

And he answered them that he was not Christ, nor Elijah, nor a prophet.

And they beseeched him that he should give some answer to them which they might convey to those who had sent them.

And to all of them he said that it was he of whom Isaiah the prophet spake who would come before Christ to make ready the way.

And the folk who were hearing him were in expectation, meditating in themselves and reasoned in their hearts concerning John, whether haply he were the Christ; and saying:

"Can then he be the Messiah?"

And they asked him why he baptized the folk if he were neither Christ, nor Elijah, nor a prophet.

And they were sending and saying to him:

"Why therefore dost thou baptize,

if thou art not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"

And John answered them, he saith to them:

"I indeed wash you with the waters of repentance but there standeth another on earth among you

whom ye know not, he who is without peer,

& who is greater and more worthy than I am,

who shall baptize you in the Holy Ghost.

He that cometh after me is stronger than I, the thongs of whose shoes

I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose;

he shall baptize you with the fire of the Holy Spirit, and with fire,

who holdeth a fan in his hand and cleanseth his threshing-floor, and gathereth the wheat into his barns for storage, and the chaff he burneth with fire unquenchable.

He shall judge all men just as he finds them, and he shall mete out to them that which they deserve."

Many other things also John the Baptist preached to the people; and this was in Bethania across the Jordan where he baptized the people at that time.

And in that time came Jesus from Nazareth to the river Jordan so as to be baptized by John the Baptist.

But John, declining, said that it would better befall him to be baptized of him, than Jesus of him.

"I am fit that thou shouldst baptize me, and thou unto me hast come?"

And Jesus answered & bade him do it, for it was proper to have it done so for the sake of giving to others a worthy ex-

ample in all manner of things & namely in lowliness.

Jesus saith to him:

"Allow it at present,
for thus it becomes us
to fulfill all righteousness."

And then John agreed to it and baptized Jesus.

And when he was baptized, he went out of the water and was in prayer for them who would receive baptism in his name, so came the brightness of heaven & John the Baptist saw the Holy Ghost in the semblance of a dove come upon him, & alighted within him.

It happened that when the Lord came up out of the water, the whole fountain of the Holy Ghost descended upon him, and rested on him.

And the voice came from heaven of God his father & said to him:

"Thou art my dear son, in whom I am well pleased.
In all the prophets I awaited you,
that you might come
and that I might rest in you."

And immediately a great light shone on the place.

When John saw it, he said to Jesus:

"Who are you, Lord?"

And again a voice from heaven came to him:

"This is my beloved Son on whom my pleasure rests."

Then John the Baptist gave his testimony, and said:

"I saw the spirit of God come from heaven
in the semblance of a dove, and remain upon him,
that is the one who shall baptize in the Holy Ghost,
and I saw him and bare record
that he is the Son of God."

And Jesus then entered into his thirtieth year of age, & as yet thought men that he had been Joseph's son.

§ 8. Of the fasting of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As soon as Jesus had given witness at his baptism, so the Holy Spirit led him, that he went away from the folk into the desert [i.e., the wilderness] to be tempted of the devil.

And when he had been with the wild savage beasts in fasting forty days & forty nights, then began he to have hunger.

And then came the devil to him & said:

"If thou art God's son,
then make bread of the stones
through thine own word."

And Jesus answered him that not by the bread of bodily substance, but God through his commandments may wholly sustain man & said:

"It is written

'Not by bread alone liveth man,
but by every utterance

that goeth forth from the mouth of Jehovah."

After that the fiend took him & led him to a high mountain, and showed him woods & fields & towns and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory & all the fair things of this world, & promised him that he would give him all that if he would fall down and honor him and said to him

"These all I will give to thee

if so be that thou wilt fall down
and worship before me."

Then Jesus said to him:

"Get thee behind me Satan;
for it is written

'The LORD [Jehovah] thy God thou shalt worship,
and him alone shalt thou serve."

Then the fiend took him & brought him to Jerusalem, to the Holy Hill, & there set him upon a pillar on high in the Temple, & said to him:

"If thou be the son of God,
cast thyself down from hence."

For God himself had promised by David the prophet that his angel should bear him up over all, that he not be hurt and said to him:

"For it is written:

'To his angels he shall command concerning thee,

that on their hands and arms

they should bear thee up,

that thou shouldst never dash

with thy foot against a stone."

Again Jesus answered and said to him:

"It is written

'Thou shalt not tempt the LORD [Jehovah] and thy God.'

God prevent it that man should tempt him

by asking for help to be saved,

but not help himself."

