

THE STORY OF EASTER

THE FIRST COMMUNION--THE LORD'S SUPPER"

Matthew 26:17-20, 26-29

Mark 14:12-17, 22-26

Luke 22:7-20

"Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread, when they had killed the Passover lamb, the disciples came to Jesus saying to Him, 'Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?'

And, He sent out two of His disciples, Peter and John, and said to them, 'Go into the city and, behold, when you have entered the city a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him. Wherever he goes, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher/Master says to you, 'My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples. Where is the guestroom in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples? Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and prepared. There make ready for us.'

So, the disciples did just as Jesus had directed them and found it just as He had said to them and they prepared the Passover. When evening/the hour had come He came and sat down with the twelve apostles.

Then He said to them, 'With earnest desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I say to you I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.' And as they were eating Jesus took bread, gave thanks, blessed and broke it and gave it to the disciples and said, 'Take, eat, this is My body. Do this in remembrance of Me.'

Then He took the cup and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves. Drink from it all of you for this is My blood of the New covenant which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins. But assuredly I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's Kingdom/the Kingdom of God'

And, when they had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives

THE MOUNT OF OLIVES (THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE)

and

JUDAS' BETRAYAL

Matthew 26:14-16, 30-57

Mark 14:32-50, 53

Luke 22:1-6, 39-54

John 18:1-12

as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him over the Brook Cordon, where there was a garden which He and His disciples entered. And, Judas, who betrayed Him also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with His disciples.

[Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover, and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people. Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains how he might betray Him to them and they were glad and agreed to give him money. One of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?' and they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. So from that time he promised to seek for an opportunity to betray Him in the absence of the multitude.]

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But, after I have been raised I will go before you to Galilee.'

Peter answered and said to Him, 'Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.'

Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me, three times.'

Peter said to Him, 'Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!' And, so said *all* the disciples.

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemene and He said to His disciples 'Sit here while I go pray over there. Pray that you not enter into temptation,' and He took Peter, James, and John with Him and He began to be sorrowful, troubled, and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, 'My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.'

And, He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed. He went a little farther and fell on the ground on His face praying, 'O My Father, Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me. If it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Nevertheless, not as I will but as You will. Not My will, but Yours, be done.'

Then He came (back) to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, 'What? Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch, and pray lest you fall into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

Again, a second time He went away and spoke the same words and prayed, 'O My Father if this cup cannot pass from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.'

And, when He returned He came and found them asleep *again* for their eyes were heavy and they did not know how to answer Him. So He left them, went away again and prayed the *third* time, saying the same words.

Then an angel appeared to Him from Heaven, strengthening Him and being in agony, He prayed *more* earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow.

Then He said to them, 'Are you *still* sleeping and resting? Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation. It is enough! Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand.'

And, immediately while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Judas, having received a detachment of troops and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

Jesus, therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him went forward and said to them, 'Whom are you seeking?'

They answered Him, 'Jesus of Nazareth.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am He.'

And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now, when He said to them, 'I am He.', they drew back and fell to the ground.

Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?"

And they said, 'Jesus of Nazareth.'

Jesus answered, 'I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me let these go their way.', that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, 'Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none.'

Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him. Now His betrayer had given them a signal, saying 'Whomever I kiss, He is the One. Seize Him and lead Him away safely.'

As soon as he had come immediately he went up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi' and kissed Him.

But Jesus said to him, 'Friend, why have you come? Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?'

When those around Him saw what was going to happen they said to Him, 'Lord, shall we strike with the sword?'

And suddenly one of those who were with Jesus (namely, Peter) stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus answered and said, 'Permit even this. Put your sword in its place; for all who live by the sword will perish by the sword. Or, do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father and He will provide Me more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must happen thus? Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?' and He touched his ear and healed him. The servant's name was Malchus.

In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, the chief priests, captains of the temple and elders who had come to Him, 'Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you teaching in the temple and you did not seize Me but this is your hour and the power of darkness'. All this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might/must be fulfilled.'

Then they came and laid their hands on Jesus and took Him. Then, *all* the disciples forsook Him and fled.

JESUS' SECRET TRIAL

Matthew 26:59-68; 27:1-2

*Mark 14:55-65
Luke 22:54, 63-71
John 18:13-14, 19-24*

Then the detachment of troop and the captains and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. They led Him away to Annas first for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Those who laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. (Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.)

As soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together and led Him into their council. The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and about His doctrine.

Jesus answered him, 'I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet and in secret, I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed, they know what I said.'

And, when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, 'Do You answer the high priest like that?'

Jesus answered him, 'If I have spoken evil, bear witnesses of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?'

Now the chief priests, the elders, and the council sought false testimony against Jesus, to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward they found none; their testimonies did not agree.

But, at last two false witnesses came forward and said, 'We heard Him say, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days. I will destroy this temple made with hands and within three days I will build another made with no hands." But even then did their testimony agree.

And, the high priest arose up in the midst and said to Him, 'Do you answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?' but Jesus kept silent and answered nothing.

And the high priest answered, and said to Him, 'I put You under oath by the living God: Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God! If You are the Christ, tell us!'

Jesus said to him, 'I am. "It is as you say." But He (also) said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe Me and If I also ask you, you will by no means let Me go. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter, you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power/God and coming on the clouds of Heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, 'He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think? We have heard it ourselves from His Own mouth!'

They answered and said, 'He is deserving of death!' and they all condemned Him to death.

The men who held Jesus mocked Him and beat Him. They spat on Him in His face and beat Him. Some began to spit on Him and to blindfold Him and others, and the officers, struck Him with the palms of their hands, saying, 'Prophesy to us, Christ!'

Who is the one who struck You?' and many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him.

When the morning came, all the chief priests and elders of the people plotted against Jesus to put Him to death. And when they had bound Him. The whole multitude of them arose and led Him away and delivered Him to Pontius Pilate, the (Roman) governor.

PETER DENIES KNOWING JESUS

Matthew 26:58, 69-75

Mark 14:54, 66-72

Luke 22:54-63

John 18:15-18, 25-27

Having arrested (Jesus), they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house but Peter followed at a distance and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest but Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple who was known to the high priest went out and spoke to her who kept the door and brought Peter in, right into the high priest's courtyard, and he went in with one of the servants to see the end.

When they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them and warmed himself at the fire for it was cold.

Peter sat outside in the courtyard below and a certain servant girl of the high priest, the servant girl who kept the door, seeing him as he sat by the fire looked intently, came and said, 'This man was also with Him! 'You also were with Jesus of Galilee/Nazareth!' You are not one of this Man's disciples, are you?'

He said, I am not! He denied it, saying, 'I do not know what you are saying! Woman, I do not know Him! I neither know nor understand what you are saying!' and he went out on a porch and a rooster crowed.

And after a little while, when he had gone out to the gateway another girl saw him and said to those who were there, 'This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth! You also are of them! This is one of them!'

But *again* He denied, with an oath, 'I do not know the Man! I am not!'

Then, after about an hour had passed those who stood by came up and said to Peter, 'Surely you also are one of them for you are a Galilean and your speech betrays you.'

One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter had cut off, said, 'Did I not see you in the garden with Him?'

Peter denied *again*. Then he began to curse and swear, saying, 'I do *not* know the Man of Whom you speak!'

A second time the rooster crowed. Immediately while he was still speaking a rooster crowed, and *the Lord turned and looked at Peter*.

Then Peter remembered the word of Jesus, Who had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.' and when he thought about it he wept. So he went out and wept bitterly."

JUDAS' REMORSE AND SUICIDE

Matthew 27:3-10

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders saying, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.'

And they said, 'What is that to us?'

Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and went and hanged himself.

But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury because they are the price of blood.'

And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field as the Lord directed me.'

BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE (the Roman governor) THE FIRST TIME

Matthew 27:11-14

Mark 15:1-5

Luke 23:1-7

John 18:28-38

Immediately in the morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders, and scribes and the whole council, and they bound Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate. Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium lest they should be defiled but that they might eat at the Passover.

Pilate went out to them and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this Man?'

They answered and said to him, 'If He were not an evildoer we would not have delivered Him up to you,' and they began to accuse Him, saying, 'We found this fellow perverting the nation and forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, saying that He Himself is a Christ, a King!'

And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders He answered nothing.

Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, 'Do You answer nothing? See how many things they testify against You! Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?'

But Jesus still answered nothing, not one word so that Pilate marveled greatly.

