

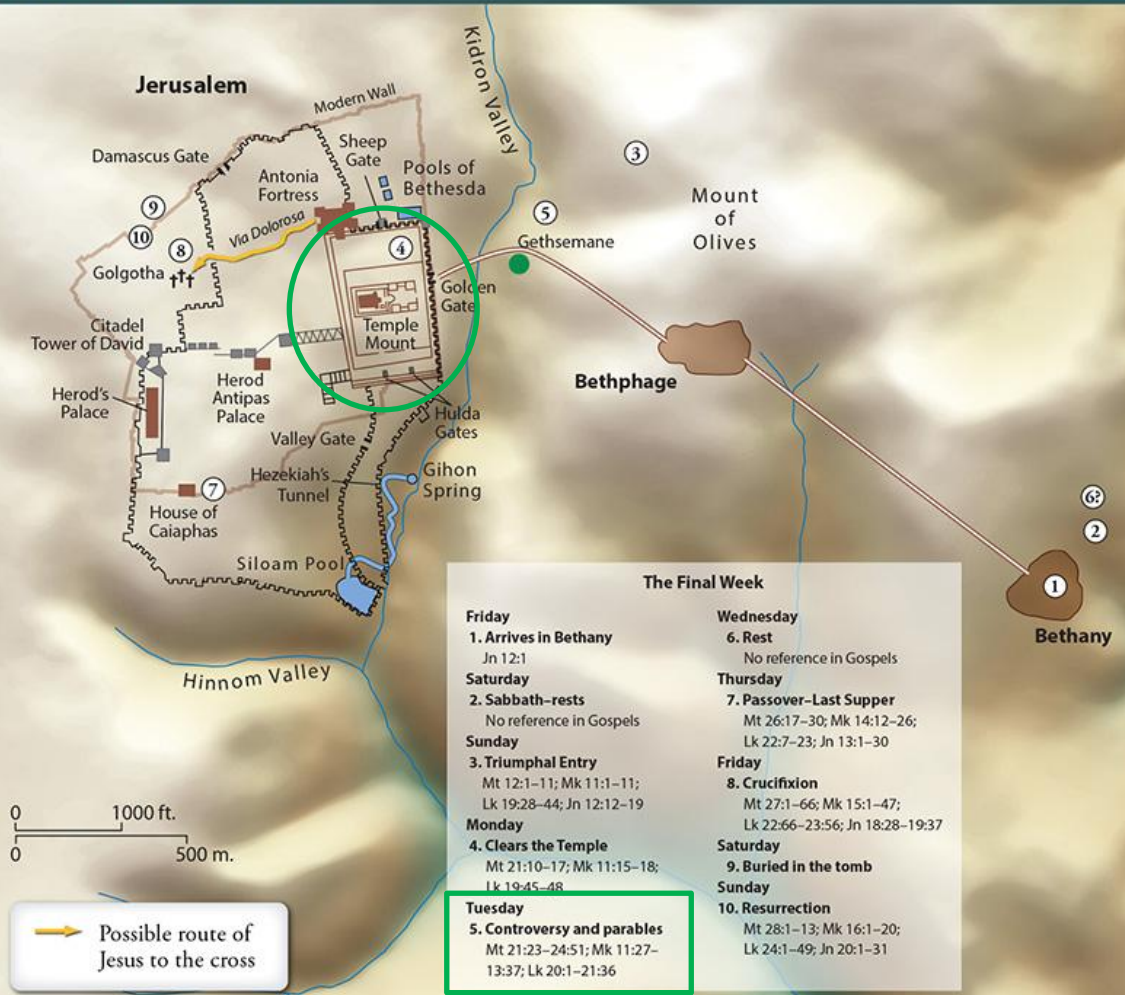


Mark 12:35-44
The Final Puzzle Pieces

This week

1. Recap
2. The one thing lacking / Lets get this clear
3. The Scribes and the Widow
 1. Beware the scribes
 2. Four Questions

Recap



Monday

4. Clears the Temple

Mt 21:10-17;

Mk 11:15-18;

Lk 19:45-48

Tuesday

5. Controversy and parables

Mt 21:23-24:51;

Mk 11:27-13:37;

Lk 20:1-21:36

Jesus's Teaching on Monday and Tuesday

1. Clearing the temple – used as a 'den of robbers' exchanging the Roman currency for Jewish currency at high rates
2. Withered Fig Tree – faith in God though prayer
3. Jesus' Authority Challenged – Jesus doesn't answer
4. Parable of the Tenants – Jesus is the Son, and the priests are the wicket tenants
5. Paying Taxes to Cesar – Render to God the things of God.
6. Marriage – Heaven is not like earth
7. Greatest Commandment – Love the lord with all, and then neighbor as self

Questions/Traps asked of Jesus

By What Authority Jesus?

