

Matthew 16

Facebook Live Bible study July 26, 2020

Mind and Mission of Jesus Christ; the cross; Trinity power

The Cross 10-fold Purpose

Matthew 16 Jesus speaks to his disciples about what is to come and what they need to do to prepare for the next steps of Jesus' time on earth.

There is a lot going on in our world today but we MUST hold fast to the teachings of Jesus and let them encourage our mind, heart, spirit, and life to live unto Jesus Christ and to put on the **mind of Christ.**

Matthew 16:1-4 The Pharisees and Sadducees needed a sign from heaven and asked Jesus as a test

Matthew 16:4- Jesus performs a mic drop- when Jesus is done speaking and recognizing nonsense- He walks away

Question: DO you think the Pharisees and Sadducees were really in need of a sign or were they trying to get Jesus to break a law to justify the arrest of Jesus?

In my opinion, The Pharisees and Sadducees were focused on the things of men; pleasing man, laws that are unjust, anything that could keep the truth from coming out. Jesus had to be strategic in the way He moved through the regions because He has a purpose and a mission, and He should not get caught up in things of this world.

So where do you stand? Jesus is for justice, Jesus is for love, Jesus is for truth, Jesus is for souls to be reconciled to God.

Question: Why is reconciliation to God, reconciliation to truth important?

Reconciliation to God is a matter of spiritual life or spiritual death. Since we only know in part and understand in part, we MUST be reconciled to God to understand what to do next. If we do not have a mind and heart transformed to God and a mind of Christ, we will not be prepared for the unseen and will fall away or try to keep the status quo because it is where we are comfortable.

Matthew 16:6

6 "Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

Yeast in this context is referring to the uprising of false narratives.

Sound familiar?

The law makers and religious leaders of the land were promoting a narrative that was contrary to the kingdom of God.

Question: How do we keep our heart and mind of Christ in times when the truth is blurred?

Prayer, daily work out your salvation in fear and trembling, make sure your yes is yes and your no is no and be watchful and mindful of what you are hearing and following is of God. We are in the end times and many will fall away for because of their own desires and lusts. Don't worry about what president you are standing with be consumed in following God. Be consumed in upholding the kingdom of God and standing for justice like Jesus did. The disciples made sure each one had what they needed to live. WE MUST be diligent to seek to Lord every moment of our life to build our faith and be deeply rooted in things of God.

Commentary about Matthew 16:6

Matthew 16:6

Then Jesus said unto them

Either taking occasion from the disciples observing that they had forgot to take bread with them, or on account of what passed between him and the Pharisees and Sadducees, he gave the following advice to his disciples;

take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Mark, instead "of the leaven of the Sadducees", says, "the leaven of Herod"; either because Christ might caution against all three; or because the Sadducees were generally Herodians, taking Herod to be the Messiah; or were on his party, or for his government, which the Pharisees disliked; and the Herodians were generally Sadducees. By "the leaven" of these is meant their doctrine, as appears from ([Matthew 16:12](#)) . The doctrines the Pharisees taught were the commandments and inventions of men, the traditions of the elders, free will, and justification by the works of the law: the doctrine of the Sadducees was, that there was no resurrection of the dead, nor angels, nor spirits: now because they sought secretly and artfully to infuse their notions into the minds of men; and which, when imbibed, spread their infection, and made men sour, morose, rigid, and ill natured, and swelled and puffed them up with pride and vanity, Christ compares them to leaven; and advises his disciples to look about them, to watch, and be on their guard, lest they should be infected with them.

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Mind of Christ:

Redemption, hope, love, peace, freedom, humility, purpose to uphold the kingdom of God

Phil 2:5

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature[Ⓜ] God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature[Ⓜ] of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Mind of Men:

no resurrection of the dead, nor angels, nor spirits: now because they sought secretly and artfully to infuse their notions into the minds of men; and which, when imbibed, spread their infection, and made men sour, morose, rigid, and ill natured, and swelled and puffed them up with pride and vanity,

self-seeking

lustful

covetousness

jealousy

Matthew 16:8-12

Beware of teachings that are not aligned with the kingdom of heaven

WE MUST surround ourselves with remembrance of past victories and proclaim future victories.

