

# GENESIS

## The Creation

**1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. **4** God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day.

**6** Then God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water." **7** So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so. **8** God called the expanse "sky." Evening came and then morning: the second day.

**9** Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. **10** God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the water he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. **11** Then God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds." And it was so. **12** The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. **13** Evening came and then morning: the third day.

**14** Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will serve as signs for seasons and for days and years. **15** They will be lights in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth." And it was so. **16** God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night — as well as the stars. **17** God placed them in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth, **18** to rule the day and the night, and to separate light

from darkness. And God saw that it was good. **19** Evening came and then morning: the fourth day.

**20** Then God said, "Let the water swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky."

**21** So God created the large sea-creatures and every living creature that moves and swarms in the water, according to their kinds. He also created every winged creature according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. **22** God blessed them: "Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." **23** Evening came and then morning: the fifth day.

**24** Then God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that crawl, and the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. **25** So God made the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that crawl on the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

**26** Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth."

**27** So God created man  
in his own image;

he created him in the image of God;  
he created them male and female.

**28** God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth." **29** God also said, "Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This will be food for you, **30** for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth — everything having the breath of life in it — I have given

every green plant for food.” And it was so. **31** God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening came and then morning: the sixth day.

**2** So the heavens and the earth and everything in them were completed. **2** On the seventh day God had completed his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. **3** God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, for on it he rested from all his work of creation.

### Man and Woman in the Garden

**4** These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, **5** no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground. **6** But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground. **7** Then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being.

**8** The LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he placed the man he had formed. **9** The LORD God caused to grow out of the ground every tree pleasing in appearance and good for food, including the tree of life in the middle of the garden, as well as the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**10** A river went out from Eden to water the garden. From there it divided and became the source of four rivers. **11** The name of the first is Pishon, which flows through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. **12** Gold from that land is pure; bdellium and onyx are also there. **13** The name of the second river is Gihon, which flows through the entire land of Cush. **14** The name of the third river is Tigris, which runs east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

**15** The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, **17** but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.” **18** Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding

to him.” **19** The LORD God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. **20** The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found corresponding to him. **21** So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. **22** Then the LORD God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. **23** And the man said:

This one, at last, is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh; this one will be called “woman,” for she was taken from man.

**24** This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. **25** Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

### The Temptation and the Fall

**3** Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You can’t eat from any tree in the garden?’”

**2** The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. **3** But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, ‘You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.’”

**4** “No! You will not die,” the serpent said to the woman. **5** “In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” **6** The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

### Sin’s Consequences

**8** Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. **9** So the LORD God called out to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

**10** And he said, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

**11** Then he asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

**12** The man replied, "The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate."

**13** So the LORD God asked the woman, "What is this you have done?"

And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

**14** So the LORD God said to the serpent:

Because you have done this,  
you are cursed more than  
any livestock  
and more than any wild animal.  
You will move on your belly  
and eat dust all the days of your life.

**15** I will put hostility between you  
and the woman,  
and between your offspring  
and her offspring.

He will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.

**16** He said to the woman:

I will intensify your labor pains;  
you will bear children with painful  
effort.

Your desire will be for your husband,  
yet he will rule over you.

**17** And he said to the man, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'Do not eat from it':

The ground is cursed because of you.  
You will eat from it by means of  
painful labor  
all the days of your life.

**18** It will produce thorns and thistles  
for you,  
and you will eat the plants  
of the field.

**19** You will eat bread by the sweat  
of your brow  
until you return to the ground,  
since you were taken from it.  
For you are dust,  
and you will return to dust."

**20** The man named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all the living. **21** The LORD God made clothing from skins for the man and his wife, and he clothed them.

**22** The LORD God said, "Since the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever." **23** So the LORD God sent him away from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. **24** He drove the man out and stationed the cherubim and the flaming, whirling sword east of the garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.

