

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Who were the Pharisees? Who were the Sadducees?
2. Why did they try to “trap” Jesus with their questioning?
3. How could we respond to a “trap” prepared by others?
4. What are some of the reasons why Christians are asked certain questions?
5. When asked a specific question to which we don’t know the exact answer, what do we do?
6. How does God give wisdom?
7. Is the wisdom God gives only for spiritual matters, or can it also be applied to the physical side of life?

SUMMARY:

Jesus’ critics were continually watching, not only His actions but even His very words. From our own experiences we know how difficult it is when we must continually be on our guard so that we say everything “just right.” Yet the Word of God gives us the assurance that the Holy Ghost speaking through us can confound the critics and those who would judge and condemn us. May we learn from this lesson the power of the “wisdom that is from above”^[SoF:9] and then let us ask of God for this wisdom.

NOTES:

^[SoF:9] We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #10

December 4, 2022

Fourth Quarter

THE KING’S WISDOM

LESSON TEXT: *Matthew 22:15-33*

LESSON SETTING: Just prior to the Feast of the Passover, the leaders of the Jews came to question Jesus.

TIME: About 33 A.D.

I. DECEITFUL ATTACKS. Matthew 22:15-17, 23-28

- A. Plotting (vs. 15) Psalm 36:4; 37:12; Proverbs 6:12-14; John 5:16; 11:47
- B. Traps Set (vs. 16, 24-28) Psalm 35:7; Psalm 119:110; 140:5; Mark 12:13; Luke 11:54
- C. Flattery (vs. 16) Luke 20:21; Psalm 12:3; Proverbs 28:23

II. DISCREET ANSWERS. Matthew 22:18-22, 29-33

- A. Wisdom of Jesus (vs. 21, 29-32) Isaiah 11:2; Matthew 13:54; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Colossians 2:3
- B. Men Silenced (vs. 33) Ezekiel 16:63; Acts 4:14; Titus 2:8; 1 Peter 2:15
- C. Astonishment at Jesus’ Doctrine (vs. 33) Matthew 15:31; Mark 4:41; 7:37

GOLDEN TEXT: *IF ANY OF YOU LACK WISDOM, LET HIM ASK OF GOD, THAT GIVETH TO ALL MEN LIBERALLY, AND UPBRAIDETH NOT; AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN HIM.* James 1:5

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Mark 12:28-34; Romans 13:8-10

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Deuteronomy 6:1-25;
Matthew 22:34-40

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: THE KING'S GREATEST COMMANDMENT

INTRODUCTION:

One of the Scribes, seeing the wisdom with which Jesus answered the Sadducees, brought a question to Him concerning which commandment was the greatest. To sum it all up, the answer given was that love is the greatest commandment. First of all, love for God, then love for our fellow man.

It is well if we note how great a measure of love is required in loving God: With all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind and with all our strength. Yet how often we see a love for the things of life, our occupations, our pleasures, our homes, our families, etc. take such a place in our lives that precious little time, strength and devotion is left for God. How little time actually is spent in prayer, in reading God's Word, in attending church services, in visiting the sick, the widows and orphans. James writes "pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27)

This includes too our love for our neighbor. Perhaps God is measuring our love for our neighbor by the amount of time we spend in visiting the unsaved and declaring to them their need of salvation. Surely we must have a love for them if we are to win them for the Lord.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Love to God and men is the supreme manifestation of the Christian life.

GOLDEN TEXT: *A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE UNTO YOU,
THAT YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER . . .*

John 13:34

This new commandment that Jesus gives us is the old one brought to us in a more specific way and in a new approach. People apparently did not understand its application in its previous presentation in the Ten Commandments. Now no doubts are left in anyone's mind what God truly had intended.

There are no exceptions, no "ifs" or "buts" to limit this love. No excuses whereby we might change this. In fact, Jesus also states "by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love for one another." (John 13:35) We see that even the witness of our discipleship is evident in our love for one another.

Our Golden Text is not the complete verse. The remainder of the verse shows us the measure of this love. We are to love one another with the same love that Jesus had for us when He gave His life on Calvary's cross. Let us ask ourselves if we have attained this measure of love and, if not, why not?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF December 5 – 11

- M. *The King's Greatest Commandment. Mark 12:28-34
- T. The Importance of Love. 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
- W. Loving our Neighbors. Leviticus 19:9-18
- T. Love, Basis of the Law. Deuteronomy 6:4-15
- F. *Love, Fulfillment of the Law. Romans 13:1-10
- S. Love in Deed and Truth. 1 John 3:11-18
- S. Love and Light. 1 John 2:1-11

Visit www.accfoundation.org for this and other Bible class lessons