And when Satan the Accuser finished his temptations he departed from him for a time, and lo, angels drew near and were serving Jesus.

§ 9. Of the first disciples that Jesus had with him.

Having been thus in the desert [i.e., the wilderness], Jesus came again to John the Baptist, & John as soon as he saw him said:

"Lo, here is God's lamb,
who taketh away the sin of the world.

This is he of whom I spake,
that a man would come after me
who was before me.

And for the purpose of witnessing to him,
so came I to baptize him,
as the folk & I saw the Holy Ghost alight within him
in the likeness of a white dove;
& that was a token for to know Christ.

And to me he gave the Holy Ghost
when he sent me to baptize.
& therefore I say that this is God's son."

Another time when John & two of his disciples were standing together & saw where Jesus went, & he said:

"Lo there goes God's lamb!"

And the disciples went to Jesus and asked him where it was

that he was going. And Jesus himself turned round, and saw them coming after him and saith to them:

"What seek ye?"

They say to him:

"Rabban [teacher], where art thou staying?"

He saith to them :

"Come and ye shall see."

& Jesus led them to his abode & harbored them that night; for it was passed the third hour of the afternoon.

One of those two was Andrew, Simon's brother.

And he went & sought Simon, his brother, & told him that he had found Christ, & brought him to Jesus.

"We have found the Messiah."

And Jesus looked on him and said to him:

"Thou Simon son of Jona,
thou shalt be called Kepha";

which is interpreted in Greek 'Petros' [stone].

And on the morrow Jesus wished to go forth to Galilee and called Philip, who was their cousin from Beth Saïda, from the city of Andrew and of Simon. And our Lord said to him:

"Come after me."

& after which Philip found Nathaniel & told him

"We have found him

of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets did write,

Jesus of Nazareth, son of Joseph."

Nathaniel saith to him:

"From Nazareth can aught of good come forth?"

Philip saith to him:

"Come and thou shalt see."

& led him to Jesus.

& when Jesus saw him he said:

"Thou art a righteous Jew in whom there is no treachery."

And then spake Nathaniel & asked Jesus how that he knew him.

"Whereby knowest thou me?"

& Jesus said how that he had seen him under a fig tree before that Philip had called him.

And then said Nathaniel:

"Master, thou art God's son, & thou art king of Israel."

And Jesus answered him and said:

"Believest thou because I saw thee under a fig tree?

For thou shalt see greater things than this,

for the heavens shall undo [i.e., open]

& God's angels ascending and alighting upon me."

§ 10. How Jesus made wine of water.

On the third day came Jesus into Galilee, & was led unto a feast with his disciples where his mother was.

And it so befell that the wine had failed.

And his mother said to him

"They have no wine."

And Jesus said,

"mine hour is not yet come."

& then said his mother to the servants:

"Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

Now there were six jars that the good man & from which all the men did wash [in rites of purification], each of them measuring three gallons.

And Jesus told them take them up and bring them forth to him.

"Fill the waterpots with water."

And he saith unto them,

"Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast."

And they bare it.

When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) and as soon as the good man had drunk thereof, he called the butler to him and said:

"Every wise man first setteth forth the best wine

& when the men be drunken from that

then they set forth that which is less worthy.

& thou hast kept back the best wine until now."

This was the first miracle which Jesus had performed in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory. & for that his disciples believed in him.

§ 11. What Jesus did when first he showed himself.

After that Jesus went with his mother & with his disciples into Capernaum & dwelled there awhile.

And also soon, to attend the feast of Passover, he went him up to Jerusalem, & came within the Temple and found there

men selling oxen & sheep & pigeon for the offering, & he saw sitting there money-changers for to make change.

And Jesus made scourges of small cords & drove them out of there with their beasts, the sheep and the oxen, & poured out the changer's money & threw over their tables.

As for those who sold the pigeons, he told them go away, and that they make his Father's house no more an house of merchandise.

"Take away these things from hence,

and do not make the House of my Father

a house of merchandise."

And his disciples recollected that it was written that the zeal he had for this house would Christ's flesh consume.

"The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up."

And the Jews saw how they responded to him, and then asked him what token he could show them & where had he learned that he had the power [i.e., the authority] to act as he did. The Jews say to him:

"What is this sign that thou showest us,

that thou doest these things?"

And Jesus answered them and said to them that if they destroyed the Temple he would make it again on the third day:

"Pull down the Temple

and in three days I will raise it up."

And the Jews answered him again & said:

"In forty and six years was this Temple built,
and dost thou in three days build it?"

But they understood him as referring to the Temple made of
stone, whereas he spoke with regard to the Temple of his own
body.

