have made in the past and are still making it a cave for thieves [crooked merchants].”

Mark 11:18 In fact, the chief priests and scribes heard. And they searched for how they might destroy Him, for they were afraid of Him, because the entire crowd was amazed by His teaching.

Mark 11:19 And when evening came, they proceeded out of the city.

Mark 11:20 And when they passed by early in the morning [returning to town], they saw the fig tree completely withered from the roots.

Mark 11:21 And being reminded, Peter said to Him: “Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has completely withered.”

Mark 11:22 And responding with discernment Jesus said to them: “Keep on maintaining the faithfulness of God [instead of malfunctioning like this fig tree, hold as your standard the reliable faithfulness of God].

Mark 11:23 Truly, I am saying to you: Whoever says to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and be cast into the sea’ and does not doubt in the mentality of his soul, but rather keeps on trusting in that which he says will come to pass, it will be to his advantage [literal or hyperbole].

Mark 11:24 Because of this [faithfulness of God], I am saying to you: ‘Everything that you pray for and request, believe that you will receive *it* and it will be yours [addressed to the Twelve disciples and nobody else].

Mark 11:25 And whenever you stand, praying, keep on forgiving if you hold anything against someone, so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your transgressions [Kingdom = you forgive, God will then forgive. Church = God forgives, then you forgive].”

Mark 11:26 NA

Mark 11:27 And again, they came into Jerusalem. And as He was walking in the temple, the chief priests and scribes and prominent senior citizens came face-to-face to Him,

Mark 11:28 And they asked Him repeatedly: “By what authority are You doing these things [destroying their sacrificial business]? Or who gave You this authority so that You might do these things [miracles, healings]?”

Mark 11:29 But Jesus replied to them: “I will ask you one question and if you answer Me with discernment, then I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

Mark 11:30 The baptism of John, did it originate from heaven [divine origin] or from men [human invention]? Answer Me with discernment.”

Mark 11:31 And they reasoned and discussed face-to-face among themselves, saying: “If we reply, ‘From heaven,’ He will say, ‘Then why do you not believe him [that Jesus was the Messiah]?’

Mark 11:32 But if we say, ‘From men,’” they were afraid of the crowd, for all of them maintained that John was truly a prophet.

Mark 11:33 And so, answering Jesus with discernment, they said: “We do not know.” And Jesus said to them: “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

Chapter 12

Matt 12:1 Then, He began to speak to them in parables. A man [God the Father] planted a vineyard [Israel] and placed a hedge around it and dug a winepress and built a tower [elevated farm building] and leased it out to vintners [politico-religious leaders of *old* Israel] and went on a journey.

Matt 12:2 And he sent a slave [representing pre-exilic and post-exilic prophets] face-to-face to the vintners at harvest time for the purpose of receiving [harvesting] fruit of the vineyard from the vintners.

Matt 12:3 But after seizing him, they beat *him* and sent *him* away empty-handed.

Matt 12:4 Consequently, again, he sent another slave [representing major and minor prophets] face-to-face to them [the crooked vintners], and they struck that one on the head [blunt force trauma] and treated *him* shamefully.

Matt 12:5 Consequently, he sent another one [John the Baptizer], and they murdered that one, and many others [a delegation: apostles], whom on the one hand, they beat, *and* whom on the other hand, they murdered.

Matt 12:6 Now, he had one beloved son [Jesus the Messiah]. He sent him face-to-face to them last, assuming out loud: ‘They will show respect for my son [since he was the sole heir].’

Matt 12:7 But these vintners said to themselves: ‘This is the heir. Come on! Let’s kill him and the inheritance will be ours.’

Matt 12:8 And after seizing him, they murdered *him* [crucifixion] and threw him out of the vineyard [Golgotha].

Matt 12:9 What will the master of the vineyard [God the Father] do? He will come and destroy the vintners [*old* Israel] and lease the vineyard to others [*new* Israel].

