

## SIGNS, SPIRITS, & A SINFUL GENERATION

### MATTHEW 12:38-45

Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading.

-Oswald Chambers

#### I. The Prophet as a Sign

## II. The Parable of a Spirit

## Getting to Know You:

1. What is the most memorable road sign you have seen?

## Into the Bible:

2. The Pharisees in this passage were not really asking for a sign, they were challenging Jesus to prove himself. This is actually willful disbelief. In Andrew Lloyd Weber's rock opera "Jesus Christ, Superstar", Herod mockingly challenges Jesus in similar fashion.

*So, you are the Christ, you're the great Jesus Christ.*

*Prove to me that you're no fool; walk across my swimming pool.*

What is Christ's response to a similar challenge from Satan himself in Matthew 4:7?

3. In verse 42 Jesus tells his listeners that wisdom greater than Solomon's is among them. John, in chapter 1 of his gospel identifies Christ as the "logos" meaning Jesus himself was that wisdom. Compare John 1:1-5 with Paul's testimony in I Corinthians 1:24 and Colossians 2:9. How is Christ's wisdom greater than Solomon's?

### **Application:**

4. In verses 43-45 Jesus calls out the "evil generation" he was ministering to. Both individually and as a nation the symptoms of the Fall were being put right by Christ (Matthew 4:23-25, 15:29-31) Although the people welcomed his miracles of healing, they missed the bigger need which was healing of the heart. Which of these was Jesus healing in the following situations: Matthew 9:1-8, Luke 8:26-40, Luke 17:11-19? How often do we pray for healing of physical or situational needs while missing our need for "heart" healing?

### **For Families:**

5. Talk with your children about the times you have sought wisdom from God.