

Matthew 16

16:1-4 – The Pharisees and Sadducees come seeking a sign.

The problem with “signs”: they betray a corrupt heart.

16:5-12 – Jesus warns about the teachings of the Pharisees & Sadducees: they interfere with faith in Jesus.

16:13-23 – Peter’s great confession of who Jesus is, followed immediately by a misinterpretation.

Peter boldly declares that Jesus is the Christ.

Jesus declares that He will build His church on that “rock.”

The building of the church on that “rock” will inevitably result in personal suffering.

Jesus rebukes Peter who was probably directed by Satan.

16:24-28 – The brutal reality and eternal hope for *following Jesus*.

There is no such thing as following Jesus without some degree of *suffering and sacrifice*.

Not all Christians have been called to suffer, but all of us have been called to *sacrifice*.