

THE GREAT PROOF THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH: THE RESURRECTION

LUKE 11:29–36

Introduction

The great proof that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of the living God, is the resurrection. Men may seek for other proofs and other signs, but God has given this one supreme sign. No other sign will ever be given to man. The resurrection leaves man without excuse.

- I. The crowds thronged Jesus (v. 29).
- II. The one and only sign: the sign of Jonah, that is, the resurrection (vv. 29-30).
- III. The sign's (resurrection) effect: it will condemn this evil generation (vv. 31-32).
- IV. The sign's (resurrection) visibility: it is as clearly seen as a shining lamp (vv. 33-36).

I. *Luke 11:29 Man's Unbelief*

Crowds thronged Jesus. As soon as the crowd settled down, Jesus began to preach, and what He had to say was strong. He made a serious charge against His generation: "This is a wicked generation." Why? They sought a sign.

1. What is wrong with seeking a sign, with seeking some proof that Jesus is who He claims to be? Nothing. There is nothing wrong with seeking evidence that Jesus is the Son of God. The problem is not in seeking evidence; the problem is in seeking more and more evidence. Think for a moment. What greater sign could God have given than to reveal Himself to man? The greatest sign in all the world was to have God's very own Son stand in the presence of men so that they could see and touch Him.

John 1:14-16 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.

1 John 1:1-3 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched — this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

2. What greater evidence could God give that Jesus is His Son? God met all the needs of men while Jesus was among them. The greatest evidence in all the world is seeing Jesus demonstrate the love and power of God...
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- by feeding the hungry.
- by calming both nature and the fear of men.
- by preaching and teaching as no other man has ever done.
- by healing all manner of sicknesses and infirmities.
- by casting out evil spirits.
- by raising the dead.

Mat 5:6 *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”*

John 4:14 *“But whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”*

John 7:37 *On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink.”*

Phil 4:19 *And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*

Psa 36:8 *They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. (see Ps. 23:1f)*

Isa 58:11 *The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.*

3. What greater proof (sign) could God give that He was bringing salvation to man? God sent His Son into the world to personally save man. What greater evidence could God give than...
 - to have His Son live as a Man, living a perfect and sinless life, and by His perfection to secure righteousness for man
 - to have His Son die for men
 - to raise His Son from the dead

The Jews and all men are totally unjustified in seeking additional signs. God has given the greatest signs that could ever be given. If a man rejects the signs already given, he will reject any sign no matter what the sign might be. Signs and evidence are not man's problem. Man's problem is twofold.

1. Man just does not believe because he does not want to believe. He wants to live like he wants, to do his own thing. Man wants no Lord over him, not One who demands all he is and has. Man's heart is hard, and he is obstinate in his unbelief (Notes, Lk. 10:21; See *Beelzebub*, Mt. 12:24; note, 12:31-32).
2. Man does not understand the love and the faith of God, that is, the true religion of God. He fails to see what God is after and has always been after: faith and love, not

signs and works. God wants a man to simply believe and love Him because of who He is and because of what He does for man. The true religion of God is not a religion of works and signs, but of faith and love in Christ Jesus. His own Son (See Saving Faith, Jn. 2:24; Israel, God's Special People, John 4:22; note, John 4:48-49; Jews, the Seed of Abraham, Rom. 4:1-25; note, 4:4-5; See Acts 2:22.)

MATHEW 12:24 BEELZEBUB, SATAN

The charge against Jesus was that His power to deliver men from evil was not of God, but of the devil (See *Opposition to Jesus*, Mk. 3:22; *Satan*, Rev. 12:9). The idea was that He was sent by the devil to deliberately deceive people and to lead them away from the true traditional religion and beliefs. Note two things.

