

DISCUSSION IDEAS

JESUS' TURN

Mark 12: 12:28-44

April 3rd, 2016

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♦ DISCUSSION POINT ONE: A REFRESHING ATTITUDE.

In Mark 12:28-34,

What shows that the Scribe was serious and really wanted Jesus to help him understand an issue?

What did he ask?

How does Jesus' comment in v. 34 show that the Scribe was truly seeking God's truth?

What priorities does Jesus' answer clarify for your life?

What does this interaction between Jesus and a Jewish leader teach us about our own attitudes towards those who reject God's Word?

♦ DISCUSSION POINT TWO: BIAS and INTERPRETATION OF THE WORD.

How did Jesus use a leading question to get His listeners to use their minds? (Mark 12:35-37)

Might this be something we would want to learn to do too?

What would be some values of using leading questions, as opposed to making statements?

Is there also a place for making statements?

The Scribes taught that the Messiah was to be a descendant of King David, but they rejected the idea that He was also God.

What key information about this was obvious from Psalm 110:1?

Does that verse actually state "The Messiah will be God", or do you have to understand the context first?

How did their pre-conceived view about who Messiah was blind them to what the Word actually stated?

How might this same kind of bias affect how each one of us understands what is written in the Word?

What about recognized Bible teachers/preachers? Should we question what is taught by someone with seminary training and even a doctorate?

What about the footnotes in your Bible? Are we really supposed to question someone like Ryrie, Scofield, Radmacher, Dr. Jeremiah, MacArthur, Chuck Missler, or even Billy Graham?

If we do see something that seems different, how do we go about validating (or revising) what we see in Scripture?

What basic principles can guide our investigations?

If we ask someone for advice, how do we sense any of their biases?

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♦ DISCUSSION POINT THREE: THE WIDOW'S TRUST IN GOD.

In Mark 12:38-44 we see the well-known story of the tiny offering made by a widow.

What did Jesus state about the sacrifice she experienced by giving?

What does her action imply about the reality of her trust in God?

♦ FOR MEDITATION: AGÁPE

"Love" in the New Testament is not directly related to a feeling.
It is *the intent to do good to others.*

Referring to Mark 12:29-31:

What does loving God look like? How do I do that?

What does loving others look like? How do I do that?

Who should I not love, if anyone?

Compare Luke 6:27-28.

♦ PRAYER:

Pray for our individual relationships and our witness to those in our lives.

In what ways will my life influence them?

How significant are my prayers for them?

Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there.

Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Baranganon Island.

Pray for Eddie, as he grows in Christ and takes on greater responsibilities on Baranganon Island.

Thank God for Seth, who insisted on sharing his testimony openly and in person (not videotaped), even though he is very shy.

Thank God and uphold in prayer the "TFG" (Time For God) group of children and young folks who meet every day!

Pray with the strong, self-motivated women's group as they study God's Word and grow to be mature believers.