

Studies in the Life of Christ

NT Survey Lesson 20--Matthew 16

Introduction: In the period following His rejection by the masses, the Lord withdrew to the surrounding districts to have more time with the disciples. In the next several lessons we will consider some of the teaching the Lord did during this period of instruction.

Lesson aim: To understand Jesus' promise to build His church

The Pharisees ask Jesus for a sign--Matthew 16:1-12

1. What did the Pharisees ask Jesus to do? Why?
2. What did the Pharisees' request for a sign say about them? What was the only sign Jesus gave them?
3. What did Jesus mean, "Beware of the leaven of the scribes and Pharisees"? What was dangerous about their teaching?

Jesus solicits a confession from his disciples--Matthew 16:13-20

1. Who did men say Jesus was?
2. Who did Peter confess Jesus to be? Where did Peter get this knowledge?
3. What is the rock upon which Jesus will build the church?
4. Had the church come into existence at this time? What did Jesus imply would first happen before the church would be built?
5. What role would Peter play in the establishing of the church?

Jesus foretells His death--Matthew 16:21-23

1. What prediction did Jesus make about Himself?
2. How did Peter respond? How did Jesus answer him?

The costs and rewards of discipleship--Matthew 16:24-28

1. What did Jesus say a disciple must do?
2. What incentives did Jesus give to make this decision?