The Gospels, Traumatic Suffering, and the Embodied-Soul

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Man of Suffering: Acquainted with Our Suffering

Long before the four Gospels pictured Jesus's suffering, Isaiah prophesied about it.

He was despised and rejected by mankind, **a man of suffering**, and **familiar with pain** (Isaiah 53:3).

• Jesus Is the Man of Suffering.

Long before the four Gospels pictured Jesus as Soul Physician, Jesus quoted Isaiah's prophesy about Himself.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to *proclaim good news* to the poor. He has sent me to *proclaim freedom* for the prisoners and *recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,* to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor (Luke 4:18-19; Isaiah 61:1-2).

• Jesus Is the Soul Physician for the Suffering.

We know from Hebrews 2:9-11; 2:14-18; and 4:14-16, that Jesus is our sympathetic High Priest who empathizes with our weaknesses, infirmities, and sufferings.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

• Jesus Is Our Sympathetic High Priest.

Jesus, being the God-man, perfectly depended upon His Father. Throughout His life on earth, Jesus models for us the spiritual discipline solitude.

• Jesus Is Our Perfect Model of Dependence upon the Father.

Biblical Resources for Biblical Counseling and Christian Living

For the past several months, I've been studying the Bible cover-to-cover, Genesis-to-Revelation with a focus on suffering and the embodied-soul. My single-spaced typed notes on the Old Testament are over 1,000 pages.

More recently, I've begun a study of the four Gospels—with the same focus on suffering and the embodied-soul. My single-spaced typed notes on the Gospels are over 200 pages.

I originally thought that my study in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John would focus on *Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls*. Indeed, that's where I started. You'll see some of the fruit of that focus in this document.

However, as I did a second, and then a third, thorough reading of the Gospels, I began to collate all the times that Jesus suffered—not just during His Passion Week, but throughout His entire life. I began to see *The Chronic Suffering of Jesus*. You'll see some of the fruit of that focus in this document.

Then I began to see all the ways that Jesus's own suffering relate to our suffering—Jesus is our sympathetic/empathetic High Priest. You'll see some of the fruit of that focus in this document.

My hope is to complete a comprehensive book on *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: Becoming Soul Physicians of Embodied-Souls*. Until then, I am providing free resources like this one. In this resource, you will find:

- 1. A Blog Post About Jesus's Suffering: *The Chronic Suffering of Jesus: Your Sympathetic High Priest*.
- 2. A Comprehensive Collation of Every Gospel Passage Where Jesus Suffered.
- 3. A Blog Post About Jesus Healing the Suffering: *Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls*.
- 4. A Comprehensive Collation of Every Gospel Passage Where Jesus Healed the Suffering.
- 5. A Blog Post About Jesus As Our Sympathetic High Priest: *Jesus Empathizes with Your Traumatic Suffering*.
- 6. A Blog Post About Jesus and Solitude: <u>48 Gospel Passages About Jesus and Solitude: Rest,</u> <u>Renewal, Withdrawal for Reflection, and Prayer to His Father</u>.

The Chronic Suffering of Jesus: Our Sympathetic High Priest

The Life-Long, Chronic Suffering of Jesus

When we think of Christ as the "man of sorrows" (Isaiah 53:3), we often think primarily of Christ's suffering on the cross. Of course, the four Gospels do consistently depict Christ's Passion Week of suffering, crucifixion, and death on our behalf.

However, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John also constantly depict Christ's life of suffering. I just completed a lengthy, focused study of Christ's suffering in the four Gospels. I have well over 100 pages of single-spaced type notes. I have collated 256 Gospel passages (not just verses, but passages) about Jesus's suffering. And most of that suffering was **before** the last week of Christ's life. The conclusion of the matter:

The Gospels highlight the life-long, chronic suffering of Jesus.

Matthew includes 67 passages about Jesus's chronic suffering; Mark contains 54 passages; Luke highlights 62 passages; and John depicts 73 accounts of Jesus's suffering—256 Gospel passages.

What Isaiah 53:3 prophesied, the Gospels picture:

Jesus: Man of Sorrows and Suffering; Acquainted with Grief and Pain.

What Does God's Word Say?

Don't just take my word for it. Take God's Word for it.

Later in this document you'll find my collation of 256 Gospel passages about Jesus's suffering, plus 102 Gospel passages about Jesus healing the suffering. That's 358 Gospel passages about Jesus and suffering—His suffering, plus His ministry to those who were suffering.

And the Commentators Say...

Don't take my word for it. Take the word of biblical commentators.

I don't want to just take my word for it! Living as we do in an era where everyone is talking about trauma, I wanted to be sure that I was not reading traumatic-suffering into the text of Scripture. So, I studied what several commentators—who wrote **before** our modern era of trauma theory. Specifically, I collated what they said about Isaiah 53:3.

First, here's Isaiah 53:3 in a few different translations.

³ He was despised and rejected by mankind, **a man of suffering**, and **familiar with pain** (NIV).

³ He is despised and rejected of men: he **is a man full of sorrows**, and **hath experience of infirmities** (1599 Geneva Bible).

³ People despised and avoided him, **a man of pains**, **well acquainted with illness** (Complete Jewish Bible).

He was despised and rejected by men, **a man of sorrows** and **acquainted with grief** (ESV).

³ He is despised and rejected of men; **a man of sorrows**, and **acquainted with grief** (KJV).

³ He was despised and abandoned by men, A man of **great pain** and **familiar with sickness** (NASB).

³ He is despised and *chadal ishim* (rejected by men); **a man of sorrows**, and **acquainted with suffering** (Orthodox Jewish Bible).

What is being predicted about our Messiah when Isiaah says He will be a "man of suffering, familiar with pain"? Here's what pre-trauma-theory-commentators say.

"A man of sorrows; whose whole life was filled with, and in a manner made up of, an uninterrupted succession of sorrows and sufferings. Acquainted with grief; who had constant experience of and familiar converse with grievous afflictions: (Matthew Poole's Commentary).

Jesus "was מכאבות איש", a man of sorrow of heart in all its forms, i.e., a man whose chief distinction was, that His life was one of constant painful endurance" (Keil and Delitzsch).

"His whole life was not only humble as to outward condition, but also sorrowful (Matthew Henry).

"A man of sorrows—What a beautiful expression! A man who was so sad and sorrowful; whose life was so full of sufferings, that it might be said that that was the characteristic of the man. Here, the expression means that his life was characterized by sorrows" (Barnes Notes).

"Man of sorrows—that is, whose distinguishing characteristic was sorrows. Acquainted with—familiar by constant contact with. Grief—literally, 'disease'; figuratively for all kinds of calamity (Jer 6:14)" (Jamieson-Faussett-Brown Bible Commentary). "A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: or 'known by grief'; *he was known by his troubles, notorious for them; these were his constant companions, his familiar acquaintance, with whom he was always conversant; his life was one continued series of sorrow, from the cradle to the cross*; in his infancy his life was sought for by Herod, and he was obliged to be taken by his parents, and flee into Egypt; he ate his bread in sorrow, and with the sweat of his brow; he met with much sorrow from the hardness and unbelief of men's hearts, and from the contradiction of sinners against himself, and even much from the frowardness of his own disciples; much from the temptations of Satan, and more from the wrath and justice of God, as the surety of his people; he was exceeding sorrowful in the garden, when his sweat was as it were great drops of blood; and when on the cross, under the hidings of his Father's face, under a sense of divine displeasure for the sins of his people, and enduring the pains and agonies of a shameful and an accursed death; he was made up of sorrows, and grief was familiar to him" (*Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible*).

"A Man of sorrows. The word translated 'sorrows' means also pains of any kind. *The 'sorrows' of Jesus appear on every page of the Gospels*" (*Pulpit Commentary*).

Isaiah 53 and the four Gospels all teach us that:

Christ's entire life was characterized by suffering and sorrow, by pain and grief.

So What? Our Sympathetic High Priest

The life of Jesus was one of chronic suffering. The ministry of Jesus is one of consistent ministry to the suffering.

No wonder Jesus is able to empathize with our weaknesses and sympathize with our suffering. He suffered.

The author of Hebrews reminds us:

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is **unable to empathize with our weaknesses**, but we have one **who has been tempted in every way, just as we are**—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Consider just one obvious example that connects the suffering of Jesus to our suffering:

Jesus's hunger and His compassion for the hungry.

We've read it so many times that we might skip right past the obvious. "After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry" (Matthew 4:2). Well, yes! Of course! Hungry. Starving. Famished. After forty days and forty nights of fasting.

When we recall Jesus's intense experience of hunger in Matthew 4:2, it helps us to understand His compassionate empathy for the hungry in Matthew 15:32.

"Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."

Yes, Jesus does get us!

Yes, Jesus is our sympathetic, empathetic High Priest.

Jesus heals the hungry *and* He heals all manner of suffering throughout His ministry. In *Jesus, Soul Physicians of Embodied-Souls*, I collate 97 Gospel passages and 583 Gospel verses where Jesus heals the suffering. We can summarize it like this:

The Man of Suffering Is the Healer of the Suffering.

