

### **A Decision For Christ**

You can receive Christ today to forgive your sins and give you eternal life. You only need to pray and ask Him to come into your heart, forgive you, and save you. When you receive Him, He will wash away your sins by the blood of His Cross and baptize you in the Holy Spirit. God's Word promises that He will never leave you nor forsake you. You can always be assured of spending eternity with Him in heaven.

### **A Prayer to Receive Christ**

“Lord Jesus, I believe that I am a sinner and that You love me and died on the Cross for my sins. I believe that You are God, the one and only Savior, and only faith in You can save me and make me righteous in the Father's eyes. I want to know You and follow You forever. Come into my heart, forgive all my sins, baptize me in the Holy Spirit, and give me the free gift of eternal life. Thank You. Amen.”

### **Your New Life in Christ**

If you have just said this prayer and sincerely believe, right now the angels are rejoicing in heaven. **“There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents, than in ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.”** Luke 15:7. You have just been born into God's family and nothing can ever separate you from Christ and His love. Give praise to our Heavenly Father and thank Him for this wonderful gift.

Get off to a good start in your new life by reading the Bible and praying every day. Meet with other born-again Christians by attending a church or fellowship that believes in: the absolute truth of God's Word, the Deity of Christ, salvation by faith alone, and the New Birth. Tell others about how you received Christ and were saved. Get baptized and celebrate communion as a testimony that you have died and rose again with Jesus. Memorize key verses of Scripture on assurance of salvation and other vital doctrines that will help you be strong when you are attacked by the adversary. Pursue a close, abiding relationship with the Lord Jesus, and make spending time with Him the most important part of your day. Develop a sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit by always obeying what He tells you to do. Study, believe, and obey the Scriptures and the Lord will bless your life with a great abundance of everlasting fruit.

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### **The Essential New Testament**

John, Ephesians, and Selected Verses

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### **Beware of False Teachers**

Beware of anyone trying to capture you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the traditions of men, according to the world's elementary principles, and not according to Christ. Colossians 2:8

For such ones are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ; and no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. II Corinthians 11:13,14

### **Hope in Times of Trial**

For this light, momentary affliction is producing for us an everlasting weight of glory that exceeds all measure, for we do not set our eyes on what is seen, but on the unseen; for what is seen is temporary, but the unseen things are eternal. II Corinthians 4:17,18

“Blessed are you when they insult and persecute you and falsely accuse you of every evil because of Me. Rejoice and be overjoyed, because your reward is great in heaven; for so they also persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:11,12

### **He will Never Leave Us**

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers nor powers, nor present nor future things, nor heights nor depths, nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5

### **Renew Your Mind**

I appeal to you, therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present you bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of you mind, that you may prove what is the will of God—the good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:1,2

Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on earth. Colossians 3:1,2

### **Encouragement for Living**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has freed us from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1,2

And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

### **The Gospel**

According to John

<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>This is the One who was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through Him, and without Him nothing came into being. <sup>4</sup>In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men; <sup>5</sup>the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>This man came to be a witness, that he might witness concerning the Light, that all men might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the Light, but bore witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup>This was the true Light that enlightens every man that was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world and the world came into being through Him, yet the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup>He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him; <sup>12</sup>but to as many as received Him, He gave them the right to become the children of God, to those believing in His name, <sup>13</sup>who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as an only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>John witnessed about Him and cried out saying, “This is the man of whom I said, ‘The One coming after me is above me, because He existed before me.’”

<sup>16</sup>Out of His fullness we have all received grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No man has ever seen God. The only begotten Son of God, who is in the bosom of the Father, is the One who reveals Him.

<sup>19</sup>And this is the witness of John: when Jews from Jerusalem were sent to him, priests and Levites, they asked him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, not denying in his confession, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And so they asked him, “What then, are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you, so we may give an answer to the ones who sent us; what do you say about yourself?” <sup>23</sup>He said, “I am the voice crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as Isaiah the prophet said.” <sup>24</sup>Then the ones sent by the Pharisees <sup>25</sup>asked him, “Then why do you baptize if you are not the Christ, or Elijah, or the prophet?” <sup>26</sup>Answering them, John said, “I baptized with water, but among you stands One whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the One who comes after me, of whom I am not worthy to loosen the laces of His sandal.” <sup>28</sup>These things happened in Bethany beyond the Jordan where John was baptizing.

<sup>29</sup>The next day, seeing Jesus coming toward him, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is He of whom I said: ‘After me a Man will come who is above me, because He existed before me.’” <sup>31</sup>I did not know Him, but in order that He might be revealed to Israel, I came baptizing in water.” <sup>32</sup>And John further witnessed, saying, “I have seen the Spirit coming down as a dove out of heaven, and He remained on Him. <sup>33</sup>I did not know Him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘On whomever you see the Spirit coming down and remaining on Him, this is the One who baptizes in the Holy Spirit.’” <sup>34</sup>I have seen and have witnessed that this is the Son of God.”

## The Deity of Christ

For all things were created by Him, everything in heaven and everything on earth; the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities, all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all, and in Him all things are held together. Colossians 1:16,17

In the last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He also made all things. Being the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His being, He upholds the universe by the power of His word. Hebrews 1:2,3

## The Holy Spirit

“I indeed baptize you with water for repentance, but the One coming after me is stronger than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 3:11

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you, but if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. Romans 8:9

## Faith

But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for whoever comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. Hebrews 11:6

Answering, Jesus said to them, “Have faith in God. For I say to you that whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes what he says will come to pass, it shall be done for him.” Mark 11: 22, 23

## Love

“This is my command, that you love one another just as I have loved you.” John 15:12

“Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.” Luke 6:27

## Prayer

“An this is the confidence we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.” I John 5:14

Be anxious about nothing, but in everything by prayer and petition along with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will safeguard your hearts and thoughts in Christ Jesus. Phillipians 4:6,7

<sup>23</sup> When He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, many believed in His name after seeing the signs He was doing.<sup>24</sup> But Jesus did not entrust Himself to them because He knew them all<sup>25</sup> and needed no one to tell Him about men, for He Himself knew what was inside man.

