

THE R.U.S.H. BIBLE STUDY

LUKE



KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FAST



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY FIRST EDITION 2020 VER.26

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The Gospel of Luke

Luke writes the most thorough account of Jesus' life, pulling together eyewitness testimonies to tell the full story of Jesus.

Author: Luke. He was a Gentile convert of Paul's, a physician, very well educated.

In Luke – Jesus is the Messiah who Delivers

Luke 1:37

"Nothing is impossible with God."

TEACHER: 24 CHAPTERS

The Gospel of Luke, and the book of Acts, were both written by a doctor named Luke who wrote both books originally under one cover. They were split into the 2 volumes we have today most likely to present the Gospels in the order they were written in. There are some early copies of partially assembled New Testaments that have the order as Matthew, Mark, John and Luke-Acts. The order is not divine, but by the reign of Constantine, the order is firmly established to what we have today, with John last of the four, and Acts following. Jerome who translated the Bible into Latin in the 300's used today's order for that work, and everyone has followed suit since.

Luke is the only clear non-Jewish (*or Gentile*) contributor to the New Testament. He was a Doctor, called the "beloved physician" in Colossians 4:14. He joins Paul on Paul's 2nd missionary trip in Troas (Asia Minor) according to Acts 16:6-11, he is possibly, even probably the brother of Titus, (according to Jerome, and the *Codex Bezae) which answers a lot of questions about time lines that scholars get buried in. That would put the partnership forming at Philippi on Paul's 2nd trip, and the 1st meeting at Antioch before the 1st missionary trip.

About *The Codex Bezae Cantabrigiensis from the Monastery of Irenaeus. C.300AD

There are half-a-dozen ancient manuscripts which are the foundation of our understanding of the text of the New Testament writings. Among these stands the copy known as Codex Bezae Cantabrigiensis. Any manuscript which has survived from antiquity is a marvel for this reason alone, and as we explore its pages, we have a rare opportunity to explore a little of the written culture of late antique Christianity. Although in the past century some remarkable papyrus manuscripts have been recovered from the sands of Egypt, their discovery has in general served more to highlight the significance of the parchment manuscripts than to diminish it.

Among this group, Codex Bezae occupies a unique place for several reasons. In the first place, as a bilingual manuscript, with a Greek text and a Latin version on facing pages, it provides a valuable insight into the reception of the Gospels and Acts in the western Christian tradition. The Latin version it contains is one of the small handful of manuscripts which are the most important witnesses to the development of a Latin version before Jerome's famous Vulgate of 382. Secondly, it provides a strikingly different form of text to that preserved in almost every other manuscript, and to the printed Greek text and the translations derived from it. These differences consist in the Gospels in frequent harmonization of the text and in Acts in a free restyling of the text found best represented by Codex Vaticanus and reproduced in English translations.

The manuscript is the work of a single scribe, one trained primarily to copy Latin texts. Its present contents are the Gospels of Matthew, John, Luke and Mark, a single page of the last verses of 3 John (in Latin only) and the Acts of the Apostles. The only book that is complete is the Gospel of Luke, since there are pages missing from all the others. It is possible that between Mark and 3 John the manuscript originally contained Revelation and the rest of the Epistles of John. The Gospels are in the so-called Western order, with the two who were apostles first, followed by the two who were companions of the apostles.

Luke opens with the words "Dear Theophilus." No one knows who he is, but I suspect that he was a Judge or governmental official as he is referred to as Your Excellency in verse 3. Chapter 1 covers the conceptions of both John the Baptist and Jesus. Since John's birth is not covered in the other Gospels, we will cover it here.

CH. 1

STUDENT:

¹ Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

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STUDENT:

⁵ During the time when Herod was king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife's name was Elizabeth; she also belonged to a priestly family. ⁶ They both lived good lives in God's sight and obeyed fully all the Lord's laws and commands. ⁷ They had no children because Elizabeth could not have any, and she and Zechariah were both very old. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁸ One day Zechariah was doing his work as a priest in the Temple, taking his turn in the daily service. ⁹ According to the custom followed by the priests, he was chosen by lot to burn incense on the altar. So he went into the Temple of the Lord, ¹⁰ while the crowd of people outside prayed during the hour when the incense was burned. ¹¹ An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar where the incense was burned. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was alarmed and felt afraid. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Don't be afraid, Zechariah! God has heard your prayer, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son. You are to name him John. ¹⁴ How glad and happy you will be, and how happy many others will be when he is born! ¹⁵ John will be great in the Lord's sight. He must not drink any wine or strong drink. From his very birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ and he will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

¹⁷ He will go ahead of the Lord, strong and mighty like the prophet Elijah. He will bring fathers and children together again; he will turn disobedient people back to the way of thinking of the righteous; he will get the Lord's people ready for him."

¹⁸ Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know if this is so? I am an old man, and my wife is old also."

¹⁹ "I am Gabriel," the angel answered. "I stand in the presence of God, who sent me to speak to you and tell you this good news. ²⁰ But you have not believed my message, which will come true at the right time. Because you have not believed, you will be unable to speak; you will remain silent until the day my promise to you comes true." (GNT)

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STUDENT:

²¹ In the meantime the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he was spending such a long time in the Temple. ²² When he came out, he could not speak to them, and so they knew that he had seen a vision in the Temple. Unable to say a word, he made signs to them with his hands.

