

“The Hypothetical Question”
Mark 12:18-27
9/29/24
Message 30

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “The Hypothetical Question”
- **Before we Begin our Study Today let me ADD a few thoughts from last week**
 - **1st What we call lasts week message is - CLARITY**
 - **1st The Enemy Creates CONFUSION**

James 3:16 (NKJV)

16 For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

- **2nd The BIBLE Bring Clarity –**
 - We stand in - for clarity – For Truth
 - Example –
 - Benjamin Netanyahu Spoke to the UN Friday – Exposed EVIL
 - It is not wrong to expose evil in a leaders
- **3rd Application**
 - As Believers we have a responsibility to speak TRUTH into the darkness –
 - Expose the lies of the Devil
 - Now be aware

- If you stand up and speak up against the worlds lies, the world will lie about you
- They will do everything in their power to stop TRUTH from Exposing their lies
- One Example... “Christian Nationalist”
- **2nd Define – Christian Nationalist**
 - **The term is used in a derogatory way!**
 - Used by Those on the left to attempt to stop us from participating in the political process
 - When you here that term – please understand
 - It’s a form of intimidation
 - *Pastor Josh Belvins; “The term “Christian nationalist” has sadly devolved into a derogatory label wielded by leftists and secular humanists to discredit any Christian voice advocating engagement in the public sphere or the American political system.”*
 - Also please note
 - Every time they add a word to another word,
 - It is an attempt to redefine that word
 - Social Justice
 - I don’t WANT Social Justice
 - I just want JUSTICE
 - Justice is a word that stands on it’s own
 - So Christian Nationalist

- Same thing with this – were just Christians
- Attempting to add something is all about redefining
- **Please understand Our Role as Christians –**
 - Last week we talked about being involved in every area of life the Gospel must be represented and truth stood for in every walk of life
 - Now Sadly there are some believers in
 - The Post-Millennialism and Dominion Theology that believe we have to clean up the world before Christian come again...
 - This is not the CASE
 - I have Pre-Millennial / Pre-Tribulation view
 - I believe the Bible teaches us that everything in this world is going get real bad before Christ comes again
 - I also believe that we have a duty to Heaven and to Earth to BE SALT & LIGHT until He takes us home
 - I also Believe that

Proverbs 14:34 (NKJV)

34 Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.

- Meaning that Sin is a reproach the more nation or individual sins –
 - God will deal with that Sin
 - There is only so much He will allow

- When that time is done so is that person and

- **3rd Biblical Voting**

- **Before we talk about this**

- Talk about God's Love and Grace

- **The Bible says**

- That Murder is SIN / Evil
 - So Is Abortion Murder?
 - So is it wrong for the government to promote & celebrate it and pay for it?
- That Transgender is Wrong
 - So is it wrong to teach that to our kids in school?
 - So is it wrong for their to drag queen story hour?
 - So is it wrong for the government to promote, celebrate it and pay for it?
- That Pornography is Wrong
 - So is it wrong to teach that to our kids in school?
 - Why than are school libraries fill with Pornography
 - So is it wrong for the government to promote, celebrate it and pay for it?
- That Homosexuality is Wrong
 - So was it wrong for Mr. Obama to make gay marriage legal?

- So was it wrong for Mr. Obama to light up the Wight House in Gay colors
- Now I could go on and on – You get the point
- **To Bring Clarity**
 - Do you Know what these and many more moral issues have in common...
 - They are NOT just sins being done in person's life / which is bad
 - BUT they are being PROMOTED and CELEBRATED by people in power
 - What worse these same people are calling evil good and good evil...
 - Please Note
 - We will never find a perfect candidate –
 - No doubt there will be some moral failure on their part
 - BUT are they celebrating and promoting that Moral Failure as good?
 - NOW ask the million-dollar question
 - Which political party / candidate is pushing this agenda more then anyone else?
 - When you answer that question –
 - Then voting becomes a lot easier
 - The Christian

- We look for the people who will not promote or celebrate Evil
- Again - We will never find a perfect candidate BUT
- So How will I vote
 - Most of votes over the last 35 plus year have been against not for –
 - Against the agenda celebrating and promoting evil as good...