<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, who was a ruler of the Jews.<sup>2</sup> He came to Him at night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher sent from God, because no one could do the signs you have done if God were not with him.”<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very certainly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He is not able to enter his mother’s womb to be born a second time, is he?”<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very certainly I say to you, unless a person is born of water and Spirit, he is unable to enter the kingdom of God.<sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh and what is born of the Spirit is Spirit.<sup>7</sup> Do not be amazed when I tell you, ‘You must be born again.’<sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it wants to, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know from where it came or to where it is going. So it is with anyone who has been born of the Spirit.”<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How is this possible?”<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “You are a teacher of Israel and you do not know about this?<sup>11</sup> Very certainly I say to you, what We know about We speak of, and what We have seen We testify to, yet you do not receive Our testimony.<sup>12</sup> If I tell you earthly things and you do not believe, why should I tell you heavenly things? Will you believe them?”

<sup>13</sup> “No one has gone up into heaven except the One who came down, the Son of Man, who is from heaven.<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,<sup>15</sup> so that everyone who believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.<sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.<sup>18</sup> The believer in Him is not condemned, but the unbeliever has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

<sup>19</sup> “And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, but people have loved darkness more than the Light because their deeds were evil.<sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the Light, and will not come to it, because it exposes their evil deeds. <sup>21</sup> But those who are of the truth come to the Light, so that it may be shown that their deeds are done through God.”

<sup>22</sup> After this Jesus and His disciples came into the Judean country where He was spending time with them and baptizing. <sup>23</sup> John was also baptizing in Aeon near Salem, because there was a lot of water there, so many were coming to be baptized.<sup>24</sup> John had not yet been thrown into prison.<sup>25</sup> A dispute arose between John’s disciples and a Jew about purification.<sup>26</sup> They came to John and said to him. “He who was with you beyond the Jordan, whom you testified about, is baptizing and everyone is coming to Him.”<sup>27</sup> John answered, “No man is able to receive anything unless it is given to him from heaven.<sup>28</sup> You can testify yourselves that I said. ‘I am not the Christ, but have been sent before Him.’<sup>29</sup> The one who has the bride is the bridegroom, but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands near and hears him, rejoices at the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore, my joy has been fulfilled.<sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease.”

<sup>31</sup> “The One who comes from above is above all. The one from the earth is of the earth and can only speak of earthly things. The One who is above all comes from heaven.<sup>32</sup> What He has seen and heard there He testifies about, yet no one accepts His testimony. <sup>33</sup> Whoever accepts His testimony seals the fact that God is true.<sup>34</sup> He who is sent by God speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit in unlimited measure. <sup>35</sup> The

### **How to Be Saved**

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I John 5:11,12

### **Assurance of Salvation**

I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. I John 5:13

“Very certainly I say to you, whoever hears My word and believes in the One who sent Me has eternal life. They will not come into judgment, but have passed out of death into life.” John 5:24

### **The Word of God**

For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16,17

### **You Must Be Born Again**

... but to as many as received Him, He gave them the right to become the children of God; to those believing in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12,13

“Very certainly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:3

### **Freedom of the Christian**

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. II Corinthians 3:17

“If you continue in My word, you are truly My disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free.” John 8:32

### **The Judgment Day**

“He has appointed a day in which He is going to judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He ordained, having proven this to all by raising Him from the dead.” Acts 17:31

they asked Him to stay with them, and He stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> Many more believed because of His words.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said, but we believe ourselves, for we have heard and know that this is truly the Savior of the world, the Messiah.”

<sup>43</sup>After two days He left there and went into Galilee.<sup>44</sup> Jesus Himself testified that a prophet is not honored in His own country.<sup>45</sup> But when He came into Galilee, the Galileans received Him because they had seen everything that He had done at the feast in Jerusalem, for they had gone to the feast.

<sup>46</sup>Jesus then came into Cana of Galilee again where He had turned the water into wine. There was an aristocrat there whose son was sick in Capernaum.<sup>47</sup> Having heard that Jesus had come from Judea, he went to Him and asked Him if He would come down and heal his son because his son was about to die.<sup>48</sup> Jesus said to him, “Unless I show you signs and wonders you will certainly not believe.”<sup>49</sup> The aristocrat said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!”<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, “Go, your son lives.” The man believed the words Jesus spoke, and went on his way.<sup>51</sup> As he was returning his servants met him and reported, saying, “Your child lives!”<sup>52</sup> So he asked them, “From what hour did he get better?” They answered, “Yesterday, at seven the fever left him.”<sup>53</sup> The father realized that this was the same hour that Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” He and his entire household believed.<sup>54</sup> This was the second sign Jesus did after coming into Galilee.