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus and said to Him, 'Are You the King of the Jews?'

Now Jesus stood before the governor and He answered him, saying, 'It is as you say. Are you speaking for yourself about this or did others tell you this concerning Me?'

Pilate answered, 'Am I a Jew? Your Own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You *done*?'

Jesus answered, 'My Kingdom is not of *this* world. If My Kingdom *were* of this world My servants would fight so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but *now* My Kingdom is *not* from here.'

Pilate therefore said to Him, 'Are You a king then?'

Jesus answered, 'You say rightly that I am a King. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the Truth. Everyone who is of the Truth hears My voice.'

Pilate said to Him, 'What is Truth?' and when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, the chief priests, and the crowd and said to them, 'I find no fault in this Man. I find no fault in Him *at all*.'

But they were more fierce, saying, 'He stirs up the people teaching throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee to this place.'

When Pilate heard of Galilee he asked if the Man were a Galilean and as soon as he knew that He belonged to Herod's jurisdiction he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

Then Pilate said to them, 'You take Him and judge Him according to *your* Law.'

Therefore, the Jews said to him, 'It is not lawful for *us* to put anyone to death.' That the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled signifying by what death He would die.

CONFRONTED BY KING HEROD OF ISRAEL

Luke 23:8-12

Now when Herod saw Jesus he was exceedingly glad for he had desired for a long time to see Him because he had heard many things about Him and he hoped to see some miracle done by Him. Then he questioned Him with many words but (Jesus) answered nothing and the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused Him.

Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe and sent Him back to Pilate. That very day Pilate and Herod became friends with each other for previously they had been at enmity with each other.

HEROD SENDS JESUS BACK TO PILATE

Matthew 27:15-31

Mark 15:6-20

Luke 23:13-25

John 18:39--40:1-16

Now, at the Feast, the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. Then the multitude crying out began to ask him to do just as he had *always* done for them and at that time had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels. They had committed murder in the rebellion.

Then Pilate, after he had called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release? Barabbas or Jesus Who is called Christ? Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?'

Then they all cried again, 'Not this Man, but Barabbas!' Now, Barabbas was a (also a) robber.

Then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him and they stripped Him and put a purple robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns they put it on His head and a reed in His right hand, and they bowed the knee before

Him, began to salute Him, and mocked Him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' Then they spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him with their hands in the head.

Pilate then went out again and said to them, 'Behold! I am bringing Him out to you that you may know that *I find no fault in Him.*'

Then Jesus went out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, and Pilate said to them, 'Behold the Man! You have brought this Man to me as One Who misleads the people and, indeed, having examined Him in your presence I have found no fault in this Man concerning those things of which you accuse Him. No, neither did Herod, for I sent you back to him. And, indeed, nothing deserving of death has been done by Him. I will, therefore, chastise and release Him.' (For, it was necessary for him to release one of them at the Feast (and Pilate) knew they had handed Him over because of envy.)

The governor answered and said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release to you?'

They said, 'Barabbas!'

Pilate said to them, 'What then shall I do with Jesus Who is called Christ?'

They all said to him, 'Let *Him* be crucified!'

Pilate answered and said to them *again*, 'What then do you want me to do with Him Whom you call King of the Jews?'

So they cried out again, 'Crucify Him!'

Therefore when the chief priests and officers saw Him they (likewise) cried out, 'Crucify Him, crucify Him!'

Pilate said to them, 'You take Him and crucify Him, for *I find no fault in Him.*'

The Jews answered him, 'We have a Law, and according to our Law He ought to die because He made Himself the Son of God!'

Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was even *more* afraid, and went into the Praetorium (taking Jesus once more) and said to (Him), 'Where are You *from?*' but Jesus gave him no answer.

Then, Pilate said to Him, 'Are You not speaking to *me*? Do You not know that *I* have power to crucify You, as well as power to release You?'

Jesus answered, 'You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore, the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.'

From then on Pilate sought to release Him but the Jews cried out, saying, 'If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend! Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar!'

When Pilate heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat, in a place that is called the Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabatha. Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour and he said to the Jews, 'Behold your King!'

But they cried out, 'Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!'

Pilate said to them, 'Shall I crucify your *king?*'

The chief priests answered, 'We have no king but Caesar!'

