

¹⁸ John's apprentices reported to him about all these things. Calling two of his apprentices, John ¹⁹ sent them to the Lord, saying,

“Are you the one who is coming or are we to expect another?”

²⁰ When they came up to Jesus, the men said,

“John, the one who baptizes, sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is coming or are we to expect another?’”

²¹ In that hour Jesus cared for many with illnesses, beatings, and evil breaths, and was generous with many who were blind so they could see. ²² When Jesus answered, he said to them,

“When you go, report to John the things you saw and listened to.

‘Those who are blind see again. Those who are disabled walk around. Those with repulsive-skin-conditions are purified. Those who are deaf-mute listen. Those who are dead are raised. Those who are dirt-poor have the Gospel declared to them.’

²³ Privileged is the one who does not stop following me.”

²⁴ When the messengers of John had departed, Jesus began to say to the crowds concerning John,

“What did you come out into the wilderness to see? A reed being overthrown by the wind? ²⁵ What then did you come out to see? A person clothed in soft garments? Look! Those with splendid garments and luxurious possessions are in palaces! ²⁶ What then did you come out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet! ²⁷ This is what has been written concerning John,

‘Look! I send my messenger before your face, the one who will prepare the Way in front of you.’

²⁸ I say to you, no one is greater than John among those born of women! But even the least in the Creator's Rule is greater than he!”

²⁹ When all the people and tax-collectors, who had been baptized with the baptism of John, listened to this, they declared that the Creator had justice. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and the Torah experts, who had not been baptized by him, rejected the desire of the Creator for themselves. Jesus continued,

³¹ “To what then will I compare the humanity of this generation and what are they like? ³² They are like servant-children sitting in the place of trade voicing to one another, one saying,

‘We played the flute for you and you did not dance! We were in sorrow and you did not weep!’

³³ For John, the one who baptizes, came eating no bread and drinking no wine and you said,

‘He is occupied by an animating-force!’

³⁴ The Child of Humanity has come eating and drinking and you say,

‘Look! This person is an eater and a wine drinker! A friend of tax-collectors and rebels!’

³⁵ But wisdom is shown to have justice through all of her children.”

³⁶ One of the Pharisees began requesting for Jesus to eat with him and, after entering into the house of the Pharisee, Jesus took a seat. ³⁷ A rebellious woman in the city—recognizing that he was reclining in the house of the Pharisee, bringing a flask of perfumed oil, ³⁸ and standing behind him at his feet, weeping—began to rain tears upon Jesus's feet, wiping them with the hair of her head, and pouring perfumed oil on his feet in friendship. ³⁹ Seeing it, the Pharisee, who had invited Jesus, said within himself,

“If this one was a prophet he would have known who and what sort of woman is holding onto him, since she is a rebel.”

⁴⁰ Answering, Jesus said to him,

“Simon, I have something to say to you.”

He said,

“Teacher, enlighten me.”

Jesus replied,

⁴¹ “Two needy persons were in debt to a moneylender. One was in debt five-hundred days' pay and the other fifty.

⁴² Because he was generous to both of them, they did not have to give anything back to him. Therefore, which of them will love him more?”

⁴³ Answering, Simon said,

“I take that it is the one who owed more.”

And Jesus said to him,

“You judged correctly.”

⁴⁴ While turning to the woman, Jesus enlightened Simon,

“You see this woman? I entered your house, you did not give me water for my feet, but she rained my feet with tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave no friendship to me, but she, from the time I entered, has not stopped befriending my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not pour olive oil on my head, but she poured perfumed oil on my feet. ⁴⁷ I say to you, through this generosity she has been set free from her many rebellions, because she loved greatly. But the one who is set free from little, loves little.”

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her,

“You have been set free from your rebellions.”

⁴⁹ Those eating with him began to say among themselves,

“Who is this, who is even setting the rebellious free?”

⁵⁰ Then Jesus said to the woman,

“Your trust has rescued you. Go in harmony!”

^{8.1} According to arrangement, Jesus began traveling through city and village, proclaiming and declaring the Gospel of the Rule of the Creator. The twelve were with him, ² along with some women who were being cared for because of evil breaths and weaknesses: Mary called Magdalene (from whom seven animating-forces had come out), ³ Joanna the woman of Chuza (an administrator for Herod Antipas), Susanna, and many others, who were serving them out of their possessions. ⁴ While a great crowd was with him and those from the city were journeying to him, Jesus said through analogy,

⁵ “A gardener went out to scatter his seed. While he scattered seed, some fell beyond the Way, were trampled, and then the birds of heaven consumed them. ⁶ Others fell upon the rock and, when they grew, they dried up because they did not have moisture. ⁷ Others fell among thornbushes and, growing together, the thornbushes suffocated them. ⁸ Others fell into the good earth and they grew to produce fruit a hundredfold.”

While saying these things, Jesus began voicing,

“Whoever has ears to listen—listen!”

⁹ His apprentices began asking him what this analogy was, ¹⁰ and Jesus said,

“To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the Rule of the Creator, but for the rest it is in analogies so, ‘seeing they may not see and listening they may not understand.’ ¹¹ The analogy is this:

The seed is the word of the Creator. ¹² The ones beyond the Way are those that, after they listen, the Adversary comes and takes the word from their hearts so, being untrusting, they are not rescued. ¹³ The ones upon the rock are those that, whenever they listen, embrace the word with joy. But these have no root, they are trusting for a season, but in a season of testing they stand away from the word. ¹⁴ The ones fallen among the thornbushes are those who listen but, as they go, they are suffocated by the responsibilities, wealth, and pleasures of living and they do not mature. ¹⁵ The ones in the beautiful earth are those who, listening to the word, hold it in a beautiful and good heart and produce fruit with endurance.

¹⁶ After kindling a lamp, no one covers it with his stuff or puts it under a bed—instead, he puts it upon a lampstand so those entering will see the light. ¹⁷ For nothing is hidden that will not become clear, nor hidden which will not be known and come into clarity. ¹⁸ Therefore, watch out how you listen! ‘Whoever has, it will be given to him. Whoever does not have, even what he assumes he has will be taken from him.’”

¹⁹ Jesus’s mother and brothers came for him, but they were not able to meet with him because of the crowd. ²⁰ It was reported to him,

“Your mother and your brothers have been standing outside wanting to see you!”

²¹ Answering, Jesus said to them,

“My mother and my brothers are those who are listening to and doing the word of the Creator.”