**The book of Matthew**

**1611 KJB**

 This is a one-of-a-kind Study Bible that takes the dispensational approach to studying God’s word as laid out for us by Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles (Romans 11:13). See 2nd Timothy 2:15.

**The key to using the DSB**

 You will notice as you read each book of the Bible that the Biblical text that comes from that particular book alone will be in a bold 12 font.

 The scripture references are all in bold italicized 10 font, and all commentary is in plane 10 font for ease in distinguishing which is which. **For example**: If you were reading Ephesians 3:2 it will look like this:

**Ephesians 3:2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:**

See 1st Corinthians 9:17 & Ephesians 1:10.

 God has dispensed his word to us today in the body of Christ through Paul, the apostle of the Gentiles. Many of these teachings were a mystery hid in God until they were first revealed to the apostle Paul*. See Ephesians 3:9.*

***Colossians 1:25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God;***

**Warning:**All four of these verses are either not found in modern bible versions, or the word dispensation is changed to a much weaker word thus watering down its definition.

**Dispensational beginnings**

 Dispensational teaching didn’t start by anyone in the last 200 years as covenant theologians would have you believe. It started with God back in eternity past.

***2nd Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.***

**Daniel’s 70 weeks**

 Jesus began his earthly ministry at the age of 30 in the middle of the 69th week of Israel’s 70 weeks of punishment, which were foretold by Daniel the prophet:

***Daniel 9:24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.***

 The seventieth week of Daniel was to follow Christ’s being cut off (crucified), and then Israel was to begin their 1,000-year kingdom promised to them in the writings of their prophets.

 The 70th week never happened because God interrupted Israel’s prophetic program when they rejected its King, and He instituted the mystery program for the church, which is Christ’s body. See Colossians 1:24*.*

 The four gospel accounts are the stories of the events that occurred during between the 64th and 69th weeks of Daniel’s prophecy to Israel.

**A middle wall of partition**

 The events that occurred in the gospels occurred while a middle wall of partition was up between Jews and Gentiles, it was placed there by God, and salvation was of the Jews at that time. See John 4:22*.*

***Ephesians 2:11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;***

 This middle wall of partition was between the circumcision and the uncircumcision, and it was erected when circumcision was established by God with Abraham, and his seed:

***Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. 2 And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. 3 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, 4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. 5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. 6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. 8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God. 9 And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. 10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. 11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. 12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. 13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.***

**Let it alone this year also**

***Luke 13:6 He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. 7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? 8 And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: 9 And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.***

 This year ended at the stoning of Stephen, and then Israel who had stumbled at the cross, fell, and she diminished throughout the book of Acts as the body of Christ was established. See the chart on the middle wall of partition above.

**Section I: In times past**

Matthew–Acts 8

Introduction

 When you open up any bible today, it is divided into two basic divisions, the old and the new testaments, but that is not an accurate division of the material found in its pages.

 For example: From Genesis 1:1 to Exodus 19 we have a period of almost 2,500 years of history in which the old testament law had not yet been given to Israel.

 The next 1,534 years begin in Exodus 20 with the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai to the children of Israel, and it ends soon after Christ’s resurrection.

 The new testament cannot not begin until sometime after the death of the testator Jesus Christ, as we are told in the scripture:

***Hebrew 9:15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. 16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.***

 Jesus Christ did not die in, or before Matthew 1:1, he died in Matthew 27:50, Mark 15:37, Luke 23:46 & John 19:30.

 Everything that occurs in the four gospels before Christ’s death would have occurred under the law of Moses:

***Galatians 4:4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law,***

 The placing of title pages before Genesis and Matthew that say, the old and new testaments were placed there erroneously by publishers, they are not part of the inspired, inerrant word of God.

**The book of Matthew**

**Chapter One**

**The generation of Jesus Christ**

Luke 3:23-38

**The last Adam**

**1 The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.**

**The book of the generation of Jesus Christ:**This verse is similar to a verse in Genesis concerning Adam’s genealogy:

**The first Adam**

***Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;***

 The difference is that Genesis records all those who proceeded from Adam, whereas Matthew records all those that proceeded from Abraham to Christ. Jesus Christ is called the last Adam:

***1st Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.***

**Jesus:** His name is Joshua in Hebrew. It means salvation.

**Christ:** This title means the anointed one. See Acts 10:38.

**The son of David:** This is Jesus’ title verifying that he was the rightful descendant to sit on David’s throne as King. See Psalm 132:11.

 David is mentioned first in this genealogy because the first part of the book of Matthew is about Jesus being the fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant in 2nd Samuel 7.

**The son of Abraham:** This title means that Jesus was a descendant of Abraham.

 Abraham is listed after David because the second part of the book of Matthew is about Jesus being the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant found in Genesis 15.

 Abraham was a type of God the Father, and his son Isaac was a type of Christ (God’s Son) in the story found in Genesis 22.

 Abraham was going to sacrifice his son on the same mountain that Jesus (the Lamb of God) would be sacrificed on. See John 1:29 & 36*.*

**From Abraham to David**

**2 Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;**

**Abraham begat Isaac:** The word begat means to have offspring.

**Jacob begat Judas:** Judah is how his named is spelled coming from Hebrew to English, while Judas is how his name is spelled coming from Greek to English.

**And his brethren:** The twelve patriarchs that make up the twelve tribes of Israel. Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Gad, Manasseh, Ephraim, Benjamin, Naphtali, Zebulun, Asher and Issachar.

**3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; 4 And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon;**

**Phares and Zara:**They were twins born to Judah and Tamar. Genesis 38:27-30. Zara’s hand came out first and the midwife put a piece of scarlet thread on it, but Pharez was born first. This story has to do with the right of the firstborn. See Genesis 25:31-33.

**Thamar:** This is Tamar who was disguised as a harlot to trick Judah into being with her to have a child. See Genesis 38:6.

 This was because Judah had not given his youngest son to her to raise up seed unto his older brother as commanded in the Law. See Genesis 38:1-30, Ruth 4:1-5 & Mark 12:19.

**5 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; 6 And Jesse begat David the king;**

**From David until the carrying away into Babylon**

**and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;**

**Booz of Rachab:** This is Boaz of Rahab. See Ruth 2:1*.*

**Ruth:** See the book of Ruth.

**Her that had been the wife of Urias:** This is speaking of Bathsheba. Urias is Uriah the Hittite. See 2nd Samuel 11:3.

 There are four women listed before Mary in the lineage of Christ, and two of them were Gentiles, Ruth, and Rahab. Hebrews 11:31.

**7 And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa; 8 And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; 9 And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; 10 And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; 11 And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon:**

**Roboam:** (Rehoboam)The king of the southern two tribes when God divided the nation and gave ten tribes to Jeroboam to rule over because of Solomon’s sin. See 1st Kings 11:11, & 12:16-17.

**Josias:** (Josiah) See 2nd Chronicles 34:1*.*

 He was a godly king who destroyed all the high places of Idol worship erected by the previous kings. He repaired the temple, and reinstituted passover. See 2nd Kings 23:19-21.

**Jechonias:** Is also called Coniah. His lineage is through David’s son Solomon down to Joseph. Jechonias’ lineage was cursed by God for his sin. See Jeremiah 22:24-30.

**The times of the Gentiles begin:**

 This started when Israel had no king ruling over them appointed by God. The people appointed Josiah’s son Jehoahaz (also known as Johanan) king in 2nd Kings 23:30, but God didn’t appoint him.

 Egypt’s Pharaohnechoh replaced him and appointed Eliakim as king whose name was changed to Jehoiakim. See 2ndKings 23:29-34*.*

 God does not count these two in this lineage because they were not the rightful appointed kings of Israel. Josias appointed Jechonias (Coniah) his grandson as king.

***Jeremiah 22:30 Thus saith the LORD, Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.***

 In Luke Jesus talks about a second carrying away of the Jews into all nations, which lasts until the end of the tribulation period and the establishment of the kingdom:

***Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.***

**From the carrying away into Babylon unto Jesus**

**12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;**

 Both Salathiel and Zorobabel were appointed as kings, but they never ruled in Judah, as they were puppet kings ruling in captivity only.

**13 And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; 14 And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; 15 And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; 16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.**

**Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus:** Everyone in this lineage was begat of their father until Jesus.

 Jesus was not begotten of Joseph, he is the only begotten Son of God: See Psalm 2:7, John 1:14, 18, 3:16, Hebrews 11:17 & 1st John 4:9.

 The lineage through David’s son Nathan down to Mary’s father was not cursed. See Luke 3:23-31. Jesus is the seed of the woman promised in Genesis 3:15.

 In the genealogy of Adam both the births and deaths are recorded, but in the genealogy of Jesus Christ only the births are

***Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:***

***Romans 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.***

**Fourteen generations**

**17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.**

**Fourteen generations:** A king from the tribe of Judah reigned for fourteen generations, until King Jechonias’ curse, when the southern kingdom of Judah was carried away into Babylon.

 The northern kingdom of Israel had been carried away captive in Assyria 70 years earlier.

**The birth of Jesus Christ**

Luke 1:26

**18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.**

**On this wise:**Was in this way.

**Espoused:** Means to be engaged.

**Before they came together:** She was with child before Joseph and Mary were intimate with each other in marriage.

**With child of the Holy Ghost:** Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost supernaturally. The Holy Ghost is the third person of the Godhead/Trinity. See 1st John 5:7*.*

**19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.**

**A just man:** A righteous man according to the law. This is said of two other people in the gospels, John the Baptist, and Jesus. See Matthew 27:19 & Mark 6:20.

**A publick example:** Means to have her stoned to death in public. See Deuteronomy 22:21.

**Put her away:** Means to divorce her. See Leviticus 21:7. To give her a bill of divorcement.

**Privily:** Privately.

**20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying,**

**Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**

**The angel of the Lord:** The messenger of the Lord. The word Lord appears 748 times in Matthew through Revelation, and it means, God, or master. It is capitalized sometimes, and sometimes it is not.

**Thou son of David:** A descendant of David.

**Is of the Holy Ghost:**See Luke 1:35.

**JESUS:** Jesus is Greek for Joshua, which means salvation.

**22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,**

**23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel,** *See**Isaiah 7:14.*

**which being interpreted is, God with us.**

**The prophecy program**

**That it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet:** God spoke to mankind through the spoken and written word of the prophets since the world began. See Luke 1:70, and Acts 3:21. The prophecy program primarily concerned the nation of Israel.

**The mystery program**

 God dispensed mysteries to the body of Christ that have been kept secret since the world began, but now they have been made manifest in Paul’s epistles Romans – Philemon. See Romans 16:25 & Ephesians 3:8-9.

**24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.**

**And knew her not:**They did not consummate their marriage until after the birth of Jesus. Genesis 4:1.

**Her firstborn son:** Mary had four other sons, and at least two daughters. See Matthew 13:55-56.

**Chapter Two**

**Born King of the Jews**

Luke 2:1-21

**1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying,**

**Bethlehem of Judaea:** This is a city of Judah near Jerusalem where David was born. Bethlehem means the house of bread. Genesis 35:19.

**In the days of Herod the king:** He was an Edomite (Idumean). He was a convert to Judaism, who married into a rich Jewish family. He lived from 74 BC – 4 AD.

**Wise men from the east:** Probably Jewish scholars from Babylon, as many Jews had remained in Babylon after the captivity ended.

**Jerusalem:** Formerly known as Salem. Genesis 14:18 & Joshua 10:1.

**Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him**.

**Born King of the Jews:** Jesus was the legal king of Israel through his mother Mary’s lineage back through Nathan, whose lineage wasn’t cursed because of Jechonias’ sin. Luke 24:23-31.

**His star in the east:** Numbers 24:17-19.

**And are come to worship him:**These wise men from the east knew the King of the Jews was also God as well, as they came to worship him, for God alone is to be worshipped.

**3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him,**

**In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,**

**6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.** *Micah 5:2.*

**In Bethlehem of Judaea:** Bethlehem means the house of bread. It is a half hour walk from Jerusalem.

**The chief priests:** Ezra 10:5.

**Scribes:** Priest who copy scripture. 1st Kings 4:1.

**The princes of Juda:** Sons descending from Judah. Jacob’s fourth son from Leah. See Genesis 29:5 & 35:23.

**A Governor:** To rule. A ruler as seen in Micah 5:2.

**My people Israel:**Jacob’s name was changed to Israel. Genesis 32:28. He was the father of twelve sons, from which came the twelve tribes of Israel, also known as the children of Israel. Exodus 19:5-6. The people of Israel are God’s people. Psalm 78:52.

**7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said,**

**Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.**

**Privily:** Privately.

**The young child:** The account in the book of Luke is of baby Jesus lying in a manger (a stall), not a young child in a house, which was two years earlier. Luke 2:7.

**9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.**

**Frankincense:** An expensive spice.

**12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. 13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying,**

**Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.**

**Their own country:** All three were from the same country.

**The angel of the Lord:** The messenger of the Lord.

**14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,**

**Out of Egypt have I called my son.** *Hosea 11:1.*

**16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.**

**Herod:** Herod was an Edomite (a descendant of Esau, Jacob’s brother) and he was ruling as king over Judaea.

 Jacob got Esau’s birthright which caused Esau to hate Jacob, and he wanted to kill him because he stole his blessing from his father. Genesis 25:31.

 Jacob loved Rachel and wanted to marry her, but he was tricked by Rachel’s father into marrying Leah first.

 Jacob’s name later became Israel in Genesis 32:28. Herod may have thought that he was fulfilling Isaac’s prophecy in having dominion over his brother. Genesis 27:40.

**Wroth:** Angry.

**According to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men:**The wisemen told Herod that it was two years ago that the star first appeared. See verses seven and sixteen above.

**17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,**

**18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.** *Jeremiah 31:15.*

 Jeremiah talks about Rachel weeping for her children (the nation of Israel) as they are taken away captive, and then they are brought back the final time in the future kingdom.

 Then a new covenant was made with the house of Israel, and the house of Judah. No covenant was ever made with the body of Christ. Jeremiah 31:31.

 In Ruth 4:11 it is said that Rachel and Leah built the house of Israel (which was the house of Jacob their husband). Rachel and Leah helped make up the house of Israel.

 When children of Leah died, they were also children of Jacob. The children of Judah were primarily the ones killed on that day by Herod, as Bethlehem was part of the lot given to the tribe of Judah.

**19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 Saying,**

**Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.**

**An angel of the Lord:**This is not “the” angel of the Lord, but one of many angels that remained faithful to the Lord after Lucifer’s fall. The word angel means messenger.

**The land of Israel:** The land was given to the children of Israel by God. Genesis 35:12.

**21 And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets,**

**He shall be called a Nazarene.**

**Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father:**Archelauswas born in 22 BC and died in 18 AD.

**In the room of his father:** In the place of his father.

**The parts of Galilee:** The region around the Sea of Galilee.

**Nazareth:**From the root word Nazar (Set apart).

**Spoken by the prophets:** Not all things spoken by the prophets were also written down. This is one of them.

**He shall be called a Nazarene:** There is no scripture that says this in the writings of the prophets.

**Chapter Three**

**The kingdom of heaven is at hand**

Luke 3:3

**1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying,**

**Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

**John the Baptist:** The first person to baptize Israelites. The son of Zacharias (a priest) and Elisabeth. He was a Levite who began his ministry at thirty years of age as all Levites did. Numbers 4:3.

 John the Baptist ministered while Israel was under law of Moses. He did not minister during the current dispensation of grace which began after the resurrection of Christ.

**The wilderness of Judaea:** The unpopulated area given to the tribe of Judah.

**Repent ye:** Israel needed to change their mind about continually breaking the covenant they made with God and start keeping it. The word “Ye” is used when speaking to more than one person.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends. It lasts a thousand years (Revelation 20:1-7) before the eternal kingdom of God is established.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**At hand:** Israel could have repented and accepted Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, and the kingdom would have been set up. See Matthew 16:16.

 Remember the kingdom of heaven was to be set up immediately following the 70th week of Daniel. Both John and Jesus were preaching during the 69th week of Daniel’s prophecy.

**3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying,**

**The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight**. *Isaiah 40:3.*

**Esaias:** This is Isaiah.

**4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.**

**His raiment of camel’s hair:** Matthew 11:8.

**His meat was locusts and wild honey:**Locusts were clean under the law.Leviticus 11:22 & Mark 1:6.

**Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea:** The land belonging to the southern kingdom of Judah.

**And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins:** John was a Levite (Luke 1:5-13), who baptized with water everyone that came to him confessing their sins to prepare the way of the Lord.

 This was so that they could become priests in the kingdom that was being preached by John as at hand.

***Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.***

 Before a priest could begin his ministry, he had to be washed with water:

***Exodus 29:1 And this is the thing that thou shalt do unto them to hallow them, to minister unto me in the priest's office: 4 And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water.***

 The priests would then be anointed with oil before they began their ministry, which was a type of the Holy Spirit.

***Exodus 29:7 Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him*.**

 Then the priest had to offer a sacrifice for his sins. Exodus 29:19-22. This is not what we do to be a pastor today. We are not Israel.

 No Gentiles were ever baptized by John, because Gentiles in the kingdom will be taught by Jews. Zechariah 8:23.

**7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them,**

**O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?** *Isaiah 13:13.*

**Pharisees and Sadducees:** They were the conservative and liberal rulers in Israel.

**His baptism:** John alone was sent to baptize all in Israel who had repented of breaking the law of Moses.

 This is not our pattern after the cross. Our baptism is a spiritual baptism that places us into the body of Christ. 1st Corinthians 12:13, and Galatians 3:27.

**Generation of vipers:**They were supposed to be an holy nation, but they were self-righteous. Contrast these leaders withMatthew 12:34 & 23:33.

***1st Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood.***

 Peter writing believing Israel in 1st Peter 1:1, not the body of Christ. Jesus identifies the self-righteous in the parable of the two sons in Matthew 21:28-45.

 The parable tells us that there are two groups in Israel, one who was self-righteous, like the Pharisees (the Older brother), and one who later repented like the little flock (the younger brother).

**The wrath to come:** The time of Jacob’s trouble mentioned in Jeremiah 30:7.

**8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:**

**Fruits meet for repentance:** The good works that are commanded in the law. See Matthew 7:16-20.

***Matthew 21:43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.***

 The **“you”** mentioned in Matthew 21:43 that has the kingdom taken away from them are the Chief priest, Pharisees, and Sadducees.

 The nation who has the kingdom given unto them is the believing Jewish remnant, also called the little flock:

***Luke 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.***

**9 And think not to say within yourselves,**

**We have Abraham to our father:**

**for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.**

**God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham:** In 1st Peter 2:5 believing Israel is called lively stones.

**The axe is laid unto the root of the trees:** The Trees represent Israelites under the law. All the Israelites (trees) that did not repent and bring forth good works (good fruits) would be cast into Hell (the fire).

**11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**

***Luke 7:29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John.***

**Baptize you with water:** John’s baptism of repentance for the remission of sins was with water. Mark 1:4.

**With the Holy Ghost:** This baptism began at Pentecost. Those who were baptized with the holy Ghost are his wheat that will be gathered into the kingdom.

 We are baptized by the Holy Spirit today into the body of Christ the moment we believe the gospel. See 1st Corinthians 12:13 & 15:1-4.

**With fire:** The fire of hell for those who do not believe.

**The garner:** The kingdom. Today we are baptized by the holy Spirit into the body of Christ

***Luke 7:30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.***

**Jesus’ baptism**

Luke 3:21-22

**13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. 14 But John forbad him, saying,**

**I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?**

**I have need to be baptized of thee:** John wanted to be baptized by Jesus with the Holy Ghost like the others who had repented. John didn’t fully understand everything.

**Galilee:** The region around the sea of Galilee.See Joshua 20:7.

**15 And Jesus answering said unto him,**

**Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.**

**Then he suffered him.**

**Suffer it:** Allow it.

**To fulfil all righteousness:** John was commanded to make Christ manifest to Israel after he saw the Holy Ghost descend upon him at his baptism.

 That wouldn’t have happened if John didn’t baptize Jesus, so Jesus corrected John and he baptized Jesus, then John saw the sign given to him.

***John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.***

**16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:**

**And Jesus, when he was baptized:** Before Jesus could become Israel’s High Priest, he had to be washed with water. Exodus 29:1.

