

CLASS 1 – The Visit of the Magi

'King of the Jews'

- o Matt 2:2 – Wise men
- o Matt. 27:11 – Pilate (*multiple other occasions*)
- o Matt. 27:29 and 37 – Roman soldiers
- o John 19:21 – "Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that *he said*, 'I am King of the Jews'."

The Legacy of the Jews in the East

- o Dan.4 was written by **Nebuchadnezzar**.
- o Nebuchadnezzar made several **worldwide proclamations** about worshipping **Daniel's God**. (2:46-8)
- o Cyrus, Darius and Ahasuerus of the Medes and Persians each made world-wide proclamations about Yahweh, and about supporting the work of building the **Jewish temple**. (Dan. 3:8, 6:27; Ez. 1:1-4, 7:11)
- o Daniel was appointed the **head of the magi**. His job was to teach and lead the wise men.
- o Daniel was appointed **head of the satraps**, and thrown to the lions b/c he **publicly preached his Jewish-ness**.

The Star out of Jacob

Similarity	Balaam's Prophecy	Birth of Christ
Star	A Star from Jacob shall rise up	They saw his star in the east
Sceptre	A Sceptre (branch) shall rise out of Israel	Cp. Lk. 1:78 mgn. Gk. word for 'east' = 'branch'. (also LXX Zech. 3:8, 6:12; Jer. 23:5)
Edom	Edom/Seir shall be a possession	Herod an Idumean / Edomite
Destruction of the children	Star would destroy all children of Sheth ('tumult', RV)	Herod's decree

They returned to...?

Event	Matt.	Luke
Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem		2:1-20
Angels appear to Shepherds		2:8-20
Circumcision after 8 days	1:25	2:21
Presentation at Temple 41 days		2:22

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Return to Nazareth	Return to Bethlehem	Return to Nazareth
2 nd visit to Bethlehem	Flight to Egypt	Magi visit Nazareth
Flight to Egypt	Return to Nazareth (eventually)	Flight to Egypt

Bethlehem or Nazareth

- o 'The babe' (Lk. 2:12) Jesus **was** born and welcomed in Bethlehem by the shepherds.
- o The Christ was to be **born** in Bethlehem, not to live there.
 - o He was to be a Nazarene (Mt. 2:23)
 - o Herod's decree suggests he was closer to 2 years old at this point.
- o Star-guidance would be more understandable for an unexpected 70 mile journey north to Nazareth through mountainous terrain, than a 2-hour journey (between 5-10 miles) south to Bethlehem along a commonly used path.
- o The whereabouts of the Son of God would be more hidden from public knowledge, especially knowing the extra attention that would be brought due to the Magi's visit.

Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh

King and Priest

Gold: Mitre, 'Holiness to the LORD' (Ex. 28:26)

Frankincense: Offered by priest in a golden censer (Ex. 30:34)

Myrrh: essential element of anointing oil of priests (Ex. 30:23)

The Gifts We Bring

Gold: Faith **Gal 3:26** 'For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus'

Frankincense: Praise and thanksgiving; 1 of 4 ingredients of incense in Ex. 30.

Isa. 60:6 'all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and [frank] incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.'

Lev. 2:1 'And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon.'

Myrrh: a bitter gum used as an antiseptic for embalming.

Gal. 2:20 – 'I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live.'

Rom. 12:1 'I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.'

Lessons for Us

- Like the religious leaders in Israel, we are custodians of the truth, and in the Word of God we, too, have a legacy of ancient writings that demands our attention, not our indifference.
- Are we watching 'the stars align' prophetically? Do the 'signs in the heavens' affect the path of our discipleship, and lead us closer to Christ?
- Are we committed to the long journey that ends in the King's presence? Are we willing to face the setbacks and questions that will inevitably face us along the way – *all this not to GET, but to GIVE?*
- We need to honour the King with our faith, our praise, and the sacrifice of our lives.
- We were once, like the Magi, a people from afar, but have been invited to behold the King of the Jews.

