



the good news according to

MATTHEW

Chapter 12:22-37

Choosing Sides

²² Then a demon-possessed man, who was blind and couldn't speak, was brought to Jesus. He healed the man so that he could both speak and see. ²³ The crowd was amazed and asked, "Could it be that Jesus is the Son of David, the Messiah?" ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard about the miracle, they said, "No wonder he can cast out demons. He gets his power from Satan, the prince of demons."

ENCOUNTERING
Jesus
REQUIRES
us to make a
DECISION
about him



²⁵ Jesus knew their thoughts and replied, “Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A town or family splintered by feuding will fall apart. ²⁶ And if Satan is casting out Satan, he is divided and fighting against himself. His own kingdom will not survive. ²⁷ And if I am empowered by Satan, what about your own exorcists? They cast out demons, too, so they will condemn you for what you have said.

²⁸ But if I am casting out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you. ²⁹ For who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger—someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house. ³⁰ “Anyone who isn’t with me opposes me, and anyone who isn’t working with me is actually working against me.





CHOOSING
Jesus means
COOPERATING
with him to
undo satan's
DEHUMANIZING
influence

³¹ “So I tell you, every sin and blasphemy can be forgiven—except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which will never be forgiven. ³² Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, either in this world or in the world to come.

**REJECTING
Jesus is
REJECTING
THE ONLY
way to be
RESCUED**



³³ “A tree is identified by its fruit. If a tree is good, its fruit will be good. If a tree is bad, its fruit will be bad. ³⁴ You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. ³⁵ A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart.

³⁶ And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak.

³⁷ The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you.”



OUR WORDS
say what our
HEARTS
are truly
DEVOTED TO



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