

What a Day it's **been** for **Jesus**

We're in the **middle** of the **Passion Week** -
& **This Day** has been **GRUELING**

- It **began** w/ **Religious Leaders** **challenging** the **Authority** of Jesus
- Then - The **Parable** of the **'Wicked Farmers'**
- Then - The **"Taxes for Caesar"** Trap
- Then – **"The Resurrection"** Trap
- Then – **"The Greatest Commandment"** question

ALL that – in **just** the **ONE DAY**
That we've **been looking** at

& it **would seem** like **Jesus**
would've been **DONE** for **THAT Day**

But - he **continues sharing**
Eternal Truth after **Eternal Truth**

& for **Our Day** - **Today**

Jesus is **going** to **share** - **The Most Important Eternal Truth**

In a **Life-Changing Riddle**

Let's Pray

Mark 12:35(a) (NLT)

35 Later (that same day), ***as Jesus was teaching the people in the Temple, . . .***

After All the **previous “interactions”** with the **Religious Leaders**
& **Jesus** is **still there** – **IN** the **Temple Courts**

Completely UNFAZED

by all the **attempted traps & attacks**

& It **seems** like - the **Religious Leaders**
have **RETREATED** for **the day**

But **only** - In **order** to **come up** with a **better plan**
to **take Jesus out** – (*which* they *ultimately* did)

But – **SINCE** they **appear** to **be GONE** – (for **today**)

Now Jesus - can **START** the **conversations**
& **He** – can **CHOOSE** the **Teaching Subjects**

& **at this point** – Jesus **chooses** – **A RIDDLE**

& it's **A RIDDLE** that **Addresses**
what the **Religious Leaders** were **Obviously MISSING**

But – it is **also A RIDDLE** – that **Points US**
TO - THE MAIN THING

You've heard the saying

"Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing"

Well – these people had just watched
the Religious Leaders

Try to NIT-PICK Jesus to death

& So – With a RIDDLE - Jesus is going to - gently
Turn US BACK – TO the MAIN THING

Maybe Jesus has LEFT the "Upper Courts" of the Temple

& Maybe He's sitting on the Southern Steps,
where many of you have sat with us

& as we cont' in Mark 12:35(b) we read (NLT)

35 . . . [Jesus] asked, "Why do the teachers of religious law claim that the Messiah is the son of David?"

Why do those guys - who just left (the Scribes)

Why do they claim that the Messiah is the son of David?

This is actually - kind of a Set-Up Question - FROM Jesus

Maybe IN RESPONSE TO

The "Attempted" Set-Up Questions

the Religious Leaders had been throwing at him

The reason it's a SET-UP Question is
Because - Everyone Knew The Answer

Everyone Knew WHY the *Religious Teachers claimed*
that the Messiah is the son of David

Because it's Written ALL OVER the O.T.

At Least 10 times (bare minimum) the O.T. clearly states
The Messiah will be a Descendant of King David

So - This was kind of a No-Brainer Question
& Everyone knew the Answer

Yeah, the MESSIAH – Will be a DESCENDANT of King David

So - In order to RELATE this RIDDLE
To OUR LIVES Today

It would BE LIKE – Asking MOST People today
(even in our Declining Christian Society)

Was Jesus a good teacher?

& MOST people would say yeah, I think he was – he had some
good things to say about how we should live

THAT – was THIS Kind of QUESTION

It was a “Yeah, of Course” question

But then - - - **The OTHER SHOE Drops**

& this **No-Brainer Question**
Becomes a **Life-Changing Question**

So now - **Jesus** is going to **Quote** - **Psalm 110**

& **That** is **going** to **LEAD INTO** His - **Life-Changing RIDDLE**

Mark 12:36 (NLT)

36 For David himself, speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, 'The Lord (God) said to my Lord, (Savior) **Sit in the place of honor at my right hand (where the Bible says the Messiah will sit) **until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.**' (what the Bible says will ultimately happen) - (that's Psa 110)**

& **then**, here's **the RIDDLE**

Mark 12:37(a) (NLT)

37 Since David himself called the Messiah 'my Lord,' how can the Messiah be his son?" . . .

Huh? - - **What did he say?**

**Since David called the Messiah 'my Lord,'
how can the Messiah be his son?**

It's a RIDDLE

Have you ever heard - This RIDDLE

A man and his son are in a terrible accident and are rushed to the hospital for surgery. Then the doctor comes in and looks at the boy and exclaims "I can't operate on this boy, he's my son!"

THAT is - this kind of A RIDDLE - It's a "Who's Who Riddle"

& Jesus desperately WANTS US
to GET the answer to this RIDDLE

Because the Answer – to this RIDDLE
is Eternally LIFE-CHANGING

<p><u>Jesus</u> is <u>Pointing You</u> at <u>Something</u> <u>That</u> will <u>Change</u> - <u>Your ETERNITY</u></p>
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Have you ever had that Mis-conception

that Jesus is a Good Teacher
who started a Good Religion

Pretty much like other Good Teachers
have started other Good Religions

And - Have you ever thought
ALL Good Religions were basically the SAME

because they were all started by Good Men (or Women)
who taught Good ways to live ?

if YOU have ever THOUGHT like that
Or if you know someone who THINKS like that
You have GOT to get the Answer to This RIDDLE

Because IF you get the answer - to This RIDDLE

That TYPE of thinking
that “*All Religions are basically the same*”

Will Have NO PLACE LEFT – in your life

Now – I know a BUNCH of you
KNOW the Answer to this RIDDLE

But pls Bear with me - & let me answer it for you

Again – the Question is in Mark 12:37 (NLT)

37 Since David himself called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?” . . .

The Answer is . . .

