

The Book of Matthew and Beginning of Acts

EDITOR'S NOTE: *THE BIBLE IS LIKE NO OTHER BOOK, FOR IT HOLDS THE VERY WORDS OF GOD, WHICH HAVE POWER TO CHANGE THE LIVES OF ANY WHO READ IT AND PUT THEIR FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. PSALM 34:8 SAYS, "OH, TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD! BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO TAKES REFUGE IN HIM!" THROUGH THE NEBRASKA LIVING TIMES YOU MAY "TASTE" AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF GOD THROUGH HIS VERY OWN WORDS, EACH MONTH, RIGHT HERE. MAY GOD BLESS YOU WITH HIS WORD!*

(CONTINUED FROM NOV/DEC 2017)

CHAPTER 28

THE RESURRECTION

1 NOW AFTER THE SABBATH, TOWARD THE DAWN OF THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, MARY MAGDALENE AND THE OTHER MARY WENT TO SEE THE TOMB. 2 AND BEHOLD, THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE, FOR AN ANGEL OF THE LORD DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN AND CAME AND ROLLED BACK THE STONE AND SAT ON IT. 3 HIS APPEARANCE WAS LIKE LIGHTNING, AND HIS CLOTHING WHITE AS SNOW. 4 AND FOR FEAR OF HIM THE GUARDS TREMBLED AND BECAME LIKE DEAD MEN. 5 BUT THE ANGEL SAID TO THE WOMEN, "DO NOT BE AFRAID, FOR I KNOW THAT YOU SEEK JESUS WHO WAS CRUCIFIED. 6 HE IS NOT HERE, FOR HE HAS RISEN, AS HE SAID. COME, SEE THE PLACE WHERE HE LAY. 7 THEN GO QUICKLY AND TELL HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND BEHOLD, HE IS GOING BEFORE YOU TO GALILEE; THERE YOU WILL SEE HIM. SEE, I HAVE TOLD YOU." 8 SO THEY DEPARTED QUICKLY FROM THE TOMB WITH FEAR AND GREAT JOY, AND RAN TO TELL HIS DISCIPLES. 9 AND BEHOLD, JESUS MET THEM AND SAID, "GREETINGS!" AND THEY CAME UP AND TOOK HOLD OF HIS FEET AND WORSHIPED HIM. 10 THEN JESUS SAID TO THEM, "DO NOT BE AFRAID; GO AND TELL MY BROTHERS TO GO TO GALILEE, AND THERE THEY WILL SEE ME."

THE REPORT OF THE GUARD

11 WHILE THEY WERE GOING, BEHOLD, SOME OF THE GUARD WENT INTO THE CITY AND TOLD

THE CHIEF PRIESTS ALL THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE. 12 AND WHEN THEY HAD ASSEMBLED WITH THE ELDERS AND TAKEN COUNSEL, THEY GAVE A SUFFICIENT SUM OF MONEY TO THE SOLDIERS 13 AND SAID, "TELL PEOPLE, 'HIS DISCIPLES CAME BY NIGHT AND STOLE HIM AWAY WHILE WE WERE ASLEEP.' 14 AND IF THIS COMES TO THE GOVERNOR'S EARS, WE WILL SATISFY HIM AND KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE." 15 SO THEY TOOK THE MONEY AND DID AS THEY WERE DIRECTED.

AND THIS STORY HAS BEEN SPREAD AMONG THE JEWS TO THIS DAY.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

16 NOW THE ELEVEN DISCIPLES WENT TO GALILEE, TO THE MOUNTAIN TO WHICH JESUS HAD DIRECTED THEM. 17 AND WHEN THEY SAW HIM THEY WORSHIPED HIM, BUT SOME DOUBTED. 18 AND JESUS CAME AND SAID TO THEM, "ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. 19 GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, 20 TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE END OF THE AGE."

THE BOOK OF ACTS

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1 IN THE FIRST BOOK, O THEOPHILUS, I HAVE DEALT WITH ALL THAT JESUS BEGAN TO DO AND TEACH, 2 UNTIL THE DAY WHEN HE WAS TAKEN UP, AFTER HE HAD GIVEN COMMANDS THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE APOSTLES WHOM HE HAD CHOSEN. 3 HE PRESENTED HIMSELF ALIVE TO THEM AFTER HIS SUFFERING BY MANY PROOFS, APPEARING TO THEM DURING FORTY

DAYS AND SPEAKING ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

4 AND WHILE STAYING[FN] WITH THEM HE ORDERED THEM NOT TO DEPART FROM JERUSALEM, BUT TO WAIT FOR THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER, WHICH, HE SAID, "YOU HEARD FROM ME; 5 FOR JOHN BAPTIZED WITH

