

The Gospel of Thomas

These are the secret words which the Living Jesus spoke and Didymos Judas Thomas wrote.

And He said: Whoever finds the explanation of these words will not taste death. Jesus said: Let him who seeks, not cease seeking until he finds, and when he finds, he will be troubled, and when he has been troubled, he will marvel and he will reign over the All. "Jesus said: If those who lead you say to you: "See, the Kingdom is in heaven", then the birds of the heaven will precede you. If they say to you: "It is in the sea", then the fish will precede you. But the Kingdom is within you and it is without you. If you will know yourselves, then you will be known and you will know that you are the sons of the Living Father. But if you do not know yourselves, then you are in poverty and you are poverty. Jesus said: The man old in days will not hesitate to ask a little child of seven days about the place of Life, and he will live. For many who are first shall become last and they shall become a single one. Jesus said: Know what is in thy sight, and what is hidden from thee will be revealed to thee. For there is nothing hidden which will not be manifest. His disciples asked Him, they said to Him: Wouldst thou that we fast and how should we pray and should we give alms, and what diet should we observe? Jesus said: Do not lie; and do not do what you hate, for all things are manifest before Heaven. For there is nothing hidden that shall not be revealed and there is nothing covered that shall remain without being uncovered. Jesus said: Blessed is the lion which the man eats and the lion will become man; and cursed is the man whom the lion eats and the lion will become man. And He said: The Man is like a wise fisherman who cast his net into the sea he drew it up from the sea full of small fish; among them he found a large and good fish, that wise fisherman, he threw all the small fish down into the sea, he chose the large fish without regret. Whoever has ears to hear let him hear. Jesus said: See, the sower went out, he filled his hand, he threw. Some seeds fell on the road; the birds came, they gathered them. Others fell on the rock and did not strike root in the earth and did not produce ears. And others fell on the thorns; they choked the seed and the worm ate them. And others fell on the good earth; and it brought forth good fruit; it bore sixty per measure and one hundred twenty per measure. Jesus said: I have cast fire upon the world, and see, I guard it until it the world is afire. Jesus said: This heaven shall pass away and the one above it shall pass away, and the dead are not alive and the living shall not die. In the days when you devoured the dead, you made it alive; when you come into light, what will you do? On the day when you were one, you

became two. But when you have become two, what will you do? The disciples said to Jesus: We know that thou wilt go away from us. Who is it who shall be great over us? Jesus said to them: Wherever you have come, you will go to James the righteous for whose sake, heaven and earth came into being. Jesus said to His disciples: Make a comparison to Me and tell Me whom I am like. Simon Peter said to Him: Thou art like a righteous angel. Matthew said to Him: Thou art like a wise man of understanding. Thomas said to Him: Master, my mouth will not at all be capable of saying whom Thou art like. Jesus said: I am not thy Master, because thou hast drunk, thou hast from the bubbling spring which I throw at me; and fire will come from the stones and burn you up. Jesus said to them: If you fast, you will beget sin for yourselves, and if you pray, you will be condemned, and if you give alms, you will do evil to your spirits. And if you go into any land and wander in the regions, if they receive you, eat what they set before you, heal the sick among them. For what goes into your mouth will not defile you, but what comes out of your mouth, that is what will defile you. Jesus said: When you see Him who was not born of woman, prostrate yourselves upon your face and adore Him: He is your Father. Jesus said: Men possibly think that I have come to throw peace upon the world and they do not know that I have come to throw divisions upon the earth, fire, sword, war. For there shall be five in a house: three shall be against two and two against three, the father against the son and the son against the father, and they will stand as solitaries. Jesus said: I will give you what eye has not seen and what ear has not heard and what hand has not touched and what has not arisen in the heart of man. The disciples said to Jesus: Tell us how our end will be. Jesus said: Have you then discovered the beginning so that you inquire about the end? For where the beginning is, there shall be the end. Blessed is he who shall stand at the beginning, and he shall know the end and he shall not taste death. Jesus said: Blessed is he who was before he came into being. If you become disciples to Me and hear My words, these stones will minister to you. For you have five trees in Paradise. which are unmoved in summer or in winter and their leaves do not fall. Whoever knows them will not taste death. The disciples said to Jesus: Tell us what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. He said to them: It is like a mustard-seed, smaller than all seeds. But when it falls on the tilled earth, it produces a large branch and becomes shelter for the birds of heaven. Mary said to Jesus: Whom are thy disciples like? He said: They are like little children who have installed themselves in a field which is not theirs. When the owners of the field come, they will say: "Release to us our field". They take off their clothes before them to release it the field to them and to give back their field to them. Therefore I say: If the lord of the house knows that the thief is coming, he will stay awake before he comes and will not let him dig through into his house of his kingdom to carry away his goods. You then