1. The evidence of supernatural power was clearly seen and admitted even by the enemies of Christ. Some force other than human power was healing people and performing miracles. Jesus' enemies were forced to look for answers elsewhere.
2. The depth of unbelief is seen here. It is obstinate unbelief, a rooted malignity that is full of malice and attempts to injure. It is an unbelief that will not surrender to the claims of Christ despite the evidence. The evidence was clear. Lives were changed and miracles did happen; yet some persons still refused to believe, and they hardened themselves in that unbelief. They searched out other answers for the miraculous power of Christ. They sought to attribute His power to anything that would keep them from having to confess Christ and surrender their own lives and possessions to Him. □

JOHN 02:24 SAVING FAITH: BELIEVE, COMMIT, ENTRUST

The word commit or entrust is the very same word "believe" (see Jn. 2:23). This gives an excellent picture of *saving faith*, of what *genuine faith* is — of the kind of faith that really saves a person.

1. Saving faith is not head knowledge, not just a mental conviction and intellectual assent. It is not just believing the fact that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world. It is not just believing history, that Jesus Christ lived upon earth as the Saviour just as A J Abdul Kalam lived upon earth as the President of India. It is not just believing the words and claims of Jesus in the same way that a person would believe the words of Abdul Kalam.
2. Saving faith is believing in Jesus, who and what He is, that He is the Saviour and Lord of life. It is a man giving and turning his life over to Jesus. It is a man casting himself upon Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

3. Saving faith is commitment — the commitment of a man’s total being and life to Jesus Christ. It is a man’s commitment of all he is and has to Jesus. It gives Jesus everything; therefore, it involves all of a man’s affairs. The man trusts Jesus to take care of his past (sins), his present (welfare), and his future (destiny). He entrusts his whole life, being, and possessions into Jesus’ hands. He lays himself upon Jesus’ keeping, confiding in Him about his daily necessities and acknowledging Him in all the ways of life. He follows Jesus in every area and in every detail of life, seeking His instructions and leaving his welfare up to Him. It is simply commitment of a man’s whole being, all he is and has, to Jesus.

There are three steps involved in faith, steps that are clearly seen in this passage.

1. There is the step of *seeing* (Jn. 2:23) or *hearing* (Rom. 10:16). A man must be willing to listen to the message of Christ, the revelation of truth.
2. There is the step of *mental assent*. A man must agree that the message is true, that the facts of the case are thus and so. But this is not enough. Mere agreement does not lead to action. Many a person knows that something is true, but he does not change his behaviour to match his knowledge. For example, a man knows that eating too much harms his body, but he may continue to eat too much. He agrees to the truth and knows the truth, but he does nothing about it. A person may believe and know that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world and yet do nothing about it, never make a decision to follow Christ. This man still does not have faith, not the kind of faith that the Bible talks about.
3. There is the step of *commitment*. When the New Testament speaks of faith, it speaks of *commitment, a personal commitment to the truth*. A man hears the truth and agrees that it is true and does something about it. He commits (entrusts) and yields his life to the truth. The truth becomes a part of his very being, a part of his behaviour and life. □

JOHN 04:22 ISRAEL, GOD’S SPECIAL PEOPLE

*“You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.” **John 04:22***

Why did Jesus Christ come to the Jewish nation and come to earth as a Jew? Very simply stated, the Jews were God’s special people. They had been born by a special act of God. It all started long, long ago. God had wanted four things.

1. He wanted a people who would love Him supremely and give Him their first loyalty. (See Gen. 17:7; Isa. 43:10.)
2. He wanted a people who would witness to all other nations that He and He alone was the one true and living God. (See Gen. 12:3; 22:18; Acts 13:26, 47.)

3. He wanted a people through whom He could send the promised Seed, the Saviour and Messiah, Jesus Christ, to all men everywhere. (See Gen. 3:15; 17:7; 22:18; Gal. 3:16; Jn. 4:22.)
4. He wanted a people through whom He could send His written Word, the Holy Bible, and preserve it for all generations. (Rom. 9:4-5; 1 Pet. 2:10-12.)

In searching the earth for such a people, God could find none (Rom. 1:18-32). God could do only one thing. He had to find one man and through him raise a new people, a new nation.