**The heavens were opened unto him:** Ezekiel 1:1, and Acts 7:56.

**The Spirit of God:** God the holy Spirit. The third person of the Godhead/Trinity.

**Like a dove:** In the way that a dove would descend.

**And lighting upon him:** Jesus also had to be anointed to be Israel’s High Priest. This happened at his baptism when the Spirit lighted upon him. The priests had to be anointed with oil on their head. Exodus 29:7.

***Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil;***

**17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying,**

**This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

**A voice from heaven:** The voice came from God. Daniel 4:31.

**Chapter Four**

**1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.**

***Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities but was in all points tempted like as we are yet without sin.***

**Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit:** Many events in Jesus’ life were done by the power of the holy Spirit. Luke 4:14.

**To be tempted:** Jesus succeeded when he was tempted in the wilderness while Israel did not. Psalm 95:8 and Hebrews 3:8.

**The devil:** He is called the slanderer in 1st Timothy 3:11, the false accuser in Titus 2:3, & Satan in Revelation 12:9.

**2 And, when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.**

**Fasted:** Went without food.

**Forty days:** The number of testing in the Bible. Genesis 7:4, Exodus 24:18, Numbers 13:25, and 1st Samuel 17:16. Moses also fasted forty days and forty nights. Deuteronomy 9:9.

**3 And when the tempter came to him, he said,**

**If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.**

**The tempter:** Satan. 1st Thessalonians 3:5.

**The Son of God:** He is the second person of the Godhead/Trinity. Colossians 2:9 & 1st John 5:7.

**4 But he answered and said,**

**It is written,**

**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.** *Deuteronomy 8:3.*

**5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,**

**The holy city:** Jerusalem. Nehemiah 11:1.

**6 And saith unto him,**

**If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written,**

**He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.***Psalm 91:11-12.*

**7 Jesus said unto him,**

**It is written again,**

**Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God*.*** *Deuteronomy 6:16.*

**8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him,**

**All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.**

**An exceeding high mountain:** This is possibly the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north mentioned in Isaiah 14:13.

 Mountains are types of kingdoms throughout scripture. Jesus taught the sermon on the mount, and it was all about the kingdom. See Matthew 5-7 & Revelation 17.

**All the kingdoms of the world:** The devil took dominion of this world in the garden. Jesus did not refute the devil’s claim to possess these kingdoms. 2nd Chronicles 36:23.

**10 Then saith Jesus unto him,**

**Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written,**

**Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.** *Exodus 20:5.*

**Satan:** Means the adversary. 1st Chronicles 21:1.

**11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.**

**Angels came and ministered unto him:** Hebrews 1:14.

**Capernaum**

**12 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; 13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim: 14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,**

**15 The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; 16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.***Isaiah 9:1-2.*

**Nazareth:** From the root word Nazar (Set apart).

**Capernaum:** A city on the north side of the sea of Galilee.

**The borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:** The border of two of the tribes of Israel. Zebulun was the son of Jacob and Leah, while Nephthalim was the son of Jacob and Bilhah, Rachel’s handmaid. Genesis 35:23-25.

**Galilee of the Gentiles:** It is the region around the sea of Galilee. This is a slam on the Jews there, because Galilee belonged to the northern kingdom, and they were called the house of Israel. The south was called the house of Judah.

**The people which sat in darkness saw great light:** This was a reference to the Gentiles being in darkness, spiritually speaking, and seeing Jesus who was light. John 1:4-9.

 Jews in the north were seen by those in the south as being in darkness with the Gentiles because they did not come to worship at the temple after the kingdom was divided.

 Instead, they erected two new places of worship with golden calves in them under Jeroboam the king.

**The region and shadow of death:** This term was used to describe captivity for Israel in pagan lands that were destitute of the truth. Psalm 107:9-14.

**The gospel of the kingdom**

Luke 4:14-15

**17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say,**

**Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

**At hand:** While the kingdom of heaven was at hand, Israel could have repented and accepted Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, and the kingdom would have been set up. See Matthew 16:16.

**18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. 19 And he saith unto them,**

**Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.**

**20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him. 21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.**

All of the disciples which followed Jesus were from the north in the Galilee region (they would have been considered the lost sheep of the house of Israel).

 Judas (Judah) was the only one from the south. He was a man (Ish in Hebrew) from Karioth (thus the name Iscariot). Isaiah 46:8 & Jeremiah 48:41.

**23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.**

**The gospel of the kingdom:** The good news that the kingdom of heaven was at hand if Israel would repent. Verse 17 above.

**Healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease:** No priest in the kingdom could have infirmities in the flesh, so Jesus healed them all. Leviticus 21:17-21. The disciples also confirmed the word they were preaching with signs following. Mark 16:20.

**24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.**

 The gospel of the kingdom was followed by healing of all that were diseased in Israel because they were to become priest in that soon coming kingdom. Exodus 19:5-6.

 A priest could not have any infirmities (blemishes) in their flesh. That is why Jesus healed the blind, lame, deaf, dumb, and possessed.

***Leviticus 21:17 Speak unto Aaron, saying, Whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God. 18 For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous, 19 Or a man that is brokenfooted, or brokenhanded, 20 Or crookbackt, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken; 21 No man that hath a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire: he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God.***

**Possessed with devils:** The devils took up residence in them because they allowed them in with their wicked practices. See Matthew 12:43-45.

**25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.**

**Decapolis:** The name means the place of ten cities.

**Chapter Five**

**The sermon on the kingdom**

Luke 6:20-49

**1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:**

**He went up into a mountain:**Mountains are synonymous with kingdoms in the bible. Daniel 2 & Revelation 17.

 This sermon is a constitution for the kingdom for the nation of Israel. It is not our marching orders today in the dispensation of grace.

**When he was set:** Jesus will one day sit as King of kings in the kingdom. Revelation 4:2.

**His disciples:** The lost sheep of the house of Israel. See Matthew 10:6.

**2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,**

**3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Poor in spirit:** The humble.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth, when that which is done in heaven will be done in earth. See Matthew 6:10.

**4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.** *Isaiah 61:2.*

**They that mourn:** They will mourn for those who die from persecution in that terrible time.

**5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.** *Psalm 37:11.*

**The meek:** Moses was the meekest man on earth. Numbers 12:3.

 The earth will by inherited by the righteous in the kingdom, when the kingdom comes down from heaven. See Matthew 6:10.

**6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.**

**They which do hunger and thirst after righteousness:** The commandments of the Lord were Israel’s righteousness. See Deuteronomy 6:24-25.

**7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.**

**The merciful:** See Matthew 7:1-2.

**8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.**

**The pure in heart:** See 1st Peter 1:22.

**9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.**

**The peacemakers:** The little flock will be publishing peace in the tribulation period with the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom. Isaiah 52:7. This is not those who will sign peace treaties in those days. The anti-christ will come in peacefully.

**10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**They which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake:** The little flock of believers in Israel will be persecuted during the tribulation period for preaching the gospel of the kingdom. See Matthew 10:23.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.**

**Your reward in heaven:** Suffering persecution in the tribulation period will lay up treasures for Israel in heaven to be received in their kingdom when it comes down. See Matthew 6:19-20.

**13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.**

**The salt of the earth:** The Jewish remnant of believers are to be the salt that the world needs at that time to save them. Those who do not follow Christ at that time will be cast out.

**14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

**The light of the world:** The light they will see is the good works of helping others who are hungry and thirsty in those days, who help the weak, and preach the gospel unto them.

**Good works:** John the Baptist commanded Israel to bring forth fruits meet for repentance (Matthew 3:8). Jesus came seeking fruit (good works under the law Luke 13:6-9), but he found none.

**17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

**One jot or one tittle:** Jot is the Greek word an iota (a small thing). A tittle islittle mark on a Hebrew letter.

**To fulil:** Christ came to fulfil the requirements of the law to become Israel’s perfect sacrificial Lamb. John 1:29. He still must return and set up his kingdom to fulfil all things.

**19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.**

**These least commandments:** The dispensation of grace will have ended and the

**20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

**For I say unto you:** This phrase was said by John the Baptist twice, and by Jesus 119 times. 53 times in Matthew alone. Paul said it once in Galatians 5:2. This was Jesus speaking with authority, and not as the scribes. See Matthew 7:29 and Mark 1:22.

**The righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees:** They followed the traditions of men, while rejecting the law. See Mark 7:9.

**The kingdom of heaven:** This is talking about entering into the kingdom of heaven that lasts 1,000 years, not heaven itself.

 During Israel’s program they were under the law, today, we are under grace. When the rapture occurs the dispensation of grace will end, and Israel will pick back up where they left off 2,000 years ago.

**21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time,**

**Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:** *Exodus 20:13.*

**The judgment:** The day we are judged.

***Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:***

**22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.**

**The judgment:** The judgment of the unrighteous at the last day.

**Raca:** Worthless.

**The council:** The Sanhedrin in Israel, made up of seventy elders/rulers in Israel.

**23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.**

**The altar:** Altars were for Israel’s animal sacrifices. There is no altar for the body of Christ today.

 Altars are mentioned 378 times in the bible and only twice in historical references to Israel’s altar in Paul’s epistles to the body of Christ. 1st Corinthians 9:13 and 10:18.

**Thy gift:** Certain offerings were not commanded but were called gifts given out of love for the Lord. See Numbers 11:8.

**25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. 26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.**

**Cast into prison:** This was debtor’s prison, where you worked off your debts.

**27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.**

**Old time:** Previous times long ago. Deuteronomy 2:20.

**Offend:** Entice to do evil. The eye first entices the heart to lust inwardly, and then it entices the body to commit adultery outwardly.

**Pluck it out:** This was for Israel under the law as the kingdom was at hand literally. We are not to pluck out our eyes today to avoid hell. We are to believe the gospel. 1st Corinthians 15:1-4.

**30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.**

 See the previous note in 29 above about the eye that offends. The same applies for this verse on the hand. It was not written to us today in the dispensation of grace.

**31 It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: 32 But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.**

**Put away:**Divorce.

**Writing of divorcement:** *Deuteronomy 24:1-4.*

**Saving for the cause of fornication:** Except for the cause of fornication (having sex with another person other than your spouse). God divorced Israel for idolatry (spiritual adultery). He will buy her back in the future. See the book of Hosea.

**33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time,**

**Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:** *Numbers 30:2.*

**Thou shalt not forswear thyself:** Under the law of Moses you had to keep your vows even if they were not wise vows.

**34 But I say unto you,**

**Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. 36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. 37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.**

**The great King:** Jesus Christ will be the King of kings.

**38 Ye have heard that it hath been said,**

**An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:** *Exodus 21:24*

**39 But I say unto you,**

**That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.**

**Turn to him the other also:** The little flock of Jewish believers were to turn the other cheek while the kingdom of heaven is at hand in Jesus’ day and in the tribulation period. They are not to take up arms at that time. See Matthew 24:14.

**40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also. 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.**

**43 Ye have heard that it hath been said,**

**Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.** *Leviticus 19:18.*

**44 But I say unto you,**

**Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.**

**The publicans:** The tax collectors.

**Be ye therefore perfect:** Perfect does not mean sinless. Israel had a way under the law for guilty person to be made clean through sacrifices.

**Chapter Six**

**The sermon on the kingdom**

**1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. 2 Our Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.**

**Alms:**Good deeds directed towards the poor.

**Do not let thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:** Don’t do good deeds to be seen.

**5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.**

**Vain repetitions:** Repeating the same things over and over again in prayers did not help God to hear their prayers any better. God knows all, and hears everything.

**9 After this manner therefore pray ye:**

**Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**

**Our Father:** Israel’s Father is God, and they are his Son. Exodus 4:22 and Psalm 89:26-27.

**Thy kingdom come:**The time when things would be done on earth as they are being done in heaven already. The 1,000-year reign of Christ on earth.

**11 Give us this day our daily bread.**

**Our daily bread:** The day will come again when God has to feed Israel in the wilderness with bread from heaven (Manna). They will not be able to buy or sell without taking the mark of the beast. Exodus 16:15 & Revelation 12:6.

**12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

 Israel, under the law, were to forgive others to be forgiven. We today in the dispensation of grace are to forgive because we have been forgiven already.

**13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**Lead us not into temptation:** God will deliver the believing remnant in Israel from the evil one (the Anti-Christ) in the tribulation period and they shall enter into their eternal kingdom.

**The power:** 1st Chronicles 29:11.

**The glory:** His manifested presence. Exodus 16:10.

**Forever:** The anti-christ rules for three and a half years while God’s rule will be forever.

**Amen:** The word “Amen” is used at the end of a prayer, or a sentence, never at the beginning. It is used as the last word of all four gospels as well.

 The word is the same Greek word translated “verily” in the King James Bible, and it is always used at the beginning of a statement, and never at the end of one.

**14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

**If ye forgive:** Israel was under the law which was an “if, then” covenant. If Israel forgave others, then God would forgive them. We are not Israel under the law. We are the body of Christ under grace. Romans 6:14-15.

**Trespasses:** See Genesis 31:36. To sin against another.

**16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.**

**When ye fast:** Fasting was going without something for a certain amount of time, usually food, but not exclusively. It is done for many reasons, such as when one is mourning.

 David fasted for his son. 2nd Samuel 12:16 & Matthew 9:15. Paul mentions fasting twice in his early ministry in Acts 14:23 and in 1st Corinthians 7:5.

**19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

**Lay not up:** The little flock was not to lay up for themselves treasures because they were told to sell all that they had as the kingdom was at hand. Luke 12:33. Paul teaches us today to lay up for our children. 2nd Corinthians 12:14.

**22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!**

**The light of the body:** If a kingdom saint set their eyes on more than serving God at the time while the kingdom was at hand, he would not be found worthy of the kingdom.

**Thine eye be single:** Those who set their eyes on fully following Jesus at that time were full of light (his word) and would help bring many to the light.

**24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**

**Serve two masters:** God alone was to be their master, and they were to quit their jobs and sell all that they had and go follow Christ while the kingdom was at hand.

**25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?**

 God can cause birds to feed the believing remnant at this time, and he can make their clothes last. He did both for forty years in Exodus, three and a half years will be no problem.

**Meat:** Food.

**27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.**

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God:** They were to seek to enter into their kingdom by obeying Jesus.

**Take therefore no thought:** While the kingdom was at hand believing Israel was to take no thought for material things, because God would take care of them before that time just like he did in the wilderness.

**Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.**There was enough evil to deal with in their everyday life, so they didn’t need to worry about that which was to come later.

 The kingdom will be at hand once again during the tribulation period which precedes the kingdom by seven years. See Matthew 24:14.

 The kingdom was originally rejected by Israel’s leaders, along with its King, before it was postponed. We are currently living in the dispensation of grace today, which will end with the rapture.

 These commands were made to believers in Israel while their kingdom was at hand, not to us today under grace. This is not your mail!

 They were not to worry about their needs in the tribulation period because God would provide for those who followed him.

**Chapter Seven**

**The sermon on the kingdom**

**1 Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. 3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? 4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? 5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. 6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.**

**Mete:** To divide, or to doll out. Used only 6 times in the bible.

**Mote:** A small sliver or twig.Used only 6 times in the bible and only in this story. Luke 6:41-42.

**Give not that which is holy unto the dogs:**That which is holy is the teachings of God’s word.Thedogs were the enemies of God. Psalm 22:16 & Isaiah 56:10-11.

**Neither cast your pearls before the swine:** The pearls were truths concerning the kingdom. The swine was the unclean. See Leviticus 11:7 & 13:46.

**7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.**

**Ask, and it shall be given you:** This was a part of the kingdom message given to believers in Israel, not to us in the body of Christ today.

**9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?**

 We can ask God for things today, but we are not under Israel’s kingdom program. God is operating differently in this dispensation than he was for the three and a half years while the kingdom of heaven was at hand 2,000 years ago.

 The kingdom will be at hand once again in the tribulation period and they will have these kinds of prayers answered at that time. See Matthew 24:14.

**12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. 13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.**

**Wide is the gait, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction:** This is speaking about the way to hell as being very wide.

**Strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life:** Jesus is the way that leadeth unto life. They needed to believe that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God to enter into the kingdom at that time. John 10:7-9 & 14:6.

**15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. 16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? 17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.**

**Sheep’s clothing:** A disguise.

**Ye shall know them by their fruits:** Fruits were synonymous with a person’s works. If someone had produced bad fruit/works, they would be denied entrance into Israel’s kingdom and cast into hell. See Matthew 3:1-12.

**21 Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

**Enter into the kingdom of heaven:** The kingdom of heaven is the literal, physical, visible kingdom on the earth that will last a thousand years. Revelation 20:4-6.

 These verses are not speaking to us today. They were spoken to Israel under a previous dispensation.

 Some who followed Jesus did it halfheartedly, and it is to those whose eye was not singly following Christ as their only master that Christ would say, I never knew you.

 We do not live under that time when the kingdom is at hand today. We are not under a conditional covenant as Israel was. We are under grace. See Matthew 24:13 & Romans 6:14-15.

**Iniquity:** A violation of the law. ASin.

**24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.**

**28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: 29 For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.**

**He taught them as one having authority:** Jesus used the phrase: I say unto you, 119 times often comparing his words with Moses and the prophets.

 Those who did not do what Jesus told them to do were foolish, and they would not enter into eternal life in the kingdom.

 What did Jesus command? If thou will be perfect, sell that you have, and give to the poor, and ye shall have treasure in heaven. See Matthew 19:21.

 That command is not to us in the dispensation of grace today, but to Israel before the cross. The “sermon on the kingdom” in chapters 5-7 is not for the body of Christ today.

**Chapter Eight**

**Shew thyself to the priest**

Mark 1:40-45 & Luke 5:12

**1 When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him. 2 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying,**

**Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.**

**A leper:** A person with leprosy.A disease that eats the flesh.

**Clean:** Whole, without blemish.

**3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying,**

**I will; be thou clean.**

**And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4 And Jesus saith unto him,**

**See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.**

**A leper:** A person with leprosy was unclean.

**Shew thyself to the priest:** Jesus sent this man to the priest because he was under the law. We wouldn’t send someone to a priest today to offer the gift commanded under the law. We are not under the law today.

 No person can function as a priest in the coming kingdom if they were a leper, so Jesus healed all lepers. Leviticus 14:1-7 & 22:4.

**The gift that Moses commanded:** Two birds. Leviticus 14:3-7.

**The sick of the palsy**

Luke 7:1-10

**5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, 6 And saying,**

**Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.**

**Capernaum:** The name means the village of Nahum.It was Jesus’ ministry headquarters for three years. Jesus cursed this city. See Matthew 11:23 and Nahum 1:1.

**Beseeching:** Begging.

**7 And Jesus saith unto him,**

**I will come and heal him.**

**8 The centurion answered and said,**

**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.**

**Centurion:** A soldier over an hundred men.

**I am not worthy:** This centurion knew that he was not worthy as a Gentile, for a Jew to enter into his home, so he humbled himself acknowledging that.

 Jesus could help him because of his recognition of what God was doing at that time through Israel.

**9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.**

**10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed,**

**Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. 11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.**

**Faith:** The word is used only twice in the whole old testament. It is most often used negatively concerning Israel in all four gospel accounts. See Deuteronomy 32:20, Matthew 8:10, and Mark 4:4.

**Many shall come from the east and the west:**Gentiles with great faith would enter the kingdom, while many Israelites would be rejected. See Matthew 15:22-28.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**The children of the kingdom:** The unbelieving in Israel. Luke 13:23-30.

**Outer darkness:** Hell, everlasting punishment. See Matthew 22:13, 25:30 & 46.

**13 And Jesus said unto the centurion,**

**Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.**

**And his servant was healed at the selfsame hour.**

**As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee:** Jesus healed this Gentile Centurion’s servant because he had great faith.

 The Gentile’s servant was a Jew, who Jesus would never meet because he was unable to go to Jesus to be healed because of his dire condition.

 This Gentile had blessed one of Jesus’ brethren, and for that he would be blessed with the answer to his prayer. Genesis 12:1-3.

 You cannot believe that your dying servant will be healed today because of your faith, and it will come to pass.

**Jesus heals Peter’s mother-in-law**

Mark 1:29-31 & Luke 4:38-39

**14 And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever. 15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.**

**His wife’s mother:** Peter had a wife, and her mother was healed by Jesus of her fever. Isaiah 53:5.

**16 When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: 17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,**

**Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.** *Isaiah 53:5.*

**Even:** Evening.

**Esaias the prophet:** Isaiah.

**18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side. 19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him,**

**Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.**

**20 And Jesus saith unto him,**

**The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.**

**Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest:**To follow Christ was to leave everything behind as the kingdom was at hand.

