



BEHOLD THE KING

MATTHEW



Israel Trip

November 25 - December 4



PRIESTS of HISTORY



STEWARDED THE PAST
IN AN AHISTORIC AGE
SARAH IRVING-STONEBRAKER
FOREWORD BY JOHN DICKSON



Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

“What strikes me now is the extent to which I was living an ahistorical life during my mid-twenties at Oxford....

“I had no grounding in any larger narrative;
my life was primarily a quest for self-
discovery, self-fulfillment, and personal
happiness.”

Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

“They were seriously intellectually engaged,
and their faith meant that they lived
differently.

“Their witness and kindness made a powerful impression upon me, breaking down my own intellectual snobbery and suspicion of Christians.”

Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

“I did not see myself as a part of any enduring historical communities that might help frame a deeper purpose for my life. In fact, I would have been deeply suspicious of such an idea.”

Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

... holding a contemporary secular worldview
in the west is “ahistorical at heart.”

Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

1. We believe that the past is merely a source of shame and oppression from which we must free ourselves.

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2. We no longer think of ourselves as part of historical communities.

3. We are increasingly ignorant of history.

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4. We do not believe history has a narrative or a purpose.

5. We are unable to reason well and disagree peaceably about the ethical complexities of the past – that is, the coexistence of good and evil in the same historical figure or episode.

Sarah Irving-Stonebraker

“Then he began to denounce the cities where most of his mighty works had been done, because they did not repent. ‘Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!

“For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

“But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades.

“For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you.”

Matthew 11:20-24



Chorazin



Bethsaida



Capernaum



Capernaum



Capernaum



Capernaum



* When we experience **miracles** without **repentance**, we will experience **judgment** without **mercy**.

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1. More **miracles** don't necessarily result in more **repentance/faith**.

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Matthew 11:20

Takeaway -

Unbelief is more than a **lack of evidence**.

“For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

“For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Romans 1:19-21

“I speak from experience, being strongly subject to this fear myself: I want atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most intelligent and well-informed people I know are religious believers.

“It isn’t just that I don’t believe in God and, naturally, hope that I’m right in my belief. It’s that I hope there is no God! I don’t want there to be a God; I don’t want the universe to be like that.”

Thomas Nagel

1. More miracles don't necessarily result in more repentance/faith.
2. More **miracles** are not **always provided**.

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For if the mighty works done in you had been
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Matthew 11:21

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Matthew 11:21

Takeaway -

Jesus is sovereign in **salvation**.



“This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who **desires** all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

1 Timothy 2:3-4

God “has mercy on whomever he **wills.**”

Romans 9:18

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God **desires** things he doesn't **decree.**

God “has mercy on whomever he **wills.**”

Romans 9:18

God **desires** things he doesn't **decree.**

He **wants** things he doesn't **will.**

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Jewish cities – many miracles

Jewish cities – many miracles

Gentile cities – few miracles

* When we experience **miracles** without **repentance**, we will experience **judgment** without **mercy**.

“storing up wrath for yourself”

Romans 2:5

“how much worse punishment”

Hebrews 10:29

“Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.”