1. God found and chose Abraham and through him established the Jewish nation. (Gen. 12:1-5; 13:14-17; 15:1-7; 17:1-8, 15-19; 22:16-18; 26:2-5, 24; 28:13-15; 31:13; 35:9-12.) God chose one man and challenged him to worship God supremely. If that man would worship God supremely, then God would cause a special people to be born of his seed. That man was Abraham. Abraham was the first Jew (Gen. 12:1-4; Gal. 3:16). In the Old Testament the Jews and their land (Palestine) were continually pointed to as the very special people and land of God. They were called...

=> God's treasured possession (Exo. 19:5; Deu. 7:6; 14:2; 26:18; Psa. 135:4).

=> the Lord's portion (Deu. 32:9).

=> the Lord's land (Lev. 25:23; Jer. 2:7; 16:18; Hos. 9:3).

=> the holy land (Zec. 2:12).

However, the Jewish nation failed to obey God supremely. The whole plot of the Old Testament centres around God's pleading and dealing with the Jews. Again and again, He gave the nation the opportunity to obey Him. He dealt with them in mercy and in judgment, but at every turn they refused to heed His pleading.

2. God chose the family of David. (see *Jesus Christ, King of Israel*, Jn 1:49). God had no choice but to make another move, so He chose one faithful family within the Jewish nation and gave to that family one great promise. The family was that of King David, and the promise was that of the Messiah, God's great King, God's very own Son. God's Son was to come through the line of David and establish an eternal nation of people who would love God supremely. However, the Jewish nation again failed God. They misinterpreted God's Word — the prophecies of His coming.
 - a. The Jews misinterpreted God's Word by saying the seed of Abraham included only the Jewish nation. In their minds, God had no children except the children of the Jewish nation. The Bible says explicitly that the seed of Abraham is Christ, and the special people of God are those individuals within all nations who worship God supremely (Gal. 3:16).

- b. The Jews misinterpreted God's Word by saying that the eternal kingdom promised to David was the Jewish nation and the Jewish nation only. They expected Israel to be established as an earthly nation forever and all other nations to be subservient to Israel. But again, God's promise was not that narrow, nor was it that prejudiced. The Bible says there is not, and never has been, any respect of persons with God (Deu. 10:17; 2 Chr. 19:7; Job. 34:19; Acts 10:34; Rom. 2:11; Gal. 2:6; Eph. 6:9 ; Col. 3:25; 1 Pet. 1:17). God did say that Christ was to come from the Davidic line, but He also said that He was going to establish an eternal nation made up of people everywhere who would love God supremely (Rom. 2:28-29).

By misinterpreting God's promises, the Jews failed to be the missionaries to the world that God had chosen them to be. They became earthly bound and materialistic minded. They twisted the idea of the promised Messiah to fit their own schemes. They conceived of Him as One who was to establish an earthly kingdom for the Jewish nation alone. They failed to see that God was speaking...

- of an eternal kingdom of righteousness.
- of a kingdom that is of another dimension entirely — the spiritual dimension.
- of a new heaven and a new earth that would give each person an eternal life beyond just one earthly generation.

3. God had no choice but to make a third move. This He did by sending His own Son into the world through the Jewish nation. God sent Him so that the world through Him might be saved (Jn. 3:16-19). However, man rejected God's Son and crucified Him. This act — the killing of God's Son — was the final blow. When man slew the only Son of God, the whole world was involved. Both Jew and Gentile were represented symbolically in the Jewish religionists and the Roman authorities. They both actually did the plotting, sentencing, and execution. If the world were ever to be saved, it was now perfectly clear that God had to make every move Himself.

This He did once-for-all. In His eternal purpose and plan for man's salvation, God took the sins of all men and laid them upon His Son while He was being slain upon the cross. He allowed His Son to bear the sins of the world (1 Pet. 2:24). Then He took His Son and raised Him from the dead — never to die again. He did what man had always failed to do: in His Son's resurrection God began to build a lasting kingdom of righteousness, a new nation that is presently being made up of men from all earthly nations who desire and are willing to follow Jesus Christ supremely. He is calling out and forming a new people who have genuinely been born again — spiritually. These new born people shall live eternally — beyond just one earthly generation. These people are identified as His church, as a body of people who genuinely believe and follow Him. They are

destined to be the inhabitants of the new heavens and earth. Believers become God's new community, new society, new race, new nation of people. They become His church, His new creation — spiritually and supernaturally born again — who comprise the true family of God (Lk. 8:21; Eph. 2:11-18; 4:17-19.)

***Eph 2:18-22** For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

God, acting solely upon His own through the death and resurrection of His Son, has fulfilled His promises to both Abraham and David. All the people of the nations of the world now have the opportunity to become children of God, the special people of God. □

ROMANS 04:01–25 JEWS, THE SEED OR OFFSPRING OF ABRAHAM

Abraham held a unique position in the Jewish nation, for he was the founder of the nation. He was the man whom God had challenged to be a witness to the other nations of the world — a witness to the only living and true God. God had appeared to Abraham and challenged him to leave his home, his friends, his employment, and his country. God made two great promises if Abraham would follow God unquestionably: Abraham would become the father of a new nation, and all nations of the earth would be blessed by his seed or offspring (Gen. 12:1-5; 13:14-17; 15:1-7; 17:1-8, 15-19; 22:15-18; 26:2-5, 24; 28:13-15; 35:9-12).

Scripture says Abraham did as God requested. He went out not knowing where he went (Heb. 11:8). He completely and unquestionably trusted God and took God at His word.

Now note: it was not Abraham's keeping of the law that pleased God. In fact, the law had not yet been given (Gal. 3:17). What pleased God and what caused God to justify Abraham was Abraham doing as God had said. Abraham simply believed the promise of God that God would give him a new life — in a new nation — with a new people.

Note several things.

1. Abraham and his "seed" or "offspring" were the only ones to whom God gave the promises. This is emphatically stated (Rom. 4:13-25; Gal. 3:6-16, 26, 29).

2. Only a promise was given to Abraham (Rom. 4:13-21; Gal. 3:14, 18-21, 29). No other information whatsoever was given. God did not identify the country nor tell Abraham where he was to go. Neither did God tell Abraham when his wife (Sarah) would bear the seed (the male child) from whom the promised nation would be born. God made a simple promise, and all Abraham had to go on was that simple promise, that is, the sheer Word of God.
3. Only one condition was attached to the promise. Abraham had to believe God. No works whatsoever were involved.
4. Abraham did believe God (Gen. 12:4-5; Rom. 4:3, 11-22; Gal. 3:6; Heb. 11:8f).
5. Abraham was counted righteous because he believed God (Rom. 4:3-5, 9-13, 19-22; Gal. 3:6; see Gen. 15:6). God did not count him righteous because of who he was or what he had done. He simply believed God. Therefore, God took his faith and counted his faith as righteousness (Rom. 4:1-3).
6. The proof that Abraham really believed God was that he did what God had said. His faith preceded his obedience. He believed God and then he obeyed God. If he had not believed God, he would not have left his home or his employment. He would not have left his familiar surroundings and meaningful relationships and personal attachments. The fact that he did as God asked was evidence that he believed the promise of God.
7. The man who believes God is the man who receives the promises of God (Rom. 4:5-12, 16-17, 23-25; Gal. 3:7-9, 14, 22, 26, 29). Paul argues that neither heritage nor nationality, neither merit nor works, neither the law nor the rules of the law have anything to do with the promises of God (Gal.3:6-7). The true children of Abraham are those who believe God — any person of any nation. In fact, God's promise that a nation would be born to Abraham and "his seed (offspring)" was the promise of an eternal nation. This eternal nation is to be of another world, of another dimension of being: the spiritual dimension, a dimension just as real as the physical dimension. But it is to have one distinction: every citizen is to be a believer — one who has believed God and His Word. This is exactly what this passage is saying: "They who believe are the children of Abraham, the children of God's promise. They are to be blessed along with faithful Abraham. They are to be the citizens of God's Kingdom, of 'the new heavens and the new earth.'" (See Heb. 11:8-18; 2 Pet. 3:10-14.) □

II. *Luke 11:29–30 The Only Sign: Resurrection*

The one and only sign — the sign of Jonah, that is, of the resurrection (see v. 32). The sign of Jonah pointed to the resurrection of Jesus from the dead (Note, Mt. 12:38-40). The resurrection is the great proof that Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour of the world. He is "declared with power to be the Son of God.. by his resurrection from the dead" (Rom. 1:4).

Jesus claimed to be greater than Jonah. He claimed to be the greatest messenger who had ever come, the Messiah Himself. Since His coming, all men are definitely without excuse. The worst sinners in history repented at the preaching of a mere man, the prophet Jonah. Now the Messiah Himself, God's own Son, has come. And He has preached and announced that the Kingdom of God itself is at hand. Every person is now, beyond question, without excuse.

III. *Luke 11:31–32 Wicked Generation Condemned*

The sign's (resurrection) effect — it will condemn this wicked generation. There are two reasons for this:

1. This wicked generation did not seek Jesus, the One who knew the truth. Jesus gave a prime example in the Queen of Sheba of what He meant (see 1 Kng. 10:1f; 2 Chr. 9:1f). The Queen of Sheba demonstrated how a person is to seek the truth and how important it is to seek Christ. She had to seek as diligently and go through as much as anyone ever has in seeking the truth.
 - a. She had a long and perilous search. She had to travel from “the ends of the earth” to seek the truth.
 - b. She had extreme responsibility. She was a queen with demanding duties and a busy schedule as the Head of State. As with all Heads of State, she had much demanding her time and presence and depending upon her care, yet she let nothing stop her search for the truth.
 - c. She had uncertain seeking. Her search was a gamble, uncertain in at least two senses.
 - ⇒ She could not be absolutely certain that Solomon was as wise in the truth as he was said to be. Reputations become exaggerated when spread by word of mouth, and she knew this.
 - ⇒ She had no personal invitation to visit Solomon. Fame flatters men and causes them to become inaccessible in order to enhance their fame of being busy and laden with heavy responsibility and of being surrounded with greatness. She could not be sure he would see her nor grant much time to her.
 - d. She had to bear terrible prejudice. She was a woman in a man's world. In her day women were nothing more than chattel property, possessed and used by men for their own pleasure as they so desired.

The Queen of Sheba will be used as a testimony in the day of judgment. Her diligent seeking will stand as a testimony against all who fail to seek after Christ. Her seeking will leave all without excuse. There is no distance too far, no road too perilous, no responsibility so important, no question so weighty, no prejudice or opposition so strong that it should keep a person from seeking after Christ. The Queen of Sheba faced all this, yet despite all, she sought the truth. It was the primary drive of her life; therefore, her example leaves everyone without excuse.

Mat 6:33 *“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things [provisions] will be given to you as well.”*

Luke 11:9-10 *“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”* (see vv. 5-8)

Acts 17:26-27 *From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.*

Deu 4:29 *But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul.*

Job 28:12 *“But where can wisdom be found? Where does understanding dwell?”* (see vv. 13-27)

Job 28:28 *And he said to man, ‘The fear of the Lord — that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.’*

Psa 105:4 *Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.*

Prov 2:3-5 *And if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.*

Isa 55:6 *Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.*

Jer 29:11-13 *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”*

Amos 5:4 *This is what the Lord says to the house of Israel: “Seek me and live.”*

Hosea 10:12 *Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unploughed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers righteousness on you.*

Zep 2:3 *Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility: perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the Lord’s anger.*

Note that Jesus claimed to be greater than Solomon. He claimed to be the way, the truth and the life. Imagine! He claimed to be life itself (Jn. 14:6). He claimed to be the One whom all men must seek and find or else face condemnation.

Since His coming, all men are definitely without excuse. The most improbable person (the Queen of Sheba) went to the farthest extremes possible to seek after the truth

from a mere man, Solomon. Now the Messiah, who is the truth Himself, has come and revealed the truth of God. Beyond question, every person is now without excuse.

John 1:14 *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 14:6 *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

John 14:9-11 *Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves."*

1 Tim 2:5 *For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

Heb 8:6 *But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.*

Heb 9:15 *For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance — now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.*

Heb 9:24 *For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.*

Heb 12:24-25 *To Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven?*

1 John 2:1 *My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defence — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.*

2. This wicked generation did not repent with Jesus' preaching. Note several things.
 - a. A whole generation can be evil and adulterous — so evil and adulterous that its lifestyle and dominant character can be called "wicked and adulterous" (Mt. 12:39).
 - b. The Ninevites gave a prime example of repentance and just how essential repentance is. A person must repent or else he shall be condemned.
 - c. There is a day of judgment out in the future. Note the words, "at the judgment." This phrase points to a definite day of judgment.
 - d. The Ninevites' repentance will be used as a testimony in the day of judgment. The people of Nineveh are the prime example of people's turning to God from the depth

of sin. They had fallen into the pit of sin, as deeply as a people can fall. Yet, they repented at the preaching of Jonah.

- e. The Ninevites' repentance leaves all without excuse. Why? There is no one who has fallen any deeper into sin than they did, yet they repented. They show that anyone can turn to God from sin no matter how terrible his sin is. No man has an excuse for not turning to God.

Mat 5:4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

Luke 13:3 "I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 3:19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Acts 8:22 Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.

Acts 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.

2 Chr 7:14 If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Jer 3:12 Go, proclaim this message toward the north: "'Return, faithless Israel,' declares the Lord, 'I will frown on you no longer, for I am merciful,' declares the Lord, 'I will not be angry forever.'"

Eze 18:21 "But if a wicked man turns away from all the sins he has committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, he will surely live; he will not die."

Zee 1:3 Therefore tell the people: This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Return to me,' declares the Lord Almighty, 'and I will return to you,' says the Lord Almighty.

- f. Jesus claimed to be greater, to be superior to Jonah (Note, Lk. 11:30).

IV. Luke 11:33–36 Visibility of the Sign (Resurrection)

The sign's (resurrection) visibility. It is as clearly seen as a shining lamp. Note four points.

1. A fact: a lit lamp is not hid but placed where it can give light and be seen. Jesus said that the lit lamp, the resurrection, would not be done in secret nor would it be hidden. Jesus was resurrected openly and publicly so that all who were to "come in may see the light" and be convinced that He is the true Messiah.

2. A choice: to see the sign (resurrection) with a healthy eye or a diseased eye. The healthy eye is the good eye, the eye that concentrates on seeing the light, the way of God and righteousness. The diseased eye is the bad eye, the eye which centres upon the world and material things, the flesh and passion, pleasure and stimulation, self and wealth. Note: the one sign that God has given is dramatically clear: it is the resurrection. God has not kept the sign a secret nor has He hidden it. The sign can be seen just as clearly as a lamp lit in the dark of midnight. The only conceivable thing that can prevent a person from seeing it is an unhealthy or bad eye; and if a person's eye is bad, his whole body is full of darkness, that is, full of evil and death.
3. A warning: beware of a diseased eye, of a body full of darkness. Every man thinks he sees light and has light, sees truth and has truth. Simply said, every man thinks that what he sees (believes) and embraces is the truth. The warning is clear. See to it, then to...
 - make sure that what you see is seen with a healthy eye
 - make sure that what is in you is light and not darkness

The resurrection is the light of God. Seeing any other light or truth is darkness. It is looking for light and truth with a diseased eye.

4. A promise: a healthy eye will give great light. Very simply, if a man is "full of light"...
 - from having seen the resurrection,
 - and allows no part of darkness (doubt, unbelief, false belief) to enter......then his whole being shall be full of light. He will be as full of light as the brightest light of a lamp.

Thought 1. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world; He is the Light to which men must open the door of their dark hearts. He is the light which men must take into their sinful lives and world of darkness.

John 1:4 *In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

John 1:9 *The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.*

John 12:35 *Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going."*

John 8:12 *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

John 12:46 *"I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness."*

2 Cor 4:6 *For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

Eph 5:8 *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.*

Eph 5:14 *For it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”*

Phil 2:15 *So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.*

1 John 2:8 *Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.*

Rev 21:23 *The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.*

Isa 42:6-7 *“I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.” (see Mt.4:14-16; Lk. 1:79)*

Isa 9:2 *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. ■*