²³ When his period of service in the Temple was over, Zechariah went back home. ²⁴ Some time later his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and did not leave the house for five months. ²⁵ "Now at last the Lord has helped me," she said. "He has taken away my public disgrace!" (GNT)

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TEACHER:

We have already covered this in earlier Gospels, but to reiterate, in Matthew 11 Jesus said among them born of women, John is the greatest. And what is his ministry? Verse 17, "He will bring fathers and children together again; he will turn disobedient people back to the way of the thinking of the righteous; he will get the Lord's people ready for him." (GNT).

What should we be doing? 1. Putting together families, and 2. Spreading the Good News. Later in chapter 1 the birth of Jesus is announced, Mary visits Elizabeth who is pregnant with John the Baptist, and John is born. In chapter 2 we have the “Charlie Brown Christmas Story.” The Census from Augustus, Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem, there is no room for them in the Inn, so Mary gives birth, and lays Him in the manger.

CH. 2

STUDENT:

⁸ There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them. They were terribly afraid, ¹⁰ but the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all the people. ¹¹ This very day in David’s town your Savior was born—Christ the Lord! ¹² And this is what will prove it to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (GNT).

TEACHER:

Next week Jesus is circumcised, and sometime after that He is presented in the temple for purification.

STUDENT:

²² The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded. So they took the child to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, ²³ as it is written in the law of the Lord: “Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord.” ²⁴ They also went to offer a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of the Lord. (GNT)

TEACHER:

This ceremony of dedication of the 1st born is from Exodus 13:2.

STUDENT:

²⁵ At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him ²⁶ and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s promised Messiah. ²⁷ Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple to do for him what the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Now we fast forward 12 years to rejoin Jesus at 12 years old.

STUDENT:

⁴¹ Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴² When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. ⁴³ When the festival was over, they started back home, but the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this; ⁴⁴ they thought that he was with the group, so they traveled a whole day and then started looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ They did not find him, so they went back to Jerusalem looking for him. (GNT)

STUDENT:

⁴⁶ On the third day they found him in the Temple, sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions. ⁴⁷ All who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers. ⁴⁸ His parents were astonished when they saw him, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you." ⁴⁹ He answered them, "Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand his answer.

⁵¹ So Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining favor with God and people. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 3 Covers John the Baptist's ministry, the baptism of Jesus, and Jesus ancestry which we have covered in the previous Gospels. Chapter 4 covers His temptation and teachings, Chapter 5 the calling the 1st few of His Disciples, and teaching on fasting, and some healings. In Chapter 6 we have the full list of names of the 12.

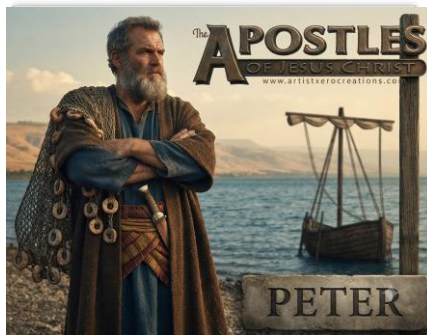
STUDENT:

¹² At that time Jesus went up a hill to pray and spent the whole night there praying to God. ¹³ When day came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he named apostles: ¹⁴ Simon (whom he named Peter) and his brother Andrew; James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, ¹⁵ Matthew and Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon (who was called the Patriot), ¹⁶ Judas son of Alpheus, and Judas Iscariot, who became the traitor. (GNT)

TEACHER: Have everyone take turns reading 1 disciple each. Each of these men hand-picked by Jesus.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES OF JESUS

SIMON (AKA PETER, SIMON BAR JONA, CEPHAS)



He is always named 1st when multiple disciples are listed in his company. A married fisherman. He was from Galilee.

Josephus described the Galileans this way, "They were ever fond of innovation and by nature disposed to change and delighted in sedition. They were ever ready to follow the leader and to begin an insurrection. They were quick in temper and given to quarreling and they were very chivalrous men." The Talmud says this of the Galileans, "They were more anxious for honor than for gain, quick-tempered, impulsive, emotional, easily aroused by an appeal to adventure, loyal to the end."

Simon Peter, son of Jonas, was a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum. He did evangelistic and missionary work among the Jews, going as far as Babylon. He was a member of the Inner Circle and authored the two New Testament epistles which bear his name. Tradition says he was crucified, head downward, in Rome.

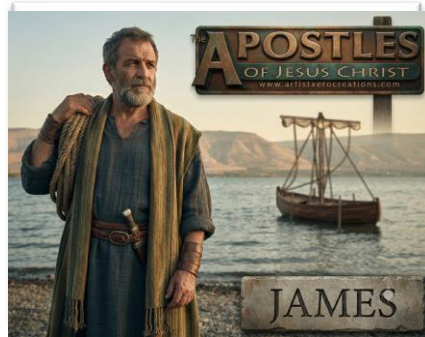
CH. 3
CH. 4
CH. 5
CH. 6

Peter was martyred on a cross. Peter requested that he might be crucified head downward for he was not worthy to die as his Lord had died. Many attribute the Gospel of Mark to Peter because Mark was his disciple, and later, travelled with Peter as his interpreter. Peter never learned Greek, Mark filled the roll.

