

“You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God”

Matthew 16:1-20

Key Verse: 16:16

“Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’”

1. Read verses 1-4. Why did the Pharisees and Sadducees come to Jesus? Why was it unusual for them to cooperate? When had the Pharisees previously asked for signs? (12:38-40) How did Jesus again rebuke them? Why did he call that generation "wicked and adulterous"?
2. Read verses 5-12. Why did he warn his disciples about the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees? (12) What did they think he meant? What had they forgotten (7,9,10)? Why did Jesus say they had little faith? What did he teach them? How can we guard against this yeast?
3. Read verses 13-14. Where did Jesus and his disciples go? What factual and objective question did Jesus ask his disciples? What was their answer and what does this mean?
4. Read verses 15-16. What second question did Jesus ask? How is this question different from the first one? What was Simon Peter's confession? What did it mean to him? How could he make such a confession? (17)
5. Read verses 18-20. What prophetic promise did Jesus make? What does this mean? What is the rock on which Jesus would build his church? What is Jesus' sure promise of victory over Satan? What are the keys of the kingdom about which Jesus speaks? Why did he tell them to keep these things a secret?