

## MARK 3:20-35 NRSV

<sup>20</sup> and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. <sup>21</sup> When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” <sup>22</sup> And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” <sup>23</sup> And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup> If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup> But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

<sup>28</sup> “Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup> but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— <sup>30</sup> for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

<sup>31</sup> Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup> A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters<sup>[a]</sup> are outside, asking for you.” <sup>33</sup> And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” <sup>34</sup> And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup> Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

**“Here ends the reading inspired by God. May God grant us wisdom and courage for interpretation.”**