Buried in Rome.

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JAMES THE ELDER. (AKA BOAGERNES, SON OF THUNDER, JAMES THE GREAT)

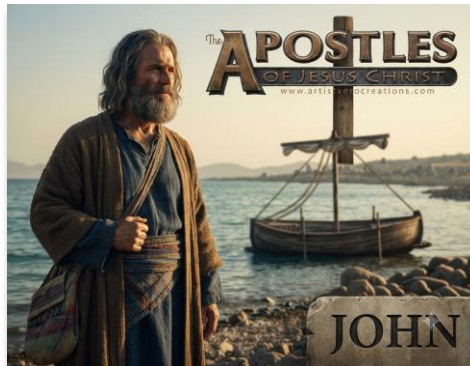


James, the Elder, Boanerges, son of Zebedee and Salome, brother of John the Apostle; a fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem. He preached in Jerusalem and Judea and was beheaded by Herod, AD 44. He was a member of the Inner Circle, so called because they were accorded special privileges. The New Testament tells us very little about James. His name never appears apart from that of his brother, John. They were an inseparable pair. He was a man of courage and forgiveness, a man without jealousy, living in the shadow of John, a man of extraordinary faith, the first of the twelve to become a martyr (Acts 12).

Buried in Spain.

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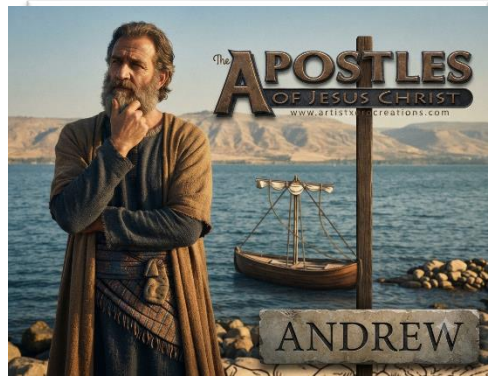
JOHN BOANERGES, SON OF ZEBEDEE AND SALOME, BROTHER OF JAMES. (AKA JOHN THE BELOVED, JOHN THE EVANGELIST, JOHN THE REVEALER, AND JOHN THE REVELATOR)



He was known as the Beloved Disciple. A fisherman who lived in Bethsaida, Capernaum and Jerusalem, he was a member of the Inner Circle. He wrote the Gospel of John, I John, II John, III John and Revelation. He was given the earthly responsibility for Mary the mother of Jesus at the cross in John 19, he prepared the upper room for the last supper and out ran Peter at the tomb when Jesus rose from the dead in John 20. He preached among the churches of Asia Minor. Banished to the Isle of Patmos, he was later freed and died a natural death in Ephesus, living with Timothy, and working in the churches there where Timothy was the Bishop in that region.

Buried in Turkey.

ANDREW, THE BROTHER OF PETER, AND A SON OF JONAS. (AKA PROTOKLETOS, OR, FIRST CALLED)



He lived in Bethsaida and Capernaum and was a fisherman before Jesus called him. Originally he was a disciple of John the Baptist. Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus. According to tradition, it was in Achaia, Greece, in the town of Patra that Andrew died a martyr. When Governor Aepeas' wife was healed and converted to the Christian faith, and shortly after that the Governor's brother became a Christian. Aepeas was enraged. He arrested Andrew and condemned him to die on the cross. Andrew, feeling unworthy to be crucified on the same-shaped cross as his Master, begged that his be different. So, he was crucified on an X-shaped cross. Buried in Amalfi Italy.

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BARTHOLOMEW, SON OF TALMAI. (AKA NATHANIEL)

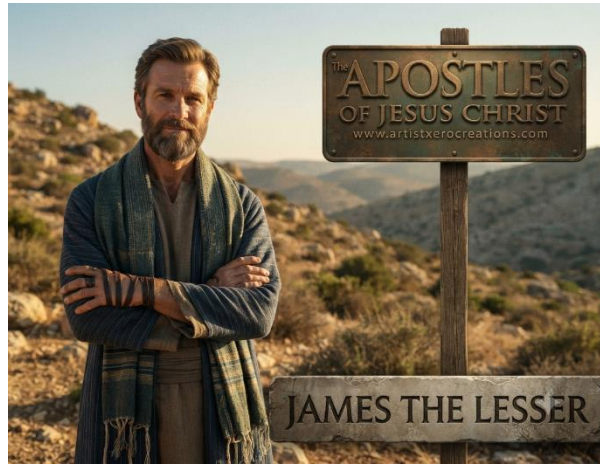


Lived in Cana of Galilee. Tradition says he was a missionary in Armenia. A number of scholars believe that he was the only one of the 12 disciples who came from royal blood, or noble birth. His name means Son of Tolmai or Talmai. Talmai was king of Geshur whose daughter, Maacah, was the wife of David, mother of Absalom. This would be a designation of that royal lineage.

