



Mark 8:11-21

Spiritual Blindness

I. Introduction: When Jesus returned, He was immediately confronted by a group of hostile Jews, so He warned His disciples about their hypocritical teaching.

II. Spiritual Blindness (Mark 8:11-21).

A. His Divine Condemnation (vv. 11-12).

1. The Jewish leaders demanded that Jesus give them a sign to prove that He was the Messiah, but He refused to show them another miracle and condemned them.

B. His Divine Caution (vv. 13-16).

1. Jesus warned the disciples about the influence of the Pharisees and the Herodians, describing it like leaven, which permeates and transforms bread.

C. His Divine Cure (vv. 17-21).

1. The disciples believed that Jesus was speaking about physical bread, but Jesus rebuked them for their dull understanding and explained the truth.

III. Conclusion: Jesus' instruction to the disciples opened their blind eyes to the truth, and He warned them about listening to the teaching of the Pharisees and Herodians.



Questions About: Spiritual Blindness

1. Do you have eyes to see God's truth? What is the nature of man's spiritual sight? (**Eph 4:17-18**) What blinds man from perceiving truth? (**John 3:17-19**) Who blinds men? (**2 Cor 4:3-4**)
2. Who immediately confronted Jesus when He got off the boat? (**Mark 8:11-12**) Why were they arguing with Jesus? (**v. 11**) What kind of sign were they demanding of Him? (**v. 11**)
3. Why is it wicked to test God? (**Mark 8:11-12; Matt 4:7**) Why do evil people seek signs? (**Matt 16:4**) Why did Jesus not submit to their demands? (**v. 12**) What did He do?
4. Why did Jesus go to the other side of the lake? (**Mark 8:13-16**) What warning did Jesus give them? (**v. 15**) What was leaven often a symbol of in Scripture? (**Ex 12:18-20**)
5. What were the types of leaven Jesus warned about? (**Mark 8:13-16**) What is the leaven of the Pharisees? (**v. 15**) Herodian's leaven? (**v. 15**) What influences people's hearts today?
6. What did the disciples think Jesus was talking about? (**Mark 8:17-21**) Why did Jesus accuse them of having dull hearts? (**v. 17**) What things are you insensitive to in scripture?
7. How did Jesus clarify that He wasn't referring to physical bread? (**Mark 8:17-21**) Why did they not need to worry about food? (**vv. 19-20**) What was Jesus trying to teach them?
8. What influences are you listening to that are changing you? (**Mark 8:11-21**) What spiritual influences may be corrupting you? (**v. 15**) Worldly influences? (**v. 15**) What should you do?

Prayers:

1. Ask God to illuminate your mind so you might grow in your understanding of His truth.
2. Pray that Jesus might reveal to you if worldly teaching has permeated your heart.