

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

RLJ-1930

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### PART 33: DOUBTING JESUS' SANITY

#### **ASKING JESUS FOR A SIGN**

The Jewish leadership was always trying to trap Jesus so they could destroy His credibility and kill the God-man. They did not seek a sign because they believed that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah; they were merely baiting him just like Lucifer had done earlier. **Matthew 12:38; 4:1-4**

Jesus responded by telling these men that they were an evil and an adulterous generation for which there would be no special sign. Jesus had no intention of humoring them. The God-man told them to recall what they had seen as He healed the sick, cast out demons, cured the lepers, opened the eyes of the blind, and raised the dead.

**Matthew 12:39**

#### **THE SIGN OF JONAH**

The only sign they were going to receive was that of the prophet Jonah. He spent three days and three nights in the belly of the fish. Jesus would spend three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. **verse 40**

❖ Jonah – **Jonah 1:17**

❖ Jesus – **Luke 23:42-46**

#### **JESUS NEVER ACTUALLY DIED**

It is important to understand that Jesus was incarnated into a physical body provided by Mary and the Holy Spirit. **Luke 1:26-35**

The God-man did not have a soul; He maintained His deity and was complete in Himself even though in human form. When the Son of God walked on earth, it was Jesus in a human body.

Through this physical body, Jesus expressed joy, anger, love, etc. The God-man also experienced hunger, rejection, joy, grief, pain etc.

Jesus felt agonizing pain when He was whipped with 39 lashes. It was excruciating when huge nails were hammered through his hands and feet at the crucifixion. He suffered immensely as His physical body struggled to breathe hanging on the cross. He alternated pulling with His arms and pushing with His feet just to breathe. When the leg muscles gave out, he hung painfully by the arms. This tormenting process normally went on for days. Keep in mind, that God the Father was also pouring out His wrath on Jesus at the same time.

Jesus was crucified at noon on a Wednesday and He voluntarily died at 3 p.m. The redemption of mankind was accomplished over this three-hour period.



When the physical body of the God-man died, the Son of God left it upon the cross and went to Paradise – also known as Abraham’s bosom. **Luke 16:20-25**

Jesus also visited hell where He declared to its inhabitants that they had died in their sins, and while mankind’s atonement had been completed, they had no part in it.

**1 Peter 3:18-19**

The physical body of Jesus was taken down and laid in a tomb. **Luke 23:50-56**

Thursday was the High Sabbath and sometime between 6 p.m. Saturday night and 6 a.m. Sunday morning, Jesus left Paradise and entered the tomb at Jerusalem. His battered physical body was resurrected by the power of the Holy Spirit and then the Son of God re-entered the resurrected body and walked victoriously out of the tomb.

**Matthew 28:1-6; Luke 24:1-8**

**There was no spiritual death when Jesus physically died on the cross for the sins of mankind.**

## **JUDGING ISRAEL**

The generation that was alive during Jesus’ time on earth will receive a special judgment because they saw the Messiah and rejected Him. The people of Nineveh, along with the Queen of Ethiopia that came to Solomon, will be resurrected and sit in judgment on the Jews who rejected Christ in the flesh. Jesus was greater than Jonah and King Solomon. **Matthew 12:41-42**

## **TEACHING ON DEMONS**

Jesus warned the people of demons. Many of the people walking with Jesus had been set free from demons, experiencing healing and restoration of their minds. Jesus warned that when demons are cast out, they would try to return to the hosts from which they had been cast out.

It was important not to return to the old lifestyle; doing so would open the door for the evicted demons to come back and bring additional demons that were seven times more wicked. **verses 43-45**

## **THE FAMILY OF JESUS**

The earthly family of Jesus thought He must have gone insane. It must have been heartbreaking for the God-man when the friends He had grown up with, tried to take Him back home with them because they felt that He had become mentally unstable. More than likely the rumor spread by the scribes and the Pharisees – Jesus was demon possessed – was the trigger that caused His childhood friends to try and save the God-man from Himself. **Mark 3:21-22**

Then His mother arrived. Can you imagine how it felt when Mom showed up with His half-brothers? They certainly meant well. **Matthew 12:46-47**

There is no doubt that Jesus was offended by the actions of His friends and family. But why would His mother be included in the group? She had been visited by Gabriel, who told her that she would give birth to the Messiah. She was supernaturally impregnated by the Holy Spirit and greatly praised God. She and Joseph took Him to the temple and He had been prophesied and prayed over.

This must have been a great blow to Jesus when the people closest to Him did not believe He was the Messiah. Jesus refused to speak with them; instead, He said that anyone who does the will of God is His family. **verses 48-50**

## **SUMMARY**

This message contains a number of subjects that are not necessarily related to one another. The first segment informs us of the strained relationship between Jesus and the Jewish leadership who were constantly baiting Him.

The sign of Jonah leads to the divinity of Jesus. He was God and man at the same time, which is why I refer to Him as the God-man. It is true that His physical body died on the cross, but there was no spiritual death since God cannot die. If that were possible, it would destroy the deity of God. Obviously, God cannot die because He would no longer be eternal.

Jesus spoke on the judgment of the generation that was alive back then and provided insight into how demons can return to one's life.

The final part of this message was when the friends and family of Jesus thought He had lost it mentally and tried to recall Him. It is vital to have a correct understanding of who Jesus is, what He did, and what His purpose is for us today.

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***