

THE PROBLEM OF SIN



- Jesus was directing His ire at the Pharisees & Scribes
- When people who know the Scriptures deny Christ, they are in more danger than pagans
- Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit is about joining the opposition against God
- A remnant of our fallen natures and sin continue to exist in us even after Salvation
- Romans 5:19 – 6:4

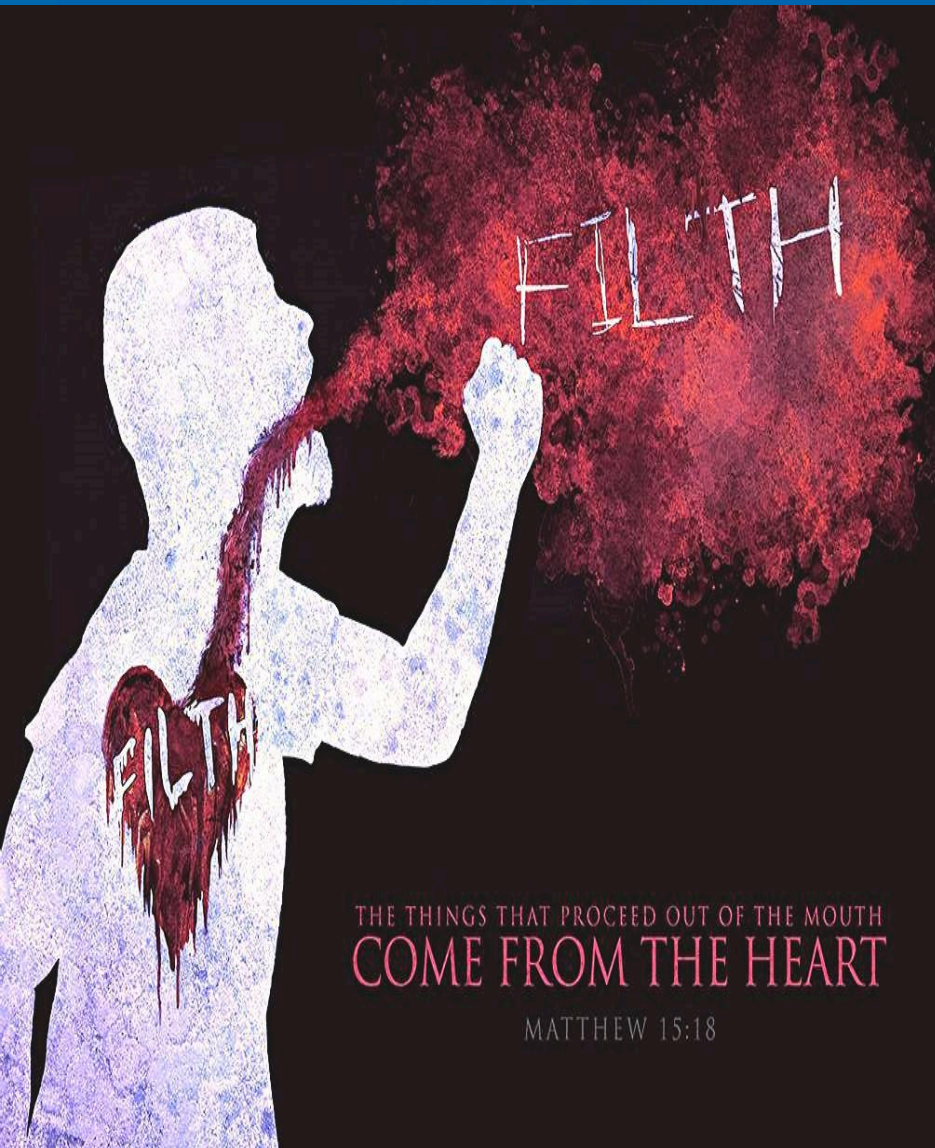
FROM GOOD

TO BAD



- Logical and obvious: good fruit only comes from a good fruit tree
- If the tree turns bad, the fruit turns bad
- If a religious leader has gone bad, nothing he can say is good
- Context: Yeshua is responding to the falsehoods of this group of Pharisees and Scribes (NOT all)

CHRIST PUSHES BACK



- Yeshua is responding to the accusation that He was in league with the Devil
- These Pharisees and Scribes spoke falsehoods because they placed their manmade doctrines and Traditions above God's Word
- Christ says that on Judgment Day, they will have to give account for these (slanderous) words