Bartholomew's name appears with every list of the disciples. This was not a first name, however; it was his second name. His first name was Nathanael, whom Jesus called "An Israelite indeed, in whom there is no guile" (John 1:47). Tradition says that he preached in India, and Armenia, and his death seems to have taken place there. He died as a martyr for his Lord. He was flayed alive, his skin peeled off his body with knives. Buried in Rome.

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JAMES SON OF ALPHEUS, (AKA JAMES THE LESS, JAMES THE YOUNGER) LIVED IN GALILEE. HE WAS THE BROTHER OF THE APOSTLE JUDE.

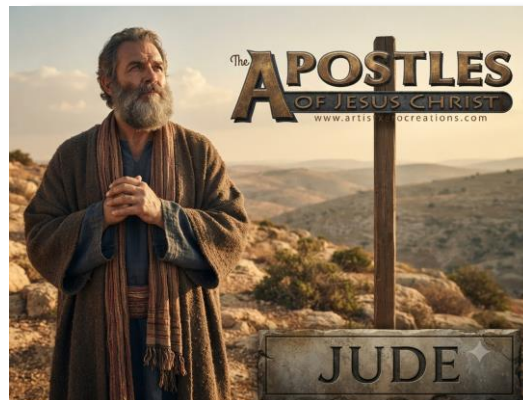


According to tradition he preached in Palestine and Egypt and was stoned to death in Egypt. James was one of the little-known disciples. Some scholars believe he was the brother of Matthew, the tax collector whose father also was named Alpheas. Tradition states he was crucified in Persia, near Sinai. He is often mistaken in literature with James the brother of Christ who pastored the main church in Jerusalem and wrote the Epistle of James, and also with James the Elder.

Buried in Rome.

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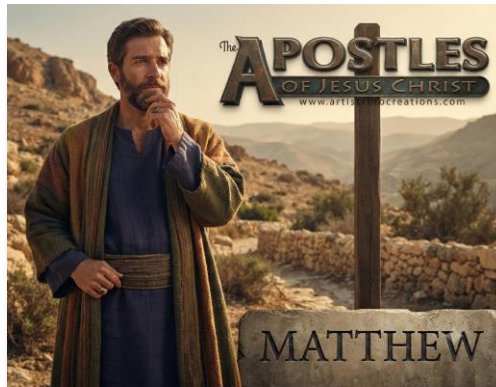
JUDE, (AKA THADDEUS, OR LEBBEUS), SON OF ALPHEUS. HE WAS A BROTHER OF JAMES THE YOUNGER.



He was one of the least known Apostles and lived in Galilee. Tradition says he preached in Assyria and Persia and died a martyr in Persia. Jerome called Jude "Trinomious" which means "a man with three names." In Mark 3:18 he is called Thaddeus. In Matthew 10:3 he is called Lebbeus. His surname was Thaddeus. In Luke 6:16 and Acts 1:13 he is called Judas the brother of James. It is said that Jude went to preach the gospel in Edessa near the Euphrates River. There he healed many, and many believed in the name of the Master. He was killed with arrows at Ararat. Thaddeus also was called Judas the Zealot.

Buried in Rome.

MATTHEW, (AKA LEVI, SON OF ALPHEUS) LIVED IN CAPERNAUM. HE WAS A PUBLICAN OR TAX COLLECTOR.

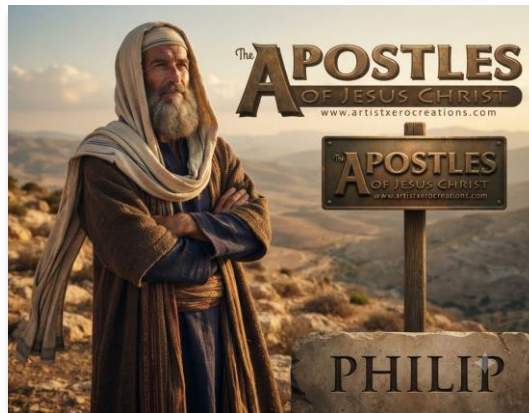


He wrote the Gospel that bears his name. He died a martyr in Ethiopia. It is likely that James the lesser, who was one of the twelve Apostles, was Matthew's brother, also the son of Alpheus. Although we know little about Matthew personally, the outstanding fact about him is that he was a tax collector. The King James Version calls him a publican, which in Latin is Publicanus, meaning engaged in public service, a man who handled public money, or a tax gatherer. Matthew was unlike the other Apostles, who were mostly fishermen. He could use a pen, and by his pen he became the first man to present to the world, in the Hebrew language, an account of the teaching of Jesus. It is clearly impossible to estimate the debt that Christianity owes to this despised tax gatherer. Matthew became the first man to write down the teachings of Jesus. His ministry was in Persia (Iran), Macedonia (Balkan Peninsula in southern Europe), Syria (east of Israel), Parthia (farther east from Persia), Media (Ancient area of modern Kurdistan), and Ethiopia (Horn of Africa).

Buried in Sicily.

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PHILIP, HE CAME FROM BETHSAIDA, THE TOWN FROM WHICH PETER AND ANDREW CAME (JOHN 1:44). THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT HE, TOO, WAS A FISHERMAN.



