

**Mt.9.33b-35 “Signposts of Society”**  
**Matthew Series: ‘THE KING IS COMING’ #127**  
**May 16, 2021**

Humanity’s needed spiritual signposts are very much in place & are entirely reliable.

Among those signposts are

- ✚ the miracles that demonstrated Jesus’
  - divine nature & messiahship,
  - His power to save &
  - His right to rule.

Jesus’ miracles were a sign of divine power to some; supernatural marvels by a good man for some; – and to others they were an affront ...

Mary knew that God receives those who come to Him humbly & rejects those who proudly trust in themselves & see no need for His mercy or deliverance.

Those who are blessed are the saved, & those who fall under God’s woes are the lost.

Jesus said

- ✚ the saved are like those who build their lives on the rock of the Lord’s righteousness ...
- ✚ For those who reject Him, He does not *“bring peace, but a sword. For I came to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and a man’s enemies will be the members of his household”* (vv.34–36).

✚ Whether religious or irreligious, only those who turn to God through Jesus Christ can be saved.

- ❖ The more the saved hear & understand & fellowship with those who also believe the Gospel that redeemed them,
- ❖ the more they rejoice & grow in their new life in Christ.

## **I. THE RESPONSES OF THE PEOPLE v.33b**

**#1 Group** of Miracles (8.19–22; cf.Lk.9.57–62): Each was attracted to Jesus but found an excuse for not following Him.

**#2 Group** of Miracles (9.9-17): Matthew’s call & conversion; Pharisee’s insincerity; John the Baptist’s disciple’s confusion.

In every case, there are only two basic decisions—

- that of true acceptance, which leads to salvation, or
- that of rejection, which leads to damnation.

**#3 Group** of Miracles: (9.18-33a) The Response of the Crowds & Religionists.

Any response to Jesus but the response of faith, amounts to rejection & results in damnation.

## **II. THE RESPONSE OF THE MULTITUDE**

The vast number of miracles made them both incontestable & incomprehensible.

The multitude chose to release Barabbas the criminal & to crucify Jesus the Savior.

Many admired Jesus from a distance.

- They did not lastingly identify with Him or submit to Him.
- They were always astonished & sometimes afraid, but never committed.
- They were mere onlookers, willing to cheer but not willing to participate.

Those who once praised became His critics, & those who once marveled became His enemies.  
... every other sinner who refuses to repent & receive Him as Savior & Lord is condemned.