⁸ Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, "You of little faith, why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? ⁹ Do you still not understand? Don't you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? ¹⁰ Or the seven loaves for

the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? ¹¹ How is it you don't understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ¹² Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Matthew 16:17

⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Simon Peter was acknowledged for his faith and discernment in this passage but Simon steps in front of Jesus in Matthew 22-23 is rebuked by Jesus from trying to stop the mission of Christ Jesus

This scripture is so important because it illustrates the Jesus acknowledges when we are in tuned with God and the mission of God and when we are not because our mind is on things of men and operating our of our flesh and not in the spirit.

If we are afraid- that is not of God

If we have anxiety and depression- that is not of God

Question: How do we develop a mind of Christ? Matthew 16:23

We must deny our flesh moment by moment and pray without ceasing to accomplish balance that will lead to righteousness. We cannot be entangled in the things of this world; materialism, consumerism, blasphemy (denying the truth – denying Jesus. Because Jesus is the truth and the light- if we deny Jesus- We will be denied into eternal life with God the father).

Matthew 16: 24-28

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

²⁸ "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

We cannot love anyone or anything more than Jesus Christ our loyalty MUST remain unto God not one another to please the minds of men.

As Jesus was alone at the cross; we may be physically alone, at times, because what we are speaking is contrary to where a person's mind is at. They may be consumed in materialism- feeding the flesh instead of the spirit.

<https://dailyverse.knowing-jesus.com/matthew-16-24>

1. The cross is a Trinitarian event.

The Christian faith is distinctively Trinitarian and cross-shaped. Therefore, the cross must reveal the Trinity. God the Father sent the Son to save the world, the Son submitted to the Father's will, and the Spirit applies the work of redemption to Jesus followers. Redemption is predestined by the Father ([Eph 1:3–6](#)), accomplished by the Son ([Eph 1:7–10](#)), and applied by the Spirit ([Eph. 1:13–14](#)). God did not withhold the Son, and the Son surrendered to the Father. Yet the Father is not sacrificing the Son. The Father, the Son, and the Spirit all possess a single will. The sacrifice, while uniquely the Son's work, is also the will of the three persons.

2. The cross is the center of the story of the Scripture.

A Bible without a cross is a Bible without a climax, a Bible without an ending, a Bible without a solution. The spiral of sin that began in [Genesis 3](#) must be stopped; the death of Jesus terminates the downward spiral. In Jesus's body, he took on the sin of the world and paid the price of all humanity. At the cross the new Adam, Abraham, Moses, David arises to create a new humanity, family, and kingdom. That is why Paul doesn't say he decided to knowing nothing except the incarnation, resurrection, or the ascension of Jesus, but the nothing except Jesus Christ and him crucified ([1 Cor. 2:2](#)). Wisdom was found not beyond the cross, not above the cross, not below the cross, but in the cross.

3. The cross redefines power in the kingdom.

Jesus's announcement that the kingdom of God has come is conclusively revealed in the Christ-event on the cross. The Scriptures narrate how God will manifest his kingship on the earth. He gives Adam and Eve the task of

ruling and reigning over the earth as his representatives, but they attempt to seize power for themselves ([Gen. 3:5](#)). In fact, all of their children do the same. Babel (or Babylon) is the city opposed to the reign of God. Jesus comes as the true Son and redefines power by displaying strength through weakness. He does not exploit his power like Adam, but empties himself ([Phil. 2:5–6](#)). He becomes a servant of all, and thereby is exalted as ruler of all ([Phil. 2:9–11](#)).

The cross is not only where our sin is paid for, where the devil is conquered, but the shape of Christianity.

