



Greater Than Solomon

Matthew 12:38-42

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- “Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, Teacher, we want to see a sign from You. But He answered and said to them, 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. 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 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.”

Greater Than Solomon

- Jesus made some profound declarations:
 - “Before Abraham was I am” - John 8:58
 - “I and My Father are one” - John 10:30
 - “He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father” - John 14:9
 - “I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me” - John 14:6
 - “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

Greater Than Solomon

- The sign of Jonah
 - We miss the point when we focus on the three days.
 - No one eaten by a fish comes back after three days; no one dead and buried for three days comes back from the grave.
 - Nineveh repented under the preaching of Jonah, even though Jonah did not want their repentance or salvation.
 - But Jesus came, and He wanted their repentance and salvation; He came with a superior message and greater power, and they did not want Him.

Greater Than Solomon

- The queen of Sheba would testify against them.
 - She traveled a great distance, at great effort and expense, to hear the words of Solomon.
 - Jesus is greater than Solomon, and the Jews refused to listen to what He had to say.
 - When Jesus said that a Gentile queen had more faith than they did, it enraged them

Greater Than Solomon

- 1Kings 10:6-9 - “Then she said to the king: It was a true report which I heard in my own land about your words and your wisdom. However I did not believe the words until I came and saw with my own eyes; and indeed the half was not told me. Your wisdom and prosperity exceed the fame of which I heard. Happy are your men and happy are these your servants, who stand continually before you and hear your wisdom! Blessed be the LORD your God, who delighted in you, setting you on the throne of Israel! Because the LORD has loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness.”

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- The wealth of Solomon
 - Gifts - 1Kings 9:28 - 420 Talents of Gold; (talent = 67 lbs.)
28,140 lbs. x 16 oz. x \$1,598.40 = 720 million dollars
 - Tribute from merchants - 1Kings 10:14-15 - 666 Talents of Gold - 1.14 billion dollars
 - Solomon's throne, decorations, and tableware - 1Kings 10:18-20 - 200 million dollars; making his personal worth over two billion dollars
 - In contemporary currency with a reasonable interest rate, 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

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- Jesus is greater than Solomon in wealth
 - He can meet every need, whether it be physical, emotional, intellectual, material, and especially spiritual.
 - Solomon could provide food; Jesus can miraculously multiply loaves and fishes, and supply us with the bread of life.
 - Solomon could buy anything he wanted to eat; Jesus can change wash water into wine and turn stones into bread
 - Solomon sat on a throne built by men; it no longer exists. Jesus occupies an eternal throne and will never be forced from it
 - Psalm 45:6 - “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.”

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- Jesus is greater than Solomon in works
 - Solomon built magnificent houses of stone and wood that no longer exist.
 - Jesus is building a household of faith that will last forever
 - Eph. 2:19-21 - “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord”
- Solomon spent his riches to buy material things; Jesus laid down His life to redeem sinners

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- Solomon came to the end of his life and died
 - 1Kings 11:43 - “Then Solomon rested with his fathers, and was buried in the City of David his father. And Rehoboam his son reigned in his place.”
- Jesus died on the cross and arose the third day
 - Matt. 28:1-6

Matt. 28:1-6

- “Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.”

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- Solomon was limited in power.
- Jesus has all power
 - Matt. 28:18 - “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”
 - Eph. 3:20 - “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us”

Jesus Is Greater In All Ways

- Jesus is greater than Solomon in wisdom
 - Solomon may have been the wisest man...
 - 1Kings 3:12 - “behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.”
 - ...But Jesus is God All-Knowing and All-Wise
 - John 6:64 - “For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him.”

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- The Queen of Sheba said, “indeed the half was not told me” (1Kings 10:7).
- However, the apostle Paul said: “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written: 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” (1Cor. 2:7-9).