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Sermon Outline

Spring Cleaning: Uncluttering Your Soul

Regaining Purpose

Mark 12:28-34

April 22-23, 2018 Titus O'Bryant

We regain purpose by remembering that we...

image our Creator.

will live eternally.

are stewards for Jesus.

give ourselves away.

Looking Back

Spring Cleaning: Regaining Purpose

Mark 12:28-34

Pressing questions demand our attention and dictate the use of our calendar and resources—what’s for dinner, completing and paying taxes, task lists, meetings—the flurry of activity that these concerns press upon us threaten to suppress our attention to the most primary questions of life—our ultimate purpose and how our lives are part of God’s master plan.

Thinking It Through (agree/disagree/consider/contemplate)

What is hateful to you, do not to your neighbor: that is the whole Torah, while the rest is the commentary thereof; go and learn it. ~ Hillel

We are God’s money. But we are like coins that have wandered away from the treasury. What was once stamped upon us is the One who first formed us. He himself seeks his own coin, as Caesar sought his coin. It is in this sense he says, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s," to Caesar his coins, to God your very selves. ~ Augustine

I am an unceasing spiritual being with an eternal destiny in God’s great universe. But I’m also like grass. I’m going to die.. ~ John Ortberg

You’re a soul made by God, made for God, and made to need God. ~ Dallas Willard

What is the chief end of man? Man’s chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. ~ Westminster Shorter Catechism

Working It Out

1. Read Mark 12:29-31 slowly, thoughtfully, and prayerfully. Create your own paraphrase by rewriting these verses in your own words.
2. What is the main message and its significance for our lives from
 - The interaction recorded in Mark 12:13-17,
 - The bottom line over the question about the afterlife in Mark 12:26-27,
 - The supremacy of Jesus Christ in Mark 12:35-37 and,
 - The example in Mark 12:41-43?
3. How do these four truths support or connect with the great commandment in Mark 12:29-31?
4. When you consider the central aspects of your life (personal-just you, spiritual-you and God, relational-you and others, and vocational-you and your work), what changes is God leading you toward?