**The Son of man:** A title for Jesus Christ. See Psalm 8:1-9.

**21 And another of his disciples said unto him,**

**Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.**

**22 But Jesus said unto him,**

**Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.**

**Let the dead bury their dead:** These comments were made by Jesus while Israel’s kingdom was at hand. He required his disciples to sell everything they had, and to come and follow him. See Matthew 19:16-23.

**Jesus calms the sea**

Mark 4:35-41

**23 And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him. 24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep. 25 And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying,**

**Lord, save us: we perish.**

**26 And he saith unto them,**

**Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?**

**Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. 27 But the men marvelled, saying,**

**What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!**

 Jesus could rebuke the winds and the sea because he was the Creator. Isaiah 65:7.

**Jesus cast devils out of two men**

Mark 5:1-20 & Luke 26-39

**28 And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.**

**The Gergesenes:** (The Girgashites)A people on the north east side of the sea of Galilee. See 1st Chronicles 1:14.

**29 And, behold, they cried out, saying,**

**What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?**

**Thou Son of God:** The devils knew who he was. See Mark 1:34.

**The time:** The time for the devil and his angels torment will be when they are cast into the lake of fire forever. Revelation 14:11 & 20:10.

**30 And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. 31 So the devils besought him, saying,**

**If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.**

**Suffer us:** Allow us.

**32 And he said unto them,**

**Go.**

**And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters. 33 And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils. 34 And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coasts.**

 Jesus demonstrated to his followers that in the kingdom he would have power to bind Satan and his devils. Satan will be bound for a thousand years. Revelations 20:2-3.

**Chapter Nine**

**Jesus heals a man of palsy**

Mark 2:1-12 & Luke 5:17-26

**1 And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.**

**His own city:** Capernaum.

**2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy;**

**Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.**

**The palsy:** A crippling disease.

**3 And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves,**

**This man blasphemeth.**

**4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said,**

**Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? 5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? 6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, then saith he to the sick of the palsy, Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.**

**Thy sins be forgiven thee:** All disease comes from the fall in the garden. We are born as sinners we will all die one day. Jesus could heal any infirmity in their flesh because of who he was. Romans 6:23.

 He was also the only one who could forgive sins, because it was through him, we all have the forgiveness of sins.

**The Son of man:** This is a messianic title depicting Jesus’ deity, and his humanity together in one.

***Daniel 7:13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.***

**7 And he arose, and departed to his house. 8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.**

**His house:** Jesus’ temporary house in Capernaum.

**Jesus calls Matthew**

Mark 2:13-14 & Luke 5:27-32

**9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him,**

**Follow me.**

**And he arose, and followed him.**

**Passed forth from thence:** As he departed from there.

**Matthew:** The writer of the gospel of Matthew. He was a tax collector, a publican. (Also called Levi). See Mark 2:14.

**The receipt of custom:** The place where taxes were paid.

**10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples,**

**Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?**

**Sat at meat:** Which literally means, while Jesus was already sitting down for a meal.

**Publicans:** Tax collectors.

**Sinners:** The violators of the law.

**12 But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them,**

**They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. 13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.** *Hosea 6:6.*

**I will have mercy, and not sacrifice:** The Pharisees were more interested in ritual sacrifices, than they were in showing mercy to others. The publicans and sinners wanted to learn about God.

**Jesus questioned about fasting**

Mark 2:18-22 & Luke 5:33-39

**14 Then came to him the disciples of John, saying,**

**Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?**

**15 And Jesus said unto them,**

**Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast.**

**The children:** They are Jesus’ disciples, who make up the little flock in Luke 12:32.

**The bridechamber:** This is in the house of the bride’s father.

***Luke 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.***

**The bridegroom:** This is Jesus who came to get a bride from Israel. He will come back to take her to the marriage after a long absence where he would prepare a place for her. John 14:2-3.

 The place is new Jerusalem. Revelation 21:9-10. John the Baptist was the friend of the bridegroom, he was not a part of the bridechamber. He was an old testament saint.

***John 3:29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.***

 Jesus is the bridegroom here, and he possessed the bride at that time according to John 3:29-30. Who did Jesus have as followers at that time? Believing Israelite (The remnant, or little flock of believers). See Luke 12:32.

**16 No man putteth a piece of new cloth unto an old garment, for that which is put in to fill it up taketh from the garment, and the rent is made worse. 17 Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.**

**New cloth unto an old garment:** John and the Pharisees were operating in the old way, as if the bridegroom weren’t with them. Jesus’ disciples (the bride) were acting correctly (in a new way) because the bridegroom was with them.

**Jesus, and the number 12**

Mark 5:21-43 & Luke 8:41-56

**18 While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying,**

**My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.**

**A certain ruler:** A ruler of a synagogue.

**19 And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples. 20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: 21 For she said within herself,**

**If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.**

**An issue of blood:** A blood hemorrhage.

**Twelve years:** The woman was a type of the nation of Israel with a disease that only God could cure if they would believe that Jesus was the Son of God.

**22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said,**

**Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole.**

**And the woman was made whole from that hour. 23 And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,**

**The minstrels:** Musical instruments.

**24 He said unto them,**

**Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth.**

 **And they laughed him to scorn. 25 But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. 26 And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land.**

Jarius was the ruler of the synagogue, and he had only one daughter who was twelve years old. Luke 7:28.

 Jesus heals a woman who had an issue of blood for twelve years. She was unclean all that time and had spent all her living upon physicians, and she couldn’t be healed.

 Both women represent Israel, spiritually sick, and unable to heal themselves, spiritually dead, and in need of resurrection.

**Jesus heals 2 blind men**

**27 And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying,**

**Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.**

**Thou Son of David:** Jesus’ title verifying that he was the rightful descendant to sit on David’s throne as Israel’s King who will be the King of kings.

**28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them,**

**Believe ye that I am able to do this?**

**They said unto him,**

**Yea, Lord.**

**29 Then touched he their eyes, saying,**

**According to your faith be it unto you.**

**According to your faith be it unto you:** Jesus healed the blind in Israel to allow them to become priests in the kingdom that was at hand. See Leviticus 21:17-18.

**30 And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying,**

**See that no man know it.**

**31 But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country. 32 As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. 33 And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying,**

**It was never so seen in Israel.**

**A dumb man:** One who is unable to speak.

**34 But the Pharisees said,**

**He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.**

**He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils:** This was blaspheming the holy Ghost because Jesus cast out devils by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**The Pharisees:** A sect of religious Jews that were very legalistic. Saul of Tarsus was also a Pharisee, and he would later be guilty of blasphemy as well. 1st Timothy 1:13.

**35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.** *See Matthew 3:2 & 4:23.*

**The gospel of the kingdom:** The good news that Israel’s long-awaited kingdom was at hand if they repented.

**Healing every sickness and every disease:** Healing followed the gospel of the kingdom, because it was prophesied that Israel would become a kingdom of priests. Exodus 19:5-6. Priests could not have any blemishes in their body. Leviticus 21:17-21.

**36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.**

**As sheep having no shepherd:** Israel was the sheep of God’s pasture. Psalm 100:3. We are not sheep in the body of Christ today.

**37 Then saith he unto his disciples,**

**The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; 38 Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.**

**The harvest:** Israel had numerous feasts which had prophetical significance to them.

 They were pictures of things to come in Israel’s future where many people would be saved to enter into their kingdom.

***Exodus 23:16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.***

**The Lord of the harvest:** Jesus is the Lord of the harvest of souls of mankind.

**Chapter Ten**

**Jesus calls his 12 apostles**

Mark 6:7-13 & Luke 6:12-16

**1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.**

**His twelve disciples:** (Students) This is the second time this term is used in the bible. See Isaiah 8:16.

**Unclean spirits:** They are devils. Jesus gave his twelve disciples power to cast out unclean spirits, and to heal Israelites so that they may become priests in the kingdom, which was at hand.

**2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;**

**Simon:** Shimon in Hebrew.

**The son of Zebedee:**

**3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;**

**Matthew the publican:** (Levi) A tax collector.

**The son of Alphaeus:** See Acts 1:13. The brother of Matthew (Levi) the publican. Mark 2:14.

**4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.**

**The Canaanite:** He was also known as Simon the Zealot (Zelotes) Luke 6:15.He was not a descendant of the Canaanites, but a Jew person who lived in the former area belonging to Channan. Acts 7:11, 13:19.

**Judas Iscariot:** Judah in Hebrew. Iscariot means from the city of Karioth, near Jerusalem in the land of Judaea. The disciple who betrayed Jesus.

**5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying,**

**Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:**

**Go not into the way of the Gentiles**

**The way of the Gentiles:** The cities of the Gentiles.

 Jesus forbad his disciples from going to the Gentiles, and the Samaritans, because it was not time for them to hear while Israel’s kingdom was at hand.

***John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.***

 The children of Israel needed to eat first before the Gentiles could be reached. See Matthew 15:22-28.

**The Samaritans:** Jews who had intermarried with the nations around them and had a polluted form of Judaism that they practiced not at the temple in Jerusalem, but with golden calves in Samaria.

**6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.**

**The lost sheep of the house of Israel:** The unbelieving Jews.

**The kingdom of heaven is at hand:** The 1,000-year kingdom on the earth, prophesied by the prophets, where Christ would rule with a rod of iron.

**Heal the sick:** This was a part of Israel’s kingdom message so that all of believing Israel could become priests in their kingdom. Exodus 19:5-6.

**Cleanse the lepers:** Power was given the twelve to cleanse lepers, because no priest could be a leper.

**Raise the dead:** All believing Jews would be raised from the dead to enjoy eternal life in their kingdom.

**9 Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, 10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.**

**Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses:** They were not to take any money with them to finance their work.

**The workman is worthy of his meat:** Those they helped were to take care of the workman. They were to be fed and paid for their labor. This is not how we are to do God’s work today.

**11 And into whatsoever city or town ye shall enter, enquire who in it is worthy; and there abide till ye go thence. 12 And when ye come into an house, salute it. 13 And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you.**

**Worthy:** Someone who has believed the gospel of the kingdom.

**14 And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet. 15 Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrha in the day of judgment, than for that city.**

**Shake off the dust of your feet:** This was a sign that their blood was on their own hands. It was a testimony against them. Mark 6:11 & Luke 9:5.

**Sodom and Gomorrha:** Cities destroyed by God in Genesis 19 for their immorality.

 Those that rejected them with all the signs and wonders they performed in front of their eyes would be held accountable at the judgment. Isaiah 10:3 & Luke 19:42.

**16 Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. 17 But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues;**

**The councils:** The Sanhedrin.SeeMatthew 5:22.

**18 And ye shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles. 19 But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. 20 For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. 21 And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death. 22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.**

**He that endureth to the end:** We do not have to endure unto the end to be saved in this present dispensation. The end refers to the end of the tribulation period.

 Those who endure to the end of the tribulation period without taking the mark of the beast will be saved, and go into their kingdom.

**23 But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come.**

**Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come:** This commission is re-established right after the cross in John 20:21when his disciples had forsaken him and fled.

 Jesus is speaking about the time just before he returns to earth to set up his kingdom as the kingdom offer is postponed when Israel as a whole, rejects her King and kingdom.

***Revelation 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.***

**24 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. 25 It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?**

**The master of the house:** Jesus is the master of the house of Israel (believing Israel).

**Beelzebub:** The Lord of the flies, the dung god.

**26 Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. 27 What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. 28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

**Destroy both soul and body in hell:** Man can kill the body, but it ends there. Jesus can destroy both the body (that they possessed while they were alive) and soul in hell. This is the second death. Revelation 2:11, 20:6, 14 and 21:8.

**29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. 32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.**

**A farthing:** Two mites make a farthing. See Matthew 5:26 and Mark 12:42. A small amount. God cares about a bird dying, but he cares infinitely more about a human soul.

**34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. 40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.**

**He that receiveth you receiveth me:** Someone who listens to them, and welcomes them as an apostle, are like those that listened to a prophet who was speaking for God.

**He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it:** If they loose their life serving Christ, they will have eternal life in the kingdom.

**41 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward.**

**A prophet’s reward:** 1st Kings 13:7.

**A righteous man’s reward:** Psalm 18:23-24.

**42 And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.**

**These little ones:** The little flock of believers.

 These instructions were for believing Israel when the gospel of the kingdom was being preached 2,000 years ago to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

 It will be preached again during the tribulation period. Today we preach the gospel of the grace of God. See Matthew 24:14 and Acts 20:24.

**Chapter Eleven**

**John’s disciples question Jesus**

Luke 7:18-35

**1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities. 2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him,**

**Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?**

**John:** John the Baptist.

 It had been a while since Jesus’ baptism, and John imprisonment, and he began to doubt because of his circumstances.

 Remember God had told John that he would see the sign of the holy Spirit descending upon the Christ when he baptized them which happened at Jesus’ baptism.

 John had no reason to doubt Jesus was the Christ, but he was human just like all the prophets before him that had doubts.

**4 Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: 5 The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.** *Isaiah 52:7-53:12.*

 Jesus told John’s disciples that he was fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah given to Israel’s fathers, which answered John’s question.

**7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John,**

**What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. 10 For this is he, of whom it is written,**

**Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee**. *Malachi 3:1.*

**What went ye out to see?** This is repeated two more times for emphasis, because everybody had different ideas about who John was.

**A reed shaken with the wind:** A person who might waver.A reed was usually used for measuring things. See also James 1:6.

**A man clothed in soft raiment:** False prophets wore gorgeous apparel. See 2nd Kings 1:8.

**A prophet:** John was more than a prophet because he washed (baptized) Israel (Exodus 29:1) to prepare them to become a kingdom of priests in their future kingdom. See Exodus 19:5-6.

**11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.**

**The Baptist:** John is the only person to be called a Baptist in the Bible. He ministered to the lost sheep of the house of Israel for a little over six months before his death.

**Among them born of woman there has not risen a greater than John the Baptist:** John was the greatest born of women in the old testament.

**From the days of John the Baptist until now:** Israel went from being under the Law to the kingdom being at hand during John days. Those saved under the kingdom message had a greater hope than John did because he had just died.

 He now would have to wait for resurrection into the kingdom, while believers who were still alive could just enter into the kingdom alive.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come. 15 He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

**And from the days of John the Baptist until now:** Notice the kingdom of heaven preaching to Israel began with John the Baptist in Matthew 3:1-2. See also Luke 16:16.

**For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John:**The whole old testament prophesied of a kingdom to come. John preached it as being at hand the day he turned thirty years old and began his ministry to Israel.

***Luke 1:17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.***

**16 But whereunto shall I liken this generation? It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their fellows, 17 And saying,**

**We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.**

**18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say,**

**He hath a devil.**

**19 The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say,**

**Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners.**

**But wisdom is justified of her children.**

 Jesus and John piped and mourned unto Israel, but they didn’t believe them.

**But wisdom is justified of her children:** Luke 7:28-29 and 35.

**Jesus upbraids cities**

Luke 12:13-15

**20 Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not:**

**21 Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.**

**Chorazin:** The meaning of the name is the place of a smoking furnace. It is located at the base of a volcano.

**Bethsaida:** The house of fishing.

**Tyre and Sidon:** Cities north of Israel in modern day Lebanon that opposed Israel often.

**23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. 24 But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.**

**Upbraid:** To rail on them deservedly so.

**This generation:** The generation that saw the Messiah, and heard him preach. They were healed, fed, and loved by him to the point of his dying for them, and yet they did not believe in him, or follow him.

 The cities that Jesus upbraided Capernaum, Bethsaida, and Chorazin, were the three cities that Jesus had spent his most time in.

**Capernaum:** The name means the village of Nahum the prophet.

**Exalted unto heaven:** It was chosen by Jesus to be his home base for his three-and-a-half-year ministry.

**Brought down to hell:** They would be judged for their rejection of Jesus, and the unbelievers would end up in hell.

**Jesus prays to the Father**

Luke 10:21-24

**25 At that time Jesus answered and said,**

**I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.**

**Lord of heaven and earth:** God is the ruler and creator of both places; both have a separate program that governs them. The prophecy program is for Israel and the earth, and the mystery program is for the body of Christ and heaven.

 We are to rightly divide between the two of them as we study the word of truth to shew ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. 2nd Timothy 2:15.

**26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.**

 God only hid things from the wise and prudent after they had originally heard the gospel of the kingdom and rejected it along with the baptism of John.

 Jesus would reveal deeper things to those who would believe his message because they could understand deeper things once they were saved.

**27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. 28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.** *Isaiah 55:3.*

**All things are delivered unto me of my Father:** See John 16:15.

**I will give you rest:** The rest that Jesus called Israel to, was the rest long prophesied in the law and the prophets which was the kingdom.

**My yoke is easy:** A neck harness between two animals, or people used to increase productivity.

**Chapter Twelve**

Mark 2:23-28 & Luke 6:1-5

**1 At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn; and his disciples were an hungred, and began to pluck the ears of corn, and to eat. 2 But when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto him,**

**Behold, thy disciples do that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day.**

**The sabbath day:** (Saturday)The seventh day of the week that God set apart for Israel to rest. See Genesis 2:2 and Exodus 16:23.

**That which is not lawful:** That which is against the law given to Moses.

**3 But he said unto them,**

**Have ye not read what David did, when he was an hungred, and they that were with him; 4 How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?** *1st Samuel 21:1-6.*

**Have ye not read what David did:**Seven times in the gospels Jesus asks the religious leaders this very same thing.

 This was sure to get a negative response from them as they were supposed to be the teachers of the law. See Matthew 19:4, 22:31, Mark 12:10 & 26.

**The shewbread:** Twelve loaves of bread that were in the tabernacle. One for each tribe.SeeExodus 25:30.

**5 Or have ye not read in the law, how that on the sabbath days the priests in the temple profane the sabbath, and are blameless?**

**Have ye not read in the law:** Genesis through Deuteronomy.

 In Numbers 28 we read about the duties of the priest on the sabbath day which is work. The priest were blameless because it was a good work. For example: Jesus healed on the sabbath.

 These men were missing the intent of the law. Jesus asked them twice, “Have ye not read?” It was their job to read the law and the prophets. They preferred their own writings instead.

**6 But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple. 7 But if ye had known what this meaneth,**

**I will have mercy, and not sacrifice,**

**ye would not have condemned the guiltless. 8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.**

**One greater than the temple:** The temple was made for Jesus, in a greater way than it was made for Israel to have here sins atoned for there. He was their atonement, and he was the Lord of the temple.

**I will have mercy, and not sacrifice:** SeeHosea 6:6.

**Ye would not have condemned the guiltless: They condemned Jesus’ followers for plucking ears of corn on the sabbath day.**

**The Son of man:**This was a title for the Messiah/Christ mentioned repeatedly in the book of Ezekiel. He was also the Lord of the sabbath day.

**Jesus heals a man with a withered hand**

Mark 3:1-5 & Luke 6:6-11

**9 And when he was departed thence, he went into their synagogue: 10 And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying,**

**Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days?**

**that they might accuse him. 11 And he said unto them,**

**What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? 12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.**

**13 Then saith he to the man,**

**Stretch forth thine hand.**

**And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other. 14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.**

**Held council:** They gathered ten Jewish men together to plot against Jesus’ actions and teachings.

**15 But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all; 16 And charged them that they should not make him known:**

**And he healed them all:** Jesus was preparing Israel to be a kingdom of priests in the future kingdom that he had promised in Exodus 19:5-6.

 No Jew could be a priest if they had any infirmities in the flesh according to Leviticus 21:17-21.

 Jesus did not fear them, and hide from doing what he came to do. He healed them knowing full well that they would try to destroy him.

**17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,**

**18 Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles. 19 He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. 20 A bruised reed shall he not break, and smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send forth judgment unto victory. 21 And in his name shall the Gentiles trust.** *Isaiah 42:1-4.*

**Esaias the prophet:** Isaiah.

 Jesus is God’s *(my)* beloved. This word “beloved” in verse 18 is translated from the word “elect” in Isaiah 42:1.

