Mat 132

An evil and adulterous generation seeks signs

No Thursday class

Our recent study in Matthew chapter 12 took us on a series that taught us a lot about the gift of pastor-teacher and church leadership in general.

Turn back into Matthew chapter 12 and let us get back into the problems that arose when TLJC came on the scene and called out the Pharisees and Scribes who had been teaching from legalism and twisting scripture as well as adding to the original context.

You need to find a pastor that is dedicated to the accuracy of the word and at the same time one that you know you can learn and grow under and don’t worry about personality or size of the church. You get a sense who your right pastor teacher is after a period of time when you begin to grow up.

ELABORATE pastor are all different and teach different styles….so on!!!

Mat 12 :34 You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.

[Mat 12:35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/35/s_941035) “The good man brings out of *his* good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of *his* evil treasure what is evil.

That treasure speaks to what is deep within your soul structure. Everything deep within the soul eventually comes out in our words & actions.

[Mat 12:36](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/36/s_941036) “But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.

[Mat 12:37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/37/s_941037) “For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

[Mat 12:38](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/38/s_941038) Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.”

/[Mat 12:39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/39/s_941039) But He answered and said to them, “**An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign**; and *yet* no sign will be given to it but **the sign of Jonah the prophet**;\

[Mat 12:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/40/s_941040) for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

[Mat 12:41](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/12/41/s_941041) “The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

Remember TLJC had been around now for probably a year. He had healed and performed miracles…taught doctrine everywhere He went and just within this same day He had healed a man in the temple….and yet what do the legalistic teachers ask for? More miracles.

Adulterous behavior is replacing the intimate relationship you are committed too with someone else. That is a common definition, becoming intimate with someone who you are not betrothed too.

All Bels are the bride of Christ therefore spiritual adultery is very similar to the human realm of adultery.

/Any spiritual teaching that distorts or ignores the original scriptures begins the journey toward spiritual adultery for the Bel. Those who stay on this path risk becoming just like the teacher of the false doctrine, hardened in the area of the truth to the point that seeking more proof, signs or wonders will become their attitude.\

This is one avenue that brings out the demand for signs and wonders the other is the Unbels who reject truth every time it is given to them.

God is not mocked in this area Royal Family…if you think back to how God dealt with the Egyptian Pharaoh when he kept refusing to release God’s people no matter how many times Moses and Aaron came forward to prove they were men from the one true God of Israel.

There is discipline and a point that God will reach when people continually challenge the truth of BD.

Here is what God told Moses when Moses was nervous about being the leader who would have to face off against the Pharaoh.

/Exo 4:8 **If they will not believe you** or heed the witness of the first sign, they may **believe the witness of the last sign**. 9 “But if **they will not believe even these two signs or heed what you say**, then you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground; and **the water** which you take from the Nile **will become blood** on the dry ground.”\

God would allow the Pharaoh to question Moses and Aaron and after the second meeting they threw the staff down and it became a serpent because the Pharaoh needed to see a miracle. Yet what happened?

/Exo 7:10 So Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh, and thus they did just as the LORD had commanded; and Aaron threw his staff down before Pharaoh and his servants, and **it became a serpent**. 11 Then Pharaoh also called for *the* wise men and *the* sorcerers, and they also, **the magicians of Egypt, did the same** with their secret arts.\

JANNES & JAMBOREE

That was it…. after this God sent plagues one after another upon the land…now each time He had Moses approach the Egyptian throne a new opportunity arose for the Pharaoh, but the plagues were set into motion and they crippled the livestock and lifestyle of these people. Eventually it cost them the lives of their first-born sons. This was due to stubborn arrogance of false gods and false teaching the Pharaoh had spent his life following.

When God puts the truth in front of you it is often best to believe what He is telling you.

Turn to Isaiah chapter 57 I want to look at what God calls those who play games with His word and constantly expect God to preform miracles and show signs and wonders in order for them to follow Him.

This chapter in Isaiah is pointing out a future prophecy as I always teach you prophecy is multilayered and this was also a cross roads for the Jews at this point…. they had abandoned their relationship with Christ and now they faced something that all people do. That is, what decision will you make now that you have been warned or shown the truth?

Isa 57:1 The righteous man perishes, and no man takes it to heart; And devout men are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous man is taken away from evil,

This tells us that many times Bels go home to be with the Lord before something in their life or even historically is going to get worse.

God brings many Bels home before they were about to face greater suffering or historical disaster.

[Isa 57:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/isa/57/2/s_736002) He enters into peace;
They rest in their beds, *Each one* who walked in his upright way.

[/Isa 57:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/isa/57/3/s_736003)“But come here, **you sons of a sorceress, offspring of an adulterer** and a prostitute. 4 “Against whom do you jest? Against whom do you **open wide your mouth** and **stick out your tongue**?
Are you not children of rebellion,
Offspring of deceit,\

This speaks directly to an attitude that mocks the word of God and continually challenges the word. (Spiritual adultery)

God looks at this type of attitude as pure rebellion and mockery of who HE is.

Isa 57: *Who* inflame yourselves among the oaks, under every luxuriant tree,
Who slaughter the children in the ravines, under the clefts of the crags?

This all points to the child sacrifice to gods of BAAL…like Muloch (2Kings 17). The luxuriant tree and smooth stones point out the idol worship…the carved statues dedicated to gods of other tribes, like the Assyrians or Canaanites and Babylonians.

[Isa 57:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/isa/57/6/s_736006)“Among the smooth *stones* of the ravine is your portion, they are your lot; Even to them you have poured out a drink offering, You have made a grain offering. Shall I relent concerning these things?

It continues on about how they had separated themselves from God by following false idols and religious systems of their enemies.

