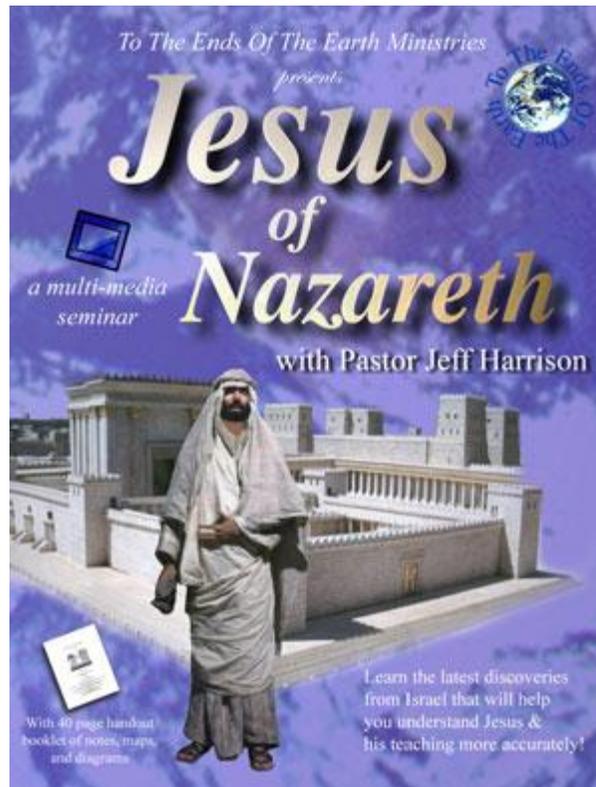


To The Ends of the Earth Ministries

— *presents* —



Study Notes for **Jesus of Nazareth** **Lecture #4**

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LANDMARKS OF FAITH Jesus of Nazareth

Lecture #4: Colonnade and Fisherman's Hovel: Galilee in the Ministry of Jesus

THE SEA OF GALILEE

The Sea of Galilee is 7 miles (11 km) wide and 12 miles (19 km) long. The surface of the water is 700 ft (210 m) below sea level. The steep slopes and cliffs around the Sea almost 2,000 ft (600 m) high.

Gentiles (G): Non-Jews. In Galilee, most were Greek-speaking pagans who worshipped idols.

Hellenized Jews (H): Jews who were strongly influenced by Greek and Roman culture and society.

Traditional religious Jews (J): Jews whose lives revolved around the Law and the synagogue.

Famous residents of Gadara: **Menippos**, 3rd cent. BC Cynic writer; **Philodemos**, 1st cent. BC Epicurean philosopher and poet; and **Meleager**, 1st cent. BC poet.

John 6:23: *"There came other small boats from Tiberias..."*

John 21:1: *"Jesus manifested himself again...at the Sea of Tiberias..."*

Decapolis: A group of Gentile Greek-style cities, with Greek-style government.

Gaulanitis: New Testament period name for the Golan Heights (Upper Gaulanitis) and the area just below the cliffs (Lower Gaulanitis).

Discovery: The "Jesus Boat"--a fishing boat from the time of Jesus found buried along the shore of the Sea of Galilee near ancient Magdala.

Matt. 11:21: *"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon [totally "G" pagan cities] which occurred in you, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes. Nevertheless I say to you, it shall be more tolerable in the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you."*

John 12:21: *"Bethsaida of Galilee"*

Mark 8:22,23: *"... to Bethsaida.... And taking the blind man by the hand, he brought him out of the village..."*

Mark 6:53-55: *"And when they had crossed over they came to land at Gennesaret, and moored on the shore. And when they had come out of the boat, immediately the people recognized him, and ran about that whole region and began to carry...on their pallets those who were sick to the place they heard he was."*

Matt. 8:18: *"Jesus...gave orders to depart to the other side [of the lake]."* (Also Matt. 8:28, 14:22, 16:5; Mark 4:35, 5:1, 5:21, 6:45, etc.)

DISCIPLES

1) The disciples were traditional, religious Jews, taught to separate themselves from other types of people.

