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# Matthew

## *The Record of Jesus' Ancestors*

**1** This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of King David and of Abraham:

<sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac.  
Isaac was the father of Jacob.  
Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.

<sup>3</sup> Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah (their mother was Tamar).

Perez was the father of Hezron.  
Hezron was the father of Ram.\*

<sup>4</sup> Ram was the father of Amminadab.

Amminadab was the father of Nahshon.

Nahshon was the father of Salmon.

<sup>5</sup> Salmon was the father of Boaz (his mother was Rahab).

Boaz was the father of Obed (his mother was Ruth).

Obed was the father of Jesse.

<sup>6</sup> Jesse was the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon (his mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).

<sup>7</sup> Solomon was the father of Rehoboam.

Rehoboam was the father of Abijah.

Abijah was the father of Asaph.\*

<sup>8</sup> Asaph was the father of Jehoshaphat.

Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.\*

Jehoram was the father\* of Uzziah.

<sup>9</sup> Uzziah was the father of Jotham.  
Jotham was the father of Ahaz.

Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.

<sup>10</sup> Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh.

Manasseh was the father of Amos.\*

Amos was the father of Josiah.

<sup>11</sup> Josiah was the father of Jehoiachin\* and his brothers (born at the time of the exile to Babylon).

<sup>12</sup> After the Babylonian exile: Jehoiachin was the father of Shealtiel.

Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.

<sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud.

Abiud was the father of Eliakim.  
Eliakim was the father of Azor.

<sup>14</sup> Azor was the father of Zadok.  
Zadok was the father of Akim.

**1:3** Greek *Aram*; also in 1:4. See 1 Chr 2:9-10. **1:7** *Asaph* is the same person as *Asa*; also in 1:8. See 1 Chr 3:10. **1:8a** Greek *Joram*. See 1 Kgs 22:50 and note at 1 Chr 3:11. **1:8b** Or *ancestor*; also in 1:11. **1:10** *Amos* is the same person as *Amon*. See 1 Chr 3:14. **1:11** Greek *Jechoniah*; also in 1:12. See 2 Kgs 24:6 and note at 1 Chr 3:16.

Akim was the father of Eliud.

<sup>15</sup> Eliud was the father of Eleazar.

Eleazar was the father of

Matthan.

Matthan was the father of Jacob.

<sup>16</sup> Jacob was the father of Joseph,  
the husband of Mary.

Mary was the mother of Jesus,  
who is called the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup> All those listed above include fourteen generations from Abraham to King David, and fourteen from David's time to the Babylonian exile, and fourteen from the Babylonian exile to the Messiah.

### *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

<sup>18</sup> Now this is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Joseph, her fiancé, being a just man, decided to break the engagement quietly, so as not to disgrace her publicly.

<sup>20</sup> As he considered this, he fell asleep, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary. For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus,\* for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All of this happened to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

<sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child!

She will give birth to a son,  
and he will be called Immanuel\*  
(meaning, God is with us)."

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded. He brought Mary home to be his wife, <sup>25</sup> but she remained a virgin until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

### *The Visit of the Wise Men*

**2** Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men\* from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, <sup>2</sup> "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We have seen his star as it arose,\* and we have come to worship him."

<sup>3</sup> Herod was deeply disturbed by their question, as was all of Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law. "Where did the prophets say the Messiah would be born?" he asked them.

<sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

<sup>6</sup> 'O Bethlehem of Judah,  
you are not just a lowly village  
in Judah,  
for a ruler will come from you  
who will be the shepherd for  
my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod sent a private message to the wise men, asking them to come see him. At this meeting he learned the exact time when they first saw the star. <sup>8</sup> Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

<sup>9</sup> After this interview the wise men went their way. Once again the star appeared to them, guiding

1:21 *Jesus* means "The LORD saves." 1:23 Isa 7:14; 8:8, 10. 2:1 Or *royal astrologers*; Greek reads *magi*; also in 2:7, 16. 2:2 Or *in the east*. 2:6 Mic 5:2; 2 Sam 5:2.

them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!<sup>11</sup> They entered the house where the child and his mother, Mary, were, and they fell down before him and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.<sup>12</sup> But when it was time to leave, they went home another way, because God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

### *The Escape to Egypt*

<sup>13</sup> After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up and flee to Egypt with the child and his mother," the angel said. "Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to try to kill the child."<sup>14</sup> That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother,<sup>15</sup> and they stayed there until Herod's death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: "I called my Son out of Egypt."<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Herod was furious when he learned that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, because the wise men had told him the star first appeared to them about two years earlier.\*  
<sup>17</sup> Herod's brutal action fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> "A cry of anguish is heard in Ramah—  
weeping and mourning  
unrestrained.

