SCRIPTURE: Matthew 12:38-42

SERMON: <u>Take the Last Exit before Hell!</u> 1 April 2018

INTRODUCTION: LAST EXIT BEFORE CLIFF (Mt.12:48; 16:4; Acts 2:22f)

- I. <u>A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE</u> (Mt.16:1-4(12:38-42); Mk.8:11,12; Lk.11:16,29-32)
 - A. MOST WORDS & WORKS COMPLETED (Mt.1-16; Mk.1-8; see Mt.11:2f)
 - **B. CLIMAX IN CONFESSION** (Mt.16:4,16; Mk.8:12,31)
 - **C. TRANSITION TO END** (Mt.16:21; 17:(1f)22; 20:18; Mk.8:31; 9:(1f)31; 10:33,34; 1C.15:3,4 /Dt.19:15)
 - **D. THE END IS THE LAST SIGN** (Mt.16:4 w/12:30f; Lk.11:29f)
 - **E. NO MORE WORDS OR WORKS** (Lk.16:30,31; see 2Chr.36:16)

II. THE LAST SIGN

- **A. NO SIGN AT ALL** (Mk.8:12, yet 31)
- **B. ONE EXCEPTION: JONAH** (Mt.12:39; 16:4; Lk.11:29)
- **C. THE SIGN OF JONAH** (Lk.11:30; Mt.12:40; see Jon.1:17)
- **D. THE REPENTANCE OF NINEVEH** (Mt.12:41; Lk.11:32; see Jon.3:5; see Acts 9:15,etc.)
- E. GREATER PRIVILEGE, GREATER GUILT (Mt.12:41; Lk.11:32; see Lk.12:48; Mt.11:20f)
- **F. THE FAITH OF SHEBA** (Mt.12:42; Lk.11:31; see 1Kngs.10:1f,7; 2Chr.9:1f,6; see Acts 9:15,etc.)
- G. GREATER PRIVILEGE, GREATER GUILT (Mt.12:42; Lk.11:31; see Lk.12:48; Mt.11:20f)
- H. TWO WITNESSES, CERTAIN JUDGMENT (Mt.12:41f; Lk.11:30f; see Dt.19:15)

III. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RESURRECTION

- **A. THE FINAL, DECISIVE WITNESS THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST** (Mt.12:38f; 16:4,16,21; see Rom.1:4; Acts 2:22f,32f,36; 2:38; 17:30,31)
- **B. THERE IS NO SALVATION WITHOUT IT** (1Cor.15:14,17; see Col.2:12; Rom.4:25)
- C. THE CERTAINTY OF THE BIBLICAL TESTIMONY TO THE RESURRECTION
 - 1. the 9th commandment (Ex.20:16; Dt.5:20; Mt.19:18; Eph.4:25; Col.3:9)
 - 2. the sanction against false testimony (Dt.19:18f; see 1Cor.15:15)
 - 3. careful investigation and reporting (Lk.1:1-4 (Acts 1:1-3); Jn.20:30,31; 21:24; 2Pt.1:18; 1Jn.1:1f)
 - 4. many ancient predictions (Jon.1:17(Mt.12:40f); see Acts 2:25f (Ps.16:8f; 89:3f; 110:1f; 132:11); Hos.6:2; Is.53:10f; Ezk.37:1f)
 - 5. twelve authorized, credible eyewitnesses (Lk.24:45-48; Acts 1:2,3,8; 21,22; 10:39-41; Eph.2:20)
 - 6. many other eyewitnesses (1Cor.15:1-8; see Lk.24:34,36; Acts 7:55; 9:3f)
 - 7. an assured conclusion (Acts 1:3; 2:36,22f; 1Cor.15:1f; Lk.1:1f)
- **D. NEVERTHELESS, MUCH UNBELIEF THEN AND NOW** (Ps.78:22,32,42; 106:7,13,24; Mt.13:15; Lk.16:31; Acts 7:51f; 17:31f; 28:23f)
- E. THE HYPOCRISY OF SCIENTIFIC UNBELIEF (rules of evidence, i.e., peer review /law, religion)
- IV. TAKE THE LAST EXIT BEFORE HELL! (Mt.12:38-42 with 16:1-4 & 16,21)

Brethren, what shall WE DO? (see Acts 2:37f)

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I. A SIGNIFICANT	(Mt.16:1-4(1	2:38-42); Mk.8:11,12; Lk.11:16,29-32)
		(Mt.1-16; Mk.1-8; see Mt.11:2f)
B. CLIMAX IN	(Mt.16:4,	16; Mk.8:12,31)
C. TRANSITION TO	(Mt.16:21; 17:(1f)22; 20	:18; Mk.8:31; 9:(1f)31; 10:33,34; 1C.15:3,4 /Dt.19:15)
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II. THE LAST		
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		(Mt.12:41; Lk.11:32; see Lk.12:48; Mt.11:20f)
F. THE OF	SHEBA (Mt.12:42; Lk.11::	31; see 1Kngs.10:1f,7; 2Chr.9:1f,6; see Acts 9:15,etc.)
G. GREATER	, GREATER G	UILT (Mt.12:42; Lk.11:31; see Lk.12:48; Mt.11:20f)
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IV. <u>TAKE THE LAST</u>	BEFORE HELL!	Mt.12:38-42 with 16:1-4 & 16,21)