

Mark 12:1-27 –25 July 2021

“Raddled Together With Jesus” “Part 1 of 2”

Introduction

- *Jesus has had a 3-year public ministry
- *And now Christ comes into Jerusalem for the last week of His earthly ministry & life to die for our sins
- *Jesus is fully God but also fully man, so He has 3 enemies just as we do (world, flesh & the devil)
 - *Jesus had His final battle w/ devil at His temptation
 - *Jesus will have His final battle w/ flesh in G of Geth
 - *Today we see Jesus final battle w/ the world
- *There a big difference when battling the world, there are souls to be won – we need to fight a winsome war
- *We’re not trying to win the argument, but the arguer

- *As Jesus is here being examined, as God's perfect lamb for 4 days, yet He turns it around to show them what God has always wanted from them
- *Our 7 points today are based on the acronym *raddled*
- *We're gonna teach you a new word – raddled
- *Raddled is *to twist or wind together as in a hedge formed by interweaving the shoots & branches*
- *Read John 15:5-6

Today 7 Keys to be raddled together with Jesus

1st Key to be raddled together with Jesus is Relationship: Appreciation for the life He's given us (Vs 1-12)

Read Vs 1

1. Israel is pictured at different times as a Vine, a Fig and as an Olive Tree

- a. Vine – Spiritual Privileges
 - i. Psm 80, Isa 5, Jer 2, Eze 15, John 15
- b. Fig – National Privileges
 - i. Hos 9, Jer 24, Matt 20, 21, 24
- c. Olive – Religious Privilege & Heritage
 - i. Hos 14, Isa 17, 24, Psm 52, 128, Rom 11

2. God has given Israel (and us) great spiritual blessings as here pictured in the vineyard

- a. Hedge – Divide from influence/effects of sin
- b. Winevat – Ability to store up treasure
- c. Tower – Personal protection from our enemies
- d. The man is God & husbandmen are Israel

3. Recognize the God has initiated all that is needed to enjoy a full meaningful life with Him

4. God has offered this great life but Israel (& us) have to choose to enter into this life

5. Matthew tells us in (Read) Matt 21:28-31 that Jesus 1st sets up this parable that we're reading by talking about the choice to rebel or accept this life

- a. No one can be or should be forced into a relationship w/ God, it must be chosen

Read Vs 2-5

1. Servants – The OT prophets sent to evaluate
2. God's seeking to receive fruit not as a hard taskmaster, but to share in the excitement of relationship and purposeful mission with us

Read Vs 6

1. Read Heb 1:1-2
2. If you're believing some new revelation after Jesus like the Book of Mormon or new knowledge from the Pope...it is NOT from God
3. Jesus is the last & complete revelation of God

Read Vs 7-8

1. Isn't this always what makes us turn our backs on God? Self-interest & self-promotion
 - a. Take the blessing & block the blesser
 - b. Take the goods & grumble at the Giver
 - c. Take the profit & push away the Provider
2. Notice Jesus is again here foretelling His death

Read Vs 9

1. God desires relation w/ Israel, but if they don't want it, they understand He'll give it to Gentiles
2. If we're not using the spiritual blessing God has given, it'll be taken away (Read Est 4:14)

Read Vs 10-11

1. Without the chief cornerstone none of this blessing would even be possible & they're rejected relationship with Him
2. (Read) Luke 20:18 tells us Jesus finish this story by telling them there are only 2 choices

Read Vs 12

1. They knew that this parable or allegory was against them (no mystery to them)
2. That means they also knew He was claiming to be the Son (the Son of God)

2nd Key to be raddled together with Jesus is Acquiescence: Willingness to give, surrender (Vs 13-17)

Read Vs 13

1. The Pharisees & Herodians hate each other, but Pharisees are willing to work w/ them to get Jesus in hot water with the Romans
2. They have a situation that could not only make Jews mad at Jesus but also trouble w/ Roman law

