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Luke 12 commentary matthew henry

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Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.12:1-12 A firm belief in the doctrine of God's universal providence and its extent would satisfy us in peril and encourage us to trust God in the way of duty. Providence takes note of the meanest creatures, including sparrows, and thus the smallest interests of Christ's disciples. Those who now profess Christ will belong to Him on the great day before the angels of God. In order to prevent us from denying Christ and foreleaving His truths and ways, we are sure here that those who deny Christ, even if they can save life themselves, and even if they may gain a kingdom through Him, will finally be great losers; for Christ will not know them, they will not possess them, nor will they show them any mercy. But do not leave trembling, repentant underdogs doubting the obtaining of forgiveness. This is very different from the determined enmity that is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which will never be forgiven because it will never repent. For nothing is covered, and hidden, that should not be known. Therefore what you have spoken in darkness will be heard in the light, and that which ye have spoken in cupboards in the ear shall be preached on the slopes of the house. And I say to you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that they have nothing left to do. But I will warn you who will fear you: fear him who, having killed power, has thrown into hell; Yes, I say to you, fear him. Arent five sparrows sold for two Farthings, and none of them are forgotten before God? But also the hairs of your head are all numbered. So do not be afraid: you are more valuable than many sparrows. I also say to you, whoever will confess me before men, the Son of Man will also confess to him before the angels of God; but whoever denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven; But to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven. And when they bring you to the synagogues and to judges and powers, do not think about how or what you will answer or what you will say: For the Holy Spirit will teach you in the same hour what you shall say. And one of the company said to him, Master, speak to my brother, that he may share the inheritance with me.12:13-21 The kingdom of Christ is spiritual and not of this world. Christianity does not interfere in politics; it obliges everyone to do justice, but literal dominion is not based on grace. It does not promote expectations of worldly benefits through religion, that the of Christ's disciples are of a different nature. Desire is a sin that we must be constantly warned of, for happiness and consolation do not depend on the richness of this world. The things of the world will not satisfy the desires of a soul. Here is a parable that shows the folly of carnal world life as they live, and their misery when they die. The drawn character is precisely that of a prudent, worldly man who does not consider god's providence gratefully, nor thinks of the uncertainty of human affairs, the value of his soul, or the meaning of eternity. Like many, even among professed Christians, point to similar characters as models of imitation, and right people to form connections! We confuse when we think that thoughts are hidden and thoughts are free. When he saw a great harvest on his soil, instead of thanking God for it or reusing himself to do more good, he besieged himself. What should I do now? The country's poorest beggar could not have said a more anxious word. The more men they have, the more perplexity they have with it. It was foolish for him to think of not using his abundance any more than to indulge in the flesh and satisfy the sensual appetite without thinking of doing good to others. Carnal worldlings are fools; and the day will come when God will call them by their name, and they will call themselves that. The death of such people is in itself miserable and terrible for them. Your soul will be required. He is much to separate from; but God will demand it, it will sit accountable, it will be punished immediately as a guilty soul. It is the folly of most people to think and pursue what is only for the body and for time, more than that for the soul and eternity. And he said to him, Man who made me a judge or a divider over you? And he said to them, Be careful, and beware of desire: for a man's life does not consist in the fullness of what he possesses. And he spoke a parable to them, saying, The bottom of a rich man brought forth abundantly; And he thought in himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where I can give my fruit? And he said, This I will do: I will tear down my barns, and i.e. I will build them greater; and there I will give all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have many goods that have been laid up for many years; Take your lightness, eat, drink and be cheerful. But God said to him, You fool, this night your soul will be required of you; who will be what you have intended? So it is who lays a treasure for himself and is not rich in comparison. And he said to his disciples, Therefore I say to you, do not think after your life what you will eat, nor for the body what you will do.12:22-40 Christ largely insisted on this caution, not on the disquiet of giving in to perplexity, to give in. Mt 6:25-34. The arguments used here are for our encouragement to focus our care on God, which is the right way to get lightness. As in our stature, so in our state, it is our wisdom to take it as it is. A zealous, anxious pursuit of the things of this world, even necessary things, becomes the disciples of Christ. Fears must not prevail; when we are frightened by the thoughts of evil and worry unnecessarily how to avoid it. If we value the beauty of holiness, we will not yearn for the luxury of life. Let us then check whether we belong to this small flock. Christ is our Master, and we are His servants; not only working servants, but also waiting servants. We must be like men waiting for their Lord to sit down while he stays out late to be ready to receive Him. In this Christ alluded to his own ascension, to his coming, to call his people to him by death, and to his return to judge the world. We are not sure how late he will come to us, so we should always be ready. So when people take care of their homes, we want to be so wise to our souls. So be ready; so ready would be the good man of the house, if he knew at what hour the thief would come. Life is more than meat, and the body is more than clothes. Consider the Ravens; for they neither sow nor reap; who have neither a warehouse nor a barn; and God feeds them: How much better are you better than the birds? And who among you with thoughts can add an elbow to your stature? If you are not able to do what is least, why do you go for the rest? Look at the lilies as they grow: they don't bother, they don't rotate; And yet I say to you, Solomon, in all his glory, in all his glory, and God feeds them: One of them. If then God so throw the grass that is in the field today, and tomorrow into the furnace; How much more will he clothe you, o you of little faith? And do not seek what you will eat, or what you will drink, nor are you doubtful spirit. For all these things seek the nations of the world; and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God; and all this will be added to you. Fear not, small flock; for it is the joy of your Father to give you the kingdom. Sell that you have and give alms; Provide you with pockets that do not grow old, a treasure in heaven that does not fail where no thief approaches, nor moth spoils. For where your treasure is, there will also be your heart. Let your loins gird and your lights burned; And you yourself like the people who wait for their Lord when He returns from the wedding; that when he comes and knocks, they open to him immediately. Blessed are the servants whom the Lord will observe when he comes. Verily I say to you that he will gird himself and let them sit. Will, and will come forth and serve them. And when he comes in the second guard, or comes in the third guard, and finds them like this, these servants are blessed. And this knows that if the houseman had known at what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and would not have suffered as his house was broken. Be ready now also; for the Son of Man comes at an hour if you do not think. And Peter said to him, Lord, do you speak this parable to us, or even to all? 12:41-53 All shall take to himself what Christ says in his word, and ask for it. No one is so ignorant that he doesn't know much wrong about what he's doing, and a lot of things that are right, what he neglects; therefore all are without excuse in their sin. The introduction of dispensation would wreak havoc. Not that this is the tendency of the religion of Christ, which is pure, peaceful and loving; but the effect of his being as opposed to the pride and desires of men. There should be a broad publication of the gospel. But before this happened, Christ had a baptism with which one was baptized, very different from that of the water and the Holy Spirit. He must endure suffering and death. He disagreed with his plan to continue preaching the gospel until this baptism was complete. We should be diligent to reveal the truth, for although divisions are stirred up, and a man's own household may be his enemies, sinners will be converted, and God will be glorified. And the Lord said, Who then is this faithful and wise steward, whom his master shall rule over his house, to give them their share of flesh in due time? Blessed is the servant whom his master will find when he comes. Of one truth I tell you that he will make him ruler of all that he has. But when this servant says in his heart, My Lord delays his coming; and shall begin to slap the servants and the virgins, and to eat, and to drink, and to be drunk; The lord of this servant shall come on a day when he does not seek him, and at an hour when he does not know, and will cut him in the line, and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant who knew the will of his master, and did not prepare himself, and did not do according to his will, shall be struck with many stripes. But he who knew nothing, and committed deeds worthy of the strip, will be beaten with a few stripes. For to whom much shall be given, much will be required of him; and to whom people have done much, they will demand all the more. I have come, I have fired on the earth; and what will I become if it is already ignited? But I have a baptism with which I can be baptized and how am I pressed until it is finished! Suppose you have come to give peace on earth? I say to you, no; but rather division: for from now on five will be divided in one house, three against two and two against The father shall be divided against the son and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter and the daughter against the mother; the mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And he also said to the people, When you see a cloud rising from the West, you say, There is a shiver; and so it is.12:54-59 Christ the people would be as wise in the sorrows of their souls as they are in external affairs. They should hurry to attain peace with God before it is too late. If a man has established that God has turned against him because of his sins, he shall apply him as God in Christ, who reconciles the world to himself. While we live, we are in the way, and now is our time. And when you blow the south wind, you say, It will be heat; and it comes before. You hypocrites, you can see the face of heaven and earth; but what is it like that you do not know this time? yes, and why do you not judge what is right from you? If you go with your adversary to the judge, as you are on the way, you will be saved by him; that he may not pour you over to the judge, and the judge will deliver you to the officer, and the officer will throw you into prison. I tell you, you shall not get away from there until you have paid for the very

last mite. Page 2Matthew Henry's commentAnd it came to pass that when he prayed in a certain place when he stopped, one of his disciples said to him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.11:1-4 Lord, teaching us is a good prayer, and a very needy one, for Jesus Christ can teach us only through His word and His Spirit. how to pray. Lord, teach me what it means to pray. Lord, stir me up and make me a duty. Lord, guide me for what I should pray for; teach me what to say, Christ taught them a prayer similar to what he had given before in his Sermon on the Mount. There are some differences in the words of the Word of the Lord in Matthew and Luke, but they are of no moment. In our prayers, both for others and for ourselves, let us come to our Heavenly Father and entrust His power and goodness to Him. And he said to them, If ye pray, say, Father, what art in heaven, be your name. Your kingdom is coming. You will will be done, as in heaven, that is, on earth. Give us our daily bread every day. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive everyone who owes us. And do not tempt us; but save us from evil. And he said to them, Who among you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight, and say to him, Friend, borrow three loaves;11:5-13 Christ encourages the and perseverance in prayer. We must come for what we need, as a man does to his neighbor or friend who is kind to him. We must come to bread; for what is necessary. If God does not answer our prayers but it will be in due time as we continue to pray. Watch what they should pray for; we must ask for the Holy Ghost, not only when it is necessary to pray well, but as all spiritual blessings are contained in it. For through the influences of the Holy Spirit we are made to know God and ourselves, to repent, to believe in Christ and to love Him, and so we become comfortable in this world and meet in the next Happiness. All these blessings that our Heavenly Father can give to anyone who asks them as a forgiving parent is to feed a hungry child. And that is the advantage of the prayer of faith, that it soothes and builds the heart in God. For a friend of mine on his journey has come to me, and I have nothing to put before him? And he will answer from within, saying, Do not worry me; the door is now closed, and my children are in bed with me; I can't stand up and give to you. I tell you, although he will not rise up and give to him because he is his friend, he will rise up because of his importance and give him as many as he needs. And I say to you, Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you will find it; and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; and who seeks, who finds; and to him who knocks it, it will be opened. If a son of one of you who is a father asks for bread, will he give him a stone? or if he asks a fish, will he give him a snake for a fish? Or if he asks an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? Now, when you are evil, you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Heavenly Father give the Holy Ghost to those who ask Him? And he cast out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass that when the devil was gone, the dumb man spoke; and the people wondered.11:14-26 Christ, who thus cast out the devils, was truly the destruction of their power. The heart of every unconverted sinner is the devil's palace, where he dwells and reigns. There is a kind of peace in the heart of an unconverted soul, while the devil keeps him armed as a strong man. The sinner is safe, has no doubt about the goodness of his state, nor is he afraid of the judgment to come. But watch the wonderful change made in the transformation. The conversion of a soul to God is the victory of Christ over the devil and his power in this soul, which finds its freedom again and regains its own interest in it and its power over it. All the energies of the body are now employed for Christ. Here is the state of a hypocrite. The house is swept away by the common sins, by forced confession, like that of Pharaoh; by a feigned repentance, like the abah; or through a partial reformation, such as heroic. The house is swept, but it is not washed; the heart is not made sacred. Sweeping only takes away the loose dirt, while the sin that infests the sinner, the beloved sin, remains untouched. The house is garnished garnished common gifts and graces. It is not endowed with true grace; it is all color and varnish, neither real nor permanent. It was neither given to Christ nor soured by the