THE HIDDEN PURPOSE OF A VERY BUSY THREE-DAY WEEKEND

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Matthew 12:38-41

*38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."*

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*39 But he answered them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.*

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*40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

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*41 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. (ESV)*

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Matthew 12:40

*“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” (ESV)*

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Heart (Kardia) "The middle, central or inmost part of anything."

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I Samuel 28:11-15

*11 Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He said, "Bring up Samuel for me."*

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*12 When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul."*

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*13 The king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What do you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I see a god coming up out of the earth."*

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*14 He said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage.*

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*15 Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do." (ESV)*

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"a-lah" (aw-law): "to ascend or to be raised."

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Matthew 25:41

*Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. (KJV)*

*--*

John 14:1-3

*1 Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.*

*--*

*2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?*

*--*

*3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (ESV)*

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Luke 23:42-43

*42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."*

*--*

*43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (ESV)*

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Ephesians 4:8-9

*8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.*

*--*

*9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?*

*--*

*10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) (KJV)*

*--*

"Kato": "downwards:--beneath, bottom, down, under".

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"Hades": "lower parts of the earth"

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Isaiah 61:1

*1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound. (KJV)*

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I Peter 3:18-19

*18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*

*--*

*19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits (souls) in prison. (KJV)*

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Luke 16:19-22

*19 There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.*

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*20 And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,*

*--*

*21 who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores.*

*--*

*22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried,*

*--*

Luke 16:23-31

*23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.*

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*24 And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'*

*--*

*25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.*

*--*

*26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'*

*--*

*27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house-*

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*28 for I have five brothers-so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'*

*--*

*29 But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'*

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*30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'*

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*31 He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"(ESV)*

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John 14:1-3

*1 Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.*

*--*

*2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?*

*--*

*3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." (ESV)*

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Luke 23:39-43

*39 One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"*

*--*

*40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?*

*--*

*41 And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."*

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*42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."*

*--*

*43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (ESV)*

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Strong's Concordance - "Paradise": "The part of Hades which was thought by the later Jews to be the abode of souls until the resurrection."

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Matthew 27:50-53

*50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.*

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*51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.*

*--*

*52 The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised,*

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*53 and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many." (ESV)*