

The Gospel of Matthew

Bible Study – Examination, Exposition, and Application

Chapter 16:1-28 – The Son of God and the Son of Man

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► V. 1-12 Confrontation with Israel's Religious Elite

- Pharisees and Sadducees – religious sects (2nd Temple)
 - Signs of the Times: omen (predicting origins and intentions), superstitions, conventional wisdom, ol' wife's tales, etc.
 - Jesus' answer: proverb "Red sky at night, sailors take delight"
 - Sign of Jonah (Mt. 12:39, Jon. 3:4-5) – death and resurrection
 - Yeast of the Pharisees – teaching moment; not criticism (14:17-21, 15:34-38), adopt small amounts of false ideas with unintended consequences

► V. 13-23 Peter's Confession: Son of Man & Son of God

- District of Caesarea Philippi (base of Mt. Hermon; Golan Hghts)
 - Shrine of the Greek god Pan (pasturelands, shepherds, panic)

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■ V. 13-23 Peter's Confession: Son of Man & Son of God

- District of Caesarea Philippi (base of Mt. Hermon; Golan Hghts)
 - Son of man (and Daughters of Eve) = humans
 - John the Baptist – Herodians
 - Elijah – forerunner of the messiah (Mal. 4:5-6) - Essenes, Zealots
 - Jeremiah or one of the prophets
- Peter's Confession – Jewish Messiah, Son of the Living God
 - Epistemology – study of knowledge Plato “justified true belief”;
 - Five types: declarative (facts), procedural, contextual, and somatic (embodied experiential), revelation
 - Peter the Rock – play on words: Peter (Gk. *Petros*) and Petra (Arm. Rock), keys to *bind*, loosen [apostolic foundation];

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■ V. 21-28 Discipleship

- Passion prediction and misperceptions
 - Messiah = Suffering Servant and sacrificial lamb (Isa. 53)
- Become Followers – deny self, take up cross, follow Jesus
 - Paradox of Discipleship – secure/forfeit; loose/gain
 - Recompense and Reward (Ps. 62:12) – worldly enrichment vs. spiritual (psychological, real self) enlightenment

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