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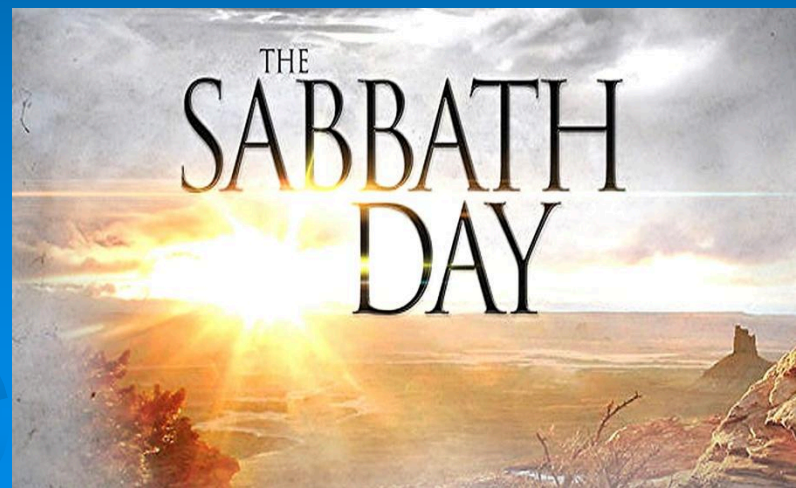
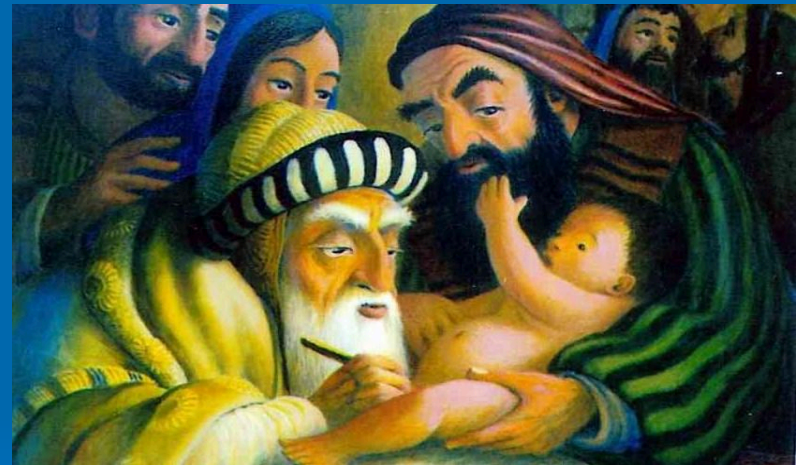


The
Struggle
is real

- Words▶ Thoughts▶ Mind
- Romans 7:14 – 25
- Our physical bodies are not inherently sinful, but they do deteriorate and die due to sin entering the Creation
- Sin and evil reside in our souls, not in our flesh
- Our words are not the sole determining factor concerning our eternal future

SIGNS

- The “sign” wasn’t more miracles
- Religious leaders disputing Yeshua’s greater authority
- A sign is an omen; something that creates an identity or validates a promise
- Noah -----▶ Rainbow
- Abraham---▶ Circumcision
- Moses -----▶ Sabbath
- The “sign” they probably wanted was for Yeshua to lead a rebellion against Rome





- A wicked and adulterous generation
- Deut. 1:35 Deut. 32:5 Jere. 3:9 Hosea
- Our relationship with God is likened to marriage
- Unfaithfulness = adultery = illicit union
- Bible uses the term “generation” in different ways
- Here it means all who are alive at the time