Rachel weeps for her children,  
refusing to be comforted—for  
they are dead."<sup>\*</sup>

### *The Return to Nazareth*

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and told him,<sup>20</sup> "Get up and take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead."<sup>21</sup> So Joseph returned immediately to Israel with Jesus and his mother.<sup>22</sup> But when he learned that the new ruler was Herod's son Archelaus, he was afraid. Then, in another dream, he was warned to go to Galilee.<sup>23</sup> So they went and lived in a town called Nazareth. This fulfilled what was spoken by the prophets concerning the Messiah: "He will be called a Nazarene."

### *John the Baptist Prepares the Way*

**3** In those days John the Baptist began preaching in the Judean wilderness. His message was,  
<sup>2</sup> "Turn from your sins and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near."<sup>\*</sup> <sup>3</sup> Isaiah had spoken of John when he said,

"He is a voice shouting in the wilderness:

'Prepare a pathway for the Lord's coming!

Make a straight road for him!'"<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>4</sup> John's clothes were woven from camel hair, and he wore a leather belt; his food was locusts and wild honey.<sup>5</sup> People from Jerusalem and from every section of Judea and from all over the Jordan Valley went out to the wilderness to hear him preach.<sup>6</sup> And when they confessed

their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to be baptized, he denounced them. "You brood of snakes!" he exclaimed. "Who warned you to flee God's coming judgment?" <sup>8</sup> Prove by the way you live that you have really turned from your sins and turned to God. <sup>9</sup> Don't just say, 'We're safe—we're the descendants of Abraham.' That proves nothing. God can change these stones here into children of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever your roots. Yes, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize with\* water those who turn from their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is far greater than I am—so much greater that I am not even worthy to be his slave.\* He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.\* <sup>12</sup> He is ready to separate the chaff from the grain with his winnowing fork. Then he will clean up the threshing area, storing the grain in his barn but burning the chaff with never-ending fire."

### *The Baptism of Jesus*

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup> But John didn't want to baptize him. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

<sup>15</sup> But Jesus said, "It must be done, because we must do everything that is right.\*" So then John baptized him.

<sup>16</sup> After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens

were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, and I am fully pleased with him."

### *The Temptation of Jesus*

**4** Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tempted there by the Devil. <sup>2</sup> For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry. <sup>3</sup> Then the Devil\* came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, change these stones into loaves of bread."

<sup>4</sup> But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say,

'People need more than bread for their life;  
they must feed on every word of God.'\*"

<sup>5</sup> Then the Devil took him to Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, <sup>6</sup> and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say,

'He orders his angels to protect you.  
And they will hold you with their hands  
to keep you from striking your foot on a stone.'\*"

<sup>7</sup> Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'Do not test the Lord your God.'\*"

<sup>8</sup> Next the Devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory. <sup>9</sup> "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you

3:11a Or in. 3:11b Greek to carry his sandals. 3:11c Or in the Holy Spirit and in fire. 3:15 Or we must fulfill all righteousness. 4:3 Greek the tempter. 4:4 Deut 8:3. 4:6 Ps 91:11-12. 4:7 Deut 6:16.

will only kneel down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup> "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say,

'You must worship the Lord  
your God;  
serve only him.'"

<sup>11</sup> Then the Devil went away, and angels came and cared for Jesus.