CLASS 2 – The Syrophenician Woman Two Faithful Gentile Women

Rahab – Josh. 2	Syrophenician Woman
Gentile (Josh. 6:26)	Gentile (v. 21-22)
Had heard of the mighty deeds Israel's God had done (v. 9-11)	Had heard of the great healings Jesus had done for her people. (Lk. 6)
Knew Yahweh was the God of Israel – 'YOUR God' (v.11)	Knew Jesus was 'the son of DAVID'. (v. 22)
Appealed on the basis of mercy, not right ('kindness' = 'cheched' v.12)	Appealed on the basis of mercy, not right (v. 22)
Included in 'faith' chapter while Israel's generation in wilderness absent (Heb. 11:31)	Noted for 'great faith' (v. 28) while Israel struggled to accept the Lord's words.
Welcomed into household of Israel (Jsh. 6:25)	An ecclesia established in Sidon (Acts 27:3)

Nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee

- It was wise men from the east alone who saw the star and journeyed to find the infant Christ. (Mt. 2:1)
- It was a Roman centurion seeking aid for a grievously paralyzed servant who recognized that on Jesus there rested an authority greater than that wielded by Rome. (Mt. 8:9)
- The tenth leper who was a Samaritan was the only one to turn back to give thanks for his healing. (Lk. 17:12)
- It was a company of Greeks who pleaded with Philip, "Sir, we would see Jesus". (Jn. 12:21)
- It was a Roman centurion who at the foot of the cross exclaimed, "Truly this was the son of God". (Mt. 27:54)
- Christ's dealings in Galilee included those from Tyre and Sidon and from Idumea and beyond Jordan, who had listened to Jesus and carried his message back to their own lands. (Lk. 6:17)

The Widow's Confession

The Gospel of the Kingdom of God

- 'Thou son of David' Mt. 15:22
- The royal line of the Anointed King

The Gospel of the Name of Jesus Christ

- 'Lord, help me' Mt. 15:25
- The Saviour-helper
- 'help' = 'succour, bring aid' (8x in NT)
- Heb 2:17 'Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

There were many widows in Israel

Widow of Zapheth – 1 Ki. 17	The Syrophenician Woman
Widow – v.9	No husband mentioned
A time of famine and 'no bread' in Israel (1 Kings 18:2)	Cp. recent encounters with Jesus and bread, and the inability of the Jews to fully partake (John 6:26, 66; Matt. 15:2-; Matt. 16:6-12)
Famine in Israel 3 ½ years (Lk. 4:25-6)	Cp. Christ's 3 ½ year ministry to Israel.
Only one meal (cruse of oil and flour) v.12	Seeking crumbs
Meal 'wasted not' v.14	Cp. feeding of 4000, leftovers, etc. (Matt. 15:37)
Sick son v. 17	Sick daughter
Beseeching a 'man of God' for healing v. 19	Beseeching the Son of God for healing
Renowned for her faith at a time of disbelief in Israel (Lk. 4:25-6)	Renowned for her faith at a time of disbelief in Israel (Mt. 15:28)

Lessons for Us

- The sacrifice of the Bread of Life has brought us who were once 'Gentile dogs' beneath the table, into the commonwealth of Israel.
- We have no right to the gospel - it is a privilege/grace.
- Physical sickness: The Lord offered healing to adults and children alike. We hope that the trial of ill-health develops in us the same 'great faith' that grew in this child's mother.
- Spiritual Sickness: Though a great sickness distances us from the Lord, if we truly wish for his healing he will make the distance.
- Don't look down on others, as the disciples did. God is no respecter of persons – neither should we be.
- Like the woman, we must eagerly participate in the Master's Table.
- Seeking the Lord: The woman's efforts were unceasing. Like Jacob who wrestled with the angel; like the paralytic's friends who let him down through the roof; so our prayers and our efforts for Divine favour must be persistent.

Class 3 – Zacchaeus

The spirit of hospitality - *invites eagerly*

1 Pet. 4:8-10 "Above all things have fervent charity among yourselves, for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

- Ex. 2 – Jethro and Moses
- Acts 16:13-15 - Lydia – *constrained* Paul and Silas to abide in her house
- Cp. also Abraham, Lot, and Manoah (*to angels unawares*), the Shunamite woman (*to Elisha*).

The spirit of hospitality gives the best

- Gen. 18 - Abraham – fetched water to wash their feet, told Sarah to make some cakes, chose a calf to dress, eventually presenting milk and butter along with the meal.
- Gen. 19:3 – Lot 'made [the angels] a feast... and unleavened bread'.
- Judg. 13:15 – Manoah planned to prepare a kid for the angel.
- 1 Kings 18 - Widow of Zarephath gave Elisha her last meal in faith

The spirit of hospitality cares genuinely

- Gen. 19 – Lot's care for the angels concerning the character of the men of Sodom
- 2 Kings. 4:8-11 – Shunamite woman Constrained Elisha to eat bread, and prepared a permanent place for him, after she noticed him passing by regularly.
- Luke 10 – Mary and Martha were reminded that along with temporal thing, hosts and hostesses must be concerned with spiritual things – *'the better part'*.
- Acts 16 - Lydia 'besought' (*parakaleo – exhort/comfort*) Paul and Silas to stay.

