

Matthew 12:38-45

The Sign of Jonah, the Queen of the South, and the Empty House.

- I. The sign of Jonah.
 - A. A custom-made sign is demanded by the Jewish religious leaders.
 - B. An evil and adulterous generation. [Hosea 3:1; Ezekiel 16:38.]
Mt17:17; Mk 9:19; Mt 12:45; 16:4; Mk 8:38. Matthew 23:35-36.
 - C. God's sign: three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. [verse 40]

- II. The men of Nineveh and the Queen of the South.
 - A. The Ninevites repented at the preaching of Jonah. [Jonah 3:5]
 - B. Jesus is greater than Jonah.
Three "greater than" statements: Matthew 12:6; 12:41; 12:42
 - C. The Queen of the South traveled far to learn from Solomon. [1 Kings 10:9]
 - D. Jesus is greater than Solomon.
 - E. The condemnation of an evil and adulterous generation. [Mt 11:16; Romans 3:1-4; 1Cor 6:2-3; Rev 3:2]

- III. The parable of the empty house: spiritual danger multiplied.
 - A. The law of God, the preaching of the church, can elicit repentance.
 - B. Unless the repentant heart is filled by the Holy Spirit, wickedness will return with power.
 - C. Jesus' warnings are compounded.

- IV. Jesus, faith, and life.
 - A. is the sign of Jonah enough for you? [1Corinthians 15:3-9]
 - B. We have more evidence to show that Jesus is the Christ than even the Jews had in his day.
 - C. God judges an evil and adulterous generation, but he blessed the generation of the righteous. [Genesis 6:8 - 7:1; 1Peter 3:21-22; Psalm 14:4-5; Psalm 24:6; Psalm 78:8]