

Sermon Outline

CHALLENGE #3: FROM HUMAN EXPERIENCE | Geoff Lin

Bible Reading: Mark 12:18-27 (p.1445)

Meet Jesus		
1/2	Enter the King	Mk 11:1-11
8/2	A King to shake up the status quo	Mk 11:12-25
15/2	Challenge #1: from the religious elite	Mk 11:27-12:12
22/2	Challenge #2: from secular society	Mk 12:13-17
1/3	Challenge #3: from human experience	Mk 12:18-27
8/3	Challenge #4: from "religion"	Mk 12:28-34
15/3	Challenge #5: from Jesus	Mk 12:35-44
22/3	The End of the World	Mk 13:1-37
29/3	The Last Supper	Mk 14:1-26
3/4	Good Friday: "Surely this man was the Son of God!"	Mk 14:27-15:47
5/4	Easter Sunday: "He has risen! He is not here!"	Mk 16:1-8

1. "The Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection" (vv18-23)

Mk 3:6 Then the **Pharisees** went out and began to plot with the **Herodians** how they might kill Jesus.

Mk 11:18 The **chief priests** and **the teachers of the law** heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

- Deuteronomy 25:5-10

- the Pentateuch = Genesis>Exodus>Leviticus>Numbers/Deuteronomy

- the Sadducees were nihilists

2. "Are you not in error? ... You are badly mistaken!" (vv24-27)

- "in error" (v24) = "mistaken" (v28) ... so "badly mistaken" = "very much in error"

i. Error #1: about the nature of marriage and the resurrection

- "the resurrection" ≈ "heaven" (aka "the life to come")

- is Jesus only talking about new marriages?

- what does "be like the angels" mean?

The purpose of marriage

i. Why God gave us marriage in the first place

- Gen 1: to enable humanity to be fruitful/multiply so we could fill and subdue the earth
- Gen 2: to deal with the problem of being alone

ii. What marriage points us towards

- Eph 5: marriage illustrates God's proactive and pre-emptive love for His people

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

- Rev 21: God's people are described as a "bride, beautifully dressed for her husband"

Rev 21:1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

ii. Error #2: about Scripture (and specifically the Pentateuch)

Ex 3:5 "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." 6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

- "I am" vs "I was" ...

3. So what, for us?

1 Cor 15:17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1 Cor 15:20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Mk 12:28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

Mk 12:34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.