And for You?

What about you?

- 1. In your chronic pain, how does it minister to your soul when you see and turn to Jesus who experienced chronic suffering?
- 2. In your suffering, what does it mean for you to know Jesus—the Man of Suffering?
- 3. In your suffering, what does it look like for you to go to the Man of Suffering to receive mercy and to find grace to help you in your time of need?
- 4. In your traumatic-suffering, how does it minister to your soul when you cling to Jesus as your empathetic High Priest who is able to sympathize with your suffering?
- 5. In your terminal diagnosis, do you see and turn to Jesus who went through His entire life aware of His upcoming death by crucifixion.
- 6. In your daily suffering, how can you cling to the Man of Suffering whose constant experienced was one of suffering and sorrow?

256 Gospel Passages on the Suffering of Jesus

Introduction

Had you asked me a year ago to speak about Jesus's suffering, I would have focused on the last week of Christ's life. Ask me today, and I will focus on Christ's entire life. As the previous blog post highlights:

The life of Christ is a life of chronic suffering.

In what follows, I'm simply collating for you all the Gospel passages that talk about Jesus's suffering. You'll find every type of suffering from physical suffering, to relational suffering (His own family calling Him mad; His own disciples betraying Him and denying Him), and so much more.

In the Gospels, I've found 256 passages about the suffering of Christ. That's not just verses, but passages—many containing multiple verses.

- Matthew: 67 Passages
- Mark: 54 Passages
- Luke: 62 Passages
- John: 73 Passages
- Gospel Totals: 256 Passages

Matthew and the Suffering of Jesus

- Matthew 1:18-19: Falsely Considered Illegitimate: ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.
- 2. Matthew 2:13: Attempted Murder: ¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."
- 3. **Matthew 2:14-15: Exile in Egypt:** ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."
- 4. Matthew 2:16-18: Attempted Murder ¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷ Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning,

Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

- 5. **Matthew 2:19-20: Attempted Murder:** ¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for **those who were trying to take the child's life are dead**."
- 6. **Matthew 2:21-23: Terrified of Murder:** ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, **he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee**, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.
- 7. **Matthew 4:1-11: Tempted by the Devil:** 4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness **to be tempted by the devil**. ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.
- 8. Matthew 4:2: Hunger: ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.
- 9. Matthew 8:20: Homeless: ²⁰ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."
- 10. Matthew 8:34: Rejected: ³⁴ Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.
- 11. **Matthew 8:26: Doubted:** ²⁶ He replied, "**You of little faith**, **why are you so afraid?**" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.
- 12. Matthew 9:3: Accused of Blasphemy: ³ At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!"
- 13. Matthew 9:11: Accused of Consorting with Sinners: ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 14. Matthew 9:14: Accused of Breaking Religious Traditions: ¹⁴ Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"
- 15. **Matthew 9:23-24: Laughed At/Mocked:** ²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, ²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." **But they laughed at him.**
- 16. Matthew 9:34: Accused of Being in Cahoots with Demons: ³⁴ But the Pharisees said, "It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons."
- 17. Matthew 9:36: Compassionate Empathy for the Suffering: ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- 18. **Matthew 10:24-25: Called Beelzebul:** ²⁴ "The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. **If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul,** how much more the members of his household!
- 19. Matthew 11:18-19: Called Glutton, Drunkard, Friend of Sinners: ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

- 20. Matthew 12:1-2: Accused of Doing What Is Unlawful: 12 At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. ² When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath."
- 21. Matthew 12:9-10: People Looking for a Reason to Bring a Charge Against Him; Accused of Being a Law-Breaker: ⁹ Going on from that place, he went into their synagogue, ¹⁰ and a man with a shriveled hand was there. Looking for a reason to bring charges against Jesus, they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?
- 22. Matthew 12:14: Plotted Against to Be Kill: ¹⁴ But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus.
- 23. Matthew 12:24: Accused of Being in Cahoots with Beelzebul: ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons."
- 24. Matthew 13:53-58: Dishonored in His Own Home and Town; Offended by Him, Lack of Faith in Him: ⁵³ When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there. ⁵⁴ Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. "Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?" they asked. ⁵⁵ "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? ⁵⁶ Aren't all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" ⁵⁷ And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town and in his own home." ⁵⁸ And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.
- 25. Matthew 14:12-13: Grieving the Beheading Death of His Cousin, John: ¹² John's disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.
 ¹³ When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.
- 26. Matthew 14:14: Compassionate Empathy for the Suffering: ¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, **he had compassion** on them and healed their sick.
- 27. Matthew 14:31: Doubted by His Own: ³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"
- 28. Matthew 15:1-2: Accused of Breaking Religious Tradition: 15 Then some Pharisees and teachers of the law came to Jesus from Jerusalem and asked, ² "Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? They don't wash their hands before they eat!"
- 29. Matthew 15:12: Religious Leaders Offended by Him: ¹² Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?"
- 30. Matthew 15:16: Saddened by Followers Who Did Not Understand Him: ¹⁶ "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them.
- 31. **Matthew 15:32: Compassionate Empathy for Sufferers:** ³² Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "**I have compassion for these people**; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way."
- 32. Matthew 16:21: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

- 33. Matthew 16:22: Rebuked by His Own Follower: ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"
- 34. Matthew 17:22-23: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²² When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. ²³ They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief.
- 35. Matthew 19:3: Tested/Attempt to Trap by Pharisees: ³ Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"
- 36. **Matthew 20:17-19: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, ¹⁸ "We are going up to Jerusalem, and **the Son of Man will be delivered over to** the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will **condemn him to death** ¹⁹ and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be **mocked and flogged and crucified**. On the third day he will be raised to life!"
- 37. Matthew 20:29-34: Compassionate Empathy for the Suffering: ³⁴ Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.
- 38. Matthew 22:15-18: Pharisees Lay a Trap for Jesus: ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?
- 39. Matthew 23:35-36: Pharisees Test/Seek to Trap Jesus: ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"
- 40. **Matthew 23:37: Longing for His Wayward Children:** ³⁷ "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, **how often I have longed to** gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.
- 41. Matthew 26:2: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ² "As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be **handed over to be crucified**."
- 42. Matthew 26:4-5: Schemed to Be Arrested/Killed: ⁴ and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ⁵ "But not during the festival," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."
- 43. Matthew 26:14-15, 20-25,45-46, 48-49: Betrayed by Friend/Follower: ¹⁴ Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over. ²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹ And while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord?" ²³ Jesus replied, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."
 ²⁵ Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?" Jesus answered, "You have said so." ⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son

of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend."

- 44. **Matthew 26:26-28: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** ²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; **this is my body**." ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸ **This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many** for the forgiveness of sins.
- 45. Matthew 26:31: All His Disciples Deny Him: ³¹ Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.
- 46. Matthew 26:33-34: Disowned by Peter: ³³ Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will." ³⁴ "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."
- 47. **Matthew 26:36-37: Gethsemane Soul Suffering:** ³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be **sorrowful and troubled**.
- 48. Matthew 26:38: Gethsemane Soul Suffering: ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."
- 49. Matthew 26:39, 42, 44: Gethsemane Soul Suffering; Prayer to His Father: ³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." ." ⁴² He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." ⁴⁴ So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.
- 50. Matthew 26:40-41, 43, 45: Gethsemane Soul Suffering; Disappointed by His Disciples: ⁴⁰ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. ⁴¹ "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. ⁴³ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁵ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.
- 51. Matthew 26:46: Betrayed by Judas: ⁴⁶ Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"
- 52. **Matthew 26:50: Seized and Arrested:** ⁵⁰ **Jesus replied,** "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, **seized Jesus and arrested him.**
- 53. Matthew 26:56: All His Disciples Desert Him: ⁵⁶ But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.
- 54. Matthew 26:59-61: False Witnesses Speak Against Him: ⁵⁹ The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. ⁶⁰ But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward ⁶¹ and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'"

- 55. **Matthew 26:65-66: Accused of Blasphemy:** ⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, **"He has spoken blasphemy!** Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now **you have heard the blasphemy**. ⁶⁶ What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered.
- 56. Matthew 26:67-68: Spat Upon and Struck, Slapped, and Mocked: ⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, "Prophesy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"
- 57. **Matthew 26:69-75: Denied Three Times by Peter:** ⁶⁹ Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said. ⁷⁰ **But he denied it before them all**. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said. ⁷¹ Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷² **He denied it again**, with an oath: "I don't know the man!" ⁷³ After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away." ⁷⁴ Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "**I don't know the man!**" Immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, **you will disown me three times.**" And he went outside and wept bitterly.
- 58. Matthew 27:1: Execution Planned Against Him: ¹ Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed.
- 59. Matthew 27:1: Bound and Handed Over: ² So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.
- 60. Matthew 27:26: A Murdered Chosen Over Him: ²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them.
- 61. Matthew 27:26: Flogged and Handed Over for Crucifixion: ²⁶ But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.
- 62. Matthew 27:27-31: Mocked and Beaten, Stripped, and Shamed: ²⁷ Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. ³⁰ They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. ³¹ After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.
- 63. **Matthew 27:38-44: Insulted and Mocked:** ³⁸ Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ **Those who passed by hurled insults at him**, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!" ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders **mocked him**. ⁴² "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴ In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also **heaped insults on him**.
- 64. **Matthew 27:45-46: Lamenting to God:** ⁴⁵ From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶ About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud

voice, *"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"* (which means **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**").

