### Matthew

## Chapter 16

1This is where the Pharisees and SadDucees came to [Jesus] and tried to tempt him by asking for a sign from heaven.  
  
2He answered and said to them:  
  
 ‘When it’s evening, you say, ‘The weather will be fair, for the sky is red.’ 3Then in the morning, ‘It will be bad weather, because the sky is red and overcast.’  
  
 ‘Hypocrites! You know how to read the sky, but you can’t read the signs of the times.’ [spurious text]  
  
But he said:  
  
 4‘A wicked and adulterous people is always looking for signs.  
  
 ‘However, no sign will be given other than the sign of Jonah [the Prophet].’  
  
Then he just walked away and left them.  
  
5Well, after Jesus and his disciples got to the other side [of the sea], they [realized that they] had forgotten to bring along any bread. 6And when Jesus told them to keep their eyes open and watch out for the fermentation of the Pharisees and SadDucees, 7the disciples started saying to each other:  
  
 ‘Why [did he say this]? Is it because we didn’t bring any bread along?’  
  
8Well, because Jesus knew [what they were thinking], he said:  
  
 ‘You with so little faith! Why are you talking about not having any bread?  
  
 9‘Don’t you get the point… Don’t you remember how many baskets you picked up after [we fed] five thousand [men with just] five loaves; 10or how many provision baskets you picked up after we fed four thousand [men] with just seven loaves?  
  
 11‘Why don’t you understand that I’m not talking about bread… [I’m telling you to] watch out for the fermentation of the Pharisees and SadDucees!’  
  
12Well with that, they [finally] realized that he wasn’t telling them to watch out for fermentation in bread, but for the teachings of the Pharisees and SadDucees.  
  
13Thereafter, he traveled on to Caesarea Philippi, and there Jesus asked his disciples:  
  
 ‘Who are people saying that the Son of Man is?’  
  
14So they told him:  
  
 ‘Some say you’re John the Immerser, others EliJah, and still others are saying that you’re JeremiAh or one of the Prophets.’  
  
15Then he asked them:  
  
 ‘But, whom do you say that I am?’  
  
16And Simon Peter answered:  
  
 ‘You’re the Anointed One, the Son of the Living God.’  
  
17So Jesus said to him:  
  
 ‘You are blest, Simon son of Jonah, because this wasn’t shown to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in the heavens.  
  
 18‘I also tell you this:  
  
 ‘Just as you’re Peter [meaning, Rock], I’ll build my congregation on this bedrock so that the gates of the place of the dead won’t overpower it.  
  
 19‘I’ll also give you the keys to the Kingdom of the heavens, so that whatever you bind on earth will be bound in the heavens, and whatever you set free on the earth will be set free in the heavens.’  
  
20Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Anointed One. 21And that’s when Jesus (the Anointed) started showing his disciples that he would have to go to JeruSalem and suffer many things at [the hands of] the elders, Chief Priests, and Scribes… And although he would be killed, [he would thereafter be] raised on the 3rd day.  
  
22But at that, Peter took him aside and started scolding him, saying:  
  
 ‘Be kind to yourself Lord; this isn’t going to happen to you!’  
  
23However [Jesus] turned to Peter and said:  
  
 ‘Get behind me opposer! You’re a trap to me, because you aren’t thinking God’s thoughts, but those of men.’  
  
24Then Jesus said this to his disciples:  
  
 ‘If anyone wants to follow me, he’ll have to deny his own needs, then pick up his impaling pole and travel behind me.  
  
 25‘For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.  
  
 26‘So, what good would it do for a man to gain the whole world, if he just loses his life? And what will a man give [to save] his own life?  
  
 27‘Well, the Son of Man is about to come into the glory of his Father and of His messengers, and then he’ll repay each person for the things that he’s done. 28Yet, I tell you the truth when I say that some of you standing here won’t taste death at all until you see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom.’