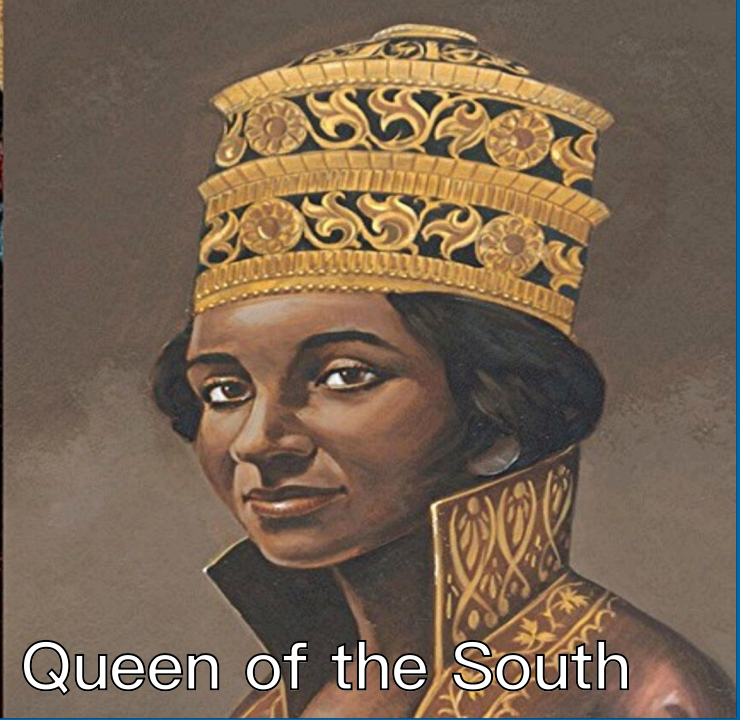
- God judges us as individuals and the community we're in
- Rev. 18:3 – 5
- Today, for Believers, the most important community for us is our church or synagogue
- The Sign of Jonah
- Jonah unwillingly was sent to Nineveh to prophesy to the gentiles
- They listened, repented, and so God spared them



THE SIGN OF JONAH



- Jonah had not been seen as a “sign”
- Acts 2:22 – 24
- The Passover Problem Solved
- A literal 3 days and nights
- The Torah helps to explain
- Nineveh will stand (as witnesses) in judgment
- Because these gentiles turned to God
- Nineveh is Mosul, Iraq