- 65. Matthew 27:47-56 Gave Up His Spirit: ⁵⁰ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. ⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!" ⁵⁵ Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.
- 66. **Matthew 27:63: Labeled "the Deceiver:** ⁶³ "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive **that deceiver** said, 'After three days I will rise again.'
- 67. Matthew 28:17: Doubted Even After His Resurrection: ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Mark and the Suffering of Jesus

- 1. **Mark 1:12-13: Tempted by the Devil:** ¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was **in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan.** He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.
- 2. **Mark 1:14: Cousin Imprisoned:** ¹⁴ **After John was put in prison,** Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.
- 3. Mark 2:6: Accused of Blasphemy: ⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ "Why does this fellow talk like that? **He's blaspheming!** Who can forgive sins but God alone?"
- 4. Mark 2:16: Ridiculed for Consorting with Sinners: ¹⁶ When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 5. **Mark 2:24: Accused of Unlawful Spiritual Behavior:** ²⁴ The Pharisees said to him, "Look, **why are they doing what is unlawful** on the Sabbath?"
- 6. Mark 3:2: Religious Leaders Looking for a Reason to Accuse Him: ² Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath.
- 7. Mark 3:5: Experiences Anger and Deep Distress: ⁵ He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.
- 8. Mark 3:6: Pharisees Plot to Kill Jesus: ⁶ Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.
- 9. Mark 3:21: Accused by His Own Family of Being Out of His Mind: ²¹ When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."
- 10. Mark 3:22: Accused of Being Demon Possessed: ²² And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

- 11. Mark 3:30: Accused of Having an Impure Spirit: ³⁰ He said this because they were saying, **"He has an impure spirit."**
- 12. Mark 5:17: Asked to Leave: ¹⁷ Then the people began to **plead with Jesus to leave** their region.
- 13. Mark 5:40: Laughed At/Mocked: ³⁹ He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." ⁴⁰ But they laughed at him.
- 14. Mark 6:1-6: Dishonored by His Own Relatives Who Took Offense at Him: 6 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴ Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.
- 15. **Mark 6:27-29: His Cousin Beheaded:** ²⁷ So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, **beheaded John in the prison**, ²⁸ and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. ²⁹ On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.
- 16. **Mark 6:34: Compassionate Empathy for the Suffering:** ³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, **he had compassion on them**, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.
- 17. Mark 7:5: Accused by the Pharisees: ⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?"
- 18. Mark 7:34: Sighing Deeply Over Sin's Impact: ³⁴ He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, *"Ephphatha!"* (which means "Be opened!").
- 19. Mark 8:1-2: Compassionate Empathy for the Suffering: ² "I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. ³ If I send them home hungry, they will collapse on the way, because some of them have come a long distance."
- 20. Mark 8:11: Questioned/Tested by Pharisees: ¹¹ The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven.
- 21. Mark 8:12: Sighing Deeply Over Hardheartedness: ¹² He sighed deeply and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it."
- 22. **Mark 8:31-32: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** ³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man **must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders**, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he **must be killed** and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
- 23. **Mark 8:32: Rebuked by Peter:** ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to **rebuke him**.

- 24. **Mark 9:30-31: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** ³⁰ They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, ³¹ because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is **going to be delivered** into the hands of men. **They will kill him**, and after three days he will rise."
- 25. Mark 10:2: Tested by Pharisees: ² Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"
- 26. Mark 10:32-34: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³² They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. ³³ "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, ³⁴ who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise."
- 27. Mark 11:18: Religious Leaders Seek to Kill Jesus: ¹⁸ The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and **began looking for a way to kill him**, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.
- 28. **Mark 11:26-28: His Authority Questioned:** ²⁷ They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. ²⁸ "**By what authority** are you doing these things?" they asked. "And **who gave you authority** to do this?"
- 29. Mark 12:12: Religious Leaders Look for a Way to Arrest Jesus: v¹² Then the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders looked for a way to arrest him because they knew he had spoken the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd; so they left him and went away.
- 30. Mark 12:13-15: Pharisees Try to Trap Him and Catch Him in His Words: ¹³ Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. ¹⁴ They came to him and said, "Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not? ¹⁵ Should we pay or shouldn't we?" But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. "Why are you trying to trap me?"
- 31. Mark 14:1: Religious Leaders Scheme to Arrest/Kill Jesus: 14 Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him.
- 32. **Mark 14:17-21: Betrayed by His Own:** ¹⁷ When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸ While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, **one of you will betray me**—one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?" ²⁰ "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ The Son of Man **will go** just as it is written about him. But **woe to that man who betrays the Son** of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."
- 33. **Mark 14:22-24: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** ²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, **"Take it; this is my body."** ²³ Then he took a cup, and when he had

given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ "This **is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many**," he said to them.

- 34. Mark 14:27-31: Disowned Three Times by Peter: ²⁷ "You will all fall away," Jesus told them, "for it is written: "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered." ²⁸ But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." ²⁹ Peter declared, "Even if all fall away, I will not." ³⁰ "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "today —yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times." ³¹ But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same.
- 35. Mark 14:32-33: Gethsemane Soul Agony: ³² They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled.
- 36. Mark 14:34: Gethsemane Soul Agony: ³⁴ "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."
- 37. Mark 14:35: Gethsemane Soul Agony; Prayer to His Father: ³⁵ Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that **if possible the hour might pass from** him. ³⁶ "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."
- 38. Mark 14:37-41: Gethsemane Soul Agony; Let Down by Peter: ³⁷ Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? ³⁸ Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹ Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. ⁴⁰ When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹ Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.
- 39. Mark 14:42-45: Betrayed by His Friend: ⁴² Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" ⁴³ Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders. ⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." ⁴⁵ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him.
- 40. Mark 14:46-47: Seized and Arrested: ⁴⁶ The men seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁴⁷ Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.
- 41. Mark 14:50: Deserted by Everyone: ⁵⁰ Then everyone deserted him and fled.
- 42. Mark 14:56-59: People Testify Falsely Against Him: ⁵⁶ Many testified falsely against him, but their statements did not agree. ⁵⁷ Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against him: ⁵⁸ "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands."⁵⁹ Yet even then their testimony did not agree.
- 43. Mark 14:63-64: Accused of Blasphemy ⁶³ The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. ⁶⁴ "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?"
- 44. Mark 14:64: Condemned to Death: They all condemned him as worthy of death.

- 45. Mark 14:65: Spit Upon, Struck, Mocked, and Beaten: ⁶⁵ Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophesy!" And the guards took him and beat him.
- 46. Mark 14:66-72: Disowned Three Times by Peter: ⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus," she said. ⁶⁸ But he denied it. "I don't know or understand what you're talking about," he said, and went out into the entryway. ⁶⁹ When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." ⁷⁰ Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." ⁷¹ He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about." ⁷² Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.
- 47. Mark 15:1: Bound: 15 Very early in the morning, the chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans. So they bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate.
- 48. Mark 15:3-4: Falsely Accused: ³ The chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ So again Pilate asked him, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of."
- 49. Mark 15:15: Flogged, Hand Over to Be Crucified: ¹⁵ Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.
- 50. Mark 15:16-20: Mocked, Struck, and Spit Upon: ¹⁶ The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium) and called together the whole company of soldiers. ¹⁷ They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to call out to him, "Hail, king of the Jews!" ¹⁹ Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple robe and put his own clothes on him.
- 51. Mark 15:20: Led Out to Be Crucified: ²⁰ Then they led him out to crucify him.
- 52. Mark 15:24-26: Crucified: ²⁴ And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get. ²⁵ It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The written notice of the charge against him read: the king of the jews.
- 53. Mark 15:29-32: Insulted and Mocked: ²⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law **mocked him** among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself! ³² Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." **Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him**.
- 54. Mark 15:34: Lamenting to God: ³⁴ And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"* (which means **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"**).

Luke and the Suffering of Jesus

- 1. Luke 4:1-13: Tempted by Satan: 4 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. ¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.
- 2. Luke 4:2: Hungry: ² He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.
- 3. Luke 4:22-25: Not Accepted in His Hometown ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. ²³ Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'" ²⁴ "Truly I tell you," he continued, "**no prophet is accepted in his hometown**.
- 4. Luke 4:28-30: People of His Home Town So Furious They Seek to Throw Him Off a Cliff: ²⁸ All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.
- 5. Luke 5:22-26: Accused of Blasphemy: ²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."
- 6. Luke 5:30-32: Accused of Consorting with Sinners: ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" ³¹ Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
- 7. Luke 6:2: Accused of Breaking God's Law: ² Some of the Pharisees asked, "Why are you doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"
- 8. Luke 6:7: Religious Leaders Look for Reasons to Accuse Him: ⁷ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath.
- 9. Luke 6:11: Religious Leaders Furious with Jesus: ¹¹ But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were furious and began to discuss with one another what they might do to Jesus.
- 10. Luke 7:29: Teachings Rejected: ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)

- 11. Luke 7:33-35: Accused of Being a Glutton, Drunkard, and Friend of Sinners ³³ For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' ³⁴ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' ³⁵ But wisdom is proved right by all her children."
- 12. Luke 7:39: His Character and Ministry Questioned: ³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."
- 13. Luke 8:37: Asked to Leave Town: ³⁷ Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.
- 14. Luke 8:53: Laughed At: ⁵³ They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.
- 15. Luke 9:21-22: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²² And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."
- 16. Luke 9:43-45: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: While everyone was marveling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples, ⁴⁴ "Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men." ⁴⁵ But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it.
- 17. Luke 9:51-52: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ⁵¹ As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him;
- 18. Luke 9:58: Homeless: ⁵⁸ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."
- 19. **Luke 10:25: Tested:** ²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up **to test Jesus**. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- 20. Luke 11:15: Accused of Being of the Devil: ¹⁵ But some of them said, "By Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons."
- 21. Luke 11:16: Tested: ¹⁶ Others tested him by asking for a sign from heaven.
- 22. Luke 11:53: Opposed Fiercely: ⁵³ When Jesus went outside, the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to oppose him fiercely and to besiege him with questions.
- 23. Luke 11:54: Pharisees Seek to Trap Him: ⁵⁴ waiting to catch him in something he might say.
- 24. Luke 13:14: Religious Leaders Indignant at Him: ¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."
- 25. Luke 13:31: Herod Wants to Kill Him: ³¹ At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you."
- 26. Luke 13:31-33: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³¹ At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you." ³² He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' ³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can **die outside Jerusalem!**

- 27. Luke 13:34: Longing for His Wayward Children: ³⁴ "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
- 28. Luke 15:2: Muttering/Murmuring About Him: ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 29. Luke 16:14-15: Pharisees Sneer at Him: ¹⁴ The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. ¹⁵ He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight.
- 30. Luke 18:31-34: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³¹ Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. ³² He will be **delivered over to the Gentiles**. They will **mock him, insult him and spit on him**; ³³ they will **flog him and kill him**. On the third day he will rise again." ³⁴ The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.
- 31. Luke 19:7: Everyone Muttered Against Him: ⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."
- 32. Luke 19:41-42: Weeping Over His Hardhearted People: ⁴¹ As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, **he wept over it** ⁴² and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.
- 33. Luke 19:47: Religious Leaders Seek to Kill Him: ⁴⁷ Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him.
- 34. Luke 20:19: Religious Leaders Seek to Arrest Him: ¹⁹ The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.
- 35. **Luke 22:1-2: Religious Leaders Look to Get Rid of Him:** Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, ² and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were **looking for some way to get rid of Jesus**, for they were afraid of the people.
- 36. Luke 22:3-6: Betrayed by Judas: ³ Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. ⁴ And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. ⁵ They were delighted and agreed to give him money. ⁶ He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present.
- 37. Luke 22:15: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹⁵ And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.
- 38. Luke 22:19-20: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.
- 39. Luke 22:21-23: Betrayed by Judas: ²¹ But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²² The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to

that man who betrays him!" ²³ They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

- 40. Luke 22:31-34: Betrayed by Peter: ³¹ "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." ³³ But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." ³⁴ Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."
- 41. Luke 22:37: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³⁷ It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment."
- 42. Luke 22:39-42: Gethsemane Soul Suffering; Prayer to His Father: ³⁹ Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. ⁴⁰ On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." ⁴¹ He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ⁴² "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."
- 43. Luke 22:43: Gethsemane Soul Suffering; Needing Strength: ⁴³ An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.
- 44. Luke 22:44: Gethsemane Soul Suffering: ⁴⁴ And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly,
- 45. Luke 22:44; Gethsemane Soul Suffering: ⁴⁴ and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.
- 46. Luke 22:45-46: Gethsemane Soul Suffering; Disappointed by His Disciples: ⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."
- 47. Luke 22:47-48: Betrayed with a Kiss: ⁴⁷ While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him, ⁴⁸ but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- 48. Luke 22:52-54: Arrested: ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? ⁵³ Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns." ⁵⁴ Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance.
- 49. Luke 22:55-62: Disowned by Peter: ⁵⁵ And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. ⁵⁶ A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." ⁵⁷ But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said. ⁵⁸ A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. ⁵⁹ About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰ Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." ⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly.

- 50. Luke 22:63-65: Mocked, Insulted, and Beaten: ⁶³ The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. ⁶⁴ They blindfolded him and demanded, "Prophesy! Who hit you?" ⁶⁵ And they said many other insulting things to him.
- 51. Luke 23:1-2, 5, 10, 14: Falsely Accused: 23 Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. ² And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king." ⁵ But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here." ¹⁰ The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. ¹⁴ and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him.
- 52. Luke 23:11: Ridiculed and Mocked: ¹¹ Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate.
- 53. Luke 23:18-25: A Murderer Chosen Over Jesus: v ¹⁸ But the whole crowd shouted, "Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!" ¹⁹ (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰ Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. ²¹ But they kept shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" ²² For the third time he spoke to them: "Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him." ²³ But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. ²⁴ So Pilate decided to grant their demand. ²⁵ He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.
- 54. Luke 23:33: Crucified with Criminals: ³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.
- 55. Luke 23:35: Sneered At: ³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."
- 56. **Luke 23:36-37: Mocked:** ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and **mocked him.** They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."
- 57. Luke 23:39: Insulted and Mocked: ³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"
- 58. Luke 23:46: Crucified: ⁴⁶ Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.
- 59. Luke 24:6-8: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " ⁸ Then they remembered his words.
- 60. Luke 24:20: Sentenced to Death and Crucified: ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;
- 61. Luke 24:26-27: Destined to Suffer: ²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.
- 62. Luke 24:45-48: Destined to Suffer: ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: **The Messiah will**

suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

John and the Suffering of Jesus

- 1. **John 2:19-22**: **Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion:** ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "**Destroy this temple**, and I will raise it again in three days." ²⁰ They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was **his body**. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.
- 2. John 3:14: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,
- 3. John 3:32: No One Accepts His Testimony: ³² He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no one accepts his testimony.
- 4. **John 5:16: Persecuted:** ¹⁶ So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders **began to persecute him**.
- 5. John 5:18: Tried to Kill Him: ¹⁸ For this reason they tried 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 with God.
- 6. John 6:41-43: Grumbled About Him: v⁴¹ At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴² They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?" ⁴³ "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered.
- 7. John 6:60, 66-67: Many Disciples Leave Him: ⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷ "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.
- 8. John 6:61: His Own Disciples Grumbled About Him: ⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?
- 9. John 6:70-71: Betrayed by Judas: ⁷⁰ Then Jesus replied, "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!" ⁷¹ (He meant Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, who, though one of the Twelve, was later to betray him.)
- 10. John 7:1: Leaders Looking to Kill Him: 7 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee. He did not want to go about in Judea because the Jewish leaders there were looking for a way to kill him.
- 11. John 7:4-5: Even His Brothers Did Not Believe in Him: ⁴ No one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." ⁵ For even his own brothers did not believe in him.
- 12. John 7:12-13: Whispered About as a Deceiver: v¹² Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people." ¹³ But no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the leaders.

- 13. John 7:19: Religious Leaders Tried to Kill Him: ¹⁹ Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?"
- 14. John 7:20: Accused of Being Demon Possessed: ²⁰ "You are demon-possessed," the crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill you?"
- 15. John 7:23: Religious Leaders Angry with Him: ²³ Now if a boy can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing a man's whole body on the Sabbath?
- 16. John 7:25: Religious Leaders Try to Kill Him: ²⁵ At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the man they are trying to kill?
- 17. John 7:30: People Try to Seize Him: ³⁰ At this they tried to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.
- 18. John 7:32: Pharisees Seek to Arrest Him: ³² The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him.
- 19. John 7:43-44: The People Wanted to Seize Him: ⁴³ Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.
- 20. John 7:47: Accused of Being a Deceiver: ⁴⁷ "You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted.
- 21. John 8:6: Religious Leaders Seek to Trap and Accuse Him: ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him.
- 22. John 8:13: Challenged by the Pharisees: ¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid."
- 23. John 8:21-22: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²¹ Once more Jesus said to them, "I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come." ²² This made the Jews ask, "Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you cannot come'?"
- 24. John 8:28: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²⁸ So Jesus said, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.
- 25. John 8:37, 40: Religious Leaders Looking to Kill Him: ³⁷ I know that you are Abraham's descendants. Yet **you are looking for a way to kill me**, because you have no room for my word. ⁴⁰ As it is, **you are looking for a way to kill me**, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things.
- 26. John 8:45-46: Disbelieved: ⁴⁵ Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! ⁴⁶ Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me?
- 27. John 8:48, 52: Accused of Being Demon Possessed: ⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that **you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?**" ⁵² At this they exclaimed, "**Now we know that you are demon-possessed!** Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that whoever obeys your word will never taste death
- 28. John 8:49: Dishonored: ⁴⁹ "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me.
- 29. John 8:58-59: People Tried to Stone Him: v ⁵⁸ "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" ⁵⁹ At this, **they picked up stones to stone him**, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