Matt 12:10 Have you never read this scripture: ‘A stone [Jesus the Messiah] which was rejected by those who were building [citizens of Israel], this One [Jesus] became the Head of the corner [connecting *old* with *new* Israel, and after the mystery is revealed to Paul, Israel and the Church].

Matt 12:11 This came to be through the Lord’s command [through His sovereignty and omnipotence] and is wonderful in our eyes.”

Matt 12:12 And they [the politico-religious leaders of Israel] looked repeatedly for a way to seize Him, but were afraid of the crowd, for they knew that He had spoken the parable with reference to them [the murdering vintners represented the politico-religious leaders of Israel]. Consequently [because they couldn’t find an opportunity to seize Him], abandoning Him, they departed.

Matt 12:13 And they sent certain men of the Pharisees and Herodians face-to-face to Him for the purpose of catching Him in a statement.

Matt 12:14 And when they arrived, they said to Him: “Teacher, we know that You are honest and do not ingratiate Yourself to anyone, for You do not pay attention to the outward appearance of men, but upon the basis of truth. You make it a practice to teach the way of God. Is it permissible to pay a tax to Caesar or not? Shall we pay or shall we not pay?”

Matt 12:15 But recognizing fully their hypocrisy, He replied to them: “Why are you testing Me? Bring Me a denarius so that I may see *it*.”

Matt 12:16 So, they brought one and He said to them: “Whose image and title is this? And they replied to Him: “Caesar’s.”

Matt 12:17 Then Jesus said to them: “Pay back to Caesar the things belonging to Caesar [money] and to God the things belonging to God [worship].” And they marveled at Him.

Matt 12:18 Then Sadducees came face-to-face to Him, those who claim there is no resurrection. And they continued to question Him, saying:

Matt 12:19 “Teacher, Moses wrote to us: ‘If a brother of a man dies and leaves behind a wife but does not leave a child, as a result, he should take [marry] his brother’s wife and raise up a child for his brother [to be his brother’s heir].

Matt 12:20 There were seven brothers. Now, the first one took a wife, but because he died, he had not left a child.

Matt 12:21 Consequently, the second one took [married] her [according to the levirate law of marriage], but he died, not leaving behind a child, and the third one likewise.

Matt 12:22 Subsequently, the seven did not leave a child. Last of all, the wife also died.

Matt 12:23 At the resurrection, when they are raised, which one will she be the wife of, for the seven had her as wife?"

Matt 12:24 Jesus replied to them: "Do not be misled by this [hypothetical story], because you do not understand the scriptures or the power of God.

Matt 12:25 For when they rise out from the dead, they neither marry nor are they given in marriage, but are like the angels in the heavens.

Matt 12:26 Furthermore, concerning the dead, that they rise up, have you not read in the book of Moses, how at the thornbush, God spoke to him, saying: 'I *am* the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?'

Matt 12:27 He is not the God of dead people, but rather of the living. You have been greatly deceived."

Matt 12:28 Then, one of the scribes who had come forward, having heard Him while He was debating, observing that He answered them well, asked Him [Jesus]: "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Matt 12:29 Jesus answered with discernment: "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord,

Matt 12:30 And you shall love the Lord your God with your entire will, and your entire soul, and your entire mind, and your entire strength.

Matt 12:31 The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor in the same manner as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Matt 12:32 And the scribe replied to Him: "Well said, Teacher! You have spoken truthfully, because He is One and there is no other except Him.

Matt 12:33 And to love Him with the entire will and the entire faculty of comprehension and all strength, and to love a neighbor in the same manner as yourself, is far greater than all burnt offerings and sacrifices [internal reality is more important than external rituals]."

Matt 12:34 And Jesus, after observing him, that he answered with discernment, wisely and thoughtfully, said to him: "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And nobody had the courage to question Him any longer.

Matt 12:35 And Jesus, responding with discernment as He was teaching in the temple, asked: "How do the scribes explain that the Messiah is the son of David?"

