

*the gospel of*  
MARK

**Big *Show***  
**or**  
**Big *Faith?***

Mark 12:35-44; Ps. 110:1

- Jesus has been addressing His adversaries:

(1) Theologically (11:27-33)

-*“From where does True authority emanate?”*

(2) Politically (12:13-17)

-*“Give to God what His image is on.”*

- Jesus has been addressing His adversaries:

(3) Doctrinally (12:18-27)

- *“God is the God of the Living, not the Dead”*

(4) Religiously (12:28-34)

- *“Loving God and loving mankind cannot be separated”*

# Mark 12:35-40

# Big Show or Big Faith?

1. Who were the "Scribes"?

(a) Experts in the Law; Biblical scholars

(b) Wore specific clothes, followed a distinct dress code

*"Ecclesiastical swans regally gliding amongst the common mudhens of society"* Hughes, p. 308

# Mark 12:35-40

# Big Show or Big Faith?

2. What was Jesus "driving at"?

(a) Exposing their limited understanding of the Messiah

i. 2 Sa. 7:12; Is. 9:7; Jer. 23:5

(b) Quotes Ps. 110:1 (Acts 2:34-36; Heb. 1:13; Rom. 1:3-4)

i. "*The Lord said to my Lord...*" –David

# Mark 12:35-40

# Big Show or Big Faith?

3. Why is this a significant distinction?

(a) The Scribes' focus on EARTHLY things prevented them from knowing the Messiah Fully and Truly!

(b) Do we not also hide shallow devotion to the Lord behind superficial religious "behavior"?

# Mark 12:35-40

# Big Show or Big Faith?

3. Why is this a significant distinction?

(c) More consumed with Earthly/material things than with devotion to Jesus

- My reputation, comfort, possessions

- My political team “winning”, my autonomy/freedom

- We pick and choose which of Jesus’ teachings to follow

# Mark 12:41-44

# Big Show or Big Faith?

## 1. Setting and Observable Behavior

(a) Jesus, at the Temple, is watching people give.

(b) The Wealthy make big donations, but the widow puts in a very small amount.

-Costs the wealthy *nothing*, costs her EVERYTHING.

# Mark 12:41-44

# Big Show or Big Faith?

2. What was Jesus “driving at”?

(a) Is this just about money?

-No, but it's not NOT about money, either!

\* *“The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil”* 1 Tim. 6:10

-Marriages end; churches split; people end their lives; families break apart; crime increases

# Mark 12:41-44

# Big Show or Big Faith?

2. What was Jesus “driving at”?

(b) What does it mean to be “all in” with Jesus?

-demonstrates total trust, security and commitment

\*Relationships; Parenting; Marriage/singleness;

\* Future; plans/purpose; job; mission;

\*Personal purity; church service; community;

(1) Why is it so crucial that we correctly worship Jesus as God? Isn't it just important that I love people well?

(2) In what areas is money an idol in my life? What are the attitudes and emotions that arise when I engage it?

(3) What does it mean to be "all in" with Jesus? Where have I compromised total trust and dependence on Him?