as must watch for the world, gird up your loins with great strength lest the brigands find a way to come to you, because they will find the advantage which you expect. Let there be among you a man of understanding; when the fruit ripened, he came quickly with his sickle in his hand, he reaped it. Whoever has ears to hear let him hear. Jesus saw children who were being suckled. He said to his disciples: These children who are being suckled are like those who enter the Kingdom. They said to Him: Shall we then, being children, enter the Kingdom? Jesus said to them: When you make the two one, and when you make the inner as the outer and the outer as the inner and the above as the below, and when you make the male and the female into a single one, so that the male will not be male and the female not be female, when you make eyes in the place of an eye, and a hand in the place of a hand, and a foot in the place of a foot, and an image in the place of an image, then shall you enter the Kingdom. Jesus said: I shall choose you, one out of a thousand, and two out of ten thousand, and they shall stand as a single one. His disciples said: Show us the place where Thou art, for it is necessary for us to seek it. He said to them: Whoever has ears let him hear. Within a man of light there is light and he lights the whole world. When he does not shine, there is darkness. Jesus said: Love thy brother as thy soul, guard him as the apple of thine eye. Jesus said: The mote that is in thy brother's eye thou seest, but the beam that is in thine eye, thou seest not. When thou castest the beam out of thine eye then thou wilt see clearly to cast the mote out of thy brother's eye. Jesus said: If you fast not from the world, you will not find the Kingdom; if you keep not the Sabbath as Sabbath, I you will not see the Father. Jesus said: I took my stand in the midst of the world and in flesh I appeared to them; I found them all drunk, I found none among them athirst. And my soul was afflicted for the sons of men, because they are blind in their heart and do not see that empty they have come into the world and that empty they seek to go out of the world again. But now they are drunk. When they have shaken off their wine, then will they repent. Jesus said: If the flesh has come into existence because of the spirit, it is a marvel; but if the spirit has come into existence because of it is a marvel of marvels. But I marvel the body, at how this great wealth has made its home in this poverty. Jesus said: Where there are three gods, they are gods; where there are two or one, I am with him. Jesus said: No prophet is acceptable in his village, no physician heals those who know him. Jesus said: A city being built on a high mountain and fortified cannot fall nor can it ever be hidden. Jesus said: What thou shalt hear in thine ear and in the other ear, that preach from your housetops; for no one lights a lamp and puts it under a bushel, nor does he put it in-a hidden place, but he sets it on the lampstand, so that all who come in and go out may see its light. Jesus said: If a blind man leads a blind man, both of them fall into a pit. Jesus said: It is not possible for one to enter the house of the strong man and take