Acts 10:28: *"You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him"*

Acts 10:14: *"By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean"*

Acts 10:28: *"God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean."*

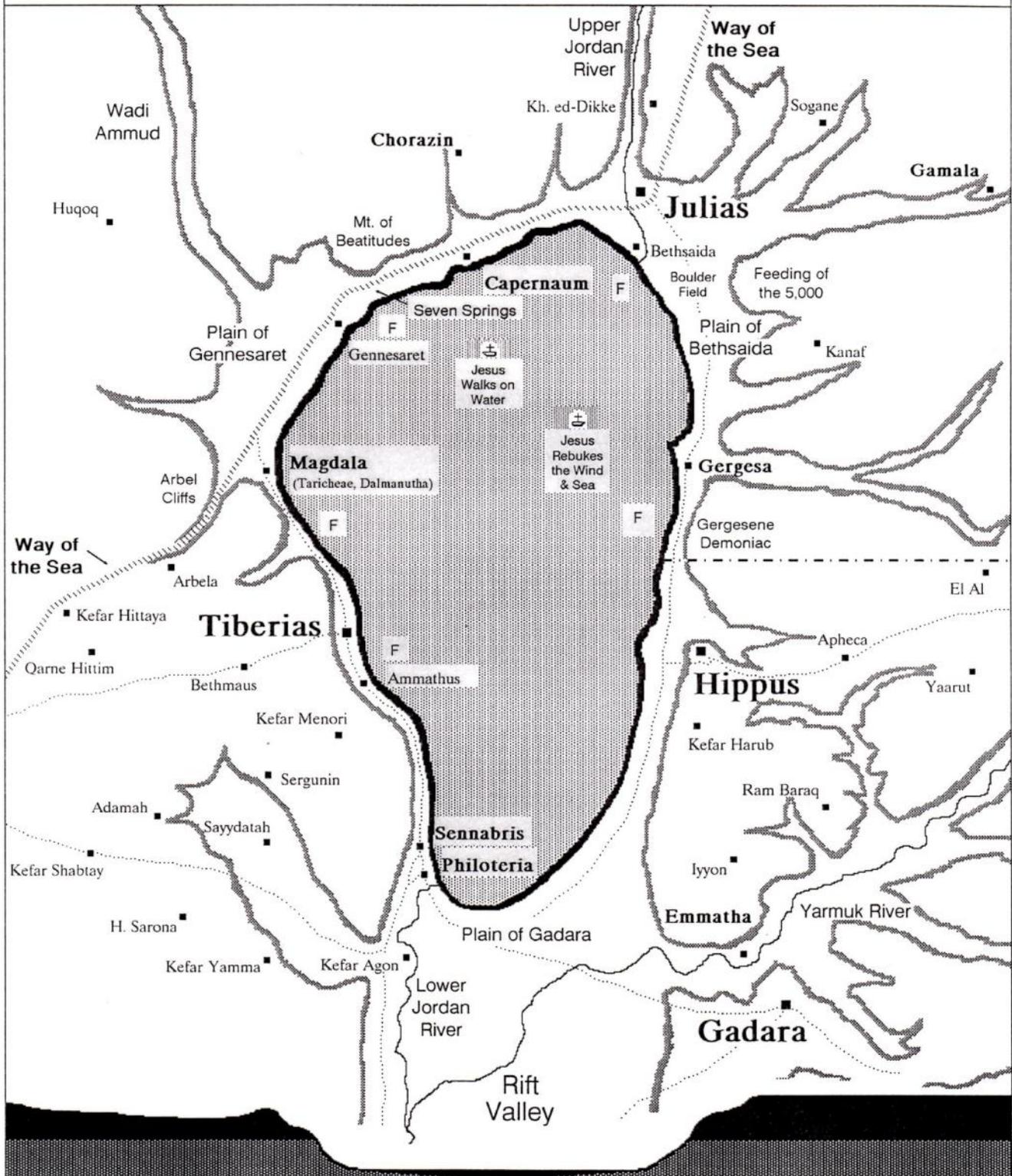
2) They were raised to be anti-Roman.