• **Illustration**

○ **Show Pic**

- ***Dr. Suess said, Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple.***

- Meaning does not have to be so hard...

- **Now in the rest of Chapter 12 we will see that lived out!**

- There will be
 - 3 complicated questions - 3 simple answers
- 1st The Pharisees & Herodians ask
 - A Political Question - Pay Taxes?
 - We Look at this last week
- 2nd The Sadducees ask
 - A Hypothetical Question - Whose Wife?
- 3rd The Scribe asks

- Which Is the First Commandment?

- **Now Remember - Context**

- **Jesus has come into Jerusalem – Celebrated as the Messiah**
 - Examined the Temple
 - Cleanses the Temple – Den of Thieves
 - Then they question Jesus' authority
- **Jesus Gave the Parable of the Vinedresser**
 - These leaders knew was about them
 - That they have rejected the CHIEF Cornerstone – Jesus
- **SO Now theses leaders are all joining together –**
 - To attempt to TRAP Jesus with questions
- **Last week we Looked at the Political Question –**
 - Whose Image
- Today we will look at the - The Hypothetical Question

- **Importance Of Correct Doctrine**

- **Question?**

- **When you hear the word “DOCTRINE”**
 - What do you think?
 - Is it a Positive or Negative feelings in you?
 - Is it exciting or boring?

- **Maybe you are wonder what is Doctrine?**
 - Doctrine is simply put:
 - Explain the Doctrine of Soteriology = Salvation
- **Sadly - Many don't Like the word Doctrine**
 - **We live in a day when DOCTRINE has become an unpleasant word**
 - Sadly, even among “Evangelical Christians”
 - **The popular cry of our day is...**
 - All we NEED is LOVE
 - So we are Guilted
 - To set aside all Doctrines that Divide us
 - Come together on the basis of our common “love for Jesus”
 - Tolerance
 - Unity
 - Life
 - Experience
 - Feelings are what matter
 - Theology is stuffy, dry, and dead
 - **Sadly - a person who STANDS STRONG on DOCTRINE**
 - Is viewed as...

- Difficult and Divisive
- Unkind and Unloving
- Negative

- **Truth is Truth**

- **It is not negative or positive, It is Truth**

- **How we receive Truth - Reflects our hearts**

- **Today's Study Shows us that Jesus has a huge problem with their - Hypothetical Question & Their False Doctrine**

- The Aim Of The Sadducees vs. 18-23
- The Answer Jesus Gave vs. 24-27

The Aim Of The Sadducees vs. 18-23

- **First: The Sadducees v. 18**

Mark 12:18 (NKJV)

18 *Then some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him; and they asked Him, saying:*

- **1st The Sadducees**
 - Were mostly
 - Upper class, educated, rationalistic, the liberal religious group of their day
 - They didn't believe in...
 - Miracles
 - Angels
 - The Resurrection

- Life after Death Resurrection
- In a Future Judgment
- That's why they were "sad-you-see"
- They only accepted the first 5 books of the Old Testament
 - ALSO Claiming that nowhere in those books was there any talk of life after death
- **2nd How did they arrive at these beliefs?**
 - PRIDE
 - Their beliefs were probably shaped by their behavior
 - They had become the
 - Ruling class
 - In control of the Temple (Position)
 - Liberals of their day (Educated)
 - Wealthy
 - They were MATERIALISTIC, enjoying the things of the world
 - This life was all that they were living for
- **3rd Application**
 - Whether people in our world will admit it or not
 - Most of the people in our culture are Sadducees TO SOME degree
 - Our culture is certainly resembles the Sadducees

- **Ruling class**

- Only want to be served / NEVER serve

- **Liberals of their day (Educated)**

2 Timothy 3:7 (NKJV)

7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- **Wealthy**

- They were MATERIALISTIC, enjoying the things of the world

- **No After Life**

- Just live for the day
 - This life is therefore all that they are really living for.

- **You are dealing with Sadducees everyday**

- Be LOVING and KIND
 - Stand STRONG on the TRUTH
 - Remember;
 - They attack you, or your testimony.
 - We can learn a lot from Jesus' strategy for answering them.

