

- A. There are some signs or ways to attest if a diamond is real.¹ In a similar fashion, Scripture has given us attesting signs or indicators that give us evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.
- B. Earlier in Lu 11, Jesus freed a man of a demon which caused him to be mute. The unbelieving Jewish leadership in v15 said Jesus was demonic. In v16, others demanded “**a sign from heaven.**”

Believe in Jesus who fulfilled the sign of Jonah.	I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SIGN OF JONAH II. THOSE WHO WILL RISE TO CONDEMN
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I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SIGN OF JONAH → vv29-30

- A. Jesus said that the generation or the people of His day were wicked because they were seeking a sign from heaven.
- Many of them refused to listen to what Jesus had to say because their hearts were hard.
 - Those who belong to Jesus listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd.
 - In Jn 10:25-27, Jesus told the unbelieving Jews, “**the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me. But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.**”
 - Some of the skeptics of His day may have said that they were willing to listen to Jesus if He first showed them an irrefutable sign from heaven.
 - The supernatural works of Jesus already testified that Jesus is the Christ.
 - Their asking for this sign was evidence that they were spiritually blind.
- B. It is essential to identify the sign of Jonah when Jesus said in Lu 11 that no sign will be given to His evil generation “**...but the sign of Jonah.**”
- Jonah was a sign— a messenger— to the Ninevites that led them to repent.
 - Mat 12:40 gives more details about what Jesus said here: “**just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**”
 - According to Jesus, His resurrection was the preeminent sign from heaven.
 - All the works of Jesus testified that He is the Christ.
 - In the NT, His miraculous resurrection is mentioned more than any other miracle.
 - Virtually every sermon in the NT mentions the pivotal resurrection of Jesus.
 - By putting your faith in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, your faith will be credited to you as righteousness in the sight of God. According to Rom 4:24-25, you must “**believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of [for the purpose of] our justification.**”
- C. The victory of Christ in His resurrection means that we can have victory over sin and death!
- We have victory over sin because that same power that raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you if you have faith in Christ. If you are His, you a fellow heir with Christ.²
“**Sin shall not be master over you**” (Rom 6:14).
 - By His resurrection, Jesus became the “**the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead.**” (1 Cor 15:20-22).

¹ <https://www.diamonds.pro/education/how-to-tell-if-diamonds-are-real/>

² See Romans 8:1-17.

II. THOSE WHO WILL RISE TO CONDEMN →v31-32

A. Some may ask, “Isn’t it the prerogative or place of God to condemn unbelievers on the day of judgment.” That is correct according to **Mat 25:31f**. Turn there.

1. **Mat 25:31-33** give a bit of overview of Jesus returning as Judge of the just and unjust.
2. To His sheep on His right he will say, **“Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (v34)**.
3. To the goats on His left He will condemn them by saying, **“Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.”**

B. Why does our text mention that the Queen of the South and the men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment to condemn anyone?

1. Paul in **1 Cor 6:2-3** wrote, **“Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? Do you not know that we will judge angels?”**
2. Rather than the Jews who blasphemed Jesus by saying He cast out demons by Beelzebul, others will stand with Christ in the judgment.
 - a. The Queen of the South who traveled from **“ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon”** and his God.
 - b. Many of the people of Nineveh who heeded Jonah’s preaching will stand in the judgment.
 - c. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, David, the prophets, the apostles, and your believing ancestors will stand in the judgment to condemn all those who reject Jesus Christ. The saints will stand in agreement with God and praise Him for His perfect justice on that great day.

C. This text teaches that the resurrection of Jesus is the preeminent sign. It also teaches that Jesus and His saving work are preeminent. His person and His gospel are greater than Solomon and greater than Jonah (**vv31-32**).

1. Jesus is greater than the man the Jews called the father of their faith— Abraham. → **Jn 8:45f**
2. In **Heb 1:5f**, God said of the Son of God, **‘I will be a Father to Him and He shall be a Son to Me.’ and when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, ‘And let all the angels of God worship Him’” (vv5-6)**.
3. The greatness of Jesus Christ is equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit.
 - a. Jesus said, **“I and the father are one” (Jn 10:30)**.
 - b. WSC 6 tells us, “There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.”

Review, further application, and conclusion: