

## **A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE**

### **NO GREATER SIGN EXISTS**

Luke 11:29-30 “When the crowds were increasing, He began to say, “This generation is an evil generation. It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation.”

All of the miracles Jesus did up to the time of today’s devotional verses were insufficient as far as the scribes (many were Pharisees) were concerned. From out of the crowd that surrounded Jesus, these professional and authoritative expounders of the Old Testament and rabbinical traditions demanded a greater, clearer sign from Jesus that was more convincing than any He had given to date.

The people in front of Jesus and their leaders were wicked. The Greek word means that they were “actively wicked.” In Matthew’s Gospel these people are described as “adulterous.” They were unfaithful to the covenant marriage vow their ancestors and they had given to Yahweh. They were not guilty of open crimes. They did far worse than that by rejecting God’s Word, His grace and the Savior He had sent take away the guilt and condemnation of their sins.

Jesus did not meet their demand for yet another sign. The kind of sign they demanded He did not give them. Instead, Jesus said they would receive the sign of Jonah. This sign, the resurrection of Jesus from His burial tomb, was one that was well known to them through the pen of the ancient prophets. They were without excuse. They were guilty of rejecting God’s sign given them through His written word.

What God has done for the salvation of all sinners is for many of them not enough. Jesus coming to earth to take on the sins of the world, pay His redemption price through the shedding of His blood, was insufficient for many that surrounded His cross on Good Friday and His resurrection was insufficient to convince scores more that through His resurrection their resurrection had been won. They wanted more. They wanted something different.

Jesus' life, death and resurrection is what God has given you for your salvation. Nothing less and nothing more will suffice. His blood, Jesus says, He gave and shed for you for the remission of your sins. The Gospel's promise is God's promise to you that by believing in His Son you will receive the gift of everlasting life. Because of God's undeserved love for you Jesus came to save you from hell. Through God's gift of faith to you and through the work of His Holy Spirit, the faith you received takes hold of the salvation Jesus has won for you. No greater sign exists!

Prayer: Grant me Lord a heart and mind to accept the sign of Your open Easter tomb as sufficient to work faith in my heart in You for my eternal life. In Your holy name. Amen.

I am content! My Jesus ever lives, In whom my heart is pleased.  
He has fulfilled the Law of God for me, God's wrath He has appeased.  
Since He in death could perish never, I also shall not die forever.  
I am content! I am content!

I am content! My Jesus is my head; His member I shall be.  
He bowed His head when on the cross He died With cries of agony.  
Now death is brought into subjection For me by Jesus' resurrection.  
I am content! I am content!

I am content! My Jesus is my light, My radiant sun of grace.  
His cheering rays beam blessings forth for all, Sweet comfort hope, and peace.  
This Easter sun has brought salvation And everlasting exultation.  
I am content! I am content!

I am content! At length I shall be free, Awakened from the dead,  
Arising glorious evermore to be With You, my living head.  
The chains that hold my body, sever; Then shall my soul rejoice forever.  
I am content! I am content!

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