When Philip met Christ, he immediately found Nathanael and told him that "we have found him, of whom Moses ... and the prophets, did write." In Acts 6:5, we have Philip as one of the seven ordained deacons. Some say this is a different Philip. Some believe this is the Apostle. If this is the same Philip, then his personality came more to life because he had a successful campaign in Samaria. He led the Ethiopian eunuch to Christ (Acts 8:26). He also stayed with Paul in Caesarea (Acts 21:8) and was one of the major figures in the missionary enterprise of the early church. Tradition says that the disciple Philip preached in Phrygia and Scythia. He died a martyr at Hierapolis when he was crucified on a tall cross.

Buried in Rome.

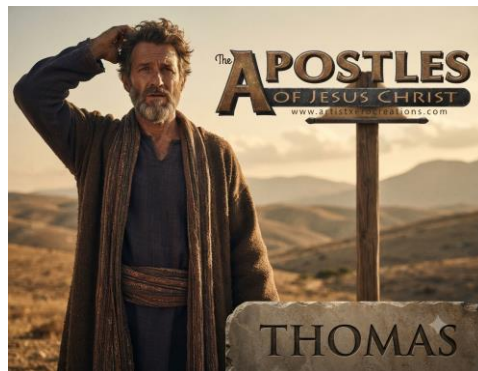
SIMON THE LESS, (AKA SIMON THE ZEALOT, SIMON THE CANAANITE OR SIMON ZELOTES), LIVED IN GALILEE.



The Zealots were fanatical Jewish Nationalists who had heroic disregard for the suffering involved and the struggle for what they regarded as the purity of their faith. The Zealots were crazed with hatred for the Romans. It was this hate for Rome that destroyed the city of Jerusalem. Josephus says the Zealots were reckless persons, zealous in good practices and extravagant and reckless in the worst kind of actions. Simon Zelotes ministered in Persia, (modern day Iran), and was stabbed to death for refusing to worship the sun god. Buried in Rome.

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THOMAS (AKA DIDYMUS, JUDAS THOMAS, DOUBTING THOMAS) LIVED IN GALILEE.



Sometimes called Judas, he was present at the resurrection of Lazarus. It is said that he was commissioned to build a palace for the king of India, he labored in Parthia, Persia, and India, suffering martyrdom near Madras, at Mt. St. Thomas, India. Buried in India.

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JUDAS ISCARIOT, THE TRAITOR, WAS THE SON OF SIMON WHO LIVED IN KERIOTH OF JUDAH.



He betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver and afterwards hanged himself. He was a Judean and the rest of the disciples were Galileans. He was the treasurer of the band and among the outspoken leaders. It is said that Judas was a violent Jewish Nationalist who had followed Jesus in hope that through Him his nationalistic fame and dreams might be realized.

Unknown grave.

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MATTHIAS WAS SELECTED TO REPLACE JUDAS AS RECORDED IN ACTS 1:15-26.

The other man who was also in consideration was named Joseph or Barsabas, and surnamed Justus. Lots were cast and eventually Matthias was chosen by the casting of lots. He, from then on, was numbered with the eleven apostles. The Bible says that Matthias was with Jesus from His baptism until his resurrection, and also in the upper room. Besides the book of Acts, Matthias isn't mentioned anywhere else in the Bible. Matthias spread the gospel on the shores of the Caspian Sea and Cappadocia (central Turkey). Jerome and the early Christian writers Clement of Alexandria and Eusebius of Caesarea attest that Matthias was among the 72 disciples paired off and dispatched by Jesus. He was martyred by crucifixion and, according to other legends, chopped apart. His ministry was so vast and lasting that Helena, mother of the Roman emperor Constantine the Great, 300 years later, transported Matthias' belongings from Jerusalem to Rome.

According to Greek sources, the remains of the apostle are buried in the castle of Gonio-Apsaros, Georgia.

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TEACHER:

The rest of chapter 6 is a mini Sermon on the Mount. In chapter 7 Jesus continues healing and teaching and activities we studied in Matthew and Mark. In chapter 8 we get a glimpse at some of the women who traveled and served the Lord and His disciples. Please note, In the Gospels we skip through so as not to be redundant in repeating parables. So that we don't miss anything every parable in every Gospel is included at the end of their respective Gospels.

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STUDENT:

Sometime later Jesus traveled through towns and villages, preaching the Good News about the Kingdom of God. The twelve disciples went with him, ² and so did some women who had been healed of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (who was called Magdalene), from whom seven demons had been driven out; ³ Joanna, whose husband Chuza was an officer in Herod's court; and Susanna, and many other women who used their own resources to help Jesus and his disciples. (GNT)

CH. 6
CH. 7
CH. 8

TEACHER:

In chapter 9 Herod hears about Jesus. It goes like this.

STUDENT:

⁷ When Herod, the ruler of Galilee, heard about all the things that were happening, he was very confused, because some people were saying that John the Baptist had come back to life. ⁸ Others were saying that Elijah had appeared, and still others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life. ⁹ Herod said, "I had John's head cut off; but who is this man I hear these things about?" And he kept trying to see Jesus. (GNT)

TEACHER:

The chapter ends with this topic. Listen and think on what parable would apply to this?