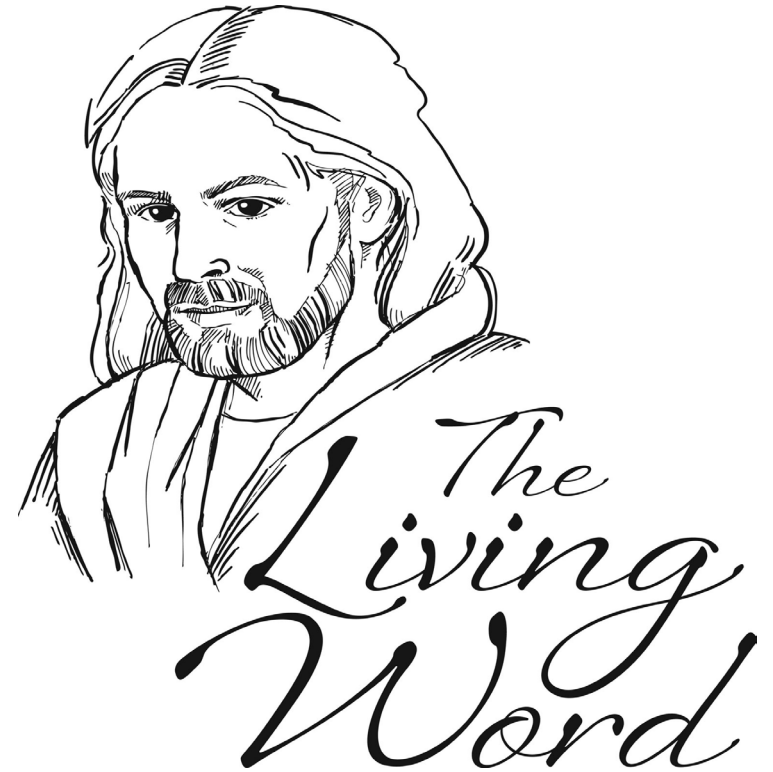
WATER, BUT YOU WILL BE BAPTIZED WITH[FN] THE HOLY SPIRIT NOT MANY DAYS FROM NOW."

THE ASCENSION

6 SO WHEN THEY HAD COME TOGETHER, THEY ASKED HIM, "LORD, WILL YOU AT THIS TIME RESTORE THE KINGDOM TO ISRAEL?" 7 HE SAID TO THEM, "IT IS NOT FOR YOU TO KNOW TIMES OR SEASONS THAT THE FATHER HAS FIXED BY HIS OWN AUTHORITY. 8 BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS COME UPON YOU, AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE END OF THE EARTH." 9 AND WHEN HE HAD SAID THESE THINGS, AS THEY WERE LOOKING ON, HE WAS LIFTED UP, AND A CLOUD TOOK HIM OUT OF THEIR SIGHT. 10 AND WHILE THEY WERE GAZING INTO HEAVEN AS HE WENT, BEHOLD, TWO MEN STOOD BY THEM IN WHITE ROBES, 11 AND SAID, "MEN OF GALILEE, WHY DO YOU STAND LOOKING INTO HEAVEN? THIS JESUS, WHO WAS TAKEN UP FROM YOU INTO HEAVEN, WILL COME IN THE SAME WAY AS YOU SAW HIM GO INTO HEAVEN."

MATTHIAS CHOSEN TO REPLACE JUDAS

12 THEN THEY RETURNED TO



JERUSALEM FROM THE MOUNT CALLED OLIVET, WHICH IS NEAR JERUSALEM, A SABBATH DAY'S JOURNEY AWAY. 13 AND WHEN THEY HAD ENTERED, THEY WENT UP TO THE UPPER ROOM, WHERE THEY WERE STAYING, PETER AND JOHN AND JAMES AND ANDREW, PHILIP AND THOMAS, BARTHOLOMEW AND MATTHEW, JAMES THE SON OF ALPHEAUS AND SIMON THE ZEALOT AND JUDAS THE SON OF JAMES. 14 ALL THESE WITH ONE ACCORD WERE DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO PRAYER, TOGETHER WITH THE WOMEN AND MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS, AND HIS BROTHERS.

15 IN THOSE DAYS PETER STOOD UP AMONG THE BROTHERS (THE COMPANY OF PERSONS WAS IN ALL ABOUT 120) AND SAID, 16 "BROTHERS, THE SCRIPTURE HAD TO BE FULFILLED, WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT SPOKE BEFOREHAND BY THE MOUTH OF DAVID CONCERNING JUDAS, WHO BECAME A GUIDE TO THOSE WHO ARRESTED JESUS. 17 FOR HE WAS NUMBERED AMONG US AND WAS ALLOTTED HIS SHARE IN THIS MINISTRY." 18 (NOW THIS MAN ACQUIRED A FIELD WITH THE REWARD OF HIS WICKEDNESS, AND FALLING HEADLONG HE BURST OPEN IN THE MIDDLE AND ALL HIS BOWELS GUSHED OUT. 19 AND IT BECAME KNOWN TO

ALL THE INHABITANTS OF JERUSALEM, SO THAT THE FIELD WAS CALLED IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE AKELBAMA, THAT IS, FIELD OF BLOOD.)

20 "FOR IT IS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF PSALMS, "MAY HIS CAMP BECOME DESOLATE, AND LET THERE BE NO ONE TO DWELL IN IT"; AND "LET ANOTHER TAKE HIS OFFICE." 21 SO ONE OF THE MEN WHO HAVE ACCOMPANIED US DURING ALL THE TIME THAT THE LORD JESUS WENT IN AND OUT AMONG US, 22 BEGINNING FROM THE BAPTISM OF JOHN UNTIL THE DAY WHEN HE WAS TAKEN UP FROM US—ONE OF THESE MEN MUST BECOME WITH US A WITNESS TO HIS RESURRECTION." 23 AND THEY PUT FORWARD TWO, JOSEPH CALLED BARSABBAS, WHO WAS ALSO CALLED JUSTUS, AND MATTHIAS. 24 AND THEY PRAYED AND SAID, "YOU, LORD, WHO KNOW THE HEARTS OF ALL, SHOW WHICH ONE OF THESE TWO YOU HAVE CHOSEN 25 TO TAKE THE PLACE IN THIS MINISTRY AND APOSTLESHIP FROM WHICH JUDAS TURNED ASIDE TO GO TO HIS OWN PLACE." 26 AND THEY CAST LOTS FOR THEM, AND THE LOT FELL ON MATTHIAS, AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH THE ELEVEN APOSTLES.

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