



## JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark PART 46 - 12:13-27

### A Trap for Jesus

**READ:** Mark 12:13–15a AND Psalm 12:2

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1) Why do you think the Pharisees and Herodians—groups normally opposed to each other—were willing to work together against Jesus?
- 2) What does their strategy reveal about the difference between asking honest questions and asking questions designed to trap someone?
- 3) Pastor G said: “This is not an honest search for truth. This is nothing but a sneaky setup right from the start.” What are some ways people today approach faith, Scripture, or Jesus with that same kind of agenda?
- 4) In Psalm 12:2 we read about people who speak flattering words while hiding deceit. Why is flattery such a powerful form of manipulation?

### The Wisdom of Jesus

**READ:** Mark 12:15b–17 AND Genesis 1:26–27

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Why do you think Jesus asked to see the coin instead of answering their question immediately?
- 2) What does Jesus mean when He says, “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s”?
- 3) Pastor G said: “The real question is not simply about taxes. The real question is about allegiance. Who ultimately owns your life?” How does that statement challenge the way we think about loyalty, priorities, and obedience?
- 4) Genesis says humans are made in God’s image. If the coin belongs to Caesar because it bears his image, what does it mean that we bear God’s image?

### A Question About the Resurrection

**READ:** Mark 12:18–24 AND Isaiah 55:8–9

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) Why do you think the Sadducees tried to discredit the resurrection using a hypothetical story?
- 2) Jesus says their mistake comes from not understanding Scripture or the power of God. Why are both of those important together?
- 3) Pastor G said: “When people misunderstand Scripture, they distort what God has said. When people underestimate the power of God, they limit what God can do.” Where do you see those two mistakes happening in our culture today?
- 4) Isaiah reminds us that God’s ways are higher than ours. How can our limited imagination sometimes lead us to misunderstand God’s plans?

### The God of the Living

**READ:** Mark 12:25–27 AND John 11:25–26

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1) What does Jesus teach here about the nature of the resurrection and the life to come?
- 2) Why do you think Jesus chose the story of the burning bush (*Exodus 3:6*) to prove the resurrection to the Sadducees?
- 3) Pastor G said: “Don’t build your life on a version of God that is smaller than who He really is.” What are some ways people unintentionally shrink God down to fit their expectations?

4) Jesus says God is “not the God of the dead, but of the living.” How does that truth shape the way Christians view death, hope, and the future?