/The same attitude that questions everything about God and challenges God at every turn is usually the same attitude that will gladly follow false teaching and demonic idols of the cosmic system.\

Sadly, many Bels fall for this evil.

Many Bels stray from the truth and begin to digest the lies of the cosmic system and that starts with rejecting truth and accepting false doctrine.

But whether it is a Bel who goes negative or a UnBel who rejects truth God tells us not to waste too much breath or time on the arrogance of cosmic viewpoint;

/Mat 7:6 “Do not give what is holy to dogs, and **do not throw your pearls before swine**, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces.\

God does not take it lightly when His word is mocked and continually put under the pressure to prove itself over and over again. The fact is a stubborn person who sits and listens to BD will still say…*yeah but…prove this Biblical fact* or *show me how this was possible and prove your Bible to me.*

Instead of taking some grains of knowledge from a good doctrinal message and learning to grow in humility they constantly challenge the truth.

They are the same people that you give good solid answers too or point out a miraculous work that God is doing or has done and they will simply brush it off and ask for more proof.

Here some good advice from Proverbs;

/Pro 9:8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, **reprove a wise man and he will love you**.

Pro 23:9 Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for **he will despise the wisdom** of your words.\

Turn to 1 Corinthians chapter one with me.

ELABORATE- those who accept reproof show humility and wisdom.

Arrogance will not accept correction.

/1Cor 1:18 For **the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing**, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.\

Good principle to put in your back pocket and keep in mind…because these types of people are everywhere.

The gospel of TLJC is foolishness to the Unbels and secular mainstream.

And yet what does God say and how has He always dealt with this situation?

[/1Co 1:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/19/s_1063019) For it is written,
“I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE, AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.” (Isa 29)

Written in the Greek perfect tense…goes on forever.\

God does not change HE has been dealing with this type of issue for thousands of years and HE always handles it the same…in HIS timing He will prove the cosmic viewpoint to be nothing but empty chatter and foolishness on the part of mankind.

[/1Co 1:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/20/s_1063020) Where is **the wise man**(*sophos*)? Where is **the scribe** (*grammateus*)? Where is **the debater** (*syzētētēs*) of this age? **Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?\**

SO-FOUS- Greek philosopher

Scribe- GRAM-MAH-TOOS a scholar of the Torah or leader in the Sanhedrin.

Debater is Greek term –

SUE-ZAY-TA-TASTE often used for a legal standing or political person who could argue facts and evidence to the point of exhaustion.

This clearly covers all the most intellectual and influential positions back than as well as in the devil’s world today.

In other words this leaves out no geniuses of any time period…God is a thousand IQ points above the most intelligent human being back then or in the year of our Lord 2020.

[/1Co 1:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/21/s_1063021) For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not *come to* know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.\

Just we noted in verse 20…wisdom from the world!

God is not going to continue to waste time on miracles, signs and wonders each and every day to prove Himself.

God would prefer to give the grace and truth to those who humble themselves under the teaching of His word and operate in faith.

[/1Co 1:22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/22/s_1063022) For indeed **Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom**; 23but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a **stumbling block** and to Gentiles **foolishness**,

Those ingrained with cosmic viewpoint will stumble over truth, never fully grasping it and most will find it foolish compared to Satan’s viewpoint.\

The signs speak to emotional stimulation while the wisdom speaks to man’s cosmic study and human viewpoint. (Philosophy)

[1Co 1:24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/24/s_1063024) but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

[1Co 1:25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/25/s_1063025) Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

[1Co 1:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/26/s_1063026) For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble;

[1Co 1:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/27/s_1063027) but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong,

[1Co 1:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/28/s_1063028) and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are,

[1Co 1:29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/1/29/s_1063029) so that no man may boast before God.

**/**God knew in eternity past who would become positive toward the truth once it was presented to them. He took into account the number of times you may reject truth until it finally sunk in. Just as He knows who will permanently reject truth and consistently challenge His word, seeking proof to no avail.\

REPEAT ELABORATE

What did TLJC tell His followers who kept putting into question if He could perform another healing or show them another sign;

/Jhn 4:48 So Jesus said to him, “**Unless you *people* see signs and wonders**, you *simply* will not believe.”

This is written in the Greek 3rd class condition, maybe He would do it, maybe He would not.\

TLJC divine sarcasim.

TLJC knew that showing people signs and wonders does not guarantee they have become saved…in fact it usually leads to them asking for more signs.

TLJC would rather just speak the truth and teach BD and have people come to believe because that carries greater weight in the plan of God.

TLJC knew the game people play when it came to miracles.

/Luk 11:14 And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute; when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed. 15 But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons.” 16 Others, **to test *Him****,* were **demanding of Him a sign** from heaven.\

HE just casted out a demon and they still challenged His authority.

Faith has a great deal of currency inside the plan of God. Look what our Lord told doubting Thomas after he looked at the nail holes in HIS hands.

/Jhn 20:29 Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you believed? **Blessed *are* they who did not see**, and *yet* believed.”\

/2Cor 5:7 for we walk by faith, not by sight—

This is the protocol for Bels, be strong in faith, not needing constant emotional stimulation to go forward in God’s plan.\

In Hebrews chapter 11 we know the role-call of spiritual hero’s from OT…and what God says about them…

By faith Abel offered up a better sacrifice than Cain….by Faith Enoch was taken up…by faith Noah obeyed the Lord by faith Abraham followed the Lord went out when he was called;

/Heb 11:1 Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, **the conviction of things not seen**.

Heb 11:27-31 BY FAITH the saints moved forward in the plan of God not knowing what came around the next corner.\

END!!!!!!!!!!!!

1Cor 13:8 Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of* prophecy, they will be done away; if *there are* tongues, they will cease; if *there is* knowledge, it will be done away.

[1Co 13:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/1co/13/9/s_1075009) For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.