

Greater Than Solomon

Compiled by Paul R. Blake

Introduction: Matt. 12:38-42

- A. Jesus made some profound declarations
 1. "Before Abraham was I am" - John 8:58
 2. "I and My Father are one" - John 10:30
 3. "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father" - John 14:9
 4. "I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" - John 14:6
 5. "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst" - John 6:35
- B. His enemies rejected His claims and demanded signs from Jesus to prove that He is the Messiah
 1. They will receive no sign but the sign of Jonah. Just as Jonah spent three days in the belly of the fish, Jesus would spend three days in the heart of the earth.
 2. We miss the point when we focus on the three days.
 3. No one eaten by a fish comes back after three days; no one dead and buried for three days comes back from the grave.
- C. Jesus pronounced judgment upon them. Nineveh had repented under the preaching of Jonah, even though Jonah did not want their repentance or salvation.
 1. But One has come who does want their repentance and salvation, Who comes with a superior message and with greater power, and they would not hear Him.
 2. The queen of Sheba would testify against them. She traveled a great distance, at great effort and expense, to hear the words of Solomon.
 3. Jesus is greater than Solomon, and the Jews refused to listen to what He had to say.
 4. When Jesus said that a Gentile queen had more faith than they did, it enraged them
- D. 1Kings 10:1-13 - The Queen of Sheba was impressed by Solomon
 1. 1Kings 10:6-9

I. JESUS IS GREATER IN ALL WAYS

- A. The wealth of Israel under Solomon - 1Kings 9:28 - 420 Talents of Gold
 1. Gifts - 28,140 lbs. x 16 oz. x \$1,598.40 = 720 million dollars
 2. Merchants - 1Kings 10:14-15 - 666 Talents of Gold - 1.14 billion dollars
 3. Solomon's throne, decorations, and tableware - 1Kings 10:18-20 - 200 million dollars; making his personal worth around two billion dollars
 4. You would have to spend \$28,000 per day every day from the moment you are born until you die in order to spend it all
- B. Jesus is greater than Solomon in wealth
 1. He can meet every need, whether it be physical, emotional, intellectual, material, and especially spiritual.

2. Solomon could provide food; Jesus can miraculously multiply loaves and fishes, and supply us with the bread of life.
 3. Solomon could buy anything he wanted to eat; Jesus can change wash water into wine and turn stones to bread
 4. Solomon sat on a throne built by men; it no longer exists. Jesus occupies an eternal throne and He will never be forced from it
 - a. Psalm 45:6
- B. Jesus is greater than Solomon in works
1. Solomon built magnificent houses of stone and wood that no longer exist. Jesus is building a household of faith that will last forever
 - a. Eph. 2:19-21
 2. Solomon spent his riches to buy things; Jesus laid down His life to redeem sinners.
 3. Solomon came to the end of his life and died - 1Kings 11:43.
 - a. Jesus died on the cross and arose the third day - Matt. 28:1-6.
 4. Solomon was limited in his power. Jesus has all power
 - a. Matt. 28:18; Eph. 3:20
- C. Jesus is greater than Solomon in wisdom
1. Solomon may have been the wisest man - 1Kings 3:12
 2. But Jesus is God All-Knowing and All-Wise - John 6:64

Conclusion:

- A. The Queen of Sheba said, "indeed the half was not told me." (1Kings 10:7)
- B. However, the apostle Paul said in 1Cor. 2:7-9 - "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him"
- C. Through the gospel, a greater wisdom has been expressed to you than anything said by Solomon. You will fare no better than the Jews who rejected Christ if you dismiss His message today