

Luke and Acts

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Introduction

A Greek physician named "Luke" heard the Gospel of the Anointed Savior from many people who were telling what they remembered. Whether or not he believed it initially, the physician decided to make a single documentary.

Assuredly, Luke interviewed Yeshu'a' mother, Miriam, & all of his biological & spiritual siblings. He later traveled with the apostle Paul & others on missionary trips to various places. He traveled with Paul on several missionaries, documenting everything but keeping a safe distance when Paul & Silas got arrested in Philippi for casting a demon out of a fortune teller. See Acts 16: 25-40.

In time, the physician wrote & or dictated the texts that we now call "the Gospel according to Luke" & "the Acts of the Apostles."

His second book seems to be more of a journal of the things he observed as he spent time with other believers. He was, for all intents & purposes, the cameraman & a court stenographer.

According to Britannica, Luke wrote his Gospel between 63 & 70 CE & the book of Acts between 70 & 90. I'm not convinced of the start dates, but this makes sense for the finalized dates. He saw that many had been writing so he "carefully investigated everything so he can be as accurate & detailed as possible."

He wrote his accounts for "most noble Theophilus."

"Theophilus" means "a friend of God" & it is a generic name for Greeks, Romans, & other Goyim [Gentiles] who converted to Judaism. It might also be important to point out that a man named Theophilus was the next High Priest after Caiaphas died in 37 AD/CE.

Whichever Theophilus that Dr Luke is writing to, he says that Yeshu'a was born during Quirinius' census in 6 BC/BCE. We see this in what we now call chapter 2, verses 1-7.

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Based on calculations in *Astronomy Records of the Book of the Han Dynasty*, Yeshu'a was born on March 9th in the year 5 BC. This timing matches up well with Matthew's Gospel account of the "wise men from the East" following Yeshu'a' star to Bethlehem, Herod issuing a decree to kill all the baby boys born in that district during that timeframe & dying a miserable death in 4 BC/BCE.

According to reports in the *History of Latter Han, Annals, No 18*, there was an "eclipse on the day of Gui Hai, the Man from Heaven died."

That text also says, "During the reign of Emperor Guang Wu, on the day of Bing Yin of the fourth month of Jian Wu, a halo—a rainbow—encircled the sun."

This lines up with Passover in 31 CE meaning that Yeshu'a was about 36 when He was crucified. He rose again on the first day of that next week. Then, He spent the next 40 days with all the disciples who came near, preparing them to "wait in the city until you've been clothed with power from above."

Luke 24 ends with Yeshu'a' ascension & Acts I begins with angels chastising the crowd, "Why are staring up to the Heavens? Just like He has been taken up, He will come back."

The next three days were busy! Among other things, the apostles prayerfully chose Mathias to replace Judas [see Acts I: 12-26].

Acts chapter 2 begins by explaining that Jews from every nation all around the world gathered in Jerusalem for Pentecost. Shavu'ot [the Festival of Weeks] always happens seven weeks after Pesach [Passover].

More specifically, the second day is the 50th day after Passover. So, all around the world call, people call this day "Pentecost." This is where the "Pentecostal" denomination gets its name.

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On Pentecost in 31 AD/CE, there was “a sound like a mighty rushing wind” as the Holy Spirit entered the room! They all saw a big fire spreading out into tiny flames that looked like tongues. One of these tongues came down & landed on each individual.

The functionality was more like ears, because everyone, no matter where they had journeyed from, was hearing others speaking their native language. Imagine being in a room with people from all over: Japan, China, Zambia, Jamaica, France, or wherever, you couldn't speak to them previously without an interpreter, but now, you're looking at them, trying to read their lips as they're speaking Chinyanja, French, German, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, Sanskrit, or whatever else, but you're hearing **your own native dialect!**

It was chaotic mass confusion. People in other rooms & those who passed by outside the building thought they were all drunk. I guess they thought, “Those poor crazy fanatics can't come to terms with the fact that Yeshu'a was crucified & he's not coming back to overthrow the Romans.”

Peter realizes what's going on, stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice & addressed the crowd, “Fellow Jews & all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!

He goes on to preach a dynamic sermon, plainly explaining to those in the Diaspora [scattered all around the world] who Yeshu'a was & what He had done.

He explained that this was fulfilling of the prophecy in Joel 2: 28-32 without taking the time to tell them that Yeshu'a just reversed the curse of the Tower of Babel. That would have been too scholarly for the moment.

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He focused on Yeshu'a' public execution 50 days prior.

He focused on Yeshu'a' resurrection three days after that.

He focused on the Holy Spirit changing the atmosphere!

The "altar call" is what we now call Acts 2: 38-39, Peter says,

"Repent & be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Yeshu'a Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you & your children & for all who are far off—for all whom YHWH our God will call."

Since that day, speaking in tongues has caused a lot of confusion & division. This is because most people don't read up on it.

1. Mark 16: 15-18 lists speaking in tongues as one of the signs of future believers, but many believers overlook this passage because most of Mark's manuscripts end at 16: 8.
2. Acts 19 describes when Paul "Don't call me Saul" prayed for 12 believers in Ephesus. When they received the Holy Spirit, they began speaking in tongues & prophesying. When the local congregation started squabbling, Paul left.
 - I. Apparently, some people in Corinth heard about this & asked Paul about it. He answered them in what we now call 1st Corinthians 12-14, more specifically, chapter 12, verses 4-11 as well as chapter 14, verses 4 & 28.
3. Paul also mentioned it in his letter to the Romans. See chapter 8, verses 25-27.
4. We must also understand that "glossolalia" is a foreign language while xenolalia & xenoglossia refer to unknown languages, maybe a human foreign language or even languages of angels & demons.

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Back to Luke's texts, there are many noteworthy events, such as chapter 5, verses 1-11, when Ananias & Sapphira are dishonest about donations & fall dead.

Acts 6 details how the Apostles chose seven deacons & then Stephen, one of the seven, was seized & accused of preaching that Yeshu'a opposes the temple mount.

Ultimately, they had him brought to the public square & bludgeoned to death with large stones. In Acts 7: 48, Stephen reveals a truth that many people still struggle to understand, "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by human hands" & then he said, "Look! I see heaven open & the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

They dragged him outside of the city & stoned him to death. Just before he "went to sleep," in Acts 7, Stephen echoed two phrases that Yeshu'a said during His crucifixion.

In Luke 23: 34, Yeshu'a said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

In Acts 7: 60, Stephen screamed out, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

In Luke 23: 46, Yeshu'a said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

In Acts 7: 59, Stephen said, "Lord Yeshu'a, receive my spirit."

There is no documentation that Stephen was close enough to Yeshu'a on the day of His crucifixion to hear Him say these sentences. Even if he was, or even if he had read Luke's transcription of that day, it is kind of amazing that he kept calm during his execution.

Verse 58 says, "The witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul."

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Acts 8 begins with the account of Saul persecuting other Christians & earning quite a ferocious, nefarious reputation! Among many Diaspora Christians trying to escape Saul, Philip went to Samaria, preaching, doing miracles, & casting out demons.

Eventually, Philip proselytizes a man named Simon. He took Simon to Jerusalem & Simon offered the apostles money for the Holy Spirit.

Peter rebuked him harshly, saying, "May your money die with you! You can't buy the gift of salvation!"

Acts 9 details the day when Yeshu'a converted Rabbi Saul into the Apostle Paul. Some sources say he was known as Saul Paul of Tarsus from birth. Whether or not that's on his birth certificate, Christians knew him as Saul & cowered in fear when they heard he was anywhere nearby.

So, Paul started his "Don't Call Me Saul!" tour, traveling to various churches, effectively, eventually convincing them he was no longer a Pharisee.

In Acts 10, Luke records the story of a Roman Centurion in the Italian Regiment named Cornelius. He had converted to Judaism & was seeking YHWH's wisdom. He knew & understood that Jews would never really associate with Gentiles, much less befriend one.

How could he really get close to God? Cornelius wasn't a Jew, biologically, so his fellowship with God's people would always be hindered.

One afternoon, at 3 pm prayer time, God sent a "man in bright clothes" to him, telling him to send a delegation to Joppa. "Find a man named Simon who works as a tanner. He lives by the sea. He has a house guest named Simon, but everyone calls him Peter. He will explain everything."

Cornelius obeyed & sent the envoy.

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While they were on the way, God had given Peter a vision: Three times, a sheet was lowered with all types of unclean animals. YHWH said, "Peter, get up. Kill something & eat it."

Each time, Peter refused & heard the rebuttal, "You must not call it unclean if God cleanses it!"

He connected the dots & then, once he entered Cornelius' house, he poured it all out in a powerful sermon! There had been several moments in recorded Biblical history when God made a declaration about race:

1. Numbers 12 when YHWH chastises Aaron & Miriam for giving Moses grief for marrying Tzipporah, a Cushite woman from Midian in what we now call Saudi Arabia. God punished Miriam by giving her leprosy.
2. Deuteronomy 23: 1-11 is pretty specific, "No Edomites, no Ammonites,] are allowed in their congregation.."
3. Extra-Biblical events [Hanukkah, among others] document Hebrew/Jewish interactions with neighboring nations. Rome overthrew the Greeks, but they still didn't care to become Jews.

This was different, though, because YHWH was fulfilling His words in Matthew 28: 16-20 & Luke 24: 30-50, Yeshu'a says, "Wherever you go, train people up in what I've taught you. It won't be easy, but remember: I'm always with you."

Acts 2: 38 reversed the curse from the Tower of Babel & the Messiah's primary mission was to find the "lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Now was the time for His apostles to reach out across the globe & corral the rest of us. So, in case it wasn't yet clear, there should be

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NO MORE ethnic division. God doesn't play favorites. Acts 10 effectively reverses the curse from the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11.

Based on events in chapters 9 & 11, we can safely assume this day happened after Saul went back to Tarsus in 37 & before Barnabas goes seeking for him in 46.

Also, in 37, a man named Theophilus became the High Priest. In case you didn't know, this was about six years after Yeshu'a's execution.

Six years is a long time, especially since "the Way" wasn't trying to mount an army to fight off Roman influences. So, it's not ridiculous that this Theophilus would have stepped into this role with little to no knowledge of who Yeshu'a was to His contemporaries. As far as most Pharisees & the Romans were concerned, Yeshu'a was just another false prophet who wanted to be the Messiah.

Some scholars say Dr Luke didn't write his gospel until as late as 85 CE, but this seems about 44 years too late to write if "most excellent Theophilus" was the High Priest who died in 41.

True, "Theophilus" was also a generic title for Goyim who converted to Judaism. The timing was too close to ignore. It isn't ridiculous to assume that Luke wrote his entire "Gospel according to Luke" & started writing "Acts" while Theophilus was still in office, between 37 & 41. It is more likely that he journaled the events as they unfolded, even after Paul died in 64 or 65.

See Acts 28, verses 30-31, "Sha'ul remained two whole years in a place he rented for himself; & he continued receiving all who came to see him, openly & without hindrance proclaiming the Kingdom of God & teaching about YHWH Yeshu'a the Messiah."

See also Colossians 4: 14 where Paul mentioned Luke.

In a thread on eBible.com, John Appelt explains "When Herod Agrippa I (41-44) became king over Judea in 41, he, for some

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unknown reason, deposed Theophilus” & points to [Acts 12: 1-3](#) as Biblical context for Herod Agrippa I's hostility. (Appelt, 2023)

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Luke I

Hello Theophilus

¹⁻⁴ A lot of people have been tryna write a decent report about everything that's been happening recently, everything we can get from the original eyewitnesses & the new servants of the Word. So, I took my time & carefully investigated everything for you, most noble Theophilus.^A I want you to fully understand exactly what's going on.

Remember YHWH

⁵⁻⁷ When Herod was King of Judah, there was a priest named Zechariah^B out of AviYah's^C division. He married Elizabeth, one of Aaron's daughters. They were both righteous in God's judgment, walking in all of the commandments. They were blameless in YHWH's ordinances, but they didn't have any children because Elizabeth was barren. They were both well-advanced in their days.

⁸⁻¹³ Zechariah was faithfully performing his priestly duties before God, burning incense & entering into the temple of YHWH. While everyone in the community was praying, the angel of YHWH's voice stood on the right-hand side of the incense altar. Zechariah saw it & he was terrified. The angel told him:

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ "Relax, Zechariah. Don't be afraid. I'm here to tell you that your prayer is heard. Elizabeth will bear a son for you. Name him John!^D This is your joy & exultation: Many shall be joyful at his birth,

^A 1: 3 It seems that Dr. Luke was writing to Theophilus who was High Priest from 37-41 ad/ce.

^B 1: 5 This Hebrew name that means "remember the Lord."

^C 1: 5 The Hebrew name means "The Lord is my father."

^D 1: 13 The Hebrew name means "the Lord shows mercy." My name, Shane, is one of the Irish variants, but John is the standard English counterpart.

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because he is great in the presence of YHWH. He must never drink wine or liquor. He shall be filled with the Holy Spirit before he is even born.

¹⁶ Many of the sons of Israel will put their faith in YHWH their God. ¹⁷ He'll go out before YHWH in the spirit & power of 'Eliyahu.^A His mission is to reconcile fathers & sons. He's bringing the disobedient into proper understanding, preparing the people whom YHWH has made ready."^B

¹⁸⁻²⁰ And Zechariah told the angel, "Is this possible? I am old, & my wife has advanced in her days. The angel responded, "I am Gabriel. I have stood before God & I am sent to speak to you, to let you know what's going on, but, you can't say anything to anyone about this all this until that day comes."

²¹⁻²³ And the people were waiting for Zechariah. They were shocked that he was in the sanctuary for so long. After he came out where everyone was waiting, he couldn't speak to them. They understood that he saw a vision in the sanctuary, but all he could do was nod to them, but still couldn't speak. After he fulfilled his ceremonial duty, he went home.

²⁴⁻²⁵ Soon, Elizabeth became pregnant, but she stayed hidden for five months, saying, "My LORD has done for me in the days, He gazed upon me to cut off my disgrace among men."

²⁶⁻²⁹ But in the sixth month, the angel Gabriel is sent from God into Nazareth the city of Galilee which is called to a virgin who had become engaged to a man who is called Joseph^C out of the house of

^A 1: 17 The Hebrew name means "YHWH is my God."

^B 1: 17 See also Malachi 4: 5-6.

^C 1: 27 The Hebrew name means "May YHWH increase."