Spirit. Let us rest in what a man can have and yet come behind heaven. The evil spirits enter without difficulty; they are welcomed, and they dwell there; they work there, they govern there. From such a terrible state, let everyone pray earnestly to be freed. And some said, He casts out the devils by Beelzebub, the ruler of the devils. And others who tried him sought from him a sign from heaven. And when he sored their thoughts, and said to them, Every kingdom that is divided against itself is brought to destruction; and a house divided against a house fallth. If satan is also divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? because you say that I drive out devils through Beelzebub. And if I cast out the devils through Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore they will be your judges. But if I cast out the devils with the finger of God, the kingdom of God has undoubtedly come upon you. But if a strong man armed keeps his palace, his good is at peace; but if a stronger than he come upon him and overcome him, he takes away all his armor, upon which he trusted, and divides his spoil. He who is not with me is against me; and he who does not gather with me scatters. When the unclean spirit walks away from a man, he goes through dry places and seeks rest; And I found none, he says, I will return to my house, from where I came out. And when he comes, he finds it swept and garnished. Then he goes and takes from him seven other spirits that are more evil than himself; And they go in and dwell there; and the last state of this man is worse than the first. And it came to pass that when he spoke these things, a woman of society raised her voice and said to him, Blessed is the body that bares you, and the Paps which you sucked.11:27-28 While the scribes and Pharisees despised and blasphemed the words of our Lord Jesus, this good woman admired her and the wisdom and power with which he spoke. Christ led the woman to a higher consideration. Although it is a great privilege to hear the word of God, they are only truly blessed, that is, blessed by the Lord who hear it, remember it, and preserve it as their way and their dominion. And he said, Yea, rather blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. And when the people were gathered together thickly, he said, This is an evil generation; they are looking for a sign; And there will be no sign, but the Jonas the prophet.11:29-36 Christ promised that a sign should be given more, even the sign of the prophet Jonah; which is explained in Matthew, as the resurrection of Christ; and he warned them to improve this sign. But even though Christ himself the constant preacher in every church and worked miracles among them every day, but if his grace did not humiliate their hearts, they would not profit from his word. We do not want more evidence and more doctrine than the Lord can afford. We should pray without ceasing that our hearts and understandings will be opened so that we may benefit from the light we enjoy. And especially beggars that the light that is in us is not darkness; because if our guiding principles are wrong, our judgments and practice must become even more. For just as Jonas was a sign to the Nine-Viters, so will the Son of Man of this generation. The Queen of the South will rise up in judgment with the men of this generation and condemn her; for she came from the outermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, a greater than Solomon is here. The men of Nineve will rise up in court with this sex and condemn it; for they repented at the proclamation of Jonas; and behold, a bigger than Jonas is here. No man, when he has lit a candle, places it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a lampstand, so that those who come here may see the light. The light of the body is the eye; so if your eye is lonely, your whole body is full of light; but if your eye is evil, your body is also full of darkness. Now therefore make sure that the light that is in them is not dark. Now, if your whole body is full of light and has no part of it dark, the whole thing will be full of light, as if the bright glow of a candle gives you light. And when he was speaking, a Pharisee asked him to eat with him, and he went in, and sat down in flesh.11:37-54 We should all look to our hearts, that they may be cleansed and recreated; and as we take care of the great things of the law and the gospel, we must not neglect the smallest matter that God has appointed. When any wait waits to get something out of our mouth snare us, Lord, give us your prudence and patience and disappoint their evil intentions. Allow us with such meekness and patience that we may present ourselves in reproach, for Christ's sake, and that your Holy Spirit may rest upon us. And when the Pharisee saw it, he was astonished that he had not washed before dinner. And the Lord said to him, Now you Pharisees clean sin the outside of the cup and the plate; but your inner part is full of tears and wickedness. You fool, hasn't he who did what is not done do what is also inside? But give alms of what you have; and behold, all things are clean for you. Woe to you, Pharisees! for their tithes and Rue and all kinds of herbs, and passes the judgment and love of God; you should have done them, and not let the other go unchecked. Woe to you, Pharisees! for ye love the highest places in the synagogues, synagogues, Greetings at the markets. Woe
to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like graves that do not appear, and the men who pass over them are not aware of them. Then one of the lawyers answered and said to him, Master, and said, You also revile us. And he said, Woe to you, lawyers, for you charge men with burdens that are difficult to bear, and you yourselves do not touch the burdens with one of your fingers. Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. Truly, you testify that you allow the deeds of your fathers; for they have killed them, and ye build their graves. Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them will kill and persecute them; that the blood of all the prophets, which was of foundation, may be required of this generation; From the blood of Abel to the blood of Zacharia, who perished between the altar and the temple, Verily I say unto you, it will be required of this generation. Woe to you, lawyers! for you have taken away the key of knowledge; you have not entered into it, and those who went into it have hindered you. And when he said this to them, the scribes and Pharisees began to urge him vehemently and provoke him, to speak of many things: wait for him, and try to catch something out of his mouth, that they may accuse him. Page 3Matthew Henry's commentAfter these things, the Lord also appointed other seventy and sent them two and two before his face to every city and place where he himself would come.10:1-16 Christ sent the seventy disciples, two, and two, to strengthen and encourage one another. The service of the Gospel calls people to receive Christ as prince and redeemer; And he will surely come in the power of his spirit to all places where he sends his faithful servants. But the demise of those who receive the grace of God in vain will be very anxious Those who despise the faithful servants of Christ, who think of them in common and look contemptuously at them, will be seen as contemptor of God and Christ. Therefore he said to them, The harvest is truly great, but the workers are few. now pray, the Lord of the harvest, that he may send workers into his harvest. Go your way: Behold, I send you out like lambs among wolves. Do not carry a purse, nor scrip, nor shoes; and greet no one on the way. And in which house you go, first say, Peace be with this house. And when the Son of Peace is there, your peace shall rest upon it; if not, he will turn to you again. And stay in the same house, eat and drink as they give; for the worker is worthy of his employment. Don't go from home House. And in whichever city you go in, and they receive you, eat that which is set before you; And heal. And heal Sick who are in it and say to them, The kingdom of God has come near to you. But in whatever city you go in, and they do not receive you, go out your ways into the alleys of it, and say, The dust of your city that divides upon us, we wipe away from you; be sure that the kingdom of God is coming near you. But I say to you, it will be more bearable that day for Sodom than for this city. Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon, which were done in you, they repented some time ago, and sat in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more tyrantise for Tyre and Sidon in judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, the art sublime to heaven, shall be driven to hell. He who lifts you, he is here for me; and he who despises you despises me; and he who despises me despises him who sent me. And the seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, the devils are also subject to us by Your name.10:17-24 All our victories over Satan are obtained by the power derived from Jesus Christ, and he must have all the praise. But let us beware of the spiritual pride that was the destruction of many. Our Lord rejoiced at the prospect of salvation for many souls. It was appropriate that this hour of joy should be given special attention; There were few such, for he was a man of mourning; in that hour when he saw Satan fall and heard of the good success of his servants, he rejoiced in that hour. He has ever resisted the pride and given grace to the humble. The simply dependent on the doctrine, help, and blessing of the Son of God, the more we will know of both the Father and the Son; we will be all the more blessed when we see the glory and hear the words of the divine Savior; and the more useful we will be in promoting his cause. And he said to them, I have fallen to Satan as lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the power to stand upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Notwithstanding this joy, the spirits are not subject to you; but rejoice, for your names are written in heaven. In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit, saying, I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for having hid this from the wise and the learned, and for revealing them to the babes, so father; for so it seemed good in your eyes. All things are saved from my Father; and no one knows who the Son is, but the Father; and who ever is the Father, and he the Son, and to him to whom the Son will reveal him. And he turned him to his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes that see what you see; for I tell you that Prophets and kings want to see what you and have not seen them; and to hear what you hear and have not heard. And behold, a lawyer arose and tempted him, and said, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?10:25-37 When we speak carelessly of eternal life and of the way to him, we accept the name of God in vain. No one will ever love God and his neighbor with a certain measure of pure spiritual love that is not made part of the converted of grace. But the proud heart of man is working hard against these beliefs. Christ gave an example of a poor Jew in need, relieved of a Good Samaritan. This poor man fell under the thieves who left him shortly before the death of his wounds. He was paralyzed by those who should have been his friends, and cared for by a stranger, a Samaritan, by the nation most despised and loathed by the Jews, and with whom they had nothing to do with. It is regrettable to see selfishness ruling all ranks; how many excuses men will make to avoid trouble or expense in relieving others. But the true Christian has written the law of love in his heart. The Spirit of Christ dwells in him; The image of Christ is renewed in his soul. The parable is a beautiful declaration of the law of loving our neighbour as ourselves, regardless of nation, party or any other distinction. It also lays out the goodness and love of God, our Redeemer, to sinful, miserable people. We were like this poor, beleaguered traveller. Satan, our enemy, has robbed and wounded us: this is the sin of disaster that has done us. Blessed Jesus had compassion for us. The believer believes that Jesus loved him and gave his life for him, as an enemy and a rebel; and after he has shown him mercy, let him go and do it. It is the duty of all of us in our places and according to our ability to help, help and alleviate all who are in need and need. He said to him, What is written in the law? how do you read them most? And he answered and said, Tyou shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself. And he said to him, You answered right. This you do, and you shall live. But he, ready to justify himself, said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor? And Jesus answered and said, A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who delivered him from his garments, and wounded him, and went away, leaving him half dead. And by chance a priest came down in this way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And so came a Levite, he was at the place, and looked at him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, when he was traveling, came where he was; And when he saw him, he felt sorry for him, and went to him, and banded his wounds, pouring out oil and wine, and putting him on his own beast, and bringing him into a hermetellastolin, taken care of him. And the next day, when he went away, he took out two pence, and gave them to the army, and said to him, Take care of him? and what you donate even more when I come back, I will customs you. Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to him who fell under the thieves? And he said, He has shown him mercy. Then Jesus said to him, Go and do also. And it came to pass, when they went, that he entered into a certain village; and a woman named Martha received him into her house.10:38-42 A good sermon is not the worst when she is preached in a house; and the visits of our friends should be managed in such a way that they turn for the good of their souls. Sitting at the feet of Christ means readiness to receive His word and submits to guidance. Martha provided the entertainment of Christ and those who came with him. Here were respect for our Lord Jesus and the right concern for their budgetary affairs. But there was something to blame. She was for much service; variety and accuracy. The worldly business is a snare for us if it prevents us from serving God and becoming good to our souls. What an unnecessary time is wasted, and costs are often incurred, even in entertaining professors of the gospel! Although Martha was flawed on this occasion, she was a true believer, and in her general behavior she did not neglect the one thing that was necessary. The favor of God is necessary for our happiness; the salvation of Christ is necessary for our security. Where this is taken into account, all other things are rightly pursued. Christ explained that Mary chose the good part. For one thing is necessary to submit to the guidance of Christ this one thing which she has done. What is of this life will be taken from us the furthest