But when he arose from among the dead his disciples re-
membered that these things he had said, and they believed the
Scriptures and the word that our Lord said.

And as he was there in Jerusalem at the feast of Passover, in
the days of unleavened bread, many believed on him for the
sake of the marvelous deeds which he did, because they were
seeing the signs that he did.

But he placed not his trust in them, for he well knew their
hearts and their thoughts.

§. *Nicodemus.*

Now there was a prince of the Jews, a Pharisee, a man by the
name of Nicodemus. & he came by night to Jesus & said to
him that he well knew that he had come from God, for no man
could do the miracles which he did if God were not with him.

"Rabbi, we know that from God

thou hast been sent to us as a teacher,

because no one can do these miracles

save he that God is with."

And Jesus said unto him that he must believe more than this,
for no man will gain entry to heaven's bliss except by baptism
in water and except through the Holy Ghost by being born
another time.

"Amen, amen, I say to thee

'if one be not born anew,

one cannot see the kingdom of God."

Nicodemus saith to him:

"How can an aged man be born?"

Can he really again enter the womb of his mother
and anew be born?"

Our Lord saith to him:

"Amen, amen [in truth, in very truth],

I say to thee

If one is not born from spirit and water

one cannot enter the kingdom of God.

That which is born from flesh is flesh,

because from flesh it is born;

and that which is born from spirit is spirit,
because God is a spirit,
and from God it hath been born.

And marvel not that I said to thee
that it behooves you to be born from above.

The wind - where it will it bloweth,
and its voice it is only thou hearest,
but not from whence it hath come dost thou know,
nor whither it goeth; so is every man that is born
from water and from spirit."

Nicodemus answered and said to him:

"How can this be?"

Jesus answered and said to him:

"Art thou the teacher of Israel,
and these things knowest thou not?

Amen, amen, I say to thee that
that which we know we are speaking,
and that which we see we bear witness of,
and our witness ye receive not.

If of the things which are on earth

I have said to you and ye believe not,

how if of the things which are in heaven
I shall say to you will ye believe me?

No one hath gone up to heaven
save he that came down from heaven,
the Son of Man that was in heaven.

And as Moses raised up an adder
in the wilderness for to save the folk,
so must it be that he is raised on a cross,
that all who believe would be saved.

For God so loved the world

he sent forth his son into the world
that all who believe in him would have life without end.

The reason why God sent his son into the world
was not to condemn it,

but he sent him forth in order to save it
that whoso believed in him would never be condemned.

And whoso believed not in him shall be condemned soon enough,
inasmuch as he believed not in God's son.

And this is the cause for judgment,
that God sent him as light into the world

& the folk loved darkness more than light,

for their deeds were wicked.

& whoso doeth evil favoereth darkness rather than light,
neither cometh to the light,
lest his deeds should be reproved.

And whoso doth well, he cometh boldly unto the light,
that his deeds may be made manifest,
that they are wrought in God.
& whoso doth so, it seemeth well that such be with God.

§ 12. How John bade Jesus Christ come again.

After that Jesus came into Judea with his disciples & baptized the folk there. & John in another part also baptized the folk in Ain [Aenon] by the side of Salem, because much water there was there, and folk were coming to him and being baptized; for not yet had John fallen into prison.

Now there had been a dispute among the disciples of John with the Jews about cleansing [purification].

And then came the Jews to John's disciples & said that Jesus' baptism was better than was theirs. And they [John's disciples] came to John & told him that he whom he baptized in the river Jordan baptized in Judea, and all the folk were leaving their baptizing and went to his:

"Rabban, he that was with thee on the other side of the Jordan

and thou didst bear witness of him,
lo, he also baptizeth, and all the folk unto him are coming!"

And John answered them & said that they knew well what he had told them beforehand often enough, that he was not the Christ but he was sent before him:

"A man can receive nothing,
except it be given him from heaven.

But ye, bear witness to me
that I said that I am not the Messiah,
but that I am a messenger sent before him."

& John said that Jesus was as the spouse [i.e., bridegroom] & he came as his friend [i.e., best man], & that he had great joy that Jesus was more exalted than he.

"For he that hath the bride, he is the bridegroom;
and the friend of the bridegroom,
he that standeth and listeneth to him
and with great joy rejoiceth
because of the voice of the bridegroom —
therefore is my joy complete."

For it was fitting that Jesus must wax & that he wane. For as much as what there is between heaven and earth, so much was the difference between them.

"It is befitting for him to increase and me to diminish.