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David. The virgin's name is Miriam.^A Approaching her, Gabriel said, "Rejoice! You have been highly favored! YHWH is with you! But at the word is ordered & it was reasoned how glorious this greeting is.

³⁰ And the angel told her, "Don't be afraid, Miriam, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And look! You shall become pregnant & bear a Son. Name Him Yeshu'a.^B ³² He shall be great! He shall be called the Son of the Most Exalted! YHWH shall give Him the throne of His ancestor, David.^C ³³ And He shall rule over the house of Jacob^D forever & His Kingdom shall not end."

³⁴⁻³⁵ But Miriam told the angel, "How is this possible? I've never known a man!"

The angel responded, "The Holy Spirit shall approach you & the power of the Most Exalted shall overshadow you. So, the baby boy shall be called the Holy Son of God!

³⁶⁻³⁸ And pay attention: as old as she is, your cousin, Elizabeth, is pregnant with a son! She was considered barren, but she is in her sixth month! That word from God is not impossible!"

^A I: 27 The Hebrew name means many different things depending on which website you view. <https://www.thebump.com/b/mary-baby-name> says, "drop of the sea, bitterness, beloved, and wished for a child"

^B I: 31 The Hebrew name Yēhōshu'a means "YHWH saves/ delivers/ rescues." The Aramaic version of this name is Yeshua, by which the Lord was likely referred in His lifetime; the Arabic is Isa; the Greek version is Ἰησοῦς; the Latin version is Iesou. This carried over into German and eventually became "Jesus" in English. It is "Joshua" in English, ironically the same name as Mosheh's successor.

^C I: 32 The Hebrew name means "beloved."

^D I: 33 The Greek name, "Ἰάκωβον," [I'a-kō-bōn] is derived from the Hebrew name, "יַעֲקֹב" [Ya'akōv], which means "he who grabs the heel," "trickster," "deceiver," or "supplanter." This name is now Anglicized as "James," but I'm still going to refer to him as Jacob.

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But Miriam said, "Look, servant of YHWH! May it become for me according to your word!" And the angel left. ³⁹ So, soon after, Miriam went into the hill country with haste into the city of Judæa. ⁴⁰ She went to Zechariah's house & greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When she did, as Elizabeth heard Miriam's greeting, her baby jumped for joy in her womb! Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² & cries out emphatically, "You are consecrated among women. The fruit of your womb shall be consecrated."

⁴³ And why has my LORD's mother come to me?^A ⁴⁴ Look, as the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped in extreme joy! ⁴⁵ Happy is the one who believes in the fulfillment of that which has been spoken from YHWH."

Miriam's Song

⁴⁶ And Miriam said, "My soul shall magnify YHWH. ⁴⁷ And my spirit shall leap for joy in the God of my salvation, ⁴⁸ that He considered His servant's humility! Listen! For, from now on, all the generations shall bear witness, ⁴⁹ because the Mighty One did these great things for me! Holy is His Name! ⁵⁰ And His compassion into many generations, those who fear Him. ⁵¹ He made His arm strong! He scattered the proud insight of their minds! ⁵² He brought down rulers from their thrones! He exalted the downcast.

⁵³ He satisfied those who hunger with good things & sent away those who are rich empty-handed! ⁵⁴ Israel received help from His Son, remembered compassion! ⁵⁵ as He has spoken to our father, Abraham, & to his seed forever."

^A 1: ⁴³ This verse requires immense emendation. Literally, it means, "And from where to me this in order that I might come the mother of my Lord to me?"

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⁵⁶ And Miriam remained with her for about three months, & she returned to her house.

⁵⁷⁻⁵⁸ But the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, she bore a son. And the neighbors & relatives heard that YHWH magnified His mercy towards her, congratulating her.

⁵⁹⁻⁶⁰ On the eighth day, they came to circumcise the boy & they were addressing him in the name of his father, Zechariah.

Responding, his mother said, "No! Call him John!"

⁶¹ And they told her, "Strange. No one in your family has this name."

⁶²⁻⁶³ But his father was gesturing that he wanted that same name. After he asked for a little writing scroll, he wrote, saying, "John is his name."

Everyone was amazed!

⁶⁴ He was able to speak again... & he did, blessing God!

⁶⁵ It wasn't long before all their neighbors & the entire hill country of Judea were discussing all these things in fear. ⁶⁶ And those who heard placed everything in their heart, saying, "Who then shall this child be? For the hand of YHWH was with him."

⁶⁷ And Zechariah, his father, is filled with the Holy Spirit & prophesied, saying, ⁶⁸ "Blessed be YHWH God of Israel, because He is concerned about, & made redemption with, His people. ⁶⁹ He raised a horn of deliverance to us. In the house of His son, David. ⁷⁰ As he spoke through the mouth of the saints from the age of the prophets.

⁷¹ Deliverance from our enemies & from the hands of all who hate us. ⁷² To do mercy with our fathers & to remember His covenant, ⁷³ The oath which He swore to Abraham our father to give to us, ⁷⁴ fearlessly, out of the hand of the enemies being delivered to worship Him ⁷⁵ with holiness & righteousness before Him all our days.

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⁷⁶ And, also, to you, child, you shall be called a Prophet of the Most Exalted for you shall go before in front of YHWH to prepare His paths, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of deliverance to His people in pardon of their sins.

⁷⁸ Through our God's affectionate mercies in these He shall examine us rising out of the Heavens, ⁷⁹ to shine on those who live in darkness & shadow of death, those who direct our feet on the path of peace."

⁸⁰ But the child was increasing & becoming stronger in spirit, & he was in the wilderness until the day of his revelation to Israel.

Luke 2

Quirinius' census

¹ So it happened in those days, a decree came out from Kæsar^A Augustus, everyone to register himself [& his family] in the Roman Empire. ² This census happened while Quirinius governed Syria.^B ³ And everyone was going to register, each one to his or her own city. ⁴ So, Yōseph descended from Galilee out of Nazareth into Judæa into the city of David, which is called Bethlehem,^C because he is from the house & lineage of David. ⁵ He is on record with Miriam, his fiancée, who is pregnant.

^A 2: 1 Kæsar [Cæsar] is a Latin term meaning "king"

^B 2: 2 Quirinius' census was in the year 6 ce on the Gregorian calendar. Matthew's Gospel reports Yeshu'a's birth being before Herod the Great died, about 10-12 years prior. The Gregorian calendar split the difference when deciding "Year One." There are many scholarly conversations about this.

^C 2: 4 Hebrew means "house of bread."

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⁶ But it happened that, as they arrived there,^A Miriam's pregnancy ended ⁷ & she gave birth to her firstborn^B Son. And she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes & she put Him to bed in a feeding trough, because there was no guest room available for them.^C

Shepherds in the Field

⁸ And shepherds who live outdoors were in the fields protecting their flocks during the watches of the night. ⁹ And an angel of YHWH appeared to them & the glory of YHWH shone all around them & they were absolutely terrified!

¹⁰ And the angel told them, "Don't fear! Pay attention! I bring good news to you the great joy which shall be with all people, ¹¹ because it is brought forth today, your Deliverer who is anointed^D LORD in the city of David. ¹² Look for an infant been wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a feeding trough.

¹³ Suddenly, it happened that a large multitude of the Heavenly Host appeared with the angel, praising God & saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to the Most Exalted God!

And on earth, peace

^A 2: 6 Koiné Greek means "in the to be of themselves to."

^B 2: 7 This implies that the Lord had younger siblings, which would have been no surprise in that period.

^C 2: 7 I wonder how many people turned them away because she was pregnant and they weren't yet officially married. Also, how many people were afraid she might give birth in their house that night?

^D 2: 11 The Koiné Greek Χριστοῦ [Chrēs-too] is the genitive form of Χριστός [Chrēs-toss], which is most transliterated into contemporary English as "Christ." The Hebrew form is מָשִׁיחַ which is transliterated as "Mashi'ach" or "Mashi'ach" [Mă-shē-āk]. Both are commonly translated into English as "Messiah" or "Christ" even though they also translate into "Anointed One" in contemporary English.

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Favor to all humanity.”

¹⁵ And it happened, as the angels went away from them into the Heavens, the shepherds spoke to one another, “Let us cross over, now, until Bethlehem & examine the saying which has become, which YHWH revealed to us.” ¹⁶ After they made haste, they went & found by searching Miriam, Joseph, & the Baby Boy lying in the feeding trough. ¹⁷ Seeing so they knew concerning the word which had been spoken to them concerning this infant. ¹⁸ And everyone who heard marveled about that which is said by the shepherds to them. ¹⁹ Miriam was treasuring up these conversations everything in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned glorifying God to everyone who heard & saw so far as spoke to them.

²¹ And after 8 days, the Baby is circumcised & called the name Yeshu’a as the angel called Him before Miriam became pregnant.

²² And when their days of purification were fulfilled, ²³ as prescribed in the Tōrah Moses, they brought Him up to Y^erushalayim^A to present to YHWH, as it is written in YHWH’s Tōrah: All males who open the mother shall be called holy to YHWH.^B ²⁴ So, giving the offering according to that which is spoken in the Tōrah of YHWH, a yoke of turtledoves or two young pigeons.^C

²⁵ And, check this out! A man who was in Y^erushalayim whose name is Symeōn^D & this is the man who is righteous & devout & who expects the comfort of Israel & the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And he had been imparted with a revelation by the Spirit of the Holy One not to see death before he might see YHWH’s Anointed One. ²⁷ And

^A 2: 22 Jerusalem means “Their city of peace.”

^B 2: 23 See also Exodus 13: 2

^C 2: 24 See also Leviticus 5 II; 12: 8

^D 2: 25 The Hebrew name means, “He shall hear.”

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he came by the Spirit into the temple. And as he led baby Yeshu'a' parents in the procedure to keep them in compliance with the Tōrah as was his custom.

²⁸ Symeōn took Yeshu'a into his arms & blessed God & said,

²⁹ "Now, You release Your servant, Master, according to Your word, in peace. ³⁰ Because my eye saw Your salvation ³¹ that You prepared according to the appearance of all the things of the people. ³² A light of disclosure to the Gentiles & the glory of Your people, Israel."

³³ Miriam & Joseph were marveling at that which is said concerning Him. ³⁴ And Symeōn blessed them & told Miriam, His mother, "Pay attention! This one stands to the fall & resurrection of the masses in Israel & into the sign which has been refused – ³⁵ Your soul shall cross over a sword – if you could see what spurs the people's reasoning."^A

³⁶⁻³⁸ And Hannah was a prophetess, daughter of Phanu'el, out of the tribe of Asher. She has advanced in many days after living with her husband for seven years from her virginity. ³⁷ She is a widow until 84; she wasn't going away from the temple, fasting, praying, & serving, night & day. ³⁸ When the hour came, she was thanking God & she spoke concerning all the ones who were waiting on Y^erushalayim's redemption.

³⁹ And just as they completed everything according to the Tōrah YHWH, they returned to Galilee into their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the Boy grew & was growing strong which fulfilled wisdom & God's favor was on Him.

^A 2: 35 Literally, "how if they might be disclosed from the masses of the hearts reasoning."

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Who's Your Daddy?

⁴¹ His parents were going to Y^erushalayim because it was time for the Passover festival. ⁴² When He was 12, they were making their journey at that time of year. ⁴³ After they completed the days & began making their way back home, young Yeshu'a remained in Y^erushalayim & His parents didn't recognize it.

⁴⁴ When they thought He might be in the caravan, they went a day on the path & they were searching for the relatives & friends. ⁴⁵ Not finding Him, they returned to Y^erushalayim looking for Him. ⁴⁶ After three days, they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them, & asking them.

⁴⁷ Everyone who heard Him was astonished at the insight of His answers. ⁴⁸ Seeing Him, they are overwhelmed, & His mother told Him, "Son, why did You leave like this? Listen! Your father & I are distressing ourselves searching for You."

⁴⁹ He told them, "Why? Why were you searching for Me? Have you not known that I must be about My Father's business?"

⁵⁰ And they didn't understand. ⁵¹ He went down^A with them & they went to Nazareth & He subjected Himself to them. And His mother kept all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Yeshu'a was advancing [in the] wisdom, maturity, & favor with God & men.

^A 2: 51 Jerusalem is set on a mesa of higher elevation.

Luke and Acts

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Luke 3

Change Your Life!

¹And in the 15th year of Tiberius Kæsar's rule,^A while Pontius Pilate ruled Judæa & Herōd^B was Tetrarch over Galilee, & Philip is Tetrarch over the Ituraea & Trachonitis region.

Lysanias is Tetrarch over Abilene,² while Hannah & Caiaphas were high priest . it happened that a Word of God upon Yohanan son of Zechariah in the wilderness.



And he came into the region surrounding the Jordan River, preaching baptism of repentance towards the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the Word of Y^eshayahu the prophet,

“There is a voice shout in the desert,

“Clear a path for YHWH.

Make the paths right for Him.

Each valley or ravine shall be filled.

And every mountain & hill shall be made low,

And the crooked places shall be made straight.

And the rough places [shall be made] into smooth paths.

And everyone shall see God's salvation.

^A 3: 1 This was 28-29 in the Gregorian calendar.

^B 3: 1 Herod Antipas was Tetrarch over Galilee beginning in 4 bce and ruled until 39 ce.

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⁷⁻⁹ Therefore, he told the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, "Children of vipers, who showed you judgment is coming? OK. Well, you know better, so do better! Let your life bear fruit proving your change of heart! Don't try to claim Father Avraham.

I'm telling you the truth: God can make these stones into children for Abraham. Nah. The axe is lying at the root of the trees. Every tree that doesn't bear good fruit is cut & is thrown into the fire."

¹⁰⁻¹⁴ And the crowd was asking, as they say, "Therefore, what might we do?"

John responds, "If anyone has a little extra clothes or food, share with someone in need!"

The tax collectors came to be baptized & they told him, "Teacher, what might we do?"

"You must not collect anything more than what has been commanded of you!"

Some soldiers also asked & he told them three things,

1. Let no one be extorted by violence.
2. Don't falsely accuse anyone.
3. Be satisfied with your wages.

¹⁵ Some people thought John might be the Anointed One. ¹⁶ John spoke up & clarified, "Now, I baptize you in water, but on the other hand, my Superior comes. I'm not even good enough to untie His sandals! He'll baptize you in the Holy Spirit & fire. ¹⁷ He is already holding his shovel. He is about to clean His threshing floor, to gather the grain into His barn & burn the chaff with inextinguishable fire."