While (Pilate) was sitting on the judgment seat his wife sent to him, saying, 'Have nothing to do with that just Man for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.'

But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask

for Barabbas and destroy Jesus and they all cried out at once, saying, 'Away with this Man, and release to us Barabbas who has been thrown into prison for a certain rebellion made in the city, and for murder.'

Pilate, therefore, wishing to release Jesus, *again* called out to them but they shouted, saying, 'Crucify Him! Crucify Him!'

Then he said to them the *third* time. 'Why? What *evil* has He done? I have found no reason for *death* in Him! I will, therefore, chastise Him, and let Him go! But they cried out all the more, saying, 'Let Him be crucified!'

They were insistent, demanding with loud voices that He be crucified and the voices of these men and the chief priests prevailed.

When Pilate saw that *he* could not prevail at all but rather that the tumult was *rising*, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, 'I am *innocent* of the blood of this just Person! You see to it!'

And, all the people answered and said, 'His blood be on *us* and our *children*!'

So Pilate, wanting to gratify the *crowd* gave sentence that it should be as *they* requested and released the man that *they* requested, who for rebellion and murder had been thrown into prison. But he delivered Jesus to *their* will. He delivered Him to be crucified. He released Barabbas to them and he scourged Jesus,

When they had mocked Him they took the robe off Him and put His Own clothes on Him. So then they took Jesus and led Him away to be crucified.

JESUS' CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH

Matthew 27:32-50

Mark 15:21-37

Luke 23:26-46

John 19:17-30, 35

Now as they came out and led Him away and He bearing His cross. (Then) they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, on him they laid the cross that he might bear it for Jesus.

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

Now it was the third hour when they crucified Him.

The soldiers also mocked Him coming and offering Him sour wine and saying, 'If You *are* the King of the Jews, save Yourself!'

They gave Him sour wine mixed with gall to drink but when He had tasted it He would not drink. Sitting down they kept watch over Him there.

There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death when they had come to a place called Golgotha/Calvary, that is to say, Place of a Skull. Then, (the) two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right, and another on the left and Jesus in the center so the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'And He was numbered

with the transgressors.'

Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.'

And they put up a sign, the accusation written against Him above. Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross in letters of *Greek, Latin, and Hebrew*:

THIS IS JESUS

THE KING OF THE JEWS

Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. Therefore, the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, 'Do not write, 'The King of the Jews, but He *said*, 'I am the King of the Jews.'

Pilate answered, 'What I have written, I have written.'

The soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts to each soldier a part and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top, in one piece. They said, therefore, among themselves, 'Let us not tear it; but cast lots for it, whose it shall be.' that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says, 'They divided My garments among them and for My clothing they cast lots.' Therefore, the soldiers did these things and the people stood looking on.

And, those who passed by blasphemed Him wagging their heads and saying, 'Aha! You Who destroy the temple and build in three days save *Yourself*! If You are the Son of God come down from the cross!'

Even the rulers with them sneered, 'He saved *others*; let Him save *Himself* if He is the Christ, the Chosen of God!'

Likewise, the chief priests also mocking among themselves with the scribes and elders, said, 'He saved *others*. *Himself* He cannot save! If He is the King of Israel let Him now come down from the cross that we may see and we will believe Him. (John 20:24-29) He trusted in God, let Him deliver Him *now* if He will have Him, for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'

Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing. One of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, 'If You are the Christ save *yourself*, and us!'

But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not even fear God, seeing that you are under the same condemnation? And we indeed justly for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong!'

Then he said to Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom!' and Jesus said to him, 'Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.'

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His Mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus therefore saw His mother and the disciple Whom He loved (John) standing by He said to His mother, 'Woman, behold your son!'

Then He said to the disciple, 'Behold your mother!' and from that hour that disciple took her to his own home.

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were accomplished, that the Scriptures might be fulfilled said, 'I thirst.'

From the sixth hour to the ninth hour there was darkness, over all the land and about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli! Eli! Lama sabachthani?' which is translated, 'My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?'

Some of those who stood there, when they heard that, said, 'This Man is calling

for *Elijah*!

Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop/a reed and put it to His mouth.

The rest said, 'Let Him alone! Let us see if *Elijah* will come to save Him.'

So when Jesus had *accepted* the sour wine He said, 'It is finished!' and when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice He said, 'Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit.'