Because JESUS the Messiah is BOTH

The Son of DAVID – And

The Son of GOD

& **IF JESUS** - Is the **Son of David**

And **ALSO** the **Son of God**

then our thinking (about **Jesus**) - **MUST Radically Change**

The Bible is the most **Supernatural, Miraculous, Unparalleled**
Living Document - that **exists** on **this planet**

& the **Living Word of God** says

the Son of David – IS the Son of God

What Jesus is **saying** in **this RIDDLE** is -

GOD Become a MAN

The God who **Created**

Everything that has **ever been CREATED**

That God – BECAME a MAN

& the **Bible says** - **GOD became a Man**

NOT JUST to teach - **good lessons** about **how to live**

But **Jesus Christ** came - as **God in the Flesh**

to **Pay** the **Full Penalty** for **our Sins**
in our place – **On the Cross**

& **to offer** us **HIS OWN Righteousness**

In order - to Make a Way
for us to live - For Eternity with God

ALL - BY God's GRACE
& ALL - Thru our FAITH Alone in Him

Jesus Christ Came

AS - A Descendant of David – And - As God in the Flesh

& he Certainly DID NOT come
JUST to start another Religion

He came to GIVE YOU – Eternal Life

& IF you will Put your FAITH
In the Correct Answer to this RIDDLE

Then It will Change BOTH
Your Life in This World
& Your Life in Eternity

Listen to how the very beginning
of the Book of ROMANS puts it

Romans 1:3–4 (NLT)

3 *The (Gospel) Good News is about his Son (Jesus). In his earthly life he was born into King David's family line,*
4 *and he was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**If you will EMBRACE THIS in your heart -
if you will Put your FULL FAITH & TRUST - in this Truth**

**It will CHANGE - Your Life HERE
& it will GIVE you Eternal life - with God in HEAVEN**

The Ultimate Question of THIS Life is this

**WHAT will YOU DO
With the Answer to this RIDDLE?**

HOW will you RESPOND – to the Fact that

**JESUS the Messiah - is BOTH
The Son of DAVID – And - The Son of GOD**

**Jesus Christ is “The God-Man”
100% God – 100% Man**

In the Gospel of John – Jesus is called “THE WORD” (Logos)
It means “God in Expression”

John 1:1–4 (NLT) (mark these vs's)

1 In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He existed in the beginning with God.

3 God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him.

4 The Word (Jesus) gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.

Jesus Christ – is “God in The Flesh”

& HE is the Answer - To THE RIDDLE – of YOUR Life

& John 3:16 – the most famous Vs in the Bible

Explains WHY - Jesus came - as God in the Flesh

And it explains HOW - Jesus Changes – Your Eternity

John 3:16 (NLT)

16 “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

The way you Turn this RIDDLE
Into a Life-Changing RIDDLE

Is By BELIEVING – By Putting your Full Faith & Trust
In Jesus Christ – AS The Son of God

Jesus Christ - - GOD in the FLESH
GAVE HIMSELF – For YOU

to Make a Way - For you to have Eternal Life

Which you can FREELY Receive

By putting your Full Faith & Trust in Him
AS your Savior & Lord

& so – I'd like to just PAUSE right now
& PRAY with you (both in the room & watching)

Would you Pray with me – Right Now

That THIS RIDDLE
Would Become a Life-Changing RIDDLE – For YOU

Let's Pray

& now we can read – the 2nd half of

Mark 12:37(b) (NLT)

37 . . . The large crowd listened to him with great delight.

& I pray that you have listened – to the Words of Jesus
With GREAT DELIGHT Today

BUT – We're Not Quite Done

Because Jesus follows this Life-Changing RIDDLE
With a WARNING

& - as SAD as it sounds

It's an important warning for us to HEAR today

After you **DO EMBRACE** – the **Life-Changing Truth**
That **Jesus Christ** – **IS the Son of God**

Jesus wants you **TO BEWARE**

OF those who **LIVE LIKE**
the **Religious Leaders** of **His Day**

Mark 12:38-40 (NLT)

38 Jesus also taught: “Beware of these teachers of religious law!
(the Scribes) **For they like to parade around in flowing robes** (they wore long white robes) **and** (they like to) **receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces.** (the people would stand-up in the marketplace as the Scribes walked by)

39 And how they love the seats of honor in the synagogues and the head table at banquets.

(in the synagogue, everyone sat facing the chest with the Torah Scrolls – but the Scribes sat in front of the chest – so all the people would be looking at them)

(& at banquets it was important to have at least 1 Scribe seated next to the host)

40 Yet they shamelessly cheat widows out of their property and then pretend to be pious by making long prayers in public. Because of this, they will be more severely punished.”

The DANGERS of **Man-Driven Religion**

Are **Just as REAL TODAY**

As they **were** - **the Day** these **words were spoken** by **Jesus**

**Don't get MESSED UP – or TAKEN OUT
by Man's Religion**

**I've seen the Enemy use a LOT of things
To try to KEEP People from – Truly Knowing Jesus Christ**

**& the Enemy has used Man's Religion
To do MORE than its Share**

**of Turning people AWAY
From the True & Simple “Salvation Message”**

That Jesus Christ DIED – to SAVE US – For Eternity

**The Son of God did NOT come to this Earth
to start - Just ANOTHER Religion**

DON'T Ever Trade Jesus – For Religion

Keep the MAIN Thing – the MAIN Thing

**Jesus Christ - The Son of God
came to this Earth**

**to offer you – Forgiveness for your Sins
& Eternal Life – With Him**

Let's Pray To Close