John vs Herod the Tetrarch

¹⁸⁻²⁰ John continuously preached the good news to the people. Herod the Tetrarch & his brother's wife, Herodiada, continuously did

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all kinds of evil things. John continuously called him out, so he eventually had John arrested.

²¹⁻²² But, before that part played out, John was still baptizing people & Yeshu'a showed up. After Yeshu'a is baptized, He's praying, & the Heavens are opened. The Holy Spirit descended with the bodily form as the dove on Him, & the Voice came out of the Heavens, "You are My Beloved Son & I am so proud of You."

Family Tree

²³⁻³⁸ Yeshu'a begins [His public ministry] at about 30 years old.

People considered Him as the Son of Yoseph,

the son of Eli

the son of Matthat

the son of Levi

the son of Melchi

the son of Iannai

the son of Yoseph

the son of MattathaYah

the son of Amōs

the son of Nahum

the son of Hesli

the son of Naggai

the son of Ma'ath

the son of MattathaYah

the son of Semein

the son of Y^ehōshech

the son of Y^ehōdah

the son of John

the son of Rhesa

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the son of Zerubabel
the son of Shalatiel
the son of Nehri
the son of Melchi
the son of Addi
the son of Kōsam
the son of El-madam
the son of Er
the son of Y^ehōshu'a,^A
the son of Eliezer
the son of Y^ehōriym
the son of Matthat
the son of Levi
the son of Symeōn
the son of Judah
the son of Yoseph
the son of Y^ehōnam
the son of Eliakim
the son of Melea
the son of Menna
the son of Mattatha
the son of Nathan
the son of David,^B
the son of Yishai
the son of Y^echōved

^A 3: 29 I used the actual Hebrew version of the name when discussing this ancestor, to draw a distinction.

^B 3: 31 The king who unified the 12 tribes and made Jerusalem "their city of peace."

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the son of Boaz^A
the son of Sala
the son of Nahasson
the son of Amminadab
the son of Admin
the son of Arni
the son of Hesrom
the son of Phares
the son of Y^ehudah [Judah]
the son of Ya'akōv [Jacob]
the son of Yitz-qak [Isaac]
the son of Av-raham [Abraham]
the son of Terah
the son of Nachōr
the son of Serug
the son of Rhagau^B
the son of Peleg^C
the son of Ever
the son of Shelah
the son of Kainam^D
the son of Arpachshad
the son of Shem
the son of Nōach^E
the son of Lamech

^A 3: 32 This is Boaz from the book of Ruth.

^B 3: 35 Genesis 11: 18, JPS calls him "Reu."

^C 3: 35 Genesis 11: 16, JPS calls him "Peleg"

^D 3: 37 Genesis 11: 12-14, JPS omits "Kainam," but he is listed in Genesis 5: 1-32.

^E 3: 37 Genesis 11 starts here at verse 10.

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the son of Methuselah
the son of Enōch^A
the son of Jared
the son of Mahalalel
the son of Kenan
the son of Enōsh
the son of Seth
the son of Adam
the son of God.^B

Luke 4

Vision Quest

^{I-2} And Yeshu'a, full of the Holy Spirit, steps up out of the river & the Spirit lead Him out into the wilderness^C for forty days^D to be tempted by the accuser.^E And after some time without eating, when Yeshu'a was ridiculously hungry.

^A 3: 37 Genesis 5: 21-24 explains how "God took [Enoch] away at the age of 365."

^B 3: 38 Luke lists Yeshu'a as generation #77 and goes back to God. By contrast, Matthew's list only 42 generations and stops at Av-raham.

^C 4: 1 Trenchard translates the Koiné Greek "ἐρήμῳ" (pronounced "ě-rā-mō") into English as "uninhabited region, desert" on page 40. This corresponds with the Hebrew מִדְבָּר ("midbar"). Mansoor translates this into English as "desert" on pages 236 and 242.

^D 4: 2 seems symbolic of 40 years of wandering Bamidbar [In the Desert]

^E 4: 2 So often, we translate the Koiné Greek "διαβόλου" as "devil" that most understand his function. It's an accurate translation, but let me give it a more applicable context. To compare it to a modern job, imagine a prosecuting attorney who is more concerned about convictions than justice—who does not care whether we are actually innocent. He simply hates humanity and relentlessly tries to destroy us—even if it means preying on our weaknesses and using our curiosities as traps to tear us away from God's protective custody.

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³ That's when the accuser slithers up, "If You are God's Son,^A then speak to this stone that it might become bread."

⁴ Yeshu'a said, "It's been written: man shall not live on bread alone."

⁵⁻⁸ The distractor took Yeshu'a away from there & showed Him every kingdom that existed at that time, "You know it's all been given to me & I can share it with anyone I want. If You worship me right now, I'll give it all to You."

"It has been written, 'Fear YHWH your God. Don't bow down to anyone but Him.'"^B

⁹⁻¹³ But he led Him into Yerushalayim & stood on the summit of the temple & he told Him, "If You are the Son of God, then throw Yourself down from here. It has been written."^C He commanded His angels [messengers] about You who continually protect You, & they gotta keep You up on their hands, that Your foot might not strike against the stone^D

Yeshu'a responded, "It has been said: Do not put YHWH your God to the test."^E

And after He passed all the tests, the distractor fell away from Him for a season.

^A 4: 3 Start with a truth and, logically, He must comply, right? Wrong!

^B 4: 8 See also Deuteronomy 6: 13

^C 4: 1-13 Satan knows the Word, too.

^D 4: 9-11 The accuser knows Yeshu'a's true identity and uses Psalm 91: 11-12 as bait in this trap.

^E 4: 12 Yeshu'a quotes Deuteronomy 6: 16 here, which is quoted in Isaiah 7: 12.

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Going Back Home

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ And Yeshu'a returned into the Galil with the authority of the Spirit. And news about Him went out along the neighboring region around Him. And He taught in their synagogues, honored by everyone.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ And He came into Nazareth, where He had been brought up, & entered into the synagogue according to His custom on Shabbat. He got up to read aloud. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Him & after He unrolled the scroll, He found the place where it had been written:^A

¹⁸ YHWH's Spirit is upon Me
because He anointed Me
to bring the good news to the poor,
He sent Me to proclaim release to the prisoners,
& the recovery of sight to the blind.
He sent Me to send out those who have been oppressed in
pardon,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of YHWH's Jubilee!

²⁰ And after He closed the scroll & returned it to the assistant He appointed. Everyone in the synagogue was looking intently at Him. ²¹ So, He said, "Today, this Scripture has been fulfilled in your ears!"

²² Everyone heard, saw, & marveled on His gracious words, "Isn't this Joseph's son?"

²³ He told them, "Certainly, you shall speak the parable to Me, 'Physician! Heal Yourself!' As many as we heard which You did when we were in Kapharnahum, do also here in Your hometown!"

He said, "Trust Me when I tell you: No prophet is welcome in his hometown! So, on truth, I say to you: Many widows were in Israel in

^A 4: 17 Isaiah 61: 1-2

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the days of 'Eliyahu, when the Heavens were closed for three years & six months, as it became a great famine over all the region, & 'Eliyahu is sent to no one except to the Sidonian widow in Zarephath. There were many lepers in Israel when Elisha was the prophet. No one is purified but Na'aman the Syrian.”

Everyone listening is filled with rage. They stood up & pushed Him out of the city. They led Him up to the edge of the mountain where the city was built. They were going to throw Him over the cliff, but He split through the middle of them & left.

Moving On

³¹⁻³² So, He went into Kapharnahum in the Galil. He was teaching on a Shabbat & they were overwhelmed by His teaching because of the authority of His word!

³³⁻³⁷ There was a man with an unclean demonic spirit in the synagogue who shouted in a loud voice. “Why are You with us, Yeshu’a of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? We know who You are, Son of God!”

Yeshu’a rebuked him, saying, “Put a muzzle on it. Go away from him.”

The demon threw the man down in the middle of everyone but didn’t hurt him. It came out from him & fear came on everyone. They were discussing with one another, saying, “What sort of word is this, that on authority & dynamic ability, He commands the unclean spirits & they came out?”

All the locals began talking about Yeshu’a. ³⁸⁻³⁹ He left the synagogue & went Simon’s house. Simon’s mother-in-law was tormented with a great fever & they ask Him about her. And after He

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stood by her, He rebuked the fever & let her go.^A So, immediately, she stood & started serving them food.

⁴⁰⁻⁴¹ But as the sun set, everybody—as many as were having various unhealthy cravings & felt powerless or in need—they led them to Him.

So, laying hands on each one of them, He healed them. And demons were coming out of many, crying out & saying, “You are the Son of God.”

He rebuked them, not allowing them to speak, because they understood that He was the Messiah.

⁴²⁻⁴⁴ Soon after, He went out into the abandoned place. And the crowds sought Him. They caught up to Him & tried to convince Him to stay around, but He told them, “I must bring the good news of the Kingdom of God also to the different cities! This is why I was sent!”

So, He was preaching in the synagogues of the Jews.

Luke 5

Go Fish!

¹ So, it happened, someone in the crowd pressed upon Yeshu'a, to hear the Word of God. He was there beside Lake Gennesaret. ² He saw two boats nearby. The fishermen had already got out & they were cleaning their nets.

³ Yeshu'a stepped into Simon's boat & asked him to launch a bit. He did & Yeshu'a sat down & taught from the boat.

⁴ But when He stopped speaking, He told Simon, “Continue on out into the depth & lower your fish nets.”

⁵ Simon responded, “Look We've been up all night & ain't caught nothing, but, at Your Word, I'll lower the nets.”

^A 4: 39 “I let go of,” “I give up,” “I divorce,” “I cancel,” “I leave” or “I tolerate.”

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⁶ When they did, they caught a very large number of fish,, so much that the nets were breaking. ⁷ They called the associates from other boats for help! They brought the other boat & both were sinking because it was so many fish. ⁸ Simon Peter understood, He fell before Yeshu'a' knees & said, "Go away from me, sir! I am a sinful man!"

⁹ Amazement astonished Peter & everyone together with him who caught all the fish. ¹⁰ Same for Jacob & John, Zebedee's sons, who were Simon's business partners. Yeshu'a told Simon, "Don't be afraid! Now, you'll catch people."

¹¹ After they brought the boats up to the shore, they left everything & followed Him.

If You want..

¹² And it happened, while He was still on one of the boats: look! A man covered in leprosy! But, after he recognized Yeshu'a, he fell on his face, overwhelmed, saying, "LORD, if You want, then You can purify me."

¹³ Yeshu'a stretched out His arm & touched him, "I want to help. Be purified."

Immediately, the leprosy went away from him.

¹⁴ He commanded him to speak to no one.^A rather, "After you leave here, show yourself to the priest, & present concerning your purification as Moses prescribed, as a witness for them." ¹⁵ But, as he was crossing over, instead, the word about him spread, & immense

^A 5: 14 Why? Yeshu'a kept the Messianic Secret so He could fulfill all the prophecies before being crucified. Many hated this because they wanted Him to kick out the Romans. This is why Caiaphas [among other Pharisees] rejected Yeshu'a. Many false Messiahs/anti-Christes were in the land. Beware those who aren't really from God.

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crowds were coming together to hear & to be healed from their sicknesses. ¹⁶ He was retreating into the uninhabited regions & He, Himself, is praying.

Your sins are forgiven.

¹⁷ And it happened in one of the days, even as He teaches, & P^erushiym & Torah teachers which were seated have come from every village of the Galil, Judæa, & Y^erushalayim. ¹⁸ And the power of YHWH was on Him to heal. In addition, look, as men bring in, on a stretcher, the man who has been paralyzed & to O be placed before Him. ¹⁹ And after they found no way to bring him close to Yeshu'a. ²⁰ And seeing their faith, He said, "Man, your sins are forgiven."

²¹ And the scribes & the Perushiym began thinking, saying,

"Who does this guy think he is?!?"

"That's blasphemy!"

"Aside from God Himself, who is able^A to forgive sins?"

²² But, hearing their conversation, Yeshu'a asks them, "What's the problem?" ²³ What is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven?' or 'Get up & walk around.' ²⁴ Still, to show you guys that I have jurisdiction on Earth to forgive sins," He told the paralytic, "I tell you, 'Get up, pick up your cot, & go home.'"

²⁵ And, instantly, he stood up in front of them. He picked up the mat he'd been lying on & went away into the crowd, praising God. Shock & amazement took everyone & they glorified God. Everyone is filled with fear, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

^A 5: 21 "I am strong, able," compare dynamite. (Trenchard 5)

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Friend of Sinners

²⁷⁻²⁸ Next, He went to the tax office & talked with Levi who abandoned everything, stood up, & began following Yeshu'a.

²⁹ Then, Levi made a HUMONGOUS feast. A lot of tax collectors & others^A were there, lying down at the table. ³⁰ The Pharisees & scribes were muttering to His disciples, "Why are y'all eating & drinking with these tax collectors & sinners?"

Yeshu'a stepped in & told them, "The healthy don't need to cling to a doctor, but those having issues & illnesses. ³² I don't come to the righteous, but to call sinners to repentance."

³³ Then, they told Him, "John's disciples fast & pray constantly & so do ours, but Yours are eating & drinking."

³⁴ Then, He said, "Is the wedding party really able to fast when the Groom is with them? ³⁵ Yet, the days are coming when the Groom is taken. They'll fast then."

Patches

³⁶ He told them a parable: "No one cuts a patch from a new garment & places it on an old garment. If so, you ruin the new garment for a patch that still isn't harmonious with the old.

³⁷ Also, no one puts new wine into old wineskins. ³⁸ Instead, new wine must be placed into new skins.^B ³⁹ No one who drank the old wants the new. He said, 'The old is better.'"

^A 5: 29 "many tax collectors and others" seems like there were other Jews employed by Rome among them, maybe even some Romans, in the house.

^B 5: 38 The process to revitalize old wineskins is tedious

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Luke 6

Even on Shabbat

¹ One Shabbat, He is going through a sown field. His disciples were plucking the heads of grain with their hands & eating. ² Some of the Pharisees said, **"What are you doing? This is illegal on Shabbat!"**

³⁻⁴ Yeshu'a responds, **"Didn't you read when David & his entourage did the exact same thing when they were hungry? As they entered God's house, they took the bread that was only for the priests."**

⁵ He said, **"The Son of Man is YHWH, even on Shabbat."**

⁶⁻¹¹ On a different Shabbat, He went into the synagogue & taught. There was a man in the sanctuary with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome in his right hand. The scribes & Pharisees watched closely, to see if Yeshu'a might heal him on Shabbat, so they could file a formal accusation against Him, but He saw it coming.

