

**John # 60 “The Kind Of Talk That Got Jesus Killed”    *John 5:19-23; Matthew 16:1-17***

**The unholy union of the Pharisees and the Sadducees came, not to Jesus as little children or even humble adults seeking to learn something but instead as evil adversaries to tempt, test, trick and trap Him, so they ask for a sign other than the ones He’s already provided; a sign that they might approve of because after all, they’re special, they’re regarded as the highest of the high religious leaders.**

Since first hearing of Jesus, whenever the Pharisees and Sadducees got together, it was for the purpose of destroying their common enemy.

*The Sadducees didn’t believe in angels or resurrection but the Pharisees believed in both and although they practically hated each other almost to the point of death, fascinatingly enough, they were willing to set aside their differences long enough to join forces and try to eliminate the Lord Jesus Christ from the face of the earth, so they combined in an unholy alliance.*

**The Lord Jesus had performed many miracles and still they now had the gall to ask for another sign of their liking and approval to validate His Messiahship even though He has been doing many wonderful things openly.**

Obviously, they’re not interested in Jesus Christ being Israel’s Messiah sent by God Himself because when they asked for another sign, He’d already fulfilled their requests with many examples.

*So, when they ask for a sign, they reveal their negative reaction to God, His Son and His truth. They demonstrate that they’ve already rejected Him and the standard provided by God Himself which portrays Him, the Old Testament they’re so proud of knowing backwards and forwards.*

**Jesus is facing them straight up for the first time with His authority and sooner or later everyone must determine for himself if Jesus Christ is a liar, a crazy lunatic or an authority sent by God.**

And what is a greater standard to go by than the sky? The Word of God.

*The Pharisees are immovable regarding their observation of the sky, which by the way, is not always reliable for predicting weather, yet it remains their standard.*

And how much more is the Bible their go-to authority on their Messiah?

The Lord Jesus has been showing them signs publicly but all the miracles in world performed 24/7 cannot break through the negative reaction of a stiff-necked unbelieving skeptic.

**Wicked and adulterous is referring to religious unbelievers who are looking for a sign but they’ve rejected all the OT signs and those performed in their presence because the Bible isn’t their standard; their man-made tradition is.**

If we can't be saved through the Word of God, we can't be saved; there's no greater power than the mind of Christ and if that won't do it nothing will.

*We may walk away from people angry and we're still thinking about them but here, Jesus walked away from these people with perfect peace of mind (WHY?) because He'd offered them the greatest power in the world and beyond, His Word.*

**Memory is vitally important because it is our standard of thinking then acting; it's what we can remember that becomes our standard for living.**

And if the disciples have forgotten bread, obviously they've forgotten who Jesus is and what they've already learned from Him and this time Jesus doesn't tell them to start handing out bread, He starts to talk about something else that can easily spoil.

*The word for yeast is not used for something good here, it's something very bad, something contrary to God's Word.*

So, Jesus is warning the disciples that they've forgotten bread but there is something much worse than that: the dangers of false doctrine which threaten the only valid standard and that is the Word of God.

**The disciples still have limited faith; they are saved and when you come right down to it, the most miserable people in the world are those who are just saved with no biblical truth in them; no memory, no power of concentration, no ability to grow spiritually and frankly, no desire to.**

If you have the desire, you can learn to concentrate and grow.

*Sure, these guys are doing a lot of thinking and having a lot of discussion but it is meaningless without truth.*

Jesus lays it on the line; They may have learned some of these things but they have forgotten them or they may not have even learned them and of course, we can't remember what we didn't learn or have completely forgotten and this explains why Jesus did so much repeating.

**It is much easier to repeat what other people are saying because they're on the hook for it but telling what you said makes it up front and personal.**

The Word of God must become highly personal to us.

*But as the Scripture so aptly says, 'Pride comes before a fall'; and as soon as Peter gave the right answer to Jesus' question and our Lord complimented him for his advanced doctrinal understanding, he fell prey to arrogance immediately and began dictating to the Lord Jesus.*

This is a warning to all of us; Just because we know a little biblical truth doesn't mean we can order the Lord around or other people for that matter.

Having the mind of Christ should not be a source of pride but a source of desire for more of His mind in us.