- **Second: Moses Did Teach v. 19**

Mark 12:19 (NKJV)

19 *“Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a man’s brother dies, and leaves his wife behind, and leaves no children, his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.*

- **1st The Law**

- Moses did teach this in God's Law (Deuteronomy 25:5 & 6)
 - It was called - Levirate Marriage

- **2nd What is the LAW**

- Levirate marriage is the practice of a woman marrying one of her dead husband's brothers after her husband's untimely death
 - BUT ONLY if they did not have kids
 - If they had KIDS the Responsibility to take care of the mother fell to them
 - This was done in order to continue his line and protect his inheritance
 - It is a necessary practice
 - To ensure the women would be taken care
 - The Family would continue
- Examples
 - In Genesis 38 Judah sons and Tamar
 - Er
 - Onan
 - Judah refused to give his last son Shelah (he must have wanted a Girl)
 - SO Tamar becomes a prostitute / sleeps with Judah

- Tamar has twins her son Perez as an ancestor of Jesus the Messiah

- **Third: Their Mis-Honest Illustration vs. 20-23**

Mark 12:20–23 (NKJV)

20 Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife; and dying, he left no offspring.

21 And the second took her, and he died; nor did he leave any offspring. And the third likewise.

22 So the seven had her and left no offspring. Last of all the woman died also.

23 Therefore, in the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be? For all seven had her as wife.”

- **1st The Sadducees Attempt to UNDERMINE God’s Word**

- **The Sadducees argued that any thought of resurrection from the dead**

- Was contradicted by levirate marriage
- Because you would never be able to sort-out the relationships

- **It was a question that had always worked for them...**

- No one had ever answered it to their satisfaction.

- **2nd Application**

- **1st Unbelievers may attempt to undermine the Word**

- Their questions might be
 - Can God make a rock so big He cannot lift it?
 - Who made God?
 - Or what about this tribe or that tribe?
 - If God is Love...

- Why did my child die?
 - Why is there so much suffering in the world?
- These are attempts to undermine God's Word
 - So in their minds they don't have to believe
- Please NOTE
 - If they can't undermine His Word –
 - They will undermine you
 - Continue to give every man an answer as best you can but know they may not like it
- **2nd The Sadducees didn't know the Scriptures**
 - They rejected the Bible with exceptions of the first 5 books
 - One reason why a believe can be Immature
 - They are not really reading and studying the Word of God
 - Maybe they have read a steady diet of "Christians Books" But not really read the Bible
 - Maybe they have worldly philosophy in them that they miss God's Truth
 - Encourage – Be in the Word – YES THE OT
 - Just some thoughts

- If you watch TV, Internet, secular music, video games, etc... More than the Word – not a good place to be

2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Acts 17:11 (NKJV)

11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

The Answer Jesus Gave vs. 24-27

• First: He Clarified The State Of Believers In Heaven vs. 24-25

- **1st Are you not therefore mistaken v. 24**

Mark 12:24 (NKJV)

24 Jesus answered and said to them, “*Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?*”

▪ The Sadducees Had the WRONG Idea About heaven

- That it was just this same life lived forever.
- Jesus shattered their thinking
 - Jesus showed a completely different principle and in a dimension that we can't imagine.
- **Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?**
 - NOTE:
 - Jesus Responded to the Sadducees False Teaching
 - How He DID NOT respond

- You know guys,
 - The important thing is that we all love God and one another
 - Don't worry if one guys does not believe that I am God
 - Or that another does not believe in hell
 - Or another does not believe in the Resurrection
 - After all, love, not doctrine, is the main thing."
- Rather, Jesus forcefully refuted their doctrinal error.
 - They were mistaken
- So Apparently...
 - Sound Doctrine mattered a great deal to Jesus!
- **2nd Application Why is SOUND Doctrine IMPORTANT**
 - **1st It matters to Jesus – So IT MUST matter to Us**
 - Jesus Taught
 - That There is Such a Thing as Doctrinal Truth & Doctrinal Error, And that Truth Matter
 - Jesus Shows Us
 - That The Source of Sound Doctrine Is Not Human Reason,
 - But Scripture Properly Interpreted

