

**Finding  
Christ**

**Matthew 16**

# **I. Look Beyond Signs (16:1-4)**

## **Matthew 16:1-4**

**1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.**

**2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.**

**3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?**

**4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.**

# **I. Look Beyond Signs (16:1-4)**

**A. God does not answer demands (v 1)**

**Psalm 34:18**

**The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart;  
and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.**

**B. You will never see them unless you look beyond the  
physical (vv 2-3)**

**1 Corinthians 2:14**

**But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit  
of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he  
know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

# **I. Look Beyond Signs (16:1-4)**

**C. You have to change your perspective**

**Matthew 12:38-40**

**38 Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.**

**39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas:**

**40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**

# I. Look Beyond Signs (16:1-4)

## D. The result of not seeing

**"And he left them,  
and departed."**

## **II. Look Beyond Man's Doctrine (16:5-12)**

### **A. A warning from Christ (vv 5-7)**

#### **Matthew 16:5-7**

**5 And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.**

**6 Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.**

**7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread.**

**Physical food is not the issue here.**

## **II. Look Beyond Man's Doctrine (16:5-12)**

**B. A weakness we have (vv 8-10)**

**Matthew 16:8-10**

**8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?**

**9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?**

**10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?**

## **II. Look Beyond Man's Doctrine (16:5-12)**

### **C. A want for wisdom (vv 11-12)**

#### **Matthew 16:11-12**

**11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?**

**12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.**

## **II. Look Beyond Man's Doctrine (16:5-12)**

### **James 3:15-17**

**15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.**

**16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.**

**17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.**

**18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

**A. An important question we all must answer (vv 13-15)**

**Matthew 16:13-15**

**13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?**

**14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.**

**15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

**B. An important answer we must all accept (vv 16-18)**

**Matthew 16:16-18**

**16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.**

**17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.**

**18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

**1 Corinthians 3:11**

**For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

**Ephesians 2:20**

**And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

#### **1 Peter 2:6-8**

**6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.**

**7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,**

**8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

**C. An important concept we must address (vv 19-20)**

**Matthew 16:19-20**

**19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

**20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.**

**Accepting the gospel gives us the authority to act on and  
in the Word of God**

### **III. Look Beyond What People Say (16:13-20)**

**2 Timothy 2:15**

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

**John 7:24**

**Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.**

## **IV. Allows a Look Beyond (16:21-28)**

### **A. Into God's Masterplan (v 21)**

#### **Matthew 16:21**

**From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.**

## **IV. Allows a Look Beyond (16:21-28)**

**B. Where we should not get in the way (vv 22-23)**

**Matthew 16:22-23**

**22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.**

**23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.**

## **IV. Allows a Look Beyond (16:21-28)**

**C. To see what God really requires (vv 24-25)**

**Matthew 16:24-25**

**24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.**

**25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.**

## **IV. Allows a Look Beyond (16:21-28)**

**D. To realize eternal consequences (vv 26-27)**

**Matthew 16:26-27**

**26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?**

**27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.**

## **IV. Allows a Look Beyond (16:21-28)**

**E. To witness the glory of God (v 28)**

**Matthew 16:28**

**Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.**

**Have You Found Christ?  
As Your Saviour**