THE PARABLE OF THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,
46 who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he
had and bought it.

THE PARABLE OF THE DRAGNET

47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the
sea and gathered some of every kind. 48 which, when it was full, they drew to
shore; and they sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the
bad away. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come forth, sep-
arate the wicked from among the just, 50 and cast them into the furnace of fire.
There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth."
51 Jesus said to them, "Have you understood all these things?"
They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."
52 Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the
kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things
new and old."

JESUS REJECTED AT NAZARETH

53 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these parables, that He de-
parted from there. 54 When He had come to His own country, He taught them in
their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man
get this wisdom and these mighty works? 55 Is this not the carpenter's son? Is
not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?
56 And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these
things?" 57 So they were offended at Him.
But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own
country and in his own house." 58 Now He did not do many mighty works there
because of their unbelief.

JOHN THE BAPTIST BEHEADED

14 At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the report about Jesus 2 and said
to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead, and
therefore these powers are at work in him." 3 For Herod had laid hold of John
and bound him, and put *him* in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother
Philip's wife. 4 Because John had said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have
her." 5 And although he wanted to put him to death, he feared the multitude,
because they counted him as a prophet.
6 But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of Herodias
danced before them and pleased Herod. 7 Therefore he promised with an oath
to give her whatever she might ask.
8 So she, having been prompted by her mother, said, "Give me John the
Baptist's head here on a platter."
9 And the king was sorry; nevertheless, because of the oaths and because of
those who sat with him, he commanded *it* to be given to her. 10 So he sent and
had John beheaded in prison. 11 And his head was brought on a platter and gi-
ven to the girl, and she brought *it* to her mother. 12 Then his disciples came and
took away the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus.

FEEDING THE FIVE THOUSAND

13 When Jesus heard *it*, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place
by Himself. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from
the cities. 14 And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was
moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. 15 When it was eve-
ning, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour
is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages
and buy themselves food."
16 But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them some-
thing to eat."
17 And they said to Him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish."
18 He said, "Bring them here to Me." 19 Then He commanded the multitudes to
sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and look-
ing up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples,
and the disciples gave to the multitudes. 20 So they all ate and were filled, and
they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. 21 Now those
who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

JESUS WALKS ON THE SEA

22 Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him
to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. 23 And when He had sent
the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now
when evening came, He was alone there. 24 But the boat was now in the mid-
dle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.
25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the
sea. 26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled,
saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.
27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do
not be afraid."
28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come
to You on the water."
29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he
walked on the water to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was boi-
terous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!"
31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said
to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they got into the
boat, the wind ceased.
33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly
You are the Son of God."

MANY TOUCH HIM AND ARE MADE WELL

34 When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret. 35 And
when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that sur-
rounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, 36 and begged Him that
they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched *it*
were made perfectly well.

DEFILEMENT COMES FROM WITHIN

15 Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus,
saying, 2 "Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders?
For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread."
3 He answered and said to them, "Why do you also transgress the command-
ment of God because of your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, 'Honor
your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be
put to death.' 5 But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever
profit you might have received from me is a gift to God" — 6 then he need not
honor his father or mother.' Thus you have made the commandment of God
of no effect by your tradition. 7 Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about
you, saying:

8 "'*These people draw near to Me with their mouth,*
And honor Me with their lips,
But their heart is far from Me.
9 *And in vain they worship Me,*
Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"

10 When He had called the multitude to *Himself*, He said to them, "Hear and
understand: 11 Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out
of the mouth, this defiles a man."
12 Then His disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees
were offended when they heard this saying?"
13 But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has
not planted will be uprooted. 14 Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the
blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."
15 Then Peter answered and said to Him, "Explain this parable to us."
16 So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not
yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and

the towns. 14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion
on them and healed their sick. 15 Now when it was evening, the disciples came to
him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds
away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." 16 But Jesus said, "They
need not go away; you give them something to eat." 17 They said to him, "We
have only five loaves here and two fish." 18 And he said, "Bring them here to me."
19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves
and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the
loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the
broken pieces left over. 21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides
women and children.

Jesus Walks on the Water

22 [a] Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the
other side, while he dismissed the crowds. 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds,
he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there
alone, 24 but the boat by this time was a long way[1] from the land,[2] beaten by the
waves, for the wind was against them. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night he
came to them, walking on the sea. 26 But when the disciples saw him walking on
the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. 27 But
immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."
28 And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the
water." 29 He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and
came to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind,[3] he was afraid, and beginning to sink he
cried out, "Lord, save me." 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold
of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And when they
got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying,
"Truly you are the Son of God."

Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret

34 [b] And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. 35 And when
the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought
to him all who were sick 36 and implored him that they might only touch the fringe
of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

Traditions and Commandments

15 [c] Then Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said, 2 "Why
do your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their
hands when they eat." 3 He answered them, "And why do you break the command-
ment of God for the sake of your tradition? 4 For God commanded, '[d] Honor your
father and your mother,' and, '[e] Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.'
5 But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained
from me is given to God,"[4] 6 he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your
tradition you have made void the word[5] of God. 7 You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah
prophesy of you, when he said:

8 [f] "'This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;
9 in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"

[1] Some manuscripts *stadia* of the blind [2] Greek *is* regulated into the latrine [3] Greek *Rors that how* [4] Some manuscripts *until the*
[a] 14:22–33 see parallel Mark 6:45–52; John 6:16–21 [b] 14:34–36 see parallel Mark 6:53–56 [c] 15:1–20 see parallel Mark 7:1–23 [d] Ex 20:12 [e] Ex 21:17 [f] Isa 29:13

What Defiles a Person

19 And he called the people to him and said to them, "Hear and understand: 11 it is
not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth,
this defiles a person." 12 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that
the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" 13 He answered, "Every
plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. 14 Let them alone;
they are blind guides.[1] And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit." 15 But
Peter said to him, "Explain the parable to us." 16 And he said, "Are you also still without
understanding? 17 Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the
stomach and is expelled?[2] 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart,
and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery,
sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a person. But
to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone."

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

21 [a] And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have
mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon."
23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying,
"Send her away, for she is crying out after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the
lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord,
help me." 26 And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw
it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from
their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it
done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.[3]

Jesus Heals Many

29 Jesus went on from there and walked beside the Sea of Galilee. And he went
up on the mountain and sat down there. 30 And great crowds came to him, bringing
with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they
put them at his feet, and he healed them, 31 so that the crowd wondered, when they
saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing.
And they glorified the God of Israel.

Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand

32 [b] Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion on the crowd
because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am
unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." 33 And the disciples
said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in such a desolate place to feed so great
a crowd?" 34 And Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven,
and a few small fish." 35 And directing the crowd to sit down on the ground, 36 he took
the seven loaves and the fish, and having given thanks he broke them and gave them
to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 37 And they all ate and were
satisfied. And they took up seven baskets full of the broken pieces left over. 38 Those who
ate were four thousand men, besides women and children. 39 And after sending away
the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.

The Pharisees and Sadducees Demand Signs

16 [c] And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show
them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered them, 3 "When it is evening, you say, 'It
will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' 3 And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today,
for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the

[1] Some manuscripts *side of the blind* [2] Greek *is regulated into the latrine* [3] Greek *Rors that how* [4] Some manuscripts *until the*
following words to the end of verse 3 [a] 15:21–28 see parallel Mark 7:24–30 [b] 15:32–39 see parallel Mark 8:1–10 [c] 16:1–12
see parallel Mark 8:11–21