**My servant:** Jesus was chosen to be God’s servant to die for Israel and all of mankind’s sin.

 Whenever you find the word election or elect in the bible you will find what it is they are elected to do. Election has to do with service, not salvation. Jesus is God’s elect, and we are in Christ today.

 We are elect because we are in Christ, and we are elected to serve him as members of his body, the church. See Titus 1:1.

**One possessed with a devil:** In this story we find the boy as an example of the nation of Israel, in that Israel was cleansed many times but they kept getting worse with every rejection of God's prophets.

 The common people heard Jesus gladly and many of them recognized him as their future King, but the leadership of Israel refused him and denied that his power was from God.

**Jesus cast out a devil**

Mark 3:22-30

**22 Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. 23 And all the people were amazed, and said,**

**Is not this the son of David?**

**The son of David:** The descendant of David that is to be the King of kings.

**24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said,**

**This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.**

**Beelzebub the prince of the devils:** Mark 3:22 and Luke11:15.

**25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them,**

**Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: 26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? 27 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.**

**I cast out devils by the Spirit of God:** Jesus was led by the Spirit of God (the holy Spirit) to do many things. See Matthew 4:1, and Luke 4:14.

**29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house. 30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad. 31 Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. 32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.**

**Beelzebub the prince of the devils:** Satan.

**The kingdom of God is come unto you:** Jesus will be Israel’s King one day, and he must cast out the strong man (Satan) by the spirit of God before that kingdom can be established.

**The strong man’s house:**The strong man is Satan. The house is the house of Israel. Israel was Satan’s lawful captive. Isaiah 49:24.

**The blasphemy against the Holy Ghost:** The religious and political leaders of that generation were guilty of committing the blasphemy by claiming Jesus was not from God and that his powers were Satanic.

 This is not a sin that a believer can commit today because we have already recognized the holy Spirit's role in drawing us to Christ and his convicting us of our sin.

 It was Israel's spiritual leaders that committed the unpardonable sin here. All the people asked their leaders if Jesus was the son of David.

 Israel would pay dearly for this declaration of blasphemy as Christ clearly proves his deity in this chapter on numerous occasions to Israel's leaders.

**The world to come:**The 1,000-year kingdom of Jesus Christ on the earth.

**33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. 36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. 37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**

**Generation of vipers:** Jesus called that generation wicked, evil, adulterous, faithless, perverse, and sinful. See Luke 11:29-51.

**The sign of the prophet Jonas (Jonah)**

Luke 11:29-32

**38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying,**

**Master, we would see a sign from thee.**

**39 But he answered and said unto them,**

**An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. 42 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.**

**In the heart of the earth:** In the grave physically, and in the abode of the dead spiritually.

**A tree is known by his fruit:**A person is known by their works.

**O generation of vipers:**Jesus condemns his generation for rejecting their King, and he even states that the Gentile Ninevites will rise up with the queen of the south, also a Gentile, to judge that wicked generation.

 John the Baptist also called Israel a generation of vipers. Jesus would now begin to use parables to conceal things from those who were rebellious to God in Israel.

 Notice that three times in this chapter, verses 6, 41-42. Jesus tells Israel that someone who is greater than the temple, Solomon or Jonah is here.

**A sign:** A miracle. The temple has priests, Solomon was a king, and Jonah was a prophet, but Jesus is Israel's Prophet, Priest, and King.

**The queen of the south:** Queen of Sheba

**The unclean spirit**

Mark & Luke 11:24-26

**43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.**

**He walketh through dry places**: This parable was directed at Israel, predicting her future destruction and dispersion for denying the work of the holy Spirit in convincing the people of that generation that Jesus was the Christ.

 The man with a blind and dumb spirit had a divine appointment that day to be healed in front of those Pharisees, so that Jesus might pronounce judgment on Israel for their rejection of him, and to warn those around at that time that there was a cost for denying their Messiah.

**The last state of that man is worse than the first:** Israel's state as a nation would become seven times worse than it was when Christ came sweeping Satan's devils from its people for their rejection of their King. They would become Loammi in the book of Acts (Not my people). Hosea 1:9.

**45 Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.**

 Jesus said that Israel would be judged liked a man who has seven times as many demons as he used to have for rejecting the truth that would have cleansed him in the first place.

**Jesus’ mother and his brethren**

Mark 3:31-35 & Luke 8:19-21

**46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. 47 Then one said unto him,**

**Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.**

**48 But he answered and said unto him that told him,**

**Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?**

**49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said,**

**Behold my mother and my brethren! 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.**

 If Mary were a co-redeemer, as is claimed today without one shred of biblical support, then Jesus would never have talked to her in the way that he did here. Mary was a sinner just like you and I, in need of salvation.

**His mother and his brethren stood without:** Notice here that they were outside the house when Jesus was teaching inside.

 The house is a type of the house of Israel, and he would soon bring judgment to the Gentiles which are represented in scripture on many occasions by the Sea.

**Whosoever shall do the will of my Father:** Jesus separated himself from his family as most of them were unbelievers with the exception of his mother.

 James, Jesus’ half-brother would believe after his resurrection and become the Pastor of the Jerusalem Church. Acts 10-11.

**Chapter Thirteen**

**The kingdom of heaven parables**

**The parable of the sower**

Mark 4:1-20 & Luke 8:4-15

 Chapter thirteen is the most unique chapter in the book, and it has two subtle differences. Those differences are the location, and the audience.

**1 The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side. 2 And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.**

**The same day:** Is a reference to the sabbath day as seen in the preceding chapter. When Jesus exited the house, it was symbolic of the blindness of the house of Israel to Him and His words.

**Went Jesus out of the house:** Jesus went out of the house and sat in a ship by the seashore, and taught the multitudes in parables.

 Here Jesus is speaking to the nation of Israel as a whole. Jesus speaks the remaining three parables to his disciples inside the house.

 The house is synonymous with the believers in the house of Israel, A.K.A. the remnant, or the little flock as mentioned in Luke 12:32.

**3 And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying,**

**Behold, a sower went forth to sow; 4 And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:**

**He spake many things unto them in parables:** Parables were used by Jesus to conceal things from his enemies. Verse 11.

 They were not meant to help ignorant people to understand his teachings better, but to conceal things from the wise.

**Seeds:** The seeds represent the words of the kingdom. The sower is Jesus. Verse 19 below.

**The wayside:** The wayside represents one type of hearer that doesn’t understand the word.

**The fowls:** They represent the wicked one who catches away the word sown in that person’s heart. Verse 19 below.

**5 Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth: 6 And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.**

**Stony places:** These represented those that endure for a while, but they are offended by the word when persecution and tribulation come. Verses 20-21 below.

**7 And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:**

**Thorns:** These represent the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches that choke the word, and they become unfruitful. Verse 22 below.

**8 But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. 9 Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

**Good ground:** These are those that make up the little flock of believers in Christ’s day. Jesus then had a private conversation with his disciples and explains the parable to those who would appreciate it. Verse 23 below.

**10 And the disciples came, and said unto him,**

**Why speakest thou unto them in parables?**

**11 He answered and said unto them,**

**Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. 12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.**

**Why speakest thou unto them in parables:** The “them” in this verse are the whole nation of Israel which comprised believers and unbelievers.

**It is given unto you to know:** The you in this verse is the little flock of believers in Israel, the remnant. Luke 12:32.

**The mysteries of the kingdom of heaven:** These mysteries have absolutely nothing to do with the Church, the body of Christ. They concerned Israel’s kingdom that was at hand.

**They seeing see not; and hearing they hear not:** They have heard the good news of the kingdom and rejected it, so Jesus speaks to them in parables at this time because they had their chance and rejected it.

**14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith,**

**By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.** *Isaiah 6:10.*

**16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. 17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.**

 The listeners of this parable did not long for God's word or else they would have understood it. The prophets became prophets because the nation as a whole became blinded to the truth due to their sin. The little flock however did hear and see what Jesus did.

**18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. 19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.**

**The word of the kingdom:** The gospel of the kingdom.

**The wicked one:** This is speaking about the devil and his devils which are represented by the fowls.

 This is directed to both the religious leaders and the nation of Israel as a whole who did not understand what their very own Messiah was saying to them because they were blinded by their own traditions.

**20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; 21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.**

**But dureth** (endureth) **for a while:** This verse should remind you of Jesus' future warning to the nation of Israel for the time of Jacob's trouble (the seven-year tribulation period):

***Matthew 24:13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.***

 We do not have to endure unto the end today, because in the dispensation of grace we have eternal security as the holy Spirit indwells us.

 After the rapture however, the holy Spirit will come upon believers in the tribulation period as he did back at Pentecost.

**22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.**

 The love of money is the root of all evil, and in the tribulation period many will take the mark of the Beast to hold on to their precious belongings. If they quit following Christ with their whole heart, they will be eternally damned.

 Because the situation at that time will be so dire, disciples will need to bear fruit to those around them. The situation will not be a good excuse for bearing no fruit.

**23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.**

 Those that received seed into the good ground are known as the remnant, or the little flock that followed Christ during his earthly ministry. They are those that will follow him unto the end during the tribulation period.

 The gospel of the kingdom will again be preached during the tribulation period to the whole world before the millennial reign of Christ comes. See Matthew 24:14.

 Were there any Gentiles in this story? No! You can't find one. It was not the time to reach the Gentiles yet. The message had to go to the Jew first and it did.

**The tares and the wheat**

**24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying,**

**The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: 25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. 26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. 27 So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? 28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? 29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.**

**The kingdom of heaven is likened unto:**The seven parables in this chapter are about the future earthly kingdom reign of Christ that will last a thousand years.

**A man**: The man in this parable is God's Son, the seed is the word of the kingdom which produces the wheat, the field is the nation of Israel, the men that slept are the nation's leaders who were asleep on the job, the enemy is the devil.

**The field:** This represents the world, not Israel. See Matthew 13:38.

 In the first parable Jesus teaches the gospel of the kingdom to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and the seed is in sown in their heart. Here the world is now hearing about the kingdom. Verse 38 below.

**The good seed:** Is not the gospel of the kingdom, but notice verse 38 below tells us that the good seed is now the children of the kingdom. They are the little flock that are sown throughout the world (the field). Verse 38.

**Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them together to be burned:** These are the nonbelievers in the flock, the wheat are the true believers, the servants of the householder are the prophets and apostles of God. See Matthew 3:12.

 The harvest is the judgment, and the burning of the tares represent the lost being cast into hell.

 Even the order of the tares being bound to be burnt, and the wheat being gathered into his barn are in line with how God will judge the wicked and the righteous when he comes to establish his kingdom. See Matthew 3:1-12, Luke 17:34-37.

 Some use this portion of parable to avoid church discipline, this parable has nothing to do with church discipline. It has to do with God sorting out the saved and the lost in the future.

**The wheat:**The wheat represents the believers that believe the gospel of the kingdom, who enter into their kingdom.

 Everything in this parable about the future kingdom is figurative except one thing, the fire. It is literal and represents Hell, and eventually the lake of fire.

**The parable of the mustard seed**

**31 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying,**

**The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: 32 Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**A grain of mustard seed:** This parable does not teach a worldwide revival in which the whole world becomes saved, the opposite is true. The field here is the world.

**The birds of the air:** These birds are synonymous with the fowls in the parable of the sower that are lodging in the branches and corrupting it doctrinally.

**33 Another parable spake he unto them;**

**The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel that is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

**Leaven:** It is a type of sin in scripture, and it doesn’t represent the gospel as some teach. It represents false doctrine in this parable.

 False doctrine is hidden by the wicked one, represented here by the woman, inside three measures of meal.

 If it is not dealt with, it will destroy the whole meal. The question remains, what does the meal represent? The meal is simply flour used to make a loaf of unleavened bread.

 Here we see the woman hiding the leaven in the bread because she doesn't want it to be seen by those who would partake of it.

 Leaven represents sin, so this woman is hiding something bad, in something good to corrupt it. The meal is Israel unleavened, until the devil comes along and corrupts her with leaven of false doctrine.

 Jesus was warning them publicly with a parable to beware of the leaven of the false teachers. He would later warn the disciples privately in a few chapters that they should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. See Matthew 16:6-12.

**34 All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them: 35 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,**

**I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.** *Psalm 78:2.*

**36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying,**

**Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field.**

**The tares of the field:** They were concerned because the tares are destroyed in a literal fire, which is symbolic of hell. After they learn that the tares are the children of the devil, they understand the parable.

**37 He answered and said unto them,**

**He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.**

**The good seed:** The children of the kingdom.

**The Son of man:** The Saviour.

**The tares:** The children of the wicked one (the devil). Jesus said to some of the Jews that believed on him. Ye are of your father, the devil. John 8:31-44.

 Here we have an interpretation of a parable depicting the lost being sent to hell and the righteous shining forth as the sun going into the millennial kingdom.

**Who hath ears to hear, let him hear:** This is said eight times in the bible by Jesus. Someone who is a believer will understand him.

**44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**Treasure hid in a field:** The man here is the remnant in Israel that finds and receives the truth about the kingdom. He gives all that he has to possess the truth represented by the treasure.

 This is a kingdom truth; it is not for the dispensation of grace. Remember how these Kingdom believers sold all that they had and followed Christ as the kingdom was still being offered to Israel?

 Jesus told his followers to sell all that they had and to come follow him. We are not under this same program today. We are not kingdom saints; we are a part of the body of Christ (the church) which is a totally different program.

**45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

 Jesus was seeking the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Jesus (the Merchant man) did not seek goodly oysters; he was seeking goodly pearls. The meat surrounding the oyster was unclean.

 The one pearl of great price represented believing Jews, it was the little flock of believers that followed him. There are twelve gates of solid pearl in the city of new Jerusalem.

***Revelation 21:21 And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl: and the street of the city was pure gold, as it were transparent glass.***

**47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: 48 Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. 49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, 50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.**

**The kingdom of heaven is like unto a net:** Here we have a picture of the end of the age when angels will gather the bad/unbeliever out of the earth, and they will cast them into hell.

**That was cast into the sea:** The sea represents the Gentile nations in the last days. The “every kind” is a reference to Gentiles as well that will be judged at the end of the millennial kingdom.

**And gathered the good into vessels:** Into the kingdom. The angels shall sever the wicked from among the just:

***Matthew 24:40 Then shall two be in the field, the one shall be taken; and the other is left.***

**51 Jesus saith unto them,**

**Have ye understood all these things?**

**They say unto him,**

**Yea, Lord.**

**52 Then said he unto them,**

**Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.**

**An householder:** God over the house of Israel.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed*.**

**Things new and old:** These are the spiritual truths regarding what God has already done, and what he is doing anew during the tribulation period, and in his kingdom.

 It is not referring to the church. The church is not even mentioned for another four chapters, and it is mentioned in a future sense. See Matthew 16:18.

**53 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these parables, he departed thence. 54 And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said,**

**Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things?**

**His own country:** The region of Galilee in the north.

**The carpenter’s son:** Joseph.

**57 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them,**

**A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house.**

**58 And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.**

 Jesus then returned to his adopted hometown of Capernaum and the people wondered how he could know so much having been raised a carpenter.

 Many in His family, with the exception of his mother, did not believe on him until after his resurrection. Joseph and Mary had numerous children that were Jesus’ half brothers and sisters.

**Chapter Fourteen**

**The death of John the Baptist**

Mark 6:14-29

**1 At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus, 2 And said unto his servants,**

**This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him.**

**Herod the tetrarch:**A tetrarch was a leader of one fourth of a country. His father (Herod the great) was a King earlier.

 Herod believed some of the teachings as he was part Jewish, and he believed that miracles would happen in the time surrounding Israel’s future millennial kingdom.

**3 For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. 4 For John had said unto him,**

**It is not lawful for thee to have her.** *Leviticus 18:16.*

**5 And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.**

**A prophet:** A man sent from God to proclaim his word to Israel.

**6 But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. 7 Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. 8 And she, being before instructed of her mother, said,**

**Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger.**

**9 And the king was very sorry: nevertheless for the oaths sake, and them which sat with them at meat, he commanded it to be given her. 10 And he sent, and beheaded John in prison. 11 And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother. 12 And his disciples came, and took up the body, and buried it, and went and told Jesus. 13 When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities.**

**A charger:** A basket.

 John the Baptist went to Abraham's bosom (paradise) when he died. Luke 16:23. He did not go to heaven. Saints in this dispensation of grace go immediately to be with Christ in heaven upon their death. 2nd Corinthians 5, 6 & 8.

**A desert place apart:** A deserted place away from the villages where Jesus could be alone. Now the forerunner of the Messiah was dead, and Jesus would now enter into a new phase of his earthly ministry.

**Jesus feeds 5,000**

Mark 6:30-44, Luke 9:10-17 & John 6:1-15

**14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.** *See Matthew 8:16-17 & Isaiah 53:4.*

**15 And when it was evening, his disciples came to him, saying,**

**This is a desert place, and the time is now past; send the multitude away, that they may go into the villages, and buy themselves victuals.**

**16 But Jesus said unto them,**

**They need not depart; give ye them to eat.**

**17 And they say unto him,**

**We have here but five loaves, and two fishes.**

**18 He said,**

**Bring them hither to me.**

**19 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves, and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 20 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full. 21 And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.**

**The time is now past:** Meant that it was late, and the people were hungry.

**They took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full:** Twelve is the number of Israel. There was one basket of fragments for each of the twelve apostles.

 After the children (of Israel) are fed the Gentiles can eat from the fragments that remain. See the story in Matthew 15:21-28 concerning God’s plan to give the word (bread) to the Gentiles after the Jews are fed first (after they hear it).

 During the tribulation period God will feed the little flock of kingdom believers in a place prepared for them in the wilderness. Revelation 12:6.

 During the kingdom people will not go hungry for Jesus will provide for those that love him and have plenty left over. Revelation 7:16.

**Jesus walks on the water**

Mark 6:45-52

**22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. 24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.**

**Straightway:** Right away.

**Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him:**To constrain someone was to order them to do something.

**He went up into a mountain apart to pray:**Mountains in scripture are types of kingdoms. Jesus went apart (away) to pray.

 Before the kingdom comes Jesus will deliver the remnant of believers in Israel during their darkest hour (the time of Jacob’s trouble). Jeremiah 30:7.

**In the midst of the sea:**The sea is a type of Gentile lands.

 Israel will be in captivity in Gentile lands during the time of Jacob’s trouble, but God will come back and deliver them out of it. Jeremiah 30:7.

**25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.**

**The fourth watch:**The final watch of the night (3 AM – 6 AM). Jesus manifests some of the power he possesses to his disciples which he will use during his future kingdom to rule and reign over the earth.

**The night:** The tribulation period (the time of Jacob’s trouble) is often referred to as a time of great darkness. Isaiah 9:2 & 60:2.

**26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying,**

**It is a spirit;**

**and they cried out for fear. 27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying,**

**Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.**

**It is a spirit:**When Jesus returns every eye will see him, and many will cry out for fear. Revelation 6:14-17.

**28 And Peter answered him and said,**

**Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.**

**29 And he said,**

**Come.**

**And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying,**

**Lord, save me.**

**31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him,**

**O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?**

**32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying,**

**Of a truth thou art the Son of God.**

**Thou art the Son of God:** This is the testimony that all of Israel had to believe to be a part of the little flock (Church) that would enter into their kingdom. See Matthew 16:13-20 & Luke 12:32.

 Jesus has power over the elements, and during his kingdom reign he will use this power globally to bless the faithful.

 He will also use his power to punish those that don’t come to Jerusalem to keep the feast of tabernacles. He will bring plagues upon them, and withhold the rain from them as well. Zechariah 14:17.

**Jesus heals at Gennesaret**

Mark 6:53-56

**34 And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; 36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.**

**The land of Gennesaret:** The land around Lake Kinnereth (Chinnereth/Chinneroth) Numbers 34:11, also known as the Sea of Galilee.

**The hem of his garment:** This was a teaching that would be fulfilled by the Messiah which said:

***Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;***

 The wings in Malachi refer to the hem, or border of Jesus’ garments. Numbers 15:38 translates the same word for wings as borders.

 Jesus healed all in Israel that came to him because the nation is to become a kingdom of priests, and her people could not have any infirmities in her flesh. Exodus 19:5-6 & Leviticus 21:17-23.

**Chapter Fifteen**

**The traditions of the elders**

**1 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying,**

**2 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.**

**The tradition of the elders:** They were interpretations of the law, not the law itself. Mark 7:1-13.

**3 But he answered and said unto them,**

**Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying,**

**Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.** *Exodus 20:12.*

**Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition:**The disciples were not transgressing the commandments of God.