He told the man with Carpal Tunnel, **"Get up. Stand in the middle of the room."**

Then, He told them, **"Question for you: is it lawful, on Shabbat, to do good deeds or bad deeds, to save or destroy someone?"**

¹⁰ Looking around at everyone, He told the man, **"Extend your hand."**

He did & it was restored to perfect health, just like the other one.

¹¹ They were stupefied & talking over each other, "How? Why? No way we can accuse Him of breaking a law when He actually healed someone."

Choosing 12

¹² And, in the next few days, He went out & climbed up the mountain to pray & He was up all night, praying to God. ¹³ After

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sunrise, He summoned His disciples & chose 12 from among them & called them apostles:

Simon who is called Peter & his brother, Andrew
Jacob & John [Zebedee's sons]

Philip

Bartholomew

Matthew

Thomas

Jacob Alphaeus

Simon the Zealot

Judah son of Jacob

Judas Iscariot who eventually betrayed Him.

¹⁷ Then, He went down with them & stood at the foot of the mountain [with a] massive thronging crowd of His disciples & a tremendous crowd of people from Judea, Jerusalem, & the coast of Tyre & Sidon. ¹⁸ The entire crowd was seeking to be ignited by Him, to be healed from their diseases, to be healed from being troubled by unclean spirits. ¹⁹ The entire crowd was seeking to be ignited by Him because of His mighty works & all His cures.

Blessed to be a Blessing.

²⁰ And He lifted His eyes to His disciples & said:

"Blessed are the poor for God's kingdom is yours.

Blessed are those who are now hungry: You will be fed until full.

²¹ Blessed are those who now sob & mourn: you'll be comforted.

²² You're blessed when people hate you, whenever they avoid you, & trash your reputation, & drag your name through the mud because of the Son of Man.

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²³ Rejoice in those days & leap for joy! Get hype! Look! Your reward in the Heavens is amazing! They did the same things to the prophets, your fathers.

²⁴⁻²⁶ Even so, woe to the wealthy because you hold back your help. Woe to you who have now been fulfilled. You will be hungry!

Woe to those who now laugh. You will mourn & cry out!

Be careful, people, that when are in a good place you don't appoint false prophets as your fathers did.

Grace & Favor

²⁷ Instead, I tell you who listen: Love the hateful, odious among you. Do well to those who detest you. ²⁸ Speak well of those who curse you. Pray for those who falsely accuse you.

²⁹ Turn the other cheek to those who mollywhop you. If someone takes your jacket, don't stop them from taking your shirt; ³⁰ giving to everyone who asks, not turning anyone away.

³¹ Treat others the way you want them to treat you. ³² If you only love people who love you, then where is the grace? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do the right thing for people who do the right thing for you, where is the grace? ³⁴ If you lend money, don't expect repayment. This is how you create favor. Sinners lend money & receive the same amount. ³⁵ Love the hostile. Treat others well & lend them money when they need it. Your reward in the Heavens is great! You'll be sons & daughters of the Most High because He is gracious [even to] the ingrates & evil ones.

³⁶ Be merciful just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ Don't pronounce judgment so you might not be condemned. Don't condemn. Release & you will be released. Give & it will be given to you, good measure:

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pressed down, shaken together, running over, they shall give into your lap. Whatever you measure out will be measured back to you.”

Didn't See That Coming

³⁹ He told them a riddle, “A blind person cannot show another blind person the Way without them both falling into the pit.”

⁴⁰ “A disciple isn’t greater than his teacher, but in all things, he must become like the teacher.”

Eye for an Eye

⁴¹ “How can you see the twig in your brother’s eye, but not see the plank in your own eye? ⁴² How can you say, “Hold still, bruh. Let me get the straw out of your eye.”

Hypocrite! Get the beam out of your own eye! Then, you’ll see clearly to remove the straw from your brother’s eye.”^A

⁴³ “The good tree isn’t making bad fruit & the rotten tree isn’t making good fruit. ⁴⁴ Every tree is known by its own fruit. Either thorns or grapes, but not both. ⁴⁵ The benevolent human brings good things from the good storehouse of the heart. The mischievous person speaks of the abundance of evil in their heart.”

Empty Flattery

⁴⁶⁻⁴⁹ Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ does what I say. ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to Me, listens to My words, & does them secretly, I will display openly. ⁴⁸ They are like someone who dug down deep & built the foundation of their house on a rock. When the flood happened, the river beat vehemently on that house, but its force

^A 6. ⁴² I wonder if He pointed at Peter and Andrew at the moment, maybe “James” and John?

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wasn't strong enough to topple that house. ⁴⁹ By contrast, whoever hears My words & doesn't do them is like someone who built the foundation of their house on the Earth. The river beat vehemently on that house & it collapsed immediately, causing great loss.

Luke 7

The Centurion's slave.

¹ He talked to this crowd a little longer & then went to Capernaum.

² A certain [unnamed] Centurion had a slave with a terminal illness. This slave was very important to him. ³ So, he'd heard about Yeshu'a & reached out to the local Jewish elders, asking if Yeshu'a might heal his slave. So, they approached Yeshu'a to reach out to the centurion as soon as possible, saying that it is a worthy cause because, though he was a Gentile, he built a synagogue for them.

⁶ While Yeshu'a was on His way, not far off, the centurion sent friends with the message, "Sir, don't worry yourself about coming under my roof. I know I am not worthy. You just say the word & my boy will be healed. See, I'm a man of authority, too. I have soldiers under me. I tell one to go & he goes. I tell one to come & he comes. I tell my slave to do something & he does it."

⁹ When Yeshu'a heard this, it blew His mind! He turned to the crowd following & said, "Nowhere in Israel have I found such tremendous faith!"

¹⁰ He went back to the house & found the slave in good health.

"Young man, I tell you, be raised."

¹¹ Soon, He entered Na'in with His disciples & a huge crowd. ¹² As He came near the city gate, Look! ¹³ A _____ with his mom, a widow, &

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a large crowd from the city came with her.¹⁴ Seeing her, the Lord is moved with compassion for her & said, **"Don't cry."**

¹⁵ He approached the closed coffin & the people who were carrying it set it down. Yeshu'a said, **"Young man, I tell you, be raised."**

¹⁶ The dead boy sat up & began to talk. Yeshu'a gave him back to his mom.

¹⁷ Fear grabbed everyone & they glorified God saying, **"A great prophet is raised among us!"**

Also, **"God is looking out for His people!"^A**

Everybody was talking about this, all throughout Judea & the surrounding area.

"Are you the One?"

¹⁸ John's disciples heard about it & sent two representatives to ask the Lord, ¹⁹ **"Are you the One to come or should we wait for someone else?"**

²⁰ So, when the men came near, they said, "John sent us to ask You, 'Are You the One we're waiting on or should we wait for someone else?'"

²¹ During this time, Yeshu'a healed many from maladies, physical scars & such from floggings or other punishments, & evil spirits. He gave sight to the blind as a favor.^B ²² Answering them, **"When you go, tell John what you see & hear:**

The blind receive sight.

Lame legs now walk.

Lepers are cleansed.

^A 7: 17 It seems like the people had given up hope that Israel would ever be totally free from outside influence from bigger nations.

^B 7: 21 "as a favor" = no expectation of return on investment

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Deaf ears now hear.

The dead are raised.

The Gospel is preached to the poor.

²³ Blessed is anyone who isn't tripped up by Me."

²⁴ After John's messengers left, Yeshu'a asked His crowd, "When you went to the desert, what did you expect to see? A reed shaken in the wind? ²⁵ What did you expect to see? A man in delicate clothing? Look! Those in glorious clothing live in luxury in the palaces.

²⁶ What did you expect to see? A prophet? NO! I'm telling you: he's so much more than a prophet! John is the one they wrote about, 'Look! I'm sending the messenger before You. He'll make way for You.'

²⁸ I'm telling you: of those born of a woman, there is no one greater than John, but the least significant in God's Kingdom is far greater than him."

²⁹ All the crowd heard & tax collectors deemed God as righteous & they were baptized like John baptizes. ³⁰ The Pharisees & lawyers disregarded God's counsel for their own & refused to be baptized.

³¹ "So, what can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in a field calling out to each other. I played the flute for you & you don't dance. You don't mourn. You don't cry out."

³³ John the Baptizer showed up, neither eating bread nor drinking wine. You said he has a demon. ³⁴ The Son of Man showed up, eating & drinking, & you said, Look! This guy is a glutton & a drunkard, & He's friendly with tax collectors & sinners! ³⁵ Wisdom is deemed righteous about all of her children."

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The Larger Debt

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Him when he might eat with Him. Entering the Pharisee's house, Yeshu'a is sat down.

³⁷ Look! A certain sinner woman from the city saw that Yeshu'a was lying down at the Pharisee's house. She brought an alabaster box of myrrh. ³⁸ She stood at His feet, weeping loudly. She began to wash His feet with her tears & wipe them with the hairs of her head. She kissed his feet & anointed them with the myrrh.

³⁹ The Pharisees watching complained, "If He was REALLY a prophet, He'd know who she is, what kind of woman is, clinging to Him; He'd know that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰ Answering, Yeshu'a said, "Simon, I have to tell you, Teacher, Speak up! Say. ⁴¹ Two people had debts to the same lender. One owed 500 denarii & the other owed 50. ⁴² Neither one had it to give, he canceled both debts. Who shall love him more?"

⁴³ Then Simon said, "I suppose the one with the larger debt."

Yeshu'a said, "Correct."

⁴⁴ He turned to the woman Simon was complaining about, "Look at this woman. I came into your house & you didn't give me water to wash my feet, but she is washing my feet with her tears & wiping them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You didn't kiss me, but she is still kissing My feet, even now. ⁴⁶ You didn't anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet. ⁴⁷ So, for all this, all of her many sins are forgiven, because of the tremendous love she's shown Me, but those who are forgiven little only love a little."

⁴⁸ But He told her, "Your sins have been forgiven."

⁴⁹ The people at the table with Him began to say, "Who is this Guy who also forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ He told the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace!"

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Luke 8

Travelling Shoes

¹ Soon after, He was teaching in every city & village, preaching & announcing the Good News of the Kingdom of God, & the 12 were with Him. ² Some of the women who had been healed from unclean spirits & disease were serving them as deaconesses. Most notable among them were Miriam called Magdalene [seven devils came out of her], Joanna [her husband, Chusa, was Herod's tutor], & Susanna.

Seeds Sown in Various Circumstances

⁴ A large crowd from the nearby cities gathers around Him & He spoke this parable:

⁵ The planter went out to sow his seed &, while he was sowing, some fell by the road & it is trampled & the birds of the air ate it. ⁶ Some of the other seeds fell on the rocky ground. It sprang up quickly, but it is dried up for lack of moisture. ⁷ Still, other seed fell among the thorns & the thorns closed in on it & choked it. ⁸ As you might imagine, some seeds fell on fertile ground & they brought forth 100x what was sown.

⁹ Later, His disciples asked Him to explain the parable. ¹⁰ He told them, "I have allowed you to understand the mysteries of God's Kingdom. Other people only get riddles, because:

You look, but don't see.

You hear, but don't understand.^A

^A 8: 10 Yeshu'a quotes Jeremiah 5: 21 and Isaiah 6: 9. This same moment shows up in Matthew 13: 13, Mark 4: 10-12, and Acts 28: 26.

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Explanation

¹¹ This is the parable:

¹² The seed that fell by the roadside are the ones that hear, but then, the disruptor comes & snatches the Word from their hearts so that their faith might not save them.^A ¹³ The seeds on the rocky ground are the ones who might hear & receive it with great joy, but it doesn't take root. They believe for a while, but they fall away after some time.

¹⁴ As for the seeds that fell on thorns, these heard, but they are choked by the concerns of life, its riches & pleasures. ¹⁵ As for the seeds that fell on good ground, they are on a good & benevolent heart, they heard the Word & held on tightly & bore fruit cheerfully & continually.

Let Your Light Shine

¹⁶ No one ever lit a candle & hid it under a bed. They place it on a menorah so it brings light to anyone who enters the room. ¹⁷ For nothing is hidden that won't be revealed; no secret that won't be revealed when the light comes.

¹⁸ LOOK! So, how LISTEN! Whatever you have shall be given, also whatever you don't have, & whatever you seem to have shall be taken from you.

¹⁹ So, His mom & brothers came near, but they couldn't get through the crowd. ²⁰ Someone sent word, "Your mom & brothers are out here, waiting to speak with You." ²¹ He responded, "These people are My mom & siblings, who hear & do the word of God."

^A 8: 12 See also Romans 10, verses 15-21. Most specifically, verse 17 says, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing, by the Word of God."

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Master! Master! We are dying here!

²² It happened, during that time, that He walked onto a small sailboat with His disciples. He told them to cross on over to the other side of the lake. ²³ While sailing, He fell asleep & a tremendous whirlwind came down on the lake. The boat was filling, putting everyone in danger. ²⁴ Everyone went near, they woke Him up, saying, "Master! Master! We are dying here!"

When He was fully awake, He rebuked the wind & the sea surge, & they stopped. Everything was calm. ²⁵ He asked them, "Where is your faith?"

They were afraid, they marveled, asking each other, "What kind of man is this? He even commands the winds & the water & they obey Him?"

Legion

²⁶ They landed in the Gerasene region across from Galilee. ²⁷ When they landed on the shore, a certain man from the city, having a demon, met them. For many years, he wore no clothes & didn't stay in a house, but in the graveyard. ²⁸ But, seeing Yeshu'a, crying out, he fell down before Him & screamed, "Why do You come to me, Yeshu'a Son of Most High God? I beg You, please don't torture me!" ²⁹ So, He commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For many years, the unclean spirit was snatching the man. He was bound in chains & under guard, but he is breaking the chains. The demon kept him out in the desert. ³⁰ And Yeshu'a asked, "What is your name?"

He answered, "Legion."

Many demons came out of him. ³¹ And they were asking Yeshu'a if He might not command them to go into the abyss. ³² There was a large herd of pigs being fed on the hill nearby. The demons asked

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Him if He might send them into them. ³³ So, the demons came out of the man & went into swine. The herd ran over the cliff into the lake & drowned.

Go back home.