Matt 12:36 David himself said [trinitarian passage] by the Holy Spirit: ‘The Lord [God the Father] said to my Lord [Jesus the Messiah], Sit Yourself down at my right hand until I place Your enemies under Your feet.

Matt 12:37 David himself calls Him [the Messiah] Lord, so how can He be his son?’” And the large crowd kept on listening to Him gladly.

Matt 12:38 And along with His teaching, He said: “Beware of the scribes, who take pleasure in walking around in long flowing robes, and deferential greetings in the marketplace,

Matt 12:39 And the places of honor in the synagogues, and the best seats in the restaurants -

Matt 12:40 Those who consume widow’s households [property and finances] and say long public prayers as a cover-up. These shall receive a much greater degree of judgment [sentence, punishment].”

Matt 12:41 And while He was sitting across from the temple treasury, He observed how people deposited money into a treasury [banking & charity] receptacle. And many wealthy individuals deposited large amounts.

Matt 12:42 Then, after arriving, one woman, a poor widow, deposited two copper coins, which make a penny.

Matt 12:43 And, having summoned His disciples, He said to them: “Truly, I am saying to you, ‘This poor widow deposited more than everyone else who deposited into the treasury receptacle,

Matt 12:44 For they all made deposits out of their abounding wealth, but this woman, out of her poverty, deposited everything – as much as she had – from her entire life’s savings.

Chapter 13

Mark 13:1 And while He was proceeding out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him: “Teacher, look at how great the stones and how great the buildings *are*.”

Mark 13:2 And Jesus said to him: “Do you see these great buildings [temple complex]? There shall not be in this place a stone upon a stone which shall not be thrown down.”

Mark 13:3 And while He was sitting at the Mount of Olives opposite from the temple, Peter and James and Andrew asked Him privately:

Mark 13:4 “Please tell us when these things will happen [destruction of the temple and other events], and what miraculous sign will point to when all of these things will be fulfilled.”

Mark 13:5 And Jesus began by saying to them: “Keep on being alert so that no one may deceive you.

Mark 13:6 Many will come on the authority of My name, claiming: ‘I am He [the Messiah],’ and will deceive many.

Mark 13:7 And when you hear of wars [armed conflicts] and rumors of wars [intelligence reports, fake news], stop being afraid. It is necessary for this to happen. But the end *is* not yet.

Mark 13:8 For there will rise up nation against nation and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines. These *are* the beginning of birth pains.

Mark 13:9 So, as for you [believing Jews], keep on watching out for yourselves. They will deliver you up to councils [courtrooms], and in synagogues you will be beaten, and before governors and kings you will be caused to stand because of Me, as a testimony to them.

Mark 13:10 But first, it is necessary for the gospel [of the kingdom] to be preached in all the nations.

Mark 13:11 And when they lead you and deliver you over, do not be concerned [anxious beforehand] about what [the content] you may say, but whatever will be provided to you in that hour, communicate those things. For as for you, you will not be the ones who are speaking, but rather the Holy Spirit.

Mark 13:12 Furthermore, a brother will deliver a brother to death, and a father, a child, and children will rise up in rebellion against parents, and will put them to death [mass murders].

Mark 13:13 And you will be hated by all kinds because of My Name. But he who stands his ground and endures, this man will be delivered.

Mark 13:14 And when you see the abomination of desolation standing where it must not be [during the tribulation], the one who reads, understand at that time, let those in Judaea flee to the mountains.

Mark 13:15 At that time, a man on a housetop should not come down [stairs into the house] nor enter (for the purpose of picking up and carrying anything out of) his house [emergency supplies].

Mark 13:16 And a man in the field should not turn back for the purpose of picking up and carrying his clothing.

Mark 13:17 But woe to those who are bearing a child in the womb [prospective mothers], and to those who are nursing a baby [new mothers] in these days.

Mark 13:18 And pray that it may not be winter.

Mark 13:19 For those days will be characterized by tribulation of such a magnitude as there has never been from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and will never, ever take place.