<sup>5</sup><sup>1</sup>After this there was a feast of the Jews and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> Now in Jerusalem there is a pool at the Sheep Gate called in Hebrew, Bethesda, with five porticoes.<sup>3</sup> In these porticoes a great many sick people were lying—the blind, lame, and paralyzed—waiting for the stirring of the water.<sup>4</sup> An angel from time to time would come down to the pool and stir the water. The first ones who jumped in after the stirring of the water were healed of whatever disease they were suffering from.<sup>5</sup> There was a man with a disease who had been there for thirty-eight years.<sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing how long he had been there in that condition, He said, “Do you wish to become well?”<sup>7</sup> The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I do not have a man to put me into the pool when it is stirred up. Every time I try to jump in, another gets in before me.”<sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, “Arise, take up your mattress and walk.”<sup>9</sup> Immediately the man became well and took up his mattress and walked.

<sup>10</sup>This was on the Sabbath day, so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “This is the Sabbath and it is unlawful for you to carry your mattress.”<sup>11</sup> He answered them, “The One who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your mattress and walk.’”<sup>12</sup> They asked him, “Who is this man who said to you, ‘Take up your mattress and walk?’”<sup>13</sup> The man who was healed did not know who He was, for Jesus had left because of the crowd there.<sup>14</sup> Afterward Jesus found him in the temple said to him, “See, you have become well. Sin no more so that nothing worse happens to you.”<sup>15</sup> The man then went back and reported to the Jews that Jesus was the One who had healed him.

<sup>16</sup>This is why the Jews persecuted Jesus and were seeking to kill Him, because He healed on the Sabbath.<sup>17</sup> But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now and so I work.”<sup>18</sup> So the Jews were even more determined to kill Him, not only because He was breaking the Sabbath, but because He called God His Father, making Himself equal to God.

<sup>19</sup>Jesus then said to them, “Very certainly I say to you, the Son is able to do nothing of Himself, except what He sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son does as well.<sup>20</sup> For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all things which He Himself does, and greater works than these will He show Him, so that you will be amazed.<sup>21</sup> Just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so the Son also gives life to whomever He wills.<sup>22</sup> Neither does the Father judge anyone, but gives all judgment to the

<sup>14</sup> Stand therefore and belt your waist with the truth, put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup>and bind your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.<sup>16</sup>In addition to all, take up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench the flaming arrows of the evil one.<sup>17</sup>And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God,<sup>18</sup>praying in the Spirit on every occasion through every kind of prayer and petition. To this same end stay alert with all perseverance to make requests for all the saints,<sup>19</sup>and also for me, that as I open my mouth I may be given bold speech to share the mystery of the Gospel,<sup>20</sup>for which I serve as an ambassador in chains, that I may proclaim it as fearlessly as I should.

<sup>21</sup>Now that you may know my circumstances and what I am doing, Tychius, my beloved brother and faithful servant of the Lord, will tell you all about us.<sup>22</sup>I have sent him to you for this purpose, that you may realize what our situation is, and also that he may encourage your hearts.

<sup>23</sup>Peace be to the brothers and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>24</sup>Grace be with all of those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with a never diminishing love. Amen.

Darkness had already come but Jesus had not yet joined them.<sup>18</sup>A strong wind was blowing them around.<sup>19</sup>Having rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea, approaching the boat, and they were afraid.<sup>20</sup>He said to them, "I am He; do not be afraid."<sup>21</sup>They then gladly welcomed Him into the boat, and immediately the boat came to the land where they were going.

<sup>22</sup>The next day the crowd was still on the opposite side of the sea. They saw that the boat the disciples had embarked in was gone and that Jesus had not gotten into the boat with them. The disciples had gone away by themselves.<sup>23</sup>So when the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were still at the place where the Lord gave thanks for the bread they ate, near Tiberias,<sup>24</sup>they got into boats and crossed over to Capernaum, looking for Him.<sup>25</sup>Finding Jesus across the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"<sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very certainly I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate from the loaves of bread and were filled.<sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which lasts for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you, the One whom God the Father has set His seal upon."

<sup>28</sup>They said to Him, "What should we do so that we may work the works of God?"<sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God: that you believe in the One whom He has sent."<sup>30</sup>They then said to Him, "Then what sign can You do so that we can see it and believe You? What work will You do?"<sup>31</sup>Our fathers ate manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'Bread out of heaven He gave them to eat.'<sup>32</sup>Jesus said to them, "Very certainly I say to you, Moses did not give bread out of heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread out of heaven.<sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is the One who comes out of heaven and gives life to the world."<sup>34</sup>They answered Him, "Lord, give us this bread always."<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, "I am the Bread of Life. The one who comes to Me shall never hunger, and the one who believes in Me shall never thirst.<sup>36</sup>But you have both seen and heard Me, yet you do not believe.

<sup>37</sup>"Everyone whom the Father gives Me will come to Me, and no one who comes to me will never, ever be cast out.<sup>38</sup>Because of this I have come down out of heaven, not to do My will, but the will of the One who sent Me.<sup>39</sup>Now this is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all those He has give Me I should lose none, but will raise them up on the last day.<sup>40</sup>And this is the will of the One who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day."

<sup>41</sup>Therefore the Jews were complaining about Him because He said, "I am the bread which came down out of heaven." So they were saying,<sup>42</sup>"Is this not Jesus the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can He say, 'I have come down out of heaven'?"<sup>43</sup>Therefore Jesus answered them saying, "Do not complain among yourselves.<sup>44</sup>No one is able to come to Me unless the Father who sent Me should draw them, and I will raise them up on the last day.<sup>45</sup>It is written in the Prophets, 'And all will be taught by God.' So everyone who hears and learns from the Father comes to Me.<sup>46</sup>No one has seen the Father except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father."