³⁴ When they saw this, the herdsmen ran away & brought word into the city & into the fields. ³⁵ The people came out to see what Yeshu'a did & they found the man who had the demon sitting at Yeshu'a, having been dressed, & in his right mind & they were afraid! ³⁶ They reported what they saw; & how the man was saved. ³⁷ Then, everyone around the entire region of the Gerasenes asked Him to go away from them because they were extremely afraid of Him. So, He got back on the boat. ³⁸ The man who had been bound by the demons went with Him, but He dismissed him, saying, ³⁹ "Go back to your house. Show everyone what God has done for you."^A

So, he went back into the city telling everyone what Yeshu'a had done for him.

Twelve Years

⁴⁰ On the way back, the crowd received Yeshu'a for they were all expecting Him. ⁴¹ Look! A man named Jairus, the leader at the local synagogue, came near. He fell down at Yeshu'a's feet & begged Him to come to his house. ⁴² His only daughter was with him. She was 12 & she was dying. ⁴³ On the way, the crowd completely blocked his

^A 8: 40 "Grow where you're planted" feels like the worst advice anyone could ever give, but to step back beyond the riddle and think about it: someone needs to hear from you where you are.

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progress. A woman “with an issue of blood” approached.^A She had been suffering for 12 years.^B ⁴⁴ She came up behind the hem of His robe &, immediately, her AUB stopped. ⁴⁵ Yeshu’a said, “Who grabbed Me?”

Everyone who heard Him was saying, “Not me.”

Then, Peter said, “Master! There are a LOT of people in this crowd clinging to You & pressing against You!”

⁴⁶ Then, Yeshu’a said, “Someone grabbed Me. I know POWER left from Me.”

⁴⁷ And the woman understood she couldn’t hide.. Fear came over her & she fell face down at His feet because of the reason she touched Him. He spoke up in front of everyone in the crowd & she was immediately made well. ⁴⁸ He told her, “Daughter, your faith has delivered you. Go in peace!”

⁴⁹ While He is saying this, someone came from the synagogue leader’s house, saying, “My daughter has died. Don’t worry about it, Teacher!”^C

⁵⁰ But Yeshu’a heard & responded, “Don’t be afraid. Only believe & she’ll be delivered.”

⁵¹ Coming into the house, He didn’t allow anyone to go in with Him except Peter, John, Jacob, & the girl’s parents. ⁵² Everyone was sobbing & mourning for her, but Yeshu’a said, “Don’t cry. She didn’t die. She’s sleeping.”

^A 8: 43 Seemingly, this is a condition modernly known as “abnormal uterine bleeding” or AUB. (Smith, 2024)

^B 8: 43 Ironically, she had been suffering since about the time Jairus’ daughter was born.

^C 8: 49 “Teacher” is definitely a sign of respect but he didn’t call Him Master. Jairus fell down at Yeshu’a’s feet and begged Him before [verse 41].

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⁵³ Everyone mocked Him, knowing that she died. ⁵⁴ Yeshu'a grabbed one of her hands & said, "Little girl, get up."

⁵⁵ The spirit returned to her & she sat up. He gave orders that someone might bring her some food. ⁵⁶ Her parents were amazed, but He commanded them to not tell anyone.^A

Luke 9

The Disciples Become Apostles

¹ Once He gathered the 12, He gave them dynamic power & governmental authority over all the demons & to heal every sickness. ² He sent them out to proclaim God's Kingdom to cure the sicknesses.

³ He told them:

Don't take the road.

Don't take a walking stick.

Don't take a loaf of bread.

Don't take any silver.

Don't take any extra clothes.

⁴ If you go into any house, stay there.

⁵ If anyone doesn't receive you, then leave the city. Shake the dust off your feet as a witness against them ⁶ on your way out of all the towns & villages where you were preaching & healing.

Who is This Guy?

⁷ Herod the Tetrarch heard about everything that's happening & he was confused about what is being said. Some people are John is raised from the dead. ⁸ Some were saying it's Eliyahu. Still, others

^A 8: 56 The Messianic Secret is, practically, Yeshu'a saying, "If you tell everyone who I am, then they will try to take over the current rulers in Jerusalem, but that isn't the Way it's supposed to be. I have prophecies to fulfill and miracles to manifest."

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were saying it's one of the prophets of previous generations^A. ⁹ Then, Herod said, "I decapitated John, so who is this guy I'm hearing about?"

He was demanding to see Him!

¹⁰ And as the apostles came back, they told Him everything they did. After He received them [for a while], He withdrew alone into the city called Bethsaida.^B ¹¹ The crowd knew & followed Him, & He welcomed them. He spoke to them about God's Kingdom, & they needed healing.

¹² The day began to bend, the 12 approached & told Him, "Dismiss the crowd so they might go to the nearby towns & farms. We're out here in the middle of nowhere! Send them away so they can find food & a place to rest tonight."

¹³ "Give them some food."^C

"We don't have enough. All we have is five loaves of bread & two fish. It's not enough to feed everyone in this crowd."

¹⁴ There was about 5,000 men. He told His disciples, "..."

¹⁵ So, they made everyone sit down.

¹⁶ Picking up the five loaves & two fish, looking up into the Heavens, He blessed it, broke it, & gave it to the disciples to pass out to the crowd. Everyone ate all they could & there was enough scraps left over to fill 12 baskets.

^A 9: 8 Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, or one of the Neviym?

^B 9: 10 Literally "House of the Hunter" or "House of the Fisherman." This is worth noting because Saida means hunting as well as fishing.

^C 9: 13 Yeshu'a is "the Bread of the Heavens," born in Bethlehem ["house of bread"]. He is making His apostles into bread for the people.

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Who Do You Say I AM?

¹⁸ Eventually, Yeshu'a went off to be alone, but His disciples gathered around Him. He asked them, "Who do the crowds say I AM?"

¹⁹ "John the Baptizer."

"Some say Eliyahu."

"Maybe one of the old prophets."

²⁰ Yeshu'a asked, "Who do y'all say I AM?"

Peter answered, "You are God's Anointed One."^A

²¹ He rebuked them sternly to not tell anyone ²² because the Son of Man is bound to suffer & to be rejected by the elders, chief priests, & scribes, & to be put to death, but to be raised on the third day.

Yeshu'a Foretells His Death

²³ "If anyone wants to come with Me, deny yourself & pick up his cross [EVERY DAY] & follow Me. ²⁴ If anyone might want to save his soul will lose it. If anyone lay down his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ What is the point of anyone gaining the entire world, but he is dead or mangled? ²⁶ If anyone is ashamed of Me & My commands, the Son of Man will be ashamed of these people when He might come into His glory with the Father & the holy angels.^B I tell you the truth: some of you won't taste/see death until you see the Kingdom of God."

^A 9: 20 In Hebrew, His title is "haMashiach." In Greek, it's "ὁ Χριστός" In Arabic, it's "al-Masih." In English, it's "Messiah" or "Christ," but all forms mean "the Anointed One."

^B 9: 26 If Yeshu'a intentionally specifies "holy angels," then it stands to reason that there are "unholy angels" as well.

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Mosheh, Eliyahu, & Yeshua

²⁸ About eight days after these commands & parables, He took Peter, John, & Jacob [James] up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ While He [Yeshu'a] was praying, His face changed. His clothes glistened white.

³⁰ Look! Two men were talking with Him; one was Mosheh & the other was Eliyahu [Elijah]. ³¹ Having seen the glory, they were talking about His death that was soon to happen in Jerusalem.^A

³² Peter, & those with him, were exhausted & fell asleep. When they woke up, they saw His glory & the two men who were with Him.

³³ After they left, Peter told Yeshu'a, "Master! It is good that we're here! Maybe we can make three tents? One for you? One for Mosheh? And one for Eliyahu?"

Yeshu'a ignored what Peter was saying.

³⁴ And, while [Peter] is saying these things, a cloud developed & overshadowed them. They were afraid of a major storm. ³⁵ A voice came out of the cloud, **"This is My Beloved Son. Listen to Him!"**

³⁶ Then, as the voice came out of the cloud, they found only Yeshu'a. They kept silent. None of them said anything about what they saw in those days.

Yeshu'a Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

³⁷ The next day, after they came down from the mountain, He met a really large crowd. ³⁸ Look! A man in the crowd. He cried extremely loudly, saying, "Teacher! I'm begging you to look at my son, my only son! ³⁹ Look! A spirit takes him & makes him scream uncontrollably! It makes him shake violently & foam at the mouth!

^A 9: 31 The text doesn't specify, but given their topic and how it eventually plays out, Yeshu'a was in agony so Mosheh and Eliyahu were trying to comfort Him.

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Eventually, it leaves him, but his body is left limp & lifeless.⁴⁰ Your disciples tied him up so they might cast it out, but they weren't strong enough.⁴¹ Yeshu'a answered, "Faithless & degenerate nation! How long will I have to hold you up?^A Bring your son here."

⁴² As they brought the boy, the demon made him shake violently & threw him down on the ground. Yeshu'a rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, & gave him back to his dad.⁴³ Everyone was in shock because of God's magnificence!

Yeshu'a Foretells His Death, Again

⁴³ Everyone was stupefied about what He'd said to His disciples.⁴⁴ Help us understand what You said, "The Son of Man is about to be handed over to men's hands."

⁴⁵ This is what they didn't know, what was hidden from them so they won't understand, but they were afraid to ask for any insight into the matter.

"Who is the Greatest Among Us?"

⁴⁶ He came in when they were debating it: this, who, what is greatest among them.⁴⁷ Noticing their conversation, Yeshu'a brought a child near & stood where they could all see Him.⁴⁸ He told them, "Whoever might receive this child in My name receives Me. Whoever receives Me shall receive the One who sent Me. For the smaller among all of you this one is greater."^B

^A 9: 41 Yeshu'a had already singled out the 12 [Luke 6: 12-19] and He'd already empowered them for missions [see Luke 9: 1-6]. Yeshu'a was disappointed to see they were not yet able to step into their place and destroy the enemy's stronghold in the area.

^B 9: 48 In itself, this verse seems to specify that this child is greater than the 12.

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⁴⁹ But, John said, "Master, we saw someone casting out devils in Your Name & we chastised him because he doesn't follow along with us."

⁵⁰ Yeshe'a told them, "Do not stop [him]! He isn't against you. He is for you."^A

Samaritan Opposition

⁵¹ After a certain amount of time, the days of His ascension are complete, He prepares to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² He sent messengers ahead &, after they left, they went into the nearby Samaritan village, to prepare for Him, ⁵³ but they didn't receive Him, because He was already heading towards Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ Seeing Him change direction, [James] & John said, "Lord, if You want, we can command fire from the Heavens to destroy them?"

⁵⁵⁻⁵⁶ He is moved to honor them; they went to another town.

Don't Look Back

⁵⁷ Walking on the path, He told them, "Follow Me wherever I might go."

⁵⁸ Yeshe'a told them, "Foxes have holes & the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place of his own to rest His head."

⁵⁹ He told a different disciple, "Follow Me!"

He said, "Lord, first, please allow me to go bury my father."

⁶⁰ Yeshe'a told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as you go, preach God's Kingdom!"

⁶¹ He said to another, "I will come with You, Lord. First, allow me to say goodbye to my family."

^A 9. 50 In other words, "Same team, guys. Same team."

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⁶² Yeshu'a responded, "No one who puts his hands on the plow but doubles back is ready for God's kingdom."^A

Luke 10

72 Apostles

¹ Soon after, the Lord sent out 72 others, two by two, to the places where He was about to go. ² He told them, "There is a large harvest, but the Lord of the harvest don't have many workers.

³ Go, Look! I send you out as lambs among wolves.

⁴ Don't carry a coin purse, food pouch, or shoes, & don't salute anyone on the street. ⁵ If you go into a house, say, 'Peace upon this house.'

⁶ And if a son of peace is there, then your peace shall rest there, but if not, then [your peace] shall return to you. ⁷ If you stay in the house, then eat & drink what they give you for the worker is worthy of his reward. Do not go from house to house. ⁸ In that city, you might go & they receive you, eat what they give you.^B ⁹ Heal their sick & tell them, 'God's Kingdom has arrived!'

¹⁰ If you go to a city & they don't receive you, then go out to the street & say it out loud.^C ¹¹ Wipe off the dust that clings to us from the city. Yet, understand that God's Kingdom has come.'

¹² I'm telling you: it shall be more tolerable for Sodom than for that city."

^A 9: 62 Committing to His Kingdom and getting exhausted, needing rest is fine, but to go back to the world and its' systems is problematic.

^B 10: 8 In other words, "Don't be a picky eater. Appreciate the hospitality. Don't cause them to go out of their way to prepare your meals. Respect their budget and don't be greedy!"

^C 10: 10 Speaking up in a public place gives the opportunity for someone else to invite you into their home.

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Woe to Unrepentant Cities

¹³ Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles you saw happened in Tyre & Sidon, they would have repented a **long** time ago, sitting in sackcloth & ashes! ¹⁴ ...but it more bearable for Tyre & Sidon, in the judgment than you. ¹⁵ Capernaum, shouldn't you not be raised to the Heavens? You'll go down to Sheol!"

¹⁶ Some of you hear Me, some reject Me, but whoever rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

The 72 Return

¹⁷ Then the 72 came back with great joy saying, "Lord, even the demons submitted to us in Your Name!"

¹⁸ He replied, "I was watching the accuser as he fell out of the Heavens. ¹⁹ Look! I have given you existential authority to tread on serpents & scorpions & over every dynamic ability of the enemy. In no way, shape, or form might be hurt! Still, don't rejoice that the spirits are made subject to you. Rejoice that your names have been written in the Heavens!"

The Father's Will

²¹ In that hour, joyfully in the Holy Spirit & said, "I acknowledge You, Father, Lord of the Heavens & the Earth, that You hide these things from the wise & prudent & reveal it to children. Yes, Daddy, that's how it happened. ²² Everything is given to Me by My Father, No one knows who the Son is except the Father & who is the Father except the Son & whom the Son might inform."

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²³ And turned to His disciples & said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴ I'm telling you: many prophets & kings wanted to see what you see but never did, to hear what you hear but never did."

The Good Samaritan

²⁵ Look! A certain lawyer stood, examining Yeshu'a, "Teacher, what can I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the Torah? How do you read it?"

²⁷ Two themes:

1. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, physical ability, & imagination."
2. "Love your neighbor as yourself."

²⁸ "Correct. Do these things & you'll live!"

