

A Digest of the Gospel of Saint Matthew

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD
JANUARY 21-22, 2023

Chapter 1 ¹The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. ¹⁸She was found with child through the holy Spirit.

Chapter 2 ²Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage. ¹³Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt. ¹⁶Herod ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had ascertained from the magi. ²⁰Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.

Chapter 3 ²Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! ¹⁶After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him.

Chapter 4 ¹Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ¹⁷From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ¹⁹He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²³He went around all of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness among the people.

Chapter 5 ³Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹³⁻¹⁴You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. ¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ²²Whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment. ²⁸Everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ³⁴But I say to you, do not swear at all. ³⁹When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well. ⁴⁴Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you.

Chapter 6 ³⁻⁴But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your

almsgiving may be secret. ⁶When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. ⁹Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. ¹⁶When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. ²⁰But store up treasures in heaven. ²²The lamp of the body is the eye. ²⁴You cannot serve God and mammon. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.

Chapter 7 ¹Stop judging, that you may not be judged. ⁶Do not give what is holy to dogs, or throw your pearls before swine. ⁷Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹²Do to others whatever you would have them do to you. ¹³Enter through the narrow gate. ¹⁵Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves. ²¹Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²⁴Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.

Chapter 8 ²Then a leper approached, did him homage, and said, "Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean." ⁶⁻⁷"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully." He said to him, "I will come and cure him." ¹⁵He touched her hand, the fever left her, and she rose and waited on him. ¹⁷He took away our infirmities and bore our diseases. ²²Follow me, and let the dead bury their dead. ²⁶He got up, rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was great calm. ³¹The demons pleaded with him, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of swine."

Chapter 9 ⁶But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic, "Rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home." ⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁵Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? ¹⁸My daughter has just died. But come, lay your hand on her, and she will live. ²¹If only I can touch his cloak, I shall be cured. ²⁷And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying out, "Son of David, have pity on us!" ³³When the demon was driven out the mute person spoke. ³⁶At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.

Chapter 10 ¹Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness. ⁷As you go, make this proclamation: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. ³⁹Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ⁴⁰Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me.

Chapter 11 ⁴⁻⁵Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. ⁷What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ²⁴But I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you." ²⁵I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. ²⁸Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

Chapter 12 ⁸For the Son of Man is Lord of the sabbath. ¹³Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and it was restored as sound as the other. ²⁰A bruised reed he will not break, a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory. ²⁸If it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ³⁵A good person brings forth good out of a store of goodness, but an evil person brings forth evil out of a store of evil. ³⁹An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. ⁵⁰Whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Chapter 13 ³A sower went out to sow. ¹¹He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted." ¹⁶But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. ²³But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. ²⁹No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. ³¹The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. ³³The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat flour until the whole batch was

leavened. ⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁵⁷A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and in his own house.

Chapter 14 ⁸Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist." ²¹Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children. ²⁵During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea. ³⁶People brought to him all those who were sick and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak, and as many as touched it were healed.

Chapter 15 ¹⁹For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, unchastity, theft, false witness, blasphemy. ²⁷Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters. ³¹The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the deformed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind able to see, and they glorified the God of Israel. They all ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full.

Chapter 16 ⁴An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonah. ⁶Look out, and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. ¹⁶Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ²¹Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²⁴Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.

Chapter 17 ²He was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. ¹¹Elijah will indeed come and restore all things. ¹⁸The demon came out of him, and from that hour the boy was cured. ²⁷Go to the sea, drop in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up. Open its mouth and you will find a coin worth twice the temple tax. Give that to them for me and for you.

Chapter 18 ³Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁸If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. ¹²If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray? ²⁰For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. ²⁸When that servant had left, he

found one of his fellow servants who owed him a much smaller amount. He seized him and started to choke him, demanding, 'Pay back what you owe.'

Chapter 19 ⁶Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate. ¹⁴Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. ²¹If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.

Chapter 20 ¹⁶Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last. ²¹Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left, in your kingdom. ³⁴Moved with pity, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight, and followed him.

Chapter 21 ⁹The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest. ¹²Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all those engaged in selling and buying there. ²²Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive. ²⁷They said to Jesus in reply, "We do not know." He himself said to them, "Neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things. ³¹Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance."

Chapter 22 ⁹Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find. ²¹Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. ³²I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not the God of the dead but of the living. ³⁷You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. ³⁹You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁶No one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Chapter 23 ¹⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites. ³⁷Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but you were unwilling!

Chapter 24 ²There will not be left here a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down. ¹³But the one who perseveres to the end will be saved. ²³If anyone says to you then, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. ³⁰And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³²Learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. ³⁶But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ⁴⁶Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so.

Chapter 25 ¹Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?'

Chapter 26 ²You know that in two days' time it will be Passover, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified. ⁶⁻⁷Now when Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head while he was reclining at table. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶They paid him thirty pieces of silver, and from that time on he looked for an opportunity to hand him over. ¹⁷Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover? ²³He who has dipped his hand into the dish with me is the one who will betray me. ²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body." ³⁴This very night before the cock crows, you will deny me three times. ³⁸My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me. ⁵⁰Then stepping forward they laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has blasphemed!" ⁷⁵Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had spoken: "Before the cock crows you will deny me three times." He went out and began to weep bitterly.

Chapter 27 ²They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate, the governor. ⁶It is not lawful to deposit this in the temple treasury, for it is the price of blood. ¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and he questioned him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." ²²Let him be crucified! ²⁹Weaving a crown out of thorns, they placed it on his head, and a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before

him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”
³²As they were going out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross. ³⁵⁻³⁶After they had crucified him, they divided his garments by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ⁵⁰But Jesus cried out again in a loud voice, and gave up his spirit. ⁵⁹⁻⁶⁰Taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen and laid it in his new tomb that he had hewn in the rock. ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, “The guard is yours; go secure it as best you can.”

Chapter 28 ²And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. ¹³You are to say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.’ ¹⁹⁻²⁰Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.

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