

The Authority of the Son, part 2

Mark 12:13-37

Challenges from the Opposition

(Mark 12:13-35)

- Jesus' answers were anchored in scripture
- Jesus taught as one having authority
- Jesus leaves His opponents speechless

A Question About Taxation

- Not an either/or but a both/and
- Being made in the likeness of God points us to a higher purpose and calling

A Question About Resurrection

- Do we know the scriptures and the power of God?
- We all live forever. It's the destination that counts

A Question about the Commandments

- Love God and neighbor. Do this and you will live.
- Jesus alone has kept these commandments

A Counterchallenge From Jesus

(Mark 12:35-37)

- Jesus the Messiah is both fully man and fully God, possessing all authority (see also Matt 28:18)

For Life Group Discussion

Mark 12:13-37

1. How have you been positively impacted by a teacher? Were you surprised to learn that this was the label most frequently applied to Jesus?
2. It was noted that Jesus based His answers in the scriptures (see also Matthew 4:1-11). Do you feel equipped to answer objections in the same way? Why or why not?
3. Read Mark 12:17. At what point does our loyalty to God outweigh our support of government? How does Exodus 1:15-17, Daniel 3:14-18, and Acts 4:18-20 & 5:28-29 inform our response?
4. The Sadducees were criticized by Jesus for a lack of knowledge and trust (read Mark 12:24)
 - How are you intentionally strengthening your knowledge of the Bible? What could you do to accelerate your learning?
 - In what ways do you underestimate the power of God? In what areas would you say, "Lord I believe, help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24)?
5. How can we grow in our capacity to love God simply for who He is, and not just because of what He has done for us?
6. Why would Jesus conclude this discussion on authority with His question in Mark 12:37? How do verses like Mat 11:27, 28:19 & Luke 1:32-33 (and others) help us understand His point?