

If Mark chapters 11-12 were a movie fight scene...

God’s King

The logic of Jesus’ argument

Psalm 110:1 “The LORD says to my Lord...”

LORD = Yahweh, the name of the God of Israel

Lord = Adonai, meaning master, ruler, or sovereign

Who could David have possibly been referring to?

The Davidic Covenant, 2 Samuel 7:12-16

“When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

The promise of a greater future (OT background)

Not merely like David, but one much greater than David

This greater future also predicted in the OT

Gen 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Gen 17:4 “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham...”

God’s Word

Jesus’ understanding of Scripture – dual authorship

2 Peter 1:21 “For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Necessary questions

What is God’s Word? Where does it come from? How will I relate to it? Will I obey it?

The 20th century controversy – modernist versus fundamentalist

Riverside church in NYC

Gresham Machen – “The question is not whether Mr. Fosdick is winning men, but whether the thing to which he is winning them is Christianity.”

God’s Rule

The “session” of Christ

Session simply means seated, like court or Congress being in session

Mentioned in Mark, Matthew, Luke, Acts, Romans, Ephesians, Colossians, Hebrews, Revelation...

Christ is presently ruling over this world

Hebrews 1:3 “After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”

Questions for Personal Study

1. Why was Jesus’ argument so powerful? Can you explain it in your own words?
2. Are you convinced that, because of Jesus, the future will be better?
3. How do you relate to God’s Word?
4. Why is “the session of Christ” important to understand? Why does it give us hope?