CH. 9

STUDENT:

⁵⁷ As they went on their way, a man said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸ Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lie down and rest." ⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me." But that man said, "Sir, first let me go back and bury my father."

⁶⁰ Jesus answered, "Let the dead bury their own dead. You go and proclaim the Kingdom of God."

⁶¹ Someone else said, "I will follow you, sir; but first let me go and say good-bye to my family." ⁶² Jesus said to him, "Anyone who starts to plow and then keeps looking back is of no use for the Kingdom of God." (GNT)

TEACHER:

What parables would you think of when hearing this account in chapter 9? I think the parable of the sower.

"Some ground is rocky ground, and the cares of this life....."

In Luke 10 Jesus sends out the 72, and makes this proclamation.

STUDENT:

¹³ "How terrible it will be for you, Chorazin! How terrible for you too, Bethsaida! If the miracles which were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, the people there would have long ago sat down, put on sackcloth, and sprinkled ashes on themselves, to show that they had turned from their sins! ¹⁴ God will show more mercy on the Judgment Day to Tyre and Sidon than to you. ¹⁵ And as for you, Capernaum! Did you want to lift yourself up to heaven? You will be thrown down to hell!"

¹⁶ Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Another great parable is from chapter 10, the Good Samaritan.

CH. 10

STUDENT:

³⁰ Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. ³¹ It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side. ³² In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity. (GNT)

STUDENT:

³⁴ He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.

³⁵ The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'"

³⁶ And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?"

³⁷ The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him."

Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same." (GNT)

TEACHER:

In chapter 11, we have more Sermon on the Mount, but not as a sermon, just pieces divided up as Jesus is ministering and healing, then in chapter 12 He tells a story.

STUDENT:

"There was once a rich man who had land which bore good crops. ¹⁷ He began to think to himself, 'I don't have a place to keep all my crops. What can I do? ¹⁸ This is what I will do,' he told himself; 'I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, where I will store the grain and all my other goods. ¹⁹ Then I will say to myself, Lucky man! You have all the good things you need for many years. Take life easy, eat, drink, and enjoy yourself!' ²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night you will have to give up your life; then who will get all these things you have kept for yourself?'"

²¹ And Jesus concluded, "This is how it is with those who pile up riches for themselves but are not rich in God's sight." (GNT)

TEACHER:

What does this say about priorities? Jesus addresses the proper mindset to form regarding our priorities in the next passage.

STUDENT:

³⁵ "Be ready for whatever comes, dressed for action and with your lamps lit, ³⁶ like servants who are waiting for their master to come back from a wedding feast. When he comes and knocks, they will open the door for him at once. ³⁷ How happy are those servants whose master finds them awake and ready when he returns! I tell you, he will take off his coat, have them sit down, and will wait on them. ³⁸ How happy they are if he finds them ready, even if he should come at midnight or even later! ³⁹ And you can be sure that if the owner of a house knew the time when the thief would come, he would not let the thief break into his house. ⁴⁰ And you, too, must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him." (GNT)

TEACHER:

What are some of the things you are doing to prepare for the coming of Christ? We all know the obvious. List them. Church attendance, devotions, witnessing, tithing, chaste lifestyle, language, behavior, prudence, love, kindness, patience, faith, prayer, encouraging in church and to those outside of the family of God, etc. Jesus finishes chapter 13 with the example of the narrow door. I've heard it said in the world, there is a highway to hell, but a stairway to heaven. Anyone see the expectation of traffic flow? How steep is the cost as we continue to touch on this topic of priorities?

CH. 11
CH. 12

CH. 13

CH. 14

STUDENT:

²⁵ Once when large crowds of people were going along with Jesus, he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Those who come to me cannot be my disciples unless they love me more than they love father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and themselves as well. ²⁷ Those who do not carry their own cross and come after me cannot be my disciples. ²⁸ If one of you is planning to build a tower, you sit down first and figure out what it will cost, to see if you have enough money to finish the job. ²⁹ If you don't, you will not be able to finish the tower after laying the foundation; and all who see what happened will make fun of you. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

³⁰ ‘You began to build but can't finish the job!’ they will say. ³¹ If a king goes out with ten thousand men to fight another king who comes against him with twenty thousand men, he will sit down first and decide if he is strong enough to face that other king. ³² If he isn't, he will send messengers to meet the other king to ask for terms of peace while he is still a long way off. ³³ In the same way,” concluded Jesus, “none of you can be my disciple unless you give up everything you have. (GNT)

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CH. 15
CH. 16
CH. 17

TEACHER:

That is quite the list. Who can't be Jesus disciples?

1. If you love your parents more than Jesus.
2. If you love your children more than Jesus.
3. If you love your wife more than Jesus.
4. If you love your brothers and sisters more than Jesus.
5. If you love yourself more than Jesus.
6. If you don't “carry your own cross.” (*Deal with the cards life has handed you*).
7. If you don't follow Jesus.

*Everything on that list is a deal breaker if you want to be a disciple (a student) of Jesus.
If you want to learn from Him that is the price.*

Chapter 15 tells the story of the Prodigal Son. Chapter 16 tells the story of the rich man and Lazarus. In chapter 17 Lets read the story of the 10 lepers.