<sup>47</sup>"Very certainly I say to you, the one who believes in Me has eternal life.<sup>48</sup>I am the Bread of Life.<sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness and they died.<sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes out of heaven so that anyone may eat of it and not die.<sup>51</sup>I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread they will live throughout the ages. Indeed, the bread which I shall give is My flesh, which I give as life on behalf of the world."<sup>52</sup>Therefore the Jews were arguing with one another, saying, "How is this man able to give us his flesh to eat?"

<sup>53</sup>Jesus then said to them, "Very certainly I say to you, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.<sup>54</sup>Whoever eats My flesh

4 <sup>1</sup>Therefore as the prisoner of the Lord, I urge you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,<sup>2</sup>in all humility and gentleness, patiently bearing with one another in love,<sup>3</sup>making every effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.<sup>4</sup>There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were also called in the one hope of your calling;<sup>5</sup>one Lord, one faith, one baptism,<sup>6</sup>one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in us all.

<sup>7</sup>But the grace given to each of us is measured by the free gift of Christ.<sup>8</sup>Therefore He says, “When He ascended on high, He led captives into captivity, and He gave gifts to men.”<sup>9</sup>Now what does it mean, “He ascended,” if He did not also descend into the lower parts of the earth?<sup>10</sup>He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill everything.

<sup>11</sup>And He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and others to be pastors and teachers,<sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for their work in the service of building up the body of Christ,<sup>13</sup>until we all arrive at the unity of faith and knowledge of Christ,<sup>14</sup>so that we may no longer be like infants, tossed around by waves and carried away by every wind of teaching through the trickery, the slyness of men involved in deceitful schemes.<sup>15</sup>But we tell the truth in love, so that in every way we might grow up into Him who is the head—Christ,<sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body is fitted and held together through every supporting joint, as each part does its appropriate share, enabling the body to grow as it builds itself up in love.

<sup>17</sup>And so I say as I testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk like the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their minds,<sup>18</sup>having been darkened in understanding and estranged from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to their hardness of heart.<sup>19</sup>Having become calloused, they have given themselves over to depravity with a voracious appetite for perversion.

<sup>20</sup>But this is not how you have come to know Christ,<sup>21</sup>if indeed you have heard of Him and been taught of Him according this truth that is in Jesus:<sup>22</sup>that you put off the ways of your former life, that old self that is being corrupted by its deceitful lusts,<sup>23</sup>and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,<sup>24</sup>as you put on the new self, created in the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup>Therefore, putting aside dishonesty, “Let each one speak the truth with his neighbor,” because we are one another’s neighbors.<sup>26</sup>“Be angry but do not sin.” Do not let the sun set on your anger,<sup>27</sup>nor give opportunity to the devil.<sup>28</sup>Let him who stole no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing good work with his hands in order that he may have something to share with those who are in need.

<sup>29</sup>Let no corrupt word come from your mouth but only what is good for edification as needed, that it may give grace to those who hear.<sup>30</sup>And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.<sup>31</sup>Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and blasphemy be removed from you, as well as all malice.<sup>32</sup>And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.

5 <sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children<sup>2</sup> and walk in love, just as Christ also loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.<sup>3</sup>But let not sexual immorality, nor any impurity, nor greed be named among you, just as is proper for saints.<sup>4</sup>Neither let there be obscenity, foolish talking, or coarse joking, which are not suitable, but rather thanksgiving.<sup>5</sup>For you know that no sexually immoral person, nor anyone impure, nor the greedy, who are idolaters, will have an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

how can you be angry with Me because I made an entire man well on the Sabbath?<sup>24</sup>Do not judge by appearances, but make judgments that are right and just.”

<sup>25</sup>Some of those of Jerusalem were saying, “Is this not the One they are seeking to kill?<sup>26</sup>And look, He is speaking openly but they are saying nothing to Him! Could it be that the rulers found out that this really is the Christ?<sup>27</sup>However, we know where this man is from, but when the Messiah comes, no one will know where He is from.”

<sup>28</sup>So Jesus cried out as He taught in the Temple, saying, “You both know Me and know where I am from? I have not come from Myself, but am sent by the One who is true, whom you do not know.<sup>29</sup>I know Him because I am from Him, and He sent Me.”<sup>30</sup>So they were seeking to arrest Him but no one laid a hand on Him because His hour had not yet come.<sup>31</sup>But many of the people believed in Him and were saying, “When the Messiah comes, He will not do more signs than this Man did, will He?”<sup>32</sup>The Pharisees heard the crowd discussing these things about Him, so the Pharisees and high priests sent attendants to arrest Him.

<sup>33</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “I will be with you a short time and then I will go to Him who sent Me.<sup>34</sup>You will seek Me and not find Me; and where I am, you are not able to come.”<sup>35</sup>So the Jews said among themselves, “Where does this Man intend to go where we will not find Him? He is not going into the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks, is He?<sup>36</sup>What is this about which He said, ‘You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you are not able to come?’”

<sup>37</sup>Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone is thirsty let him come to Me and drink.<sup>38</sup>Whoever believes in Me, just as the Scripture says, ‘From deep within him will flow streams of living water.’”<sup>39</sup>He said this about the Spirit whom those who believed in Him were about to receive. They had not yet been given the Holy Spirit because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

<sup>40</sup>Hearing these words many of the people said, “This is truly the Prophet.”<sup>41</sup>Others said, “This is the Messiah.” Still others asked, “But the Messiah does not come out of Galilee, does He?<sup>42</sup>Does not the Scripture say that the Christ will come from the line of David, and from the town of David, Bethlehem?”<sup>43</sup>So a division occurred among the people because of Him,<sup>44</sup>and some wanted them to arrest Him, but no one laid a hand on Him.