when we are taken away from them; but nothing will be separated from the love of Christ and a part of that love. People and devils cannot take it away from us, and God and Christ will not do it. Let us remember the one thing that must be even more diligent. And she had a sister named Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard his word. But Martha was taken care of many services, and came to him, and said, Lord, do you not take care that my sister has left me alone? that it helps me. And Jesus answered and said to her, Martha, Martha, you are careful and troubled about many things; but one thing is necessary; and Mary has chosen this good part, which shall not be taken from her. Page 4Matthew Henry's commentThen he called his twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all devils and diseases to heal.9:1-9 Christ sent his twelve disciples to heal. abroad who were able to teach others what they had received from the Lord at that time. They must not be anxious to recommend themselves to the appreciation of human beings through external appearance. You have to go, like Were. The Lord Jesus is the source of power and authority to which all creatures must be subject in one way or another; and when he goes with the word of his ministers to free sinners from Satan's bondage, they can be sure that he will take care of their desires. When truth and love come together in this way and yet the message of God is rejected and despised, it leaves people without apology and turns against them for a testimony. Herod's bad conscience was willing to conclude that John had risen from the dead. He wanted to see Jesus; and why did he not go and see him? Probably because he thought it under him, or because he no longer wanted reprovers of sin. When he saw Jesus, he was as biased as others, Lu 23:11. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. And he said to them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves nor scribbles, neither bread nor money; both have two layers per piece. And whatever house you enter, stay and go away from there. And whoever will not receive you when you go out of this city shakes off the dust from your feet to bear witness against them. And they went and went through the cities, preaching the gospel, and healed all that went. And Herod the fourth-prince heard of all that was done of him; and he was confused, because some said that John had risen from the dead; And of some that Elias had appeared; and from others that one of the ancient prophets has risen again. And Herod said, I beheld John; but who is this, from whom do I hear such a thing? And he wanted to see him. And the apostles, when they returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went from a private place belonging to the city of Bethsaida by the side.9:10-17 And the people followed Jesus, and though they came carefree, he gave them what they came for. He spoke to them of the kingdom of God. He healed those who needed healing. And with five loaves and two fishes Christ fed five thousand men. He will not see whoever fears him and serves him faithfully wants something good. When we receive creature comforters, we must acknowledge that we receive them from God and that we are unworthy of receiving them; that we owe to them all, and to all the comfort that we have in them, to the mediation of Christ, by which the curse is taken away. The blessing of Christ will go a long way. He fills every hungry soul, satisfies them abundantly with the goodness of his house. Fragments were picked up here: in our father's house there is enough bread, and to spare. We are not pressed, nor are we entangled in Christ. And the people, as knew, followed him; and he took them up, and spoke to them of the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing. And when the day day And the twelve came and said to him, Send away the multitude, that they may go into the cities and the land, and immerse themselves, and receive food. for we are here in a desert. And he said to them, Give them food. And they said, We have no more than five loaves and two fishes. unless we should buy meat for all these people. For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, Make them into a society in the fifties. And they did it, and let them all sit down. And he took the five loaves and the two fishes, and looked to heaven, blessed them, and braked, and gave the disciples to stand before the multitude. And they set, and were all filled; and fragments were opened, which remained to them twelve baskets. And it came to pass that when he prayed alone, his disciples were with him; And he asked them, saying, Who says to the people that I am? 9:18-27 It is an unspeakable consolation that our Lord Jesus is anointed to God; this means that he was both appointed and qualified as the Messiah. Jesus speaks of his own sufferings and death. And so far, his disciples do not have to think about how they can prevent his sufferings from having to prepare for their own. We often meet with crosses in the manner of duty; And although we must not draw them on our own heads, but when they are laid for us, we must receive them and carry them according to Christ. It is good or bad with us, as it is good or bad with our soul. The body cannot be happy when the soul is miserable in the other world; but the soul may be happy, even though the body in this world is very distressed and oppressed. We must never be ashamed of Christ and His gospel. They answered and said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say that one of the ancient prophets has risen again. He said to them, But to whom do they say that I am? Peter answered and said, The Christ of God. And he commanded them to tell them what no one should say. And he said, The Son of man must suffer much, and be rejected and slain by the elders, and chief priests, and scribes, and raised on the third day. And he said to them all, If any man come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whoever will save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what is a person favored when he wins the whole world and loses himself or is thrown away? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words will be ashamed when he comes in his own glory, and in that of his Father and of the holy angels. But I tell you of a truth: there are some who will not taste of death until they see the kingdom of God. And it came to pass about eight days after these words, that he took Peter and John and James, and went into a mountain to pray.9:28-36 The Transfiguration of Christ was a copy of that glory in which he will come to judge the world; and was an encouragement for his disciples to suffer for him. Prayer is a transfiguring, transformative duty that makes the face glow. Our Lord Jesus was also willing in his Transfiguration to speak about his death and his sufferings. In our greatest glory on earth, we remember that we do not have a perpetual city in this world. What do we have to pray to God to ashes grace, to make us alive? But that the disciples could be witnesses of this sign from heaven, after a while they would have awoken so that they could describe the events in full. But they do not know what they are saying, that there is talk of the production of tabernacles on earth for glorified saints in heaven. And as he prayed, the fashion of his face changed, and his robe was white and glittering. And behold, there were two men who were Moses and Elijah with him; they appeared in glory, and spoke of his death, which he was to perform in Jerusalem. But Peter and those with him were asleep; and when they were awake, they saw his glory, and the two men that stood with him. And it came to pass that when they went away from him, Peter said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tents; one for them, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah; they do not know what he said. As he spoke, a cloud came and overshadowed it; and they feared when they entered into the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, and said, This is my beloved Son; hear him. And when the voice was over, Jesus was found alone. And they kept it tight, and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen. And it came to pass that the next day, when they came down from the hill, many men met him.9:37-42 How regrettable the fall of this child! He was under the power of an evil spirit. Diseases of this kind are more terrible than those that arise only from natural causes. What nonsense Satan does, where he gets possession! But happy those who have access to Christ! He can do for us what His disciples cannot. A word of Christ healed the child; and when our children recover from the disease, it is pleasant to receive them as they are healed by the hand of Christ. And behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I bribe you, look at my son; for he is my only child. And behold, a spirit takes him, and he suddenly cries out; and it is that he may foam again, and he hardly bleeds of him. And I asked your disciples to cast him out; And they doesn't. And Jesus answered and said, O unbelieving and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you and suffer you? Bring your son here. And when he was yet another coming, the devil threw him down, and tweaked him. And Jesus Jesus the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and gave it again to his father. And they were all astonished at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered about all that Jesus did, he said to His disciples: 9:43-50 This prediction of Christ's suffering was clear enough, but the disciples would not understand it because she did not agree with their ideas. A small child is the emblem with which Christ teaches us simplicity and humility. What greater honor can every man in this world attain than to be received by men as messengers of God and Christ, and to receive and
welcome God and Christ Himself in Him! If ever a society of Christians in this world, had reason not to silence those of their own community, the twelve disciples had at that time; but Christ warned them not to do the same again. These may be found faithful followers of Christ and accepted by Him who does not follow with us. These sayings shall sink into your ears; for the Son of man shall be given into the hands of men. But they did not understand this proverb, and it was hidden from them, that they should not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask him of this word. Then an argument arose among them, which of them should be greatest. And Jesus, who perceived the thought of her heart, took a child, and sat with him, and said to them, Whoever receives this child in my name receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me; for he who is least of you will be great. And John answered and said, Master, we saw one who cast out devils in your name. and we displace him because he does not follow with us. And Jesus said to him, Do not forbid him; for he who is not against us is for us. And it came to pass that when the time had come for him to be received, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.9:51-56 The disciples did not believe that the behavior of the Samaritians was more the effect of national prejudices and bigotry than hostile to the word and worship of God; And by them they refused to receive Christ and his disciples, they did not use them badly, nor hurt them, so that the fall was very different from Ahaziah and Elijah. They were also unaware that the dispensation should be marked by miracles of mercy. Above all, they were unaware of the prevailing motives of their own hearts, which were pride and carnal ambition. Our Lord has warned them against this. It is easy for us to say, Come, see our zeal for the Lord! and to think that we are very faithful to his cause when we seek our own objects and harm others instead of having something to do to others. And they sent messengers before his face; And they went and went into a samaritanian village to prepare for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as if he were going to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John John These things, they said, Lord, will you command fire to fall down from heaven and devour them, as Elias did? But he turned and rebuked them, saying, You do not know what kind of spirit you are. For the Son of Man has not come to destroy the lives of men, but to save them. And they went to another village. And it came to pass that as they were on the way, a man said to him, Lord, I will follow you wherever you go.9:57-62 Here is one who is forward to follow Christ, but he seems to have been hasty and hasty, and has not counted the cost. If we want to follow Christ, we must set aside the thoughts of the great things in the world. Let us not try to join the profession of Christianity in the search for worldly advantages. Here is another who seems determined to follow Christ, but he asks for a short delay. Christ first called this man; He said to him, Follow me. Religion teaches us to be kind and good, to show piety at home, and to retaliate to our parents; but we must not make them an excuse for neglecting our duty to God. Here is another who is willing to follow Christ, but he must have a little time to talk about it with his friends and to put his household affairs in order and give instructions to them. He seemed to have worldly sorrows more on his heart than he should have, and he was ready to enter into a temptation that led him from his intention to follow Christ. No one can do any business in an appropriate way if they take care of other things. Those who begin with the work of God must decide to continue, otherwise they will not make anything of it. In retrospect, you go back, and withdrawal is ruining. Those who only stop to the end will be saved. And Jesus said to him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has not where he shall lay his head. And he said to another, Follow me. And he said, Lord, suffer me first to bury my father. Jesus said to him, Let the dead bury their dead; but go and preach the kingdom of God. And another said, Lord, I will follow you; but let me go first to say goodbye to them who are at home with me. And Jesus said to him, No one who has put his hand on the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.Page 5Matthew Henry's comment, and it came after him to pass through all the cities and villages, and preach, and to proclaim the glad tidings of the kingdom of God; And the we are here told what Christ did the constant business of his life. , it taught the gospel. The message of the kingdom of God is a glad tidings and what Christ has brought. Some women took part in him, who serve him of their substance. It showed the mean state that the Savior humbled himself, that he needed their goodness and great humility to embrace them. Although rich, for our sake, he became poor. And some women who had been healed of evil spirits and frailties called Mary, from whom seven devils went, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza Herod's steward, and Susanna and many others who filled him with her substance. And when many people gathered together and came to him from every city, he spoke by a parable: 8:4-21 There are many very needy and excellent rules and warnings to hear the word, in the parable of the sower and its application. Happy we are and forever committed to free grace, if the same as a parable with others, with which they are only amused, is for us a clear truth through which we are taught and governed. We should pay attention to the things that will hinder our profit through the word we hear; to be careful not to hear carelessly and easily, so that we do not have prejudices against the word we hear; and to look out for our minds after we have heard the word, so that we do not lose what we have gained. The gifts we have will continue or not if we use them for the glory of God and for the good of our brethren. Nor is it enough not to keep the truth injunctive; we should desire to keep and shine the word of life and to give light everywhere. Those who turn out to be faithful listeners of the word are greatly encouraged by doing the work. Christ possesses them as His relationships. A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the way; and it was put down, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on a rock; and as soon as it appeared, it was lost because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns leaped up with him, and choked him. And others fell on good ground, and jumped up, and bare fruit a hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that has ears to hear, let him hear, hear. And his disciples asked him, saying, What could this parable be? And he said, It is given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God; but others in parables; that they may not see and hear that they do not understand. Now the parable is: the seed is the word of God. Those who are on the page are those who hear; then the devil comes and takes the word from their hearts; that they may not believe and be saved. They are on the rock they who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root that believe for a while, and in the time of temptation fall away. And that which has fallen among thorns are they, who, when they have heard it, go forth, and of the sorrows and riches and joys of this life, and do not bring fruit to perfection. But on the good ground they are, in an honest and good heart, after hearing the word, preserve it and bear fruit with patience. No one, when he has lit a candle, has, it with a vessel or puteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candle, that those who go in may see the light. For nothing is secret, it shall not be revealed; and nothing was hidden that was not known and should come abroad. Listen now as you hear; for whoever has will be given to him; and he who has not shall be taken from him, even that which he sees as having. Then his mother and his brothers came to him and could not come to him for the press. And it was said to him by robe, which said, Your mother and your brothers stand without, and will see you. And he answered and said to them, My mother and my brethren are these who hear the word of God and do it. And it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples; And he said to them, Let us go over to the other side of the lake. And they caught up.8:22-40 Those who lay in the sea in a rest, even according to the word of Christ, must still prepare for a storm and for great danger in this storm. There is no relief for souls with guilt and fear of wrath, but to go to Christ and call him Master and say, I am at one, if you do not help me. When our dangers are over, we become to ourselves to take the shame of our own fears and to give Christ the glory of our deliverance. We can learn a lot from this story about the world of hellish, vicious spirits that don't work exactly as they did them, but everyone must be careful about it at all times. And these evil spirits are very numerous. They have enmity with man and all his comfort. Those under the reign of Christ are led sweetly with the bonds of love; those under the devil's government are furiously driven. Oh, what comfort it is for the believer that all the powers of darkness are under the control of the Lord Jesus! It is a miracle of mercy if those who have Satan are not brought to destruction and eternal ruin. Christ will not remain with those who have unaffected him; perhaps he cannot return to them while others wait for him and are glad to receive him. And when they sailed, he fell asleep; and there came a storm of wind upon the sea, and they were filled with water, and were in danger. And they came to him, and awoke him, and said, Master, Master, we perish. And he arose, and rebuked the