For he that cometh from above is above all,

and he that is from the earth is from the earth

and from the earth he speaketh;

and he that from heaven cometh —

that which he seeth and heareth

he beareth witness of,

and his witness not every man receiveth."

For God his father had given him the Holy Ghost without measure, & all things he had in his power.

"Not by measure did the Father give the Spirit to his Son, but he loveth him, and hath given all things into his hand."

And therefore whoso believed in him he should have life without end. And whoso believed not in him he should not see the bliss that lasts for ever, but God would evermore be wroth with him without end.

§ 13. How Jesus left Judea & went into Galilee.

Afterward John the Baptist came & reproved Herod, the king, of all his wicked deeds which he had done, & namely that he had left his brother, Philip, bereft of his wife & had himself espoused her.

And Herod had him named in an indictment & had him bound & cast him into prison.

And all who were of his court were much opposed to John the Baptist, & had slain him in haste but they much dreaded [i.e., feared] the folk.

And especially Herod's wife was ever waiting for the opportunity to slay him, but she could not approach him inasmuch as Herod kept him always, for that he dreaded him much — for he knew well that he was a good, holy man & forsooth [of a truth] a prophet.

And as soon as Jesus heard that John had been delivered up, imprisoned, & that the Pharisees were grumbling that he was baptizing so many folk, (though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,) then Jesus withdrew from Judea & returned in the power of the spirit to Galilee, and his fame went forth in all that country round about; and he was teaching them in their synagogues, and was glorified of everyone.

From then Jesus began to preach and to say:

"The time is fulfilled,

and the kingdom of heaven, the reign of God, is at hand: repent ye,

and believe the gospel."

Now it behooved him to pass through a manner of folk who were called Samaritans, who were half Jewish, & another half pagan: so that he came beside a city called Sychar [Shechem], near the field which Jacob had given to Joseph his son. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus came and sat besides that well, so that he might rest himself from the fatigue of the road. & his disciples were gone into town so as to buy their food - for it was nigh upon midday - so came there a woman of the Samaritans for to fetch water, & Jesus besought her that she would give him a drink.

Jesus saith to her:

"Give me water to drink."

& she answered him & said, how might she give him a drink, allowing that he was a Jew and she a Samaritan? - for the Jews neither ate nor drank with them.

"Lo, thou art a Jew;

how askest thou me for water to drink,

seeing that I am a Samaritan?"

And Jesus answered her and said

"If thou hadst known the gift of God,

and who is this that said to thee

'Give me to drink,'

thou hadst asked him

and he would have given thee living water."

And she asked:

"Canst thou be greater than our father Jacob,

he that gave us this well,

and he also drank of it, and his sons and his flock?"

My Lord, not even a bucket hast thou and the well is deep;

whence hast thou living water?"

And Jesus answered her and said:

"Every one that shall drink of this water will thirst again,

and every one that shall drink of the water

which I will give him will not thirst again for ever,

but that water which I will give him

will be in him a spring of water to life eternal."

And the woman answered him with scorn & said:

"Sir, give me of that water, that I be not thirsty

and come drawing from hence."

Then Jesus told her:

"Go, call to me thy husband and come hither."

& she said that she had no husband & Jesus answered her and

said

"Well saidst thou 'I have no husband,'
for five husbands hast thou had,
and this one that thou hast now is not thy husband;
this thou hast said true."

And quickly she changed the subject & said:
"My Lord, I well see that thou art a prophet.

Now tell me whether it is better for to worship here,
over upon mount Gerizim, as our ancestors did,
or over in Jerusalem?"

And Jesus said to her that the time was coming when man
would need give no further regard either to the one or to the
other, but men would honor God & the Holy Ghost in all
places.

"Woman, believe me that the hour cometh,
when not in this hill neither in Jerusalem
shall they worship the Father.

Ye worship that which ye know not,
and we worship that which we know,
for life is from Judah;

but the hour cometh and now it is,
when the true worshipers shall worship
the Father in spirit and in truth,
for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

God is a Spirit:
and they that worship him

must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Then answered the woman & said she knew full well that
Christ [the Anointed One] would come soon & that he would
make wise and teach all what they should do.

"I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ:
when he is come, he will tell us all things.
He will make clear to us everything."

Jesus saith unto her:

"I am he that am speaking with thee."

With that came his disciples from the city, & had great wonder
that he spake with the Samaritan; but none of them asked
what he asked of her "What seekest thou?" or, "Why talkest
thou with her?"

And she left there her bucket & went her to the city, & told the
folk there that she had found a man who had told her all about
her deeds which she had done in private, & besought them to
go forth for themselves to discern whether it were Christ or
not.

