**“How will you respond to the Son of God?” #26**

March 13th 2022 ---- Mark 12:13-44

**“Love, Trust, and Surrender to the One Who is in Charge”**

1. Surrender to True Authority
2. Trust True Theology
3. Love the One True God
4. Surrender to the True King
5. Trust True Devotion
6. Love with Truly Everything

**“Love, Trust, and Surrender to the One Who is in Charge”**

Questions for discussion on Mark 12:13-44

*Group leaders: You have the freedom to ask & answer questions*

*"out of order" or simply choose which to discuss.*

1. Is a successful organization always dependent upon just those in authority, or does the rest of the organization play a part? For example, is “learning” in a classroom solely dependent upon having a “good” teacher? Or is “learning” the responsibility of the student as well?
2. Read Mark 12:13-17. Why do you think the Pharisees sent some to interrogate Jesus with this question *just after* He spoke the parable of the Vineyard Tenants in Mark 12:1-12? What does paying taxes to Caesar have to do with Jesus’ perspective, God’s authority, and our response?
3. The author says Jesus knew that this was meant to be “a trap or a test” and that the questioners were coming with “hypocrisy.” What was the trap? Why were they hypocrites in this question? What did it reveal?
4. Read Mark 12:18-27. The Sadducees seem to be attempting to trap Jesus as well- how do we know? Why do you think Jesus seemed more focused on saying “You are wrong” than specifically answering their loaded question? What was wrong about their theology? What does this whole discourse teach us about “majoring on the majors” in theology?
5. Read Mark 12:28-34. Why does this Scribe ask the final question to Jesus in this section? How does his question actually get down to the true center of this entire dialogue related to Jesus’ authority?
6. What does Jesus’ answer reveal about human responsibility in regard to God’s authority? What is our responsibility in submitting to God? Why does Jesus say the “2nd commandment” when it wasn’t asked about?
7. How does the scribe’s answer reveal that “he was not far from the kingdom of God?” What does it reveal about the True Heart of God?
8. Read Mark 12:35-37. Why does Jesus choose to initiate this question? What is it meant to reveal about the contemporary belief of the Scribes? How does it link to the early questions concerning Jesus’ authority?
9. Read Mark 12:38-40. Jesus briefly gives reasons why people should “beware of the Scribes.” What are they? Why are these things dangerous? Why will these things earn them “greater condemnation?”
10. Read Mark 12:41-44. How does the “widow’s offering” exemplify v. 28-31? How does it expose the motives of religious leaders? How do these 6 passages together teach us how to respond to the Son of God?