

大卫之子、大卫之主：一个福音性的挑战——马可福音 12:35-37

David's Son & David's Lord — An Evangelistic Challenge—Mark 12:35-37

Introduction and Outline

- Scripture Reading: **Mark 12:35-37; Psalm 110.**

Mark 12:35-37 (NASB 1995)

35 And Jesus began to say, as He taught in the temple, “How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? 36 David himself said in the Holy Spirit, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand Until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet.’” 37 David himself calls Him ‘Lord’; so in what sense is He his son?” And the large crowd enjoyed listening to Him.

- The issue of Jesus’ deity is far more than a mere knowledge point in the head; but it is directly related to the object of our worship of our entire life, which ultimately determines our eternal destiny.
- At least a third of professing Christians in the United States explicitly deny that Jesus is God. In such a context, we really need to heed the truth of our text today. These verses challenge us to affirm the deity of Jesus fully and to approach Jesus **with the highest reverence.**
- Outline:
Title: David’s Son & David’s Lord — An Evangelistic Challenge—Mark 12:35-37
 1. Background, Purpose of the Challenge (associated verses)
 2. Son of David (v.35)
 3. Lord of David (vv. 36-37)
 4. Response to the Challenge (v. 37b, associated verses)

Background, Purpose of the Challenge (associated verses)

- The Old Testament clearly shows that the Savior-King whom God has promised to give to the world since ancient times would be God Himself in human flesh.
Isaiah 9:6 “For a child [Christ] will be born to us, a son will be given to us..... And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”
Psalm 45:6-7 "Your throne, O God [Christ], is forever and ever... Therefore God [the Father], Your [Christ's] God, has anointed You with the oil of joy above Your fellows."
Daniel 7:13-14 “**With the clouds of heaven, One like a Son of Man [Christ] was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and men of every language Might serve Him.**”
- Another prophecy that demonstrates the deity of Christ is Psalm 110, as Jesus quoted here. This is a Messianic psalm that is well-known to the Jews. The Jews liked the message of the final victory of God's people, but they failed to see the clear indication about the deity of the Messiah. They only wanted the Messiah to lead them to victory, but they did not want the Messiah to receive from them the worship and service that only God deserves.

- Jesus challenged them on this point, because this is the very core of the gospel. The identity of Jesus is at the core of the entire gospel message, so this is a gospel challenge. Jesus wanted to use this question to wake up some Jews to see that they had been missing out on the key point of the Bible so they might repent, change their view on Jesus, embrace his teachings, believe that he is God and the Christ, and obey and follow him into eternal life. Same for today, these verses are meant to challenge our understanding of who Jesus is, so we might see more of His greatness and be all the more determined to dedicate our entire lives to Him.

Son of David (v.35)

- “He taught in the temple”: On the third day of Passion Week, Jesus was in the temple from early in the morning, arguing with the religious leaders and teaching the people at the same time. Jesus is seizing the last opportunity to guide people to the truth, that they may repent and be saved.
- "How is it that the scribes say.....?": The key is "how", or "why do they say so". Christ *is* the son of David. This is basic common knowledge to the Jews. The question is, where does it come from? You might assume they knew it came from Old Testament prophecy, while in fact, many only knew it from the teaching of the scribes.

【Analogy】 In many Christians’ lives, all their religious concepts are learned from religious teachers, yet they themselves have no idea as to what the Bible actually says. Some people have been a believer all their lives only by following the teachings of “scribes”.

【Key Point】 **What Jesus challenged by these words was to see whether their faith was based on the Bible or on the teachings of the scribes.**

【Application】 Who is your favorite “scribe”? Sproul? MacArthur? Stephen Tong? Calvin? ... Do not exalt any human teacher above the Bible; do not substitute the teaching of anyone for what the Holy Spirit Himself teaches you through the Bible. Don’t blindly believe anything that comes from the mouth of any pastor/teacher. Unless he opens *the Bible* and leads you to see by *the Holy Spirit* that **this is indeed what the Bible teaches**, otherwise don’t believe it.

- "Christ is the Son of David": This is not an invention of the scribes, but an explicit prophecy in the Bible.

2 Samuel 7:12-13 “When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up **your descendant** [Christ] after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.**”

Psalms 18:50 “He gives great deliverance to **His king** [Christ], And shows lovingkindness to **His anointed** [Christ], To David and **his descendants** forever.”

