



# Daily Reflections

**July 23, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 12: 38-42**

Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus,  
"Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you."

He said to them in reply,

"An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign,  
but no sign will be given it  
except the sign of Jonah the prophet.

Just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights,  
so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth  
three days and three nights.

At the judgment, the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation  
and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah;  
and there is something greater than Jonah here.

At the judgment the queen of the south will arise with this generation  
and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth  
to hear the wisdom of Solomon;  
and there is something greater than Solomon here."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

The religious leaders demanded a sign from Jesus, that is, something spectacular to entertain their imaginations. Jesus came to give them a sign alright, but His sign much to their self-righteous dismay was a call to

repentance. They considered themselves above such an action...that was for sinners after all. Using the example of the pagan Ninevites who repented immediately at the call of the prophet Jonah, Jesus praises them because of their humble and contrite response. If only the religious leaders could have been so humble!

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## **Food for your Journey**

These are two things: sin and repentance. Sin is a wound; repentance is a medicine. Just as there are for the body wounds and medicines, so for the soul are sins and repentance.

--St. John Chrysostom.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, I often do what I know I should not do, and I don't do what I know I should. Forgive me, Lord, for I am a sinner. May Your amazing Grace cleanse me of all my sins and heal me so that I can live as You created and redeemed me to live. Amen