

Matthew 16:1-4

Seeking a Sign

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¹ And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. ² He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' ³ And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. ⁴ An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." So he left them and departed.

What Has Jesus Already Done?

And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. (v1)

Jesus has already healed the sick, cast out demons, calmed the storm, fed the hungry and even raised the dead.

Is Your Heart Receptive?

The request for a sign is only wrong when one is already surrounded by evidence one chooses not to accept.

Pharisees & Scribes

Testing

unreceptive, disbelief

Others

Genuine need

Genuine faith

What is Your Focus?

² He answered them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ ³ And in the morning, ‘It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.

Knowledge of _____

Compared to my knowledge of God.

The Sign of Jonah

An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." So he left them and departed. (v4)

Jonah's rescue was a sign to the people of Ninevah that His message was from God.

Jesus' death and resurrection confirms Jesus is the Son of God.

Closing Questions

- What has Jesus already done in your life? Where has God been working?
- Is your heart receptive? Do you approach God with genuine need? Are you seeking genuine faith?
- What is your focus? Are you growing in your knowledge of God?
- Have you encountered the resurrected Christ?