

July 16, 2017

The Opposition Illustrated (4)

Matthew 12:38-50

Fifth Episode (v. 38-40)

- The Pharisees asked for another sign, in an attempt to ensnare Jesus.

- Their problem was not a lack of proof of Jesus' identity but a refusal to believe that Jesus' identity was proven by His works.

- The Sign of Jonah:
 - "The Son of Man"

***Daniel 7:13** ...behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a Son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. 14 And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed*

Is. 9:6-7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this

- “Three days and three nights in the heart of the earth”

Jonah 1:17 ...the Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights... 2:10 And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land

- This answer was the first time in Matthew that Jesus predicts His death.
- Knowing that they would reject His resurrection as proof, Jesus told them that those who heard His message and saw His works and refused to repent would be condemned by the men of Nineveh and the Queen of the South because Jesus is greater than Jonah and even Solomon (**Col.2:17; Heb**).
- Then Jesus returns to the original incident of casting our demons. Freedom from demonic possession necessitated a change of authority.

1 John 3:8 ...for the Son of God has appeared for this purpose that He might destroy the works of the devil...

Col 1:13 *He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son...*

Heb 9:12 *...by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption...*

Sixth Episode (v. 46-50)

- Jesus' natural family was seeking Jesus, believing he was out of His mind (**Mark 3:21**).
- Jesus was not so much rebuffing His natural family as He was rebuffing Satan's opposition through His family.
- Jesus then used the occasion to explain that His family is a spiritual family, the family of God