

Matthew 16 Meditation in the KJV, NIV and NKJV Translations

Matthew 16 King James Version (KJV)

16:1 The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. 3 And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed. 5 And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. 6 Then Jesus said unto them, **Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.** 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread. 8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith,

Matthew 16 New International Version (NIV)

The Demand for a Sign

16:1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven. 2 He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' 3 and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.^[a] 4 A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah." Jesus then left them and went away.

The Yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees

5 When they went across the lake, the disciples forgot to take bread. 6 "Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 7 They discussed this among themselves and

Matthew 16 New King James Version (NKJV)

The Pharisees and Sadducees Seek a Sign

16:1 Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven. 2 He answered and said to them, "When it is evening you say, '*It will be* fair weather, for the sky is red'; 3 and in the morning, '*It will be* foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.'^[a] Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot *discern* the signs of the times. 4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of^[b] the prophet Jonah." And He left them and departed.

The Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees

5 Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to

why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? 9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? 11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye **should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?** 12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. 13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the **Son of man** am? 14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. 15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? 16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, **Simon**

said, “It is because we didn’t bring any bread.” 8 Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked, “You of little faith, why are you talking among yourselves about having no bread? 9 Do you still not understand? Don’t you remember the five loaves for the five thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? 10 Or the seven loaves for the four thousand, and how many basketfuls you gathered? 11 How is it you don’t understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” 12 Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” 14 They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say

take bread. 6 Then Jesus said to them, “Take heed and beware of the ^[c]leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.” 7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “*It is* because we have taken no bread.” 8 But Jesus, being aware of *it*, said to them, “O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you ^[d]have brought no bread? 9 Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up? 10 Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up? 11 How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?—*but* to beware of the ^[e]leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” 12 Then they understood that He did not tell *them* to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the ^[f]doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His

Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. **19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.** 20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ. 21 From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. 22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. 23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men. 24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If

Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15 “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” 17 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter,^[b] and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades^[c] will not overcome it. **19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be^[d] bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be^[e] loosed in heaven.”** 20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Jesus Predicts His Death

21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. 22 Peter

disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” 14 So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not ^[g]prevail against it. **19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth ^[h]will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”** 20 Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.

Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection

any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. 25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. 26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. 28 Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.

took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” 24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life^[f] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. 28 “Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Footnotes:

- a. **Matthew 16:3** Some early manuscripts do not have *When evening comes ... of the times.*

21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, ^[i]“Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!” 23 But He turned and said to Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are ^[j]an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.”

Take Up the Cross and Follow Him

24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His

	<p>b. Matthew 16:18 The Greek word for <i>Peter</i> means <i>rock</i>.</p> <p>c. Matthew 16:18 That is, the realm of the dead</p> <p>d. Matthew 16:19 Or <i>will have been</i></p> <p>e. Matthew 16:19 Or <i>will have been</i></p> <p>f. Matthew 16:25 The Greek word means either <i>life</i> or <i>soul</i>; also in verse 26.</p>	<p>angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. 28 Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom.”</p> <p>Footnotes:</p> <p>a. Matthew 16:3 NU omits <i>Hypocrites</i></p> <p>b. Matthew 16:4 NU omits <i>the prophet</i></p> <p>c. Matthew 16:6 <i>yeast</i></p> <p>d. Matthew 16:8 NU <i>have no bread</i></p> <p>e. Matthew 16:11 <i>yeast</i></p> <p>f. Matthew 16:12 <i>teaching</i></p> <p>g. Matthew 16:18 <i>be victorious</i></p> <p>h. Matthew 16:19 Or <i>will have been bound . . . will have been loosed</i></p> <p>i. Matthew 16:22 Lit. <i>Merciful to You</i> (May God be merciful)</p> <p>j. Matthew 16:23 <i>a stumbling block</i></p> <p>New King James Version (NKJV) Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.</p>
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In verses: 1-4, The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus to tempt Him by asking Him to show them a “sign from heaven.” However, Jesus knowing what they were up to them told them how they could look at the skies in the evening and morning and discern what the weather would be like. He then called them hypocrites because they could tell what the weather would be from the signs in the skies but could not tell what spiritual signs were displaying. He said that a wicked and Satan worshipping people look for “special signs” but no sign will they be given except that of the prophet Jonah, who spent 3 days dead in the belly of the whale, (referring to Himself) and then was brought back to life. At that point He left them.