²⁹ Wanting to display his righteousness, he asked Yeshu'a, "Who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Yeshu'a gave this riddle, "A man was coming down from Jerusalem to Jericho & fell among thieves. They took his clothes, mollywhopped him, & left him for dead.

³¹ By chance, a priest was going down on that same path. Seeing him, he crossed over to the other side of the road.

³² Similarly, a Levite coming to the place, seeing him, crossed over to the other side of the road.

³³ A Samaritan on a pilgrimage came near & seeing him, he is moved with compassion. ³⁴ He comes up & cleans the man's wounds with olive oil & wine. He set him on his own animal, took him to the inn, & took care of him. ³⁵ The next day, as he left, he gave two

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denarii^A to the host & said, 'Take care of him. Whatever more you spend, I'll repay you when I return.' ³⁶ Which one of these three should be considered a neighbor to the man who fell among thieves?"

³⁷ "The one who showed mercy."

"Go & do likewise."

Mary & Martha

³⁸ Going on from there, He went into the town where a certain lady called Martha hosted Him. ³⁹ Her sister is called Miriam & she is the one who got sidetracked, sat at Yeshu'a's feet & listened to everything He said. ⁴⁰ Martha was preoccupied with meal prep & everything. She stood nearby & said, "Lord, I can't really listen to You because my sister left me alone to do all the work. Please tell her to help me."

⁴¹ The Lord responded, "Martha. Martha. You're stressing & worrying about so many things. ⁴² There is always a need here or there, but Miriam chose the love part; that shall not be taken from her."

Luke II

The Lord's Prayer

¹ It happened in the place where Yeshu'a is praying. As he stopped, one of His disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray... just like John taught his disciples."

² Yeshu'a told them, "Whenever you pray, say:

Daddy, Your Name is Holy.

Your Kingdom come!

^A 10: 35 One denarius is a full day's wage. As of Christmas Eve 2024, a Google search says the same as \$7. As of June 12, 2025, the minimum wage in NC is \$7.25 per hour. Imagine living on

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³ Give us today our daily bread.^A

⁴ Forgive us for our sins as we cancel anything anyone owes us
Do not bring us into temptation.”

Lending vs. Giving

⁵ Then, He asked them, “Which one of you, having a friend, goes to that friend in the middle of the night & says, ‘Friend, can you lend me three loaves?’

⁶ After that, my friend is coming up the path & I don’t have anything to repay him. ⁷ Answering from inside, maybe he’ll say, ‘Don’t bother me! My door has already been closed. My children are in bed with me! I can’t come to give you anything.’

⁸ I say to you, ‘Even though he doesn’t want to get up for his friend, for fear of being seen as a bad friend, he’ll give as much as he has need.’

Ask, Seek, Knock

⁹ So, I tell **you**, ‘Ask & it shall be given. Seek & you will find. Knock & it shall be opened to you. ¹⁰ For the one asking shall receive. The one seeking shall find. The one knocking, it shall be opened.’

¹¹ Which dad among you, if his son asks for a fish, would give him a snake? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, who would give him a scorpion?

¹³ So, if y’all, being evil, understand to give good gifts to your children, how much better does the Father in the Heavens give His Holy Spirit to anyone who asks?

^A 11: 3 Give us what we need and let us be thankful and not greedy.

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Kingdom Divided

¹⁴ When [Yeshu'a] was casting out a mute demon, after the demon who came out, the mute man spoke & the crowd was amazed. ¹⁵ A certain individual^A said, "He casts out demons through the power of Beelzeboul, the ruler of demons."

¹⁶ Others, seeking a sign, asked Him for a sign from the Heavens. ¹⁷ Seeing their thoughts, He said, "Any kingdom divided against itself is destroyed & house falls upon house. ¹⁸ So, if the accuser casts himself out, how can his kingdom stand? ¹⁹ And if I cast out demons by Beelzeboul's authority, through authority do your sons cast them out? ²⁰ ...but if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the Kingdom of God came to you. ²¹⁻²² When the strong man has gathered his weapons, that he might guard his plot, his people live in peace, but when a stronger man comes to conquer him, he raises his armor & sets his dogs in formation. ²³ Anyone not gathering with Me scatters!"

Seven Times Worse

²⁴ When an unclean spirit might be cast out of a person, it goes out into the deserted, dry places. Not finding rest, he says [to himself], 'I'm gonna go back to my old house.'

Coming back, he finds it has been swept & decorated. ²⁶ He goes & gets 7 other demons, more evil than himself, to move in with him. Then, the man is in worse shape than before!"

²⁷⁻²⁸ A certain woman in the crowd^B spoke up & said, "Blessed is the womb that carried you & the breasts where you nursed!"

He said, "Blessed are those who hear God's Word & obey it."

^A II: 15 This man will remain unnamed.

^B II: 27 This woman will remain unnamed.

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Belly of the Beast

²⁹ He told the crowd, "This generation, this wicked generation, asks for a sign, but you won't be given any sign

Menorah Under a Basket?

³⁴ The eye is the body's lampstand. When your eyes are clear, your whole body is full of light. If not, your body is full of darkness. ³⁵ So, make sure the darkness isn't in your eye, ³⁶ That way, your body isn't divided & scheming.^A

Yeshu'a > the Pharisees

³⁷ While Yeshu'a is still speaking, one of the Pharisees asked Him if He might eat with him. Yeshu'a went in & sat down. ³⁸ Seeing this, the Pharisee was blown away that Yeshu'a didn't wash His hands before eating. ³⁹ The Lord told him, "You Pharisees wash the cup & platter, but your insides flow over extortion & iniquity. ⁴⁰ Idiots! Don't you do the outside AND the inside?"

⁴¹ Still, give what you have to the poor. Then, look at that, every pure thing is in you.

⁴² Rather, woe to you, Pharisees! You tithe mint & rue & every kind of herb, but you come under judgment & love of God. These things but it is kosher to do, this & not that.^B

⁴³ Woe to you, Pharisees, because you love to have the honorary seats in the synagogues & the greetings in the streets.

^A II: 36 See James I: 5-9.

^B II: 42 "Do this and not that" paints a mental image of Yeshu'a holding the cup or platter, showing the dirty inside and clean outside.

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⁴⁴ Woel! You're like unmarked graves, people pass by you & don't even know.^A

Yeshu'a > the lawyers

⁴⁵ Answering, He tells the Torah teachers, "Teacher, You shame us in these things."

⁴⁶ So, He said, "Be careful, Torah teachers! You load treacherously heavy burdens on people but you won't even lift a single finger to help. ⁴⁷ Woe to you, "Whoa! You built the graves for the prophets whom your ancestors murdered! ⁴⁸ No doubt you are witnesses of the things your fathers did because you murder the ones sent to build you up. ⁴⁹ Through this, & God's wisdom, He said, 'I'll send prophets & apostles' & you'll persecute & put them to death! You'll chase them down until all of their blood is splattered from the foundation of the Earth until this very day!" ⁵¹ From Abel until the moment when Zechariah's blood is spilled between the altar & the house. Yeah, I'm telling you: This generation will be examined!

⁵² Whoa, Lawyers! Y'all pick up the keys of the knowledge, but y'all don't enter & allow others to enter. ⁵³ Not only that, others who came after you shall also rule over you."

The scribes & Pharisees battle vehemently & provoke Him about everything. ⁵⁴ They tried to trap Him with His words!

^A II: ⁴⁴ You love to be seen and honored, but no one really cares! You're more concerned with photo ops than doing actual ministry. Full disclosure: Sometimes, I wonder if my ministry is of no real effect.

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Luke 12

Motives

¹ After crowds of tens of thousands are gathered, they trample each other trying to speak to His disciples first. Beware of the yeast, which is the hypocrisy, of the Pharisees. ² There is nothing concealed that will not be exposed, nothing hidden that will not be known. ³ Anything spoken in private will be heard openly. Things whispered in your ear shall be proclaimed out in the open.

⁴ I'm telling you, my friends: don't be afraid of the one who can kill your body with no further authority. ⁵ but I'll tell you who you should fear! Fear the One who can throw you into Gehenna^A Yeah. I'm telling you: He's the One you should fear.

⁶ Five sparrows are sold for two assarion, right? Yet, not even one is neglected by God. ⁷ Still, every hair on your head is numbered. Don't be afraid. They're worth nothing in comparison to you. ⁸ ...but I tell you: any time you tell others about Me, I brag on you to God's angels!^{B 9} but whoever disowns Me when people can see, that individual will be renounced before God's angels. ¹⁰ Any negative thing you say about the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who insults the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven."

¹¹ ...but don't worry when they take you to the synagogues with their leaders & magistrates. Don't stress what you'll say, ¹² the Holy Spirit will teach you what to say in that moment."

¹³ Someone from the crowd said, "Teacher, tell my brother to share our inheritance!"

¹⁴ Yeshu'a said, "Who made me judge or arbitrator over you, man?"

^A 12: 5 Gehenna, the Valley of Hinnom, is where trash was burned, purifying the land of filth.

^B 12: 8 We're famous!

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¹⁵ Yesu'a told them, "Be sure that you are not greedy. Your life is not defined by having a lot of things."

Where is your treasure?

¹⁶ He told a parable, "A certain man had a huge harvest ¹⁷ & he said to himself, 'My barns aren't big enough. What should I do?'"

He said, 'Here's what I'm gonna do: I'll tear down my barns & build bigger barns for my wheat & everything.' ¹⁹ Then, I'll say to myself, "Self, you've amassed a lot of stuff over the years. Eat! Drink! Be merry!"

²⁰ God said to him, "Fool! Tonight, you'll give an account for your life. What have you prepared? Anything?"

²¹ He built riches for himself & not to the God of the riches."

²² He told His disciples, He said, "Don't stress: what will we eat? Don't worry about what you'll wear. Your soul is more than your food & your body is more than clothes."

Look at the ravens. They don't plant seeds or harvest. They don't tuck anything away in personal vaults or barns. God feeds them. You are way more important than the birds.

²⁵ Which one of you can get taller by worrying? ²⁶ If you're unable to do anything. Why do you obsess over it? ²⁷ Look how the lilies grow. They don't toil or spin, but I tell you: even Solomon, in all his glory, was dressed as well as these. ²⁸ The grass of the field is here today & thrown into the over tomorrow. How much more will God take care of you, you with no faith? ²⁹ Don't search for food or drink! Don't stress! ³⁰ The people of the world obsess over these things, but your Father knows you need these things. ³¹ So, seek His Kingdom & all these things will be given to you. ³² Don't be afraid, little flock, because your Father took pleasure to give you the Kingdom.

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³³ Sell your stuff! Give it to the poor! Let everyone make for himself that isn't decayed, treasure beyond your wildest imaginations in the Heavens, where a thief cannot steal & a moth cannot corrupt.
³⁴ Whatever your treasure is, there your heart will be, also."

Get ready! Stay ready!

³⁵ Your loins are girded & your candles are lit. ³⁶ & you resemble a man who received the Lord until himself when he left the wedding, so that he might knock & open to him. ³⁷ That slave is lifted up, seeing the Lord coming he finds them watching. I'm trynatell you: He'll prepare them & set them down &, stepping forward, He shall serve them.^A ³⁸ Even if He comes during the second or third watch of the night, they are exalted. ³⁹ Know this: if the master of the house knows when the thief might come, then he can send him away from his house & possessions. ⁴⁰ Get ready because you don't know when the Son of Man will return."

The Trustworthy Steward

⁴¹ Then, Peter said, "You speak in parables, to us & to everyone."

⁴² Then, the Lord said, "Who is the trustworthy steward, the wise one whom the Lord appointed on His service to feed His people at the right time? ⁴³ That slave is well positioned. The one that his Lord comes & finds doing the right things! ⁴⁴ F'real, I'm telling you: on everything, those belonging to Him, He shall set them in place. ⁴⁵ But, if that slave might say in his heart, 'My Lord delays in coming.' Then, he begins to pummel the little boys & girls, to eat, drink, & get drunk. ⁴⁶ That slave's Master will return on a day when he doesn't expect, at

^A 12: 37 See also Psalm 23, verse 5 [in context]

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an hour he will not know. He will cut him to pieces & give his portion to the faithless.

⁴⁷ But that slave who knows his Master's will & doesn't prepare or do His plan will be sorely beaten. ⁴⁸ but the one who didn't know & do [his Master's will] is also worthy of being beaten, but not as much.

"I didn't come to bring peace!"

⁴⁹ I came to throw fire on the earth, &... oh, how I wish it was already lit? ⁵⁰ But, in the same way I was baptized, [the Earth] shall be baptized just like I am held together it might be completed. ⁵¹ Do y'all think I came to bring peace on the Earth? No. Rather division. ⁵² There will be five in the house, having been divided, three against two or two against three. ⁵³ Fathers & sons will be at odds, mothers & daughters, mothers-in-law against brides."^A

⁵⁴ He said to the crowds [not only Peter], "Whenever you might see the cloud rise in the west, immediately, you say, 'It's about to rain' & you're right. ⁵⁵ When a south wind blows, you say, 'It is about to heat up' & you're right. ⁵⁶ Hypocrites! You have analyzed the face of the Earth & the Heavens, but this season: how have you not learned to analyze it?

⁵⁷ Which one of you don't condemn the righteous? ⁵⁸ Or, as you go, with your adversary, adventure on the path to the magistrate, depart from you, give release from you, ⁵⁹ I'm telling you: you won't get outta there until the last penny^B is paid."

^A 12: 49-53 This sounds crazy to think that Yeshu'a might say this and mean it, but righteousness is divisive, especially when we're breaking generational curses.

^B 12: 59 "mite" in the text; not exactly a \$0.01 USD. A Google search on July 24, 2025, says that a mite is now $\frac{1}{8}$ of a US penny.

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Luke 13

Are These People Worse Than Those?

¹ In that day, certain people were gathering, announcing around Galilee that Pilate mixed blood in their sacrifices.^A

Yeshu'a responded, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse than any other Galileans? ³ No! The only thing that matters is that you truly repent! ⁴ Those 18 at the tower of Silo'am when it fell, do you think that they owe [any sin debt] than anyone else living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No! The only thing that matters is that you truly repent!"

Please give me one more year!

⁶ He told this parable, "The useless fig tree that had been planted in his vineyard. He came over, looking for fruit & found none. ⁷ 'Cut it down! Why should it use this soil?'"