"Come, see a man,
which told me all things that ever I did:
is not this the Christ?"

Meanwhile his disciples besought him to have something to eat, saying:

“Master, eat.”

And he answered them:

“I have such food to eat ye know not of.”

And then they asked each other if any man had brought him anything to eat. And then he told them that his food was wholly to do the will of God who had sent him to earth.

“My food is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

Say not ye,

‘There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest?’

Behold, I say unto you,

Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal:

that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

And herein is that saying true,

‘One soweth, and another reapeth.’

I sent you to reap

that whereon ye bestowed no labor: other men labored,

and ye are entered into their labors.”

And then came the Samaritans to him and many believed in him through the testimony of the woman for saying:

“He told me all ever I did.”

& besought they him to enter into their city. And he entered and dwelled with them two days. & many believed in him because of his message & said to the woman:

“Now we believe not because of thine word, for we have seen for ourselves & heard

that he is truly a prophet and savior of the world.”

And the third day Jesus went out of the city and came into Galilee, & said that every prophet is less honored in his own country than in other strange countries [i.e., foreign lands].

And on account of the miracles that they had seen him do there & at the Passover [feast] in Jerusalem, so was he received by the folk of the region.

§ 14. How that Jesus healed the

Provost's son.

Afterward came Jesus unto Cana, Galilee the place where he had made wine of water.

And the provost's son [a royal courtier, nobility] was sick at Capernaum. And when this nobleman had heard that Jesus was coming into Judea from Galilee, he came to Jesus and besought him to go unto Capernaum to heal his son. And Jesus reproved him and said

"Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe."

And the provost besought him to swiftly hasten himself & go forth with him ere that his son were dead.

The nobleman saith unto him,

"Sir, come down ere my child die."

And Jesus answered him and said that his son was whole and strong:

"Go thy way; thy son liveth."

And, believing that which Jesus told him, he set forth. And as he approached Capernaum, his servants came to meet him and told him that his son was whole and healthy. And he asked what day was it when his son was healed, & they answered him and said:

"Yesterday, at the midday hour the fever left him."

And then he understood full well that it was the selfsame hour when Jesus said he was healed:

"Thy son liveth."

And from that time forward he believed in Jesus, and all his household.

This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

§ 15. How that Jesus preached from the ship of Peter the Apostle.

So then came Jesus unto the sea of Tiberias, and many folk showed up to hear the word of God.

And there were there two ships anchored beside each other on the water, and the fishermen had gone out of them for to wash their nets.

And Jesus entered one of the ships, which was Simon Peter's, and besought him that he steer the ship a little from the land and so he sat down and talked to the folk from out of the ship.

And when that he had ceased from his speaking, he bade them steer the ship into the deep and to lower their nets. He said unto Simon,

"Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch."

And Simon answering said unto him,

"Master, we have travailed all night & had taken naught,
but upon thy word I will lower down the net."

And as soon as he had thrown in his net, he took so many fish
that his net was nearly torn.

And he beckoned to his comrades James & John which were
in the other ship, who were Zebedee's sons, and were Simon's
fellow laborers. And they came forth to help him and filled
both ships so fully that they were at the point of sinking.

And when Simon Peter saw this, he fell on his face before the
feet of Jesus & besought him that he be allowed to leave the
boat inasmuch as he was sinful, saying:

"Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

For he was astonished, and all of them were with him, James,
and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Si-
mon, at the taking of the fish and Jesus answered and said to

Simon:

"Have no dread:
for thou shalt fish after men
from this time forward."

And they also swiftly brought their ships to shore and left all
that they had & followed Jesus for awhile.

And so then they returned again to their trade, even until Je-
sus should call upon them another time.

§ 16. How that Jesus came unto Nazareth.

So then came Jesus unto Nazareth where he had been
brought up, and he entered the synagogue on the Sabbath-
day as was his wont. And there was given him the book of
Isaiah the prophet, and he stood up to read a lesson pertain-
ing to the godliness of Christ. When he opened the book he
found the place that is written:

"The time is accomplished and the kingdom of God hath arrived;
repent ye, and believe in his gospel.

The Spirit of Jehovah is upon thee,

because of which he hath anointed thee
to announce good tidings to the poor;
and he hath dispatched me to preach deliverance
to the captives, and to the blind, the recovering of sight,
and I will set at liberty them that are broken;
and to preach the acceptable year of Jehovah."

And he rolled up the volume and gave it to the servant and sat
down, and all of them on him were looking. And he began to
say to them:

"Today hath this book been accomplished in your ears."

