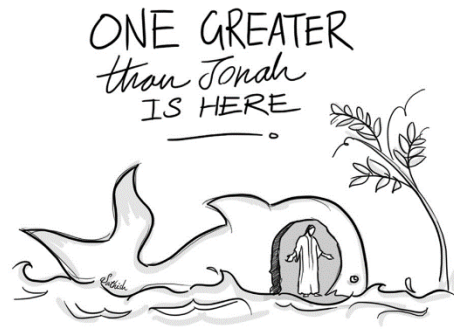


## 15—Anger and Accusations of Blasphemy

Matthew 12:22-50; Mark 3:19-35; Luke 8:19-21; 11:14-23

1. What is the triple miracle Jesus performs in Matthew 12:22? What is the response of the multitudes (Matthew 12:23; Luke 11:14)? What is the response of the family of Jesus (Mark 3:20-21)? What is the response of the scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 12:24; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:15-16)? What is your experience as you consider how people respond to Jesus?
2. When the scribes and Pharisees make their argument about HOW Jesus cast out demons, what are they admitting Jesus did? What arguments does Jesus use to prove the argument of His enemies does not make sense (Matthew 12:25-27; Mark 3:23-26; Luke 11:17-19)?
3. According to Jesus, what was the source of His power over Satan and what was the implied consequence of this action (Matthew 12:28; Luke 11:20)?
4. What is the meaning of the parable of the strong man (Matthew 12:29-30; Mark 3:27; Luke 11:21-23)? How is this a fulfillment of Zechariah 13:1-2?
5. What does the word “*blasphemy*” mean? What type of “*blasphemy*” can “*not be forgiven men*” (Matthew 12:31; Mark 3:28-30)? How were the Pharisees guilty of this type of sin? What, essentially, is Jesus asking His critics to do (Matthew 12:33-37)?

6. What do “*the scribes and Pharisees*” want to see from Jesus (Matthew 12:38)? What is His response to their demands (Matthew 12:39-42; Luke 11:29-32)? What comparison is made between Solomon and Jesus (1 Kings 10:1-7)?



7. Explain the parable of the returning spirit (Matthew 12:43-45). Considering the context, what is the main point Jesus is trying to make with this parable?

8. In the Sermon on the Mount, what has Jesus previously said about “light” (Matthew 5:13-16)? What extra information about “light” does Jesus provide in Luke 11:33-36? How would you characterize a “bright eye” or a “dim or dark eye?”

9. One woman in the crowd reacts very positively to the teaching of Jesus. What does she say and what is the response of Jesus to her compliments (Luke 11:27-28)?

10. While some were impressed by Jesus, how does the family of Jesus seem to feel about His teaching (Matthew 12:46-47; Mark 3:31-32; Luke 8:19-20)? How does Jesus respond to their attempt to divert Him from His mission (Matthew 12:48-50; Mark 3:33-35; Luke 8:21)? What can we learn from Jesus in how he handled this ordeal?