

SERMON NOTES:

Series: Mark -The Simple Gospel | Week 43: The Greater Gift

Mark 12:35-44 (NLT) *Whose Son Is the Messiah?*

³⁵ Later, as Jesus was teaching the people in the Temple, he asked, “Why do the teachers of religious law claim that the Messiah is the son of David? ³⁶ For David himself, speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit in the place of honor at my right hand
until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.’

³⁷ Since David himself called the Messiah ‘my Lord,’ how can the Messiah be his son?” The large crowd listened to him with great delight.

³⁸ Jesus also taught: “Beware of these teachers of religious law! For they like to parade around in flowing robes and receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces. ³⁹ And how they love the seats of honor in the synagogues and the head table at banquets. 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 Widow’s Offering

⁴¹ Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. ⁴² Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.

⁴³ Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. ⁴⁴ For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on.”

Psalm 110:1 (NLT)

¹ The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit in the place of honor at my right hand
until I humble your enemies,
making them a footstool under your feet.”

The Messiah is much more than then all the traditional Jewish expectations are about him.

R. Kent Hughes *“Jesus using the Scriptures, in which they were supposedly such experts, to explode their limited idea of the Messiah! It would take a divine/human being to fulfill the Scriptural requirements for Messiah.”*

2 Samuel 7:12 (NLT) *The Lord’s Covenant Promise to David*

¹² For when you die and are buried with your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, your own offspring, and I will make his kingdom strong.

Isaiah 9:7 (NLT)

⁷ His government and its peace
will never end.

He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.

The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

Jeremiah 23:5 (NLT)

⁵ "For the time is coming," says the Lord, "when I will raise up a righteous descendant from King David's line. He will be a King who rules with wisdom. He will do what is just and right throughout the land."

Acts 2:34-36 (NLT)

³⁴ For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit in the place of honor at my right hand ³⁵ until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet.'" ³⁶ "So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!"

1. THE DANGER OF PRIDE.

2. THE ABUSE OF POWER.

- a) He warns against the desire for prominence.
- b) He warns against the desire for deference.
- c) He warns against the attempt to use religion for personal gain and self-advancement.

James 3:1 (NLT)

¹ Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly.

When it comes to giving, the posture of our hearts makes all the difference.

God doesn't weigh our money, He weighs our motives.

3. HUMBLE AND SELF-SACRIFICIAL SERVICE.

4. COMMITMENT TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

If we then now examine the whole of these passages, we see **two of the greatest dangers facing Christian leaders: pride and the abuse of power**. Conversely, **we see two of the most important character traits for godly leadership, self-sacrificial service, and total commitment to the Kingdom of God**.