The spirit of hospitality receives blessing

- 2 Sam. 6:11 – "And the ark of the LORD continued in the house of Obededom the Gittite three months: and the LORD blessed Obededom, and all his household."
- Matt 25:38 - *'I was a stranger and ye took me in'*. Those who serve their brethren in this manner are accepted by the King.
- Luke 19:9 - Salvation to the house of Zacchaeus

The Most Important Guest

- Rev. 3:20 "Behold I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him and he with me."

	Abraham	Zacchaeus
Rich	Gen. 13:6 - substance was great	Luke 19:2
Beneath a tree	Gen. 18:1 (plain = tree)	v. 4
Hospitable	Gen. 18:3	v. 6-7
Sense of urgency	Gen. 18:2, 6, 7 – ran, hasted	v. 6
Would not take from others	Gen. 19 (King of Sodom); 23 (Sons of Heth)	v. 8
Salvation to his house	Gen 18:19 – he will command his household	v. 9
Son of Abraham	Ch. 18 – promise of a son	v. 9

Parable – Pharisee – Lk. 18:9-14	Rich Young Ruler
Certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous – v.9	What shall I do to inherit eternal life – v. 18 (<i>ie, works of the law</i>)
Fasts and gives tithes – v.12	All these (<i>commandments</i> – v. 18-19) have I kept from my youth
Unjustified – v. 14	Went away sorrowful – v. 22
Parable – Publican – Lk. 18:9-14	Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-10
Standing afar off – v. 13	Ran ahead of the crowd – v. 4
Admits sin – v. 13	Chooses restitution of a <i>thief</i> – v. 8
Humbled himself – v.14	Admitted need for repentance – v. 8 Climbs a tree despite loss of pride/dignity/reputation, etc. v. 4
Went to his house justified – v. 14	This day is salvation come to this house – v. 9

Rich Young Ruler – Luke 18	Zacchaeus – Luke 19
Rich – v. 23	Rich – v. 2
Arch-on – chief ruler	Arch-itelones – chief publican
Upstanding citizen – v. 22	Notorious sinner – v. 7
Sorrowful – v. 24	Joyful – v. 6
Did not steal – v. 20	Admitted to thievery – v. 8
Could not distribute to the poor – v. 23-4	Gave half of goods to poor – v. 8
Forfeited treasure in heaven – v. 22	Gained salvation – v. 9
Left Messiah (Matt. 19:22)	Hosted Messiah – v. 6, 7

Lessons for Us

- Spiritual largeness occurs when we are **little** in our own eyes.
- We need to climb above the earth to 'see Jesus'; to 'set our mind on things above'.
- There is little good in knowing Jesus from a distance.
- Is "Christ is the head of our homes"? Is Jesus Christ welcomed, known, listened to, respected, into our homes, for an extended stay?
- Our pursuit of the Lord might mean doing things that make us lose esteem and look silly in the eyes of murmurers, but we know it's the only way of seeking the Saviour.
- No one is beyond redemption. Zacchaeus had a horrible reputation, but a wonderful conversion.
- Be careful not to murmur against those who reach out to the lost.
- Remember the principles of hospitality. It is generous, genuine, caring, and receives blessing.

CLASS 4 - The Widow's MIGHT – Principles of Godly Giving

God's Giving - Our Motivation

2 Pet. 1:3 – '[God] hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness... 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises.'

Jas. 1:5 - 'God giveth to all men liberally'

John 3:16 – God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son....

Gal. 2:20 – The son of God gave himself for me.

Eph. 2:8 - 'For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.'

2 Cor. 9:15 "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!"

Cp. also 1 Chron. 29:12-14 – thanksgiving for giving!

Recipients of our Giving

Mt 25:40 'And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'

1Jo 3:17 'But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?'

- Cp. Deut. 15 – giving is based on the need, not merely the relationship.

Ga 6:10 'As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.'

Types of Giving

Ezra 1:3 'Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. 4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.'

Mk. 12:30 'And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.'

- 'all the heart' (our emotion)
- 'all the understanding' (our intellect)
- 'all the soul' (our life)
- 'all the strength' (our time/energy).

Spirit of Giving

Cheerful giver

- 2 Cor. 9:7 – 'Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.'
- Deut. 15:10 'Thou shalt surely give [thy brother], and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him...'