- 30. John 9:16: Called a Sinner Not from God: v ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.
- 31. John 10:20: Accused of Being Demon-Possessed and Raving Mad: ²⁰ Many of them said, **"He is demon-possessed and raving mad.** Why listen to him?"
- 32. John 10: 31-33: Opponents Attempted to Stone Him; Accuse Him of Blasphemy: ³¹ Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him, ³² but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" ³³ "We are not stoning you for any good work," they replied, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God."
- 33. John 10:39: Religious Leaders Try to Seize Him: ³⁹ Again they tried to seize him, but he escaped their grasp.
- 34. John 11:35: Weeping Over Sin and Death: Jesus wept.
- 35. John 11:53: Religious Leaders Continual Plot to Kill Him: ⁵³ So from that day on they plotted to take his life.
- 36. John 11:57: Religious Leaders Seek to Arrest Him: ⁵⁷ But the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him.
- 37. John 12:7-8: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."
- 38. John 12:23-24: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²³ Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, **unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground** and dies, it remains only a single seed. But **if it dies**, it produces many seeds.
- 39. John 12:27-28: His Soul Troubled: ²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!"
- 40. John 12:32-33: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.
- 41. John 12:37: Disbelieved: ³⁷ Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him.
- 42. John 13:1: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: 13 It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father.
- 43. John 13:2: Betrayal by Judas: ² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, **to betray Jesus**.
- 44. John 13:21: Troubled in His Spirit: ²¹ After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me."
- 45. John 13:21, 26-30: Betrayal by Judas: ²¹ After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me." ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. So Jesus told him, "What you are about to do, do quickly." ²⁸ But no one at the meal understood why

Jesus said this to him. ²⁹ Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the festival, or to give something to the poor. ³⁰ As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.

- 46. John 13:33: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³³ "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.
- 47. John 13:38: Disowned by Peter: ³⁸ Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!
- 48. John 14:3: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.
- 49. John 14:18-19: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.
- 50. John 14:28-29: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ²⁸ "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe.
- 51. John 15:18-19: Hated: ¹⁸ "If the world hates you, keep in mind that **it hated me first**. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.
- 52. **John 15:20-21: Persecuted:** ²⁰ Remember what I told you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If **they persecuted me**, they will persecute you also. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. ²¹ They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the one who sent me.
- 53. John 15:23-25: Hated: ²³ Whoever hates me hates my Father as well. ²⁴ If I had not done among them the works no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. As it is, they have seen, and yet **they have hated both me and my Father**. ²⁵ But this is to fulfill what is written in their Law: **'They hated me without reason**.
- 54. John 16:5-7: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ⁵ but now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. ⁷ But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
- 55. John 16:16-24: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹⁶ Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me." ¹⁷ At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸ They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying." ¹⁹ Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth to a

child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. ²² So with you: **Now is your time of grief**, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. ²³ In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

- 56. John 17:11: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.
- 57. John 17:13: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.
- 58. John 18:2-3: Betrayed by Judas: ² Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas came to the garden, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.
- 59. John 18:11: Awareness of His Own Pending Crucifixion: ¹¹ Jesus commanded Peter, "Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"
- 60. John 18:12-14: Arrested and Bound: ¹² Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him ¹³ and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴ Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jewish leaders that it would be good if one man died for the people.
- 61. John 18:15-18, 25-27: Denied by Peter Three Times: ¹⁵ Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard, ¹⁶ but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in. ¹⁷ "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" she asked Peter. He replied, **"I am not."** ¹⁸ It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself. ²⁵ Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing there warming himself. So they asked him, "You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?" He denied it, saying, **"I am not."** ²⁶ One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?" ²⁷ Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.
- 62. John 1822-23: Slapped and Struck: ²² When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby slapped him in the face. "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" he demanded. ²³ "If I said something wrong," Jesus replied, "testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?"
- 63. John 18:24: Bound: ²⁴ Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.
- 64. John 18:30: Accused of Being a Criminal: ³⁰ "If he were not a criminal," they replied, "we would not have handed him over to you."
- 65. John 18:39-40: Barrabas Chosen Over Him: ³⁹ But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release 'the king of

the Jews'?" ⁴⁰ They shouted back, **"No, not him! Give us Barabbas!"** Now Barabbas had taken part in an uprising.

- 66. John 19:1: Flogged: 19 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.
- 67. **John 19:2: Tortured with a Crown of Thorns:** ² The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe
- 68. John 19:3: Mocked and Slapped: ³ and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they slapped him in the face.
- 69. John 19:15-16: Handed Over to Be Crucified: ¹⁵ But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. ¹⁶ Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.
- 70. John 19:18, 23: Crucified: ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle. ²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.
- 71. John 19:28: Thirsts: ²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."
- 72. John 19:30: Dies: ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and **gave up his spirit**.
- 73. **John 20:24-27: Doubted by Thomas:** ²⁴ Now Thomas (also known as Didymus^[a]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. **Stop doubting and believe.**"

Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls

WDJD: What Did Jesus Do?

I recently completed my cover-to-cover, Genesis-to-Malachi, study of the Old Testament. I have over 1,000 pages of single-spaced typed notes. I've been focused on:

A Scripture-Saturated Biblical Theology of Biblical Counseling, Traumatic-Suffering, and the Embodied-Soul.

Over the past two weeks, I've moved into the New Testament. I just completed my *initial* study of the Gospels. I suspect that I may craft a number of blog posts from my study of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Today's post, as the title suggests, focuses on a specific aspect of Jesus's ministry:

Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls.

What Does the Bible Teach About Biblical Ministry?

As I've examined the Gospels, I've been following a foundational principle of biblical hermeneutics (the study of the Bible):

Before we make *applications for today's context*, we first must make careful *observations of the authoritative biblical text*.

For much more on this, see: <u>Scripture and Soul: How to Study the Bible for Biblical</u> <u>Counseling</u>.

Some of the hermeneutical *observational* questions I've been asking of the text include:

- "What Did Jesus Do (WDJD) as our Soul Physician?"
- "What did Jesus focus on in His soul physician, soul care ministry?"

Some of the hermeneutical *applicational* questions I've been asking of the text include:

- "If we let Scripture paint a picture of the way Jesus ministered, what could it teach us about doing biblical counseling and one-another ministry today?"
- "How does Jesus, the Wonderful Counselor, provide a model of comprehensive care for Christians to follow?"
- "How does Jesus, the Soul Physician, model comprehensive soul care for embodied-souls?"

So, in my study of the Gospels, my *initial* focus has been on collating everything Jesus did— His teaching, His healings, His interactions with the Pharisees, His one-to-one interactions with people, etc., etc., etc. Already I have over fifty pages of single-spaced typed notes simply collating answers to the question: *What did Jesus do as our Soul Physician?*

102 Gospel Passages; 618 Gospel Verses

As many times as I've read the Gospels, preached the Gospels, taught the Gospels, written about and from the Gospels, shared my faith from the Gospels, and counseled from the Gospels, my recent collation surprised me. Specifically:

I have been surprised by the amount of time Jesus focused on ministering to, caring for, and healing the body—the embodied-soul.

Jesus ministered to the whole person—the embodied-soul. Obviously, Jesus came to heal the sin-sick soul. The Gospels also make abundantly and consistently clear that Jesus came to heal not only the spiritually sick, but also the physically sick.

Don't take my word for it. Take God's Word for it. Study all the times in the four Gospels that Jesus focuses on body/soul, on embodied-souls, on ministry that is concerned with and brings healing to the whole person.