LOWERING: To Appear Gloomy; Overcast **DISCERN:** **G1252 in the following manner:** **doubt** (5x), **judge** (3x), **discern** (2x), **contend** (2x), **waver** (2x), **miscellaneous** (5x). **diakrínō**, dee-ak-ree'-no; from **G1223** and **G2919**; to separate thoroughly, i.e. (literally and reflexively) to withdraw

from, or (by implication) oppose; figuratively, to discriminate (by implication, decide), or (reflexively) hesitate:—contend, make (to) differ(-ence), discern, doubt, judge, be partial, stagger, waver.

In verses: 5-12, When Jesus' disciples came to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, they had forgotten to take bread, Jesus told them to be careful of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. They thought He had meant "that Jesus' *"beware"* was because they had not brought loaves of bread on the trip. Jesus discerned by the Spirit that that was their thinking and He scolded them *"O you of little faith, why are you even thinking about not having natural bread when you've witnessed the 2 miracles performed before you and tens of thousands with the 2 fish and 5 loaves with the 12 baskets that you picked-up, and the 7 loaves and the 4 thousand men and your picking-up 7 baskets full?"* **The issue here is that His disciples had hardened their hearts by looking at and considering the many things surrounding them and not considering, focusing, spending time meditating on what Jesus had said and done.** *Proverbs 4:20 My son attend unto my words, incline thine ear unto my sayings 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes, keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are life to those that find them and health to all their flesh. 23 Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. 24 Put away from thee a froward mouth and perverse lips put far from thee. Proverbs 1:23 Turn you at My reproof, behold I will pour out My Spirit unto you, I will make known My words unto you.* Finally, at that point they understood, because they had repented of His reproof, what **He had meant was the unbelieving doctrines of the Pharisees and Sadducees.** (This was the **leaven or the sin** of unbelief and doubt of the Pharisees and Sadducees.) **LEAVEN:** **G2219 in the following manner:** **leaven** (13x). metaph. of inveterate mental and moral corruption, viewed in its tendency to infect others Leaven is applied to that substance which is small in quantity, yet thoroughly pervades a thing by its influence. The NT uses it in both a positive (cf. **Mat 13:33**) or negative sense (e.g., "a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump").

In verses: 13-20, When Jesus came into the coast of Caesarea Philippi with His disciples, He asked them "who do men say that I the Son of man am?" The disciples said some say you were John the Baptist others Elijah; some say Jeremiah or one of the prophets. But Jesus said to them *"but who do you say that I am?"* Peter answered and said *"you are the Christ the Son of the Living God!"* Then Jesus answered and said to him blessed are you Simon BarJona for flesh and blood have not revealed it unto you (the doctors, mayors, governors, congressmen and women, TV news reporters, or your neighbors), but my Father which is in heaven! Now I'm telling you this *"that you are Peter and Upon This Rock I'll build my church and the Gates of Hell shall not prevail against it and I'll give to you the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and for whatever you will bind on Earth shall be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on Earth will be loosed in heaven."* Then He told his disciples to tell no one that he was Jesus the Christ. Now you know for this the reason Peter had the Lord God reveal to him who Jesus was. Very simply put, what we've been teaching in The Parables of the Sower and the other parables, it came down to Peter **repenting turning at the reproof** as it says in *Proverbs 1:23* and in *Proverbs 4:20 my son attend unto my words incline thine ear to my sayings let them not depart from your heart keep them in the midst of thine heart.* There it is, he had repented, and once Peter repented, God the Father poured out His Spirit upon Peter and gave him understanding. Jesus said this understanding came not from flesh and blood from God the Father in heaven and from that understanding Revelation He would build his church! The power of the church is the power of God that's in the church and nothing would be impossible to him. Along with that He said the Gates of Hell could not Prevail against the power of the church; so, what does that mean? **The coronavirus or any other virus, lack of money, poor relationships, whatever all those things that come from hell, that have come upon you.... it didn't come from Heaven... cannot stand from your receiving a revelation word from God!** However, **you first must repent turn you at my reproof...** then and only then will God pour out His Spirit unto you. The disciples and Peter had allowed themselves to get so tied-up with all the events that were going on; Jesus walking on the water, the crowds of the