Mark 13:20 As a matter of fact, unless the Lord shortens the days, no flesh at all [believing Jews in Israel] will be delivered from death. But because of the elect [believing Israel], whom He elected for Himself [chose], He will shorten the days.

Mark 13:21 And then, if anyone says to you: "Look! Here is the Messiah! Look, over there!" Do not believe *him*.

Mark 13:22 For false messiahs and false prophets will arise and they will produce signs and wonders for the purpose of deceiving, if possible, the elect [primarily the Jews, but also Gentiles].

Mark 13:23 But as for you [disciples], keep on watching with open eyes. I have warned you about everything in advance.

Mark 13:24 Now in those days [just prior to the 2nd Advent of Jesus Christ], after that tribulation [second half], the sun will be darkened and the moon will not provide its reflected light.

Mark 13:25 And meteors will be falling out of heaven, and the powers [natural forces created and set into motion by God] over heavenly bodies [planets, stars, asteroids, comets] will be shaken.

Mark 13:26 And then they will see the Son of Man coming with clouds, with much power and glory [majesty of the Shekinah of God].

Mark 13:27 And then He will send angels on a mission, and He will gather together His elect [believing Israel] from the four winds, from the end [extreme limits] of the earth to the end [extreme limits] of heaven.

Mark 13:28 Now, learn and begin to understand the parable of the fig tree. When her branch has already become tender [according to the growth season] and is putting forth leaves, you know that summer is near.

Mark 13:29 In this manner, also, as for you, when you begin to see these things [miraculous events] coming into being [historical trends, end-time events falling into place], you will know that it [2nd Advent] is near, *even* at the doors.

Mark 13:30 Truly I am saying to you that this generation [which sees these things happening in the future] shall not pass away [come to an end] until which time all these things [prophetic events He has just revealed] take place.

Mark 13:31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words [immediate: Olivet Discourse, remote: all Scripture] will never pass away.

Mark 13:32 But concerning that day [2nd Advent] or hour, no one knows, not the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Mark 13:33 Keep on watching with open eyes. Keep on being alert and on guard. For you do not know when it is the appointed time [for the 2nd Advent],

Mark 13:34 Like a man away on a journey, who left his house and delegated authority to his slaves, each one to his work, and gave orders to the doorkeeper for the purpose of being alert.

Mark 13:35 Therefore, keep on being alert, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning,

Mark 13:36 Lest if He [the Commanding Officer] comes unexpectedly, He finds you sleeping.

Mark 13:37 Therefore, that which I am telling you [disciples], I am saying to all [believers]: “Keep on being alert.”

Chapter 14

Mark 14:1 Now, after two days, Passover and Unleavened Bread [two connected feasts] was going to take place. However, the chief priests and scribes were seeking for a way to kill Him [the Lamb instead of a lamb], after arresting Him by treachery and deceit.

Mark 14:2 They asserted: “Certainly not during the feast, lest there might be an uproar by the people.”

Mark 14:3 Now, while He was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as He was reclining at the table, a woman came, who had an alabaster flask of ointment - very expensive, undiluted, oil of spikenard. After crushing the alabaster flask, she poured its contents on His head.

Mark 14:4 But there were present some who were aroused to indignation among themselves. “For what purpose was this waste of ointment done?”

Mark 14:5 For it might have been possible to sell the ointment for more than three hundred denarii [a year’s wages] and to have distributed *the proceeds* to the poor.” Consequently, they sternly admonished her.

Mark 14:6 But Jesus said: “Leave her alone. Why are you causing her trouble? She has performed a wonderful gesture for Me.

Mark 14:7 For you will have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish, you are able to do kind things for them, but you will not have Me always.

Mark 14:8 That which she had, she used. She anointed My body for burial beforehand.

Mark 14:9 Therefore, truly I am saying to you: ‘Wherever the gospel may be proclaimed in the entire world, that which she herself has done will also be spoken of as a memorial for her.’”

