



Bible Reading Group

The gospel of Mark

Chapter 12

Parable of the vineyard (12:1-12)

- 1 Where is Jesus when he is teaching this parable?
- 2 Some parables give you a clue as to the lesson that is being taught by the way they end (the postscript). Does this one do so?
- 3 v10-11 is an Old Testament quotation. From where is this quoted? Why quote it at the end of the parable?
- 4 Who sought to lay hands on Jesus?
- 5 What does the vineyard represent?
- 6 Do all the facets of the vineyard (v1) represent things, i.e. hedge, wine vat and tower?
- 7 Who do the servants (v3-5) represent?
- 8 What is the fulfillment of v7-9?
- 9 Who are the "others" to whom the vineyard was given?
- 10 Has verse 9 been fulfilled?

Paying taxes to Caesar (12:13-17)

- 11 Who were the Herodians? (v13)
- 12 Why were they praising Jesus? (v14)
- 13 Why did they think this was a good question to ask him?
- 14 What is a denarius? (or penny KJV)
- 15 Why did his answer leave them speechless?

Questions about the resurrection (12:18–27)

- 16 Who are the Sadducees (as distinct from the Pharisees)? What did they believe if they did not believe in resurrection?
- 17 *Why* do they not believe in the resurrection?
- 18 Where did Moses write this? (v19)
- 19 “in the resurrection” — does this refer to more than the actual day of resurrection?
- 20 Why did they misunderstand the Scriptures?
- 21 Verse 25 — where do the scriptures say this?
- 22 Where do you find this quotation?
- 23 How does this prove there is a resurrection?
- 24 What does it mean (v27) “the God of the living”?

The first commandment (12:28–34)

- 25 What does *first* actually mean?
- 26 *Why* do the *scribes* ask this question?
- 27 Where do you find the first commandment in the Old Testament? It occurs twice.
- 28 Is the second commandment (v31) part of the 10 Commandments?
- 29 If not, where does it come from?
- 30 The comment of this scribe includes a comment about the lesser value of offering burnt offerings? Is this comment supported in the Old Testament?
- 31 How can we show our love for God in the way he wants us to?
- 32 What did Jesus mean in saying he was “not far from the Kingdom of God?”
- 33 Why were they not willing to ask him any further questions? Did they not want to learn?

The son of David (12:35–37)

- 34 Notice he is still in the Temple — why is he still there? How long to his arrest?
- 35 When had Jesus been called 'the Son of David' previously?
- 36 Why would some address Jesus in this way?
- 37 Where is this quotation (v36) from?
- 38 Is this the only time this is quoted in the New Testament?
- 39 Why does Jesus say that David said this "by the Holy Spirit"?
- 40 What was the point of Jesus asking this question?
- 41 Why did they not answer his question?
- 42 Why did the common people hear him gladly?

Beware of the scribes (12:38–40)

- 43 Who were *scribes* as distinct from Pharisees and Sadducees?
- 44 What should these scribes have been doing so that they would be above criticism?
- 45 Did Jesus tell a parable that highlighted this problem?
- 46 What is it to receive 'greater condemnation'?

The principles of giving (12:41–44)

- 47 Why did they have the treasury box so it could be seen of men?
- 48 How should we "give"?
- 49 What would have motivated the widow to give everything?