

A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, a dirt road with tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The terrain is sandy and sparsely covered with small, dry bushes. In the background, a range of rugged, brown mountains stretches across the horizon under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is desolate and expansive.

The Gospel of Matthew

WHY DID THE KING COME BUT NOT THE KINGDOM?

I. THE KING HAS COME 1:1 – 13:53

4. The Opposition to the King 11:2 – 13:53

(Matthew 12:38-50)

“Follow the signs of God”

Outline –

1. The sign of Jonah v. 38-40
2. The signs of judgment vv. 41-45
3. The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

1- The sign of Jonah v. 38-40

A. Observations:

- The opposition v. 38a
- The request for a sign v. 38b
- Jesus' response vv. 39-40

1- The sign of Jonah v. 38-40

A. Observations:

➤ Jesus' response vv. 39-40

1) An evil, adulterous generation seeks after a sign v. 39a (cf. Ezekiel 16)

- “seeks” (NASB – “craves” it is a pursuit, driven by an intense desire)
- Evidently, they were seeking a sign originating from heaven (cf. Mt. 16:1)

1- The sign of Jonah v. 38-40

A. Observations:

➤ Jesus' response vv. 39-40

- 1) An evil, adulterous generation seeks after a sign v. 39a (cf. Ezekiel 16)
- 2) No sign except the sign of Jonah v. 39b
- 3) Explanation of the sign of Jonah v. 40 (cf. Jonah 1:17-2:10)

1- The sign of Jonah v. 38-40

B. Summary/Application:

- Some of the scribes and Pharisees continued their opposition.
- Their seeking of a sign was a sign of their wickedness.
- The only sign they will get is the death, burial, and resurrection.

Outline –

1. The sign of Jonah vv. 38-40
2. The signs of judgment vv. 41-45
3. The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

2- The signs of Judgment vv. 41-45

A. Observations:

- Nineveh's witness v. 41
- The queen of the South's witness v. 42
- A Parable of their judgment vv. 43-45

2- The signs of Judgment vv. 41-45

A. Observations:

- Nineveh's witness v. 41
 - Resurrection v. 41a
 - Judgment v. 41a
 - Condemnation v. 41a
 - Reason #1 v. 41b
 - Reason #2 v. 41c

2- The signs of Judgment vv. 41-45

A. Observations:

- The queen of the South's witness v. 42
 - Resurrection v. 42a
 - Judgment v. 42a
 - Condemnation v. 42a
 - Reason #1 v. 42b
 - Reason #2 v. 42c

2- The signs of Judgment vv. 41-45

A. Observations:

➤ A Parable of their judgment vv. 43-45

Phase 1 – Unclean spirit departing from a man v. 43

Phase 2 – Unclean spirit returning to the man v. 44

Phase 3 – Unclean spirits entering the man v. 45a-b

- The man is worse than before. v. 45c
- This wicked generation is being described v. 45d

Make sense?

- Jesus is talking about this generation v. 45
- So, the parable must correlate with the generation.
- The generation began with the preaching of John.
- The generation continued with the ministry of Jesus.
- The generation ends rejecting the Messiah.
 - The “man” = this generation
 - The “unclean spirit” = Pharisaism?

2- The signs of Judgment vv. 41-45

B. Summary/Application:

- Ninevah's repentance is a sign against this generation.
- The queen of Sheba's seeking divine wisdom is a sign against this generation.
- This generation of Israel is worse after rejecting Jesus than before John's ministry.

Outline –

1. The sign of Jonah v. 38-40
2. The signs of judgment vv. 41-45
3. The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

3- The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

A. Observations:

➤ Jesus biological family vv. 46-47

- He was in the middle of teaching v. 46a
- His mother and brothers stood outside v. 46b
- They were seeking to speak with Him v. 46c
- Someone informs Jesus about them v. 47

3- The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

A. Observations:

- Jesus spiritual family vv. 48-50
 - Jesus asks a question v. 48
 - Jesus points to His disciples v. 49
 - Jesus summarizes v. 50

3- The sign of relationship vv. 46-50

B. Summary/Application:

- Jesus is making a point given the context of the kingdom ministry.
- The point comes out of 12:30... people are either for or against Him.
- Are we for or against Jesus and God's will in our life?



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