⁸ Answering, the farmer asks if he can have one more year. ⁹ 'If it is still not producing, then you can cut it down.'"^B

Set Free to Rest

¹⁰ He was teaching in the synagogue on Shabbat. Look! A woman with a spirit of infirmity for 18 years. She was bent over, unable to stand up straight.

¹² Seeing her, Yeshu'a called to her, "Miss. You have been freed from your infirmity!"

¹³ He placed His hands on her.^C Immediately, she can stand up straight & she glorified God. ¹⁴ The synagogue leader responded,

^A 13: 1 That's just disrespectful.

^B 13: 6-8 see also Matthew 21: 18-21

^C 13: 13 Most likely on the crown of her head or on a shoulder; certainly nothing scandalous.

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indignant that Yeshu'a treated her on Shabbat, "We work for six days, but she comes in here on Shabbat."

¹⁵ Answering, the Lord said, "Hypocrite! Any one of you would break Shabbat if your ox or whatever needs water, ¹⁶ but this daughter of Abraham is here Satan bound for 18 years to be set free from actual chains on Shabbat!"

¹⁷ These people have been shaming her, but the crowd rejoiced on everything Yeshu'a did.

What Compares to His Kingdom?

¹⁸ So, He said, "What is like the Kingdom of God? ¹⁹ It's like a mustard seed that a man took & planted in his garden. It grew into a tree & various birds made their nests in its branches.

²⁰ He said, again, "What is like God's Kingdom? ²¹ It's like leaven. A woman took some & kneaded it into 3 seahs of flour."

²² He went on through the cities & villages teaching as He journeyed into Jerusalem.

²³ Someone asked, "Lord, is it true only a few will be saved?"

He answered, ²⁴ "Strive to come through the narrow gate, because... I'm telling you: a lot of people will seek to enter, but won't be able. ²⁵ Why in the world might the master of the house be awakened & close the door that y'all might begin outside to stand to knock on the door, saying, "Master, please open the door for us!"

He'll answer, 'I don't know where you have come from.'

²⁶ Then you'll begin saying, 'I ate & drank in Your presence. [I was] in the places where you taught.'

²⁷ He'll tell them, 'I don't know where you're from. Go away from Me, troublemakers!'"

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²⁸ There, there shall be weeping & grinding of teeth [writhing in pain],

Yeshu'a & Herod

³¹ In that moment, some of the Pharisees came up to Him, saying, "Go away from here! Herod [Antipas] wants to kill you!" ³² He told them, "When you go back, tell that fox, 'Look! I drive out demons & completely heal people today, tomorrow, & a third day is complete.'" ³³ However, you bind me today & tomorrow & to make a trip, because a prophet cannot be murdered outside of Jerusalem."

Yeshu'a Loves Jerusalem

³⁴ Jerusalem... Jerusalem! Murdering the prophets & stoning the ones sent to it—How many times have I wanted to gather your children like a hen gathers her hatchlings under her wings, but you weren't willing.

³⁵ Look! Your crowds have been dismissed. I tell you: You won't see Me again until you say, 'Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of YHWH!'"

Luke 14

Speechless

¹ And it happened that, on a Shabbat, a leader among the Pharisees was observing Him came to watch [Yeshu'a].

² Look! A man with dropsy is before Yeshu'a. ³ Because of this, Yeshu'a said to the lawyers & Pharisees, "Is it lawful to heal on Shabbat or nah?"

⁴ "To rest."

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⁵ Yeshu'a healed the man & sent him away. He said to them, "If any one of your son [or ox] falls in a ditch on Shabbat, would you pull him out?"

⁶ They were speechless.

No Wedding Crashers!

⁷ And He told those who have been called, who were choosing the best seats, telling them, ⁸ Whenever you are invited to a wedding, you might not be in the best seats. Never assume you're more precious to the one who invited you. ⁹ He might come over to you & say, 'Get out of this spot!' Then, embarrassed, you are to hold the last spot. ¹⁰ Instead, when you are invited, sit down in the back spot, so that the planner might come & tell, 'Friend, go over there to a better spot! Then, you are honored by everyone at the table with you! ¹¹ because everyone who exalts himself will be humiliated & the one who humbles himself shall be exalted.'"

Feast or Famine?

¹² And He was also speaking to the ones who had invited Him, "Whenever you might do a dinner or feast, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your cousins or your rich neighbors. Do not invite those who can invite you back or pay you back. ¹³ Instead, when you might make a feast, invite the poor & beggars, maimed, crippled, & blind. ¹⁴ You'll be happy because they have nothing to repay you but you shall be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous.

RSVP

¹⁵ Someone sitting at the table heard these things said to Him, "Blessed is the one who eats bread in God's Kingdom!"

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¹⁶ He told him, "A human who was doing a great feast, ¹⁷ sending his slave at the time the feast began to tell everyone, 'Come on, now! Everything is ready!' ¹⁸ They all began to reject. The first said, 'I bought a field & I need to go check it out! I can't go.'^A

¹⁹ Another said, 'I bought five yoke of oxen. I'm going to examine them. I can't come by.'

²⁰ Another said, 'I married my fiancée, so I can't come.'"

²¹ The slave brought word back to his master. Then, the master of the house is furious! He told his slave, 'Quickly, go to the streets & lanes of the town, even to the poor, beggars & the maimed, the blind & the crippled, bring them here!'

²² The slave said, 'Lord, I have done as you told me & there is still space for more people.'

²³ The Lord said to the slave, 'Go into the paths & the hedges & compel [them] to come so that My house might be full. ²⁴ I tell you that none of those people who had been called before shall taste My feast.'

²⁵ A tremendous crowd was gathered."

Priorities

Then, Yeshu'a is turned to them & said, ²⁶ 'If anyone comes to Me & doesn't prioritize Me over their own father & mother, wife & children, brothers & sisters, even their own soul, is not able to be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever is unable to pick up his cross & follow Me isn't able to become My disciple. ²⁸ Which one among you wants to build a castle, wouldn't first sit down & analyze if he could finish it? ²⁹ Otherwise, his foundation is unfinished & he doesn't have everything

^A 14: 19-21 The literally says, "I ask you, Excuse me" but this gets the point across."

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he needs to complete his task. Those who watch might mock him, ³⁰ saying, "This guy started to build a house, but couldn't finish.

³¹ Or... a king goes to battle another king without first having a battle strategy, if he has enough firepower to win with 10,000 troops against 20,000? Otherwise, while his opponent is still far off, he sent a delegation ahead to make peace. ³³ That's why any one of you who doesn't get outside of himself isn't able to be My disciple.

³⁴ Salt is good, but if the salt is flavorless, who could be seasoned? ³⁵ It's not fit for the ground, not even on the fertilizer. Throw it out. Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear.

Luke 15

The Lost Sheep

¹ So, all the tax collectors & sinners were coming up to hear from Him. ² Then, of course, the Pharisees & scribes murmured amongst themselves, "This man accepts sinners & eats with them."

³ But He told them this riddle: Which one of you, having 100 sheep & lose one of them, wouldn't leave the 99 in an isolated place & go find it? ⁵ And, when he finds it, he joyfully throws it over his shoulder?"

⁶ Going into the house, he gathers his friends & neighbors & says, 'Come rejoice with me! I found what I'd lost! ⁷ This is how it is in the Heavens when any sinner repents!"

I Found It!

⁸ ...or, if a woman has 10 drachmas,^A if she might lose one, wouldn't she light a menorah & sweep the house & search diligently until she

^A 15: 8 A drachma is also known as a denarius, it is a silver coin worth a day's wages.

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might find it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls all her friends & neighbors, 'Celebrate with me! I found the drachma I lost!'"

¹⁰ I'm telling you: This is how God's angels act over every sinner who repents!"

The Prodigal Son

¹¹ But He said, "A man has two sons. ¹² And the younger one of them told his father, 'Dad! Give me that share of the wealth which belongs to me.'

So, he took away from his property.^A

¹³ Soon, after he gathered everything together, the younger son went off to a distant country & squandered everything, living recklessly. ¹⁴ So, [ironically], after he wasted everything, a severe famine came over the land. The man was flat broke, ¹⁵ so he made himself a hired hand for a citizen of that country^B who sent him into his fields to slop the hogs^C.

¹⁶ He was so hungry that he wanted the carob pods the swine were eating, but he was given nothing. ¹⁷ When he came to his senses, he said, 'This is ridiculous! My dad's day laborers flow over with bread, but I am over here dying in a famine!'

^A 15: 12 βίον ["bee-ön"] stems from βίος ["bee-öss"], which Trenchard's dictionary illustrates to mean, "life, conduct, [or] property." See also "biology" as the study of life in its various contingencies.

^B 15: 15 This seems to be an indentured servant or tenant farmer. He's working. At least he's no deadbeat.

^C 15: 15 Have you ever dumped old food scraps into a hog's trough?

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¹⁸ After he rose,^A 'I'll go back to my dad & tell him, 'Daddy, I sinned against the Heavens & against you! ¹⁹ I'm not worthy to be called your son. Make me one of your hired workers.'

²⁰ And after he rose, he went to his father. But, while he was a great distance away, his father saw him, felt pity on him, & ran out to him. He fell on his neck & kissed him. ²¹ The son said, 'Daddy, I have sinned against the Heavens & before you. I'm no longer worthy to be called your son. ²² The dad told his slaves, 'Hurry! Go get the best robe you can find & put it on him! Give him a signet ring for his hand & shoes for his feet! Cook the biggest calf so I might have a party! ²⁴ My son, who was dead, is alive! He was lost, but now he is found! The party began!

²⁵ The older son was in the field. As he approached the house, he heard music & dancing! ²⁶ He called to one of the children, asking what was going on. ²⁷ He said, 'Your brother is home! Your dad cooked the choicest calf because he is in good health!'

²⁸ He is furious! He didn't want it to go in [& greet his brother]. Their dad went outside to invite him in, but he said, 'Look! I've been slaving for you for all these years! Never once did I ever break a rule! You never gave me a goat so I could party with my friends... ³⁰ but, this son of yours squanders your life with whores, you kill the fatted calf!'

³¹ He replied, 'Son, you are always with me & everything I have is yours! ³² Celebrate! Your brother who was dead is now alive! He had been lost, but he's now found!'

^A 15: 18 The Greek word is ἀναστὰς and parses out to mean "after he rose up," which implies he was sitting, kneeling, or perhaps even lying prostrate.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Luke 16

Shrewd Business Practices

¹ He told the disciples, “A certain rich man had a steward who was accused of wasting resources. ² He reached out to him, he said, ‘What’s this I hear about you? Give me your records & documents. You aren’t able to take care of business.’

³ The steward made up his mind, “What can I do? My master has taken the stewardship from me? I can’t dig. I am ashamed to beg. I know what I can do: I’ll transfer as much of his wealth as I can to myself & to my family!’

⁵ He called all his master’s debtors. He said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’

⁶ ‘One hundred baths^A of olive oil!’

‘Adjust the invoices! Hurry up! Write 50!’

⁷ After that, to another, he said, ‘How much do you owe?’

‘One hundred cors^B of wheat.’

‘Adjust the invoices! Hurry up! Write 80!’

⁸ The master of the house praised the steward’s unrighteousness because he acted shrewdly. The sons of this age are much more shrewd than the sons of light in this generation. ⁹ but I’m telling you, “Make friends of the wealth of the unrighteous so whenever it might fail, they might accept you into fortified homes.”^C

^A 16: 6 Per a Google search on August 17, 2025, a ‘bath’ in this context is roughly equivalent to 6 to 8 gallons, or about 22 to 24 liters, and was a standard measure alongside the dry measure ephah.

^B 16: 7 Per a Google search on August 18, 2025, a cor is “equivalent to ten ephahs. While the exact volume is debated among scholars, it’s generally estimated to be around 220 liters, or roughly 6 bushels.”

^C 16: 9 Even if people have shady business practices, they look out for you if they somehow consider you a real friend.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

¹⁰ The one who is faithful in a few things is the one who is faithful in many things. The one who is unjust in a few things is the one who is unjust in many things.

¹¹ So, if among the unjust possession faithful not become, then what truth shall you believe? ¹² And if you're not faithful with other people's things, who shall give you your own things?

¹³ No one can serve two masters. He'll hate one & love the other or he'll cling to one & despise the other. No one can serve God AND stuff."

¹⁴ Hearing everything Yeshu'a was saying, the Pharisees, being jealous,^A were mocking Him. ¹⁵ So, he replied, "You are righteous before people, but God knows your hearts. That among men is a greater abomination before God.

¹⁶ The Torah & the prophets, up until John, from God's Kingdom is announced, & everyone within suffers violence. ¹⁷ Still, it is easier for the Heavens & the Earth to go away than for even the smallest mark to fall.

¹⁸ Anyone who leaves their husband or wife & marries someone else is the one who commits adultery."

Send Lazarus!

¹⁹ "There was a rich man, purple clothes, fine linens, all that, living every day in luxury. ²⁰ There was a poor man named Lazarus who had been thrown out of the rich man's gate. He was sick ²¹ He longed for the crumbs that fell off the rich man's table. Instead, dogs came & licked his sores.

^A 16: 14 I'm not sure why they were jealous. Presumably, the numbers in his crowds? If so, then this raises discussions about how some leaders micromanage church attendance/membership.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

²² In time, the poor man died & was carried by angels to Avraham's bay.^A The rich man died & was buried.^B ²³ He opened his eyes in Sheol,^C being in torment. He saw Abraham from a distance & Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ He cried out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me & send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger into water so I can cool my tongue. I'm dying in these flames.

²⁵ Abraham said, "Son. You are reminded of the good in your life, while Lazarus had a tragic life. Now, here, he is comforted while you suffer. ²⁶ Besides, there is a great chasm set between us. Whoever is willing to cross over isn't able. No one over there can come to us.

²⁷ He said, "So, I beg you, Father, please send Lazarus to my father's house. ²⁸ I have five brothers. If they could see this, then they might not come to this place of torment."

²⁹ Abraham says, "They have Moses & the prophets. Hear them!"

³⁰ "No, Father Abraham, but they will repent if someone who was dead might come to them."

³¹ If they won't hear Moses & the prophets, then it won't matter if someone comes back from the dead!"

^A 16: 22 Greek word "κόλπος" is literally a "bosom, chest, bay, fold" and represents the space in one's tunic that could be used to swaddle a baby. It can also mean, in analogies, a bay or creek. This paints a mental picture of Greek mythology, where family or friends place a coin in the deceased's mouth to give to Charon, the boatman, for a ferry ride. Yet, being carried by angels implies that Lazarus paid no toll to be taken to the place where port where he could be brought near Father Abraham.

