

Lesson 6: Jonah, Repossession, & Jesus' Family

Matthew 12:38-50

I. THE SIGN OF JONAH (38-42) The Resurrection of Christ

A. Demanding a Sign (38-39; Jud 6:17; Isa 7:11; Isa 38:7-8)—*putting God to the test*

- 1. Insolent**—*inappropriate boldness, aggressive rudeness, disrespect*
- 2. Unreasonable**—*How many signs do they need?*
- 3. Insincere**—*looking for an excuse to not believe*

B. Shaming the Wise (41-42; 1 Cor 1:27-28)

- 1. Their faith is inferior to a Gentile's.** This is a *calculated insult*.
- 2. They have missed the point of Scripture** (Lk 24:25-27) *It is all about Jesus.*

C. Recognizing Something Greater (41-42)

- 1. Jonah**—**prophet, reluctant preacher of repentance**
- 2. Solomon**—**king of Israel's Golden Age, wisest teacher on earth**

D. The Ultimate Evidence: The Resurrection of Christ (40; Rom 1:3-4; 1 Cor 15:14)

The ultimate proof that He is the divine Son of God and Savior of the World

II. **THE RETURN OF AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT** (43-45; 2 Pet 2:20-22)—warning of the consequences of rejecting Christ after having benefitted from His ministry.

A. **A Spiritual Parasite**—*needs a human host for a home*

B. **A Spiritual Vacuum**—*individuals and culture*

1. The authority of Christ **casts out** evil.

2. The presence of Christ **keeps out** evil. *Demons are squatters.*

C. **Worse than Before** (2 Pet 20-22)—*evil returns with a vengeance*

1. Rejection of Christ is worse than ignorance.

2. Neglect of grace invites reinvasion.

III. **THE MOTHER AND BROTHERS OF JESUS** (46-50)

A. **Family Interference**—*don't be a stumbling block to a family member in ministry!*

B. **Family Privilege**

1. **God's family** outranks human family.

2. Everyone in God's family has **equal access** to Jesus.

a. We are related to **Jesus**.

b. We are related to **one another**.