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4. The cross inaugurates the new covenant.

At the Last Supper Jesus interprets his death as bringing in the new covenant. It is by his body and blood that his new community is formed. Just as the people of Israel were sprinkled with blood as they entered a covenant with Yahweh, so the disciples are members of the new community by the pouring out of Jesus's blood. The new covenant community now has the Torah written on their hearts and they all know the Lord because of the gift of the Spirit ([Jer. 31:33–34](#)).

5. The cross conquers sin and death.

The cross cancels the record of debt that stood against humanity ([Col 2:14](#)). On the cross Jesus bore our sins in his body, so that we might die to sin and death ([1 Pet. 2:24](#)). The curse of sin and death was placed on Jesus so that we might obtain the blessings of Abraham ([Gal 3:13](#)). Understanding the cross and resurrection as a single event is important here, for it is through the death and resurrection of Christ that death is swallowed up in victory ([1 Cor. 15:54–55](#)).

6. The cross vanquishes the devil.

On the cross, Christ did not only conquer sin and death, but he conquered the spiritual forces of darkness. A cosmic eruption occurred at Golgotha; a new apocalyptic force entered the world and the old magic was conquered by a deeper magic. He disarmed the power and authorities, putting them to open shame, and triumphs over them on the cross ([Col. 2:14](#)). When Christ

rises from the dead he is seated at the right hand of the Father in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power ([Eph. 2:20–21](#)).

Defining the kingdom of God as the interplay of the king's *power* over the king's *people* in the king's *place*, this volume helps readers understand God's purpose for the world.

7. The cross is substitutionary.

The cross is for us, in our place, on our behalf. He laid down his life for His sheep. He is our sacrificial lamb. “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” ([John 1:29](#)). Just as Abraham raised his eyes and looked and saw a ram to offer as a burnt offering in the place of his son ([Gen 22:13](#)), so too we look up and see Jesus as our replacement. He became a curse for us ([Gal 3:13](#)), meaning he takes the place of all the enslaved, the rebels, the idolaters, and the murderers. If the conquering of the spiritual forces is the goal, then substitution is the ground or basis for this conquering ([Gal. 1:4](#)). “The cross represents not only the great exchange (substitutionary atonement), but also the great transition (the eschatological turn of the ages).”

8. The cross is foolishness to the world.

In a PBS television series the narrator said, “Christianity is the only major religion to have as its central focus the suffering and degradation of its God.” And Paul acknowledges that this message of Christ crucified will be a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles ([1 Cor 1:23](#)). It is not an inherently attractive message, until spiritual eyes of sight are granted. The world looks at the cross and sees weakness, irrationality, hate, and disgust. In the early decades of the Christian movement the scandal of the cross was most self-evident thing about it. It was not only the death of the Messiah, but the manner of his death that is an offense.

9. The cross brings peace, reconciliation, and unity.

At the cross the whole world has the opportunity to be reconciled to the Father. The peace that the world has been seeking, the unity of all people is found in blood. “For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility” ([Eph. 2:14](#)). Reconciliation for the world, peace, shalom, and unity comes only by the blood of the cross ([Col 1:20](#)). No blood means no harmony.

10. The cross is the marching order for Christians.

After Jesus explained to his disciples that he must suffer, he tells them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matt 16:24). Paul embodies the cross in his ministry, becoming the fragrance of death as he is led on the triumphal procession (2 Cor. 2:14–17), and he even says he has been crucified with Christ (Gal 2:20). But Paul does not merely apply the cross to his own ministry, but he instructs the new community at Philippi to have the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:5) which is defined by Jesus’s humility on the cross (Phil. 2:8). The cross is not only where our sin is paid for, where the devil is conquered, but the shape of Christianity. As Rutledge has said, “the crucifixion is the touchstone of Christian authenticity, the unique feature by which everything else. . . is given true significance.”



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