- 1. Matthew 4:23-25: 23
- 2. Matthew 6:11
- 3. Matthew 8:1-4
- 4. Matthew 8:5-13
- 5. Matthew 8:14-15
- 6. Matthew 8:16-17
- 7. Matthew 8:28-34
- 8. Matthew 9:1-8
- 9. Matthew 9:12-13
- 10. Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26
- 11. Matthew 9:20-22
- 12. Matthew 9:27-31
- 13. Matthew 9:34
- 14. Matthew 9:35
- 15. Matthew 10:1
- 16. Matthew 10:7-8
- 17. Matthew 11:2-5
- 18. Matthew 12:1-8
- 19. Matthew 12:9-13
- 20. Matthew 12:15
- 21. Matthew 12:22-37
- 22. Matthew 14:14
- 23. Matthew 14:15-21
- 24. Matthew 14:35-36

25. Matthew 15:21-28 26. Matthew 15:30-31 27. Matthew 15:32-38 28. Matthew 17:14-20 29. Matthew 19:2 30. Matthew 20:29-34 31. Matthew 21:14 32. Mark 1:21-28 33. Mark 1:29-30 34. Mark 1:32-34 35. Mark 1:40-42 36. Mark 2:1-11 37. Mark 2:17 38. Mark 2:23-28 39. Mark 3:1-6 40. Mark 3:10-11 41. Mark 3:14-15 42. Mark 5:1-20 43. Mark 5:21-24, 35-43 44. Mark 5:25-34 45. Mark 6:7 46. Mark 6:12-13 47. Mark 6:34-44 48. Mark 6:55-56 49. Mark 7:24-30 50. Mark 7:31-37 51. Mark 8:1-10 52. Mark 8:22-26 53. Mark 9:14-29 54. Mark 9:38-41 55. Mark 10:46-52 56. Mark 16:9 57. Luke 4:1-37 58. Luke 4:18-19 59. Luke 4:41 60. Luke 4:38-39 61. Luke 4:40 62. Luke 5:12-13 63. Luke 5:15 64. Luke 5:17-26 65. Luke 5:31-32 66. Luke 6:1-5 67. Luke 6:6-11 68. Luke 6:18-19 69. Luke 7:1-10 70. Luke 7:11-15

71. Luke 7:21-23 72. Luke 8:2 73. Luke 8:26-39 74. Luke 8:40-42, 49-56 75. Luke 8:43-48 76. Luke 9:1-6 77. Luke 9:11 78. Luke 9:12-17 79. Luke 9:37-43 80. Luke 9:49-50 81. Luke 10:9 82. Luke 10:17-20 83. Luke 11:3 84. Luke 11:14-28 85. Luke 12:11-12 86. Luke 12:32 87. Luke 13:32 88. Luke 14:1-6 89. Luke 17:11-19 90. Luke 18:35-43 91. John 2:23 92. John 3:2 93. John 4:43-54 94. John 5:1-15 95. John 6:2 96. John 6:5-15 97. John 7:31 98. John 9:1-41 99. John 10:21 100. John 11:1-44 101. Iohn 11:47-48 102. John 20:30-31

If my math is correct, that's 618 verses repeatedly highlighting Jesus focusing on ministry to the whole person—to the embodied-soul. That's 102 Gospel passages where Jesus cares for the physical needs of people—healing their illnesses, compassionately feeding their hunger, miraculously raising them from the dead, freeing them from the embodied-soul impact of demon oppression, curing their lifelong sicknesses, giving sight to the blind, and so much more.

The Wonderful Counselor's Comprehensive Care

Since this is a blog post and *not* a book, I can only highlight a few of those 102 passages.

First, observe Jesus's own self-description of His calling—He is the Soul Physician (Matthew 9:12-13; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:31-32). Each of these three passages are surrounded

contextually by Jesus healing the sick, freeing those oppressed by demons, and preaching the good news.

• Luke 5:31-32: ³¹ Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Next, notice two passages from Matthew's Gospel that *seamlessly link preaching the good news of the kingdom with embodied-soul healing*. These two passages are illustrative of numerous additional passages where Jesus weaves together addressing spiritual sickness through preaching and addressing physical sickness through healing.

- **Matthew 4:23-24:** ²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, *teaching* in their synagogues, *proclaiming the good news of the kingdom*, and *healing every disease and sickness among the people*. ²⁴ News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were *ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed*; and he *healed* them.
- **Matthew 9:35:** ³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, *teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom* and *healing every disease and sickness*.

Now, consider how Jesus's comprehensive embodied-soul ministry *fulfilled the Old Testament prophesies about Messiah's core calling.*

- **Matthew 8:16-17:** ¹⁶ When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and *he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick*. ¹⁷ *This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah*: "He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases."
- **Luke 4:18-19:** ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to *proclaim good news* to the poor. He has sent me to *proclaim freedom* for the prisoners and *recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free,* ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Next note how Jesus specifically used His comprehensive embodied-soul ministry as *the mark by which to identify Him as the Messiah*.

• **Matthew 11:2-5:** ² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "*Are you the one who is to come*, or should we expect someone else?" ⁴ *Jesus replied*, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The *blind receive sight*, the *lame walk*, those who have *leprosy are cleansed*, the *deaf hear*, the *dead are raised*, and *the good news is proclaimed* to the poor.

And ponder the comprehensive embodied-soul ministry Jesus gave to His disciples.

- Matthew 10:7-8: ⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.
- Luke 9:1-2, 6: When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to *drive out all demons* and to *cure diseases*, ² and he sent them out to *proclaim the kingdom of God* and to *heal the sick*. ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, *proclaiming the good news* and *healing people everywhere*.

Summarizing the Textual Evidence

In biblical hermeneutics, we seek to ask and answer observational questions. Here are two initial summaries.

- **Question #1**: "What did Jesus focus on in His soul physician, soul care ministry?"
- **Answer #1**: Jesus, the Soul Physician, models soul care for embodied-souls—for the whole person.
- Question #2: "What Did Jesus Do (WDJD) as our Soul Physician?"
- Answer #2: Jesus's mission was an embodied-soul mission—ministering comprehensively to people holistically—spiritually/physically, applying the Good News to their souls and bodies—embodied souls.

Summarizing the Theology of Embodied-Soul Ministry

There are theological reasons for Jesus's embodied-soul ministry. I'll likely say more about this in a future post. For now here are some introductory Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation (CFRC) theological realities about why Jesus's ministry was embodied-soul ministry, and why all ministry is embodied-soul ministry. (For another introduction to a theology of embodied-souls see: <u>Of Spirituality and Ice Cubes: A Psalm and a Palm</u>.)

- 1. **Creation**: God designed us as good (Genesis 1:26-31), complex interconnected unities of body and soul (Genesis. 2:7). We do not minister to disembodied-souls (unless we're physically raising the dead!).
- 2. **Fall**: When sinned entered God's good world, it brought a curse upon creation (Genesis 3:14-19), including upon God's embodied-soul image bearers (Romans 8:22-27). Physical sickness and satanic oppression are some of the signs of the curse of sin.
- 3. **Redemption**: The Kingdom of God is the breaking in of the rule of God—the rule of the King. Jesus's healing miracles were signs of the beginning of the reverse of the curse; they were signs of the already/not yet inauguration of the King's reign. Jesus explained this theological reality to the false teachers of the law in Matthew 9:1-8. Saying, "Get up

and walk" was as "spiritual" as saying "Your sins are forgiven" (Matthew 9:5). Physical healings were signs of Jesus's kingdom authority just as much as spiritual forgiveness was.

4. **Consummation**: When God's Kingdom fully comes, what we groan for now will become reality—the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:22-27). The last enemy will be defeated and death will be swallowed up in victory (1 Corinthians 15:35-58). In the Gospels, King Jesus was giving us a foretaste of glory.

Soul Physicians Today

In biblical hermeneutics, we *carefully* move from observations about the authoritative text to applications to our modern context. We are *not* Jesus. We *are* commissioned by Jesus.

We are moving from Jesus's mission to our commission. If we miss this vital aspect of the hermeneutical process, then we might mistakenly conclude that, "Since Jesus raised people from the dead physically, our calling is to raise people from the dead physically." "Since Jesus performed physical healing miracles, biblical counselors perform physical healing miracles."

So, how do we move from the historical text to our modern context? In thinking through this application, I have been helped by some of the wording used by the <u>ACBC 2024 Annual</u> <u>Conference</u>: *Care of Christ: The Counseling Ministry of Jesus*. Their stated goal is to "examine how the Wonderful Counselor provides a complete model of counseling and care for Christians to follow." I adapted language from their <u>promo writing and from their promo</u> <u>video</u>, and adopted these applicational questions as I examined Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

- "If we let Scripture paint a picture of the way Jesus ministered, what could it teach us about doing biblical counseling and one-another ministry *today*?"
- "How does Jesus, the Wonderful Counselor, provide a model of comprehensive care *for Christians to follow*?"
- "How does Jesus, the Soul Physician, model comprehensive soul care for embodiedsouls?"

Here are five implications we can derive for today from the 102 Gospel passages about Jesus as Soul Physician of embodied-souls:

- 1. Since Jesus, the Soul Physician, models soul care for embodied-souls, we should seek to minister comprehensively to the whole person.
- 2. Since Jesus's mission was an embodied-soul mission, we should seek to minister to people comprehensively as embodied-souls.

- 3. Christlike soul physicians are soul physicians of embodied-souls.
- 4. We point people not to ourselves, but to Jesus, their Soul Physician of their embodied-soul.
- 5. As biblical counselors, if we minimize or neglect ministry to the whole person—to the embodied-soul—then we are not Jesus-like soul physicians.

What Might This Look Like?

What does this look like in biblical counseling? I'm studying Genesis-to-Revelation to discern that. Since I've not crafted that material into a book...yet...here are some posts where I biblically explore the concept of being soul physicians of embodied-souls.