^B 16: 22 No angels carried him anywhere.

^C 16: 23 The Greek says "Hades," which Hebrews, Jews, and Greeks [among other cultures] believe to be a subterranean temporary dwelling before the eventual global level resurrection and final judgement. Catholics call this place Purgatory. See also "The Divine Comedy" by Danté Aligheri in the 1300s, among other literature.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Luke 17

Offenses & Forgiveness^A

¹ So, He told His disciples, "Traps will come, but woe to the one who brings them. ² It is better for him if a millstone is tied around his neck & thrown into the sea if he might harm one of these little ones. ³ Watch yourselves!^B If your brother sins & offends you, let him know. Forgive him if he repents. ⁴ If he might sin seven times a day, forgive him if he might ask forgiveness, saying, "I realize I've messed up,^C please forgive me."

⁵ The apostles told the Lord, "Expand our faith!"

⁶ The Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to these sycamore trees, Be plucked up at the root & planted in the lake, it will obey you!"

Do your job, man!

⁷ Which one of you, having a slave plowing or shepherding, who comes in from the field, would say to him, 'Go sit down, now!' ⁸ Or would you say, 'Who is going to set the table? Get yourself together & serve me until I eat & drink! Then, after, you can eat & drink?' ⁹ You have no grace for the slave because he did what he was told, right?

¹⁰ That said, as long as you do everything you are commanded, you call slaves useless, & we are always bound to work.^D

^A 17: 1-6 greatly resembles Matthew 18: 15-35.

^B 17: 2-3 sounds a lot like Matthew 19: 13-15.

^C 17: 4 This is a real apology, and not "I'm sorry I got caught."

^D 17: 10 Abraham was called God's friend. David was "a man after God's own heart" because of his sincere desire to be what God created him to be. Yeshu'a, the One speaking, is God's Son and the overall church is Christ's bride. See also John 15:15, where Yeshu'a says, "I no longer call you slaves, because a slave doesn't know what his master

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Yeshu'a > Leprosy

¹¹ He began to go to Jerusalem & He was going through Samaria & Galilee. ^A

¹² Entering one of the towns, He met 10 men with leprosy; they kept a distance. ¹³ & in unison, they say, "Lord Yeshu'a, have mercy on us!!"

¹⁴ Seeing this, He told them, "After you leave here, present yourselves to the high priests."

When they were leaving, they are cleansed ¹⁵ & one of them, seeing he is made well, returns with a great noise, praising the God. ¹⁶ & he fell with his face at His feet, giving Him thanks! ..& he was Samaritan.

¹⁷ Responding, Yeshu'a said, "Weren't 10 healed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ How are they not found turning back to give God glory except this stranger?"

¹⁹ He said [to the Samaritan man], "Stand up & go! Your faith has healed you."

The Kingdom is Within

²⁰ Some of the Pharisees were asking when God's Kingdom will come & He told them, "God's Kingdom won't be something you can see. ²¹ Neither will you say, 'Here it is!' or 'There it is!'

God's Kingdom is inside you!"

²² He told His disciples, "The days will come when you will long to see the Son of Man & you won't be able to spend time with Him. ²³

is about; but I have called you friends, because everything I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."

A

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

You'll tell each other, 'He's here.' 'He's there!' but you might neither go away nor pursue."²⁴ Just like the lightning flash shines here & there in the Heavens, that's how the Son of Man will be on that day.²⁵

First, though, He is bound to suffer & be rejected by this generation.

²⁶ Just like it was in Noach's day, it'll be in the Son of Man's days.²⁷

They are eating, drinking, marrying, & being married until Noach entered the ark, & the flood came & everyone perished.²⁸ Similarly, as

it happened in Lot's days. They were eating, drinking, buying, bartering, planting, & building.²⁹ In the days, Lot left Sodom, fire & sulfur rained from the Heavens & destroyed everything.³⁰ That's how it will be in

the day that the Son of Man is revealed.³¹ On that day, someone shall be on the housetop with his stuff in the house, do not go to get

it. Same thing to the person in the field, do not go back.³² Remember Lot's wife.³³ If anyone might seek to take care of his own soul shall

destroy it, but anyone who might destroy his soul shall preserve it.

³⁴ I tell you: this night, two shall be on one bed. One will be taken & the other one left.

³⁵ Two shall be grinding on the millstone. One will be taken & the other one left.^A

³⁷ They respond, "Where, Lord?"

He told them, "Where the bodies are, the birds of prey shall be gathered."^B

^A 17: 36 is missing from some manuscripts. The omitted text translates as, "Two will be in a field: One will be taken, and the other will be left."

^B 17: 37 Basically, He said, "Don't worry about it!"

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Luke 18

The Persistent Widow

¹ He told a parable to those anchored in prayer, who didn't get burnt out, ² saying, "There was a judge in a certain city who didn't fear God & didn't respect people. ³ There was a widow in that city who came to him, saying, 'Protect me from this bully.'

⁴ He didn't want to help, but after a while, he thought, 'If I don't fear God & I don't respect people, ⁵ but this old woman is worrying me to death!'"

⁶ The Lord said, "Listen to what that grimy judge says."

⁷ "Doesn't God absolutely avenge His elect & those who cry day & night, but not bear witness of them? ⁸ I tell you He avenges them quickly, but this is why the Son of Man came to find faith in the Earth?"

Pharisee vs. Tax Collector

⁹ He said this parable to those who have convinced themselves that they are righteous & exhausted.

¹⁰ Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee & the other was a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee was praying, having positioned himself here.^A "God, I thank You I am not like others, greedy, unjust, adulterers, or like this tax collector. ¹² I fast on the Shabbat. I tithe on everything I obtain. ¹³ On the other side of the room,^B the tax collector, not standing, didn't even want to lift his eyes to the Heavens. Instead, he beat his chest, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner.'

^A 8: 11 Yeshu'a was standing by, pointing when He was talking. This isn't the only time. It seems He was a demonstrative talker.

^B 8: 13 μακρόθεν is literally, "from far away," but I'm paraphrasing.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

¹⁴ I tell you: he came down to have given to his house, 'The one who exalts himself shall be lowered/humbled. Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled.'"

Child-like Purity

¹⁵ They were bringing the infants to Him that He might bless them. When His disciples saw it, they blocked them, ¹⁶ but Yeshu'a invited them closer.

"Let the little ones come to Me. Don't hold them back, for such is God's Kingdom. ¹⁷ Honestly, anyone who doesn't embrace God's kingdom as [sincerely as] a child, has no chance."

Rich Young Ruler

¹⁸ A local magistrate asks, "Good Teacher, what do I do to inherit eternal life?"

¹⁹ Yeshu'a said, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God!^A ²⁰ You have read the commandments:

Don't commit adultery.

Don't murder.

Don't steal.

Don't bring false testimony.^B

Honor your mom & dad."

²¹ The magistrate said, "I've done all this since I was a kid."

²² After He heard this, Yeshu'a said, "Still, you lack one thing: sell everything you have & give it to the poor. You'll have treasure in the Heavens. Come follow Me!"

^A 18: 19 In other words, " Stop brown-nosing!"

^B 18: 20 False accusation or lying in court can ruin someone's reputation and, ultimately, their livelihood.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

²³ After he heard these words, he was tragically sad because he was extremely wealthy.

Possessions

²⁴ Seeing this, Jesus told him, "It is so difficult for those with money to enter God's Kingdom! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter God's Kingdom."

²⁶ Those who heard said, "How can I be saved? ²⁷ He said, "Things that are impossible for humans are not impossible with God." ²⁸ Peter said, "We left all of our stuff & followed You."

²⁹ [Jesus] said, "F'real, there is no one who left their house, a wife, brother, parents, or children for God's Kingdom ³⁰ who won't receive 7x as much, coming into eternal life."

Yeshu'a Predicts His Death the 3rd Time

³¹ Bringing the 12 near, He told them, "Look! As we go up into Jerusalem, everything written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. ³² He will be given over to the Goyim & mocked, abused, & spat on. ³³ Scourged & slain, but get up on the third day." ³⁴ & not even one of them understood, because the utterance was hidden from them & no one knew what He was saying.

"Lord, I wanna see!"

³⁵ They passed by Jericho, a blind man was sitting beside the road. ³⁶ He heard the crowd passing by, he was asking, "Who is this?"^A.

³⁷ They let him know, "Jesus of Nazareth is coming."

^A 18: 36 How many crowds passed by this blind man?

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

³⁸ He cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

³⁹ The people near him try to silence him, but he went crazy, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰ Jesus stopped & said, "Bring him here to Me. I have a question:

⁴¹ "What do you want me to do for you?"

He said, "Lord, that I might see!"

⁴² Jesus said, "Look! Your faith has rescued you."^A

He saw immediately & followed, glorifying God, & everyone who saw it gave praise to God.

Luke 19

Zacchaeus was a clever little dude.

¹ He went into Jericho to pass on through.

² Check this out! A man called Zacchaeus was there. He was the chief tax collector & he was rich! ³ He was tryna see who Jesus is,^B but he couldn't because of the crowd. Not only that, he is a short man.

⁴ Running on ahead, he climbed in a sycamore tree so he could see Him as He passed through.

⁵ As He came to the place, Yeshu'a said, "Hurry on down! Let's go eat at your house."

⁶ He jumped down & gladly brought Yeshu'a to his house. ⁷ Everyone watching was mumbling & murmuring that Jesus is hanging out with a sinner. ⁸ Zacchaeus stood up and told the Lord, "Look! I'll give half my stuff to the poor and, for everyone I've cheated, I'll pay him back 4x!"

^A 18: 42 Saved, rescued, delivered you from your anxiety and rejection from being blind.

^B 19: 3 Apparently, His reputation preceded Him and Zaccheus wanted to see what the fuss was about.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

⁹ Yeshu'a told him, "Today, salvation is born in this house because you are a descendant of Father Abraham. ¹⁰ The Son of Man came to find and deliver that which was lost!"

"He already has IO!"

¹¹ To those close by listening, He told this parable to seem to them that God's Kingdom is to manifest very soon. ¹² So, He said, "A noble man is journeyed to a distant region to accept the royal authority and to return.^A ¹³ but IO slaves are called to him and gave each one of them IO minas^B and told them, "Trade until I return."

¹⁴ ...but his citizens were hating him, and they sent a message after him, "We don't want you to rule over us!"

¹⁵ In time, he returned, having been appointed as king, he summoned the slaves to whom money had been given so he could know what they might have gained in trading.

¹⁶ The first one comes up to the king, "Sir,^C I earned IO minas."

¹⁷ "Excellent, good slave! You were faithful with little, so here is jurisdiction in IO cities."

¹⁸ The second comes up, "Your mina, sir. I earned five more."

¹⁹ "Here are five cities for you."

^A 19: 12 He gave one menah to each of the IO slaves. Different cultures weighed it out in their own weights, but biblehub.com says it was about 13 ounces, but some websites say it was 20 ounces. The KJV calls it a pound, seemingly taking the average. This type of confusion led to many being cheated. Such shady business was the reason why Jesus flipped the money changers' tables after His triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

^B 19: 13 A menah is about three months' wages.

^C 19: 16 The Greek word, κύριος, could be used as "Lord, Master" when speaking of the Father or of Jesus or of a human in leadership of a company, family, or whatever. It could even be used for something as common as "Good morning, sir" to a stranger.

Luke and Acts

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²⁰ A different slave said, "Look! Here is your mina, wrapped up in soudarion.^A ²¹ I was afraid of you because you are ruthless! You collect where you haven't invested. You reap where you didn't sow!

²² "I'll judge you by your own words, worthless slave! I AM 'ruthless.' You already knew. 'I take where I didn't invest. I reap where I didn't sow.' Right? That's what you said, right? ²³ So, why didn't you put my money in the bank? At least, then you're coming back with interest.

²⁴ He told those standing nearby, 'Take the mina from him and give it to the man who has 10!'

²⁵ They said, 'Lord, he already has 10!'

²⁶ 'I tell you, Anyone who has [anything], more will be given to them. Anyone who doesn't have [more added to my mina], it will be taken.'

²⁷ Still, those who hate me, those who don't want me to be their king, end them.

The King Arrives

²⁸ As Yesu'a is saying all this, He's going up into Jerusalem.^B ²⁹ As He came near Beth-phage and Bethany, near Olive Hill, He sent two of His disciples. ³⁰ Go into town. You'll find a young colt that has been tied up. No one has ever sat on it. Untie it and bring it. ³¹ If anyone asks why you're untying it, tell them that the Master needs it.

³² Fgnhjm, ³³ Fgnhjm,

³⁴ Fgnhjm,

³⁵ Fgnhjm, ³⁶ Fgnhjm, ³⁷ Fgnhjm,

^A 19: 20 A soudarion is a handkerchief, napkin, serviette, or whatever you call it in your area.

^B 19: 28 Real life Jerusalem is literally set on hills, so it really cannot be hidden.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

³⁸ Makarios^A

³⁹ Rebuke your disciples!

⁴⁰ Rebuke your disciples!

⁴¹ Rebuke your disciples! ⁴² Rebuke your disciples! ⁴³ Rebuke your disciples! ⁴⁴ Rebuke your disciples!

Jesus vs. the Temple

⁴⁵ Rebuke your disciples! ⁴⁶ Rebuke your disciples! ⁴⁷ Rebuke your disciples! ⁴⁸ Rebuke your disciples!

Xzdcvgfbh

Fgnhjm,

Xzdcvgfbh

Fgnhjm,

Luke 20

Subheader I

Vdb

Xzdcvgfbh

Luke 21

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Vdb

Xzdcvgfbh

^A 19: 38 is a throwback to Psalm 118: 26 and a fulfillment of what Jesus said in Luke 13: 35.

Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Luke 22

Subheader I

Vdb

Xzdcvgfbh

Luke 23

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Luke 24

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Acts 13

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³⁴⁻⁴⁰ Therefore, you must take care that you are not approached that which has been spoken in the prophets:

⁴¹ Pay attention, you who think lightly of it, & marvel & be made invisible, because I am working on the deed in your days, the deed, which you absolutely shall not believe if someone told you in detail!

⁴²⁻⁴⁷ But

Acts 14

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Acts 15

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

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Luke and Acts

Luke the Physician writes to Theophilus the High Priest.

Acts 27

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