- You cannot be in Submission To Jesus and Knowingly Hold To False Doctrine on Core Matters
- Holding To False Doctrine stems From Sin And Results in Sin
- **2nd It will KEEPS People in a proper relationship with God**
 - So we should be VERY CONCERNED about sound doctrine
 - So We MUST Hold Fast to Doctrine

2 Timothy 1:13 (NKJV)

13 *Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.*

- **3rd Popular Confusions**
 - 1st Hell
 - A few years ago - Larry King
 - He had on the show
 - Deepak Chopra (Indian Guru)
 - A Rabbi
 - John MacArthur, and Bruce Wilkinson.
 - Both Mr. Chopra and the Rabbi talked about how they did not believe in hell because they could not believe that God would make such a place nor send people there.
 - John's response was that it really didn't make any difference what they believed. What counted was what God has told us.
 - Jesus spoke a lot about hell

- Heaven
 - Another very common misunderstanding people have is about the requirements to get into heaven.
 - Most people in America have this notion that if you want to go to heaven, you must be a good person.
 - The Bible teaches
 - ABC

▪ **4th We MUST defend Doctrine**

Jude 3–4 (NKJV)

3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Most of the NT deals with correcting sound doctrine
- So PLEASE
 - Don't buy into the current trend to sacrifice core Biblical Truth on the Altar of "Love and Unity"
 - We must be kind and gracious in our manner and we must not quarrel over minor issues

▪ Let's see How Jesus dealt with this

- **2nd They neither marry nor are given in marriage v. 25**

Mark 12:25 (NKJV)

25 For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Luke 20:34–36 (NKJV)

34 Jesus answered and said to them, *“The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage.*

35 *But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;*

36 *nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.*

▪ **1st In This Age v. 34**

- In this WORLD we marry
 - In HEAVEN we will not
 - There will be no need / we live forever
 - No need to procreate

▪ **2nd Neither marry nor are given in marriage vs. 35**

- Those who make it to heaven will find that there is no marriage in heaven.
- Now if you have a great marriage this is a bummer
- Jesus is ALL WE NEED

▪ **3rd Nor can they die anymore v. 36**

- **We will never DIE**
- John describes heaven like this

Revelation 21:4 (NKJV)

4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

- In heaven you will finally experience life to it's fullest.

- We will no longer be Weighed down by your sin nature
- We will no longer be tempted or give in to temptation.
- You will have no more pain or sorrow
- We will see our loved ones who died in CHRIST
- MOST IMPORTANTLY We will see JESUS face to FACE

• **Second: Jesus Challenged Their Theology With Scripture vs. 26-27**

- **1st Concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read vs. 26a**

Mark 12:26 (NKJV)

26 But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the burning bush passage, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?

▪ **The Sadducees argued**

- That there were no references to the resurrection in the Torah
- This is NOT TRUE
- Jesus REFUTED their False Doctrine

▪ **Jesus Answered - Moses at the burning bush**

- Jesus is now going to teach the Sadducees about the reality of life after death from a passage in Exodus.
- They only believed in the first five books of the Bible (Torah).
 - That's where Exodus is...

- They would even say that they didn't believe in a resurrection because Moses never said anything about it.
- Jesus is going to pick out a passage from the part they believed in.
- **2nd I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob v. 26a**

Mark 12:26 (NKJV)

26 *But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the burning bush passage, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?*

▪ **The God of Abraham**

- Jesus takes us back to Moses and the Burning Bush.
- The verse in question is,

Exodus 3:6 (NKJV)

6 *Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.*

- God didn't say,
 - "I WAS the God of thy father, the God of Abraham ... etc".
 - God said, "I AM ..."
- God isn't the God of those who are dead, gone, and passed out of existence.
 - He is the God of those who live, even if they've gone through death on this side of eternity.
- **2nd The were Stumped (Luke 20:39-40)**

Luke 20:39–40 (NKJV)

39 *Then some of the scribes answered and said, “Teacher, You have spoken well.”*

40 *But after that they dared not question Him anymore.*

- Jesus answered their big question
- They decided to quit asking Him questions

Closing

- Peanuts Comic and sound theology – **Show Pic**