



Mark 12:13-37, Questioning Jesus

Read Mark chapter 12 verses 13 to 37 and pray for God's Spirit to be at work as you explore together these words of Jesus. We will be focusing in on verses 35-37.

1. If you could ask God one question what would it be?
2. In this section of Mark we have 2 groups and one individual who come with their questions to Jesus. They demand answers. Arrogantly they look to trap, trick and test Jesus. After Jesus answers all their questions he turns the tables and asks 2 questions himself. The 2 questions are pointing to one key question - who is Jesus? Who do we think he is? What answer would you give to Jesus' question?
3. Look again at verses 35-37. When David speaks of 'The Lord' he is referring to God the Father. When he speaks of 'my Lord' he's speaking of the Christ or Messiah (that is God's chosen future king who would be a descendent of David). David is speaking here about Jesus. How does David's description of Jesus compare to all the others? Look back at verses 14, 19 & 32.
4. Jesus won't allow us to see him just as a good teacher. What do you make of this quote from C S Lewis?



“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”¹

5. Mark’s account of Jesus is written in part to help us answer the question who is Jesus? We’ve seen he is the servant King who came to serve (chapter 10 verse 45). Here we see he is the supreme King with unrivalled authority. Do you think of him as your Lord with authority over you? What do you do when he says things you disagree with or don’t like?

¹ C S Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, pages 55-56