Matt. 5:41: *"And whoever forces you to go one mile, go with him two"*

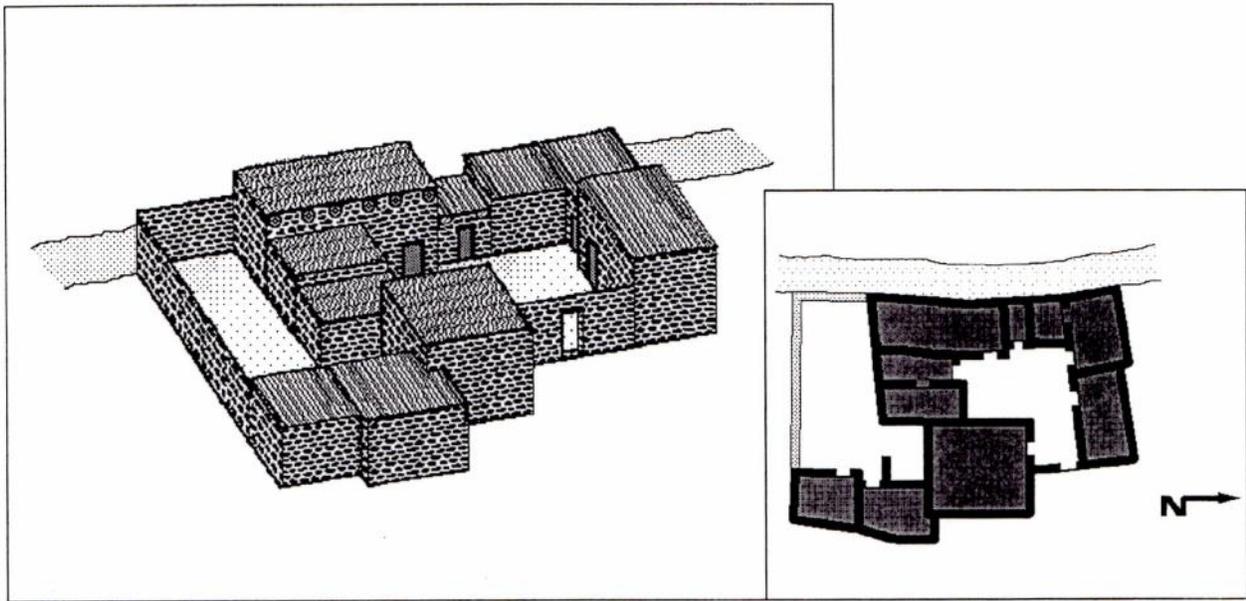
3) They were attracted to apocalyptic ("revelatory") Judaism.

THE SEA OF GALILEE

IN THE TIME OF JESUS CHRIST



CAPERNAUM



The Insula of Peter's Mother-in-Law in Capernaum

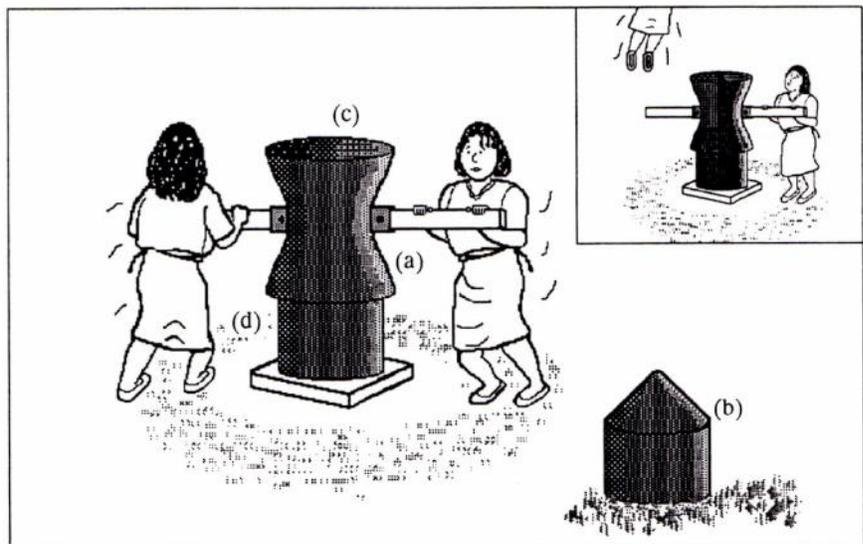
The large square room toward the front was later converted into a Christian house-church. This may be the room in which Jesus stayed while living in Capernaum and where some of the miracles mentioned in the New Testament occurred.