<sup>45</sup>The attendants went back and the chief priests and Pharisees asked them, “Why did you not bring Him?”<sup>46</sup>The attendants answered, “No man ever spoke like this man!”<sup>47</sup>The Pharisees answered them, “Have you also been deceived?<sup>48</sup>None of the rulers or the Pharisees have believed in Him, have they?<sup>49</sup>This crowd does not even know the law; they are accursed.”

<sup>50</sup>Nicodemus, the man who came to Him by night and was one of them, said to them,<sup>51</sup>“Does our law judge a man before it first hears from him and finds out what he is doing?”<sup>52</sup>They answered, “You are not also from Galilee are you? Search and see if a prophet has ever risen out of Galilee.”<sup>53</sup>Everyone then went home to his own house.

8 <sup>1</sup>And Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>2</sup>Early in the morning Jesus went into the temple. All the people were coming to Him, and He sat down and taught them. <sup>3</sup>The scribes and Pharisees brought Him a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placed her in their midst.<sup>4</sup>They said to Him, “Teacher, we found this woman in the very act of committing adultery.<sup>5</sup>In our law, Moses commanded that such should be stoned. So what do You say about her?”<sup>6</sup>They said this to test Him, so that they might have something to accuse Him of.

But Jesus bending down, began to write on the ground with His finger while they were questioning Him.<sup>7</sup>He looked up and said, “Whoever of you is without sin, let him throw the first stone at her.”<sup>8</sup>And again He bent down and wrote on the ground.<sup>9</sup>Those who

## A Letter to New Christians

To the Ephesians

**1** <sup>1</sup>Paul, the apostle of Christ Jesus through the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms in Christ. <sup>4</sup>He has chosen us in Him before the world was founded to be holy and blameless in His presence. <sup>5</sup>In love He predestined us through Jesus Christ to be His adopted sons, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of the glories of His grace, by which He has freely favored us in the Beloved One. <sup>7</sup>We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins by the riches of His grace, <sup>8</sup>which He has poured out on us in all wisdom and insight.

<sup>9</sup>According to His good pleasure, He has revealed to us the secret of His will, <sup>10</sup>which He plans to fulfill when the time fully comes to bring everything together in Christ, things in heaven and things on the earth.

<sup>11</sup>We were also chosen to be His heirs, predestined according to the purpose of Him who works out all things by the design of His will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, the first to put our hope in Christ, should bring praise to His glory. <sup>13</sup>You too, after hearing the word of truth, and believing the good news of your salvation, have been sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until that purchased possession is redeemed, to the praise of His glory.

<sup>15</sup>Because of this, I also, after hearing about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup>never cease to give thanks for you as I mention you in my prayers: <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Him, <sup>18</sup>illuminating the eyes of your heart so that you may realize what this hope is to which He has called you, and what are all the glorious riches of His inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>as well as the extraordinary greatness of His power toward us who believe.

<sup>20</sup>He demonstrated the strength of this mighty power when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above every ruler and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>He has put all things under His feet, and made Him head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who is everywhere and fills everything.

**2** <sup>1</sup>And you were dead in transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup>in which you once behaved according to the ways of the world, and of the prince of the power of the air—the spirit of the one now working in the sons of disobedience. <sup>3</sup>Among them we all once conducted ourselves in our own lusts, as we indulged our fleshly desires and carnal thoughts, and so we were by nature, children of wrath, just like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with Him and seated us together in the

is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup>Because I speak the truth you do not believe Me. <sup>46</sup>Which of you convicts Me of sin? If I am speaking the truth, why do you not believe Me?

<sup>47</sup>“The One who is from God hears the words of God, but you do not hear them because you are not from God.” <sup>48</sup>The Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say well that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered them, “I do not have a demon, but I honor My Father and you dishonor Me. <sup>50</sup>I am not seeking My glory. There is One who judges and sees to that. <sup>51</sup>Very certainly I say to you, if anyone keeps My word, he shall never taste death throughout the ages.”

<sup>52</sup>Therefore the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham and the prophets died, and yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup>You are not greater than our father Abraham who died, are You? The prophets died as well. Who are you making Yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup>Jesus answered them, “If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father who is glorifying Me of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup>And yet you do not know Him, but I know Him. If I said I do not know Him I would be a liar like you, but I do know Him and I keep His word as well. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced at the prospect of seeing My day. He saw it and was happy.” <sup>57</sup>Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty and You have seen Abraham?” <sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, “Very certainly I say to you, before Abraham came to be, I Am.” <sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus went out of the temple, being hidden as He passed through their midst.

**9** <sup>1</sup>And passing by He saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in Him. <sup>4</sup>It is necessary for Me to perform the works of Him who sent Me while it is still day. Night is coming when no one is able to work. <sup>5</sup>When I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>After He had said this He spit on the ground, made clay from His saliva, and applied the clay to the eyes of the blind man. <sup>7</sup>Then He said to him, “Go wash in the pool of Siloam (which means Having Been Sent).” So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup>His neighbors and others who had seen that he was blind said, “Is this not the man who sat and begged?” <sup>9</sup>Some said, “This is him.” But others said, “He just looks like him.” But the man kept saying, “I am he!” <sup>10</sup>So they asked him, “How were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered them, “A man called Jesus made clay, anointed my eyes, and said, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ When I went and washed I received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is this man?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought him who was formerly blind to the Pharisees. <sup>14</sup>It was the Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>The Pharisees also asked him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>So some of the Pharisees were saying, “This man is not from God, because he does not keep the Sabbath.” Others were saying, “How can a sinful man do such things?” And so a division arose among them.