wind and the sound of the water. And they stopped, and it was a rest. And he said to them, Where is your faith? And they were afraid, and said one thing upon one another, What kind of man is this? For he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him. they came into the land of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. And when he went out to land, a man of the city came to meet him, having a devil for a long time, and had no clothes, and abode not in any house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried, He: fell before him and said with a loud voice, What have I to do with you, Jesus, you Son of God supreme? I beg you, don't torment me. (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of man. For often it had caught him; and he was bound with chains and shackles; And he braked the bands, and was driven into the wilderness by the devil.) And Jesus asked him, and said, What is your name? And he said, Legion! Because many devils have entered him. And they besought him that he should not command them to go out into the depths. And there was a flock of many pigs that fed on the mountain; and they besought him that he might put them to go into them. And he suffered them. And the devils went out of the man, and went into the pigs; and the flock ran violently down a steep spot into the lake, and was suffocated. When they who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and went and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the devils departed, at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Even those who saw it told them by what means the man possessed by the devils was healed. And all the multitude of the land of the Gadarenes all around asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; and he got into the ship, and returned. And the man from whom the devils had gone besought him that he should be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to your house, and show how great God has done to you. And he went and went through all the city, how great Jesus had done to him. And it came to pass that when Jesus returned, the people gladly received him; for they were all waiting for him. And behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue; and he fell at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he might come into his house: 8:41-56 Let us not mourn a crowd, and a multitude, and haste, as long as we are faithful to our duty and do good; but otherwise, any way will stay away as far as possible. And many poor souls are healed and helped, and saved by Christ, who is hidden in a multitude, and no one notices it. This woman came trembling, but her faith saved her. It may tremble where the saving faith is still. Observe the comforting words of Christ to Jairus: Fear not, believe only, and your daughter will be healed. It was no less difficult not to mourn the loss of a single child than not to fear the persistence of this grief. But in perfect faith there is no fear. The more we fear, the less we believe. The hand of Christ's grace goes with the cries of His Word to make. Christ commanded her to give flesh. New as Babes so those who are newly raised from sin desire spiritual food so that they may grow as a result. For he had a single daughter, about twelve years old, and she died. But when he left, people pushed him. And a woman who had been covered in blood for twelve years, who had spent her whole life with doctors, could not be healed by anyone, came after him, and touched the boundary of his garment; and immediately their blood was covered. And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and those who were with him said, Master, the multitude urges you, and say, Who touched me? And Jesus said, Someone touched me; for I know that virtue has come out of me. And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling and fell down before him, and she explained to him before all the people why she had touched him, and how she was immediately healed. And he said to her, Daughter, be good comfort; your faith has made you the whole; to go in peace. While he was still speaking, one of the princeofs of the synagogue came and said to him, Your daughter is dead; Problems not the master. But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not, Believe only, and she shall be healed. And when he came into the house, he let no one go in, except Peter and James, and John, and the mother of the girl. And they all wept and wept; but he said, Don't cry; she is not dead, but sleeps. And they laughed at him to despise him, knowing that she was dead. And he stalked them all, and took them by the hand, and cried, saying, Handmaid, arise. And her spirit came again, and she arose, and he commanded to give her flesh. And her parents were astonished; but he commanded them not to tell anyone what had happened. Page 6Matthew Henry's commentNow, when he had finished all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered capernaum.7:1-10 Servants were to study to love their masters. Masters should especially take care of their servants when they are sick. We can still turn to Christ through faithful and fervent prayer, and we should do so when the disease is in our families. The building is a good work and an example of love for God and his people. Our Lord Jesus rejoiced in the faith of the Centurian; and he never fails to live up to the expectations of this faith that honors his power and love. The healing soon made and perfect. And the servant of a certain centurion, who loved him, was sick, and ready to die. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent to him the elders of the Jews, and lifted him up, that he might come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they immediately besought him, saying, He worthy of whom he should do this: for he loves our people, and he has built us a synagogue. And Jesus went with them. And when he Not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, and said to him, Lord, do not care. For I am not worthy that you should go under my roof; therefore I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but spp a word, and my servant will be healed. For I am also a man who is under violence, who has soldiers under me, and I say to one, Go and go; and to another: Come, and he comes; and to my servant. Do this, and he does it. When Jesus heard this, he marveled at him, and turned him over, and said to the people who followed him, I say to you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And the messengers returned to the house, and found all the servant who had been sick. And it came to pass the next day, that he went into a city called Nain. And many of his disciples went with him, and many people.7:11-18 When the Lord saw that the poor widow followed her son to the grave, he felt sorry for her. See the power of Christ over death itself. The appeal of the Gospel to all people, especially to the youth, is: Rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light and life. When Christ brought him life, it appeared as the youth sat up. Do we have grace from Christ? Let's show it. He said, Whenever Christ gives us spiritual life, He opens his lips in prayer and praise. When dead souls are raised to spiritual life, by divine power that goes with the gospel, we must glorify God and see Him as a gracious visit to His people. Let us seek such an interest in our compassionate Redeemer, so that we may look with joy at the time when the voice of the Savior calls all who are in their graves. May we be called to the resurrection of life, not to damnation. And when he came near the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and many people of the city were with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said to her, Cry not. And he came and touched the bear; and those who bared him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say to you, Arise. And the dead man sat up and on to speak. And he delivered it to his mother. And there came a fear upon all; and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen among us; and that God has visited His people. And this rumour of him went around all Judea and throughout the region. And John's disciples expelled him from all these things. And John called two of his disciples to him, and sent them to Jesus, saying, Are you who shall come? or is christ searching for another?7:19-35 To His wonders in the kingdom of nature, Christ adds this Rich of Grace: The Gospel is preached to the poor. He clearly pointed out the spiritual nature of the kingdom of Christ, that the messenger whom he had sent before him to through the proclamation of penance and the reformation of heart and life. We have here the righteous guilt of those who were not caused by the ministry of John Baptist or Jesus Christ himself. They joked about the methods God took to do them good. This is the ruin of the crowd; they are not serious in the sorrows of their souls. Let us study to prove ourselves as children of wisdom by following the instructions of the Word of God and worshipping those mysteries and good news that mock and blaspheme unbelievers and Pharisees. When the men came to him, they said, John Baptist sent us to you, saying, Are you who shall come? or are we looking for another one? And in that hour he healed many of their weaknesses and plagues, and of evil spirits; and to many who were blind, he gave eyes. And Jesus answered and said to them, Go and tell John what you have seen and heard; as the blind see, the lame go, the lepers are cleansed, the pigeons hear, the dead are raised, the gospel is preached to the poor. And blessed is he who does not allow himself to be offended in me. And when John's messengers went away, he was about to speak to the people about John, What have you gone out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what
did you say to see? A man dressed in soft clothes? Behold, those who are gloriously clothed and live tenderly are in the courts of kings. But what did you say to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and much more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. For I say to you, among those who are born of women, there is no greater prophet than John the Baptist; but the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. And all the people that heard him, and the celibacy, justified God, who was baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected God's counsel against themselves and were not baptized by him. And the Lord said, Where then shall I like the men of this generation? and how are they? They are like children sitting in the market, shouting at each other and saying, We have whistled you, and you have not danced; we mourned you, and you did not weed. For John the Baptist came not to eat bread or drink wine; and you say, He has a devil. The Son of Man has come to eat and drink; and you say, Behold, a gluttonous man, and a wine-bearer man, a friend of sonores and sinners. But wisdom is justified by all their children. And one of the Pharisees wished him that he would eat with him. And he went into the house of the Pharisees, and 7:36-50 No one can truly perceive how precious Christ is and how precious the gospel is, except the broken hearts. But while they feel they are not enough Because of sin and admiration of his mercy, the autistic will be outraged because the gospel encourages such repenting sinners. Instead of resotilling the deeds of women's repentance, the Pharisee limited his thoughts to her former bad character. But without free forgiveness, none of us can escape the coming wrath; our gracious Savior has bought it with his blood, that he may give it free to anyone who believes in him. Christ forced Simon to recognize through a parable that the greater sinner who had been this woman, the greater love she was to show him when her sins were pardoned. Learn here that sin is a guilt; and all are sinners, are debtors of the Almighty God. Some sinners are larger debtors; but whether our debts are more or less, it is more than we can pay. God is ready to forgive; and his Son has acquired forgiveness for those who believe in him, His gospel promises it to them, and His Spirit seals it to repenting sinners, and gives them bleak. Let us remain far from the proud spirit of the Pharisee, simply reliant on Christ and rejoice, and be ready to obey Him more diligently and recommend Him to all around us. The more we express our sorrow for sin and our love for Christ, the more clearly we have the forgiveness of our sins. What a wonderful change makes grace for the heart and life of a sinner, but also for his condition before God through the full forgiveness of all his sins through faith in the Lord Jesus! And behold, a woman in the city, who was a sinner, knowing that Jesus was sitting in the house of the Pharisees for flesh,