Mark 14:10 And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went face-to-face to the chief priests for the purpose of betraying Him to them.

Mark 14:11 And they [chief priests and scribes], when they heard, were thrilled and promised to give him money. Consequently, he [Judas] began deliberating on how he might betray Him at a convenient time.

Mark 14:12 And on the first day of the feast of unleavened bread, when they killed the Passover lamb, His disciples asked Him: “Where do you wish that we go for the purpose of making preparations so that You may eat the Passover lamb?”

Mark 14:13 So, He sent two of His disciples on a mission and told them: “Go into the city and a man carrying an earthenware pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him,

Mark 14:14 And wherever he enters, ask the master of the house: ‘The Teacher asks, Where is your dining room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?’

Mark 14:15 And he himself will show you a large upstairs room, which is furnished, made ready [furniture, rugs, cleaning]. Then, in that place, you may begin to make preparations for us.”

Mark 14:16 Then the disciples departed and entered into the city and found *everything* just as He had told them, and they began to make preparations for the Passover.

Mark 14:17 And when evening arrived, He came with the Twelve.

Mark 14:18 And while they were reclining at the table and eating, Jesus said: “Truly I am saying to you, One of you who is eating with Me will betray Me.”

Mark 14:19 They began to be offended and replied to Him one by one: “*It is not I, is it?*”

Mark 14:20 Then He said to them: “One of the Twelve – the person who is dipping with Me in the dish.

Mark 14:21 On the one hand, the Son of Man is returning home [to heaven] just as it was written in the past and stands written concerning Him, but on the other hand, woe to that man through whom the Son of Man will be betrayed. Better for him if that man had never been born.”

Mark 14:22 Now, while they were eating, after taking hold of a loaf of bread, and asking a blessing, He broke it, and gave to them and said [creating a new midrash or commentary]: “Take, this represents My body.

Mark 14:23 And after taking hold of a drinking vessel, and asking a blessing, He gave to them and everyone drank from it.

Mark 14:24 And He said to them [next part of His new midrash or commentary]: “This represents My blood [representative analogy for the death of Christ] with reference to the covenant which will be shed for many [the elect, those whom the Father gave Him, his sheep].

Mark 14:25 Truly, I am saying to you: ‘I will absolutely not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on, until that day, when I can drink it new in the Kingdom of God.’”

Mark 14:26 And after singing a hymn, they departed for the Mount of Olives.

Mark 14:27 Then Jesus said to them: “All of you will be offended, for it has been written [in Zech. 13:7]: ‘I will strike the shepherd [Jesus] and the sheep [believing Jews] will be scattered.’

Mark 14:28 But after I have been raised [resurrection], I will go before you into Galilee.

Mark 14:29 But Peter insisted to Him: “Even if everyone is offended and falls away, nevertheless not I.”

Mark 14:30 And Jesus said to him: “Truly, I am saying to you, that as for you, today, on this night, before a rooster crows twice, three times you will deny Me.”

Mark 14:31 But he continued to speak with great emphasis: “If it is necessary for me to die with You, I will never deny You.” Furthermore, everyone also made similar assertions.

Mark 14:32 Then they came to a place which *has* the name Gethsemane, and He said to His disciples: “Sit here while I pray.”

Mark 14:33 And He took along Peter and James and John with Him. And He began to be thoroughly alarmed and distressed.

Mark 14:34 And He said to them: “My soul is overwhelmed with grief up to the point of death. Remain here and keep on watching.”

Mark 14:35 And after proceeding a short distance, He fell upon the ground and began praying that if it were possible, the hour [time of suffering] might pass from Him.

Mark 14:36 Specifically, He said: “Abba, Father, all things *are* possible to You. Please take this cup [fellowship with sin and Satan] away from Me. Nevertheless, not what I wish, but rather what You *wish*.”

Mark 14:37 Then He returned and found them sleeping. Consequently, He asked Peter: “Simon, are you sleeping? Were you not able to stay awake and watch for one hour?”