**5 But ye say,**

**Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;**

**6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.** *Exodus 20:12.*

**It is a gift:** Corban is a Hebrew word used in Leviticus 1:2 and Mark 7:11.

**He shall be free:** They elders said you are free from the responsibility of following the law of God if you will let the elders profit from you instead of your parents.

**7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,**

**8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.** *Isaiah 29:13.*

**Doctrines:** Teachings.

**10 And he called the multitude, and said unto them,**

**Hear, and understand: 11 Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.**

**Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man:**A man was not spiritually uncleanbecause he ate something before washing his hands.

**But that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man:** The words of the elders that were spoken to Israel that negate the commandments of God defiled the elders who spake them.

**12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him,**

**Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?**

**13 But he answered and said,**

**Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. 14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.**

**Every plant, which my Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up:** Every person who was not God’s will be taken away (rooted up) and cast into the fire. Exodus 15:17, 2nd Samuel 7:10, 1st Chronicles 17:9 & Isaiah 5:7.

**15 Then answered Peter and said unto him,**

**Declare unto us this parable.**

**Declare unto us this parable:**The parable was the words found in verse 13 above. Plants come from seeds, and the doctrines (seeds) of men had crept into the pure meaning of the word of God. Jesus was there doing a little gardening.

**16 And Jesus said,**

**Are ye also yet without understanding? 17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.**

**The draught:** A going out. (The sewer).

**A woman of Canaan**

**21 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. 22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying,**

**Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.**

**The coast of Tyre and Sidon:** Cities along the coast of Israel in near southern Lebanon.

**A woman of Canaan:** The Canaanites were the people that God dispossessed from the land for their gross immorality. Numbers 33:52-53.

**Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David:** She recognized Jesus as Lord, and as the Son of David, which was another title for Christ, but she also recognized that she was a Gentile and needed mercy from him.

**23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying,**

**Send her away; for she crieth after us.**

**24 But he answered and said,**

**I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

**But he answered her not a word:** Just like the Samaritans, the Jews had no dealings with the Canaanites.

**The lost sheep of the house of Israel:** This was a reference to their spiritual condition, not to their actual physical location. Jesus wasn’t searching for people who didn’t know they were Israelites.

**25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying,**

**Lord, help me.**

**Then came she and worshipped him:**She was no ordinary Gentile. She worshipped Jesus as the Messiah of Israel.

**26 But he answered and said,**

**It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.**

**Meet:** Fit or proper.

**27 And she said,**

**Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.**

**The children’s bread:** The gospel of the kingdom was the bread that would give eternal life to all who believed it.

**And to cast it to dogs:** The Gentiles (dogs) had to wait to receive the word of God until it first went to the children of Israel. See Matthew 10:5-7.

**Truth Lord, yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters table:** Gentiles were referred to as strangers often in scripture. Leviticus 23:22.

**28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her,**

**O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt.**

**And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.**

**O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt:** Because this Gentile woman accepted that salvation was of the Jews, she was able to have her daughter healed.

 Gentiles will be blessed in the kingdom by the bread (the word of God) that is given to them from the children (Jews). Isaiah 2:3.

 Remember that the kingdom of heaven was at hand at that time, but it was rejected, and now it is postponed until after the dispensation of grace runs its course.

 You cannot have this kind of prayer answered for you like this today. This prayer was related to God’s dealings with the nation of Israel, and the Gentiles at that time.

**29 And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there. 30 And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: 31 Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.** *Isaiah 53:1-14.*

**Thence:** There.

**And went up into a mountain:**In the Bible Mountains often serve as types of kingdoms. Daniel 2:35-45. Jesus healed these people on a mountain to let them know that in the kingdom they will not have any infirmities in their flesh ever again.

 Leviticus 21:18 forbids anyone from the priesthood who was blind, or lame, so Jesus healed all in Israel who hand any illness so they could become priests in their kingdom.

 The priesthood in the kingdom will not be just Levites. All Jews will be priests in those days, and their ministry will be an eternal one, not just from 30 to 50 years of age as the Levitical priesthood was.

**32 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said,**

**I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.**

**33 And his disciples say unto him,**

**Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?**

**34 And Jesus saith unto them,**

**How many loaves have ye?**

**And they said,**

**Seven, and a few little fishes.**

**35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. 36 And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. 37 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full. 38 And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children. 39 And he sent away the multitude, and took ship, and came into the coasts of Magdala.**

**Seven baskets full:**God will provide for his people during the time of Jacob's trouble that lasts for seven years, as he did here, and in Exodus 16.

**The coasts of Magdala:**This was the hometown of Mary Magdalene.Magdalene was not her last name, it identified where she was from.

**Chapter Sixteen**

**The sign of the prophet Jonas**

**1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said unto them,**

**When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. 3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.** *Jonah 1:17.*

**The Pharisees also with the Sadducees:** The conservative legalist, and the liberals of their day.

**The sign of the prophet Jonas:** Jesus would be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

***Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; So shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.***

 This wicked generation had the Son of God in their midst to teach them, and to heal them, and yet they rejected him.

**The signs of the times:** Indicators, or miraculous events in the heavens and the earth. See Genesis 1:14, Exodus 4:9-17, and Jeremiah 10:2.

**5 And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. 6 Then Jesus said unto them,**

**Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.**

**The leaven of the Pharisees:** The doctrinal teachings.

**And they reasoned among themselves, saying,**

**It is because we have taken no bread.**

**8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them,**

**O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? 9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?**

**12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.**

**The leaven of the Pharisees:** The doctrine of the Pharisees was legalism. They placed the tradition of elders above the word of God. Mark 7:9 and Luke 12:1 say that the leaven of the Pharisees is hypocrisy.

**And of the Sadducees:** The doctrine of the Sadducees was liberalism; they denied the reality of angels, spirit and of a future resurrection.

***Acts 23:8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, not spirit:***

**13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying,**

**Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?**

**Caesarea Philippi:** Named by Herod Philip, son of Herod the great.

**14 And they said,**

**Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.**

**Elias:** Elijah

**15 He saith unto them,**

**But whom say ye that I am?**

**16 And Simon Peter answered and said,**

**Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

**The Christ:** The anointed one. Acts 10:38.

**17 And Jesus answered and said unto him,**

**Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

**Simon Barjona:** Bar means the son of someone (Jona).

**Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God:** The statement that Peter made was the confession that all of Israel had to believe in Jesus' day to enter into the kingdom.

***John 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.***

**This rock:** Simon was given the names of Peter (a small stone), and of Cephas by Jesus, so as to ensure that there would be no controversy that Jesus would build his church on himself, the rock.

 Peter and the other eleven apostles made up the foundation of the church, and Jesus Christ was the cornerstone of it.

**I will build my church:** Here we have the first mention of the church in the bible that Christ says he will build in the near future.

 Notice in the next verse the context of Christ's statement. He is still talking about the kingdom. The word church simply means a called-out assembly.

 There was also a church in the wilderness in the old testament which was made up of those called out Egypt and who were assembled in the wilderness. Acts 7:38.

**19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

**The keys of the kingdom of heaven:** The keys represent the way of entrance into Israel’s kingdom.

 They were given to Peter, and to the other apostles who will one day sit on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. See Matthew 19:28.

 Power was going to be given to Peter and the eleven during the kingdom to bind, and to loose things here on the earth.

 Christ is talking to twelve literal apostles about a literal physical kingdom where Israel will be the head of it, and not the tail. Deuteronomy 28:13.

**20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.**

From that time forth

**21 From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.**

**From that time forth:** Matthew here marks a distinct point in Jesus’ ministry where he begins to teach his disciples about his death, burial, and resurrection.

**And be raised again the third day:** Resurrection.

 Only Christ was without sin so he alone could rise from the dead, because death has no hold on him since he alone had committed no sin. See Hebrews 4:15 and 9:28.

**22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying,**

**Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.**

**23 But he turned, and said unto Peter,**

**Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.**

**Get thee behind me Satan:** The name means the adversary. Peter didn’t want Jesus to die, but Jesus had to die. He didn’t understand everything that Christ came to do until it was revealed to him later after the resurrection.

**The things that be of God:** Jesus abruptly expressed the necessity of his going to the cross to dispel any false hopes that there could be some other way.

 In Luke's gospel it is recorded that when Christ told his disciples of his pending death and resurrection that they didn’t understand what he meant.

 Then Luke tells us that Jesus deliberately hid those truths from them until after his resurrection when he brought them to their remembrance. Luke 18:24 and 24:25.

**24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples,**

**If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

**Take up his cross and follow me:** To die for their faith by not denying that Jesus is the Son of God.

**27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. 28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.**

**The glory of his Father:** The glory he had at the transfiguration (See Matthew 17:2 when his face shined as the sun), and which he had in heaven before his becoming a man.

 It will happen at his second coming at the end of the time of Jacob’s trouble, the seven-year tribulation period. Jeremiah 30:7.

**There be some standing here:**Some of the twelve saw a glimpse of the kingdom six days later, but the rest would die without a glimpse of it except John.

 The apostle John, in Revelation 4-19 saw all this come to past in a vision while on Patmos.

**Chapter Seventeen**

**They were exceeding sorry**

**1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, 2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. 3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. 4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus,**

**Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.**

**After six days:** It was six days after Jesus told the twelve that some of them would not taste of death until they had seen the Son of man coming in his kingdom. See Matthew 16:28.

**Transfigured before them:** His face shined as the sun. Peter later mentions that they were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 2nd Peter 1:16-18.

**His raiment was white as the light:**This we see numerous times in scripture when humans see God or angels that want to be seen.

**Moses and Elias:** The two witnesses that appear during the tribulation period. Revelation 11:3.

**5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said,**

**This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.**

**A bright cloud overshadowed them:** Luke 3:21-22,Revelation 11:12 and 14:15.

**6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. 7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said,**

**Arise, and be not afraid.**

**8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. 9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying,**

**Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.**

 The kingdom wouldn’t be set up until after the king is rejected, crucified, and ascends into heaven to sit in exile until his enemies be made his footstool. Psalm 110:1.

**Risen again from the dead:** Most Jews believed in the resurrection of the dead, but they didn’t understand what Jesus meant when he said he would be risen from the dead.

 Lazarus was raised from the dead when Jesus called him by name in John 11:43. If Jesus would have just said, Come forth! Then all in the graves would have been resurrected.

 Both Lazarus and Jesus were resurrected from the dead. All believing Israel will be a part of the resurrection of the dead.

**10 And his disciples asked him, saying,**

**Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come?**

**11 And Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. 12 But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.**

**13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.**

**Elias:** (Elijah) is still going to come and restore all things to Israel, during the tribulation period. He will turn many Israelites back to God and he will preach the same message that John the Baptist preached:

***Matthew 3:2 Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.***

 John came in the spirit and power of Elijah, but Elijah himself will return during the tribulation period. Luke 1:17.

**The Son of Man:** A Messianic title for Jesus.

**14 And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying,**

**15 Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for ofttimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. 16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.**

**17 Then Jesus answered and said,**

**O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.**

**O faithless and perverse generation:** Why would Jesus say such a thing to a parent who cared for his child and wanted him healed. Obviously, he had faith that Jesus could heal him.

 Notice that his response is not to the man initially, but to the twelve apostles, and the whole nation of Israel, that is without the necessary faith.

 This many was the opposite of the religious rulers who should have been telling the nation to believe on Jesus as their long-awaited Messiah, but they had no faith themselves.

**18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said,**

**Why could not we cast him out?**

**20 And Jesus said unto them,**

**Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. 21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.**

**Faith as a grain of mustard seed:** Jesus often told the little flock and the twelve apostles that they were of little faith. See Matthew 6:30 and 8:26.

 Jesus regularly prayed and fasted, and the apostles did not, and for that reason they could not cast out this stronger type of devil. The children of the bridechamber were not too fast while the bridegroom was with them. See Matthew 9:14.

**22 And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them,**

**The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: 23 And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again.**

**Betrayed:** By Judas Iscariot for 30 pieces of silver.Zechariah 11:12.

**And they were exceeding sorry.**

 Jesus intentionally hid that truth from their minds before they could fully grasp it, but allowed the lost to remember it long enough so they would place guards around his tomb. Luke 9:44-45.

 They did not understand the gospel of the grace of God that Jesus had to do those things. They understood and preached the gospel of the kingdom that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God.

**24 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said,**

**Doth not your master pay tribute?**

**Capernaum:** The city of Nahum the prophet.

**25 He saith,**

**Yes.**

**And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying,**

**What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?**

 **26 Peter saith unto him,**

**Of strangers.**

**Jesus saith unto him,**

**Then are the children free. 27 Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee.**

 If Israel would have been obedient to the covenant that they made with God at mount Sinai, then Rome would have never been over them exacting taxes from them. Leviticus 26:1-17.

**Chapter Eighteen**

**Tell it unto the church**

**1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying,**

**Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?**

**2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said,**

**Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

 Remember not to confuse the kingdom of heaven spoken of here with the actual dwelling place of God. Jesus is speaking about entering into a kingdom here on earth.

 The millennial kingdom will take place here on earth after the seven-year tribulation period, while the body of Christ is in heavenly places.

 Things will be done on earth as they already are already being done in heaven in those days. That is why it is called the kingdom of heaven.

***Matthew 6:10 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven.***

**5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. 6 But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. 7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! 8 Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. 9 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.**

**A millstone:** A large stone used in making flour.

**If thy hand or foot offend thee cut it off:** We must remember it is entrance into the kingdom of heaven, and not heaven itself that is being spoken about, when God’s will shall be done on earth.

 Their works will not guarantee their entrance into the kingdom, but a faith without works is dead as James teaches the twelve tribes scattered abroad, not us in the body of Christ. James 1:1.

**Hell fire:** This is speaking to people who heard the gospel of the kingdom preached as being at hand in Jesus’ three-year ministry.

 We are not to pluck out our eyes today in the dispensation of grace, nor cut off our hands to avoid going to hell where there is literal fire.

**10 Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. 11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.**

**Their angels:** Israel had guardian angels watching over them as they did not have eternal security like we do today. People in the body of Christ today do not have guardian angels.

 Just because Israel has something given to them under their program does not mean that the Church has the same thing given to them.

**The Son of man:** A title for the Saviour of the world.

**12 How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? 13 And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. 14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.**

 Jesus is speaking about people’s attitudes towards those who are lost in sin. They were not to despise the lost, but to share the gospel with them.

**15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. 16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.**

**In the mouth of two or three witnesses:** Deuteronomy 19:15.

**17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.**

**Tell it unto the church:** Here we have the second and last mention of the church in the four gospels. Remember, the word church simply means a called-out assembly.

 You can't tell anything to a church that doesn't already exist. There was a kingdom church set up by Jesus made up by the apostles and the little flock of Luke 12:32.

 There was a church in the wilderness mentioned by Stephen that was made up of those called out of Egypt to assemble in the wilderness with Moses:

***Acts 7:38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:***

 There are different kinds of churches (called out assemblies) in the bible. In Acts 19:37 the pagan temples of Diana are referred to as churches by Luke because people assemble together.

***Acts 19:37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.***

 We don’t belong to either of these churches today. We belong to the church which is Christ’s body, mentioned in Colossians 1:24.

**18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.**

**Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven:** This is not spoken to us in the body of Christ today, it was spoken to the Jews in the church in Jesus’ day. The Jewish apostles had this power, not pastors today.

**21 Then came Peter to him, and said,**

**Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?**

**22 Jesus saith unto him,**

**I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.**

**Until seventy times seven:** Seven times seventy totals four hundred and ninety, which is exactly how many years Israel did not keep the sabbath rest for the land.

 So, God allowed Israel to go into captivity for 70 years for her disobedience. Leviticus 26:34-35 & Jeremiah 25:11-12.

**23 Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. 24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. 27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

 There is coming a day when Christ's servants will be judged, and the books will be opened, and those who have been obedient to their King will be allowed access into the kingdom.

**Talents:** A piece of precious metal that weighed a certain amount. Ten thousand talents was worth millions and millions of dollars.

**28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. 29 And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. 30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.**

**An hundred pence:** One hundred dollars roughly.

**31 So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. 32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: 33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? 34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. 35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.**

**Wroth:** Angry.

**The tormentors:** Those who punished violators of the law.

**Chapter Nineteen**

**Keep the commandments**

**1 And it came to pass, that when Jesus had finished these sayings, he departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan; 2 And great multitudes followed him; and he healed them there. 3 The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him,**

**Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?**

**The coasts of Judea:** The borders of the tribe of Judah.

**Put away:**To divorce.

**4 And he answered and said unto them,**

**Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said,**

**For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh.**

**What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**

**7 They say unto him,**

**Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?**

**A writing of divorcement:** See Deuteronomy 24:1and Matthew 5:31.

**8 He saith unto them,**

**Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. 9 And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.**

**I say unto you:** Jesus spoke as one having authority, not as the scribes.

**10 His disciples say unto him,**

**If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry.**

**11 But he said unto them,**

**All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. 12 For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb: and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.**

 It wasn't the subject of divorce that the Pharisees were interested in. They were doctors of the law, and they knew very well what Moses said. The Pharisees deviated from what Moses told the people by adding the words, “for every cause.”

 They made it look as if Jesus was speaking against Moses when he was actually stating the reason for Moses’ writing of divorcement.

 It is God's intention that every marriage last, and that no marriage end due to adultery. Had God not allowed the acceptance for adultery then the innocent party would be trapped in a union that is not a union at all.

**Eunuchs of men:** Certain slaves were made Eunuchs by their masters for different reasons.

**Eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven’s sake:** We should not be making ourselves eunuchs for Israel’s kingdom. It’s not our kingdom. We are not trying to enter the kingdom of heaven today as members of the body of Christ.

**He that is able to receive it, let him receive it:** See verse 11 above. A person at the time that the kingdom was at hand were to sell all that they had and go and follow Christ.

 We are not to do this under the dispensation of grace today, which began once Saul of Tarsus got saved on the road to Damascus.

**13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But Jesus said,**

**Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Lay hands on them and pray:** Notice that Jesus does lay hands on the little children in verse 15 but it doesn’t say that he prayed for them.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

 Just as in salvation, entrance into the kingdom is for those with childlike faith. A child doesn’t have to have God's existence proven to them continually, they just believe and are accepted with God.

**15 And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence. 16 And, behold, one came and said unto him,**

**Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?**

**17 And he said unto him,**

**Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.**

**Good Master:** A teacher with advanced understanding of spiritual matters.

**What good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life:** Jesus’ reply was, “If thou wilt enter into life (eternal life in the kingdom), keep the commandments.”

 We are not trying to enter into eternal life today because we are not trying to get into Israel’s earthly kingdom. We go to heaven because we believed the gospel today, not by keeping the law.

**18 He saith unto him,**

**Which?**

**Jesus said,**

**Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

**20 The young man saith unto him,**

**All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?**

**21 Jesus said unto him,**

**If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.**

**If thou will be perfect, Sell all that you have and give to the poor, and come follow me:** It was not a requirement under the law to sell all that you had, nor is it a requirement under grace today.

 While the King was there, and the kingdom was at hand, it was a requirement for entrance into the kingdom.

 Since the kingdom was an eternal kingdom, a person living in it needed eternal life, hence the question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. 23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples,**

**Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.**

**It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle:** It meant an actual camel going through the eye of an actual needle, not the silly explanations of liberal theologians.

 It was not speaking to us in the dispensation of grace. It was speaking to Israel under the preaching of the gospel of the kingdom.

**25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying,**

**Who then can be saved?**

**26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them,**

**With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.**

**27 Then answered Peter and said unto him,**

**Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore?**

**28 And Jesus said unto them,**

**Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. 30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.**

**In the regeneration:** This is another title for the kingdom when the earth shall be regenerated. Act 3:19-21.

**Ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel:** The qualification to be an apostle was that you had to follow Jesus since the baptism of John, and also be a witness of the resurrection. Acts 1:22.

 Paul was not qualified to be one of the twelve, he was qualified to be the apostle of the Gentiles, however. Romans 11:13. Verse one of chapter twenty is a parable of the kingdom used to further explain the end of chapter nineteen.

**Every one that hath forsaken:** During the time while the kingdom was at hand those who followed Jesus had to leave everything and go and follow him.