Having said this, bowing His head He breathed His last and gave up His spirit.

WHAT TOOK PLACE AFTER JESUS DIED WHILE HE WAS STILL ON THE CROSS

Matthew 27:51-54

Mark 15:38-39

Luke 23:47

Then the veil of the temple was torn in two, *from top to bottom*, and the earth quaked and the rocks were split, and the graves of many were opened and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. And, coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and *appeared to many*.

So when the (Roman) centurion and those with him who stood opposite, guarding Jesus, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last (and) saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, 'Truly this was the Son of God.'

When the centurion saw what had happened, he said, 'Certainly this was a righteous Man!'

JESUS' RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN

MATTHEW 27:62-28:20

MARK 16:1-19

LUKE 24:1-53

JOHN 20:1-21:24

On the next day which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate saying, 'Sir, we remember while He was still alive how that deceiver said, 'After three days, I will rise.' Therefore, command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the *last* deception will be *worse* than the *first*.'

Pilate said to them, 'You have a guard. Go your way, make it as secure as you know how.' So they went and made the tomb secure sealing the stone and setting the guard.

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, behold, there was a great earthquake for an angel of the Lord descended from Heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning and his clothing as white as snow, and the guards shook with fear of him and became like dead men.

Now on the first day of the week very early in the morning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and Salome brought spices (and) came to see the tomb while it was still dark that they might anoint Him. And they

said among themselves, 'Who will roll the stone away from the door of the tomb for us?', for it was very large

But when they looked up they saw that the stone had (already) been rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of Jesus. And it happened as they were greatly perplexed by this, that behold, two men stood by them, in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth.

But the angel answered and said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; for, I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. *He is not here, for He is risen as He said.* Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and the third day will rise again.' Come and see the place where the Lord lay'.

And entering the tomb they saw a young man, clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, 'You seek Jesus of Nazareth Who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him and, go quickly and *tell His disciples, and Peter*, that He is risen from the dead and indeed He is going before you into Galilee. *There you will see Him as He told you. Behold, I have told you.*'

So they went out quickly with fear and great joy and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed and ran to bring the disciples word. And they said nothing to anyone (else), for they were afraid.

And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, 'Rejoice!' so they came and held Him by the feet and worshipped Him.

Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee and there they will see me.'

[Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they assembled with the elders and consulted together they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers saying, 'Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept and if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure.' So, they took the money and did as they were instructed, and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.]

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her. She went and told those who had been with Him as they mourned and wept and when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe and their words seemed to them like idle tales. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved and said to them, 'They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid Him.'

Peter, therefore, went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And (John), stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there. Yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also and he saw and believed for as yet, they did not know the Scripture that He must rise again from the dead.

Then the disciples went away again to their own homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb weeping and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet where the body of Jesus had lain.

Then they said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?'

She said to them, 'Because they have taken away my Lord and I do not know where they have laid Him.'

Now when she had said this she turned around and saw Jesus standing there and did not know that it was Jesus. [Now when He rose, early on the first day of the week, He appeared *first* to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons,]

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?"

She, supposing Him to be the gardener said to Him, 'Sir, if You have carried Him away tell me where You have laid Him and I will take Him away.'

Jesus said to her, 'Mary!'

She turned and said, to Him, 'Rabboni!' (which is to say, Teacher).

Jesus said to her, 'Do not cling to Me for I have not *yet* ascended to My Father, but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'

After that, He appeared in another form to *two* of them as they walked and went into the country, traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus which was seven miles from Jerusalem and they talked together of all these things which had happened. So it was while they conversed and reasoned that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them but their eyes were restrained so that they did not *know* Him.

And He said to them, 'What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?'

The one whose name was Cleopas said, to Him, 'Are you the *only* stranger in Jerusalem and have you not known the things which *happened* here in these days?'

And He said to them, 'What things?'

So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth Who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. But we were hoping that it was *He* Who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things all happened. Yes, and certain women of our company who arrived at the tomb early astonished us. When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but Him they did not see.'

Then He said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought *not* the Christ have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?' And, beginning at Moses and all the prophets He explained to them in *all* the Scripture the things concerning *Himself*.