Willing giver

- 2 Cor. 8:12 'For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.'

Generous

- Rom. 12:8 – 'he that giveth ... with simplicity' (RSV 'liberality')
- Deut. 15:8 – 'But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanted.'

Spirit of Giving (cont'd)

Discreet

- **Matt. 6:3** 'Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth. 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.'

Prudent

- **Deut. 15:8** – 'But thou shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need, in that which he wanted.'

Purposefully

- **2 Cor. 9:7** 'Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give...'

In Faith

- Cp. widow and mites, Widow of Zarephath, Farmers under the Law

Amount of Giving

No holding back

- Principle of the **Burnt Offering**
- The widow of **Shunem** gave her **last meal**
- The widow gave **'all her living'**
- To purchase the pearl of great price the man sold **'all that he had'**
- God gave His only Son
- Jesus gave himself

Give more, and Aim for Perfection

Lev. 22:21 'And whosoever offereth a sacrifice of peace offerings unto the LORD to accomplish his vow, or a freewill offering in beeves or sheep, it shall be perfect to be accepted...'

Amount of Giving

Firstfruits

- **Prov. 3:9** 'Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase.'
- **Lev. 23:10** '...When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:...14 And ye shall eat neither bread, nor parched corn, nor green ears, until the selfsame day that ye have brought an offering unto your God.'

Sacrifice

- **2Sam.24: 24** 'And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy it of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshingfloor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.'

Blessings of Giving

Ac 20:35 – 'I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Deut. 15:10 'Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.'

Prov. 3:9 'Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.'

Lk 6:38 "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Lessons for Us

- Like he did with the widow, Jesus is **observing** the spirit of our giving **from a distance**.
- The **little things** we do often summarize who we really are.
- **God knows** how much we're **holding back**.
- The woman made no excuses for not giving to God's house. Let us be make **fewer excuses** and **more contributions**.
- Whether we give money, time, or talents, **God gets the firstfruits**.
- Our giving is a **reciprocation** of God's giving.
- Willing, generous, purposeful, discreet, faithful giving receives **great blessing**
- The commandments aren't just for understanding, but for doing.

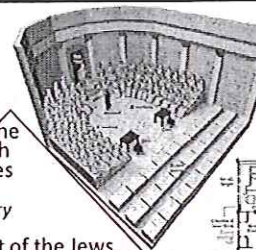
Class 5 – Joseph of Arimathea

The Sanhedrin

"The Sanhedrin was composed of the former high priest "and members of the privileged families from which the high priests were taken; elders... and scribes (i.e. legal assessors); Pharisees and Sadducees alike". *Unger's Bible Dictionary*

It was, essentially, the **Supreme Court of the Jews**, with 71 members, and the Mishna traces its origins back to the 70 elders appointed by Moses.

The term '**Honourable Councilor**' may suggest Joseph was one of the 14 men who formed the inner core of the Sanhedrin called '**The Council of the Priests**'. This was led by the High Priest; next to him the Segan, the deputy High Priest (possibly the '**Master/Teacher of Israel**' – Cp. Nicodemus in Jn 3); the rest in charge of the treasures and the gates. *see Talmud footnote*



The Birth of Nicodemus

Conception	Jn 3:1-10	• Came to Christ by night • Master/Teacher of Israel • Seeds of discipleship sown • Became a silent supporter
Gestation	Jn 7:46-53	• Mild opposition to Pharisees: 'Doth our law judge any man, before it hear him, and know what he doeth?' (V.51) • Rebutted by colleagues – evidently no longer the Master/Teacher of Israel • Signs of growth, but no real fruit
Birth	Jn 19:39	• Came to Christ by day • Understood Christ's initial message • Fruit shown in associating with Messiah openly, regardless of the consequences

The Anointing

The King

Psa 45:1 - '...I speak of the things which I had made touching the King... 7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness; therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. 8 All thy garments smell of myrrh, and aloes, and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.'

The Priest

Ex. 30:23 - 'Take thou also unto thee principal spices, of pure myrrh five hundred shekels, and of sweet cinnamon half so much, even two hundred and fifty shekels, and of sweet calamus two hundred and fifty shekels, 24 And of cassia five hundred shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary, and of oil olive an hin: 25 And thou shalt make it an oil of holy ointment... 30 And thou shalt anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office.'

