

Assignments on Mark 12

Please read Mark 12 and answer the following questions.

1. In Jesus' parable, what did the owner do with his vineyard – 12:1? What did he expect in return from the vinedressers – 12:2?

2. Instead of fulfilling their obligations, what did the vinedressers do to the owner's servants – 12:2-5? What does this show you about the vinedressers?

3. What does 12:12 tell us about the application of this parable? Based on that explanation, who is represented by the landowner and who is represented by the vinedressers?

4. How does this parable fit with the discussion Jesus had with the Jewish leaders at the end of chapter 11?

5. Whom did the servants represent? In what sense had the Jewish leaders failed to give God the fruit or produce that He deserved?

6. Whom did the owner finally send – 12:6-8? How did they treat him?

7. Who is represented by the son? What is represented by the treatment given him by the vinedressers?

8. **Special Assignment:** What question did Jesus ask to make application – 12:9? Explain what application Jesus intended to make to the Jewish leaders and the Jewish nation.

9. **Application:** What can we learn from examples like this to help us understand the skill of Jesus as a teacher? How can parables such as this be useful to us in our teaching?

10. What Old Testament passage did Jesus quote then – 12:10,11? What did it say?

11. Explain how this passage applied to the Jewish leaders. How did they react to the teaching – 12:12?

12. Who came to Jesus next – 12:13? How did they begin their questioning of Jesus, and what was their motive – 12:13,14?

13. What question did they ask Jesus – 12:14,15? Explain why this would be a difficult question.

14. What did Jesus ask them to bring – 12:15? What question did He ask them about it – 12:16? What was the answer?

15. What conclusion did Jesus reach to answer their question – 12:17? How did the people react?

16. **Application:** Explain the significance of the answer Jesus gave. What application should we make regarding submission to civil government and paying taxes? What does this teach us about the nature of Jesus' kingdom?

17. Again, what does this show about Jesus' skill as a teacher? What lessons should we learn for our teaching?

18. Who came next to question Jesus – 12:18? What unique beliefs did these people hold – see Acts 23:8?

19. What consequences would follow from the doctrine these people held? What groups or types of people today hold similar views?

20. Describe the story that they told Jesus – 12:19-23.

21. What Old Testament principle was the basis of their question? Give Old Testament book, chapter, and verse.

22. Explain why this question would appear to be difficult for Jesus and all believers in the resurrection to answer.

23. How did Jesus answer the question about the woman who had 7 husbands – 12:24,25? Explain how this was a good answer.

24. **Case Study:** Name some groups today that believe in marriage after death. How can we use this context to respond to them?

25. What reasons did Jesus give to explain the Sadducees' confusion – 12:24? What does this show about Jesus' willingness to debate and confront people in error?

26. What passage did Jesus use to respond to the Pharisees' view about the resurrection – 12:26? Where is it found?

27. What observation did Jesus make in order to apply the passage – 12:27? Explain how this disproved the view of the Sadducees.

28. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from Jesus' use of Scripture? What application can we make to those who believe the Scriptures were not inspired or were not accurately preserved over the centuries? Explain.

29. **Case Study:** Define necessary inference. Some people teach that conclusions based on necessary inferences are not binding or valid. What can we learn about necessary inferences from the teaching that Jesus did with the Sadducees?

30. Who next asked Jesus a question – 12:28? What question did he ask?

31. What did Jesus say was the greatest command – 12:29,30? What did He say was the second-greatest command – 12:31? Where are these found in the Old Testament?

32. According to Matthew's account, how does this relate to other Bible commands? What can we learn about the importance of obedience? (Think: Were the greatest commands part of the 10 Commandments? What can we learn?)

33. **Application:** List some Biblical principles about what it means to love God and love others. Give Scriptures to prove what you say.

34. How did the scribe respond to Jesus, and how did He respond to the scribe – 12:32-34?

35. What Old Testament passage did Jesus then quote about the Christ – 12:35,36? Where is it found?

36. What question did Jesus ask about the passage – 12:35-37?

37. Why would this be a difficult question for the Pharisees to answer? What is the correct answer to the question? Explain it.

38. What warning did Jesus give about the scribes – 12:38,39? What did the conduct of the scribes demonstrate about their character?

39. What else were the scribes guilty of – 12:40? What does this show about them?

40. **Application:** List other passages about the hypocrisy and improper motives of the scribes and Pharisees. What application should we make to practices of people today?

41. How did the gift of the poor widow compare to that of the rich people – 12:41,42? How did the size of their gifts compare?

42. Who did Jesus say had given the greater gift – 12:43,44? Explain why.

43. What does this event show about how God evaluates the gifts of those who serve Him? What should we learn about our giving?

44. **Application:** Explain how the principle that Jesus taught here applies to other areas of our service to God besides just giving.