Mark 14:38 Keep on watching and praying, so that you do not enter into temptation to sin. On the one hand, the spirit *is* eager and willing, but on the other hand, the flesh *is* weak.”

Mark 14:39 Then again, after departing, He resumed praying, saying the same prayer.

Mark 14:40 And again, after returning, He found them sleeping, for their eyes were becoming heavy, and they did not know what to say to Him as a response. Then He came a third time and said to them: “Keep on sleeping and finally get some rest.”

Mark 14:41 “That is enough. The hour has come. The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of unbelieving sinners.

Mark 14:42 Get up! Let us leave. Behold, he [Judas] has arrived, the one who is going to betray Me.”

Mark 14:43 And immediately, while He was still speaking, one of the Twelve, Judas, was approaching, and with him a crowd with two-edged swords and cudgels, *sent* by the agency of the chief priests and scribes and prominent senior citizens.

Mark 14:44 Now, he who betrayed Him was obligated to give them [Roman soldiers] a signal, since he previously said: “Whomever I kiss as a sign of affection, it is Him. Seize Him and lead *Him* away under guard.”

Mark 14:45 And when he arrived, after immediately approaching Him, he said “Teacher,” and kissed Him.

Mark 14:46 And they laid hands upon Him and arrested Him.

Mark 14:47 But a certain one of those who was standing nearby [Peter], drawing a two-edged sword, struck a slave of the high priest and cut off his ear.

Mark 14:48 Then Jesus, speaking with discernment, said to them: “You have descended upon *Me* like a highwayman [insurrectionist, revolutionary], with two-edged swords and cudgels, for the purpose of arresting Me.

Mark 14:49 I was before you face-to-face on a daily basis in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest Me. Nevertheless, the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”

Mark 14:50 And all of them [disciples] fled, abandoning Him.

Mark 14:51 And a young man, who had thrown a linen tunic around his naked body, was following Him. They also attempted to arrest him.

Mark 14:52 But shedding the linen tunic, the naked lad escaped.

Mark 14:53 Then they led Jesus face-to-face to the high priest. All of the chief priests and prominent senior citizens and scribes were gathered together.

Mark 14:54 And Peter followed Him from a distance, up to and inside the entrance of the palace courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting together with the officers and warming himself at the fire.

Mark 14:55 Now, the chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin were seeking for a witness [a credible volunteer] against Jesus for the purpose of murdering Him, but they could not find *one*,

Mark 14:56 For many repeatedly bore false testimony [perjured themselves] against Him, but the testimonies were not consistent.

Mark 14:57 However, certain ones [two credible liars], having come forward, bore false witness [perjured themselves] against Him, claiming:

Mark 14:58 “As for us, we heard Him saying, ‘As for Me, I will destroy this sanctuary [assumed to be the one in the temple] which is made by human hands, and within three days, I will build another of a different kind not made by human hands [divine origin].’”

Mark 14:59 But in the same manner, neither was their testimony consistent.

Mark 14:60 Consequently, the high priest, after standing up in the midst, began to interrogate Jesus by asking: “Do You not have a well-reasoned reply? Nothing? What about these things they are testifying against You?”

Mark 14:61 But He kept silent and did not say anything as a well-reasoned reply. Again, the high priest resumed interrogating Him and asked Him: “As for You, are You the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

Mark 14:62 Then Jesus replied: “Yes, I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power [session] and returning [2nd Advent, at the end of the Tribulation] with the clouds of heaven.”

Mark 14:63 Then the high priest, tearing his clothes, said: “What further need do we have for witnesses?”

Mark 14:64 You heard this blasphemy [slander spoken irreverently about God]. What does it seem like to you?” And they all pronounced Him to be guilty with a penalty of death.

Mark 14:65 And some of them began to spit on Him and cover His face [blindfold] and then punch Him and say to Him: “Prophecy!” Then the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

Mark 14:66 Now, while Peter was outside in the palace courtyard, one of the female slaves of the high priest came,

Mark 14:67 And when she saw Peter warming himself, and fixing her gaze upon him, she said: “You, you were also with Jesus from Nazareth.”