- 1. <u>6 Biblical Counseling Convictions</u>. As biblical counselors we seek to be Gospel-Centered/Christ-Centered, Theologically-Saturated, Relationship-Focused, Church History-Informed, Research-Aware Soul Physicians of Embodied-Souls.
- 2. *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: Becoming Soul Physicians of Embodied-Souls*. This post outlines possible content for a book on biblical counseling, traumatic-suffering, and embodied-souls.
- 3. *I'm Never More Christ-Dependent Than When I'm Doing Deep Breathing Exercises*. This post explores how I apply biblical embodied-soul principles to my own life.
- 4. <u>112 Biblical Passages on Being Embodied-Souls</u>. This list will be much larger once I collate in all the additional passages I've found during my Genesis-to-Revelation study.
- 5. <u>55 Resources for Counseling the Whole Person: The Bible, the Body, the Embodied-Soul,</u> <u>Research, Science, and Neuroscience</u>. As the title suggests, this post provides direct links to dozens of (free) resources on the Bible and the embodied-soul.
- 6. <u>Comprehensive Biblical Counseling and the Body: Soul Physicians of Embodied-Souls</u>. If you want a quick read, then consider this brief post summarizing biblical counseling and the embodied-soul.
- 7. <u>The Body Keeps the Score: The Embodied-Soul Counts the Cost</u>. If you want to think through the intricate interconnected innerworkings of the embodied-soul as it relates to suffering, sanctification, and soul care, this post is for you.

A Comprehensive Collation of Every Gospel Passage Where Jesus Healed the Suffering: 102 Gospel Passages; 618 Gospel Verses

Introduction

I've collated 256 Gospel passages about the suffering of Jesus. I've collated another 102 Gospel passages about Jesus healing the suffering. That's 374 passages in the Gospel where Jesus either experiences suffering or heals those who are suffering. Remember—those are 374 *passages*, not just 374 *verses*. Many of those passages contains multiple verses.

Clearly, Jesus is:

- The Man of Suffering
- The Soul Physician Who Heals the Suffering

In what follows, I repeat my collation from my blog post on *Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls*. Here you will find every Gospel passage where Jesus healed the suffering.

Matthew: Jesus the Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls

- 1. Matthew 4:23-25: 23
- 2. Matthew 6:11
- 3. Matthew 8:1-4
- 4. Matthew 8:5-13
- 5. Matthew 8:14-15
- 6. Matthew 8:16-17
- 7. Matthew 8:28-34
- 8. Matthew 9:1-8
- 9. Matthew 9:12-13
- 10. Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26
- 11. Matthew 9:20-22
- 12. Matthew 9:27-31
- 13. Matthew 9:34
- 14. Matthew 9:35
- 15. Matthew 10:1
- 16. Matthew 10:7-8
- 17. Matthew 11:2-5
- 18. Matthew 12:1-8
- 19. Matthew 12:9-13
- 20. Matthew 12:15
- 21. Matthew 12:22-37
- 22. Matthew 14:14

23. Matthew 14:15-21
24. Matthew 14:35-36
25. Matthew 15:21-28
26. Matthew 15:30-31
27. Matthew 15:32-38
28. Matthew 17:14-20
29. Matthew 19:2
30. Matthew 20:29-34
31. Matthew 21:14

Mark: Jesus the Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls

32. Mark 1:21-28 33. Mark 1:29-30 34. Mark 1:32-34 35. Mark 1:40-42 36. Mark 2:1-11 37. Mark 2:17 38. Mark 2:23-28 39. Mark 3:1-6 40. Mark 3:10-11 41. Mark 3:14-15 42. Mark 5:1-20 43. Mark 5:21-24, 35-43 44. Mark 5:25-34 45. Mark 6:7 46. Mark 6:12-13 47. Mark 6:34-44 48. Mark 6:55-56 49. Mark 7:24-30 50. Mark 7:31-37 51. Mark 8:1-10 52. Mark 8:22-26 53. Mark 9:14-29 54. Mark 9:38-41 55. Mark 10:46-52 56. Mark 16:9

Luke: Jesus the Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls

57. Luke 4:1-37 58. Luke 4:18-19 59. Luke 4:41 60. Luke 4:38-39 61. Luke 4:40 62. Luke 5:12-13 63. Luke 5:15 64. Luke 5:17-26 65. Luke 5:31-32 66. Luke 6:1-5 67. Luke 6:6-11 68. Luke 6:18-19 69. Luke 7:1-10 70. Luke 7:11-15 71. Luke 7:21-23 72. Luke 8:2 73. Luke 8:26-39 74. Luke 8:40-42, 49-56 75. Luke 8:43-48 76. Luke 9:1-6 77. Luke 9:11 78. Luke 9:12-17 79. Luke 9:37-43 80. Luke 9:49-50 81. Luke 10:9 82. Luke 10:17-20 83. Luke 11:3 84. Luke 11:14-28 85. Luke 12:11-12 86. Luke 12:32 87. Luke 13:32 88. Luke 14:1-6 89. Luke 17:11-19 90. Luke 18:35-43

John: Jesus the Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls

91. John 2:23 92. John 3:2 93. John 4:43-54 94. John 5:1-15 95. John 6:2 96. John 6:5-15 97. John 7:31 98. John 9:1-41 99. John 10:21 100. John 11:1-44 101. John 11:47-48 102. John 20:30-31

Jesus Empathizes with Your Traumatic Suffering

Our Sympathetic High Priest

We know from Hebrews 2:9-11; 2:14-18; and 4:14-16, that Jesus is our sympathetic High Priest who empathizes with our weaknesses, infirmities, and sufferings.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

Our Weaknesses and Infirmities

What are these "weaknesses" and "infirmities"?

Benson, in his commentary, includes "our temptations, trials, and troubles, of whatever kind they may be ghostly or bodily. The Son of God, having been made flesh, experienced all the temptations and miseries incident to mankind, sin excepted; consequently he must always have a lively feeling of our infirmities; of our wants, weaknesses, miseries, dangers."

Calvin includes among these weaknesses and infirmities the "external" or bodily "evils" of cold and heat; hunger and other wants of the body; and also contempt, poverty, and other things of this mind." Calvin also includes internal sufferings such as "the feelings of the soul such as fear, sorrow, the dread of death, and similar things."

- Jesus Empathizes with Our Temptations, Trials, and Troubles
- Jesus Empathizes with Our Wants, Weaknesses, and Wailings
- Jesus Empathizes with Our Suffering, Sorrows, and Sadness
- Jesus Empathizes with Our Physical, Emotional, Mental, Relational, and Spiritual Traumatic-Sufferings

Jesus Suffered Like We Suffer

We fail to realize *the extent to which Jesus suffered like we suffer*.

For more than a month, I've been reading and re-reading the Gospels, with a focus on:

- Jesus's Suffering: *The Chronic Suffering of Jesus: Your Sympathetic High Priest*.
- Jesus's Compassionate Care for and Healing of the Suffering: Jesus: Soul Physician of Embodied-Souls.

I've collated 358 Gospel passages about Jesus's suffering and His healing of those who suffer:

• <u>The Gospels and Suffering: Jesus—The Man of Suffering and the Soul Physician of the</u> <u>Suffering</u>.

Grace to Help Us in Our Time of Need

Today, let's stop and ponder specific Gospel narratives about how Jesus suffered like we suffer.

Today, let's allow these scriptural reflections to help us to understand how Jesus empathizes with our suffering.

Today, let's approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Jesus Sympathizes with Your Suffering, Sorrow, Sadness; Temptations, Trials, Troubles; Wants, Weaknesses, Wailings—Physically, Emotionally, Mentally, Relationally, and Spiritually

Here are just a few sample examples from among the 358 Gospel passages about Jesus's suffering and His healing of those who suffer.

Temptation and Trials

- 1. Are you struggling against temptation to sin? Jesus understands—being tempted in every way like you are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:14-16).
- 2. Is the devil tempting you to sin? Jesus knows temptation (Luke 4:1-12).
- 3. Are you being constantly tempted to sin? Jesus sympathizes with you (Luke 4:13)?

Physical Suffering and Abuse

- 4. Are you enduring chronic suffering? Jesus, the man of suffering who experienced lifelong suffering, understands (Isaiah 53:3; also see *The Chronic Suffering of Jesus*).
- 5. Are you enduring chronic pain? Jesus is touched by the feelings of your infirmities (Luke 8:42-48; Luke 13:10-17).
- 6. Have you suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and spent all you have, yet instead of getting better you've grow worse? Jesus compassionately cares (Mark 5:25-34).

- 7. Are you struggling with disease, sickness, illness, severe pain, seizures, paralysis? Jesus compassionately cares (Matthew 4:23-24; Matthew 14:14).
- 8. Have you been physically exhausted and in need of strength? Jesus has (Luke 22:43).
- 9. Have you experienced physical abuse? Jesus was spat upon, slapped, struck, punched and beaten (Matthew 26:67-68; Mark 4:65).
- 10. Have you gone hungry? Jesus knows hunger and has compassion on the hungry (Matthew 4:2; Matthew 15:32).
- 11. Have you been homeless? Jesus had no place to lay His head (Matthew 8:20).