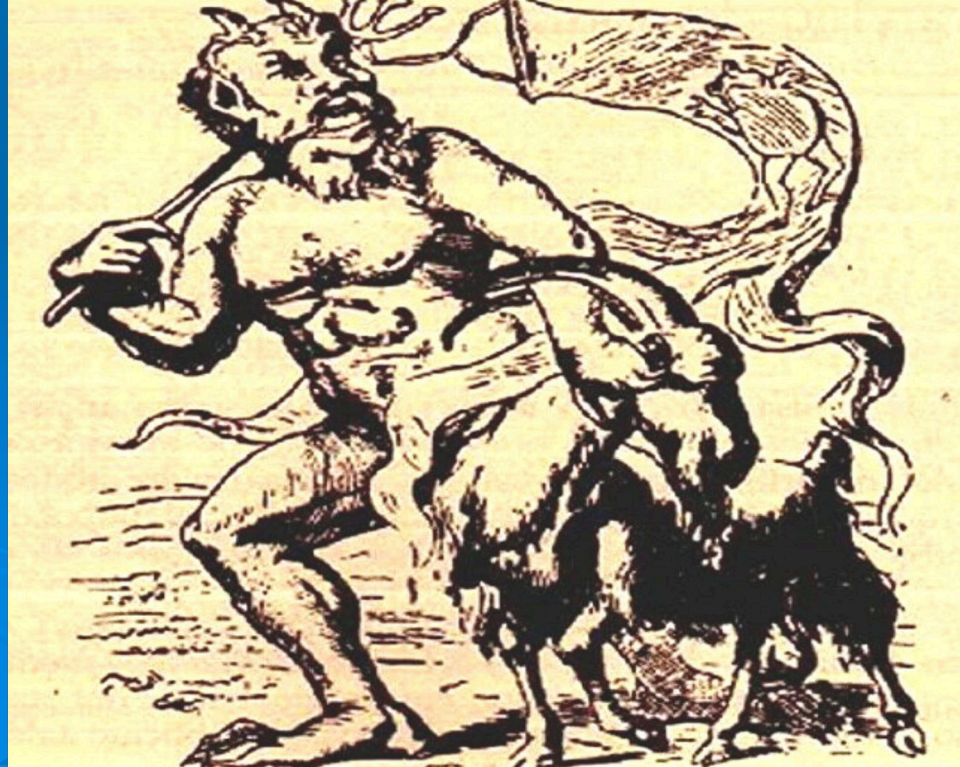


Queen of the South

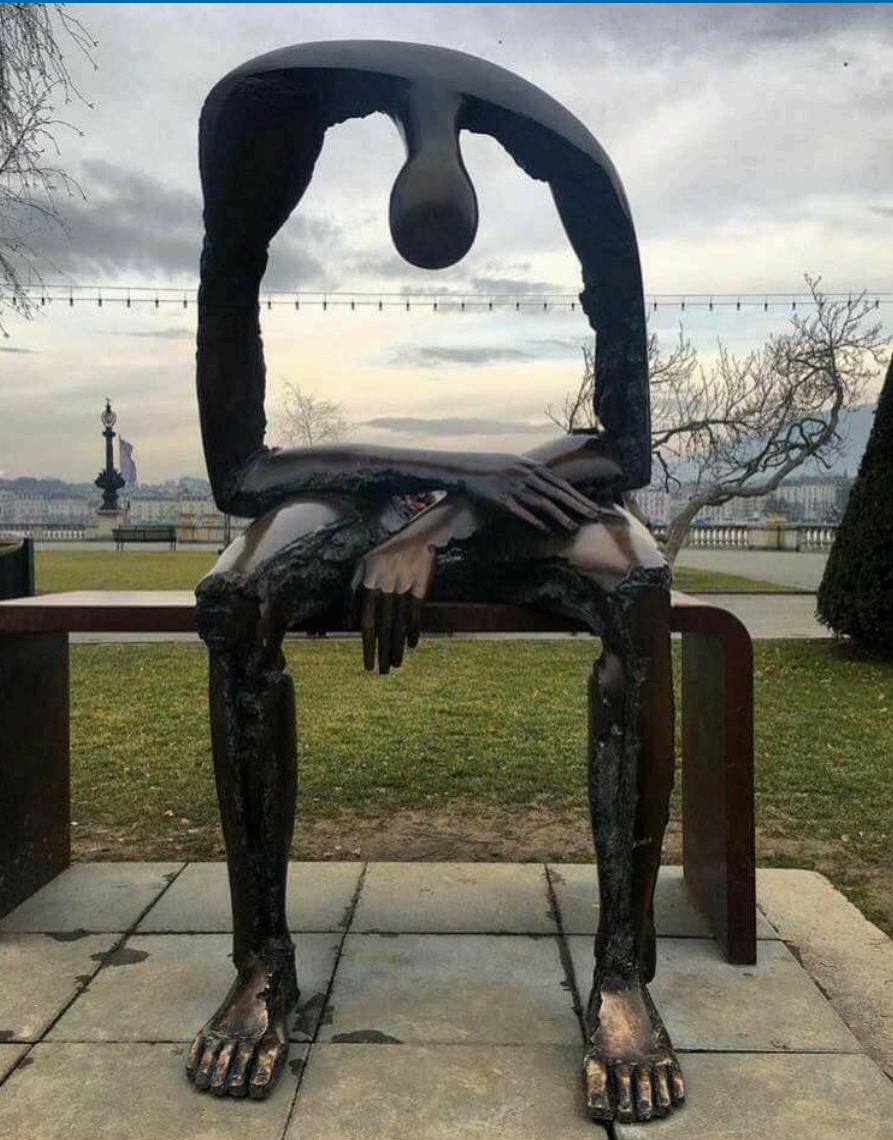
- ***“What is here, is greater than Jonah....”***
- Yeshua is saying he’s greater than Solomon and Jonah
- He’s complaining that while the Pharisees and Scribes accept Solomon and Jonah, they don’t accept Him
- Verses 43 – 45 challenging and combines parable, metaphor, and scriptural truth

THE PLACE OF UNCLEAN SPIRITS

- Where does a demon go that has been exorcized?
- Matthew 8:28 – 32
- Leviticus 16:6 – 10
- Yom Kippur Scapegoat ritual
- Desert demon named *Az'azel* (Satan?)
- The dispossessed demon returns to the host, because the soul is vacant



THE DANGER OF A VACANT SOUL



- A person's soul is inhabited either by God or by evil
- The man with the vacant soul now has 8 demons
- Jesus is telling the Pharisees and Scribes their destiny
- Yeshua redefines family
- He doesn't disavow his mother and brothers
- The spiritual bond is greater than the natural familial bond
- A person can choose a spiritual bond with Satan