Being of Davidic descent was so important that two of the four gospels detail Jesus’ genealogy— Matthew traces Jesus’ genealogy from his human father, and Luke traces Jesus’ genealogy from his mother. Both lines converge on David. Therefore, Jesus is the legitimate son of David and is qualified to be Christ.

【Question】 Is that all? Is Christ only an offspring of David? Why do the scribes only talk about one aspect?

【Analogy】 Many mistakes in our lives are due to knowing only one aspect of God's truth and not knowing the other, right?

【Example】 If you only know God's **love and mercy** but not His **holiness and righteousness**, you will live an unprincipled life with low morality. **Conversely**, if you only know God's holiness and righteousness but not His love and mercy, you will surely become a harsh legalist. If you only know you must **pray by faith** and don't know you must **seek God's will**, you'll be daringly presumptuous in praying for your own selfish desires. **Conversely**, if you only know you must seek God's will in prayer but don't know you must pray by faith for all things, you'll only be able to pray vague prayers and not dare to ask for anything in specific.

【Application】 There is a question in the Children's Shorter Catechism: "How is the Word a trait of His church?" Answer: "**All God's Word is preached.**" **Expository preaching is not a style; it is a principle. Faithful preaching must proclaim all of God's Word in its entirety.** Otherwise, we'd be making the mistakes of the scribes who only know one thing but not the other.

Lord of David (vv. 36-37)

- "David himself said in the Holy Spirit,...": Quoting from Psalm 110:1. The entire Bible is "men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- "Sit at My right hand, Until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet": A coronation scene. The picture is God personally inviting the Messiah to sit at his right hand and to ascend his royal throne as King. The "right hand" is figurative, symbolizing the position of authority and power from God, being favored by God, and being honored and supreme (cf. Psalm 16:11; 80:17).
- "The Lord said to my lord": The two "Lord" have different meanings. The original text of the Old Testament is "Yahweh said to my lord". Yahweh is God's personal name which God used to introduce himself, meaning "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14-15). "My Lord" refers to Christ and expresses the relationship between Christ and David - Christ is David's master and David is Christ's servant.
- "David himself calls Him 'Lord'; so in what sense is He his son?": The scribes had never even thought about this. They spent all their time studying the superficial external rules of the Mosaic Law, yet they had little interest in the Savior Himself. How is it that David called his son lord? What rich and glorious mystery did he intend to convey? No one cares...

【Insight】 Jesus' careful reading of the Bible was down to the letter. The truth of Christ's deity is hidden in the title "my Lord", for "not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished." (Matthew 5:18).

【Challenge】 Jesus challenged the Jews to think: Why did David call Christ Lord? David was the highest king in the Old Testament; who could it be that David called Lord? The Son of David is the Lord of David, the Lord who rules over the whole universe—this God-man is standing right in front of you; don't you see? Don't you see the perfect fulfillment of the Bible in me? So this is definitely a gospel challenge, a challenge for people to know Christ and be saved.

Response to the Challenge (v. 37b, associated verses)

- "The large crowd enjoyed listening to Him.": Just “enjoyed” isn’t enough! A few days later the same people who enjoyed listening to him shouted "Crucify him!" **What God wants is not our enjoyment, but our wholehearted worship.**
- Matthew adds that "No one was able to answer Him a word" (Matthew 22:46). The scribes were completely speechless because they had not understood the most precious and important message of the Bible.
【Ponder】 Why did they miss such a precious prophecy that the Messiah is God? Because their focus in Bible reading is entirely off! They didn’t read it in order to know God, but to make external rules! They didn’t see the salvation that forgives sins, they didn’t see the glorious Savior, and all they saw was a bunch of religious rules that can be used to show off and boast.
【Analogy】 Many Christians identify themselves by a long list of what Christians should *do or not do*. But *who is God?* What did *He* do? What kind of glorious image does *He* have?
- What was the result of this gospel challenge? A couple months later, in Acts 2:34-36, it is again Psalm 110:1 that Peter quoted to prove that Jesus is indeed the Christ. Verse 37 “Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart.” “And that day there were added about three thousand souls.” (verse 41). They finally got to know Jesus, so they repented, were baptized, had their sins forgiven, and began to live a life of obedience and following Jesus.