### Cain Murders Abel

**4** The man was intimate with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have had a male child with the LORD's help." **2** She also gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel became a shepherd of flocks, but Cain worked the ground. **3** In the course of time Cain presented some of the land's produce as an offering to the LORD. **4** And Abel also presented an offering—some of the firstborn of his flock and their fat portions. The LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, **5** but he did not have regard for Cain and his offering. Cain was furious, and he looked despondent.

**6** Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you furious? And why do you look despondent? **7** If you do what is right, won't you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

**8** Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

**9** Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

**10** Then he said, "What have you done? Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! **11** So now you are cursed, alienated from the ground that opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood you have shed. **12** If you work the ground, it will never again give you its yield. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

**13** But Cain answered the LORD, "My punishment is too great to bear! **14** Since you are banishing me today from the face of the earth, and I must hide from your presence and become a restless wanderer on the earth, whoever finds me will kill me."

**15** Then the LORD replied to him, "In that case, whoever kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." And he placed

a mark on Cain so that whoever found him would not kill him. **16** Then Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

### The Line of Cain

**17** Cain was intimate with his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain became the builder of a city, and he named the city Enoch after his son. **18** Irad was born to Enoch, Irad fathered Mehujael, Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. **19** Lamech took two wives for himself, one named Adah and the other named Zillah. **20** Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of the nomadic herdsmen. **21** His brother was named Jubal; he was the father of all who play the lyre and the flute. **22** Zillah bore Tubal-cain, who made all kinds of bronze and iron tools. Tubal-cain's sister was Naamah.

**23** Lamech said to his wives:

Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;  
wives of Lamech, pay attention  
to my words.

For I killed a man for wounding me,  
a young man for striking me.

**24** If Cain is to be avenged  
seven times over,  
then for Lamech it will be  
seventy-seven times!

**25** Adam was intimate with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has given me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." **26** A son was born to Seth also, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of the LORD.

### The Line of Seth

**5** This is the document containing the family records of Adam. On the day that God created man, he made him in the likeness of God; **2** he created them male and female. When they were created, he blessed them and called them mankind.

**3** Adam was 130 years old when he fathered a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. **4** Adam lived 800 years after he fathered Seth, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **5** So Adam's life lasted 930 years; then he died.

**6** Seth was 105 years old when he fathered Enosh. **7** Seth lived 807 years after he fathered Enosh, and he fathered other

sons and daughters. **8** So Seth's life lasted 912 years; then he died.

**9** Enosh was 90 years old when he fathered Kenan. **10** Enosh lived 815 years after he fathered Kenan, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **11** So Enosh's life lasted 905 years; then he died.

**12** Kenan was 70 years old when he fathered Mahalalel. **13** Kenan lived 840 years after he fathered Mahalalel, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **14** So Kenan's life lasted 910 years; then he died.

**15** Mahalalel was 65 years old when he fathered Jared. **16** Mahalalel lived 830 years after he fathered Jared, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **17** So Mahalalel's life lasted 895 years; then he died.

**18** Jared was 162 years old when he fathered Enoch. **19** Jared lived 800 years after he fathered Enoch, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **20** So Jared's life lasted 962 years; then he died.

**21** Enoch was 65 years old when he fathered Methuselah. **22** And after he fathered Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and fathered other sons and daughters. **23** So Enoch's life lasted 365 years. **24** Enoch walked with God; then he was not there because God took him.

**25** Methuselah was 187 years old when he fathered Lamech. **26** Methuselah lived 782 years after he fathered Lamech, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **27** So Methuselah's life lasted 969 years; then he died.

**28** Lamech was 182 years old when he fathered a son. **29** And he named him Noah, saying, "This one will bring us relief from the agonizing labor of our hands, caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." **30** Lamech lived 595 years after he fathered Noah, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **31** So Lamech's life lasted 777 years; then he died.

**32** Noah was 500 years old, and he fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

### Sons of God and Daughters of Mankind

**6** When mankind began to multiply on the earth and daughters were born to them, **2** the sons of God saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful, and they took any they chose as wives for themselves. **3** And the LORD said, "My Spirit will not remain with mankind forever, because they are corrupt. Their days will be 120 years." **4** The Nephilim were on the earth both in those days and afterward, when the sons of God came to

the daughters of mankind, who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men.