And he told them that it was of himself of whom the prophets had often spoke. And they well granted this and bore him good witness and beheld indeed his fair bearing and had great wonder at his sweet [i.e., gracious] words, and yet said among themselves:

"What! Is this not Joseph's son?"

And Jesus answered them and said that they might suggest that he do in their city the marvels he had done in other places; but he said this he could not do: for indeed no prophet is as much honored in his own country as he is in foreign regions.

And thus the prophets of old revealed themselves to strangers in a manner otherwise than they did to their own folk.

For Elijah the prophet was sent not to any widow of Israel when the famine lasted more than three & a half years, but to a widow who lived amongst the pagans in the land of Sychar, that she might get relief by him; nor did Elisha the prophet heal any leper in Israel, except Naaman who was a pagan and a Syrian. He saith to them:

"Amen [in truth], I say to you:

There is no prophet that is received in his city.

In truth I say to you:

Many widows there were in the House of Israel in the days of Elijah the prophet, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, when a great famine was in all the land, and unto none of them was Elijah sent but to Zarephath of Sidon unto a widow woman; and many lepers there were in the House of Israel in the days of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed but a Gentile."

He saith to them:

"Perchance ye will say to me this similitude

'Physician, heal thyself;'

and the things that ye have heard

that I have done in Kapharnahum —

ye will say to me,

'do them here also in thy city.'"

And when they that were in the synagogue heard this, all of them waxed wrathful and rose up & cast him out of the town, and led him up a steep slope of a high mount whereon their city was built and would have tumbled him down it headlong.

And Jesus passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

§ 17. How that Jesus called Peter and his fellows.

Then Jesus left Nazareth and he went to Capernaum & began boldly to preach and to teach men to repent of their sins, & said that the bliss of God was nigh them that would believe steadfastly in the coming of Jesus Christ, and saying:

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Good News."

And then Jesus came walking by the sea of Tiberias, and saw two brothers, Simon called Kepha and Andrew his brother, casting their nets into the sea, because they were fishers. Jesus called them to him and said to them:

"Come after me and I will make you fishers of men."

And they in the same hour left their boats and their nets and followed him. And when he removed thence, as Jesus went a little further ahead, he saw James & John his brother with Zebedee, their father, while they were sitting in their boat, dressing their nets, & he called them and they in the same hour left their nets and left Zebedee their father with the hired men in the boat and went after him.

§ 18. How that Jesus cast a fiend out of a man.

After that entered Jesus with them into Capernaum, a city of Galilee, & came straightway unto the synagogue upon a Sabbath, and began to preach such that all the folk there had great wonder at his teaching, for as one authorized he was teaching and not as the scribes.

Now was there a man among them in that same synagogue who had a fiend [an unclean spirit] within him.

And the fiend began to cry out with a loud voice, & asked Jesus if he were come for to cast him away and other fiends out of the land ere their time had come,

"What have we to do with thee,

Jesus the Nazarene?

Hast thou come to destroy us?

I know thee who thou art,

that thou art the Holy One of God!"

And Jesus commanded him that he hold himself still.

Jesus rebuked him and said to him:

"Shut thy mouth and go forth from him."

And that unclean spirit threw him down in the midst, and when it had cried out with a mighty voice it fled from the man right away, not at all having hurt him. & all who saw it were astonished, and they were saying one to another:

"What is this new teaching,
that he hath authority and with power
commandeth these unclean spirits
and they obey him and go forth?"

And the fame of this went all about the country of Galilee.

And then Jesus rose up and went out of the synagogue and straightway he came to Peter's and Andrew's house and James and John were with him.

Peter's wife's mother [Peter's mother-in-law], was there in a strong fever, & all of them besought aid for her.

And Jesus drew near and took hold of her and held her by the hand and he rebuked her fever and in the same hour it left her, and straightway, made whole, she arose and was serving them.

§. *Fiends divulging Jesus' identity rebuked:*

And at evening as soon as the sun was gone to rest, so all the sick & the dumb & the blind & afflicted men abounding in that city gathered together at the door.

All they that had them that were infirm with stubborn infirmities, that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and on each one of them he laid his hand, and he was healing them all, that that might be fulfilled which was said by the mouth of Isaiah the prophet, who had said:

"He shall take our pains and shall bear our infirmities."

& the fiends were going forth from many, whom Jesus chased off before him, so cried & said,

"Thou art the Son of God!"

And Jesus was rebuking them and was not suffering them to say it, [and] commanded them to be still and to leave off their crying, & that they not make this known because they knew him, that he was the Messiah.