### *The Ministry of Jesus Begins*

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> But instead of going to Nazareth, he went to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup> This fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy:

<sup>15</sup> "In the land of Zebulun and of  
Naphtali,  
beside the sea, beyond the  
Jordan River—  
in Galilee where so many  
Gentiles live—

<sup>16</sup> the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light.  
And for those who lived in the  
land where death casts its  
shadow,  
a light has shined."\*

<sup>17</sup> From then on, Jesus began to preach, "Turn from your sins and turn to God, because the Kingdom of Heaven is near."\*

### *The First Disciples*

<sup>18</sup> One day as Jesus was walking along the shore beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—fishing with a net, for they were commercial fishermen. <sup>19</sup> Jesus

called out to them, "Come, be my disciples, and I will show you how to fish for people!" <sup>20</sup> And they left their nets at once and went with him.

<sup>21</sup> A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets. And he called them to come, too. <sup>22</sup> They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

### *The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee*

<sup>23</sup> Jesus traveled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogues, preaching everywhere the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed people who had every kind of sickness and disease. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread far beyond the borders of Galilee so that the sick were soon coming to be healed from as far away as Syria. And whatever their illness and pain, or if they were possessed by demons, or were epileptics, or were paralyzed—he healed them all. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds followed him wherever he went—people from Galilee, the Ten Towns,\* Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from east of the Jordan River.

### *The Sermon on the Mount*

**5** One day as the crowds were gathering, Jesus went up the mountainside with his disciples and sat down to teach them.

### *The Beatitudes*

<sup>2</sup> This is what he taught them:

<sup>3</sup> "God blesses those who realize  
their need for him,\*  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is  
given to them.



- <sup>4</sup> God blesses those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.
- <sup>5</sup> God blesses those who are gentle  
and lowly,  
for the whole earth will belong  
to them.
- <sup>6</sup> God blesses those who are  
hungry and thirsty for  
justice,  
for they will receive it in full.
- <sup>7</sup> God blesses those who are  
merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.
- <sup>8</sup> God blesses those whose hearts  
are pure,  
for they will see God.
- <sup>9</sup> God blesses those who work for  
peace,  
for they will be called the  
children of God.
- <sup>10</sup> God blesses those who are  
persecuted because they live  
for God,  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is  
theirs.

<sup>11</sup> “God blesses you when you are  
mocked and persecuted and lied  
about because you are my followers.  
<sup>12</sup> Be happy about it! Be very glad!  
For a great reward awaits you in  
heaven. And remember, the ancient  
prophets were persecuted, too.

### *Teaching about Salt and Light*

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth. But  
what good is salt if it has lost its fla-  
vor? Can you make it useful again? It  
will be thrown out and trampled  
underfoot as worthless. <sup>14</sup> You are  
the light of the world—like a city on  
a mountain, glowing in the night for  
all to see. <sup>15</sup> Don’t hide your light  
under a basket! Instead, put it on a  
stand and let it shine for all. <sup>16</sup> In the

same way, let your good deeds shine  
out for all to see, so that everyone  
will praise your heavenly Father.

### *Teaching about the Law*

<sup>17</sup> “Don’t misunderstand why I have  
come. I did not come to abolish the  
law of Moses or the writings of the  
prophets. No, I came to fulfill them.  
<sup>18</sup> I assure you, until heaven and  
earth disappear, even the smallest  
detail of God’s law will remain until  
its purpose is achieved. <sup>19</sup> So if you  
break the smallest commandment  
and teach others to do the same, you  
will be the least in the Kingdom of  
Heaven. But anyone who obeys  
God’s laws and teaches them will be  
great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

<sup>20</sup> “But I warn you—unless you  
obey God better than the teachers of  
religious law and the Pharisees do,  
you can’t enter the Kingdom of  
Heaven at all!

### *Teaching about Anger*

<sup>21</sup> “You have heard that the law of  
Moses says, ‘Do not murder. If you  
commit murder, you are subject to  
judgment.’\* <sup>22</sup> But I say, if you are  
angry with someone,\* you are sub-  
ject to judgment! If you call some-  
one an idiot,\* you are in danger of  
being brought before the high coun-  
cil. And if you curse someone,\* you  
are in danger of the fires of hell.

<sup>23</sup> “So if you are standing before  
the altar in the Temple, offering a  
sacrifice to God, and you suddenly  
remember that someone has some-  
thing against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your sac-  
rifice there beside the altar. Go and  
be reconciled to that person. Then  
come and offer your sacrifice to  
God. <sup>25</sup> Come to terms quickly with

5:21 Exod 20:13; Deut 5:17. 5:22a Greek *your brother*; also in 5:23. Some manuscripts add *without cause*.  
5:22b Greek uses an Aramaic term of contempt: *If you say to your brother, ‘Raca.’* 5:22c Greek *if you say, ‘You fool.’*

your enemy before it is too late and you are dragged into court, handed over to an officer, and thrown in jail.  
<sup>26</sup> I assure you that you won't be free again until you have paid the last penny.

### *Teaching about Adultery*

<sup>27</sup> "You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'Do not commit adultery.'<sup>\*</sup> <sup>28</sup> But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust in his eye has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup> So if your eye—even if it is your good eye\*—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your hand—even if it is your stronger hand\*—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

### *Teaching about Divorce*

<sup>31</sup> "You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a letter of divorce.'<sup>\*</sup> <sup>32</sup> But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

### *Teaching about Vows*

<sup>33</sup> "Again, you have heard that the law of Moses says, 'Do not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'<sup>\*</sup> <sup>34</sup> But I say, don't make any vows! If you say, 'By heaven!' it is a sacred

vow because heaven is God's throne. <sup>35</sup> And if you say, 'By the earth!' it is a sacred vow because the earth is his footstool. And don't swear, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup> Don't even swear, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup> Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Your word is enough. To strengthen your promise with a vow shows that something is wrong.\*

### *Teaching about Revenge*

<sup>38</sup> "You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'If an eye is injured, injure the eye of the person who did it. If a tooth gets knocked out, knock out the tooth of the person who did it.'<sup>\*</sup> <sup>39</sup> But I say, don't resist an evil person! If you are slapped on the right cheek, turn the other, too. <sup>40</sup> If you are ordered to court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. <sup>41</sup> If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile,\* carry it two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow.

### *Teaching about Love for Enemies*

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that the law of Moses says, 'Love your neighbor'\* and hate your enemy. <sup>44</sup> But I say, love your enemies!\* Pray for those who persecute you! <sup>45</sup> In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and on the unjust, too. <sup>46</sup> If you love only those who love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors

5:27 Exod 20:14; Deut 5:18. 5:29 Greek *your right eye*. 5:30 Greek *your right hand*. 5:31 Deut 24:1. 5:33 Num 30:2. 5:37 Or *Anything beyond this is from the evil one*. 5:38 Greek 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' Exod 21:24; Lev 24:20; Deut 19:21. 5:41 Greek *million* [4,854 feet or 1,478 meters]. 5:43 Lev 19:18. 5:44 Some manuscripts add *Bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you*.

do that much. <sup>47</sup> If you are kind only to your friends,\* how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. <sup>48</sup> But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

### *Teaching about Giving to the Needy*

**6** “Take care! Don’t do your good deeds publicly, to be admired, because then you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> When you give a gift to someone in need, don’t shout about it as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I assure you, they have received all the reward they will ever get. <sup>3</sup> But when you give to someone, don’t tell your left hand what your right hand is doing. <sup>4</sup> Give your gifts in secret, and your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.

### *Teaching about Prayer and Fasting*

<sup>5</sup> “And now about prayer. When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I assure you, that is all the reward they will ever get. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.

<sup>7</sup> “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered only by repeating their words again and again. <sup>8</sup> Don’t be like them, because your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! <sup>9</sup> Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,  
may your name be honored.

<sup>10</sup> May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done here on earth,

just as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us our food for today,\*

<sup>12</sup> and forgive us our sins,  
just as we have forgiven  
those who have sinned  
against us.

<sup>13</sup> And don’t let us yield to  
temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil  
one.\*

<sup>14</sup> “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.

<sup>16</sup> “And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, who try to look pale and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I assure you, that is the only reward they will ever get. <sup>17</sup> But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. <sup>18</sup> Then no one will suspect you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in secret. And your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.