Family Relational Suffering

- 12. Are you suffering with intense family conflict? Jesus empathizes—He was accused by His own family of being out of His mind (Mark 3:21).
- 13. Is your own family dishonoring you? Jesus sympathizes with you (Mark 6:1-6).
- 14. Does your own family doubt you? Jesus empathizes with you (John 7:4-5).

Relational Suffering

- 15. Are you being whispered about? Jesus knows your pain (John 7:12-13).
- 16. Have you been laughed at? Jesus has (Matthew 9:23-24; Mark 5:40).
- 17. Have you been grumbled about? Jesus can relate (John 6:41-43, 61).
- 18. Are you being lied about? Jesus knows your pain (Matthew 26:59-61).
- 19. Have you been mocked? Jesus has (Matthew 9:23-34; Matthew 26:67-68; Mark 5:40; Mark 14:65).
- 20. Have people been angry with you? Jesus sympathizes with you (John 7:23).
- 21. Have you been hated? Jesus empathizes with you (John 15:18-19, 23-25).
- 22. Have you been betrayed? Betrayed with a kiss? Jesus has (Matthew 26:46; Luke 22:47-48).
- 23. Have you been persecuted? Jesus understands (Matthew 5:16).
- 24. Have you been deserted? Jesus knows your pain (Matthew 26:56).

- 25. Have you been disowned? Jesus has (Matthew 26:33-34).
- 26. Have you been rebuked by a friend? Jesus has (Mark 8:32).
- 27. Have you been rebuked by those who say they believe in you? Jesus knows your pain (Matthew 16:22).
- 28. Have you been let down and failed by a friend in a moment of great need? Jesus empathizes with your relational suffering (Matthew 26:40-41, 43, 45).
- 29. Have you been doubted by those who say they believe in you? Jesus can relate (Matthew 14:31).
- 30. Have people been looking for ways to find fault in you—testing you and seeking trap you? Jesus understands (Matthew 19:3; Matthew 22:15-18).
- 31. Has your character been questioned? Jesus knows this pain (Luke 7:39).
- 32. Have you been fiercely opposed? Jesus has (Luke 11:53).
- 33. Have you been ridiculed? Jesus sympathizes with you (Mark 2:16).
- 34. Has your ministry to others been rejected? Jesus understands you (Luke 7:29).
- 35. Have you been shamed with false labels and name-calling? Jesus sympathizes with you (Matthew 11:18-19).
- 36. Have you been falsely accused of sin? Jesus empathizes with you (Matthew 12:9-10).

Emotional Suffering

- 37. Do you deal with anger? Jesus understand—He was angry (without sin) (Mark 3:5).
- 38. Are you deeply distressed? Jesus understands you (Mark 3:5).
- 39. Has your soul ever been sorrowful and troubled? Jesus knows your soul sorrow (Matthew 26:36-37).
- 40. Have you ever felt overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death? Jesus knows your pain (Matthew 26:38; Mark 14:34).
- 41. Have you ever been deeply distressed and troubled? Jesus has (Mark 14:32-33).
- 42. Has your soul ever been troubled? Jesus understands (John 12:27-28).
- 43. Have you ever been troubled in spirit? Jesus has (John 13:21).

- 44. Have you ever experienced compassion fatigue and needed to withdraw for renewal? Jesus understands (Mark 1:35; Mark 6:31-32; and also see <u>48 Gospel Passages</u>).
- 45. Have you been emotionally exhausted and in need of strength? Jesus has (Luke 22:43).

Grief and Loss

- 46. Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Jesus understands—He grieved the murder of His cousin and had to withdraw to spend time alone in a solitary place of mourning (Mark 14:12-13).
- 47. Are you grieving the loss of a beloved friend? Jesus wept (John 11:35).

Spiritual Need

- 48. Have you needed to withdraw from people, get alone with God, and be refreshed? Jesus understands (Mark 1:35).
- 49. Have you lamented to God because you felt forsaken? Jesus empathizes with you (Matthew 27:45-46).

Life at Risk

- 50. Have you been an alien in exile, running for your life? Jesus knows (Matthew 2:14-15).
- 51. Has anyone attempted to abort your life? Jesus knows this pain (Matthew 2:13).
- 52. Has anyone attempted to kill you? Jesus repeatedly knows this pain (Luke 19:47-48; plus scores of additional Gospel passages).
- 53. Do you have a diagnosis of a terminal illness and know that your days are numbered? Jesus understands—He lived His entire life knowing of His pending death (in at least three dozen passages, Jesus predicted His pending death by crucifixion).

Application to Our Lives

The author of Hebrews provides the biblical application to the biblical truth that Jesus is our sympathetic/empathetic High Priest.

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

1. In your temptations and trials, what does it look like for you to approach the throne of grace with confidence to fine grace to help in your time of need?

- 2. In your physical suffering and abuse, how does it minister to your soul to turn to the empathetic High Priest who endured physical suffering and lived a life of compassion for those who suffer?
- 3. In your chronic pain, how does it minister to your soul when you see and turn to Jesus who experienced chronic suffering?
- 4. In your family relational suffering, and in other relational suffering, what does it mean for you to know Jesus who personally experienced chronic, intense relational suffering?
- 5. In your emotional suffering, grief, and loss, what does it look like for you to turn to the Man of Sorrows?
- 6. In your spiritual need, how does it encourage you to lament to your heavenly Father, knowing Jesus cried out to His Father?

48 Gospel Passages About Jesus and Solitude: <u>Rest, Renewal, Withdrawal for Reflection, and Prayer to His Father</u>

- 1. **Matthew 4:1:** Then Jesus was led by the Spirit **into the wilderness** to be tempted by the devil.
- 2. **Matthew 4:12: 12** When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, **he withdrew** to Galilee.
- 3. **Matthew 4:12**: 12 When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he **withdrew** to Galilee.
- 4. **Matthew 4:18: 18** As Jesus was **walking beside the Sea of Galilee**, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen.
- 5. **Matthew 5:1:** Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down.
- 6. **Matthew 8:1:** When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him.
- 7. **Matthew 8:20: 20** Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has **no place to lay his head**."
- 8. **Matthew 9:1:** Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.
- 9. **Matthew 12:15: 15** Aware of this, Jesus **withdrew** from that place. A large crowd followed him, and he healed all who were ill.
- 10. **Matthew 13:1:** That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake.
- 11. Matthew 14:13: 13 When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.
- 12. Matthew 14:23: 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone.
- 13. Matthew 15:21: 21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.
- 14. Matthew 15:29: 29 Jesus left there and went along the Sea of Galilee. Then he went up on a mountainside and sat down.

- 15. Matthew 15:39: 39 After Jesus had sent the crowd away, he got into the boat and went to the vicinity of Magadan.
- 16. Matthew 26:36-39: 36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." 37 He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." 39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."
- 17. Matthew 26:40-43: 40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. 41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." 42 He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." 43 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.
- 18. Matthew 26:44-45: 44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. 45 Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.
- 19. Matthew 27:45-46: 45 From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. 46 About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"* (which means **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"**).
- 20. Mark 1:12: 12 At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, 13 and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.
- 21. Mark 1:35: 35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.
- 22. **Mark 1:45: 45** Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly **but stayed outside in lonely places.** Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.
- 23. **Mark 3:7: 7** Jesus **withdrew** with his disciples to the lake, and a large crowd from Galilee followed.
- 24. Mark 3:13: 13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.
- 25. **Mark 6:31-32:** 31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, **"Come with me by yourselves to a**"

quiet place and get some rest." 32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

- 26. Mark 6:45 45 Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46 After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.
- 27. Mark 14:32-38: 32 They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. 34 "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch." 35 Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. 36 "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." 37 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? 38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."
- 28. Mark 14:39-40: 39 Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. 40 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.
- 29. Mark 14:41-42: 41 Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"
- 30. Mark 15:34: 34 And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, *"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"* (which means **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"**).
- 31. Luke 4:1: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.
- 32. Luke 4:42 42 At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them.
- 33. Luke 5:16: 16 But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.
- 34. Luke 6:12-13: 12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles.
- 35. Luke 9:10: 10 When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida.

- 36. Luke 10:21: 21 At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.
- 37. **Luke 23:46: 46** Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.
- 38. Luke 21:37-38: 37 Each day Jesus was teaching at the temple, and each evening he went out to spend the night on the hill called the Mount of Olives, 38 and all the people came early in the morning to hear him at the temple.
- 39. Luke 22:39: 39 Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him.
- 40. **Luke 22:40-44:** 40 On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." 41 **He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed**, 42 "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." 43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. 44 And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.
- 41. Luke 22:45-46: 45 When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. 46 "Why are you sleeping?" he asked them. "Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."
- 42. John 3:22: 22 After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized.
- 43. John 6:15: 15 Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.
- 44. John 6:22 22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone.
- 45. Troubled: John 12:27-28: 27 "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!"
- 46. **John 12:36: 36** Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, **Jesus left and hid himself from them.**
- 47. John 17:1-26: 17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed.

48. John 18:1-2: 18 When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was a garden, and he and his disciples went into it.