The Garden and the Gardener

- o Gethsemane
- o Golgotha
- o 'Paradise' ('garden')
- o Garden tomb

'Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:'
1 Cor. 15:36

"It was a 'garden' [Eden] where the drama of human life began, and where sin's inception had its opening chapter. Now there was another garden [Gethsemane] as sin was conquered in the mind, and yet another where the flesh was finally repudiated [Golgotha] (John 19:41).

The struggle for mankind's redemption was foretold, brought to a crisis, and gloriously resolved in gardens." *The Day Christ Died* - p. 90

The New Sepulchre

Joseph the Old	Joseph the New
The religious leaders were hypocrites	Joseph is now a true disciple, no longer play-acting, living two lives
The religious leaders were whited sepulchres, full of uncleanness	Joseph gave his own virgin-tomb which had never seen a dead body.
The religious leaders decorated the sepulchres of their righteous	Joseph anointed the tomb of the truly Righteous One.
The religious leaders had a heritage of spilling blood	Joseph had not consented to their council or deed.

Bookends

	Beginning	End
Rich men brought spices	Matt. 2:11	Jn. 19:39
Joseph to care and nurture	Matt. 2:13-14	Jn. 19:38
Virgin womb, Virgin tomb	Matt. 1:23	Jn. 19:41
Linen clothes	Lk. 2:7 - 'swaddling clothes'	Jn. 19:40
Mary to watch and care for him.	Lk. 2:19	Matt. 27:61 - Two!

Lessons

- o True disciples confess their discipleship, regardless of the cost.
- o There is little time left. We must be busy in our preparations to honour him.
- o All of life's status, possessions, and ambitions are worthless. If we don't have Christ, we have nothing.
- o We must share in Christ's death if we wish to share in his life.

Matt. 15:21 ¶ Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

29 ¶ And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there.

30 And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them:

31 Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

32 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.

33 And his disciples say unto him, Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude?

34 And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes.

35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground.

36 And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude.

37 And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full.

38 And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children.

39 And he sent away the multitude, and took ship, and came into the coasts of Magdala.

Mark 7: 24 ¶ And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid.

25 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

27 But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs.

28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

31 ¶ And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis.

32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

33 And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue;

34 And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.

35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain.

36 And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it;

37 And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

1 ¶ In those days the multitude being very great, and having nothing to eat, Jesus called his disciples unto him, and saith unto them,

2 I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now been with me three days, and have nothing to eat:

3 And if I send them away fasting to their own houses, they will faint by the way: for divers of them came from far.

4 And his disciples answered him, From whence can a man satisfy these men with bread here in the wilderness?

5 And he asked them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven.

6 And he commanded the people to sit down on the ground: and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and brake, and gave to his disciples to set before them; and they did set them before the people.

7 And they had a few small fishes: and he blessed, and commanded to set them also before them.

8 So they did eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets.

9 And they that had eaten were about four thousand: and he sent them away.

Joseph of Arimathaea

Mat. 27:57-60	Mk. 15:42-46	Lk. 23:50-56	John 19:38
57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: 58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. 59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.	42 And now when the even was come, because it was the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. 45 And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. 46 And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre.	50 ¶ And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just: 51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. 53 And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. 54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.	38 ¶ And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. 42 There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

What we know about Joseph from all 4 gospel accounts:

- From Arimathaea (Ramah), (all gospels), a city of the Jews
- Rich man (Mt. 27:57)
- Also was Jesus' disciple (Mt. 27:57), yet 'secretly for fear of the Jews' (Jn. 19:38)
- An honourable counsellor (Mk. 15:43)
- Also waited for the Kingdom of God (15:43)
- Good man and just (Lk. 23:50)
- Had not consented to the counsel and deed of them (?) (Lk. 23:51)

What Joseph did

- Went boldly unto Pilate (Mk. 15:43)
- 'Begged' (Mt. & Lk.), 'craved' (Mk.), 'besought' (Jn). The body of Jesus.
- Took the body of Jesus down from the cross (Lk. 23:53)
- Along with Nicodemus (Jn. 19:39) anointed Jesus body with 100 lbs. spices
- Wrapped it in clean linen (all gospels)
- Laid it in a sepulchre:
 - Joseph's own (Mt. 60) that 'he had hewn out in the rock'
 - Wherein never man was laid (Lk. 23:53, Jn. 19:41)
 - That was nigh at hand (Jn. 19:42)
 - In a garden (Jn. 19:41)
 - Because the Sabbath/Jew's preparation day drew on (Lk and Jn)
- Rolled a great stone to the sepulchre's door