### *Teaching about Money and Possessions*

<sup>19</sup> “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where they can be eaten by moths and get rusty, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> Store your treasures in heaven, where they will never become moth-eaten or rusty and where they will be safe from thieves. <sup>21</sup> Wherever your trea-

5:47 Greek *your brothers*. 6:11 Or *for tomorrow*. 6:13 Or *from evil*. Some manuscripts add *For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen*.

sure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be.

<sup>22</sup> "Your eye is a lamp for your body. A pure eye lets sunshine into your soul. <sup>23</sup> But an evil eye shuts out the light and plunges you into darkness. If the light you think you have is really darkness, how deep that darkness will be!

<sup>24</sup> "No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

<sup>25</sup> "So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food, drink, and clothes. Doesn't life consist of more than food and clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds. They don't need to plant or harvest or put food in barns because your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than they are. <sup>27</sup> Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not.

<sup>28</sup> "And why worry about your clothes? Look at the lilies and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, <sup>29</sup> yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. <sup>30</sup> And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you? You have so little faith!

<sup>31</sup> "So don't worry about having enough food or drink or clothing.

<sup>32</sup> Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, <sup>33</sup> and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.

<sup>34</sup> "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

### *Don't Condemn Others*

**7** "Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. <sup>2</sup> For others will treat you as you treat them.\* Whatever measure you use in judging others, it will be used to measure how you are judged. <sup>3</sup> And why worry about a speck in your friend's eye\* when you have a log in your own? <sup>4</sup> How can you think of saying, 'Let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye,' when you can't see past the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> Hypocrite! First get rid of the log from your own eye; then perhaps you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye.

<sup>6</sup> "Don't give what is holy to unholy people.\* Don't give pearls to swine! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you.

### *Effective Prayer*

<sup>7</sup> "Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And the door is opened to everyone who knocks. <sup>9</sup> You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? <sup>10</sup> Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! <sup>11</sup> If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

7:2 Or For God will treat you as you treat others; Greek reads For with the judgment you judge you will be judged. 7:3 Greek your brother's eye; also in 7:5. 7:6 Greek Don't give the sacred to dogs.

*The Golden Rule*

<sup>12</sup> “Do for others what you would like them to do for you. This is a summary of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.

*The Narrow Gate*

<sup>13</sup> “You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell\* is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose the easy way. <sup>14</sup> But the gateway to life is small, and the road is narrow, and only a few ever find it.

*The Tree and Its Fruit*

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep, but are really wolves that will tear you apart. <sup>16</sup> You can detect them by the way they act, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit. You don’t pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles. <sup>17</sup> A healthy tree produces good fruit, and an unhealthy tree produces bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup> So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> Yes, the way to identify a tree or a person is by the kind of fruit that is produced.

*True Disciples*

<sup>21</sup> “Not all people who sound religious are really godly. They may refer to me as ‘Lord,’ but they still won’t enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The decisive issue is whether they obey my Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> On judgment day many will tell me, ‘Lord, Lord, we prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.’ <sup>23</sup> But I will reply, ‘I

never knew you. Go away; the things you did were unauthorized.\*”

*Building on a Solid Foundation*

<sup>24</sup> “Anyone who listens to my teaching and obeys me is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. <sup>25</sup> Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse, because it is built on rock. <sup>26</sup> But anyone who hears my teaching and ignores it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. <sup>27</sup> When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will fall with a mighty crash.”

<sup>28</sup> After Jesus finished speaking, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> for he taught as one who had real authority—quite unlike the teachers of religious law.

*Jesus Heals a Man with Leprosy*

**8** Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountain-side. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached Jesus. He knelt before him, worshiping. “Lord,” the man said, “if you want to, you can make me well again.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus touched him. “I want to,” he said. “Be healed!” And instantly the leprosy disappeared. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Go right over to the priest and let him examine you. Don’t talk to anyone along the way. Take along the offering required in the law of Moses for those who have been healed of leprosy, so everyone will have proof of your healing.”

*Faith of the Roman Officer*

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus arrived in Capernaum, a Roman officer came and pleaded

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# TYNDALE

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### **ABUSE**

Jesus was abused (Matthew 26:67-68) *page 45*  
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### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

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(Matthew 18:15) *page 29*  
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 Angels are in the presence of God (Revelation 4:8) *page 364*  
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