Then, they drew near to the village where they were going and He indicated that He would go farther, but they constrained Him saying, 'Abide with us for it is toward evening and the day is far spent,' and He went in to stay with them.

Now it came to pass as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. *Then* their eyes were opened and they

recognized Him and He vanished from their sight.

And they said to one another, 'Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road and while He was opening the Scriptures to us?' So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' and they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of the bread. And they went and told it to the rest, but *they* did not believe them either.

Now as they said these things, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them and said to them, 'Peace be to you.'

But, they were *terrified* and frightened and supposed they had seen a ghost. (*Matthew 14:26-27*) He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He was risen. And He said to them, 'Why are you *troubled* and, why do *doubts* rise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see that a ghost does not have *flesh and bones* as you see I have.' When He said this He showed them His hands and His feet and His side.

But while they *still* did not believe for joy and marveled, He said to them, 'Have you any food here?'

So they gave Him a piece of broiled fish and some honeycomb, and He took it and ate it in their presence. Then the disciples were *glad* when they saw the Lord.

So Jesus said to them again, 'Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.' And, when He had said this He *breathed* on them. (*Genesis 2:7*) 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Then He said to them. 'These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses, and the prophets, and the Psalms concerning Me.' and He opened their understanding that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day, and, that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His Name to all nations, beginning with Jerusalem, and you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on High.' (*John 14:16-17 and 15:26, Acts 2:1-4*)

Now, Thomas, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore, said to him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

So he said to them, 'Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger in the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, *I will not believe*.'

And, after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them, Jesus came, the doors being shut (again) and stood in the midst and said, 'Peace to you!'

Then He said to Thomas, 'Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and, reach your hand here and put it into My side. Do *not* be unbelieving, but believing.'

And Thomas said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him, '*Thomas because you have seen Me you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen Me and believed.*'

After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias and in this way He showed Himself. Simon Peter, Thomas called Didymus, Nathaniel of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee (James and John), and two others of His disciples were together.

Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.'

They said to him, 'We are going with you also.'

They went out and immediately got into the boat and that night they caught nothing. But, when the morning had now come Jesus stood on the shore, yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

Then Jesus said to them, 'Children, have you any food?'

They answered Him, 'No,' and He said to them, 'Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.'

So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

Therefore, that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!'

Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it) and plunged into the sea but the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with them. Then as soon as they had come to land they saw a fire of coals there and fish (already) laid on it.

Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.'

Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land full of large fish, one hundred and fifty three, and although there were so many the net was not broken.

Jesus said to them, 'Come and eat breakfast,' yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, 'Who are You?'--knowing that it was the Lord.

Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. This is now the *third* time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

So, when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?'

He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord. You know that I love You.'

He said to him, '*Feed My lambs.*'

He said to him again a *second* time, 'Simon son of Jonah, do you love Me?'

He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.'

He said to him, '*Tend My sheep.*'

He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?'

Peter was *grieved* because He said to him the *third* time; 'Do you love Me?' and he said to Him, 'Yes, Lord. You know *all* things; You know that I love You!'

Jesus said to him, '*Feed My sheep.* Most assuredly I say to you, when you were younger you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but, when you are old you will stretch out your hands and another will gird you, and carry you where you do not wish.' This He spoke signifying by what death (Peter) would glorify God.

Then, Peter turning around saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, [who also had leaned on His breast at the supper and said, 'Lord, who is the one who betrays

You?'] said to Jesus, 'Lord, but what about *this* man?'

Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to *you*? You follow *Me*." (*I Corinthians 10:12*)

Then, this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die, but, 'If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to *you*? This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And, there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the *world* could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them. When they saw Him they worshipped Him; but some doubted.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to *Me*, in Heaven and on earth. (*Matthew 18:18-20*) Go, therefore, into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe *all* things that I have commanded you. (*John 15:14*) He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. (*Romans 10:9-13*) And, *these* signs will follow those who believe: in My Name they will cast out demons; they will speak with a new tongue, they will take up serpents; and, if they drink anything deadly it will, by no means, hurt them. They will lay hands on the sick and they will recover. And, Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.'

And (Jesus) led them out as far as Bethany and He lifted His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass while He blessed them that He was parted with them and carried into Heaven. So then, after the Lord had spoken to them He was received up into Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

And they worshipped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the Word through accompanying signs."