And with the morrow of the day, at the early dawn, he came forth and went away privately to a desert place to worship, and there he was praying.

And Simon and those with him were seeking him, and when they found him they say to him:

"Many folk were seeking thee"

And multitudes were seeking him and they came unto him and they took hold of him that he should not go away from them.

And Jesus said to them that it was fitting for him to preach in other cities as well as there:

"To other cities also it behooves me that | announce the kingdom [reign] of God.

Let us go unto the next towns, that | may preach there also; for therefore came | forth."

& he went forth preaching and chasing the fiends from before him throughout all the Galilee.

§ 19. How that Jesus chased away six thousand & six hundred and sixty & six fiends, and afterward he passed over the sea.

When Jesus saw so great a press of folk following him, he commanded his disciples that they should go & pass the sea of Tiberias toward the county of Galilee in Gerasa.

And while they were going in the way, and made towards the ship, there came a certain man a scribe, and said to him:

"| will come after thee wither thou goest."

And Jesus answered him & said that he had no place of his own for to go to.

"For the birds have their nests & the foxes have their holes, and | have not a habitation where | may rest my head."

And then to another scribe Jesus spake & bade that he should follow him.

"Come after me."

And he answered & besought Jesus that he might go first and bury his father.

"My Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father, and | will come."

And Jesus answered him & told him let the dead men bury the dead bodies, and that he go forth to preach the bliss of God:

"Leave the dead to bury their dead and thou come after me and go and announce the reign [kingdom] of God."

Another scribe there was one who said that he would serve Jesus, but he besought him that he might go home & order his things and his house.

"| will come after thee, my Lord, but first permit me to go and show it to the sons of my house, and | will come."

And Jesus answered him and said this would not be a thing conformable with the bliss of God:

"No one putteth his hand on the ploughshare and looketh behind him, and becometh again fit for the kingdom of God."

And when Jesus came to the ship with his disciples it was nigh upon evening time, he said to them:

"Let us cross over to the other side of the lake."

And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship.

And Jesus' ship went forth with other ships over the water.

And when they were sailing on the sea, he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow in the back of the ship's portico.

And his disciples drew near to him and awoke him, and besought him that he save them, that they were near to perishing:

"Our Lord, save our lives, because lo, we are perishing! Master, carest thou not that we perish?"

And forthwith Jesus arose and rebuked the wind, that it blow no more; and said unto the sea:

"Peace, be still."

And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm, and soon it was still.

And he saith to them:

"O, lacking in faith, wherefore are ye fearful?"

How is it that ye have no faith?"

But they, being afraid, were wondering and saying one to another:

"Who then is this, that even the winds and the sea he commandeth and they obey him?"

And all the folk marveled greatly that the wind and the sea were so still and bowed so to his will.

And they had sailed to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite the other side of Galilee.

And as soon as he had arrived on the land, when he was come out of the ship, so came two afflicted by fiends out from amongst the graves, proud & quite stout, so that no man durst pass on account of them, for there was no place that could hold them.

And always these two demoniacs stood in the crevasses of the rocks, crying out and yelling and beating themselves against the hard rocks.

And as soon as they saw Jesus, they ran up to him and fell down & worshiped him, and charged him on God's behalf that he not drive them out of the country.

And immediately a man met him with no garments. In no house was he dwelling but had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: because that he had often been bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

For a long time had he, that unclean spirit, been cleaving to him, and was driven by that same devil to the desert.

And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, and always with cries was crying, out and was smiting himself with stones.

But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran, fell and worshiped him, and cried with a loud voice, and said

"What have I to do with thee,

Jesus, son of the most high God?

I beseech thee by God

that thou torment me not."

For he was saying to him:

"Go forth,

thou unclean spirit from the man."

And also the fiends besought him that he not drive them to hell -for he bade them begone. And the fiends besought him that he not torment them any more.

And he [Jesus] was asking him:

"What is thy name?"

And he saith to him:

"Legion is our name,

because we are many in him."

And Jesus then asked them how many were there.

And the fiends answered and said that they were a legion. (A number amounting to six thousand and six hundred and sixty and six.)

And those devils were beseeching him that he would not send them to Gehenna and not cast them out.

Now there was grazing there on the mountain a certain herd of swine, and those devils were beseeching him that he would permit them to enter into that herd:

"If thou dost cast us out,
send us to that herd of swine."

And Jesus so granted. He saith to them:

"Go."

Now they went forth and entered into the swine, and immediately all that herd leapt up and ran into a steep place and fell into the midst of the sea.

Well over two thousand of them drowned themselves in the sea.