### Judgment Decreed

**5** When the LORD saw that human wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every inclination of the human mind was nothing but evil all the time, **6** the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and he was deeply grieved. **7** Then the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I created, off the face of the earth, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky—for I regret that I made them." **8** Noah, however, found favor with the LORD.

### God Warns Noah

**9** These are the family records of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among his contemporaries; Noah walked with God. **10** And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

**11** Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with wickedness. **12** God saw how corrupt the earth was, for every creature had corrupted its way on the earth. **13** Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth.

**14** "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. **15** This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. **16** You are to make a roof, finishing the sides of the ark to within eighteen inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks.

**17** "Understand that I am bringing a flood—floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. **18** But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives. **19** You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. **20** Two of everything—from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds—will come to you so that you can keep them alive. **21** Take with

you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them." **22** And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

### Entering the Ark

**7** Then the LORD said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. **2** You are to take with you seven pairs, a male and its female, of all the clean animals, and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and its female, **3** and seven pairs, male and female, of the birds of the sky—in order to keep offspring alive throughout the earth. **4** Seven days from now I will make it rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing I have made I will wipe off the face of the earth." **5** And Noah did everything that the LORD commanded him.

**6** Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came and water covered the earth. **7** So Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives entered the ark because of the floodwaters. **8** From the clean animals, unclean animals, birds, and every creature that crawls on the ground, **9** two of each, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, just as God had commanded him. **10** Seven days later the floodwaters came on the earth.

### The Flood

**11** In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the vast watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened, **12** and the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. **13** On that same day Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, entered the ark, along with Noah's wife and his three sons' wives. **14** They entered it with all the wildlife according to their kinds, all livestock according to their kinds, all the creatures that crawl on the earth according to their kinds, every flying creature—all the birds and every winged creature—according to their kinds. **15** Two of every creature that has the breath of life in it came to Noah and entered the ark. **16** Those that entered, male and female of every creature, entered just as God had commanded him. Then the LORD shut him in.

**17** The flood continued for forty days on the earth; the water increased and lifted

# JOHN

## Prologue

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of men. **5** That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it.

**6** There was a man sent from God whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. **8** He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. **9** The true light that gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

**10** He was in the world, and the world was created through him, and yet the world did not recognize him. **11** He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. **12** But to all who did receive him, he gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in his name, **13** who were born, not of natural descent, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of God.

**14** The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. **15** (John testified concerning him and exclaimed, "This was the one of whom I said, 'The one coming after me ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.'") **16** Indeed, we have all received grace upon grace from his fullness, **17** for the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God. The one and only Son, who is himself God and is at the Father's side—he has revealed him.

## John the Baptist's Testimony

**19** This was John's testimony when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?"

**20** He didn't deny it but confessed: "I am not the Messiah."

**21** "What then?" they asked him. "Are you Elijah?"

"I am not," he said.

"Are you the Prophet?"

"No," he answered.

**22** "Who are you, then?" they asked. "We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What can you tell us about yourself?"

**23** He said, "I am a **voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord**—just as Isaiah the prophet said."

**24** Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. **25** So they asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you aren't the Messiah, or Elijah, or the Prophet?"

**26** "I baptize with water," John answered them. "Someone stands among you, but you don't know him. **27** He is the one coming after me, whose sandal strap I'm not worthy to untie." **28** All this happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

## The Lamb of God

**29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! **30** This is the one I told you about: 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me, because he existed before me.' **31** I didn't know him, but I came baptizing with water so he might be revealed to Israel." **32** And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he rested on him. **33** I didn't know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The one you see the Spirit descending and resting on—he is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' **34** I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

**35** The next day, John was standing with two of his disciples. **36** When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

**37** The two disciples heard him say this and followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and noticed them following him, he asked them, "What are you looking for?"

