

Overview

1-V1 People come to the Lord wanting to find out if it will benefit them to put their lives in his hands—if there will be a greater prosperity, security, status, hope happiness. So the spiritual leaders of the Jews come to Jesus asking for a miraculous _____ from heaven that might assure them they would be better off following Him. It would of course.

2-V2-3 Jesus said they were better at reading the signs of the _____ in the sky than the _____ of that time--what God was doing. Jesus was the bright morning star—His life glorious before their eyes—all the marks of the hoped for Messiah—and they wouldn't see it.

3-V4 The sign the world would be given would be similar to the story of _____. He was as dead in the belly of the great fish –after 3 days – he was coughed up alive—and then proclaimed escape from God's punishment to the wicked city of Nineveh if they would repent. Likewise, Jesus would be in the belly of death for 3 days—be raised from the dead—and offer escape from death and the favor of God on those who also would change their mind – and exchange their world, their ways , and life for His.

4-V5-12 Jesus uses a comment by the disciples that they had forgotten to bring _____ (bread) to talk about the _____, the ferment- the spirit in the bread (the _____ teaching v.12) offered to the souls of Israel by their spiritual leaders, the _____ and _____. Their first concern actually was food, drink, clothing, houses, cars, comforts, entertainment, prestige. They got them without any prayer or help from God. Jesus had already told them- "*to seek first the kingdom of God and his right ways of living and these things will be yours as well.*"(6:33). Jesus warns them to _____of the yeast of these men. "*Don't you _____the 4000 _____fed with 7 loaves and 7 baskets left over?*"

5-V13-16 Jesus wants the disciples to lift their eyes up from the world's way of taking care of things. He wants them to look to God. He wants them to look to Himself –whom the Father has sent to save them and provide for every need in this life and the next. So He asks the disciples...."*_____do people say that I am? ...Then He makes it personal..*"*Who do _____say that I am?* Peter gives the right answer, "*You are the _____the _____of the living (the always existing, creating) _____!*"

6-V17-18 The Lord tells Peter that he is a blessed person because he was able to receive what the _____ had _____. Jesus says that He will build His _____ on Peter and others like him who saw the SIGN the Father sent – Jesus the Son of man and God—and received Him and confessed Him and would continue His Kingdom building work

7- V19-20 Our Lord tells Peter that " all the powers of _____ will not be able to _____(prevail- stand against--overwhelm –stop) His church. He has given the _____of the Kingdom – to open up all its treasures of power and glory to use to defeat evil and bring life and blessing. Whatever His church _____ (binds to set free) on earth – that is the works of the Devil and human evil—will be locked in _____ and what whatever it _____ (looses) on earth (human souls and the earth and its creatures) will be opened in heaven.

8-V21-23 Sin's consequences which includes eternal death can only be undone by the death sacrifice of God Himself in a human life. Peter's answer to that requirement was " _____*Lord! This will _____happen to you!*" Jesus uses exact same words He spoke against Satan in the wilderness "*Get _____from me Satan! You are a dangerous _____for me. You are seeing things from a _____point of view and not from _____*"

9-V24-27 Jesus concludes by telling the disciples and us to make up our mind. We can either be *His _____or follow our own _____ambitions.* At stake is perhaps *gaining this world (which will perish) but losing our soul (our contact with God).*" Or being among those who will be ready for the day when Jesus will _____as _____

Word Study

•JONAH • SIGNS • SEE • YEAST • HELL • WHO? • PETER

1.V3 _____The great sign of God's coming to the earth to set things right was a person—Jesus of Nazareth. These religious men were looking for something He did – a miracle. Jesus implies that the sign of the time is Him – if they will accept Him. However, they are "*an evil, faithless generation*" who are not really seeking for the Kingdom of God to be before them with its king. "*And to whom was God speaking when he vowed they would never enter his rest? He was speaking to those who disobeyed him.(which leads to unbelief) So we see they were not allowed to enter his rest because of their unbelief.*" Hebrew 3:18,19

2.V4 _____Jonah was as dead in the belly of the great fish for 3 days and then came out alive to proclaim God's mercy to sin-consumed, guilty, pagan city. Jesus was telling in advance of His 3 days in the belly of death and His resurrection and the proclamation of escape from God's wrath and judgment and death to a world living in the shadow of death. The proper response to Jesus -- as to Jonah's message -- is to repent of rebellion and bad behavior and receive God's mercy through Jesus who overcame death.

3.V6 _____Jesus is referring to the tricky teaching of these hypocritical pastors whom He had already accused of "*replacing God's commandments with their own man- made teachings.*" 15:9 The Pharisees substituted good conduct (as they liked it to be and put it in their traditions) for true obedience and submission to God. The Sadducees had it made in this world. They observed the trappings of religion but denied the reality of the supernatural.

4.V13 _____ Jesus wants the disciples to have it in their mind who he was so that eventually they would be able to process that sin, judgement and death can be dealt with only by their "*Lord and God*" (John 20:28) being nailed to a cross – "*the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*" John 1:29)

5.V 18 _____ Greek word is 'petros " (masculine) meaning a stone or rock.(Cephas in Aramaic) "This rock" referring to the foundations of the church is *petra* (feminine) meaning a large mass of stone. So Jesus is saying you are *Petros* and upon your confession of me as Messiah, the Son of the Living God I will build my *Petra*. Although Peter was the first leader of the early church we do not see Peter as being the founding father of the church. Jesus is. The LIVING STONES the church is built on are those who confess Christ. I Peter 2:5

6.V18 _____The actual word here is HADES. "The gates of Hades" will not be able to withstand the assault of the armies of God. When the disciples returned saying that even the DEMONS were subject to them Jesus said to them," *I saw Satan falling from heaven as a flash of lightning. And I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy*" Luke 10:18-20 Hades is the place of the dead before the end of the world when people who have rejected Christ to their dying breath are cast into Hell, the lake of fire, the second death." The point is --that the Kingdom of God can take back what the STRONG MAN, the devil has captured in this life – that is, people doomed by heir sin and death and fears.. (12:29)

7. V28 _____It did not happen that the "Second Coming" of Christ happened before some of these disciples died. What happened was the revelation of His full glory in the Transfiguration seen by Peter James and John (Matthews 17:1-13)

What does this Scripture say to you? . _____