<sup>17</sup>They said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?” And he said, “He is a prophet.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he was born blind then received his sight, <sup>19</sup>so they called his parents and asked them, “Is this your son whom you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup>but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. <sup>22</sup>He is of age, ask him; he can speak for himself.” <sup>23</sup>His parents said this because they feared the Jews, since the Jews had already agreed to expel anyone from the synagogue who confessed Him as the Messiah.

them, "Peace be to you."<sup>20</sup> Having said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples rejoiced at seeing the Lord.<sup>21</sup> Therefore Jesus again said, "Peace be to you. Just as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."<sup>22</sup> He then breathed on them, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit.<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven. If you hold the sins of anyone, they are held."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came.<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I do not see the holes of the nails in His hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and put my hand into His side, I will certainly not believe."

<sup>26</sup> After eight days His disciples were inside again and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, even though the doors were closed, and He stood among them and said, "Peace be to you."<sup>27</sup> Then He said to Thomas, "Bring your finger here and see My hands, and bring your hand and put it into My side. Do not be skeptical, but believing."<sup>28</sup> And Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!"<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have believed because you have seen Me. Blessed are those who have not seen Me, yet have believed."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus also did many other signs in the presence of His disciples that are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and on believing, you may have life in His name.

**21** <sup>1</sup> After this Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples on the Sea of Tiberias. He showed Himself in this way:<sup>2</sup> Simon Peter, Thomas the Twin, Nathaniel from Cana of Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other of His disciples were together.<sup>3</sup> Simon Peter told them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you." They promptly got into the boat and went out, and that night they caught nothing.<sup>4</sup> But as early morning came, Jesus stood on the shore; however, the disciples did not realize who He was.<sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Children, do you not have any fish?" They answered Him, "No."<sup>6</sup> But He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and were unable to pull it in because of the large number of fish.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When he heard that it was the Lord, he put on his tunic, having been stripped, and jumped into the sea. But the others, who were not far from land—about a hundred yards away—<sup>8</sup> came in the little boat, dragging the net full of fish.<sup>9</sup> As they got to land, they saw a charcoal fire laid out with fish on it and bread.

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught."<sup>11</sup> Simon Peter went out and pulled the net onto the land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty three, yet the net was not torn from so many.<sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Not one of the disciples dared to ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord.<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish as well.<sup>14</sup> This was the third time Jesus was revealed to His disciples after being raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord, You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."<sup>16</sup> He then said to him a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter said to Him, "Yes, Lord, You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep."<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to him a third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was upset because He asked him a third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep.<sup>18</sup> Very certainly I say to you, when you were younger, you tied your clothes and walked wherever you wished, but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie you and take you where you do not wish to go."<sup>19</sup> He said this to signify what kind of death he would glorify God. And so having spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

<sup>21</sup> Others said, "These are not the words of someone who is demon possessed. It is not possible for a demon to open the eyes of the blind, is it?"

<sup>22</sup> It was now winter at the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem.<sup>23</sup> As Jesus was walking in the temple in the Portico of Solomon,<sup>24</sup> the Jews surrounded Him and said, "How long will you hold up our lives? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."<sup>25</sup> Jesus answered them, "I told you and you do not believe. The works which I do in the name of My Father, they testify about Me.<sup>26</sup> But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. It is just as I have said to you.<sup>27</sup> My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.<sup>28</sup> And I give them eternal life and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand.<sup>29</sup> My Father who has given them to Me is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.<sup>30</sup> I and the Father are One."

<sup>31</sup> Then the Jews again took up stones to stone Him.<sup>32</sup> Jesus confronted them, "I have shown you many good works from My Father, on account of which ones do you stone Me?"<sup>33</sup> The Jews answered Him saying, "For a good work we do not stone you, but for blasphemy, and because you, being a man, make yourself God."<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods.'<sup>35</sup> If He called them gods to whom the Word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),<sup>36</sup> then why do you say to the One whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God?'"<sup>37</sup> If I am not doing the works of My Father do not believe Me.<sup>38</sup> But if I am doing them, even if you do not believe Me, believe in the works, so that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me and I in Him."<sup>39</sup> So they tried to seize Him again but He escaped through their hands.

<sup>40</sup> And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John was first baptizing and stayed there.<sup>41</sup> Many who came to Him said, "Even though John did no signs, everything he said about this man is true."<sup>42</sup> And so many there believed in Him.

**11** <sup>1</sup> Now a certain man, Lazarus of Bethany, from the village of Mary and her sister Martha, was sick. <sup>2</sup> It was Mary who anointed the Lord with myrrh and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother was sick.<sup>3</sup> So these sisters sent word to Him saying, "Lord, he whom You love is sick."<sup>4</sup> Hearing this Jesus said, "This sickness is not for death but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."<sup>5</sup> And Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus.

<sup>6</sup> But when He heard that he was sick, He stayed where He was for two more days.<sup>7</sup> After this He said to the disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."<sup>8</sup> The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone You, and You are going back there?"<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day he does not stumble because he sees the light of the world.<sup>10</sup> But if anyone walks in the night he stumbles, because the light is not in him."<sup>11</sup> After He said this to them, He told them, "Lazarus, our friend, has fallen asleep, but I am going to awaken him."<sup>12</sup> Then His disciples said, "If he has fallen asleep, he will be fine."<sup>13</sup> Jesus was talking about his death, but they thought that he was speaking about the resting of sleep.<sup>14</sup> So Jesus said to them frankly, "Lazarus died.<sup>15</sup> And I am happy for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

<sup>16</sup> Then Thomas, the one called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, so that we may die with Him."

