

The Testing of the Lamb of God Mark 12:13-40

We need a proper understanding of the lamb before the Lamb Exodus 12:3-6

“Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers’ households, a lamb for each household... Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old... You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight.”

The scrutiny of the lamb of God, Jesus encounters the traps of the Sanhedrin Mark 12:13-34

Mark 12:13 – *“Then they *sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him in order to trap Him in a statement.”*

Trap #1: A Question of Authority (Priests + Elders) - Mark 11:27-12:12

Attack	Answer	Response
Matt 21:23	Matt 21:24-27	“And answering Jesus, they said, ‘We do not know.’” Matt 21:27
Mark 11:27-28	Mark 11:29-33	“And so they left Him and went away.” Mark 12:12
Luke 20:1-2	Luke 20:3-9	“They answered that they did not know where it came from.” Luke 20:9

Trap #2: A Question of Politics (Pharisees + Herodians) - Mark 12:13-17

Attack	Answer	Response
Matt 22:15-17	Matt 22:18-22	“hearing this, they were amazed, and leaving Him, they went away.” Matt 22:22
Mark 12:13-15	Mark 12:15-17	“And they were amazed at Him.” Mark 12:17
Luke 20:20-22	Luke 20:23-26	“And they were unable to catch Him in a saying in the presence of the people; and being amazed at His answer, they became silent.” Luke 20:26

Trap #3: A Question of Theology (Sadducees) - Mark 12:18-27

Attack	Answer	Response
Matt 22:23-28	Matt 22:29-33	“When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at His teaching.” Matt 22:33
Mark 12:18-23	Mark 12:24-27	“One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well...” Mark 12:28
Luke 20:27-33	Luke 20:34-40	“they did not have courage to question Him any longer about anything.” Luke 20:40

Trap #4: A Question of Theology (Pharisees) - Mark 12:28-34

Attack	Answer	Response
Matt 22:34-36	Matt 22:37-40	“No one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him another question.” Matt 22:46
Mark 12:28	Mark 12:29-34	“After that, no one would venture to ask Him anymore questions.” Mark 12:34

Jesus is the Lamb who won the battle, but the war is not over yet Mark 12:35-40

Mark 12:35 – “And Jesus began to say...“How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David?”

- “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose Son is He?”
 - His humanity, He is David’s son
 - His deity, He is David’s Lord

This One Who rode into Jerusalem a few days earlier proved to be without spot or blemish.

Digging Deeper + LifeGroup Discussion:

It would be a worthwhile study this week to read through this “Scrutiny of the Lamb” section in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. The passages are all outlined above. Look at the intentionality of the Sanhedrin to discredit Jesus to preserve their own roles and positions. Look at the patience of Jesus in taking them to task in each instance. Beyond this, read two more sections. First, read Mark 12:38-40. It is Jesus’ warning to the crowd, who at the time, Mark said, “*the large crowd enjoyed listening to Him.*” He warns them about the religious ruling parties in Jerusalem and says not to get pulled into their own distortion of self-importance and pride. Then read Matthew 23 and Jesus’ categorical take-down of the establishment in Jerusalem as He pronounces eight woes upon them.

- **What are the molehills we’ve made mountains out of and where do we need to recenter our hearts?**
- Sometimes the next obvious step in our lives should be faith and movement toward Jesus, but because of our pride, we dig in our feet and remain obstinate. **Have you seen this in your own life or in someone else?**
- **Where have our minds been convinced, but our hearts remain hardened?**

In Response:

COMMUNION: Communion is a “meal” for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

GIVING: The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you plan ahead to give purposefully and joyfully to God, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus’ name. Discover ways to give on the front of the bulletin or calvarylife.org/give

PRAYER POINTS: These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

PRAYER ROOM: The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.