 It did not say they were to neglect them, but if they neglected to follow Jesus, then those who did follow Jesus were not to let that affect their service for Christ.

**Chapter Twenty**

**Ye know not what ye ask**

**1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**A man that is an householder:** The householder is God. The labourers are those in Israel at that time that were working for God.

**His vineyard:** The vineyard is Israel, and ultimately the world when the 144,000 go out into it to reach the masses with the gospel of the kingdom. See Isaiah 5:1-7 & Matthew 24:14.

**2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.**

**A penny a day:** The minimum wage at that time for a days work.

**3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. 5 Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? 7 They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive. 8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. 9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. 11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, 12 Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.**

 The hours represent a clock marking Israel’s existence. It doesn’t matter that someone in Abraham’s day has been in Abraham’s bosom longer than someone in David’s day has, or in Jesus’ day, or a tribulation saint. God is fair.

**13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? 14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? 16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.**

**So the last shall be first, and the first last:** See Matthew 19:30.

**For many be called, but few chosen:** See Matthew 22:14.

**17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them, 18**

**Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, 19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.**

 Jesus tells the disciples about his crucifixion and resurrection, while at the same time he allows what he said to be hidden from their understanding until after the resurrection. Luke 9:45 & 18:34.

 One of the reasons for this was to keep the disciples from trying to keep him from his ultimate goal of going to the cross as our substitute.

**And the third day he shall rise again:** This is found in the old testament. See Psalm 16:10.

**20 Then came to him the mother of Zebedees children with her sons, worshipping him, and desiring a certain thing of him. 21 And he said unto her,**

**What wilt thou?**

**She saith unto him,**

**Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left, in thy kingdom.**

**Zebedees children:** James and John. See Matthew 4:21.

**22 But Jesus answered and said,**

**Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?**

**They say unto him,**

**We are able.**

**The cup that I shall drink of, and the baptism that I am baptized with:** These referred to Jesus’ martyrdom and death. See Matthew 26:42.

**23 And he saith unto them,**

**Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on my right hand, and on my left, is not mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father.**

 The mother of James, and John understood that they were looking for an earthly kingdom. Many reading this today still don’t see that because their religious traditions blind them, just as it did Israel 2,000 years ago.

**On thy right hand, and the other on the left:** The top two positions in the kingdom besides the throne.

**24 And when the ten heard it, they were moved with indignation against the two brethren. 25 But Jesus called them unto him, and said,**

**Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. 26 But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; 27 And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: 28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**

**A ransom for many:** A ransom is a payment in exchange for one or many’s release from situation.

 The many is a reference to Israel. In Isaiah 53:12 it says he bare the sin of many (Israel). Paul, however, tells us that he was a ransom for all. 1st Timothy 2:6.

 Paul’s teachings were a mystery, not made known until they were revealed to him after the cross. Romans 16:25, 1st Corinthians 2:7-8 & Ephesians 3:1-9.

**29 And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him.**

**Jericho:** The name means a new moon (month).

**30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David. 31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying,**

**Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David.**

**Thou son of David:** The descendant of David that shall sit on the throne forever.

**32 And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said,**

**What will ye that I shall do unto you?**

**33 They say unto him,**

**Lord, that our eyes may be opened.**

**34 So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.***Isaiah 42:7.*

**Chapter Twenty-one**

**Behold thy king cometh unto thee**

**1 And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples, 2 Saying unto them,**

**Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me. 3 And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.**

**Bethphage:**A city on the mount of Olives just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem.

**4 All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying,**

**5 Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.***Zechariah 9:9.*

**6 And the disciples went, and did as Jesus commanded them, 7 And brought the ass, and the colt, and put on them their clothes, and they set him thereon. 8 And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way. 9 And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying,**

**Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.**

**Hosanna to the son of David:** Hosanna means deliverance. The phrase, the son of David, meant Jesus was the heir to David's throne. Psalm 118:26.

**10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying,**

**Who is this?**

**11 And the multitude said,**

**This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.**

**The prophet of Nazareth of Galilee:** Nazareth was a city in the Galilee region where Jesus lived for about 25 years.The name is from the root word Nazar (Set apart).

 Jesus spent most of his time in the Galilee region, and therefore many people in Jerusalem had never seen him so once they realized who he was, the crowds began to grow in support.

**12 And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, 13 And said unto them,**

**It is written,**

**My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.** *Isaiah 56:7.*

**Them that sold and bought in the temple:**Animals were being sold and bought for a price contrary to the scriptures that commanded that they were to bring their own animals to sacrifice.

**The money changers:**They would take the people’s Roman money and exchange it for temple shekels at a profit to them.

**14 And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. 15 And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying,**

**Hosanna to the son of David;**

**they were sore displeased, 16 And said unto him,**

**Hearest thou what these say?**

**And Jesus saith unto them,**

**Yea; have ye never read,**

**Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?** *Psalm 8:2.*

**17 And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.**

**The Son of David:** Jesus’ title verifying that he was the rightful descendant to sit on David’s throne as Israel’s king.

**They were sore displeased:** The chief priests and the scribes were sore displeased because they were envious. Mark 15:10.

**Bethany:** A city next to Bethpage, and Jerusalem on the mount of Olives.

**The fig tree withered away**

**18 Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. 19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it,**

**Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever.**

**And presently the fig tree withered away. 20 And when the disciples saw it, they marvelled, saying,**

**How soon is the fig tree withered away!**

**21 Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. 22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.**

**The fig tree withered away:** Israel is often referred to as a fig tree in the scriptures. This is a prophetic pronouncement upon Israel's spiritual decline as they fall due to their unbelief. Luke 13:6-9 and Romans 11:11-12.

**All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive:**The twelve had been given power by Christ for fulfilling God's will concerning the kingdom.

 The reason why we don’t have that power today is because we are not apostles in Israel's kingdom. We cannot make God do something today for us that he promised to do for someone else in scripture during a different age.

 We are not Israel under their kingdom program, we are the church, which is Christ’s body, and we are under grace. Romans 6:14-15.

**23 And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said,**

**By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?**

**24 And Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men?**

**And they reasoned with themselves, saying,**

**If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? 26 But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.**

**27 And they answered Jesus, and said,**

**We cannot tell.**

**And he said unto them,**

**Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.**

**By what authority doest thou these things:** The things mentioned here are the casting out the money changers, and the healing of the people. See Matthew 7:29, Luke 9:1, & John 5:26-27.

**The baptism of John, whence was it? from Heaven, or of men:**Jesus asked them this question because he knew they rejected the counsel of God being not baptized of John:

***Luke 7:29 And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.***

**The parable of the two sons**

**28 But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. 29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. 30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. 31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father?**

**They say unto him, The first.**

**Jesus saith unto them,**

**Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.**

**A certain man had two sons:** Jesus told them that John's baptism was from heaven. The first son represented the publicans and harlots who repented and believed John.

 The second son represented the chief priests and the elders who claimed to do the will of Father, but they did not believe the counsel of God, being not baptized of John. Luke 7:29-30.

**Publicans:** Tax collectors.

**The parable of the husbandmen**

**33 Hear another parable:** **There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country:***Isaiah 5:1-7.*

**Parable:** A story meant to conceal things to those who have rejected Jesus as their Saviour, and reveal things to his disciples.

**A certain householder:** God. See Matthew 13:27 & 52.

**A vineyard:** This is speaking of Israel: Isaiah 5 below.

***Isaiah 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: 2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes. 3 And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem, and men of Judah, judge, I pray you, betwixt me and my vineyard. 4 What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? 5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down: 6 And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. 7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.***

**And hedged it round about:** The hedge was the middle wall of partition of circumcision that was erected between Jew and Gentile in Genesis 17.

**And digged a winepress in it:**A winepress is what you used to get the juice out of the grapes. He expected to have a lot of fruit because he had given Israel everything they needed to get a harvest.

**And built a tower:**2nd Samuel 22:3 & 51.

**And let it out to husbandmen:** The leaders of Israel. Mark 12:1-9 & Luke 20:9-16.

**And went into a far country:** Jesus ascended to heaven after his crucifixion.

**34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it.**

**The time of the fruit drew near:**The kingdom was at hand, where there would be a lot of fruit produced.

**He sent his servants to the husbandmen:** The servants are the prophets that God sent to Israel, while the husbandmen were the leaders of the nation of Israel that persecuted them.

**That they may receive the fruits of it:** Righteousness is seen typified as fruit in the four gospels. See Matthew 3:8.

**35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. 40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?**

**His son:**The Son of God.

**41 They say unto him,**

**He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.**

**Other husbandmen:** The little flock in Luke 12:32.

**42 Jesus saith unto them,**

**Did ye never read in the scriptures,**

**The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?***Psalm 118:22-23.*

**43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.**

**A nation bringing forth the fruits thereof:** Since the promise of the kingdom was made with Israel, God had to give it to the nation of Israel. Luke 12:32.

 He gave it to the believing remnant in Israel (called the little flock by Jesus), not to the unbelieving ones who were not believers in Jesus.

**44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.**

**This stone:** It is Jesus Christ. See verse 42 above.

**Shall be broken:** Humbled.

**Grind him to powder:** Exodus 32:20.

**45 And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. 46 But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.**

 God sent many servants (prophets) to try to get Israel to return to him, and the covenant he made with them at Sinai, but they killed most of them, and finally he sent them his Son and him they also killed.

 He then let out his vineyard to the remnant (the apostles and disciples) who did produce fruit in its season.

 They will again in the tribulation period with the two witnesses, and the 144,000. It was to them (the little flock) that the kingdom was given.

**Chapter Twenty-two**

**The wedding is ready**

**1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,**

**2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**A certain king:** God.

**A marriage:** The marriage of Jesus and his bride (believing Israel).

**His son:** Jesus.

**His servants:** The prophets.

**Them that were bidden:** The nation and its leaders.

**4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.**

**The remnant:** A remnant of people who instead of just leaving the preaching of these servants, stayed behind to kill the servants.l. This is not the little flock of Luke 12:32.

**His servants:** Those who preached to Israel about their kingdom.

**7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.**

**Wroth:** Angry

**Their city:** Jerusalem.

**8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. 10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.**

**Guests:** The little flock that believed.

**11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.**

**A man:** He represents those who try to enter their own way without faith in the Messiah.

**A wedding garment:** Fine linen, clean and white mentioned in Revelation 19:7-9.

**Outer darkness:** Hell.

**Many are called:** All of Israel was called to the marriage.

**Few are chosen:** The ones who made their robes white in the blood of the lamb. The remnant or little flock. Revelation 7:14.

**15 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. 16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying,**

**Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. 17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?**

**18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said,**

**Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? 19 Shew me the tribute money.**

**And they brought unto him a penny. 20 And he saith unto them,**

**Whose is this image and superscription?**

**The Herodians:** Herod’s loyal soldiers and political associates.

**21 They say unto him,**

**Caesar's.**

**Then saith he unto them,**

**Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.**

**22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.**

 By Jesus answering them he would leave them no excuses for their unbelief. Jesus knew that they knew the law, and he also knew that they would obey (render to) Rome, ahead of God.

**23 The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him, 24 Saying,**

**Master, Moses said,**

**If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.** *Genesis 38:8.*

**25 Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother: 26 Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh. 27 And last of all the woman died also. 28 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her.**

**The resurrection:** The resurrection of the just after the seven-year tribulation period. Jeremiah 30:7 and Acts 24:15.

**29 Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. 30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. 31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, 32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?***Exodus 3:6.*

**God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.**

**As the angels of God in heaven:** Those who were married previously are not married again in the kingdom after the resurrection.

 There will be marriages in the kingdom and offspring from those marriages, but someone who already lived will not produce offspring in the kingdom. The angels in heaven do not marry.

**33 And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine.**

 Jesus answers their questions about marriage in the kingdom which they should have known as leaders of Israel.

 In the kingdom old testament believers will be resurrected to live on the earth. They will not be in a marriage relationship during the kingdom. Others born into the kingdom will obviously.

 They will be as the angels which are in heaven. They will not become angels, but are like the angels in their status.

 Then Jesus deals with their bigger problem, they did not believe the resurrection. God said, I am the God of Abraham, not I was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

 Meaning that all three were alive in Paradise awaiting resurrection. The Sadducees believed that when you died you were dead. They even used the scriptures to try to prove that, and to disprove the opposite.

**34 But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. 35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,**

**36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?**

**37 Jesus said unto him,**

**Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** *Deuteronomy 6:4-5.*

**38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.** *Leviticus 19:18.*

**40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.**

**41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 Saying,**

**What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?**

**They say unto him,**

**The son of David.**

**43 He saith unto them,**

**How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,**

**44 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?** *Psalm 110:1.*

**The Son of David:** Jesus’ title verifying that he was the rightful descendant to sit on David’s throne as Israel’s king.

**45 If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?**

**46 And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.**

**Chapter Twenty-three**

**Whatsoever they bid you observe**

**1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples, 2 Saying,**

**The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: 3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.**

**Moses’ seat:** In the place of Moses as a teacher of the law.

**Whatsoever they bid you observe:** Jesus was a law-abiding Jew, which demanded the same of his followers. Galatians 4:4. We are not under the Mosaic law today; we are under grace. Romans 6:14-15.

**4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. 5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, 6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, 7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. 8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren. 9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. 10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.**

**Phylacteries:** A small case containing the ten commandments.

**Be not ye called Rabbi:** The word Rabbi means master. Jesus forbad calling spiritual leaders Master, or Father. John 1:38. Jesus did allow his disciples to call him Rabbi and Master because he was both, they, and we are not:

***John 13:13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.***

**Call no man your father upon the earth:**This is speaking in a religious sense, it is okay to call your earthly father, your father, but not a priest. God alone is reserved that title.

**11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted. 13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.**

**Ye shut up:** They prevented people from entering the kingdom because of the wrong teachings.

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**Jesus pronounces 7 woes to the scribes and Pharisees**

**14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.**

**Woe:** The beginning of a pronouncement of judgment.

**15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.**

**Proselyte:** A Convert.

**The child of hell:** They are like a father that is producing hell bound offspring.

**16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say,**

**Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!**

**17 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold? 18 And,**

**Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty.**

**19 Ye fools and blind: for whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift? 20 Whoso therefore shall swear by the altar, sweareth by it, and by all things thereon. 21 And whoso shall swear by the temple, sweareth by it, and by him that dwelleth therein. 22 And he that shall swear by heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon.**

**Blind guides:** Ignorant religious leaders who can’t see the truth.

**23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. 24 Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.**

**Tithe:** A tenth of something.

**Mint:** A sweet, scented plant.

**Anise:** Dill.

**Cummin:** A spice used in curry.

**25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess. 26 Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.**

**27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness. 28 Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.**

**Whited sepulchres:** Graves painted to look good on the outside.

**29 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, 30 And say,**

**If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.**

**31 Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets.**

**Woe unto you:** Grief.

 This was the last of eight woes pronounced upon the Scribes and Pharisees for their hypocrisy. They were blind leaders of the blind.

**32 Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. 33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?**

**Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers:** Finish the work they started in killing the righteous.

**34 Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: 35 That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.***Zechariah 1:1.*

**Upon you shall come all the righteous blood:** They would be guilty of all the righteous before them if they persecuted Christ.

**Abel:** The first martyr.

**Zacharias:** The most recent martyr (From A to Z).

**36 Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.**

 That generation would be guilty for killing the Messiah.

**37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! 38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.**

**Your house is left unto you desolate:** The temple was left desolate, and Jesus departed and went eastward to the mount Olives which is the same things that happened when God’s glory departed from the temple in Ezekiel 10:18.

 Jesus called the same house (the temple) his Father’s house when he first cleansed it, then he called it their house because God’s Spirit had departed from it.

 John 2:16 talks about the Fathers house from Jesus day 2,000 and John 14:2 talks about his future house in the new earth.

**39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say,**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.** *Psalm 118:26.*

 When Jesus entered Jerusalem’s temple area in Matthew 21:9-15 multitudes proclaimed, “Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord,” but when he comes back all of Israel will proclaim it.

**Chapter Twenty-four**

**He that shall endure unto the end**

**1 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them,**

**See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.**

 While on the mountain Jesus tells his disciples of the temple’s soon destruction (70 AD). Then before they have a chance to respond to his shocking statement, he deliberately walks away from them.

 He first descended into the Kidron Valley, passing through the Garden of Gethsemane before ascending the steep trail up to the top of the mount of Olives.

 This is where the disciples eventually catch up to him, and that are able to ask him about his previous pronouncement. There is an intentional gap of silence between this verse and the next ones.

**3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying,**

**Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?**

**The mount of Olives:** When the disciples asked Jesus these questions, they were looking for the kingdom.

 Jesus tells them of the trials that shall come upon the nation of Israel during the tribulation period (the time of Jacob’s trouble). Jeremiah 30:7.

 Jesus skips over the whole dispensation of grace for us today and begins to tell his disciples about the prophesied tribulation period that would have to come before the kingdom would be set up.

 He would not reveal the mystery of the dispensation of grace to them. Paul alone would receive those revelations a few years later.

**4 And Jesus answered and said unto them,**

**Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying,**

**I am Christ;**

**and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.**

**The beginning of sorrows:** The beginning of pains and travail. See 1st Thessalonians 5:13. The tribulation period or time of Jacob’s trouble. Jeremiah 30:7.

**9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.**

**Many shall be offended:** See Matthew 11:6, 13:21 and 26:31.

**11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.**

**13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.**

**He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved:** Those believers who endure unto the end of the tribulation period without taking the mark of the beast will be saved, and they will enter their kingdom. This is not doctrine for the dispensation of grace today.

***Romans 11:26 And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.*** *Psalm 14:7 & Jeremiah 31:31.*

**14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.**

**This gospel of the kingdom:** This message will again be preached to the whole world in the tribulation period by the 144,000.

**Then shall the end come:** The end of Satan’s rule as the god of this world, and of man’s rule under him. It will mark the beginning of the kingdom, where Christ will rule and reign for a thousand years.

**15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place,**

**(whoso readeth, let him understand:)**

**16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: 17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: 18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. 19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! 20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: 21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. 22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.** *Daniel 11:31.*

**The abomination of desolation:** It will be in the holy place (a rebuilt temple), and Judaea is mentioned along with the sabbath day.

 The temple, and the sabbath day are parts of the Jewish system of worship, and do not belong to us today in the body of Christ. All of chapters 24 and 25 are for Israel in the tribulation period.

**The elect’s sake:** The believing remnant of Israel that will enter into their kingdom without dying.

**23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. 24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. 25 Behold, I have told you before. 26 Wherefore if they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth: behold, he is in the secret chambers; believe it not. 27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.**

**False Christs:** The anti-christ will be the chief one.

 These last fourteen verses answered the first question of the disciples of when these things shall be. Now Jesus will answer the second question about the sign of his coming:

**Wheresoever the carcase is:** Dead bodies will fill the valley of Megiddo and God will send the birds to feast upon them.

**29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:***Joel 2:30-31 & Revelation 12:4.*

**Stars shall fall from heaven:** Angels are referred to as stars in the bible.

**30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**

**His elect:** These are those believing Jews during the tribulation period, who are gathered together to enter into their kingdom.

**32 Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: 33 So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors.**

**The fig tree:** It is figurative throughout scripture of believing Israel. It will start to put forth leaves in the tribulation period so that it can start producing fruits (souls) for the kingdom. The 144,000 are the ones that will produce fruit in those days.

**34 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.**

**This generation shall not pass:** Jesus was telling the Jews in his day that the generation that is alive during the tribulation period is the generation that would be there to usher in the kingdom at his second coming.

 Jesus was speaking about his coming physically to set up his kingdom, and not about Israel becoming a nation in 1948. That generation has come and gone.

**35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. 36 But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.**

**Heaven and earth shall pass away:** Revelation 21:1.

**Of that day and hour knoweth no man:** This is a prophecy of the second coming of Christ to set up his kingdom.

 This is not a teaching about the rapture, which was still a mystery until it was revealed to the apostle Paul. 1st Corinthians 15:51.

**37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.**

 Noah, and his family, were prepared and knew time was running out, the lost didn’t know, and went about their daily life as if they were crazy.

 Just like they will be doing during the tribulation period, even with all the signs that the people of Noah's day never had.

**40 Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left. 42 Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.**

**The one shall be taken:** The ones taken here, are taken to judgment. The ones who remain, go into their kingdom, and are placed over things to rule with Christ.

