

Questions for Gospel Harmony #42

Luke 8.1-3

1. Who asked for a sign from Jesus? What did Jesus say to them? What was the reason for this response? What sign did Jesus say would be given to this generation? (Matthew 12.38-39; Luke 11.29)
2. What is the “sign of the prophet Jonah”? How did the experience of Jonah correspond to the experience of Jesus? What will the “men of Nineveh” do to the men of “this generation” and why? Why does Jesus describe Himself as “a greater than Jonah”? (Matthew 12.40-41; Luke 11.30)
3. Who is “the queen of the South”? Why will she “rise up in judgment against the “men of this generation”? Why does Jesus describe Himself as “a greater than Solomon”? (Matthew 12.42; Luke 11.31)
4. Explain this parable about “an unclean spirit.” To what is Jesus referring here? Explain the statement: “the last state of that man is worse than the first.” (Matthew 12.43-45; Luke 11.24-26)
5. Why does this woman cry out these words? What does this cry mean? Who is “more blessed” than the mother of Jesus? (Luke 11.27-28)
6. How does Jesus use these parables about light and darkness in this context? (Luke 11.33-36)

Matthew 12.22-37; Luke 11.14-23

And while the crowds were thickly gathered together some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign – an evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth; as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation. The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here. The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here. When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation." And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!" But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it! No one, when he has lit a lamp, puts it in a secret place or under a basket, but on a lampstand, that those who come in may see the light. The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore, when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also is full of darkness. Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, the whole body will be full of light, as when the bright shining of a lamp gives you light.