him; for she is a sinner. And Jesus answered and said to him, Simon, I have something to say to one. And he says, Master, sp. There was a certain creditor who had two debtors: one owed five hundred pence and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he openly forgave them both. Now tell me which of them will love him the most? Simon answered and said, I suppose he, to whom he has forgiven the most. And he said to him, You have judged rightly. And he turned to the woman, and said to Simon, Do you see this woman? I went into your house, you did not give me water for my feet; but she has my feet with and wiped it with the hair of her head. You did not give me a kiss; but this woman since the time I came in has not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil you have not anointed; but this woman has my feet with ointment. Therefore I say to them, Their sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much; but to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little. And he said to her, Your sins are forgiven. And those who sat with him to eat with Him began to say in themselves, Who is this that also forgives sins? And he said to the woman, Your faith has saved you; to go in peace. Page 7Matthew Henry's commentAnd it happened on the second Sabbath after the first that he went through the cornfields; and his disciples plucked the ears, and added them, and rubbed them in their hands.6:1-5 Christ justified his disciples in a work of need for himself on the Sabbath day, and that plucked the ears as they starved. But we must be careful not to confuse this freedom when committing sin. Christ will let us know and remember that it is His day to spend in His ministry and in His honor. And some of the Pharisees said to them, Why do ye do what is not lawful on the Sabbath days? And Jesus answered them, saying, Have ye not read as much what David did when he himself was a hungred, and who were with him; How he went into the house of God, and took the Sevebread, and ate, and gave also to those who were with him; what it is not to eat, but only for the priests alone? And he said to them, The Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath. And it also came to pass on another Sabbath, that he went into the synagogue and taught; and there was a man whose right hand was withered.6:6-11 Christ was not ashamed, nor afraid to possess the purposes of his grace. He healed the poor man, even though he knew that his enemies would exploit him for it. Let us not detract from our duty or from our usefulness by any resistance. We may be astonished that the sons of men are supposed to be so evil. And the scribes and Pharisees watched him see if he would heal on the Sabbath. that they could find an indictment against him. But he knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withering hand, Get up and rise in the midst. And he got up and got up. Then Jesus said to them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful to do good or do evil on the Sabbath days? Saving or destroying lives? And when he took care of him, he said to the man, Stretch out your hand. And he did, and his hand was fully restored like the other. And they were full of madness; and spoke to one another what they could do to Jesus. And it came to pass in those days that he went up a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.6:12-19 We often think half an hour much for meditation and secret prayer, but Christ was whole nights these obligations. When we serve God, it should be our great concern not to waste time, but to the end of a good duty the beginning of another. The twelve Apostles are named here; People have never been so privileged, but one of them had a devil and turned out to be a traitor. Those who did not preach faithfully near them were better to travel far than without them. It is indeed worth going a great way to hear the word of Christ and avoid the other business for it. They came to be healed of him, and he healed them. There is a fullness of grace in Christ and a healing virtue in him, ready to go from him, that is enough for all, enough for everyone. People regard the diseases of the body as greater evils than those of their souls; but Scripture teaches us differently. And when it was day, he called his disciples to him; and of them he chose twelve whom he also called apostles; Simon, whom he also called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, James and John, Philip usphon and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon called Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, who was also the traitor. And he came down with them, and entered into the plain, and into the multitude of his disciples, and a great multitude from all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the coast of Tyre and Sidon, who had come to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; And those who were angered by unclean spirits; and they were healed. And all the crowd sought to touch him; for virtue came out of him, and healed them all. And he lifted up his eyes upon his disciples, saying, Blessed be poor; for yours is the kingdom of God.6:20-26 Here begins a discourse of Christ, of which the greatest part is to be found in Mt 5, 7. But some think that this was preached at a different time and place. All believers who take the commandments of the gospel for themselves and live according to them can take the promises of the gospel for themselves and live on them. Woe betide wealthy sinners as miserable people, even though the world envies them. They are blessed who Christ blesses, but they must be terribly miserable, who fall under His suffering and curse! What a great advantage the saint will have over the sinner in the other world! and what a great difference there will be in their rewards, how much the sinner may thrive and the saint is afflicted here! You are blessed, who are now starving; for you will be fulfilled. You are blessed, who are crying now; for you will laugh. You are blessed when people will hate you and when they will separate you from their company and revile you and cast out your name for the sake of the Son of Man. Rejoice that day and leap with joy; for behold, your reward is great in heaven; similarly, their fathers did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich! for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full! for you will starve. Woe betide you that laugh now! for you shall cry and cry. Woe to you, if all people will talk well about you! for thus did their fathers the false prophets. But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you;6:27-36 These are hard lessons of flesh and blood. But if we are thoroughly grounded in faith in Christ's love, it will make his commandments easy for us. Anyone who comes to him to wash himself in his blood, and knows the greatness of mercy and the love that is in him, can say in truth and sincerity, Lord, what will you do to me? Let us then try to be merciful, even after the mercy of our Heavenly Father for us. Bless those who curse you, and pray for them who defiantly use you. And the one who says to you on one cheek, which also offers the other; and whoever takes away your cloak forbids not to take your coat either. Give to everyone who asks you; and from him who takes away your goods, do not ask them again. And as you will that men do to you, do the same to them. For if you love those who love you, what do you thank? for sinners also love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do you good, what have you thanked? do the same for sinners. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what do you thank? for sinners also lend to sinners to receive so much again. But love your enemies and do good and borrow in the hope of nothing; And your reward shall be great, and you shall be the children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and to evil. Be merciful now, for your Father is also merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; and you will be forgiven:6:37-49 All these sayings that Christ has often used; it was easy to apply them. We should be very careful when blaming others; because we ourselves need an allowance. If we have a giving and a forgiving spirit, we will benefit from it ourselves. Although full and accurate returns are made in another world, not in this world, Providence does what should encourage us to do good. Those who follow the crowd to do evil follow in the vast way that leads to destruction. The tree is known for its fruits; May the word of Christ be grafted into our hearts in such a way that we may be fruitful in every good word and work. And what the world generally says is generally consistent with what is most in the heart. They only ensure that they work for their souls and eternity, and take the course that will benefit from thinking, speaking, and acting according to the words of Christ in a difficult time, who make an effort in religion, have found their hope in Christ, who is the rock of the age, and other foundations cannot lay man. In death and judgment they are safe, they are held by the power of Christ by faith to salvation, and they will never perish. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed pressed and shaken together and run over, the people will give in your womb. For with the same measure that you fulfill, it will be measured to you again. And he said a parable to them, Can the blind man lead the blind? will they not both fall into the ditch? The disciple is not above his lord; but every one who is perfect shall be as his master. And why do you holdest the mote that is in your brother, but does not perceive the ray that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, brother, let me pull out the mote that is in your eye when you are the oldest and not the ray that is in your own eye? You hypocrites, first cast the ray out of your own eye, and then you shall see clearly to pull out the mote that is in your
brother. For a good tree does not produce a spoiled fruit; even a corrupted tree does not bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For of the thorns men do not gather figs, nor gather them from a BrambleBusch. A good man of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man from the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil; for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. And why do you call me, Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say? He who comes to me and endures my sayings and does them will show you to whom he is like: he is like a man who has built a house, and dug it deep, and laid the foundation on a rock; And when the tide rose, the river struck this house violently, and could not shake it; for it was founded on a rock. But he who waits and does not are like a man who has built a house on the earth without a foundation; against which the current struck violently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of this house was great. Page 8Matthew Henry's commentAnd it came to pass that when the people urged him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret.5:1-11 When Christ had preached, he told Peter to invoke the business of his calling. The time we spend on weekdays in public religious exercises has to be little time impediment and can bring us a lot of work in the mood regarding our secular business. With what joy may we fulfill the duties of our calling when we have been with God, and so our worldly occupations have sanctified us through the Word and prayer! Although they had taken nothing, Christ told them to drop their nets again. We must not abruptly abandon our vocations because we do not have the success in them that we desire. We will probably accelerate well if we follow the guidance of the Word of Christ. The fish train was a We, all, like Peter, must possess ourselves to be sinful people, so Jesus Christ could depart from us in gratitude. But we must humiliate him on the fact that he would not go; for woe to us when the Savior of sinners! Rather, we should ask Him to dwell in our hearts by faith, so that He may transform and cleanse them. These fishermen failed all and followed Jesus when their calling had thrived. When wealth increases and we are tempted to focus our hearts on them, it is grateful to give them up for Christ. And they saw two ships standing by the lake; but the fishermen went out of them, and washed their nets. And he entered into one of the ships that was Simons, and prayed to him that he might go out of the land a little. And he sat down and taught the people out of the ship. And when he had left speaking, he said to Simon, Plunge out into the depths, and drop your nets for a train. And Simon answered and said to him, Master, we have treaked all night, and have taken nothing; but on your word I will drop the net. And when they had done this, they included a large quantity of fish and their net broke. And they beckoned to their partners who were in the other ship that they should come and help them. And they came and filled both ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell on the knees of Jesus and said, Go away from me; for I am a sinful man, o Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the turn of the fish that they had taken. And also James and John, the sons of Zebede, who were with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, Fear not; from now on you shall catch the people. And when they had brought their ships ashore, they forgave them all, and followed him. And it came to pass that when he was in a certain city, behold, there is a man full of outside; who fell on Jesus' face and begged him, saying, Lord, if you will, you can cleanse me.5:12-16 This man shall be full of outside; he had this contempt to a great extent, which represents our natural pollution by sin; we are full of this outside, from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot, there is no solitude in us. Strong trust and deep humility are united in the words of this leper. And if any sinner says from a deep sense of abomination, I know that the Lord can cleanse, but will he see one like me? will he use his own precious blood for my cleansing and healing? Yes, he will. Speak not as doubts, but so humble that they relate the matter to Christ. And since we are saved from the iniquity and power of our sins, let us spread the glory of Christ abroad, and make others to hear him and be healed. And he stretched out his hand, and said, I will, Be clean. And immediately the outsider walked away from him. And he commanded him not to tell anyone; but go Be to the priest, and to give your cleansing, as Moses commanded to bear their witness. But all the more there was a fame from him; and great crowds gathered together to hear and be of it their weaknesses. And he withdrew into the wilderness, and prayed. And it came to pass on a certain day, when he taught, that there sat Pharisees and lawkeepers, who came out of every city of Galilee, and Judea, and Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.5:17-26 How many are in our assemblies where the gospel is preached, who do not sit under the word, but sit next to it! It is to them as a story that is told to them, not as a message that is sent to them. Observe the duties that the history of the paralyzed has taught and recommended to us. When we apply to Christ, we must be very urgent and urgent; this is a proof of faith and is very pleasing to Christ and reigns with him. Give us, Lord, the same kind of faith in your ability and willingness to heal our souls. Give us more the forgiveness of sin than any earthly blessing or life itself. Allow us to believe your power, to forgive sins; then our souls will rise up cheerfully and go where you want. And behold, the men brought in a man who was taken with paralysis; and they sought means to bring him in, and to put him before him. And when they did not find how they could bring him in because of the multitude, they went to the roof, and let him fall through the tiles with his couch in the middle before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said to him, Man, your sins are forgiven you. And the scribes and Pharisees began to think, saying, Who is this one who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? But when Jesus heard their thoughts, he answered and said to them, What reason do you have in your hearts? Whether it is easier to say, your sins are forgiven you; or to say: Get up and go? But that ye may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins (he said to the sick of paralysis), I say to you, Get up and pick up your couch, and go into your house. And immediately he arose before them, and took up what he lay on, and went into his house, and glorified God. And they were all astonished, and glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things this day. And after these things he went out, and saw a braider named Levi sitting at the entrance of custom; and he said to him, Follow me.5:27-39 It was a miracle of Christ's grace that he should call a braider his disciple and successor. It was a miracle of his grace that the call was made so effective. It was a miracle of his grace that he came to call sinners to repentance and to assure them of forgiveness. It was a miracle of his grace that he so patiently the sinner carried against himself and his disciples. It was a miracle of his grace that he fixed the services of his disciples according to their strength and standing. The Lord trains his gradually allocated for the tests; we should copy his example when dealing with the weak in faith or the attempted believer. And he left everything, and arose, and followed him. And Levi made him a great feast in his house; and it was a great company of Zanern and of others that sat down with them. But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with sinners and sinners? And Jesus answered and said to them, All things need no doctor; but they are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but the sinners to repentance. And they said to him, Why do John's disciples fast often, and pray, and also the disciples of the Pharisees; but eat and drink? And he said to them, Can you fast the children of the chamber of brides while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days. And he also spoke a parable to them; No one puts a piece of a new garment on an old one; if different, then both the new ones make a rent, and the piece that was taken from the new, do not reconcile with the old. And no one puts new wine in old bottles; otherwise the new wine the bottles will burst and be spilled, and the bottles will spoil. But new wine must be added to new bottles; and both are preserved. No one immediately drank old wine that wanted new; for he says, The old man is better. Page 9Matthew Henry's commentAnd Jesus, who was full of the Holy Spirit, returned from Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness.4:1-13 The guidance of Christ into the wilderness gave the temper an advantage: For there he was alone, no one was with him, through whose prayers and counsel savers could be helped to him in the hour of temptation. Those who knew his own strength could give Satan an advantage; but we must not know who knows our own weakness. In all that has fallen to his brethren, Jesus, like the other children of God, would live in dependence on divine providence and promise. The word of God is our sword, and faith in this word is our shield. God has many opportunities to care for His people, and is therefore dependent on duty at all times. All of Satan's promises are deceptive; and if he is allowed to influence the unmasking of the kingdoms of the world and their glory, he uses them as bait to bring people to destruction. We should immediately and with disgust reject any