They said to him, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

**39** “Come and you’ll see,” he replied. So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon.

**40** Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed him. **41** He first found his own brother Simon and told him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated “the Christ”), **42** and he brought Simon to Jesus.

When Jesus saw him, he said, “You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas” (which is translated “Peter”).

### Philip and Nathanael

**43** The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. He found Philip and told him, “Follow me.”

**44** Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter. **45** Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the law (and so did the prophets): Jesus the son of Joseph, from Nazareth.”

**46** “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Nathanael asked him.

“Come and see,” Philip answered.

**47** Then Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”

**48** “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

“Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you,” Jesus answered.

**49** “Rabbi,” Nathanael replied, “You are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel!”

**50** Jesus responded to him, “Do you believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this.” **51** Then he said, “Truly I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

### The First Sign: Turning Water into Wine

**2** On the third day a wedding took place in Cana of Galilee. Jesus’s mother was there, and **2** Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding as well. **3** When the wine ran out, Jesus’s mother told him, “They don’t have any wine.”

**4** “What does that have to do with you and me, woman?” Jesus asked. “My hour has not yet come.”

**5** “Do whatever he tells you,” his mother told the servants.

**6** Now six stone water jars had been set there for Jewish purification. Each contained twenty or thirty gallons.

**7** “Fill the jars with water,” Jesus told them. So they filled them to the brim. **8** Then he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the headwaiter.” And they did.

**9** When the headwaiter tasted the water (after it had become wine), he did not know where it came from — though the servants who had drawn the water knew. He called the groom **10** and told him, “Everyone sets out the fine wine first, then, after people are drunk, the inferior. But you have kept the fine wine until now.”

**11** Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

**12** After this, he went down to Capernaum, together with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples, and they stayed there only a few days.

### Cleansing the Temple

**13** The Jewish Passover was near, and so Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found people selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and he also found the money changers sitting there. **15** After making a whip out of cords, he drove everyone out of the temple with their sheep and oxen. He also poured out the money changers’ coins and overturned the tables. **16** He told those who were selling doves, “Get these things out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a marketplace!”

**17** And his disciples remembered that it is written: **Zeal for your house will consume me.**

**18** So the Jews replied to him, “What sign will you show us for doing these things?”

**19** Jesus answered, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it up in three days.”

**20** Therefore the Jews said, “This temple took forty-six years to build, and will you raise it up in three days?”

**21** But he was speaking about the temple of his body. **22** So when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the statement Jesus had made.

**23** While he was in Jerusalem during the Passover Festival, many believed in his name when they saw the signs he was doing. **24** Jesus, however, would not entrust

himself to them, since he knew them all **25** and because he did not need anyone to testify about man; for he himself knew what was in man.

### Jesus and Nicodemus

**3** There was a man from the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to him at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could perform these signs you do unless God were with him.”

**3** Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

**4** “How can anyone be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked him. “Can he enter his mother’s womb a second time and be born?”

**5** Jesus answered, “Truly I tell you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. **6** Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** Do not be amazed that I told you that you must be born again. **8** The wind blows where it pleases, and you hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

**9** “How can these things be?” asked Nicodemus.

**10** “Are you a teacher of Israel and don’t know these things?” Jesus replied. **11** “Truly I tell you, we speak what we know and we testify to what we have seen, but you do not accept our testimony. **12** If I have told you about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? **13** No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven — the Son of Man.

**14** “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, **15** so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. **16** For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. **17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. **18** Anyone who believes in him is not condemned, but anyone who does not believe is already condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. **19** This is the judgment: The light has come

into the world, and people loved darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. **20** For everyone who does evil hates the light and avoids it, so that his deeds may not be exposed. **21** But anyone who lives by the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be shown to be accomplished by God.”

### Jesus and John the Baptist

**22** After this, Jesus and his disciples went to the Judean countryside, where he spent time with them and baptized.

**23** John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water there. People were coming and being baptized, **24** since John had not yet been thrown into prison.

**25** Then a dispute arose between John’s disciples and a Jew about purification. **26** So they came to John and told him, “Rabbi, the one you testified about, and who was with you across the Jordan, is baptizing — and everyone is going to him.”