=====

STUDENT:

¹¹ Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. ¹² Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. ¹³ And they lifted up *their* voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”

¹⁴ So when He saw *them*, He said to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. (NKJV)

=====

STUDENT:

¹⁵ And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, ¹⁶ and fell down on *his* face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where *are* the nine? ¹⁸ Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ And He said to him, “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.” (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

What is the Holy Spirit trying to tell us by including this in scripture? The Importance of enjoying the presence of God and thanking Him as we go from victory to victory. Don't spend your life crossing your fingers and hoping the other shoe won't drop, thank Him, enjoy time with Him. Life is short. Enjoy Gods presence, and the victories that come with life in Christ. Also remember why did Jesus want them to go to the priest?

Moses law provided for a healed leaper to return to the community. But it never happened. Now, it was happening in droves.

Moving on, in chapter 18 we have another parable.

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CH. 18

STUDENT:

⁹Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' ¹³And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'" (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

Later in chapter 18 Jesus predicts His Death and resurrection for the 3rd time. Let's read.

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STUDENT:

³¹Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. ³²For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. ³³They will scourge *Him* and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."

³⁴But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken. (NKJV)

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"Jesus didn't die by accident, He died on purpose." DH

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TEACHER:

In chapter 19 He goes to Zacchaeus' house spends time with him, and after Zacchaeus repents, He says, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; ¹⁰for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." Chapter 19 ends in the triumphal entry, and chapter 20, the inevitable clash with religion and its leaders. In 21 Jesus teaches on the end times, as we have read in the other Gospels, and talks of His return as well. In chapter 22 the plot to betray Jesus is hatched, as we are now well into Passion Week.

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CH. 19
CH. 20
CH. 21
CH. 22

STUDENT:

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover.

² And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people. ³ Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. ⁴ So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. ⁵ And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. ⁶ So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude. (NKJV).

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TEACHER:

Then Jesus is in the upper room, and institutes the rite of Communion.

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STUDENT:

¹⁴ When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. ¹⁵ Then He said to them, "With *fervent* desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶ for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."



¹⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide *it* among yourselves; ¹⁸ for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

²⁰ Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. (NKJV)

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TEACHER:

Jesus goes to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives to pray, and soon after He is done praying, is betrayed and arrested.

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(The Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives).

TEACHER:

Peter denies Jesus while Jesus is being scourged and mocked. At the Sanhedrin, He is asked, “are you the Son of God?” and He says “you say that I am” in some translations, the implied connotation is rendered “you rightly say that I am” more correctly drawing the meaning from the most ancient manuscripts where it is idiomatically rendered in modern English “you can say that again.”

In chapter 23 Jesus is handed over to Pontius Pilate, then Herod, then back to Pilate, where Pilate offers the crowd a choice between Jesus or Barabbas. Let’s read portions of the crucifixion. (NKJV)

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CH. 23

STUDENT:

²⁶ Now as they led Him away, they laid hold of a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, and on him they laid the cross that he might bear *it* after Jesus.

²⁷ And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. ²⁸ But Jesus, turning to them, said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, ‘Blessed *are* the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then they will begin ‘to say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!” ’ ³¹ For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?” (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

³² There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. ³³ And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.”

And they divided His garments and cast lots. ³⁵ And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.”

³⁶ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.” (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

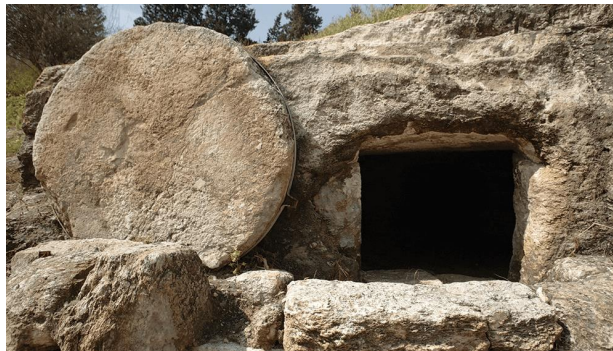
³⁸ And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. ³⁹ Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." ⁴⁰ But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." ⁴³ And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

⁴⁴ Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. ⁴⁵ Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'" Having said this, He breathed His last. ⁴⁷ So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous Man!" ⁴⁸ And the whole crowd who came together to that sight, seeing what had been done, beat their breasts and returned. ⁴⁹ But all His acquaintances, and the women who followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. (NKJV)

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The traditional site of Jesus Tomb in Jerusalem

TEACHER:

Jesus is then buried in Joseph's Tomb. In chapter 24 Jesus rises from the dead, reveals Himself to the 12 and others, then the Gospel of Luke ends with the following 9 verses.

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STUDENT:

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me." ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (NKJV)

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STUDENT:

⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen. (NKJV)

NEXT WEEK JOHN

"Forgive and you will be forgiven."

Luke 6:37



The Book of Luke Parables

These are Parables unique to the book of Luke.

Parable of The Good Samaritan - Luke 10:29-37

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Parable of The Friend at Midnight - Luke 11:5-13

Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Parable of The Rich Fool - Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.'