Read Vs 14

1. Israel being under Roman rule had 3 taxes
 - a. Land Tax – 10% of grain, 20% of wine, fruit
 - b. Income Tax – 1%
 - c. Poll Tax – 1 Denarius (day's wage) per year
2. The tribute here asked of is the poll tax

Read Vs 15-16

1. If they've accepted Caesar's coin, they're using the system – Can't benefit from Caesar w/o also giving

Read Vs 17

1. So it's not one or the other, both are true, give to God AND Caesar – one doesn't dictate the other
2. Two questions, not just one
 - a. Whose image is on the coin? Caesar
 - i. Give it to Caesar
 - b. Whose image is on us? God's image
 - i. Give to God our whole dedication
3. Jesus took their earthly question & highlighted the spiritual question of the same subject
 - a. We have an obligation to submit to the earthly authorities – this is temporary, earthly
 - b. AND We have an obligation to submit to the spiritual Authority – this is eternal
4. God doesn't want to receive from us unless it's willingly
 - a. God loves a cheerful giver, not from be forced to give
5. Read Rom 6:19–God's looking for yieldedness

3rd Key to be raddled together with Jesus is Discipleship: Learning of His great power (Vs 18-27)

Read Vs 18

1. The Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection...so they were "sad you see" (joke)
2. Notice each religious group is testing Jesus

Read Vs 19-23

1. The goal of Levirate Marriage was so every family would have children for their legacy
 - a. It has great, deep meaning & they try to find confusion – God's not author of confusion
2. When taken to its end, ALL of the Bible makes sense whether we understand it all or not
3. BTW – God hasn't called us to understand every last implication of His eternal Word
 - a. We're called to simply obey what we do know & continue to press into more discipleship
4. In vs 23, they think they've found a problem they can stump Jesus with

Read Vs 24

1. They're demonstrating a complete lack of growth and discipleship
 - a. They've learned many things
 - i. Some of them are experts in the traditions of the Jewish Elders
 - ii. Some of them are the best athletes in town
 - iii. Some of them have learned all the politics of the day
 - b. But for being leaders in Israel, they haven't learned the scriptures which is the only thing God Almighty has asked them to learn
 - c. Jesus explained to Nicodemus, in His own words, what Jeremiah & others have written that we need to be given a new heart (born again)...but Nicodemus didn't get it
 - i. Jesus said, (Read John 3:10)
2. They haven't learned about God from the Bible, nor have they learned the greatest of God

Read Vs 25

1. God has the *power* to make you more than just male & female in heaven
 - a. This is similar to how Adam was in creation
 - b. They would have known God can do new powerful things had they believed their Bible

Read Vs 26-27

1. In vs 23 they said, “When they shall rise...”
 - a. Jesus corrects their misunderstanding of Bible
 - b. Not rising in future, they’ve already risen!
 - c. When God spoke to Moses about Abe, Isaac, & Jacob (from the past), He spoke that they were alive in the present
2. See we can believe even the tense of the verbs in the Bible
 - a. They should have known their Bible
3. Not knowing Bible is easy fix – STUDY IT
4. Not knowing power of God is hard fix – b/c it takes faith

Conclusion

So as Jesus has come to be examined for 4 days to be seen as the perfect Lamb of God, He's actually examining them!

He's giving them every opportunity to understand what God wants from them.

God desires for us to be interwoven or *raddled* together with Him by living according to these keys

- 1. Relationship: Appreciation for the life He's given us**
 - a. Are you living for the profit, or for the Provider?
 - b. God has given us a meaningful life...to share WITH HIM
- 2. Acquiescence: Willingness to give, surrender**
 - a. Made in His image, we belong to God
 - b. But serving God is empty unless it's willful
- 3. Discipleship: Learning of His great power**
 - a. Are you being led astray by every false thing?
 - b. Are you exploring the wonderful power available to you thru knowing God's Word?