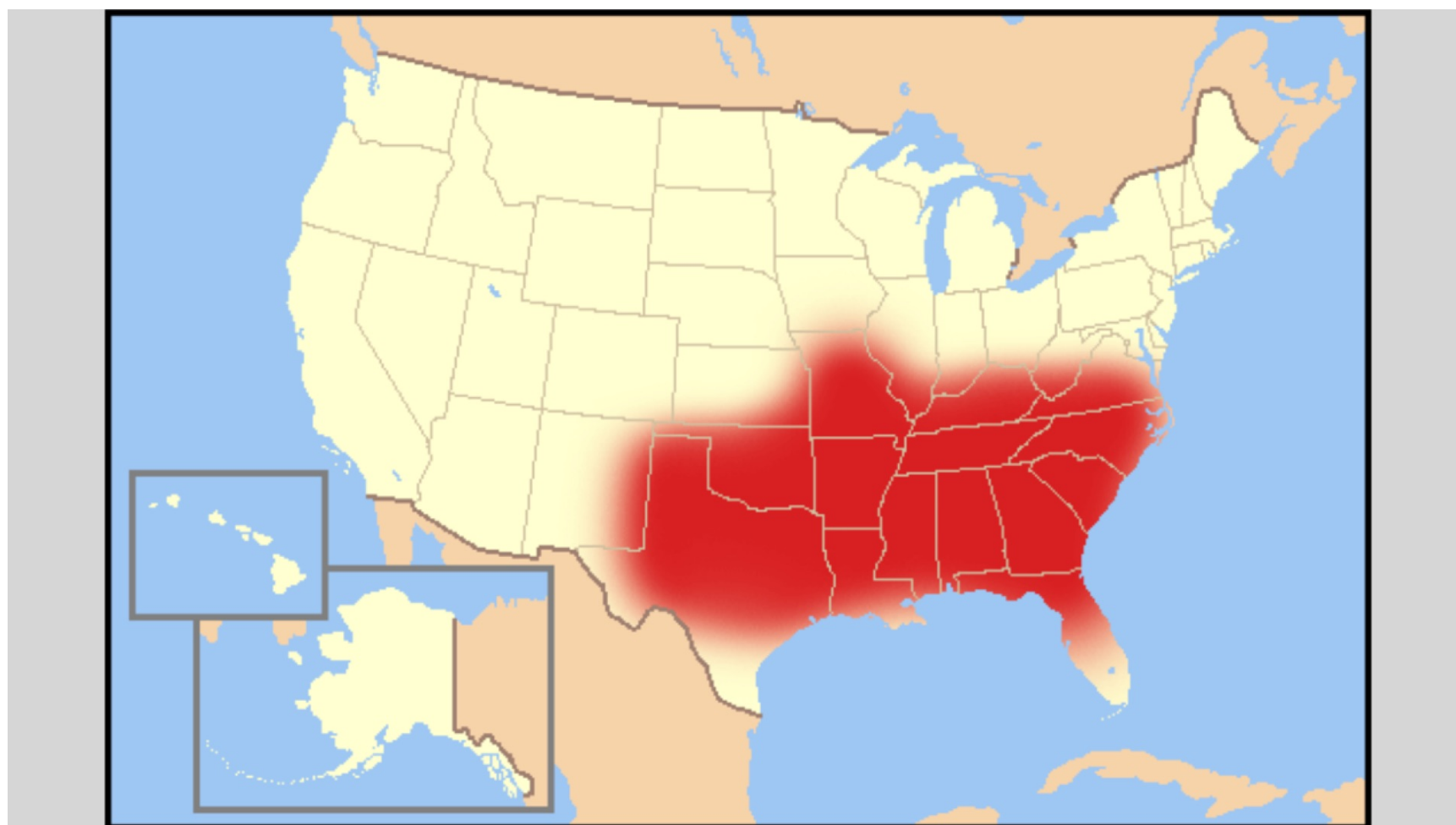
Luke 12:48b

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Takeaway -

We have **received much**;
therefore, **much is expected**.





What is Jesus calling us to do with this?

What is he **not** calling us to do?

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- The **perfectionist's** response -

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- The **prognosticator's** response -

What is he **not** calling us to do?

- The perfectionist's response -
- The prognosticator's response -
- The **procrastinator's** response -

What is he calling us to do?

“All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom **the Son chooses to reveal him.**”

Matthew 11:27

Microwave miracles - instantaneous

Microwave miracles - instantaneous

Crock pot miracles - slow,
often indiscernable

“And he humbled you and let you hunger
and fed you with manna, which you did not
know, nor did your fathers know,

“that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.”

Deuteronomy 8:3

“Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land.”

Exodus 23:30

“What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?”

Romans 6:1

What is Jesus calling us to do?

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28