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The Parables of Jesus Christ: On Knowing the Divine Weather Forecast

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THE PARABLES OF JESUS CHRIST

TWENTY-SEVEN: On Knowing the Divine Weather Forecast (Mt. 16:1-3; Lk. 12:54-56)

SURVEY

Jesus is tested by the godless Pharisees.

1. Their request: *"If you are the Messiah, show us a sign."*
2. His response: *"You hypocrites, who boast of your ability to read the weather signs, can't you pick up and understand the spiritual signs? Your Messiah is standing before you!"*

SIGNIFICANCE

This is the only parable where Jesus compared the signs of the weather with the signs of the times.

SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

- During Peter's sermon at Pentecost he briefly overviewed the earthly ministry of Jesus by the following words:
"Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know." (Acts 2:22)
- Furthermore, while the Savior was still on earth Nicodemus testified to this:
"There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him." (Jn. 3:1-2)
- In fact the gospel accounts record no less than thirty-five miracles performed by Jesus. These would include healing the sick, transforming the handicapped, feeding the hungry, delivering the possessed, raising the dead, etc. But in spite of all this, the wicked Pharisees were still demanding more signs and wonders from Him. In fact, they had done this on no less than five different occasions! (See Jn. 2:18; 6:30; Mt. 12:38; 16:1; Lk. 11:16.)
- The Apostle Paul would later give sad testimony to this:
"For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom." (1 Cor. 1:22)