<sup>17</sup> So when He arrived, Jesus found that he had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Now this was in Bethany near Jerusalem, about two miles away.<sup>19</sup> And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary, to comfort them about their brother.

<sup>20</sup> Martha went out to meet Jesus when she heard that He was coming, while Mary stayed in the house.<sup>21</sup> Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you were here my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that anything You ask God, God will give You."

the world, so that I should testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.”<sup>38</sup>Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

And having said this, he went out again to the Jews and told them, “I find no charge in Him.<sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I should release one person to you at the Passover. Therefore, do you want me to release the ‘King of the Jews?’”<sup>40</sup>Then they all cried out again, saying, “Not Him, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a bandit.

**19** <sup>1</sup>So then Pilate took Jesus and had Him whipped.<sup>2</sup>And the soldiers crafted a crown made of thorns, put it on His head, and tossed a purple robe around Him.<sup>3</sup>They repeated, “Hail, King of the Jews!” while striking His face.

<sup>4</sup>Then Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing Him out to you, so that you may know that I find no charge in Him.”<sup>5</sup>Jesus then came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, “Behold, the Man!”<sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and attendants saw Him they cried out, “Crucify, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and do the crucifying, for I do not find any charge in Him.”<sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law He should die, because He made Himself the Son of God.”

<sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard these words he became more afraid,<sup>9</sup>and entered into the Praetorium again and said to Jesus, “Where are You from?” But Jesus did not give him an answer.<sup>10</sup>Then Pilate said, “You are not speaking to me? Do you not know that I have the authority to crucify You and the authority to release You?”<sup>11</sup>Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me at all unless it had been given to you from above. Because of this, the one who handed Me over to you has a greater sin.”

<sup>12</sup>From that point Pilate sought to release Him. But the Jews kept crying out, saying, “If you release this man you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.”

<sup>13</sup>So Pilate, on hearing these words, led Jesus outside and sat down on the judgment seat in a place called the Pavement—in Hebrew, Gabbatha.<sup>14</sup>It was now the Preparation of the Passover, about six in the morning, and he said to the Jews, “Behold, your King!”<sup>15</sup>But they cried out, “Away, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king except Caesar!”<sup>16</sup>So he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

And they took Jesus and led Him away.<sup>17</sup>And carrying His cross He went out to a place called “Place of a Skull,” which in Hebrew is Golgotha,<sup>18</sup>where they crucified Him with two others, one on each side, and Jesus in the middle.<sup>19</sup>Pilate also wrote a sign and put it on the cross. On it was written: “Jesus the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.”

<sup>20</sup>Many of the Jews read this sign because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin.<sup>21</sup>Because of this the chief priests of the Jews told Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This Person said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’””<sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, “I have written what I have written.”

<sup>23</sup>Then the soldiers, when they crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, a part to each soldier, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was seamless, wholly woven from top to bottom.<sup>24</sup>Therefore they said to each other, “Let us not tear it but cast lots for it, to choose whose it will be,” so that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says, “They divided My garments among them, and upon My clothing the cast a lot.” So the soldiers did this.

<sup>25</sup>By the cross stood the mother of Jesus, and the sister of His mother, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.<sup>26</sup>Upon seeing His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold your son.”<sup>27</sup>Then He said to the disciple, “Behold your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own care.

pound of very expensive perfume of pure nard, anointed the feet of Jesus with it, and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup>Then Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, one of His disciples who was about to hand Him over, said,<sup>5</sup>“Why couldn't this perfume be sold for three hundred dollars and given to the poor?”<sup>6</sup>He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief. He carried the money box and stole from what was placed in it.<sup>7</sup>But Jesus said, “Let her be, for she was saving it for the day of My burial.<sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you will not always have Me.”

<sup>9</sup>A large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not just to see Him, but to also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead.<sup>10</sup>But the chief priests decided that they had to kill Lazarus as well<sup>11</sup>because so many of the Jews were coming and believing in Jesus because of him.

<sup>12</sup>The next day the large crowd that had attended the feast, upon hearing that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,<sup>13</sup>took the branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. The King of Israel!”<sup>14</sup>And finding a young donkey, Jesus sat on it, just as it is written,<sup>15</sup>“Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold your king is coming, sitting on the colt of a donkey.”<sup>16</sup>At first His disciples did not understand, but when Jesus was glorified they remembered that this was written about Him, and that they had done these things to Him.

<sup>17</sup>All those who were with Him when He raised Lazarus from the dead and called him out of the tomb were telling everyone.<sup>18</sup>On account of this the crowds came out to meet Him, because they heard of this sign that He had done.<sup>19</sup>So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, your efforts have done nothing. Look how the world has gone off after Him!”

<sup>20</sup>There were some Greeks who had gone up to worship at the feast.<sup>21</sup>They approached Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”<sup>22</sup>Philip came and spoke to Andrew and both Andrew and Philip spoke to Jesus.<sup>23</sup>But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.<sup>24</sup>Very certainly I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone, but if it dies, it bears much fruit.<sup>25</sup>Whoever loves his life will lose it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.<sup>26</sup>If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me, and where I am, there will My servant be also. And if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>“Now My soul has become troubled, so what should I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour?’ But it is for this hour that I came.<sup>28</sup>Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came out of heaven: “I have glorified it and I will glorify it again.”<sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it but some were saying that it thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.”

<sup>30</sup>Jesus answered and said, “This voice has not come about for My sake but for yours.<sup>31</sup>Now the judgment of the world is this: the ruler of this world will be cast out.<sup>32</sup>And I, if I am lifted up from the earth will draw all peoples to Myself.”<sup>33</sup>He said this to signify what kind of death He was about to die.