**27** John responded, “No one can receive anything unless it has been given to him from heaven. **28** You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah, but I’ve been sent ahead of him.’ **29** He who has the bride is the groom. But the groom’s friend, who stands by and listens for him, rejoices greatly at the groom’s voice. So this joy of mine is complete. **30** He must increase, but I must decrease.”

### The One from Heaven

**31** The one who comes from above is above all. The one who is from the earth is earthly and speaks in earthly terms. The one who comes from heaven is above all. **32** He testifies to what he has seen and heard, and yet no one accepts his testimony. **33** The one who has accepted his testimony has affirmed that God is true. **34** For the one whom God sent speaks God’s words, since he gives the Spirit without measure. **35** The Father loves the Son and has given all things into his hands. **36** The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who rejects the Son will not see life; instead, the wrath of God remains on him.

### Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

**4** When Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard he was making and baptizing more disciples than John **2** (though Jesus himself was not baptizing, but his

disciples were), **3** he left Judea and went again to Galilee. **4** He had to travel through Samaria; **5** so he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph. **6** Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from his journey, sat down at the well. It was about noon.

**7** A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

"Give me a drink," Jesus said to her, **8** because his disciples had gone into town to buy food.

**9** "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" she asked him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.

**10** Jesus answered, "If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would ask him, and he would give you living water."

**11** "Sir," said the woman, "you don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this 'living water'? **12** You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and livestock."

**13** Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again. **14** But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again. In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up in him for eternal life."

**15** "Sir," the woman said to him, "give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and come here to draw water."

**16** "Go call your husband," he told her, "and come back here."

**17** "I don't have a husband," she answered.

"You have correctly said, 'I don't have a husband,'" Jesus said. **18** "For you've had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true."

**19** "Sir," the woman replied, "I see that you are a prophet. **20** Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

**21** Jesus told her, "Believe me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. **22** You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know, because salvation is from the Jews. **23** But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the

Father in Spirit and in truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship him. **24** God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."

**25** The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

**26** Jesus told her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

### The Ripened Harvest

**27** Just then his disciples arrived, and they were amazed that he was talking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

**28** Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the people, **29** "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" **30** They left the town and made their way to him.

**31** In the meantime the disciples kept urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."

**32** But he said, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

**33** The disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought him something to eat?"

**34** "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work," Jesus told them. **35** "Don't you say, 'There are still four more months, and then comes the harvest'? Listen to what I'm telling you: Open your eyes and look at the fields, because they are ready for harvest. **36** The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that the sower and reaper can rejoice together. **37** For in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' **38** I sent you to reap what you didn't labor for; others have labored, and you have benefited from their labor."

### The Savior of the World

**39** Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of what the woman said when she testified, "He told me everything I ever did." **40** So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. **41** Many more believed because of what he said. **42** And they told the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, since we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world."

### A Galilean Welcome

**43** After two days he left there for Galilee. **44** (Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) **45** When they entered Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him because they had seen everything he did in Jerusalem during the festival. For they also had gone to the festival.

### The Second Sign: Healing an Official's Son

**46** He went again to Cana of Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. There was a certain royal official whose son was ill at Capernaum. **47** When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea into Galilee, he went to him and pleaded with him to come down and heal his son, since he was about to die.

**48** Jesus told him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

**49** "Sir," the official said to him, "come down before my boy dies."

**50** "Go," Jesus told him, "your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said to him and departed.

**51** While he was still going down, his servants met him saying that his boy was alive. **52** He asked them at what time he got better. "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him," they answered.

**53** The father realized this was the very hour at which Jesus had told him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household.

**54** Now this was also the second sign Jesus performed after he came from Judea to Galilee.

### The Third Sign: Healing the Sick

**5** After this, a Jewish festival took place, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **2** By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda in Aramaic, which has five colonnades. **3** Within these lay a large number of the disabled — blind, lame, and paralyzed.