him or it by force unless he bind his hands; then will he ransack his house. Jesus said: Take no thought from morning until evening and from evening until morning for what you shall put on. His disciples said: When wilt Thou be revealed to us and when will we see Thee? Jesus said: When you take off your clothing without being ashamed, and take your clothes and put them under your feet as the little children and tread on them, then shall you behold the Son of the Living One and you shall not fear. Jesus said: Many times have you desired to hear these words which I say to you, and you have no other from whom to hear them. There will be days when you will seek Me and you will not find Me. Jesus said: The Pharisees and the Scribes have received the keys of Knowledge, they have hidden them. They did not let those enter who wished. But you, become wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Jesus said: A vine has been planted without the Father and, as it is not established, it will be pulled up by its roots and be destroyed. Jesus said: Whoever has in his hand, to him shall be given; and whoever does not have, from him shall be taken even the little which he has. Jesus said: Become passers-by. His disciples said to Him: Who art Thou that Thou should say these things to us? Jesus said to them: From what I say to you, you do not know who I am, but you have become as the Jews, for they love the tree, they hate its fruit and they love the fruit, they hate the tree. Jesus said: Whoever blasphemes against the Father, it shall be forgiven him, and whoever blasphemes against the Son, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, either on earth or in heaven. Jesus said: They do not harvest grapes from thorns, nor do they gather figs from thistles; they give no fruit. A good man brings forth good out of his treasure, an evil man brings forth evil things out of his evil treasure, which is in his heart, and speaks evil things. For out of the abundance of the heart he brings forth evil things. Jesus said: From Adam until John the Baptist there is among those who are born of women none higher than John the Baptist, so that his eyes will not be broken. But I have said that whoever among you becomes as a child shall know the Kingdom, and he shall become higher than John. Jesus said: It is impossible for a man to mount two horses and to stretch two bows, and it is impossible for a servant to serve two masters, otherwise he will honour the one and offend the other. No man drinks old wine and immediately desires to drink new wine; and they do not put new wine into old wineskins, lest they burst, and they do not put old wine into a new wineskin, lest it spoil it. They do not sew an old patch on a new garment, because there would come a rent. Jesus said: If two make peace with each other in this one house, they shall say to the mountain: "Be moved", and it shall be moved. Jesus said: Blessed are the solitary and elect, for you shall find the Kingdom; because you come from it, and you shall go there again. Jesus said: If they say to you: "From where have you originated?", say to them: "We have come from the Light, where the

Light has originated through itself. It stood and it revealed itself in their image. If they say to you: "Who are you?", say: "We are His sons and we are the elect of the Living Father". If they ask you: "What is the sign of your Father in you?", say to them: "It is a movement and a rest". His disciples said to Him: When will the repose of the dead come about and when will the new world come? He said to them: What you expect has come, but you know it not. His disciples said to Him: Twenty-four prophets spoke in Israel and they all spoke about Thee. He said to them: You have dismissed the Living One who is before you and you have spoken about the dead. His disciples said to Him: Is circumcision profitable or not? He said to them: If it were profitable, their father would beget them circumcised from their mother. But the true circumcision in Spirit has become profitable in every way. Jesus said: Blessed are the poor, for yours is the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus said: Whoever does not hate his father and his mother will not be able to be a disciple to Me, and whoever does not hate his brethren and his sisters and does not take up his cross in My way will not be worthy of Me. Jesus said: Whoever has known the world has found a corpse, and whoever has found a corpse, of him the world is not worthy. Jesus said: The Kingdom of the Father is like a man who had good seed. His enemy came by night, he sowed a weed among the good seed. The man did not permit them the workers to pull up the weed. He said to them: Lest perhaps you go to pull up the weed and pull up the wheat with it. For on the day of harvest the weeds will appear, they will pull them and burn them. Jesus said: Blessed is the man who has suffered, he has found the Life. Jesus said: Look upon the Living One as long as you live, lest you die and seek to see Him and be unable to see. They saw a Samaritan carrying a lamb on his way to Judea. He said to His disciples: Why does this man carry the lamb with him? They said to Him: In order that he may kill it and eat it. He said to them: As long as it is alive, he will not eat it, but only if he has killed it and it has become a corpse. They said: Otherwise he will not be able to do it. He said to them: You yourselves, seek a place for yourselves in Repose, lest you become a corpse and be eaten. Jesus said: Two will rest on a bed: the one will die, the one will live. Salome said: Who art thou, man, and whose son? Thou didst take thy place upon my bench and eat from my table. Jesus said to her: I am He who is from the Same, to Me was given from the things of My Father. Salome said: I am Thy disciple. Jesus said to her: Therefore I say, if he is the Same, he will be filled with light, but if he is divided, he will be filled with darkness. Jesus said: I tell My mysteries to those who are worthy of my mysteries. What thy right hand will do, let not thy left hand know what it does. Jesus said: There was a rich man who had much money. He said: I will use my money that I may sow and reap and plant and fill my storehouses with fruit, so that I lack nothing. This was what he thought in his heart. And that night he died. Whoever has ears let him hear. Jesus said: A

