

June 5, 2022

Sermon Notes - Mark 12:18-27

"Spiritually Blind" Eric Nelson

Spiritually Blind

A Continuation of Section 3 of the Book of Mark:

Power Struggles with the Religious Establishment Leading up to the Crucifixion of Jesus

Background Information:

The Sadducees - This was an aristocratic, priestly sect of Judaism that controlled the High Priesthood and the Sanhedrin. They were the wealthy, politically powerful "in" group. They were very conservative and accepted only the writings of Moses (Genesis through Deuteronomy) as authoritative.

Levirate marriage - (cf. Deut. 25:5-6; Ruth 4:1-2) comes from the Latin term for "brother-in-law." In ancient Israel the land was a major theological emphasis (cf. Gen. 12:1-3). God had divided the land by lot under Joshua into tribal allocations. When a male descendant died without an heir the question arose about the fate of his land. The Jews developed a way for the widow to have a child, if possible, by a near relative so that the deceased man's property would go to an heir. This child would be considered the child of the deceased brother (cf. Numbers 27 and Ruth 4).

Things to Ponder:

Oftentimes we, like the Sadducees, we can be spiritually blind, wondering from the path of truth.

The Sadducees put themselves in a place where they were attempting to "put God in a box" therefore limiting their understanding of the word and power of God.

Self-Reflection:

How often do we do this in our own lives?

When you recognize this in your own life what is your response?

Walk in the grace and conviction of God, abide in Him (John 15:1-17)