What about taxes?

Question about resurrection?

What is the Greatest Commandment?

All are silenced

Then...

1. Recap

2. **Let's get this clear**

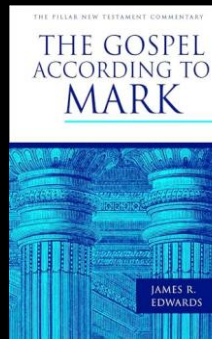
Let's get this clear

³⁵ And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? ³⁶ David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, “The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.””

³⁷ David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?” And the great throng heard him gladly. Mark 12:35-37

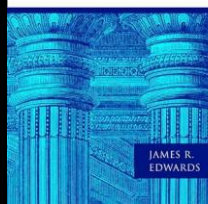
Thus, to return to the implication of the Psalm in Jesus' question, if David, who was believed to be the author of the Psalm, said, " 'The Lord [= God] said to my Lord [= Messiah]: Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet,' " then the Messiah is obviously superior to David, and not merely a descendant, as Judaism popularly held.

...



The quotation from Psalm 110 is used here, as it was later used throughout Christian writings, ultimately not as a description of Jesus' purpose and work, but as a description of his transcendent *status*, sitting at God's honored and authoritative right. That is signaled in Jesus' final cinching question, " 'How then can [Messiah] be [David's] son?' " It is the same question Mark poses to his readers. The answer, of course, is that the Messiah is not simply David's son; he is God's Son.

THE FILIAS NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARY
THE GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO
MARK



They were missing the box for the puzzle...



They were missing the box for the puzzle...



They were missing the box for the puzzle...



The Progressive Revelation

Jesus is the ONLY one given this position as King in Ps 110:1

¹³ And to which of the angels has he ever said,
“Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”? Hebrews 1:13

Jesus alone is given the position of King and Priest (Ps 110:4, Heb. 7:15-17)

Jesus is about to complete his ministry and sit down

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. Heb. 10:12-13

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised – who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Romans 8:34

The Puzzle Pieces

Jesus = Messiah

Jesus = Son of God

Jesus = Lamb of God and HIGH Priest

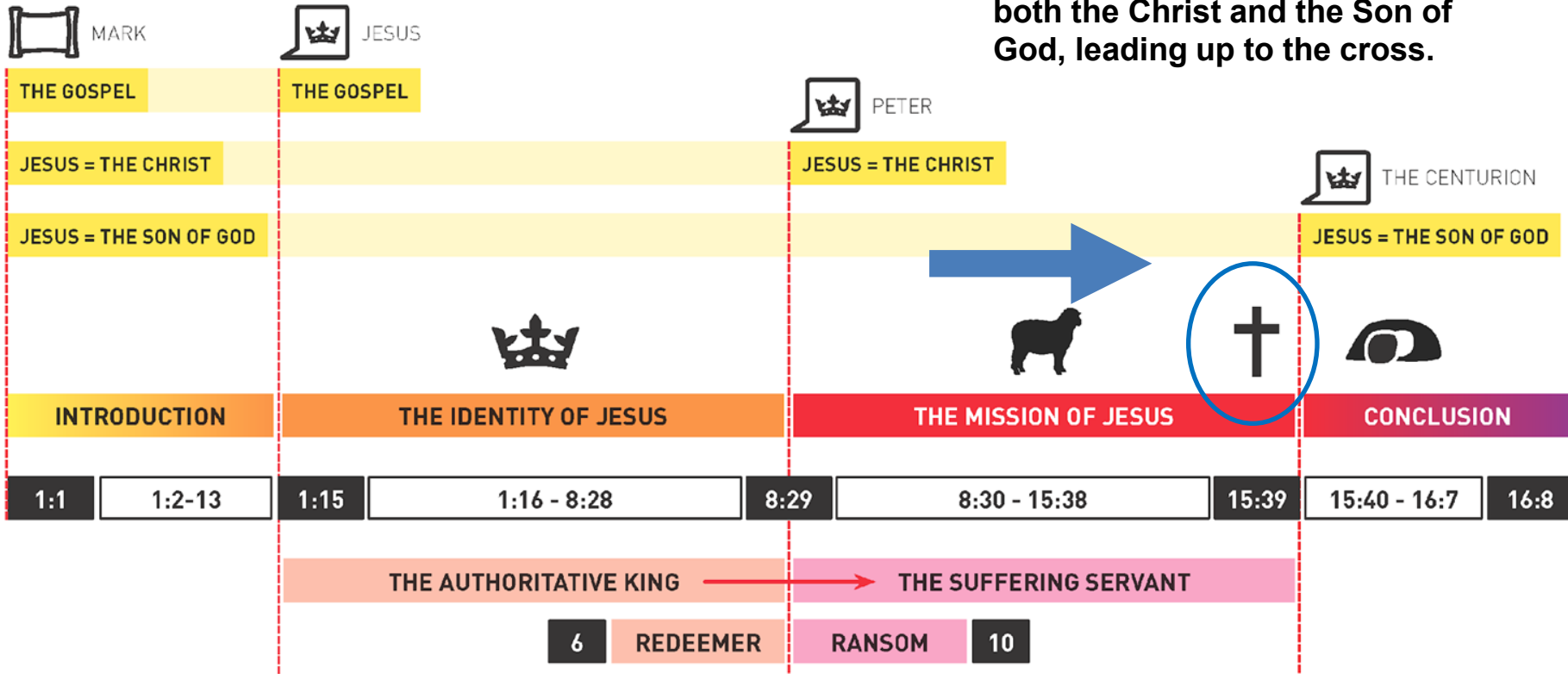
*Missing understanding that Jesus as the will fulfill the sacrifice
for us*

