

KINGDOM COME

– 23 –

Lord Give Me A Sign

All Scriptures are in the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise indicated

Jesus:

- ❖ delivered a demon-oppressed man (12:22)
- ❖ been accused of using Satan’s power (12:24)
- ❖ exposed their hardened hearts (12:33–37)
- ❖ Jesus is still responding to the accusation that he casts out demons by satanic power.

Matthew 12:38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.”

- This is not the first time Israel asked for signs.
- In the O.T. people demanded signs when they were resisting God’s word.
- A sign request can be sincere.
- They wanted a sign to use against him.
- They call him “Teacher” to manipulate him

- This echo's Satan in Matt 4 "if you are the son of God..."
- Satan can quote scripture.

Matthew 12:39 But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

- God is not a performer.
- Many people use God like a genie.
- Adulterous – O.T. language meaning they're unfaithful to God.
- Faith that requires signs to believe is control.

Matthew 12:40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

- The one sign you need: the resurrection.
- Jewish idiom – part of a day is counted as a day and night.

Matthew 12:41-42 41 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. 42 The queen of the

South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

- Jonah was a faithful prophet (2 Kings 14).
- Prophets were primarily to Israelites. God sends Jonah to gentile nation (Book of Jonah).
- Nineveh is the capital of Assyria – Israel’s enemy, infamous for violence.
- Nineveh repents without miracles or signs, just a warning.
- Queen of Sheba – likely Arabia or Modern Yemen (1 Kings 10 & 2 Chronicles 9)
- If they had seen what you saw, they would’ve repented.
- Often the issue is not information. It is submission.
- Christianity stands or falls on the resurrection.
- If Jesus rose, He is Lord. If He is Lord, you must respond.