man had guest-friends, and when he had prepared the dinner, he sent his servant to invite the guest-friends. He went to the first, he said to him: "My master invites thee". He said: "I have some claims against some merchants; they will come to me in the evening; I will go and give them my orders. I pray to be excused from the dinner". He went to another, he said to him: "My master has invited thee". He said to him: "I have bought a house and they request me for a day. I will have no time". He came to another, he said to him: "My master invites thee". He said to him: "My friend is to be married and I am to arrange a dinner; I shall not be able to come. I pray to be excused from the dinner. He went to another, he said to him: "My master invites thee to dinner ". He said to him: "I have bought a farm I go to collect the rent. I shall not be able to come. I pray to be excused". The servant came, he said to his master: "Those whom thou hast invited to the dinner have excused themselves". The master said to his servant: "Go out to the roads, bring those whom thou shalt find, so that they may dine. Tradesmen and merchants shall not enter the places of my Father". He said: A good man had a vineyard. He gave it to husbandmen so that they would work it and that he would receive its fruit from them. He sent his servant so that the husbandmen would give him the fruit of the vineyard. They seized his servant, they beat him; a little longer and they would have killed him. The servant came, he told it to his master. His master said: "Perhaps he did not know them". He sent another servant; the husbandmen beat him as well. Then the owner sent his son. He said: "Perhaps they will respect my son". Since those husbandmen knew that he was the heir of the vineyard, they seized him, they killed him. Whoever has ears let him hear. Jesus said: Show me the stone which the builders have rejected; it is the cornerstone. Jesus said: Whoever knows the All but fails to know himself lacks everything. Jesus said: Blessed are you when you are hated and persecuted; and no place will be found there where you have been persecuted. a Jesus said: Blessed are those who have been persecuted in their heart; these are they who have known the Father in truth. Blessed are the hungry, for the belly of him who desires will be filled. Jesus said: If you bring forth that within yourselves, that which you have will save you. If you do not have that within yourselves, that which you do not have within you will kill you. Jesus said: I shall destroy this house and no one will be able to build it again. A man said to Him: Tell my brethren to divide my father's possessions with me. He said to him: O man, who made Me a divider? He turned to His disciples, he said to them: I am not a divider, am I? Jesus said: The harvest is indeed great, but the labourers are few; but beg the Lord to send labourers into the harvest. He said: Lord, there are many around the cistern, but nobody in the cistern. Jesus said: Many are standing at the door, but the solitary are the ones who will enter the bridal chamber. Jesus said: The Kingdom of the Father is like a man, a merchant, who

possessed merchandise and found a pearl. That merchant was prudent. He sold the merchandise, he bought the one pearl for himself. Do you also seek for the treasure which fails not, which endures, there where no moth comes near to devour and where no worm destroys. Jesus said: I am the Light that is above them all, I am the All, the All came forth from Me and the All attained to Me. Cleave a piece of wood, I am there; lift up the stone and you will find Me there. Jesus said: Why did you come out into the desert? To see a reed shaken by the wind? And to see a man clothed in soft garments? See, your kings and your great ones are those who are clothed in soft garments and they shall not be able to know the truth. A woman from the multitude said to Him: Blessed is the womb which bore Thee and the breasts which Nourished Thee. He said to her: Blessed are those who have heard the word of the Father and have kept it in truth. For there will be days when you will say: Blessed is the womb which has not conceived and the breasts which have not suckled. Jesus said: Whoever has known the world has found the body and whoever has found the body, of him the world is not worthy. Jesus said: Let him who has become rich become king, and let him who has power renounce it. Jesus said: Whoever is near to me is near to the fire, and whoever is far from me is far from the Kingdom. Jesus said: The images are manifest to man and the Light which is within them is hidden in the Image of the Light of the Father. He will manifest himself and His Image is concealed by His Light. Jesus said: When you see your likeness, you rejoice. But when you see your images which came into existence before you, which neither die nor are manifested, how much will you bear! Jesus said: Adam came into existence from a great power and a great wealth, and yet he did not become worthy of you. For if he had been worthy, he would not have tasted death. Jesus said: The foxes have their holes and the birds have their nest, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head and to rest. Jesus said: Wretched is the body which depends upon a body, and wretched is the soul which depends upon these. Jesus said: The angels and the prophets will come to you and they will give you what is yours. And I you, too, give to them what is in your hands, and say to yourselves: "On which day will they come and receive what is theirs?" Jesus said: Why do you wash the outside of the cup? Do you not understand that he who made the inside is also he who made the outside? Jesus said: Come to Me, for easy is My yoke and My lordship is gentle, and you shall find repose for yourselves. They said to Him: Tell us who Thou art so that we may believe in Thee. He said to them: You test the face of the sky and of the earth, and him who is before your face you have not known, and you do not know to test this moment. Jesus said: Seek and you will find, but those things which you asked me in those days, I did not tell you then; now I desire to tell them, but you do not inquire after them. Jesus said: Give not what is holy to the dogs, lest they cast it on the dung-heap. Throw not the