Mark 14:68 But he denied *it*, claiming: “I do not know *Him* nor do I understand what you are saying.” Then he departed into the outer court, and a rooster crowed.

Mark 14:69 Then a female slave, after seeing him [in the atrium outside the palace courtyard], again began to say to those who were present [bystanders inside the palace courtyard]: “This man is *one* of them.”

Mark 14:70 But again, he denied *Him*. And a short time later, again, those who were present [in the palace courtyard] said to Peter: “Truly, you are *one* of them. In fact, you are a Galilean.”

Mark 14:71 But he began to invoke a curse and swear with an oath: “I do not know this Man concerning whom you are speaking.”

Mark 14:72 And immediately a rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered the message that Jesus had told him: “Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” And when he reflected on it, he began to weep.

Chapter 15

Mark 15:1 And immediately in the morning, the chief priests along with prominent senior citizens and Scribes and the entire Sanhedrin, having invoked a council meeting, and having bound Jesus, brought *Him* forward and delivered *Him* over to Pilate.

Mark 15:2 And Pilate asked Him a question: “As for You, are You the King of the Jews?” And replying with discernment, He said to him: “You said *it*.”

Mark 15:3 And the chief priests continued to accuse Him of many things.

Mark 15:4 Then Pilate again asked Him a question, saying: “Are you not going to answer with discernment anything? You can see how many things they are accusing You of.”

Mark 15:5 But Jesus did not answer anything with discernment, with the result that Pilate was astounded.

Mark 15:6 Now, during the feast, it was customary to release one prisoner they asked for.

Mark 15:7 And there was a man named Barabbas, who had been arrested with insurrectionists, who had committed murder during the insurrection.

Mark 15:8 And when he came forward, the crowd began to ask *Pilate to do to him* just as he had done to them.

Mark 15:9 So, Pilate answered them with discernment, saying: “Do you wish *that* I release to you the King of the Jews?”

Mark 15:10 For he was beginning to understand that because of jealousy, the chief priests had delivered Him over.

Mark 15:11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd so that he might release Barabbas to them instead.

Mark 15:12 But Pilate, asking with discernment again, said to them: “What, then, do you wish that I do with the One you are calling the King of the Jews?”

Mark 15:13 But they cried out again: “Crucify Him!”

Mark 15:14 But Pilate said to them: “For what evil thing has He done?” But they cried out even more: “Crucify Him!”

Mark 15:15 Then Pilate, wanting to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas to them, and after scourging Jesus, delivered *Him* over for the purpose of crucifixion.

Mark 15:16 Then the soldiers led Him into the barracks which is the Praetorium, and they called together the entire cohort [600 men].

Mark 15:17 And they wrapped Him with a scarlet cloak and placed a weaved crown made of thorns upon Him.

Mark 15:18 And they began to salute Him: “Hail, King of the Jews.”

Mark 15:19 And they struck His head repeatedly with a staff and repeatedly spit on Him, and bowing *their* knees, they paid obeisance [mock worship] to Him.

Mark 15:20 And when they were finished mocking Him, they stripped off His scarlet military cloak and put on His clothing, and led Him out for the purpose of crucifying Him.

Mark 15:21 And they commandeered a particular man who passed by, Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming from the countryside, the father of Alexander and Rufus, in order that he might carry His cross.

Mark 15:22 Then they brought Him to the place, Golgotha, which is, translated, the place of the skull.

Mark 15:23 And they attempted to offer Him wine, which was treated with myrrh [a narcotic for killing pain], but He would not accept *it*.

Mark 15:24 Then they crucified Him, and divided His clothing, casting a lot [colored pebble] upon them, to determine who should take what.

Mark 15:25 Now, it was the third hour [approximately 9:00 AM] when they crucified Him.

