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THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

From Respectable to Revolutionary

Matthew 12:38–50

Are you busy building a respectable life that you've forgotten to join Christ in building his revolutionary Kingdom?

Jesus didn't rise from the grave to make us respectable.

He rose to make us revolutionary,

sending his church to carry his gospel to the nations.

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you."

39 He answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation demands a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For as Jonah was in the belly of the huge fish, three days and three nights, so the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights.

41 The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at Jonah's preaching; and look—something greater than Jonah is here. 42 The queen of the south will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and look—something greater than Solomon is here.

Skepticism says, "I'll believe if I see" while faith says, "I'll see when I believe." The problem isn't evidence; it is a resistant heart." - Tim Keller

"Unbelief always demands another sign, but the greatest sign has already been given by a bloody cross and an empty tomb" -- Charles Spurgeon

43 "When an unclean spirit comes out of a person, it roams through waterless places looking for rest but doesn't find any. 44 Then it says, 'I'll go back to my house that I came from.' Returning, it finds the house vacant, swept, and put in order."

45 "Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil with than itself, and they enter and settle down there. As a result, that person's last condition is worse than the first. That's how it will also be with this evil generation."

"An empty heart is the Devil's workshop. It is not enough to cast out evil; something good and greater must come in and dwell." -- Augustine

"When Christ is not enthroned in the heart, sin quickly reclaims its seat. There can be no moral neutrality in the Kingdom of God." -- John Calvin

46 While he was still speaking with the crowds, his mother and brothers were standing outside wanting to speak to him. 47 Someone told him, "Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you."

48 He replied to the one who was speaking to him, "Who is my mother and who are my brothers?" 49 Stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 50 For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

"The call to follow Jesus is not one of bloodline or background, but of obedience. Discipleship is thicker than kinship." -- Dietrich Bonoeffer

Our mission: to exalt Christ

We proclaim his resurrection as the ultimate proof of God's love.

We invite his indwelling as the only cure for spiritual emptiness.

We embody his purchased family, a diverse, global household bound by grace.

This is why we remain on mission.

This is why we go with the gospel

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