Millstones in Capernaum

“Two women will be grinding at the mill, one will be taken along, and one will be left behind” (Matthew 24:41).

So many black basalt millstones were discovered at Capernaum, it must have been a center for making them. The large hourglass-shaped stone (a) sat on a short, pointed stone (b). Grain was poured in at the top (c), and flour came out below (d).

Basalt was popular for mills because of its hardness: pieces of the mill rarely broke off into the flour. But if they did, the black color could easily be seen in the flour and removed.



4) They were not typical Rabbinical students.

1 Cor. 1:27,29: *"But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong...that no man should boast before God"*

5) Their decision to follow Jesus was gradual.

CAPERNAUM

Kephar Nahum: "Village of Nahum." The Hebrew name of Capernaum.

Mark 2:1: *"And when he had come back to Capernaum...it was heard that he was at home."*

Isa. 9:1,2,6,7: *"In earlier times he treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on he shall make it glorious, by the Way of the Sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.... For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on his shoulders; and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace..."*

Luke 4:38,39: *"And he...entered Simon's [Peter's] home. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever.... He rebuked the fever, and it left her..."*

John 4:46,50: *"He came...to Cana of Galilee.... And there was a certain government official [basilikos], whose son was sick at Capernaum.... Jesus said to him, 'Go; your son lives.'"*

Basilikos: A government official in charge of weights and measures in the market place.

Luke 9:9: *"And Herod [Antipas].... kept trying to see him."*

Luke 14:31: *"Herod [Antipas] wants to kill you"*

Luke 7:6,9,10: *"...the centurion sent friends.... 'I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith'.... They found the slave in good health"*

Luke 8:41,54: *"...a man named Jairus, and he was an elder of the synagogue.... [Jesus] took her by the hand and called out, saying, 'Child, get up!'"*

Mark 1:23: *"There was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out"*

Mark 3:4-6: *"Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save a life or to kill?... And after looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, he said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand'.... And the Pharisees went out and immediately began taking counsel with the Herodians against him, as to how they might destroy him"*

John 6:53-55,66: *"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in yourselves. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink'.... Many of his disciples withdrew, and were not walking with him anymore"*

John 14:2: *"In My Father's house are many rooms..."*

Luke 15:8: *"What women, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"*

2 Kings 19:26: *"As grass on the housetops is scorched before it is grown up"* (Also Psalm 129:6, Isaiah 37:27).

Mark 2:4: *"They removed the roof above him; and when they had dug an opening..."*

Discovery: A first century house-church, dating to the lifetime of the disciples, in Capernaum. Possibly the house in which Jesus stayed in Capernaum. Includes graffiti scratched in the plaster mentioning Jesus as Lord, Messiah, the Most High, and God.

Matt. 11:23,24: *"And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You shall descend to Hades; for if the miracles had happened in Sodom which happened in you, it would have remained to this day."*

Nevertheless, I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you"

FISHING

Musht: Include Telapia ("St. Peter's fish"). Probably the type of fish of the miracle catches.

Barbels: Bottom feeders. Probably the type of fish caught by Peter with a coin in its mouth (to pay the annual 1/2 shekel Temple tax).

Fresh water sardines: More than half the yearly catch. Main export fish of Peter and Andrew, James and John.

Casting net: 18 to 24 feet (6-8 m) in diameter. Peter and Andrew were casting this kind of net when Jesus called them (Matt. 4:18, Mk. 1:16).

Trammel net: used from the back of a boat in deep water. A compound net. John and James were mending this kind of net when Jesus called them (Matt. 4:21, Mk. 1:19). This is the net used for the miraculous catches in Luke 5 and John 21.

Dragnet: 225 to 900 feet (75-300m) long. Requires two teams to drag in the net.

Matt. 13:47-50: *"The kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind--and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach, and sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away. So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous and will cast them into the furnace of fire, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."*

STORMS

Sharkia: The Arabic name for storms coming from the East.