 This is a rapture that you don’t want to be in. No one in the body of Christ will be in this rapture to judgment.

**43 But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. 45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. 47 Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods. 48 But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; 49 And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; 50 The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, 51 And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

 The faithful believers in the tribulation period will not be caught off guard when the Lord returns, because they have been following along in the Bible, and seeing all the things come to pass, and they will know that their Master is soon coming.

**Chapter Twenty-five**

**Ten virgins**

 Here we find the eleventh kingdom of heaven parable, seven of which are found in Matthew thirteen.

 This parable is similar to the one found in Chapter Twenty-two, and the context is the same. Chapter Twenty-two gives us part of the key to understanding this parable.

**1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel that is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

**Ten virgins:** They represent Jews at the end of the tribulation period.

**Their lamps:** Their source of light.

***Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.***

**The bridegroom:** The bridegroom is the Son of man, Jesus Christ.

**2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: 4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.**

**Five of them were wise:** They took vessels with extra oil in them because they were not sure how long it would be. Oil is a type of the holy Spirit.

**Five were foolish:** During the tribulation period the five foolish virgins light did not endure unto the end because their oil ran out. The oil is a type of the holy Spirit. This is not doctrine for the dispensation of grace but for the tribulation period.

**5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. 6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.**

**While the bridegroom tarried:** He was preparing a place for his bride. John 14:2-3. The city of new Jerusalem. Revelation 21:9-10.

**At midnight:** Jesus returns for his bride at midnight at the end of the tribulation period when it was the darkest part of the night. The tribulation period (the day of the Lord) is often referred to as night or darkness.

**And trimmed their lamps:** They removed the burnt tip of the wick to allow any remaining oil to rise and ignite to provide light so they could see.

**8 And the foolish said unto the wise,**

**Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.**

**9 But the wise answered, saying,**

**Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.**

**10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying,**

**Lord, Lord, open to us.**

**12 But he answered and said,**

**Verily I say unto you, I know you not.**

 The five foolish virgins were the same as the people in Luke 13:23-30 who were not prepared for the Lord’s return because they were not looking for him.

 The lamps would be filled with oil, but they would need to be refilled, just like the apostles were filled with the holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, and they had to be refilled again in Acts 4:31.

 When the bridegroom left to prepare a place for his bride, he would send her a gift to comfort her while he was away. John 4:2-3. The gift was the holy Spirit. They would be anointed with the holy Spirit on Pentecost.

 The oil represented the holy Spirit. Priests were anointed with oil as a picture of their high priest Jesus, who was anointed with the holy Spirit at his baptism. Acts 4:27 & 10:38.

***John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.***

***John 16:5 But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? 6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.***

 The virgins had to keep their lamps full of oil. This is not something for us today in the dispensation of grace, this was for Israel.

 When Jesus was leaving, he told his bride that he would send them a gift that would comfort them. The Comforter is the holy Spirit.

 It will be for them once again after the rapture takes the body of Christ away. The holy Spirit seals us unto the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30 & 1st Corinthians 12:13.

**13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.**

 The context will determine the interpretation of this parable. It is about Israel watching and waiting for the return of Christ to set up his kingdom.

 This is not the rapture of the church. That isn’t revealed until Paul receives it. 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18 & 1st Corinthians 15:51-54.

**The Son of man:** Jesus is the bridegroom. What an amazing picture of a Jewish wedding. Ten virgins left their parents’ home to go out to meet the bridegroom in the middle of the night.

 They needed light to see, or they would not make it to the place where the bridegroom was. The oil kept their lamps burning, but when the bridegroom appeared only five had enough light to go out to meet him.

 The five foolish are typical of those who did not prepare adequately for their bridegroom and were left behind. The bridegroom was not all that important to them.

 The oil is symbolic of the holy Spirit, and is present in the lamps of the wise (the followers), but it is missing in the foolish ones (the lost).

 The problem arises when we try to make these five wise virgins, members of the body of Christ today, they are not.

 These represent people in the tribulation period, not us in the Church age. The body of Christ was still a mystery until it was revealed to Paul years later.

***1st Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.***

 Today we are eternally secure at the moment of salvation. The old testament saint could be filled with the holy Spirit as needed by God to accomplish his will.

 Notice also that the five wise virgins go and meet him, and attend the marriage with the bridegroom.

 Jesus is the bridegroom, and those that will watch and wait in those days will enter into his kingdom, but the fools who were not ready will not. Don't try to force this to mean the church today.

**14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.**

**The kingdom of heaven:** The future kingdom promised to Israel, which is set up after the seventieth week of Daniel ends.

***Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.***

 Here we find the twelfth kingdom of heaven parable concerning Israel and its earthly kingdom that shall exist for a thousand years.

**A man travelling:** This is Jesus Christ.

**The far country:** This is heaven upon his ascension.

**His own servants:** They are the Jews.

**His goods:** They are represented by the talents in the next verse.

**15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. 16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. 17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. 18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. 19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.**

 Here we see the judgment of both a righteous person who will receive an earthly reward during the millennial kingdom, and of an unrighteous person who will lose even what he had.

**20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying,**

**Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.**

**21 His lord said unto him,**

**Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**

**22 He also that had received two talents came and said,**

**Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.**

**23 His lord said unto him,**

**Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.**

 The Jews that are faithful during the time of Jacob’s trouble will be rewarded for their sacrifice and service by entrance into the kingdom, and an office of leadership in the kingdom.

**24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said,**

**Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: 25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.**

**26 His lord answered and said unto him,**

**Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: 27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. 28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. 29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. 30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**Outer darkness:** Here we have a hearer of the word, and not a doer of the word, and he is cast into hell. This was under a different program than what we are under today.

 He had the ability to produce one talent, but he decided not to even invest it. Paul tells us today that salvation is not of works, lest any man should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

**The future judgment of nations**

**31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.**

**As a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:**TheGentile nations are divided into two categories. Those that helped Israel in the time of Jacob’s trouble, and those that didn’t.

**34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand,**

**Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**

 This is a very critical day of judgment for the nations because, they will be judged as to how they treated the nation of Israel in her darkest hour.

 Those who treated Israel fairly will be blessed in the kingdom, but those who despised her shall go into everlasting punishment.

**35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.**

**37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying,**

**Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?**

**40 And the King shall answer and say unto them,**

**Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.**

**41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand,**

**Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: 42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: 43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.**

**44 Then shall they also answer him, saying,**

**Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?**

**45 Then shall he answer them, saying,**

**Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.**

**46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.**

**The King:** This is Jesus who is judging the nations after the tribulation period is expired.

**My brethren:** These are the believers in Israel who will be hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, and in prison during the tribulation period.

 If they help them, it is as if they are helping Christ. This will be when a Gentile must bless a Jew that God will in turn bless the Gentile with eternal life in that coming kingdom.

**Chapter Twenty-six**

**One of you shall betray me**

**1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples,**

**2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.**

**After two days is the feast of the passover:**Feasts were appointed times throughout the Jewish year that the children Israel were to keep yearly in the land of Israel. Exodus 23:15 & Numbers 9:1-15.

 They were prophetic pictures of events that were to come in Israel’s future. They serve as shadows of things to come concerning the Messiah’s first and second comings, the time of Jacob’s trouble and Israel’s future earthly kingdom. Colossians 2:17.

**The passover:**The feast commemorating their deliverance from Egypt if the blood of the lamb were applied to their door post, then the death angel would pass over their house. Exodus 12:11 & 13.

 Jesus was the lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world, and he mentions how he will die so that when it happens, they will remember his words.

 Matthew and Mark only record one passover in their gospel’s, which is the final passover. Mark 14:12-16.

 Luke records two passover feasts, with the first being the one he attended with his parents at twelve years of age, and the second one being 20 years later just before his crucifixion. Luke 2:41.

 John records three passover feasts which had occurred once Jesus began his public ministry. John 2:23, 6:4 and 11:55-19:42.

**3 Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, 4 And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him. 5 But they said,**

**Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.**

 The chief priests, scribes and the elders manipulated the situation so things would come out in their favor. What they meant for evil, God turned around for good.

**6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,**

**Simon the leper:**Simon had already been healed of his leprosy. See Matthew 11:5.

**Very precious ointment**

**7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.**

**There came unto him a woman:**This was Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. John 12:3. John tells us it was spikenard, and there was a pound of it, plus it was worth a years’ salary (three hundred pennyworth).

**8 But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying,**

**To what purpose is this waste? 9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.**

**10 When Jesus understood it, he said unto them,**

**Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me. 11 For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always. 12 For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial. 13 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.**

 Jesus had this ointment poured on his head prior to his burial which is common for a king. God opened Mary’s eyes to the fact of his soon coming death.

 The disciples should have done this for their king, but they were still in denial concerning his death. Nothing is said in this account of Matthew of Jesus’ feet being washed by Mary, and wiped with her hair as in John 12:3.

**Judas Iscariot**

**14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, 15 And said unto them,**

**What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you?**

**And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. 16 And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.**

**Thirty pieces of silver:** When Judas heard of Jesus’s pending death, he began to devise a plan to get more money by betraying him, as he assumed his days were short with Jesus. Zechariah 11:12.

**17 Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him,**

**Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?**

**The first day of the feast of unleavened bread:** This feast last a week. No leaven is to be eaten because it is a type of sin.

**18 And he said,**

**Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.**

**19 And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.**

**The feast of unleavened bread:** For one-week Jews would eat unleavened bread. They would put leaven (a type of sin) out of their house. Exodus 12:15.

**Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover:**They needed a house to eat the passover in, but they also needed a passover lamb.

 They would have had to have purchased one from the sheep gate because they did not have one with them on their journey.

**And they made ready the passover:**They went to purchase it at the temple, and do all the rituals associated with passover.

**20 Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. 21 And as they did eat, he said,**

**Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.**

**22 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him,**

**Lord, is it I?**

**23 And he answered and said,**

**He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. 24 The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.**

**25 Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said,**

**Master, is it I?**

**He said unto him,**

**Thou hast said.**

 Jesus refused to inform the other disciples as to who it was that would betray him. He did, however, tell Judas privately that he was the one. Judas was the leaven in the house that had to be removed. Judas was the leaven (sinner) that needed to be removed.

**26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said,**

**Take, eat; this is my body.**

**27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying,**

**Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.**

 Jesus emphasizes the kingdom teachings from the old testament because he was an apostle of the circumcision to confirm the promises made unto the fathers. Romans 15:8.

**This is the blood of the new testament:** **which is shed for many for the remission of sins:** The blood of Christ was shed for many for the remission of sins under Israel’s program.

 Paul tells us that Christ shed his blood for all for the forgiveness of sins. 2nd Corinthians 5:14-15.

 Forgiveness and remission are not the same thing. Forgiveness is eternal, remission is temporary. Israel would have their sins covered temporarily until the next year. All of our sins were forgiven the moment we believed the gospel.

**30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.**

 The Psalmist prophesied that Jesus would sing a hymn in the midst of the congregation, and here we see this fulfilled. Psalm 22:22.

**31 Then saith Jesus unto them,**

**All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written,**

**I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.** *Zechariah 13:7.*

**32 But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.**

**33 Peter answered and said unto him,**

**Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.**

**34 Jesus said unto him,**

**Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.**

**35 Peter said unto him,**

**Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee.**

**Likewise also said all the disciples.**

**This night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice:***John 18:27.*

**36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples,**

**Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.**

**Gethsemane:** The oil press.

**37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them,**

**My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.**

**The two sons of Zebedee:** James and John.

**39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying,**

**O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.**

**Let this cup pass from me:** This is the cup of his suffering and death mentioned in Matthew 20:22-23 & John 18:11.

**40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter,**

**What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**

**42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying,**

**O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.**

**43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them,**

**Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.**

**47 And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. 48 Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying,**

**Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.**

**49 And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said,**

**Hail, master;**

**and kissed him. 50 And Jesus said unto him,**

**Friend, wherefore art thou come?**

 Jesus was betrayed by a friend as Psalm 41:9 and 55:12-14 said, and sold for thirty pieces of silver just as Zechariah prophesied would happen. Proverbs 27:6 and Zechariah 11:12-13.

**Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took him. 51 And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. 52 Then said Jesus unto him,**

**Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. 53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?**

**55 In that same hour said Jesus to the multitudes,**

**Are ye come out as against a thief with swords and staves for to take me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me.**

**56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.**

 While Jesus is being beaten, he takes the time to ensure that every prophecy is fulfilled perfectly.

**57 And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. 58 But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end. 59 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death; 60 But found none: yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none. At the last came two false witnesses, 61 And said,**

**This fellow said,**

**I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.**

**62 And the high priest arose, and said unto him,**

**Answerest thou nothing? what is it which these witness against thee?**

**63 But Jesus held his peace, And the high priest answered and said unto him,**

**I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.**

**I adjure thee by the living God:** Deuteronomy 5:26.

**The Christ:** The anointed one. Acts 10:38.

**The Son of God:** Is the second person of the Godhead/Trinity. Colossians 2:9 & 1st John 5:7.

**64 Jesus saith unto him,**

**Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.**

**The right hand of power:** *Psalm 110.*

**Coming in the clouds of heaven:** *See Matthew 24:30.*

**65 Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying,**

**He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy. 66 What think ye?**

**They answered and said,**

**He is guilty of death.**

**67 Then did they spit in his face, and buffeted him; and others smote him with the palms of their hands, 68 Saying,**

**Prophesy unto us, thou Christ, Who is he that smote thee?**

**69 Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying,**

**Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee.**

**70 But he denied before them all, saying,**

**I know not what thou sayest.**

**71 And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there,**

**This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth.**

**Nazareth:** From the root word Nazar (Set apart). A city in the northern Galilee region.

**72 And again he denied with an oath,**

**I do not know the man.**

**73 And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter,**

**Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.**

**74 Then began he to curse and to swear, saying,**

**I know not the man.**

**And immediately the cock crew. 75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.***See Matthew 26:75.*

 The nation’s religious condemned Jesus to death on this morning, and that generation suffered greatly for their sin.

 The Roman Gentile soldiers and officials were the ones to carry out the crucifixion, and it was for our sins that Christ willfully went to the cross to pay for.

**Chapter Twenty-seven**

**Let him be crucified**

**1 When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: 2 And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor.**

**The governor:** He governed Judaea from 26-36 AD under Emperor Tiberius.

**3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,**

**When he saw that he was condemned, repented himself:** When Jesus was condemned Judas changed his mind, but it was too late.

**4 Saying,**

**I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.**

**And they said,**

**What is that to us? see thou to that.**

**5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.** Zechariah 11:13.

**I have betrayed the innocent blood:**Judas is the first to announce that Jesus was innocent. Pilate, his wife, Herod, a thief on the cross, and a soldier that stood by did as well, using different words.

**And went and hanged himself:**After he had hung there, he fell headlong, and burst asunder, and all his bowels gushed out. Acts 1:18.

 Judas was still guilty of betraying Jesus to death, who was innocent. Judas then committed suicide while Israel was still under the law.

**6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said,**

**It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.**

**7 And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. 8 Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto this day. 9 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,**

**And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value; 10 And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.** *Zechariah 11:12-13.*

**Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet:** Zechariah wrote down what Jeremiah (Jeremy) spoke. When Judas saw he was despised by the others, he tried to undo his mess, but it was too late. Then he hanged himself.

**11 And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying,**

**Art thou the King of the Jews?**

**And Jesus said unto him,**

**Thou sayest.**

**12 And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing. 13 Then said Pilate unto him,**

**Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?**

**14 And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly. 15 Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would. 16 And they had then a notable prisoner, called Barabbas. 17 Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them,**

**Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?**

**18 For he knew that for envy they had delivered him.**

**Barabbas:**Son of Abba, or Son of the Father. Barabbas was the scapegoat. Leviticus 16:5-10.

**19 When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying,**

**Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of him.**

**20 But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitude that they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus. 21 The governor answered and said unto them,**

**Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you?**

**They said,**

**Barabbas.**

**22 Pilate saith unto them,**

**What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?**

**They all say unto him,**

**Let him be crucified.**

**23 And the governor said,**

**Why, what evil hath he done?**

**But they cried out the more, saying,**

**Let him be crucified.**

**24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying,**

**I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.**

**A tumult was made:** An uproar, or disturbance.

**25 Then answered all the people, and said,**

**His blood be on us, and on our children.**

**That just man:**This is the second of three times someone is called just.

**I am innocent of the blood of this just person:** Joseph and John the Baptist were also called just by others.

**He took water and washed his hands**: A way to declare one’s innocence in a matter.

**His blood be on us, and on our children:**They pronounced a curse on themselves and their families. Deuteronomy 19:10, 2nd Samuel 1:16, Acts 18:6 & Ecclesiastes 5:4.

**26 Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.** *Isaiah 52:14.*

  Barabbas was the scapegoat. Jesus represented the innocent lamb that was slaughtered for the sins of the guilty as found in Leviticus chapter 16.

**27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers. 28 And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.**John 19 says it was purple.

**A scarlet robe:** Psalm 22:18.

**29 And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying,**

**Hail, King of the Jews!**

**30 And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head. 31 And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him. 32 And as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name: him they compelled to bear his cross. 33 And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull, 34 They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink. 35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet,**

**They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.** *Psalm 22:16-18*

**36 And sitting down they watched him there; 37 And set up over his head his accusation written,**

**THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.**

**38 Then were there two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another on the left.** *Isaiah 53:12.*

**39 And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, 40 And saying,**

**Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

**41 Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,**

**42 He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. 43 He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God.** *Psalm 22:8.*

**The Son of God:** Is the second person of the Godhead/Trinity. Colossians 2:9 & 1st John 5:7.

**44 The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth.**

**Cast the same in his teeth:** They reviled him. See Matthew 5:11.

**45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour. 46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying,**

**Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?**

**that is to say,**

**My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?** *Psalm 22:1.*

**The sixth hour:** Noon

**Unto the ninth hour:** Three o’clock.

**47 Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said,**

**This man calleth for Elias.**

**48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a spunge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink. 49 The rest said,**

**Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.**

**50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.** Isaiah 53.

**51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; 52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.**

**Rent in twain:** Ripped into two. Verses fifty-one through fifty-three are events that happened at, and immediately after Jesus’ resurrection, not at his death. Verse 53.

**Many bodies of the saints arose:** After his resurrection, not at his death! Jesus is the firstfruits of them that slept (were dead). 1st Corinthians 15:19-23, 1st Peter 3:19 & Ephesians 4:8.

 Jesus went to Abraham’s Bosom or Paradise, while his physical body remained in the grave waiting for his resurrection three days later.

 From there he would lead captivity (those who had died in faith before the cross) captive to its new abode in heaven.

 Paradise is now in the presence of God. See 2nd Corinthians 4:1-5, where Paul talks about John the apostle, not himself. Revelation 2:7. It was Wednesday at 3 PM (The ninth hour) that Jesus uttered, “It is finished.”

 He laid down his life for the sins of the world, but he wasn't put in the heart of the earth for three more hours, which was Thursday Evening around 6 PM (3 hours later).

 Jesus remained in the heart of the earth for the day of Thursday and Friday night. Then he stayed in the heart of the earth all the day Friday, followed by all Saturday night, and then all-day Saturday.

 Jesus said that he would be in the heart of the earth three days (Matthew 12:40), and three nights, and he had to do just that, and do it in the order that he said he would.

 Jesus’ body didn't go into the tomb Wednesday, but it was placed in there at the beginning of the new day which began at sunset.

 A Jew in those days would have said three nights, and three days, instead of three days and three nights, because a day begins biblically in the evening, not at midnight.

***Genesis 1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.***

**54 Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying,**

**Truly this was the Son of God.**

**55 And many women were there beholding afar off, which followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering unto him: 56 Among which was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joses, and the mother of Zebedee's children.**

**The Son of God:** Is the second person of the Godhead/Trinity. Colossians 2:9 & 1st John 5:7.

**Mary Magdalene:**Out of whom Jesus cast seven devils.Mark 16:9.

**Mary the mother of James and Joses:**Verse 61 & Mark 15:40.

**The mother of Zebedee’s children:** James and John.See Matthew 20:20.

**57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: 58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. 59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.**Isaiah 53:9.