"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

"This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

Parable of The Barren Fig Tree - Luke 13:6-9

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

"'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

Parable of The Invited Guests - Luke 14:7-14

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than

you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Parable of The Lost Coin - Luke 15:8-10

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[a] and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Parable of The Prodigal Son - Luke 15:11-32

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

"My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus - Luke 16:19-31

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and

you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

“He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

“Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

“‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

Parable of The Persistent Widow - Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

“For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

Parable of The Pharisee and The Tax Collector - Luke 18:9-14

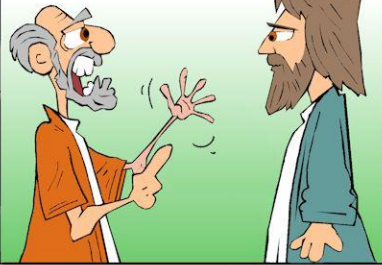
To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

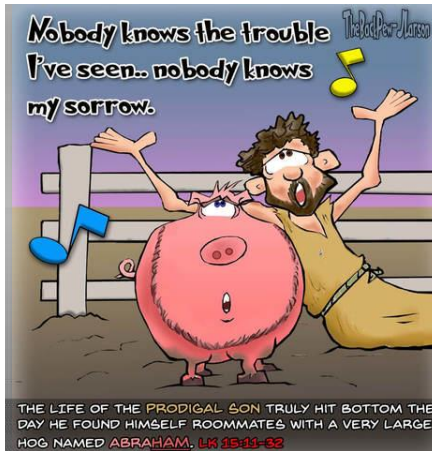
“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Jesus have mercy on me,
and heal my withered
hand.



So Jesus heals the man with the shriveled hand ON THE SABBATH which of course made the religious community FURIOUS.
Lk 6:6-11 LEGALISM ON STEROIDS?

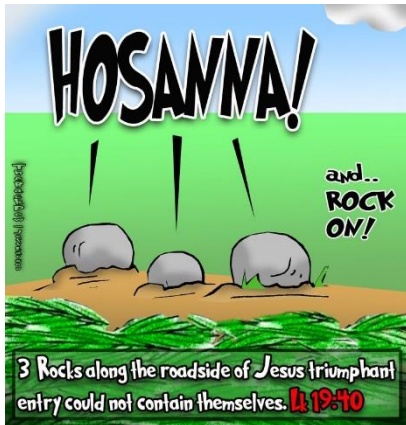


THE LIFE OF THE PRODIGAL SON TRULY HIT BOTTOM THE DAY HE FOUND HIMSELF ROOMMATES WITH A VERY LARGE HOG NAMED ABRAHAM. **Lk 15:11-32**

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



IRS Agent, Zacchaeus working out of the Sycamore Branch Office is approached by Jesus for an internal audit... 'of Zacchaeus'.
Luke 19:1-10



3 Rocks along the roadside of Jesus triumphant entry could not contain themselves. **Lk 19:40**

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

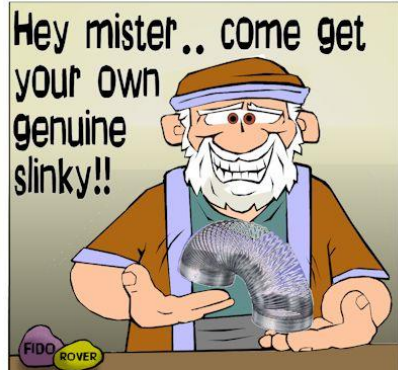


The Temple looked like a strip mall, with money changers, dove salesman, and Malcom's Exotic Bird table UNTIL the temple was cleared by Jesus.
Mt 21:12-17, Mk 11:15-17, Lu 19:35-36



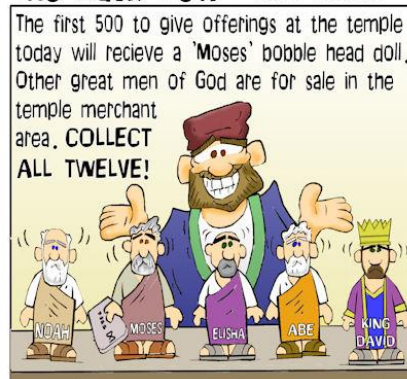
FOR SALE : Single owner Tomb. Only used three days, and still has that 'new tomb' smell.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



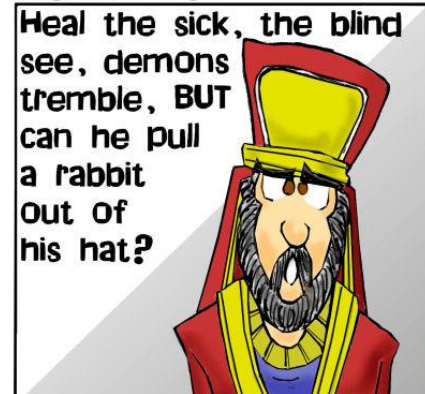
Meeting Sam the Slinky & Pet Rock salesman was the last straw for Jesus just before he CLEARED THE TEMPLE. **Luke 19:45-46ish**

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



At the time when Jesus overturned the temple merchant tables, the commercialization of faith would rival Christmas in America today!

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



Though Bob the High Priest was an eye witness to many of Jesus miracles... he remained a sceptic.