<sup>34</sup>The crowd answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains into the ages. So how can you say, ‘It is necessary for the Son of Man to be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?’”<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to them, “For a short time the light is still with you. Walk while you have the light so darkness does not overtake you, because whoever walks in the dark does not know where he is going.<sup>36</sup>While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become sons of light.” Having spoken this, Jesus was hidden from them as He departed.

<sup>37</sup>But even though He did so many signs right in front of them, they still did not believe in Him,<sup>38</sup>so that the words of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which said,

is coming, in fact has come, that you will be scattered each to his own, and you will leave Me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.<sup>33</sup>I have spoken these things to you so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but have courage, I have overcome the world.”

**17** <sup>1</sup>Speaking these things Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, so that Your Son may also glorify You.<sup>2</sup>Just as You have given Him authority over all humanity, so will He give eternal life to all that You have given to Him.<sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the One whom You sent.<sup>4</sup>I glorified You on earth. I finished the work which You gave Me to do.<sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself with the glory I had with You before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>“I revealed Your name to the men whom You have given to Me out of the world. They were Yours and You have given them to Me and they have kept Your word.<sup>7</sup>Now they have known that everything You have given to Me is from You;<sup>8</sup>because the words which You have given to Me I have given to them, and they have received them and know that I truly came forth from You, and have believed that You sent Me.

<sup>9</sup>“I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom You have given to Me, because they are Yours.<sup>10</sup>And all who are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I have been glorified in them.<sup>11</sup>No longer am I in the world, but I am coming to You, yet they are still in the world. Holy Father, keep in Your name those whom You have given Me, so that they may be one just as We are.<sup>12</sup>When I was in the world, I kept them in Your name. I guarded those whom You have given Me, and not one of them was lost, except the son of destruction, so that the Scripture might be fulfilled.<sup>13</sup>Now I am coming to you, but while I am in the world, I say these things so that they may be filled with My joy.

<sup>14</sup>“I have given them Your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.<sup>15</sup>I do not ask that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.<sup>16</sup>They are not of the world just as I am not of the world.<sup>17</sup>Sanctify them by truth; Your word is truth.<sup>18</sup>Just as You sent Me into the world, I also send them into the world.<sup>19</sup>And in behalf of them I sanctify Myself, so that they also may be sanctified by truth.

<sup>20</sup>“I am not praying for these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word, so that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You—so that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.<sup>21</sup>And I have given them the glory which You have given to Me so that they may be one just as We are one.<sup>23</sup>I in them, and You in Me, so that they may be perfected in one, that the world may know that You sent Me, and You loved them just as You have loved Me.

<sup>24</sup>“Father, My desire is that those whom You have given to Me may be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given to me, because You loved Me before the foundation of the world.<sup>25</sup>Righteous Father, indeed the world did not know You, yet I knew You, and these knew that You sent Me.<sup>26</sup>And I made Your name known to them, and will continue to make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me, and I Myself, may be in them.”

**18** <sup>1</sup>Having said this, Jesus went out with His disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden which He and His disciples entered.<sup>2</sup>Judas, who would hand Him over, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with His disciples.<sup>3</sup>So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers there from the chief priest and Pharisees’ attendants, who came with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

<sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing everything that was going to come upon Him, went out to them and asked, “Whom are you seeking?”<sup>5</sup>They answered Him, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

of bread and give it to.” And after dipping the piece of bread, He gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.

<sup>27</sup>And after the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Then Jesus said to him, “Do what you do quickly.”<sup>28</sup>But none of those sitting to eat knew why He had said to this to him.<sup>29</sup>Some were thinking that since Judas had the money box Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor.<sup>30</sup>So he went out immediately after taking the piece of bread. By then it was night.

<sup>31</sup>As he left, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in Him.<sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself. He will glorify Him right now.<sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you but for a short time. You will seek Me, but just as I said to the Jews, I say to you now: ‘Where I am going you are not able to come.’”

<sup>34</sup>“A new command I give to you, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, also love one another.<sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

<sup>36</sup>Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you are not able to follow Me now, but later you will follow Me.”<sup>37</sup>Peter said to Him, “What is the reason I am not able to follow you now? I will lay down my life for You.”<sup>38</sup>Jesus answered him, “You will lay down your life for Me? Very certainly I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you have denied Me three times.”

**14** <sup>1</sup>“Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.<sup>2</sup>In My Father’s house are many dwellings; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you,<sup>3</sup>and if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to Myself, so that where I am, you also may be.<sup>4</sup>You know where I am going, and you know the way.”

<sup>5</sup>Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how are we able to know the way?”<sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.<sup>7</sup>If you had known Me, you would have known My Father as well; so from now on you know Him and have seen Him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father and it will satisfy us.”<sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long and still you do not know Me, Philip? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father, and so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’<sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words that I speak to you are not from Myself, but from the Father, who lives in Me. He is the One who does the works.<sup>11</sup>Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me, but if not, then believe Me because of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“Very certainly I say to you, whoever believes in Me, the works that I do, they will do also—and greater works than these will they do, because I am going to My Father.<sup>13</sup>And whatever you ask in My name I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup>If you ask anything in My name I will do it.<sup>15</sup>If you love Me, keep My commandments.

<sup>16</sup>“And I will ask the Father, and another Counselor He will give you, so that He may live with you into the ages—<sup>17</sup>the Spirit of truth, whom the world is not able to receive because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He lives with you and He will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.<sup>19</sup>In yet a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.<sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in the Father, and you in Me, and I in you.<sup>21</sup>Whoever has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me. And the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him.”