opportunity of sinful gain or progress as a prize offered to our souls; we should only use wealth, honor and happiness in worship and seek God. Christ will not worship Satan; and if he has the kingdoms of the world that were saved from him by his father, he will suffer any remnants of the worship of the devil to continue in them. Satan also tried Jesus to be his own murderer by Confidence in the protection of his father, as he did not have an arrest warrant. Do not allow satan's abuse of Scripture or by human beings to diminish our esteem or lead us to abandon its use; but let's still study it, try to know it, and look for our defense of it in all kinds of attacks. This word shall dwell richly in us, for it is our life. Our victorious Redeemer has won not only for himself, but also for us. The devil ended the whole temptation. Christ let him try all his strength and defeated him. Satan saw that there was no point in attacking Christ, who had nothing in him to strengthen his fiery arrows. And if we resist the devil, he will flee from us. But he walked away, until the time when he was to be released again over Jesus, not as an attempt to drag him to sin, and thus to strike on his head, at which he was now aimed and completely beaten; but as a persecutor to make Christ suffer, and thus to crush his heel, which was told him, he should do and do, though it would be the breaking of his own head, Ge 3:15. Although Satan is leaving for a time, we will never be out of reach until we are removed from this present evil world. Forty days of being tempted by the devil. And in those days he did not confess anything; and when they were finished, he was hungry for it. And the devil said to him, If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread. And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, This man shall not live by bread alone, but by the word of God. And the devil who brought him to a high mountain sent him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. And the devil said to him, I will give you all this power, and its glory; for this is handed down to me; and to whom I will give it. If you want to worship me now, all will be yours. And Jesus answered and said to him, Get behind me, Satan; for it is written, Tyou shall worship the Lord thy God, and he shall serve only. And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on the top of the temple, and said to him, If you are the Son of God, cast yourself seof from here; for it is written, He will give his angels the burden upon you to keep you; and in their hands they will carry you, that you will not throw your foot against a stone at all times. And Jesus answered and said to him, It is said, Tyou shall not deceive the Lord your God. And when the devil had ended all temptation, he went away from him for a time. And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit; and there was a glory of him throughout the whole region round about.4:14-30 Christ taught in Synagogues, their places of public worship, where they met to read, explain and use the word, pray and praise. All the gifts and graces of the Spirit were upon him and on him, without measure. Through Christ sinners can be released from the bonds of guilt and from His Spirit and grace the servitude of corruption. He came by the word of His gospel to bring light to those who sat in the dark, and by the power of his grace, to see the blind. And he preached the acceptable year of the Lord. Let sinners watch the Savior's invitation when freedom is proclaimed. The name of Christ was wonderful; in nothing he was more than in the word of his grace and the power that came with it. We may be surprised that he should speak such words of grace to such merciless misery as humanity. Some prejudices offend object to the humiliating doctrine of the Cross; and while it is the Word of God that stirs up the enmity of men, they will blame the behavior or the manner of the speaker. The doctrine of God's sovereignty, His right to do His will, provokes proud people. They will not seek his favor in his way; and are angry when others have the favors they neglect. Yet Jesus is rejected by many who hear the same message from His words. As they re-crucify Him through their sins, may we honor Him as the Son of God, the Redeemer of men, and try to show this through our obedience. And he taught in their synagogues, and glorified all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had grown up; and as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath, and arose to read. And the book of the prophet Esaias was delivered to him. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He sent me to heal the broken, to preach deliverance to the prisoners, and to regain sight to the blind, to set the bruised fee to preach the lord's acceptable year. And he closed the book, and he gave it back to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all that were in the synagogue were fixed to him. And he said to them, This scripture is in your ears. And all of them bared him, and marveled at the gracious words that came out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son? And he said to them, You will say this saying to me, Doctor, heal yourself; whatever we have heard in Capernaum, do so here in your country. And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet shall be iced in his land. But I tell you a truth: many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when heaven was shut three years and six months, when there was great famine throughout the land; But neither of them was sent to Elias, except to Sarepta, a city of Sidon, to a woman who was widow. And many lepers were in Israel Time Elishes, the Prophet; and none of them was cleansed, and saved Naaman the Syrian. And all who were in the synagogue when they heard this were filled with anger, filled with it. And he cast him out of the city, and brought him on the forehead of the hill on which their city was built, that they cast him down sideby. And he went through their midst, and went down, and came down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and taught them on the Sabbath days.4:31-44 Christ's preaching touched the people greatly, and a labour power went with it to the conscience of the people. These miracles showed Christ as a controller and conqueror of Satan, a healer of disease. Where Christ gives a new life, in the recovery from illness, it should be a new life that is spent more than ever in his service, in his glory. Our task should be to spread the glory of Christ anywhere abroad, to awaken him in the name of the sick in the body or spirit, and to use our influence to bring sinners to Him, so that His hands may be laid upon them to heal them. He threw the devils out of many possessed. We were not sent into this world to live only for ourselves, but to glorify God and do good in our generation. And the people sought him, and came to him. A desert is not a desert when we are there with Christ. He will continue with us through His Word and His Spirit and extend the same blessings to other nations until the servants and worshippers of Satan throughout the earth are made to recognize him as Christ, the Son of God, and to find redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. And they were astonished at his teaching; for his word was with power. And in the synagogue was a man who had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, saying, Let us be alone; what do we have to do with you, you Jesus of Nazareth? you come to destroy us? I know you who you are; are the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Keep your peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him into the midst, he came out of him, and did not hurt him. And they were all astonished, and spoke among themselves, saying, What a word is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out. And the glory of him went about every place of the land. And he arose out of the synagogue, and went into Simon's house. And Simon's wife was gripped with great fever; and they besought him. And he came upon them, and rebuked the fever, and it left them; and immediately she arose and prayed to them. And when the sun went down, all those who had various diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them, and healed them. And the devils also came out of many, crying out, saying, You are Christ, the Son of God. And he rebuked them not to speak; for they knew that he was Christ. And it was day, and he went and went into a wilderness; and the people sought him, and came to him, and abode him, that he should not be of them. And he said to them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities; therefore I am sent. And he preached in the synagogues of Galilee. Page 10Matthew Henry's commentaryNow in the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, Pontius Pilate is governor of Judea and Herod as the four-prince of Galilee, and his brother Philip-Tetrarch of Itraeaa and the region of Trachontitis and Lysanias, the four-prince of Abilene, 3:1-14 were the scope and design of John's ministry to bring the people from their sins and to their Redeemer. He came preaching, not a sect, but a profession; the sign or ceremony was washed with water. With the words used here, John preached the need for repentance to earth sins, and that the baptism of water was an outward sign of that inner cleansing and renewal of the heart that causes the effects of true repentance and a confession to it. Here is the fulfillment of Scripture, Isa 40:3, in the work of John. When the way for the Gospel is made into the heart by taking down high thoughts and bringing them into obedience to Christ, by leveling the soul and removing everything that hinders us in the way of Christ and His grace, then preparation will be made to receive the salvation of God. Here are general warnings and
exhortations given by John. The guilty, corrupted race of humanity becomes a generation of vipers; God hates and hates each other. There is no way to escape from the coming wrath, but by repentance; and the change in our path must show the change of heart. If we are not truly holy, both in our hearts and in life, our commitment to religion and to God and His Church, we will not stand at all; the mourner will be our destruction if we do not produce fruits that come together for repentance. John the Baptist gave instructions for different types of people. Those who promise confession and repentance must show it through Reformation, according to their places and conditions. The Gospel requires mercy, not sacrifice; and its design is to engage us, to do all the best we can, and to be only for all people. And the same principle that leads people to renounce unjustified gain leads to the restoration of what is gained through the falsehood. John tells the soldiers their duty. Men should be warned about the temptations of their employment. These answers explained the present duty of the enquirers and immediately constituted an examination of their sincerity. Since no one can or will accept the salvation of Christ without true repentance, the evidence and effects of this repentance are marked here. And Caiaphas were the chief priests, and the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he came into all the land around the Jordan, and preached the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; As it is written in the book of the words of Esaiah the prophet, saying, The voice of one who weeps in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his ways straight. Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and every hill will be brought down; and the crooks shall be made straight, and the rough roads shall be made smooth; And all flesh will see the salvation of God. Then he spoke to the multitude that came out to be braised by him. O generation of vipers who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say in yourselves, We have Abraham as our Father; for I say to you, that God is able to raise up children of these stones. And now the axe is laid at the root of the trees; every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. And the people asked him, saying, What then shall we do? He answers and says to them, He who has two coats shall communicate to him who has none; And whoever has meat, so do it. And the officers also came to be basked, and said to him, Master, what shall we do? And he said to them, Exactly nothing more than what is appointed to you. And the soldiers also asked of him, saying, What shall we do? And he said to them, Do not violence against anyone, and do not accuse anything wrong; and be satisfied with your wages. And how the people were awaiting, and all men in their hearts pondered John, whether he was the Christ or not;3:15-20 John the Baptist denied that he himself was Christ, but confirmed the people in their expectations of the long-promised Messiah. He could only exhort them to repent, and assure them of forgiveness in repentance; but he could not repent in them, nor forgive them. It is so much that we speak of Christ and thus humbly of ourselves. John can do nothing but bless with water, as a sign that they should cleanse and cleanse themselves; but Christ can and will baptize with the Holy Spirit; it can give the spirit to cleanse and cleanse the heart, not only when water rinses the dirt from the outside, but when the fire extinguishes the slag that is inside and melts the metal so that it is poured into a new shape. John was a loving preacher; he was animated; he pressed things home on his listeners. He was a practical preacher; to bring them to their duty and to guide them in it. He was a popular preacher; he turned to men, depending on their ability. He was an evangelical preacher. In all his exhortations he directed people to Christ. When we push upon people, we must direct them to Christ, both for justice and for strength. He was a plentiful he was afraid not to proclaim all the counsel of God. But John's sermon was completely stopped when he was in the midst of his usefulness. Herod, who was rimprand by him for many evils, imprisoned John in prison. A. who hurt the faithful servants of God add even greater guilt to their other sins. John answered and said to them all, I baptize you with water; But you could be even bigger than I come, whose strings I cannot let go of; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire; his fan is in his hand, and he will pierce his soil, and gather the wheat in his garner, but he will burn the chaff with fire indelibly. And many other things he preached to the people in his admonition. But Herod the fourth-prince was reprimanded by him for Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip, and for all the evils that Herod had done, and added this above all, that he imprisoned John in prison. When all the people were baptized, they said, Jesus was also baptized and prayed, and heaven opened, 3:21-22 Christ does not confess sin, as others did; but he prayed as others did, and maintained communion with his father. Observe that all three voices of heaven by which the Father testifies to the Son were pronounced while he was praying, or shortly thereafter Lu 9:35; 28, 2005. The Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, saying, You are my beloved Son; I am very satisfied with them. And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years old, since he was (as assumed) the son of Joseph, who showed the son of Heil;3:23-38 Matthew's list of the forefathers of Jesus, that Christ was the son of Abraham, in whom all the families of the earth are blessed and the inheritance of the throne of David; but Luke shows that Jesus was the seed of the woman who was to break the head of the serpent, and traces the line to Adam, beginning with Eli or Heli the Father, not of Joseph, but of Mary. The apparent differences between the two evangelists in these lists of names were eliminated by learned men. But our salvation does not depend on our ability to solve these difficulties, nor does it weaken the divine authority of the Gospels in the first place. So the list of names ends: Who was the son of Adam, the Son of God; that is, the descendants of God through creation. Christ was both the Son of Adam and the Son of God, that he may be a true mediator between God and the sons of Adam, and bring the sons of Adam through him to the sons of God. All flesh, as descended from the first Adam, is like grass and destruction as the flower of the field; but who the Holy Spirit of Life of the Second Adam has the eternal happiness preached to us through the gospel. This was the son of Matthat, who the son of Levi, the son of Meli, the son of Janna, the son of Joseph, the son of Matthathia, the son of Ammo, the son of Naum, the son of Esli, the son of Nagges, the son of Maath, the son of Matthathia, who was the son of Joseph, the son of Judah, the son of Joanna, the son of Rhasa, the son of Zorobabel, the son of Sam of Sholaw. The son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Kosam, who was the son of Kosami. They were the son of Elmodam, the son of Er, the son of Jose, the son of Eiszer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matwasa, the son of Levi, the son of Simeon, the son of Distes, the son of thy, the son of Joseph the son of Jonathan. They were the son of Eliakim, the son of Melea, the son of Menan, the son of Matthatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, the son of Isai, the son of Oish, the son of Booz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nasson, that was the son of Aminadab. The son of Aram, the son of Esrom, the son of Phare, the son of Judah, who was the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Tharah, the son of Nachor, the son of Saruch, the son of Saruch, that was the son of Ragaus, the son of Phalec, the son of Heber, the son of Sala, the son of Kainha. The son of Seshu, the son of Jared, the son of Enochsla, was the son of Jared, the son of Maleeel, the son of Kainan, who was the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam the son of God. Page 11Matthew Henry's commentAnd it happened in those days that a decree had been issued by Emperor Augustus. 