people being healed and the many people coming to Caesarea Philippi, along with the unbelieving Pharisees and Sadducees with the spirits of anti-Christ that were in their midst influencing them (and us also) instead of focusing on what God had said and meditating on it day and night and receive Kingdom of God life Hallelujah! **Son of man: G5207**, *huios*, hwē-o's, used by Christ himself, doubtless in order that he might intimate his Messiahship and also that he might designate himself as the head of the human family, the man, the one who both furnished the pattern of the perfect man and acted on behalf of all mankind. Christ seems to have preferred this to the other Messianic titles, because by its lowliness it was least suited to foster the expectation of an earthly Messiah in royal splendour. **Simon:** Peter = "a rock or stone" Peter was one of the apostles **Barjona: G920** *Bariōna*, bā-rē-ō-nā', Barjona = "son of Jonah", the surname of the apostle Peter. **KEYS: G2807**, *kleis*, klā's, A key, since the keeper of the keys has the power to open and to shut, metaph. in the NT to denote power and authority of various kinds. **BIND: G1210**, *deō*, de'-ō, to bind tie, fasten, to forbid, prohibit, declare to be illicit. **LOOSE: G3089**, *lyō*, lū'-ō, to loose any person (or thing) tied or fastened, to loose one bound, i.e. to unbind, release from bonds, set free.

In verses: 21-23, Seeing that at that point Jesus had pretty much accomplished what He had come to the Earth to do and was now set to go to Jerusalem and give up His life to transfer the kingdom of God to all the people now! Therefore He begin to tell us and His disciples that He was going to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things of Elders and chief priests and scribes and He was going to be killed and He would be raised again the third day from the dead. Of course Peter moved in the flesh, hate to say that, but we often do the same thing going back what we know about people and events from going back what we see or what we know them from the flesh Peter began to rebuke him saying so it's not going to happen to you Jesus let it be far from you! At that point, Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Satan get thee behind me for you are an on offense to me for you are looking at things that are not of God but of men. **OFFENCE: G4625**, *skandalon*, skā'n-dā-lon, offence (9x), stumbling block (3x), occasion of stumbling (1x), occasion to fall (1x), thing that offends (1x). any impediment placed in the way and causing one to stumble or fall, (a stumbling block, occasion of stumbling) i.e. a rock which is a cause of stumbling. **SAVOUREST: SAVOR: www.dictionary.com** to exhibit the peculiar characteristics.

In verses: 24-28, So, Jesus told His disciples at that point very clearly, if any man is going to come after Him let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Him. Whoever will lose his life or whoever would save his life must lose that means the things of this world that life, and for whoever gives up the things of this world of this life shall for His sake would receive God's life, for what does it profit a man should he gain the whole world and lose his soul? Jesus went on to say that he the Son of man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels and at that point He's going to reward every man according to the works that are His purpose that the man has done. He said that there will be people that would be standing on the earth which will never see death until they see the Son of man, Jesus coming in His kingdom and His glory! That time is getting really close! **DENY: G533** *aparneomai*, ä-pär-ne'-o-mī, to forget one's self, lose sight of one's self and one's own interests.