pearls to the swine, lest they make it swill. Jesus said: Whoever seeks will find and whoever knocks, it will be opened to him. Jesus said: If you have money, do not lend at interest, but give them to him from whom you will not receive them back. Jesus said: The Kingdom of the Father is like a woman, who has taken a little leaven and has hidden it in dough and has made large loaves of it. Whoever has ears let him hear. Jesus said: The Kingdom of the Father is like a woman who was carrying a jar full of meal. While she was walking on a distant road, the handle of the jar broke. The meal streamed out behind her on the road. She did not know it. She had noticed no accident. After she came into her house, she put the jar down, she found it empty. Jesus said: The Kingdom of the Father is like a man who wishes to kill a powerful man. He drew the sword in his house, he stuck it into the wall, in order to know whether his hand would carry through; then he slew the powerful man. The disciples said to Him: Thy brethren and Thy mother are standing outside. He said to them: Those here who do the will of My Father, they are My brethren and My mother; these are they who shall enter the Kingdom of My Father. They showed Jesus a gold coin and said to Him: Caesar's men ask taxes from us. He said to them: Give the things of Caesar to Caesar, give the things of God to God and give Me what is Mine. Jesus said: Whoever does not hate his father and his mother in My way will not be able to be a disciple to me. And whoever does not love his father and his mother in My way will not be able to be a disciple to me, for My mother but My true Mother gave me the Life. Jesus said: Woe to them, the Pharisees, for they are like a dog sleeping in the manger of oxen, for neither does he eat nor does he allow the oxen to eat. Jesus said: Blessed is the man who knows in which part of the night the robbers will come in, so that he will rise and collect his and gird up his loins before they come in. They said to Him: Come and let us pray today and let us fast. Jesus said: Which then is the sin that I have committed, or in what have I been vanquished? But when the bridegroom comes out of the bridal chamber, then let them fast and let them pray. Jesus said: Whoever knows father and mother shall be called the son of a harlot. Jesus said: When you make the two one, you shall become sons of Man, and when you say: "Mountain, be moved", it will be moved. Jesus said: The Kingdom is like a shepherd who had a hundred sheep. One of them went astray, which was the largest. He left behind ninety-nine, he sought for the one until he found it. Having tired himself out, he said to the sheep: I love thee more than ninety-nine. Jesus said: Whoever drinks from My mouth shall become as I am and I myself will become he, and the hidden things shall be revealed to him. Jesus said: The Kingdom is like a man who had a treasure hidden in his field, without knowing it. And after he died, he left it to his son. The son did not know about it, he accepted that field, he sold it. And he who bought it, he went, while he was plowing he found the treasure. He began to lend money to whomever he wished.

Jesus said: Whoever has found the world and become rich, let him deny the world. Jesus said: The heavens will be rolled up and the earth in your presence, and he who lives on the Living One shall see neither death nor fear, because Jesus says: Whoever finds himself, of him the world is not worthy. Jesus said: Woe to the flesh which depends upon the soul; woe to the soul which depends upon the flesh. His disciples said to Him: When will the Kingdom come? Jesus said: It will not come by expectation; they will not say: "See here", or: "See, there". But the Kingdom of the Father is spread upon the earth and men do not see it. Simon Peter said to them: Let Mary go out from among us, because women are not worthy of the Life. Jesus said: See, I shall lead her, so that I will make her male, that she too may become a living spirit, resembling you males. For every woman who makes herself male will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.