

REVEALED

An Exposition of the Book of Mark



Live for What is Truly Valuable

Mark 12:35-44

Main Idea

Jesus is the Lord and we should value him above all things.

I. Jesus sees Himself as Lord

- Jesus quotes Ps. 110.1: referring to the Christ (Himself)
 - Jesus concludes that the Christ if called by David “the Lord” is not only a son...implying that he, the Christ must be the Lord
 - The clear implication is that Jesus sees Himself as the Christ as the Lord
- This shouldn't surprise us as we have seen the author present him as such
 - Mark 1.3
 - Forgiving Sins
 - Healing sick
 - Calming storms, etc.
- This Lord reveals His mission as well
 - He will sit at right hand of God with enemies under His feet
 - Enemies are all that do not display God through sin

II. Outward religion void of inward devotion receives what it values

- Jesus says to “beware” of the Scribes
 - These were the Law teachers of the day
 - They did two things that caused Jesus to warn
 - In the name of “religion” they brought glory to themselves
 - They took advantage of the less fortunate
 - In both instances these Scribes illustrated what they truly valued, themselves
 - This then indicates that they actually do not love the Lord their God with all heart, mind, soul, and strength
 - They ultimately valued what was not valuable: themselves

III. Inward devotion motivated by love for God lives for what is truly valuable

- Widowed woman is inserted here to illustrate what it truly means to love the Lord (Jesus), with all heart, mind, soul, and strength
- Widowed woman gave all she had
- This was more than what the rich gave
- Widow woman gave from poverty, not abundance
- The widowed woman valued what was truly valued
- She did not live for or apparently long for attention like Scribes
- She was clearly someone that valued the Lord above all else

Questions

Discussion Starter: What are some things people really value in our culture? Why do they value these things?

Transition: Those who Love God with all their heart, soul, mind, strength live for what is truly valuable, the Lord himself.

1. How is Jesus presented as the Lord in this passage?
2. What does it say of the character of God that the Lord would descend into sinful humanity to rescue us from our sin (the enemy) that we might be brought to God?
3. If Jesus is the Lord, discuss areas in your life where you do not submit to His Lordship and attempt to reign over Him.
4. How can we recognize “religious” teachers that attempt to bring glory to themselves?
5. What is it that is so dangerous about these Scribes that Jesus would want to warn them of them?
6. Discuss some ways that we inside the church do the same things these Scribes have done.
7. How does the Scribes actions illustrate what they truly value?
8. How does one learn to value what is truly valuable like the widowed woman?
9. What are some areas in your lives that are indicating you want recognition instead of cultivating a heart that simply wants to give God your all in humility?
10. How can we cultivate a life of desiring the people and things that are truly valuable like the widowed woman and be willing to give all we have?
11. How does the Scribes not love God and neighbor and where does the widow love God and neighbor?
12. How was Jesus, the Lord more like the widowed woman than the Scribes? Discuss how the Gospel can likewise be applied to you.