2:1-7 The fullness of the time had come when God would send out his son, who was made of a woman, and made under the law. The circumstances of his birth were very common. Christ was born in an inn; he came into the world to dwell here for a while, as in an inn, and to teach us to do the same. We are made by sin like an outcast child, helpless and lost; and such a son was Christ. He knew very well how unwilling we are to be housed, clothed or fed; how we wish our children to be adorned and pampered; how suitable the poor are to envy the rich, and how vulnerable the rich are to despising the poor. But when we see by faith that the Son of God is made a man and lies in a manger, Ambition and envy are checked. We cannot rightly look for great things for ourselves or our children with this aim. (And this taxation was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And everything went to be taxed, everyone went to their own city. And Joseph went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem. (because he was from the house and the lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary, his self-confessed wife, to be big with a child. And it came to pass, when they were there, that the days were finished, that she was to be saved. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in wrappings garments, and laid him in a manger. because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds in the same land who stayed in the field, and watched over their flock at night.2:8-20 Angels were heralds of the newborn Saviour,
but they were sent only to a few poor, humble, pious, hard-working shepherds who were in the business of their calling, and watched over their flock. We are not out of the way of divine visits when we are engaged in an honest calling, and we remain with God in it. God shall have the glory of this work; Glory To God in the heights. God's goodwill the man who manifests himself in sending the Messiah returns to his praise. Other works of God are for His glory, but the redemption of the world is in high place for His glory. God's good will to send the Messiah brought peace to this lower world. Peace is here for all the good that springs from the takeover of our nature to us. This is a faithful proverb, testified by an innumerable society of angels, and worthy of any assumption; that the good will of God towards men is glory to God in the high places, and peace on earth. The shepherds did not lose any time, but came to the place in a hurry. They were satisfied, and made it clear abroad about this child that it was the Savior, Christ the Lord. Mary observed and thought carefully about all these things that were so suited to enlivening her sacred affections. We should be freed more from mistakes in judgment and practice, we have thought these things better in our hearts. It is still proclaimed in our ears that a Savior is born to us, Christ the Lord. That should be a good news to everyone. And behold, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were very afraid. And the angel said to them, Fear not; for behold, I bring you a glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to all men. For you are born today in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And will be a sign to you; You will find the baby wrapped in wraps in a crib. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly hosts who praised God and said, Honor before God at the highest level, high, peace on earth, good will towards men. And it came to pass that when the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said among themselves. Let us now also go to Bethlehem, and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known unto us. And they came in a hurry, and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made out abroad the proverb that was said to them about this child. And all who heard it marveled at what had been said to them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all this, and thought about it. And the shepherds returned, and glorified and praised God for all that they had heard and seen, as they were told. And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was thus named by the angel before he was received in the womb.2:21-24 Our Lord Jesus was not born in sin, and did not need this killing of a corrupted nature, or this renewal for holiness, which was meant by circumcision. This ordinance, in his case, was a promise of his future perfect obedience to the whole law, in the midst of suffering and temptation, right down to death for us. After forty days, Mary went to the temple to offer the sacrifices she had set up for her cleansing. Joseph also introduced the holy child of Jesus because he was to be introduced to the Lord as the firstborn son and redeemed according to the law. Let us offer our children to the Lord who gave them to us, and hope that they will be redeemed from sin and death and that they will make themselves holy. And when the days of their cleansing were finished according to the law of Moses, they brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord: (As it is written in the law of the Lord, every man who opens the womb will be called holy to the Lord.) And to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons. And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was righteous and pious, and waited for the consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him.2:25-35 The same Spirit who provided support for Simeon's hope provided his joy. Whoever would see Christ must go to his temple. Here is a confession of his faith that this child in his arms was the Redeemer, the salvation itself, the salvation of the creation of God. He says goodbye to this world. How poor does this world look for one who has Christ in his arms, and salvation in his sight! See here how convenient the death of a good man is; he enters in peace with God, peace with his own conscience, in peace with death. Those who have received Christ can take death Hot. Joseph and Mary marveled at what was said of this child. Simeon also shows them why had to rejoice with tremors. And Jesus, his doctrine and his people, are still spoken against it; his truth and holiness are still denied and blasphemed; his preached word is still the touchstone of the male figures. The secret good affections in the minds of some will be revealed by their embrace of Christ; the secret spoils of others will be revealed by their enmity towards Christ. People will be judged on Christ according to the thoughts of their hearts. He will be a suffering Jesus; his mother will suffer with him because of the closeness of their relationship and affection. And it was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. And he came into the temple by the Spirit; And when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him into his arms, and blessed God, saying, Lord, now let thy servant go in peace, according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, that you have prepared before the face of all men; A light to illuminate the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marveled at what was said of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary his mother, Behold, this child is upon the fall and resurrected of many in Israel. and for a sign against which is spoken; (Yes, a sword will also penetrate through your own soul, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And there was an Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was tall and had lived with a man seven years after her virginity; 2:36-40 There was much evil in the church, but God did not let himself be without witness. Anna always lived in the temple or at least visited the temple. She was always in a praying spirit; gave herself to prayer, and in all things it served God. Those to whom Christ is made known have every reason to thank the Lord. She taught others about him. The example of the venerable Saints Simeon and Anna is intended to encourage those whose hoarse heads, like theirs, are a crown of glory and who are found on the path of righteousness. The lips that soon remain silent in the tomb were to show the Savior's praise. In all things, Christ, who was made like his brothers, was therefore passed through childhood and childhood like other children, but without sin and with obvious proofs of the divine nature in him. Through the Spirit of God, all His abilities have exercised their ministries in a way that is not seen in anyone else. Other children have bound folly in their hearts, which appears in what they say or do, but he was filled with wisdom, by influence Holy Spirit; everything he said and did was wisely said and done wisely beyond his years. Other children show the corruption of their nature; nothing but the grace of God on him. And she was a widow of about four and four years old, who did not go out of the temple, but served God day and night with fasting and prayers. And she came in at that moment, and thanked the Lord, and spoke of him to all who sought salvation in Jerusalem. And when they had accomplished all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their city of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon him. Now his parents have come to Jerusalem every year for the Passover.2:41-52 In honor of Christ, the children are to participate in the public service. His parents did not return until they had stayed every seven days of the festival. It is good to stay until the end of a regulation, like those who say it is good to be here. Those who have lost their comfort in Christ and the evidence that they share in Him must consider for themselves where and when and how they have lost it, and must repent. Those who would regain their lost acquaintance with Christ must go to the place where He gave His name; there they can hope to meet him. They found him in a part of the temple where the doctors of the law kept their schools; He sat there listening to their instructions, proposing questions, and answering questions with such wisdom that those who heard it rejoiced in him. Young people should seek the knowledge of the divine truth, attend the service of the gospel, and ask such questions to their elders and teachers who tend to expand their knowledge. Those who seek Christ in mourning will find Him with greater joy. Do not know that I should be in my father's house; at my father's work; I have to take care of my father's business. Here is an example; for the children of God who correspond to Christ will commit the cause of their Heavenly Father and make all other concerns give to it. Although he was the Son of God, he was subject to his earthly parents; How then will the foolish and weak sons of men who are disobedient to their parents respond? We may, however, neglect people's sayings because they are opaque, but we must not think of God's sayings in this way. What is dark at first can become clear and simple afterwards. The greatest and brightest, the most important, can learn from this admirable and divine child that it is the truest greatness of the soul to know our own place and ministry; to deny us pleasures and
pleasures that do not correspond to our condition and our vocation. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. And when they set the days when they returned, the Child Jesus remained in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew nothing of it. But they went a day on, holding him in company; And searched for him among her relatives and acquaintances. And when they found him, they turned again to Jerusalem, and sought him, and set it came to pass that after three days they found him in the temple, sat among the doctors, and heard them, and asked them questions. And everything he heard was astonished at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him, they were astonished; And his mother said to him, Son, why have you done this with us? behold, your father and I have asked you for sorrow. And he said to them, What is it that ye have sought me? Don't you know that I have to take care of my father's business? And they did not understand the proverb which he spoke to them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and subdued them, but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor of God and man. Page 12Matthew Henry's commentAs many have taken to the fore to provide an explanation of what is certainly believed among us,1:1-4. Luke will not write about things about which Christians can certainly differ from each other and hesitate in themselves; but that which is and should certainly be believed. The teaching of Christ is what the brightest and best people have dared to do to their souls with confidence and contentment. And the great events on which our hopes depend were recorded by those who were eyewitnesses and servants of the Word from the very beginning, and who were perfected in their understanding of them by divine inspiration. Just as they handed them over to us, who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the Word; It also seemed good to me, having had a perfect understanding of everything from the beginning, to write you to tell you the best Theophilus: so that you may know the certainty of these things in which you have been taught. It was in the days of Desed king of Judea, a priest named Zacharias, of the run of Abia; and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.1:5-25 The father and the mother of John the Baptist were sinners like all, and were justified and saved in the same way as others; but they were important for piety and integrity. They had no children, and it was not to be expected that Elizabeth would have any at her age. While Zacharias burned incense in the temple, the whole multitude of the people prayed without. All prayers we offer to God are acceptable and successful only through the intercession of Christ in the temple of God above. We cannot expect any interest in it if we do not pray, pray with our Spirit, and not pray seriously. Nor can we expect the best of our prayers to be accepted and for a response from the but through the mediation of Christ, who always lives, lives, The prayers that Zacharias often held received received a response of peace. Prayers of faith are submitted in heaven and are not forgotten.

