



Title: More Oppositions to the King (part 4) – This Wicked Generation & The Lord’s Disciples

Text: Matt. 12:43-50

43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. 47 Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. 48 But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? 49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! 50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Introduction:

1. The Lord Jesus felt the increasing rejection of Israel (Ch. 11) and many series of oppositions in Ch. 12: a.) The Pharisees vs. Sabbath Day corn (vv.1-8); b.) Healing a man with the withered hand on the Sabbath Day (vv.9-14); c.) Healing of a great multitude – He healed them all (vv.15-21); d.) Healing of one devil-possessed man – which they attributed to the Devil (vv.22-30). e.) The ultimate sin of the Pharisees – The Blasphemy of the Holy Ghost (vv.37), f.) Their request for another “sign” (vv.38-45).
2. Israel’s unbelief and lack of repentance is irreversible.
3. The Lord Jesus instructs all concerning the true cost of discipleship.

I. A Parable About Unclean Spirits (vv.43-45)

- A. The reality of the spirit-realm.
- B. This section is tied to the topic of judgment (cf. vv.32, 36-37, 41-42).
- C. Israel will surely get worse and worse – since they rejected the King.
- D. God is not interested in “Reformation” but rather, He is looking for “Repentance!”

II. The Lord’s Disciples (vv.46-50)

- A. The Lord Jesus’ very own family tries to interrupt His ministry.
- B. They thought that the Lord Jesus was crazy (cf. Mk. 3:21).
- C. The Messiah is not about a blood-line, family of Abraham relationship. (Mt. 3:9).
- D. The Messiah is about a spiritual, blood-atonement, family of God relationship.
- E. Discipleship will cost us everything. (Family and Finances).

Conclusion:

1. Israel is now in a far worse condition than before the ministries of John and Jesus (or the New Testament light).
2. Natural relationship does not hold significance with Christ – you have to decide whether to follow Him or not – there are no “in-betweens.”