

Sermon Discussion Questions

January 23, 2022

Mark 12:13-27

1. Last week we saw the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders confront Jesus in the temple courts. This week it's the Pharisees and the Herodians first, then the Sadducees next. Why are all these important religious authorities confronting Jesus in the Jerusalem temple at Passover? What is all the fuss about? What drives them to try and trap Jesus in his words?
2. If you were to unpack this phrase, "give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's" after having listened to the sermon, how would you describe what Jesus is communicating? What might this mean for your life?
3. In verse 26, Jesus quotes Exodus 3. When he does this, Jesus doesn't actually quote Moses, he quotes God. What do you think the significance is of Jesus repeating the very words of God in the Jerusalem temple at Passover in front of the Sadducees?
4. In the sermon, Andrew suggested that the early Christian church understood Jesus teaching on the image of God and the resurrection. He suggested that those who weren't necessarily in positions of power (women, children, slaves) embraced the idea that they were created in the image of God and that because of their faith in Christ they would be resurrected just like Jesus was. This changed their lives, the life of their community, and what they were willing to risk for the Kingdom of God. How do these ideas change your perspective on what is most important, your perspective on the future, and the value of human life?
5. What's the best thing you heard during the sermon? What questions are you wrestling with as you leave?