Prayers made when we were young and entered the world can be answered when we are old and go out of the world. Mercies are doubly sweet, given in response to prayer. Zacharias will have a son at his age who will play an important role in the conversion of many souls to God and in preparing to receive the gospel of Christ. He will go before him with courage, zeal, holiness, and a spirit that is dead to earthly interests and joys. The disobedient and unruly would be brought back to the wisdom of their righteous ancestors, or rather brought to take care of the wisdom of the righteous who came under them. Zacharias heard all that the angel said; but his disbelief spoke. By falling silent, God was right to deal with him because he had objected to God's word. We can admire God's patience with us. God treated him kindly, for he prevented him from speaking even more suspicious, incredulous words. Thus God also confirmed his faith. If the reprimands we submit for our sin lead us to pay more credit to the Word of God, we have no reason to complain. Even true believers are inclined to dishonor God by disbelief; and their mouths are kept in silence and confusion, if otherwise they had praised God with joy and gratitude. In God's gracious dealings with us, we should observe His gracious greetings to us. He looked at us with compassion and favor and therefore dealt with us. And they were both righteous before God, and walked impeccably in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord. And they had no child, for Elizabeth was barren, and both had been well beaten for years. And it came to pass that while he was serving the office of the priest before God in the order of his course, his lot was according to the custom of the priesthood to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And all the multitude of the people prayed without at the time of incense. And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. And the angel said to him, Fear not, Zacharias; for your prayer is answered; and your wife Elizabeth shall bear a son for you, and you shall call his name John. And you shall have joy and joy; and many will rejoice in his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall not drink wine or a strong drink; and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even out of the womb Mother. And many of the children of Israel will turn to the Lord their God. And he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and to the disobedient of wisdom. only; to prepare a people prepared for the Lord. And Zacharias said to the angel, How shall I know this? because I am an old man, and my wife has been well affected for years. And the angel answered and said to him, I am Gabriel, who stands before God; and I am sent to speak to them, and to make this glad tidings for you. And behold, tabernacled and not be able to speak until the day that this is done, because you do not believe in my words which shall be fulfilled in their time. And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he dwelled so long in the temple. And when he went out, he could not speak to them; and they knew that he had seen a vision in the temple; for he beckoned to them, and remained speechless. And it came to pass that as soon as the days of his ministration were finished, he went into his house. And after those days his wife received Elizabeth, and hid himself for five months, saying, Thus did the Lord deal with me in the days when he looked upon me, to take away my reproach among men. And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, 1:26-38 We have here a record of the mother of our Lord; although we should not pray to her, but we should praise God for her. Christ must be born miraculously. The address of the angel means only, Hail, you, who are the most elect and the most privileged of the Most High, in order to obtain the honor that Jewish mothers have longed for so long. This miraculous greeting and appear troubled Mary. The angel then assured her that she had found grace with God, and that she would become the mother of a son whose name she would call Jesus, the Son of the Most High, one in a nature and perfection with the Lord God. Jesus! the name that refreshes the impotent spirits of humble sinners; sweet to speak and to hear sweet, Jesus, a Savior! We do not know his wealth and our own poverty, so we do not run to him; we do not perceive that we are lost and perish, so a Savior is a word of little joy. If we were prepared to fall upon us from the vast mass of guilt that lies upon us, and from the anger that hovers over us for them, it would be our constant thought: Is the Savior mine? And for us to find him that way, we should trample underfoot anything that hinders our path to him. Mary's answer to the angel was the language of faith and humble admiration, and she asked for no sign of confirmation of her faith. Without controversy was great the mystery of divinity, God reveals himself in the flesh, 1Ti 3:16. The human nature of Christ must be created in this way, for it was as it fit, which was to be, which was to be should be brought. And we, like Mary here, must guide our desires through the Word of God. Let us remember in all conflicts that nothing is impossible with God; and when we read and hear His promises, we will turn them into prayers, behold, behold, Servant of the Lord; it shall be to me according to your word. a virgin who identified a man named Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came to her and said, Hail, you who are very favored, the Lord is with you: Blessed are you among the women. And when she saw him, she was troubled by his word, and threw in her mind what it should be like to welcome it. And the angel said to her, Fear not, Mary; for you have found grace with God. And behold, you shall become pregnant in your womb, and bring forth a son, and call his name JESUS. He will be great, and the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father; and he shall rule over the house of Jacob for ever; and there will be no end to his kingdom. And Mary said to the angel, How is this supposed to be, when I know no man? And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High shall be overshadowed to you; therefore also the holy one that is born of you will be called the Son of God. And behold, your cousin Elizabeth, she also fathered a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her, which has been called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible. And Mary said, Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; Be it me according to your word. And the angel went away from her. And Mary arose in those days, and went in a hurry into the mountains, into a city of Judah; 1:39-56 It is very good for those who have begun the work of grace in their souls to communicate one another. Upon Mary's arrival, Elizabeth was aware of the rapprochement of hers, who was to be the mother of the great Redeemer. At the same time, she was filled with the Holy Spirit and declared under his influence that Mary and her expected child were the happiest and happiest, so strangely honored, and dear to the Most High God. Mary, inspired by Elizabeth's speech and also under the influence of the Holy Spirit, erupted in joy, admiration and gratitude. She knew herself as a sinner who needed a Redeemer, and that she could not otherwise rejoice in God than to be interested in His salvation through the promised Messiah. Those who see their plight of Christ and desire justice and life in him are filled with good, with the best; and they are exuberantly satisfied with the blessings He gives. He will fulfill the desires of the poor in the Spirit, who yearn for spiritual blessings, while the self-sufficient will be sent away empty. And he went into the house of Zacharias, and greeted Elizabeth. And it came to pass that when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the child leaped into her womb; And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. And she spoke with a loud and said, Blessed are you among women, and is blessed Fruit of your uterus. And where is this for me that my Lord's mother should come to me? For behold, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the child leaped into my bosom with joy. And blessed is the one who believed; for there will be a performance of what was said to her by the Lord. And Mary said, My soul magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiced in God my Redeemer. For he has considered the low possession of his handmaid; for behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed. For he who is mighty has done great things for me; and holy is his name. And his mercy goes to those who fear him from generation to generation. He has strength with his arm. he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has laid down the powerful from their seats and raised them by a small degree. He has filled the hungry with good things; and the rich, which he sent away empty- He has hold his servant Israel in remembrance of his mercy; How he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed forever. And Mary stayed with her for about three months, and returned to her own house. Now Elizabeth's full-time that she should be extradited; and she brought forth a son 1:57-66 In these verses we have a record of the birth of John the Baptist and the great joy among all the family's relationships. He will be called Johanan or Gracious, because he will bring in the gospel of Christ, where God's grace shines brightest. Zacharias has found his speech again. Disbelief closed his mouth, and faith reopened it: He believes that is why he speaks. When God opens our lips, our mouth must show His praise; and better to be without speech than not to use them to praise God. It is said that the hand of the Lord worked with John. God has opportunities to work on children in their children who we cannot answer for. We should observe God's business and wait for the event. And their neighbors and their cousins heard how the Lord had shown their great mercy; and they rejoiced with her. And it came to pass that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they called him Zacharias after the name of his father. And his mother answered and said, So it is not; but he will be called John. And they said to her, It is not of your kind that is called by this name. And they made signs to his father, as he would call him. And he asked for a desk, and wrote, His name is John. And they all marveled. And immediately his mouth opened, and his tongue was loosed, and he spoke and praised God. And fear came over all that dwelt around them; and all these speeches were made throughout the whole mountain talked abroad. And all that heard them put them in their hearts, saying, What kind of child this will be. And the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father's father was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: 1:67-80 Zacharias spoke a prophecy about the kingdom and salvation of the Messiah. The gospel brings light; in it the day dawns. In John the Baptist it began to break, and quickly rose to the perfect day. Discovering the Gospel; it shows what we were completely in the dark; it is to give light to those who sit in darkness, the light of the knowledge of god's glory in the face of Jesus Christ. It is a revival; it sheds light on those who sit in the shadow of death as convicted prisoners in prison. It's directing; it is a matter of keeping our feet on the path of peace, in this way that will finally bring us to peace, Ro 3:17. John gave evidence of strong faith, energetic and holy affection, and of being above the fear and love of the world. So he matured for useful; but he lived a retirement life until he appeared openly as a precursor of the Messiah. Let us follow peace with all people and seek peace with God and our own conscience. And if it is the will of God that we live unknown to the world, then we will eagerly seek to become strong in the grace of Jesus Christ. Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel; for he visited his people and redeemed them, and raised a horn of salvation for us in the house of david his servant; As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets, who have been since the beginning of the world, that we may be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to fulfill the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember His holy covenant; The oath which he swore to our father Abraham that he would grant us, that we might be delivered out of the hand of our enemies, could serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our lives. And you, child, you shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you shall go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways; To give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God; where the spring of the day has visited us from above, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to lead our feet on the path of peace. And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the wilderness until the day he delivered to Israel. Israel.

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