Mark 4:37-41: *"And there arose a fierce gale of wind, and the waves were breaking over the boat so much that the boat was already filling up. And he himself was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' And when he was aroused, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Hush, be still.' And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm. And he said to them, 'Why are you so timid? How is it that you have no faith?' And they became very much afraid and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'"*

Matt. 14:23-: *"And after he had sent the multitudes away, he went up to the mountain by himself to pray; and when it was evening, he was there alone. But the boat was already many stadia (a couple of miles) away from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night (3-6 am) he came to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were frightened, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'Take courage, I AM, do not be afraid.'"*

Mark 6:48: *"...and he intended to pass by them"*

Job 9:8-11: *"Who alone stretches out the heavens, and tramples down the waves of the sea...Were he to pass by me, I would not see him; were he to move past me, I would not perceive him."*

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

Matt. 5:3: *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for of them is the kingdom of the heavens."*

John 7:49: *"This crowd which does not know the Law is accursed"*

Isa. 42:3: *"A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not extinguish"*

Isaiah 57:15: *"I dwell...with the contrite and lowly of spirit"*

Matt. 5:4: *"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

Isa. 61:3: *"To establish those who mourn over Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning..."*

Matt. 5:5: *"Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth."*

Ps. 37:11: *"The humble will inherit the land"*

Matt. 5:6: *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."*

Rom. 2:5,6: *"God...will render to every man according to his deeds"*

Matt. 5:7: *"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."*

Matt. 5:8: *"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."*

Mark 7:18,20: *"Don't you understand that whatever goes into a man from outside cannot defile him;...but...that which proceeds out of a man, that is what defiles a man"*

Matt. 5:8: *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."*

Matt. 5:17-20: *"Do not suppose that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets [the Old Testament]; I did not come to abolish, but to fill them [fill with their true meaning]. For 'Amen' I say to you all, until the heaven and the earth pass away, a single 'iota' [the smallest letter of the alphabet] or a single stroke [of a hand-written letter of the alphabet] shall certainly not pass away from the Law until all [that is written in it] comes to pass. Whoever, therefore, looses [does away with] one of the least of these commandments and teaches the people in this manner, will be called the least in the kingdom of the heavens [kingdom of God]; but he who obeys and teaches [even the least commandment], this one will be called great in the kingdom of the heavens [kingdom of God]. For I say to you, that unless your righteousness is abundantly greater than the scribes and Pharisees, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven"*

The rabbis taught: "Be as careful to obey a light precept as a weighty one, for you don't know the recompense of reward for each precept" (Mishnah, Aboth 2:1)

"Run to fulfill the lightest duty even as the weightiest" (Mishnah, Aboth 4:2)

Matt. 5:21,22: *"You have heard that the ancients were told, 'You will not commit murder'.... But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be guilty before the court"*

Matt. 5:27,28: *"You have heard that it was said, 'You will not commit adultery'; but I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart"*

Matt. 5:38,39: *"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, don't resist him who is evil; but whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also"*

Rom. 3:31: *"Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law"*

The **Law of Messiah** is referred to by many different names in the New Testament: *"Law written in their hearts"* (Rom. 2:15), *"Law of faith"* (Rom. 3:27), *"Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus"* (Rom. 8:2), *"Law of Christ"* (1 Cor. 9:21, Gal. 6:2), *"the perfect Law of liberty"* (James 1:25), *"the Royal Law"* (James 2:8), *"Law of liberty"* (James 2:12), *"the commandment of the Lord"* (2 Pet. 3:2), *"the holy commandment"* (2 Pet. 2:21), *"the commandment"* (1 Tim. 6:14), *"his commandments"* (1 John 2:3,4; 2 John 1:6); *"my commandments"* (John 14:15,21, 15:10), a *"new covenant"* (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25; 2 Cor. 3:6; Heb. 8:8, 9:15, 12:24).

The rabbis taught: "The Law that a man learns in this world is empty in comparison with the Law of the Messiah" (Eccl. Rab. 11:8).

Rom. 8:1,2,4: *"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus: for the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.... in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit"*

Rom. 7:7,12,14: *"Is the Law sin? May it never be!.... The Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.... The Law is spiritual...."*

Rom. 8:3: *"What the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh"*

Rom. 8:4: *"...in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit"*