Jesus come to accomplish his work here on earth to unite
his people with God, and nothing can keep him from it.

THE STRUCTURE OF MARK

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Jesus now is openly stating he is both the Christ and the Son of God, leading up to the cross.



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Why 'Beware'?

This is the abbreviated version – Matthew has a full discourse from Jesus. (Matthew 23:1-36)

- Tie up heavy burdens > than the law
- Do their deeds for earthly recognition
- Vainly dress to appear pious
- Like the best seats and greetings
- “Shut the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces”
- Blind guides, mistaken that the gold is greater than the temple
- Tithe the smallest things, but neglect justice and mercy
- Outwardly beautiful, but dead inside
- Responsible for the blood of prophets

Josephus (*Ant.* 18.81–84) tells of a Jewish scoundrel exiled to Rome who affected the ways of a scribe (“he played the part of an interpreter of the Mosaic law and its wisdom”) and succeeded in persuading a highstanding woman named Fulvia to make substantial gifts to the temple in Jerusalem. The bequests, however, were embezzled, and Rome – from Emperor Tiberius on to plebs in the street – was outraged. Such incidents may lie behind the charge of “devour[ing] widows’ houses.”

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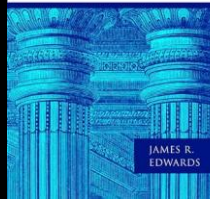
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The prophets had railed against “making widows their prey and robbing the fatherless” (Isa 10:2; also Amos 2; Micah 3). The reference to “devour[ing] widows’ houses” would have given Mark’s Roman readers, to whom the Fulvia scandal was a recent memory, a special frame of reference for the rapacity of the scribes.

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Not Me

I always feel better reading about the scribes.

Not Me

I always feel better reading about the scribes.

Then I realize that is my natural bent.

Repentance and humility is the cure (James 4:6-10)

The 2 lepta



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Mark 12:41-44

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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4 Questions

Why do I think “how much money were the rich giving?”

How do I act like the rich?

What happened to the widow?

Why is this story here?

How Much Money?

⁵ So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction.

⁶ The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." 2 Corinthians 9:5-9

How Much Money?

For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is **also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.** ¹³ By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from **your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,** ¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you, because of the **surpassing grace of God upon you.** ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! 2 Corinthians 9:12-15

- Wrong Question
- It is not about the amount – but the heart
- Giving is tied to submission to the Gospel
- Remember from the last week the love is > than burnt offerings and sacrifices

How do I act like the Rich?

Do I give what is comfortable?

Do I “seek praise” from men or thanksgiving from God?

Is comfort or wealth more important to me than following God?

And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Mark 10:21-22

What happened to the Widow?

“...but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

What happened to the Widow?

“...but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

We aren't told the answer. We instead look to God's Character:

“²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Matthew 6:26

Why is this story here?

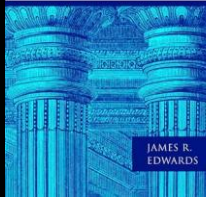
Is this another compare and contrast?

What are we to take from this?

Rather [*instead of a contrasting illustration*], as v. 43 reveals (“Summoning *his disciples*”), the chief purpose of the widow is as a model of discipleship. No gift, whether of money, time, or talent, is too insignificant to give, if it is given to God. And what is truly given to God, regardless how small and insignificant, is transformed into a pearl of great price. What may look like a great gift, conversely, may in reality be little in comparison with what one *could* give. The widow’s giving “ ‘all she had’ ” is a true fulfillment of the call to discipleship to follow Jesus by losing one’s life (8:35). The final Greek words of the chapter might be paraphrased, “she lay down her whole life.” That is what Jesus will do on Golgotha.

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Gospel Application

Do you need to seek forgiveness for your ‘scribe-
likeness”

What does, following Jesus with all you have
look like this week?