And when the herdsmen saw this they fled to the city and to the towns thereabout, & told the tidings of this occurrence which had taken place regarding the fiends and of the swine.

And then came all the folk running to Jesus and found a demoniac sitting at Jesus' feet, clothed and altogether whole. And they declared to them how that the man was saved alive.

And they were all amazed at this, and all of them, even all that multitude of the Gadarenes, that he would remove from their neighborhood, [and] besought him that he would go his way far out of that country, so much did they dread him.

And Jesus went him into the ship, and them who were healed and altogether whole of their affliction, sought him out that they might follow him.

And Jesus bade them dwell and abide and tell the folk of the country how they were delivered of the legion of the fiends.

And they went over all the country and told how Jesus had healed them.

Now that man from whom had gone forth those devils beseeching him that he might be with him. And Jesus dismissed him and said to him:

"Return to thy house and the house of thy kinsfolk,
and declare to them what things

the LORD [Jehovah] hath done for thee
and how he hath compassion on thee."

And he was going and was preaching in all in all the city that which Jesus did for him.

And he went up to the boat and crossed over.

And when Jesus came unto Galilee all the folk came to him, for they had greatly longed for his coming.

§ 20. How that Jesus saved a man
who was paralytic, and called
Matthew to himself.

Then again after some days came Jesus unto Capernaum

and preached in a house, and it was noised about that he was in the house.

And straightway many folk were gathered together, and so many scribes and so many Pharisees set round about him, that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door, that none could come to him.

And he preached the word unto them and the power was in Jesus that he should be healing.

And with that came four men and brought a sick, paralytic man lying on a pallet, and would have brought him in and laid him before Jesus.

And when they saw that they could not enter on account of the folk and for the press such as it was, they clambered up on the house top and unpacked its tiles and made a great gap, and through the rafters of the house they lowered the paralytic with his bed into the midst before Jesus.

And when he saw their faith he said to the paralytic:

"Man, son, be of good cheer,
thy sins are forgiven thee!"

And behold the scribes and the Pharisees and teachers of the law, began thinking and said that he had committed a misdeed [i.e., had blasphemed], for what he did that fell not except to

God to do, and that was to forgive sins, saying:

"Why does this man doth speak?

Who is this that speaketh blasphemy?

Who is it can forgive sins save God alone?"

And Jesus understood immediately what they were thinking and asked them why they thought evil. For which was done more lightly: to forgive him his sins or save him from his evil condition? Jesus said to them:

"Why think ye evil in your heart?

Which is the easier, to say

'Thy sins are forgiven thee,'
or to say

'Arise and walk'?

But that ye may know yourselves
that I have the power on earth to forgive sins."

- then said he to the paralytic -

"To thee I say,

'Arise, take up thy bed
and bear it home with thee.'

And in the same hour he arose before them and took up that which he was lying on, and went to his house, glorifying God.

And he and all the folk thanked God who had given Jesus such power.

And when the multitude saw they were afraid, and astonishment took hold of them all, and they were glorifying God who gave this authority to men and saying

"We never saw it on this fashion.

We have seen wonders and great things today."

And then Jesus went forth by the coast of the sea, and all the folk followed him, and then he began to preach to them.

And after these things as our Lord again passed by the town, he saw a certain man, Levi, the son of Alphaeus, that was sitting at the toll-gatherers' place, whose name was called Matthew, and Jesus bade him cease.

He said to him:

"Come after me."

And immediately he left everything, arose up, and came after him and made him a great gathering of folks in his house.

And many publicans [i.e., Roman-hired tax collectors] and other sinful men came & ate with Jesus and with his disciples.

Then when the scribes and Pharisees see it, they came and asked of Jesus' disciples why was it that he ate with such folk:

"Wherefore with toll-gathers and sinners are ye eating and drinking?"

Now he, when he heard, Jesus answered & said that he came to call sinful men to repent & not men who were righteous. For why make whole the man who hath no need of a physician but seek out instead the man with something the matter, for God would rather have pity and mercy than vengeance:

"The whole have no need of a physician, but they that are ill.

But go, learn what is meant by

'Mercy I seek and not sacrifice,'

for I came not that I might call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Then came the disciples of John the Baptist, and the Pharisees, who fasted, and asked why Jesus' disciples fasted not even as they did.

"Why is it that we and the Pharisees fast eagerly, and thy disciples fast not?"

And Jesus answered that it was not fitting that the fellows who were at the bridal feast should fast while the feast lasted, but when the bridal feast should conclude, then should they fast. Our Lord saith to them: