

John Chrysostom - 347-407

Study Questions



Scripture: *Matthew 12:38–39*

On Seeking Signs and Living Lives That Convert the World

1. Chrysostom warns that on the final day, the repentance of the Ninevites and other “outsiders” will shame those who had greater spiritual privileges yet lived carelessly.

How does this idea—that those we consider “beneath us” may rise up as our judges—challenge your attitudes about repentance and spiritual seriousness?

2. He insists that the chief danger is not unbelief but *sloth*—a life of delay, ease, and self-indulgence.

Where do comfort and delay most threaten your spiritual life, and what first step toward “the narrow way” is God calling you to take?

3. Chrysostom argues that nothing converts unbelievers like a life of holiness: “A miracle may amaze them, but a virtuous life transforms them.”

What qualities in Christians today—gentleness, integrity, purity, generosity—have the greatest power to draw others to Christ?

4. He gives biblical examples of people who lived holy lives despite difficult circumstances: Joseph the slave, Daniel the exile, Lydia the merchant, Cornelius the soldier.

Which of these examples most encourages you that your station in life is not an obstacle to holiness?

5. Chrysostom dismantles excuses: “Even without burdens, carelessness can ruin you; even with burdens, earnestness can make you a saint.”

What excuses have you used to avoid pursuing deeper holiness, and how does this sermon expose them?

Notes

Feedback

If you develop any questions you feel would better serve group discussion, let us know and we would love to consider updating & including them.

Email us: imagosermonproject@gmail.com

Partner with us!

If you like this type of content and want more of it, please consider partnering with us. In Canada, The Sermon Project is fully charitable and all donations receive a tax-deductible receipt. If you're outside Canada, we would love for you to partner with us too, but unfortunately cannot offer a tax receipt.

For donation links: <https://sermonproject.com/donate/>