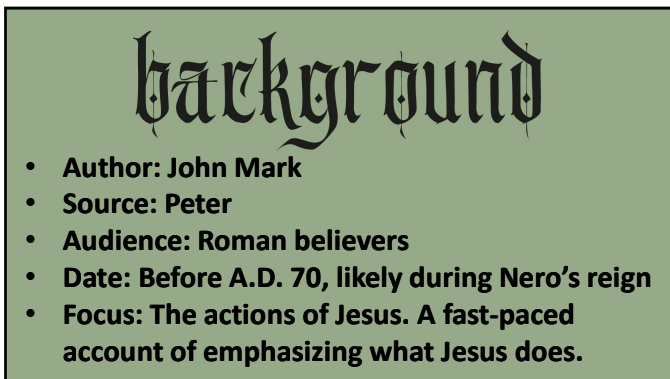




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3

background

Key Themes

- Jesus' authority
- Jesus as the suffering servant
- The cost of following Jesus
- Discipleship marked by sacrifice + faithfulness

4

MEMORY VERSE

MARK 12:29-31

Jesus answered, "The most important is listen, Israel! The Lord our God, The lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is, love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other command greater than these."

5

Mark 12:13-27

13 Then they sent some of the Pharisees and the Herodians to Jesus to trap him in his words. 14 When they came, they said to him, "Teacher, we know you are truthful and don't care what anyone thinks, nor do you show partiality but teach the way of God truthfully. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay or shouldn't we?" 15 But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you testing me? Bring me a denarius to look at."

6

Mark 12:13–27

16 They brought a coin. “Whose image and inscription is this?” he asked them. “Caesar’s,” they replied. 17 Jesus told them, “Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” And they were utterly amazed at him. 18 Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and questioned him: 19 “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, leaving a wife behind but no child, that man should take the

7

Mark 12:13–27

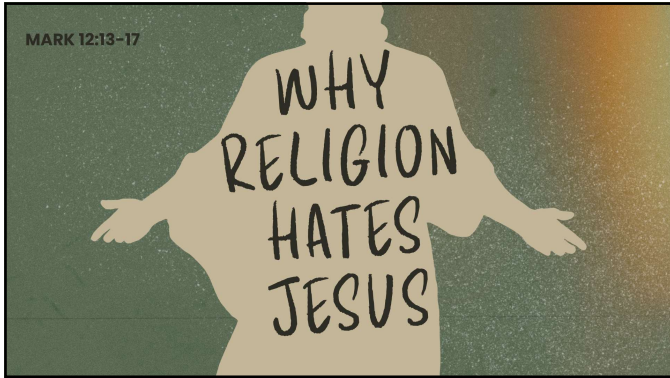
wife and raise up offspring for his brother. 20 There were seven brothers. The first married a woman, and dying, left no offspring. 21 The second also took her, and he died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. 22 None of the seven[c] left offspring. Last of all, the woman died too. 23 In the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be, since the seven had married her?” 24 Jesus spoke to them, “Isn’t this the reason why you’re mistaken: you

8

Mark 12:13–27

don’t know the Scriptures or the power of God? 25 For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven. 26 And as for the dead being raised—haven’t you read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God said to him: I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob? 27 He is not the God of the dead but of the living. You are badly mistaken.”

9



10

Religious leaders in the Gospels hated Jesus because:

1. Jesus exposed their hypocrisy.
2. Jesus threatened their authority and power.
3. Jesus rejected empty tradition.
4. Jesus demanded the heart, not just outward religion.
5. Jesus revealed that they misunderstood Scripture.

11

JESUS WAS DANGEROUS TO THEM BECAUSE HE EXPOSED THAT THEIR RELIGION LOOKED RIGHTEOUS BUT LACKED TRUE DEVOTION TO GOD.

12

The greatest enemies of Jesus in the Gospels were not the immoral pagans but the moral religious leaders.

ALISTAIR BEGG

13

2 examples of religious hostility toward Jesus:

14

1. Religion Hates Jesus Because He Exposes Hypocrisy | Mark 12:13-17

- The Pharisees and the Herodians join forces. Normally, they were enemies. But hatred of Jesus united them.
- The Trap: They ask: "Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar?"

15

1. Religion Hates Jesus Because He Exposes Hypocrisy

They hoped to trap Him:

- Say yes → lose the Jewish crowd
- Say no → be accused of treason to Rome

But Jesus asks for a coin and responds:

“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

16

A. The coin revealed their hypocrisy.

They carried a Roman coin stamped with the image of Tiberius.

The inscription called Caesar “son of the divine Augustus.”

They claimed to hate Rome, yet used Roman money.

17

B. Jesus distinguishes earthly authority and divine authority.

Christians have dual citizenship:

- Earthly responsibility
- Ultimate loyalty to God

18

C. The deeper issue is image.
The coin bears Caesar's image.
But people bear God's image.

So the real command is: Give your whole life to God.

19

Jesus did not evade the trap. He exposed their hypocrisy and elevated the issue to the level of ultimate allegiance.

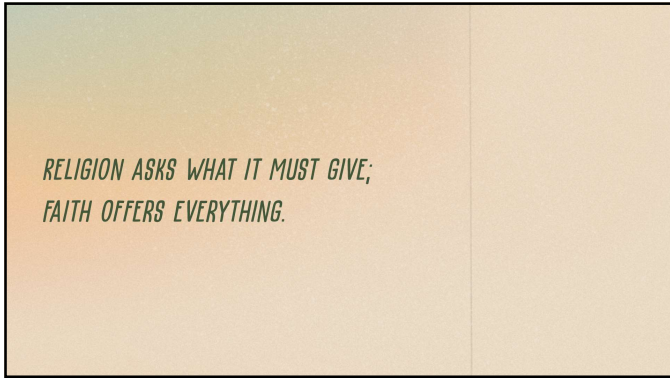
JOHN
MCARTHUR

20

Applications

- Are we practicing religion while withholding our hearts from God?
- Do we give God a portion of our lives rather than our entire selves?

21



22

2. Religion Hates Jesus Because He Reveals Their Ignorance | Mark 12:18-27
Now another group steps forward: the Sadducees.

They reject:

- Resurrection
- Angels
- Much of supernatural theology

23

2. Religion Hates Jesus Because He Reveals Their Ignorance | Mark 12:18-27
They present a scenario based on levirate marriage from Deuteronomy 25.

Seven brothers marry the same woman. Then they ask: "Whose wife will she be in the resurrection?"
(a resurrection they didn't believe in)

24

2. Religion Hates Jesus Because He Reveals Their Ignorance | Mark 12:18-27

Jesus exposes their problem:
"You are mistaken, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God."

Two major failures:

- 1. Ignorance of Scripture
- 2. Unbelief in God's power

25

A. Heaven is not simply an extension of earthly life. Jesus explains that resurrection life is different. Marriage is not continued. (What is?)

B. Jesus affirms bodily resurrection. This truth anchors Christian hope.

26

Bad theology always begins with a failure to submit to Scripture.

VODDIE BAUCHAM

27

Applications

- Religious activity cannot replace knowledge of Scripture.
- Religion without Scripture leads to error.

28

takeaways

1. Religion without surrender leads to hostility toward Christ.
The Pharisees knew Scripture but resisted its message.

29

takeaways

2. Intellectual religion without faith leads to unbelief.
The Sadducees rejected God's power.

30

Our greatest problem is not that we fail to understand God, but that we resist surrendering to Him.

FRANCIS CHAN

31

takeaways

Religion tried to trap Jesus, but Jesus exposes religion

32