Mark 15:26 And there was an inscription of His legal accusation written above: “The King of the Jews.”

Mark 15:27 And they crucified together with Him two insurrectionists, one on *His* right and one on His left.

Mark 15:28 NA

Mark 15:29 And those who passed by [travelers] reviled Him repeatedly, shaking their heads and saying: “Aha! The One who was going to destroy the inner sanctuary and rebuild *it* in three days,

Mark 15:30 Save yourself by coming down from the cross!

Mark 15:31 Likewise, the chief priests, mocking repeatedly, also said to each other along with the scribes: “He saved others [healed and rescued from demon possession], *but* He is not able to save Himself.

Mark 15:32 Messiah, King over Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we can see and believe.” Furthermore, those who were crucified together with Him heaped insults upon Him [ridicule mingled with hatred].

Mark 15:33 And when the sixth hour arrived, darkness came over the entire earth until the ninth hour.

Mark 15:34 Then at the ninth hour, Jesus shouted with a loud voice: “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani,” which means, being interpreted, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”

Mark 15:35 And some of those who were standing by, when they heard, said: “Look, He is calling for Elijah.”

Mark 15:36 And one man, running and filling a sponge with sour wine, and attaching *it* to a staff, offered Him a drink, saying: “Leave Him alone. Let us see if Elijah comes to take Him down.”

Mark 15:37 Then Jesus, after screaming with a loud voice, expired His last breath.

Mark 15:38 Consequently, the curtain of the inner sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

Mark 15:39 Now a centurion who was standing in front of Him, as He expired His last breath in this manner, said: “Truly, this Man was the Son of God.”

Mark 15:40 Furthermore, there were also women who were observing from a distance, among whom *were*, by name, Mary, the Magdalene, and Mary, the mother of James the younger and Joseph, and Salome,

Mark 15:41 (Who, when He was in Galilee, followed Him and served Him), and many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem.

Mark 15:42 Now by this time, evening had arrived, since it was the day of preparation, which was the day before the Sabbath.

Mark 15:43 Joseph, the one from Arimathea, a prominent member of the council, having come, who was also himself waiting for the Kingdom of God [He was a Christian], having gathered up courage, entered face-to-face to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus.

Mark 15:44 But Pilate began to wonder whether He was already dead, so, summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had already died.

Mark 15:45 And when he was quite sure of the answer from the centurion, he gave the corpse to Joseph.

Mark 15:46 And after purchasing linen cloth, and taking Him down, he wrapped *Him* up with linen cloth and placed Him in a tomb which was hewn out of rock, and rolled a boulder over the entrance of the tomb.

Mark 15:47 And Mary the Magdalene and Mary *the mother* of Joseph watched carefully where He was placed.

Chapter 16

Mark 16:1 Now, when the Sabbath had passed, Mary, the Magdalene, and Mary, the one related to James, and Salome, purchased aromatic oils, so that when they arrived [at the tomb], they might anoint Him.

Mark 16:2 And very early in the morning of the first day of the week, they came to the tomb, the sun having risen.

Mark 16:3 And they continued to ask each other: “Who will roll away the boulder from the entrance of the tomb for us?”

Mark 16:4 But when they looked up, they saw that the boulder had been rolled away, for it was extremely large.

Mark 16:5 And as they were entering into the tomb, they saw a young man [angel] sitting on the right side, clothed in a bright white, long-flowing robe. And they were amazed.

Mark 16:6 And he said to them: “Stop being alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, the One who was crucified. He has been raised up [God resurrected Him]. He is not here. See [he gave them a tour inside the tomb] the place where they laid Him.

Mark 16:7 Now, go home. Tell His disciples, and especially Peter, that He is proceeding ahead of you into Galilee. You will see Him there just as He told you [in Mark 14:28].”

Mark 16:8 And when they [the women] departed, they fled from the tomb, for trembling and terror [out of one’s mind, beside themselves] possessed them. And they told no one anything, because they were afraid.

