

Mt.12.41-42 - SERMON NOTES
“The Last Sentence” #174 July 3, 2022

Prove It! ...

- + The demand for a sign was hypocritical since the people had just rejected such a sign (12.22–37).
- + The hypocritical demand for a sign exposed the wickedness of these people (12.39).
- + Jesus offered the supreme sign of his identity by his resurrection from the dead (12.40).
- + Scribes & Pharisees were more **W**_____ than notorious **G**_____ **W**_____ **U**_____ **R**_____ (12.41-42).

JESUS' REPLY vv.39–40

The request for a sign reflected the **W**_____ expectations of *“an evil and adulterous generation.”*
During the Babylonian captivity Jews had forsaken **F**_____ idolatry.
In its place they erected idols of man-made **T**_____ in which they trusted & put their hope.

A faithful Jew **A**_____ the Father's Son when He came - because anyone rightly related to the Father would **R**_____ the Son. (Lk.2.25–38; Mt.3.14; Mt.4.20–22; Mk.3.13; Lk.5.27–28; Jn.1.41, 49).

Because faithful Jews knew the Father, they knew the Son &
did not need a sign to verify His identity.

Giving a sign, as requested would be utterly **C**_____ to God's nature & plan.

The O.T. contains 2 kinds of prophecy regarding Christ:

- + One is what may be called the verbally **P**_____,
 - ❖ in which specific & sometimes **D**_____ predictions are given.

Such prophecies include those:

- That the Christ would be born of a **V**_____ (Is.7.14),
- That He would be a descendant of **D**_____
 - ✓ ... who would rule the entire earth with justice & righteousness (Je.23.5), &
- That He would be born in **B**_____ (Mi.5.2).
- + The 2nd type of messianic prophecy is **T**_____,
 - ❖ in which an O.T. person or event **F**_____ the person or work of Christ.

Jesus obviously believed in the full **L**_____ of the biblical account of Jonah.

Jesus also verified the **A**_____ of Jonah's account of Himself.

- + It was the final sign Jesus directly gave to the world of His **M**_____ credentials & **S**_____ power.

The resurrection was the last sign given to the world that involved Jesus directly.

His own **R**_____, would be the only **sign** from heaven the religious leaders would receive.

When a person is confronted with the **L**_____ Christ & with His **A**_____ death & resurrection,
... the matter of that person's eternal **D**_____ is determined.

II. THE LAST SENTENCE vv.41–42

Because of the Assyrians sincere **R**_____ & **B**_____, *“God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do it”* (Jonah 3.10).

- They had no previous knowledge of God yet their **R**_____ of sin & their **B**_____ in God:
- ✓ brought them spiritual salvation &
 - ✓ spared them physical destruction.

Jonah did not preach a message of **H**_____ but of judgment:

*“Yet forty days and Nineveh will be **overthrown**”* (Jonah 3:4).

✚ The prophet **D**_____ the Ninevites & preached to them only under the Lord’s compulsion.

Israel was the **C**_____ covenant people of God - privileged to have been given His special blessings.

Yet her people would not **R**_____ & turn from their sin even when God’s own Son was there.

The Sabeans (people from the South) were an extremely **P**_____ people.

CONCLUSION:

✚ Jesus is greater than **J**_____ - He is the God of the prophets not just a mere prophet of God.

✚ Jesus is greater than Solomon because he is a perfect & **E**_____ **K**_____.