**5** One man was there who had been disabled for thirty-eight years. **6** When Jesus saw him lying there and realized he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to get well?"

**7** "Sir," the disabled man answered, "I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I'm coming, someone goes down ahead of me."

**8** "Get up," Jesus told him, "pick up your mat and walk." **9** Instantly the man got well, picked up his mat, and started to walk.

Now that day was the Sabbath, **10** and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "This is the Sabbath. The law prohibits you from picking up your mat."

**11** He replied, "The man who made me well told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"

**12** "Who is this man who told you, 'Pick up your mat and walk'?" they asked. **13** But the man who was healed did not know who it was, because Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

**14** After this, Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well. Do not sin anymore, so that something worse doesn't happen to you." **15** The man went and reported to the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. **16** Therefore, the Jews began persecuting Jesus because he was doing these things on the Sabbath.

### Honoring the Father and the Son

**17** Jesus responded to them, "My Father is still working, and I am working also."

**18** This is why the Jews began trying all the more to kill him: Not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal to God.

**19** Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, the Son is not able to do anything on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, the Son likewise does these things. **20** For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing, and he will show him greater works than these so that you will be amazed. **21** And just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son also gives life to whom he wants. **22** The Father, in fact, judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son, **23** so that all people may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him.

### Life and Judgment

**24** "Truly I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

**25** "Truly I tell you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who

hear will live. **26** For just as the Father has life in himself, so also he has granted to the Son to have life in himself. **27** And he has granted him the right to pass judgment, because he is the Son of Man. **28** Do not be amazed at this, because a time is coming when all who are in the graves will hear his voice **29** and come out — those who have done good things, to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked things, to the resurrection of condemnation.

**30** “I can do nothing on my own. I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, because I do not seek my own will, but the will of him who sent me.

### Witnesses to Jesus

**31** “If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. **32** There is another who testifies about me, and I know that the testimony he gives about me is true. **33** You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. **34** I don’t receive human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. **35** John was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light.

**36** “But I have a greater testimony than John’s because of the works that the Father has given me to accomplish. These very works I am doing testify about me that the Father has sent me. **37** The Father who sent me has himself testified about me. You have not heard his voice at any time, and you haven’t seen his form. **38** You don’t have his word residing in you, because you don’t believe the one he sent. **39** You pore over the Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them, and yet they testify about me. **40** But you are not willing to come to me so that you may have life.

**41** “I do not accept glory from people, **42** but I know you — that you have no love for God within you. **43** I have come in my Father’s name, and yet you don’t accept me. If someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him. **44** How can you believe, since you accept glory from one another but don’t seek the glory that comes from the only God? **45** Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. **46** For if you believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me. **47** But if you don’t believe what he wrote, how will you believe my words?”

### The Fourth Sign: Feeding of the Five Thousand

**6** After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). **2** A huge crowd was following him because they saw the signs that he was performing by healing the sick. **3** Jesus went up a mountain and sat down there with his disciples.

**4** Now the Passover, a Jewish festival, was near. **5** So when Jesus looked up and noticed a huge crowd coming toward him, he asked Philip, “Where will we buy bread so that these people can eat?” **6** He asked this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

**7** Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn’t be enough for each of them to have a little.”

**8** One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, **9** “There’s a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish — but what are they for so many?”

**10** Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.”

There was plenty of grass in that place; so they sat down. The men numbered about five thousand. **11** Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks he distributed them to those who were seated — so also with the fish, as much as they wanted.

**12** When they were full, he told his disciples, “Collect the leftovers so that nothing is wasted.” **13** So they collected them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves that were left over by those who had eaten.

**14** When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, “This truly is the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

**15** Therefore, when Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

### The Fifth Sign: Walking on Water

**16** When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, **17** got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. Darkness had already set in, but Jesus had not yet come to them. **18** A high wind arose, and the sea began to churn. **19** After they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea. He was coming near the boat, and they were afraid. **20** But he said to them, “It is I. Don’t be afraid.” **21** Then they were willing to take him on board, and at once the boat was at the shore where they were heading.