**Arimathaea:** Most likely the city named Ramah in Joshua 18:25.

**61 And there was Mary Magdalene, and the other Mary, sitting over against the sepulchre.**

**Mary Magdalene:**Out of whom went seven devils. Mark 16:9.

**The other Mary:**John 19:25.

**Sepulchre:** A tomb.

**62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, 63 Saying,**

**Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. 64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first.**

**The day of the preparation:** The day before the sabbath used to prepare for the sabbath day when no work could be done.

**65 Pilate said unto them**

**Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can.**

**66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.**

**Made the sepulchre sure:** The sealed the stone and placed a guard on the tomb of many men.

 The lost people remembered Jesus’ statement about his resurrection, but his own disciples didn’t. That is because God deliberately hid it from them after he told them of it. Luke 18:34.

**Chapter Twenty-eight**

**Observe all things**

**1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.**

**The first day of the week:** Sunday.

**Mary Magdalene:** Out of whom Jesus cast seven devils. Mark 16:9.

**The other Mary:** See Matthew 27.

**The angel of the Lord:** An angel came and rolled back the stone, not to let Jesus out, but to let everyone in to see an empty tomb. Not all angels are called “the angel of the Lord,” some are called an angel of the Lord.

**And sat upon it:**Angels are often seen sitting in the Bible. Two were sitting in the tomb in John 20:12.

**For fear of him the keepers did shake, and become as dead men:** They fell flat on the ground out of fear when seeing God's messenger.

**5 And the angel answered and said unto the women,**

**Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.**

**8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.**

**Galilee:** Galilee was in the north near the Sea of Galilee, and it afforded Jesus privacy so he could speak to the eleven of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Acts 1:3.

**9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying,**

**All hail.**

**And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. 10 Then said Jesus unto them,**

**Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.**

**11 Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. 12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, 13 Saying,**

**Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. 14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.**

**15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.**

 All that was needed by the religious leaders of that day to silence Christianity forever was to produce the body of Jesus after his crucifixion. They could not!

 Would the disciples all be willing to live a life as outcasts to maintain a story that they knew was untrue? No! The story was true, and they were willing to die for it.

**16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying,**

**All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

 After being for forty days things pertaining to the kingdom, Christ tells his followers that all power is given unto him in heaven and in earth. The kingdom could not begin until the king died for Israel's sins.

 Then the offer of the kingdom could be finally offered to the nation. Only a remnant in Israel believed, and Israel's prophesied kingdom was put on hold because of their unbelief.

 God then ushered in the mystery program which began with Saul of Tarsus getting saved, after the stoning of Stephen.

**19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.**

**Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** Israel’s great commission was given to the apostles, and in it Jesus tells his apostles to teach everyone to observe all things whatsoever he commanded them.

 Jesus commanded his twelve to preach the gospel of the kingdom. See Matthew 24:14. He commanded his disciples not to go to the Gentiles. We go to the Gentiles.

 We do not preach that gospel today. We preach the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24. He told them to only go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. We go to all people today without distinction.

 He commanded people to offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded in the Law. We are not under the Law today, but we are under Grace. Romans 6:14-15.

 He told the rich young ruler to keep the commandments that Moses commanded to inherit eternal life. We are saved by grace through faith today. Ephesians 2:8-9.

 We would never tell someone today they need to keep the law to be saved, we would say believe that Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and rose from the dead to be saved. 1st Corinthians 15:1-4.

 Jesus also commanded someone to sell all that he had, and to come follow him (See Matthew 19:21). We do not tell people to do that today, because we are under grace. Romans 6:14-15.

 Jesus kept the law perfectly. He told his followers to keep the law on many occasions because the law was still in effect until after the death of the testator.

***Hebrews 9:6 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.***

 We today teach people things that pertain to God’s mystery program that was revealed to the apostle Paul after his conversion on the road to Damascus:

***Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world.***

 The next thing that was supposed to happen was the seventieth week of Daniel that was to occur immediately after the Messiah was cut off. Daniel 9:24-27.

 That did not happen at that time because God had another plan that had been kept secret since the world began that he was about to dispense to the world.

 Acts one through eight is the story of the Israel’s additional year given unto them by God to repent and to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Luke 13:6-9.

 Acts 9-28 is the story of their failure to do so, and God’s setting them aside for a season, to usher in the dispensation of grace.

**Amen:** The word “Amen” is used at the end of a prayer, or a sentence, never at the beginning. It is used as the last word of all four gospels as well.

 The word is the same Greek word translated “verily” in the King James Bible, and it is always used at the beginning of a statement, and never at the end of one.

**The End**

**Matthew Test 7 Credit hours**

To submit a test all answers must be **typed in bold font** after the questions and then submitted to tests@dofgbi.org

Your actual name must appear on your test.

**Introduction**

1. In what week did Jesus begin his ministry (Daniel 9:24-27)?

2. What happens to the Messiah according to those verses at the end of that week?

3. What is the next week that is to follow called? Give two titles.

4. What interrupted these two weeks?

5. How long has the interruption lasted?

6. Does the book of Matthew begin the new testament? See Hebrews 9:15-17?

7. What dispensation was Israel under during Christ’s earthly ministry?

8. What is the middle wall of partition and was it up during Jesus’ earthly ministry?

9. When did the middle wall of partition go up and when did it go down?

10. What is the parable of Luke 13:6-9 about concerning Israel?

**Chapter One**

1. What verse in Genesis is very similar to Matthew 1:1?

2. Genesis begins with Adam as the father of the human race while Matthew begins with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the father of Jewish nation.

3. Why does Matthew begin Jesus' genealogy with David instead of Abraham?

4. What does the title “the son of David” mean?

5. What does the title “the son of Abraham” mean?

6. What does the word begat mean?

7. Who was Phares and Zara?

8. Who was David's Great Grandfather and Great Grandmother?

9. How many women appear in the lineage of Jesus Christ in Matthew?

10. Why is there another lineage that differs from this one in the book of Luke?

11. Who was Josias and what happened in his day to Israel?

12. When did the times of the Gentiles begin?

13. When will Israel be led away captive into all nations again?

14. What happened with Salathiel and Zorobabel?

15. How does Matthew deal differently with Jesus birth than he does with all the one before him?

16. How many generations separated the three groups in this genealogy?

17. Why doesn’t Matthew record the deaths in Jesus’ lineage like the book of Genesis does?

18. What differs from Isaac's birth down to Joseph's when compared with Luke's account? How does Matthew record it differently than Luke? Clue: Begat and son

19. What does the word espoused mean?

20. What does it mean in verse 21 when it says, “before they came together”?

21. What does it mean that Mary was found with child of the Holy Ghost?

22. What would have happened to Mary if Joseph would have divorced her publicly?

23. What does it mean to “to put her away privily”?

24. Why did the angel of the Lord call Joseph “thou son of David”?

25. What does Jesus’ name mean? V:22

26. What verse does Matthew quote from Isaiah?

27. What does Emmanuel mean?

28. What did Isaiah prophecy concerning a sign for Israel?

29. What does it mean that Joseph “knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son”?

30. Did Mary and Joseph ever have any children together? Give scriptural proof for your answer.

**Chapter Two**

1. Where was Jesus born at?

2. Who was the king in Israel at the time of Jesus' birth?

3. What nationality was king?

4. Who were the Magi/wisemen most likely? Why?

5. What was Jesus born as according to Matthew 2:2?

6. Where was the Messiah to come from? Give verse reference.

7. Why did the wise men come to see the new born King of the Jews?

8. What verse does the chief priests and scribes quote to Herod concerning Christ’s birth?

9. Why does Matthew say Jesus was a young child and not a babe in a manger? V:9 & 10

10. What three gifts did the wisemen present to Jesus?

11. Who warned the wisemen not to return to Herod?

12. Where did the angel of the Lord tell Joseph to take the young Jesus to? Why?

13. How long did the angel of the Lord tell Joseph he needed to stay in Egypt for?

14. What prophecy foretold the Messiah’s going to Egypt?

15. What did Herod do to the children in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof?

16. What prophecy was fulfilled when Herod killed all these children?

17. Why did Joseph go to Nazareth instead of Bethlehem when he returned? V:22

18. Is there any prophecy “written” in the bible that says that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene?

**Chapter Three**

1. What was the first messaged preached in Matthew? Hint, it was only ten words.

2. What is the kingdom of heaven?

3. What was meant by the words "at hand"?

4. Who else is called a "Baptist" in scripture?

5. When will the kingdom of heaven be "at hand" again?

6. What was John's main responsibility towards Israel? V:3

7. What did all those who came to John to be baptized do first? V:6

8. Why was John's Baptism called "his baptism" and who and what was it for? V:7

9. Why did John the Baptist call many of the Pharisees and Sadducees a generation of vipers?

10. What was "the wrath to come" that John spoke about? V:7 write out the reference.

11. What did John tell them to bring before they were baptized? What did they represent?

12. What did John mean with his calling them trees? V:10

13. Are we baptized with "the baptism of repentance" like John's disciples were?

14. What did John baptize Israel with?

15. What two things did Jesus baptize with? V:11

16. How many different baptisms are there in Matthew 3:11?

17. Are we baptized “**with** or **by”** the Holy Ghost today?

18. How are people baptized with fire? V:12

19. How did John know that Jesus was the Christ for sure? V:16

20. What are two reasons that John baptized Jesus? V:15 & 16

21. Why did Jesus submit to John's baptism of repentance since he was sinless?

22. What did God say in Matthew 17:5 and 2nd Peter about his Son?

**Chapter Four**

1. Why was Jesus led up to be tempted of the devil? See Hebrews 4:15.

2. When did the tempter come to tempt Jesus?

3. What was Satan's goal in tempting Jesus?

4. What verses did Satan quote to Christ?

5. What was Satan's final offer to Jesus before he departed from him? V:9

6. What town did Jesus dwell in once he left Nazareth? Clue: Galilee is not a town but a region. V:13

7. What was the requirement for the Jews to enter into their future kingdom? V:17

8. What was the preaching called that Jesus proclaimed in all the synagogues? Matthew 4:23
9. Is it different from the gospel of the grace of God we preach today?

10. What followed the kingdom message as a sign to the Jews? V:23-24

**Chapter Five**

1. What is a mountain synonymous in prophetical scriptures?

2. What is the kingdom of heaven?

3. Was the sermon on the mount meant for the church age or for the kingdom?

4. What do the hearers of “the sermon on the mount” inherit, heaven or earth? V:5

5. What did Jesus do concerning the law? Destroy it, or Fulfill it?

6. Who are the least in the kingdom of heaven?

7. Who are great in the kingdom of heaven?

8. Was Jesus teaching harder than the law?

9. What is the council?

10. What is hell fire? V:22

10. Are we supposed to be bringing gifts/sacrifices to an altar today?

11. What does “being in the way with an adversary” mean? V:25

12. Does verses 19-26 sound like church age doctrine to you?

13. Define adultery:

14. What does the word “offend” mean in this context?

15. Are we to pluck out our eyes if they cause us to sin today? What specific time was this command given and to whom?

16. What does the words “put away” mean?

17. Where is a writing of divorcement first mentioned in the bible?

18. What it mean to forswear?

19. What does Yea, yea or Nay, nay mean?

20. Are verses 29-43 written for the body of Christ to follow today?

21. What did Jesus require his disciples to do to be the children of their Father which is in heaven? V:44

**Chapter Six**

1. Does Jesus tell his Jewish hearers that they will get their rewards in heaven?

2. What were the Jews taught to pray for first by Jesus? V:10

3. Why will that be important to them during the tribulation period?

4. What will be done on earth in the kingdom as it is already being done in heaven?

5. Will Jews need God to provide for them daily in the tribulation? Why?

6. What is different about forgiveness today from this kingdom prayer?

7. Who is the evil that Israel is to pray for protection from during that time?

8. Can we reconcile these verses on forgiveness with Paul's epistles? V:14-15

9. What does it mean to that if thine eye be single?

10. Are we today to take no thought for tomorrow as Jesus taught these Jews?

 11. What does “sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof” mean? V:34

**Chapter Seven**

1. How will a tribulation saint be judged? V:1-2

2. Who are the dogs that are spoken about? V:6

3. Why cannot we be given whatsoever we ask of God today?

4. Why will these tribulation saints have their prayers miraculously answered in those days?

5. What is the law and the prophets and are you under them today? V:12

6. Who is the strait gate that Israel must enter in through to go into their kingdom? V:13-14

7. What are good works compared with? What are bad works compared with? V:16-20

8. What do these Jews have to do to enter into the "kingdom" of heaven? V:21

9. What does a Jew do in the tribulation period to be considered wise? V:24-27

**Chapter Eight**

1. Why did Jesus send the healed leper to the priest to make an offering commanded by Moses' law? See Leviticus chapters thirteen and fourteen.

2. What was the basis for Jesus healing the servant of the Centurion?

3. Why didn't he send him to the priest to offer an offering?

4. What prophecy was being fulfilled when Jesus healed Israel's sick?

5. Why did Jesus go about healing all in Israel?

6. What did Jesus' power to calm the sea tell the disciples about him?

7. What verses in Revelation tell us about the time of torment for the devils?

8. What name and title did the devils call Jesus before he ever spoke to them identifying himself?

7. Why did Jesus cast out all that were possessed with devils in Israel?

**Chapter Nine**

1. What city did Jesus claim as his own?

2. What did Jesus say to the man who he healed with the palsy? Why?

3. Who is the bride, and the bridegroom in this chapter?

4. Why did John's disciples fast and Jesus' did not?

5. Who did the two women that Jesus healed both represent?

6. What did the leaders say about Christ's ability to heal?

7. What gospel did Jesus preach in all their synagogues?

8. What did Jesus tell his disciples to pray for concerning reaching the lost?

**Chapter Ten**

1. To whom did Jesus give power to cast out devils and to heal to?

2. Why do we not have this same power today?

3. What 2 groups of people did Jesus tell the twelve not to go to? Why?

4. What were they to preach to their solely Jewish audiences?

5. What were the twelve apostles to do if they came across any sick or possessed with devils?

6. What were the twelve to do if someone would not receive them or hear their words?

7. What cities would fare better in the day of judgment than one that didn’t listen to them?

8. What were the disciples told not to do when they were delivered up? V:19

9. What does verse 22 mean?

10. Who is the master of the house?

11. Who is Beelzebub?

12. What will happen to those who do not confess Jesus before men? V:33

13. What did Jesus come to send on earth? V:34

14. Who did Jesus say would be a man’s foes? V:36

15. What did it mean to take up your cross?

16. What is the primary time period that Matthew 10:16-42 refers to?

17. What prophetic week was supposed to occur after Jesus was crucified according to Daniel 9:24-27?﻿

**Chapter Eleven**

1. Why did John the Baptist doubt whether Jesus was the Christ while he was in prison?

2. Did John ever get to see the kingdom that he preached about as being at hand?

3. When will the kingdom finally come?

4. When will Elijah make his next appearance?

5. Why was Capernaum and its surrounding cities cursed by Christ?

**Chapter Twelve**

1. Is the sabbath day to be kept by church age believers today?

2. What did the blind and dumb person represent that was delivered of a devil?

3. What is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? Can we commit this sin today?

4. Why did Jesus begin to use parables when speaking to Israel?

5. Who was Jesus prophesying against concerning the man with seven evil spirits?

**Chapter Thirteen**

1. Does the seed in the parable of the sower represent the gospel of the kingdom or the gospel of the grace of God?

2. Were the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven concerning heaven or the kingdom that will be on earth one day?

3. Who are the two groups of people that received the parable of the sower?

4. What time in the future will this parable actually take place?

5. What does leaven represent in that parable?

6. What is the proper understanding of the tares as explained by Jesus?

7. What does the hid treasure and man represent in the following parable?

8. Explain the pearl of great price parable?

9. What does the parable of the net represent?

**Chapter Fourteen**

1. Where did John the Baptist and all the righteous go before the cross when they died?

2. What did the feeding of the 5,000 foreshadow?

3. What did Christ walking on the water demonstrate for future kingdom saints?

4. Why did Jesus go about healing all that were vexed with devils and diseases?

**Chapter Fifteen**

1. Why did Jesus constantly correct any false teaching or practice he saw?

2. Why did Jesus not acknowledge the Canaanite who wanted her daughter healed at first?

**Chapter Sixteen**

1. What sign did Jesus say would be given to that wicked and adulterous generation?

2. What was the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?

3. Who did Peter say that Jesus was?

4. What church was Jesus talking about building?

5. Who received the keys to the kingdom?

6. Upon what statement would people be allowed access into the kingdom?

7. Did Peter understand that Jesus had to go to the cross to die for his sins at this point?

8. What did Jesus mean when he told his disciples that some would not die before seeing the Son of man coming in his kingdom?

**Chapter Seventeen**

1. Why were the disciples commanded to not tell the vision until after the resurrection?

2. Explain the relationship of John the Baptist and Elijah and their comings:

3. Why can we not cast out devils today and heal people as Jesus and the apostles did?

**Chapter Eighteen**

1. What is the key to entering the kingdom and to being exalted in it for Jesus' hearers?

2. Who is Jesus speaking to about entering into the kingdom after plucking out an eye?

3. Was Jesus giving power to bind and loose to the apostles, us today, or both?

**Chapter Nineteen**

1. What good thing did Jesus tell the rich ruler he needed to do to have eternal life?

2. What do the Apostles, who forsook all, get when they enter into the kingdom?

3. What qualifies one to sit on one of the apostles thrones in the kingdom?

4. Did Paul meet the qualifications mentioned here to be Judas' replacement?

**Chapter Twenty**

1. What is the context of the parable in verses 1-16?

2. What did the mother of James and John want Jesus to do for her sons?

**Chapter Twenty-one**

1. What prophecy did Jesus fulfill in riding into Jerusalem on a donkey?

2. What did Jesus do and say about the temple on his last visit?

3. What was the purpose of Jesus cursing the fig tree?

4. Why didn't Jesus tell the Jews what authority he did those things?

5. Who did the two sons represent in his parable?

6. How does he tie in John and his baptism afterwards?

7. Explain the parable of the husbandmen:

8. Who did the lord of the vineyard lease out the field to produce fruit for him after the first ones failed to do so?

**Chapter Twenty-two**

1. Explain the parable of the wedding?

2. What will the kingdom be like for those who have been married and died?

3. Why didn't the Pharisees answer Jesus' questions about David?

**Chapter Twenty-three**

1. Why did Jesus tell his disciples to obey the priests?

2. What does the word Rabbi mean?

3. When will Israel tell Jesus, "Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord?"

**Chapter Twenty-four**

1. After Jesus pronounces the seven woes, what does he say concerning the temple?

2. Where are the apostles when Jesus tells them about the Temple?

3. Where does he answer the apostles questions at?

4. What does Jesus skip over completely, and why?

5. What time is Matthew 24 concerned with specifically?

6. Do we in the age of grace have to endure unto the end to be saved?

7. What message will be preached in all the world at that terrible time?

8. How do we know that this chapter is to the Jew in the Tribulation Period?

9. Who are the elect from the four corners of the earth that are gathered at the end of the great tribulation period?

10. Who is the fig tree, and when is the generation that sees all these things fulfilled?

11. Is verse thirty-six speaking of the rapture?

12. The ones taken in verses 40-51 are going where?

**Chapter Twenty-five**

1. Explain the parable of the ten virgins:

2. Explain the parable of the talents:

3. Explain the judgement of the nations:

4. Who are the**"my brethren"** that the nations needed to have helped to gain favour in the kingdom?

**Chapter Twenty-six**

1. On what feast day was Jesus killed?

2. Why was Jesus anointed with oil by the woman?

3. When, and where, will Jesus drink the fruit of the vine again with the twelve?

4. What two prophecies did Judas fulfill that night?

5. Who really crucified Christ? Explain carefully!

**Chapter Twenty-seven**

1. Was Judas' repentance sincere?

2. Why didn't Jesus open his mouth in his own defense before the high priest?

3. Who was the scapegoat and what does he represent?

4. What events happened immediately at the death of Christ?

5. When did Christ's die? What day and at what time?

6. When was Christ risen from the dead?

7. Who remembered that Christ said he would rise from the dead first?

**Chapter Twenty-eight**

1. When did the ladies come to the tomb?

2. What happened before the angel appeared?

3. Why did the angel roll the stone away?

4. Where did the angel tell the ladies the disciples would see Jesus shortly?

5. Where did the disciples go and see Jesus after he was risen?

6. Do we teach people to observe "all things whatsoever Christ commanded" his 12 apostles today in the church age?