

Week VI - Mark 11:1-13:37

Judgement - Challenge - Challenger

I. Mark 11:1-11 - Triumphant Entry

- Compare Jesus' Gospel to Roman Gospel
- Notice clandestine aspect of Entry
 - See a colt - untie it
 - Someone questions you, Say - The Lord...
 - Jesus enters the temple - reconnaissance work - late

II. A, B, A Structure of Cleansing of the Temple

- How does the cursing of the Fig Tree inform the cleansing of the Temple.
- What is the purpose of the cleansing?
- Do you think Jesus' action changes anything?

C. Jesus Challenged 3 Times

11:27 - Jesus' Authority Questioned

12:13 - Questioned about paying taxes

12:18 - Jesus Questioned about Resurrection

Notice Jesus becomes the Questioner - 12:35

D. Parable of the Tenant - 12:12

- Notice that the Scribes clearly understood the parable. What is the result of their understanding?

E. 12:28 - Jesus and Scribes Agree

- Why is there agreement between Jesus and Scribes on the great commandment now?

F. 12:38-13:2 - In spite of agreement, Jesus announces Judgement upon the Scribes and Destruction of the Temple

- How bad is the failure of the Scribes to care for the widow?

G. 13:3-38 - The Little Apocalypse

- Apocalypse means “unveiling” or “revealing.”
- What is being “unveiled” or “Revealed?”
- Is there a difference between “predicting” the future or “describing” the collapse of society?

Observations While Reading

- I. Prophetic Theater of Triumphant Entry - 11:1
- II. A-B-A structure of Fig tree cursing and Temple Cleansing - 11:12
- III. Jesus Challenged, Jesus Challenging
- IV. Scribes Understand the Parable - 12:12
- V. What does it mean that the Scribes and Jesus agree? 12:28
- VI. Judgement of Scribes and Destruction of Temple - 13:38-13:2
- V. 13:3-37 - Little Apocalypse
Is Jesus predicting or describing?

Questions for Reflections

- Read or Watch the National/World News - Offer prayers for God's Kingdom to be revealed
- Consider the fig tree and Temple - then ask yourself - How am I bearing fruit today?
- Jesus and the scribes agree that Loving God and Loving neighbor is the great commandment. Ask God to "open your heart and Kindle in it a spark of his love." - Jean Nicholas Grou