

Whose Son is the Christ? (Mark 12:35-40)

- The religious leaders were hell bent & united on getting Jesus, no matter the cost
- The questions from their attacks were theological, political and religious in nature
- With hatred they sought many times to discredit or undermine everything that he said
- After Jesus answered the Scribe's question in v.34, no one dared ask anything more
- Seeing they were retreating Jesus went on the attack posing to them a question

I. Jesus' Teaching About Himself (vv. 35-37)

- Most likely the Scribes were nervous when Jesus asked them this question in (v.35)
- Jesus pointed to the Old Testament which spoke of Messiah as a descendant of David
- David spoke of it (2 Sam 7:12), Isaiah & Jeremiah testified to it (Is 9:7; Jer. 23:5)
- The scribes were right in their idea that Messiah was to be a mighty deliver for Israel
- The Jesus quote from Psalm 110 added a surprise, Messiah was to be divine (v.36)
- Then Jesus asked the question: David calls Him Lord, So how is He his Son? (v.37)
- It would take divine and human being to fulfill the Scriptural requirements of Messiah
- Mark reports the Scribes had no answer, but the people heard Him gladly (v.37b)

II. Jesus' Teaching about the Antagonists (vv.35-40)

- Jesus implicitly assaulted the Scribes where it hurt most, their knowledge of Scripture
 - They had never faced the Messianic implications of Psalm 110? Why?
 - They were dominated with political & nationalistic dreams of an earthly kingdom
 - Their thoughts were of Messiah bringing earthly deliverance from Roman oppression
 - vs. 38-40 Jesus stepped up His attack, openly criticizing their actions and motives
 - vs. 39 These self-righteous hypocrites loved & sought adulation & prominence
 - Vs 40a. Jesus leveled His most scathing attack on the self-righteous leaders of Israel
 - Such indictments are devouring widows houses, and making pretense of long prayers
 - Vs 40b Those who fleeced the sheep would receive the greater judgment
 - Their abuse and misuse of the helpless sheep of God would be visited by God in wrath
- 1) What place does God's Word have in our lives? Do we love our culture more?
 - 2) Why do we serve God? Do we want others to think more highly of us.
 - 3) What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He? The most important question
- The very health of your soul will rest on what you think and understand about Christ