

Mark 12: 35-37 (NIV)

35 While Jesus was teaching in the temple courts, he asked, “Why do the teachers of the law say that the Messiah is the son of David? 36 David himself, speaking by 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.’ How then can he be his son?”

The large crowd listened to him with delight.

I. A reasonable question

1. After all of the questions posed to Jesus
 - a. Who gave you this authority?
 - b. Is it lawful to pay taxes?
 - c. What about the resurrection?
 - d. Which commandment is most important?
 - e. It's now time for Jesus to ask a question**

2. **How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the Son of David?**
 - a. **Isaiah 9:6** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.
 - b. **Psalm 110:1** The Lord says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”
 - c. How can Christ be the Son of David and the Lord of David at the same time?
 - d. This is not a riddle

3. It's a reasonable question
4. When God asks questions, He already knows the answers
 - a. Adam, where are you? (Gen 3:9)
 - i. When Adam sinned and hid
 - b. Elijah, what are you doing here? (1 Kings 19:9)
 - i. When Elijah was afraid and depressed
 - c. Disciples, who do you say I am? (Mark 8:29)
 - i. When Jesus wants them to grasp who He really is
 - d. How can the Messiah be the Lord and Son of David? (Mark 12:35)
 - i. When the scribes are so blinded by religion, they can't see the truth
5. Each of these questions is not because God needs to know
 - a. He asks to get us to realize where we are.
 - i. He wants us to think**
6. That's one of the distinguishing factors of our faith
 - a. God wants us to think and ask questions
 - b. Come let us reason together
7. As Jesus lived and served among the people of Israel, many of them leaned toward the fact that He was the Christ
8. The scribes and Pharisees seemed to be leading the charge among those who didn't believe Jesus was the Messiah
 - a. The common people saw it and believed it
 - i. Mary, Martha, Lazarus
 - ii. Woman at the well
 - iii. Blind man (John 9)
 - b. They were warned that they'd be kicked out of the synagogues if they said it publically
 - c. So it was mainly the religious that refused to believe it

9. Since God cares for all people, He's giving them an opportunity to think and use reason from the scriptures
10. How can the Christ be the Son of David and the Lord of David at the same time?
11. The answer, of course, is the mystery of his own person. He descended from David according to the flesh but he is the Lord of Glory according to the Spirit.
12. He is not limited as we are limited
13. Jesus did not arrive on the scene born to a virgin, He always existed
14. **John 1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
15. **John 1:18** No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.
 - a. All of the O.T references when God appeared and spoke with someone, it was with Jesus
16. **1 Tim 3:16** And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.
17. But they couldn't grasp that because they had one idea in mind
18. They were not open to an infinite God
19. They had their hearts and minds set on a Military Messiah
20. They couldn't fathom anything else

21. They saw all the writings about the Messiah through the lens of this warrior Messiah
22. Many times, because of what I face in life, I can do the same thing
 - a. I'm looking for a warrior Messiah to defeat my enemies
 - b. I'm looking for a healer to heal me this way
 - c. I'm looking for a restorer to restore something specific
 - d. My Shepherd to lead me in a specific path
 - i. When He doesn't show up in that specific way, we miss Him
 - e. We cannot limit God
23. We need to give God room to move in our lives
 - a. He's a wonder working God who does more than we ask or think
 - i. Why did it take 3 months to heal my stones?
 - ii. Why all of those visits to the E.R?
 1. Yet, God's presence in those moments are so real
24. He usually works in unexpected ways.
 - a. In the O.T. He uses absolute poverty to bring provision to a widow
 - b. He uses a small servant girl to initiate healing for Naaman
 - c. He used an 80 year old murderer to deliver 3 million
 - d. God used a spoiled youngster to bring a deliverance (Joseph)
 - e. Using the weakest of the family Gideon to deliver Israel
 - f. Using the youngest shepherd boy David to lead the nation

25. God was always using situations and people that no one expected
26. All of these examples were small preparations for them to stop expecting what they envisioned and start believing in a BIG GOD
27. God is not limited to anything and can do all things
28. These religious leaders should have gotten it first
29. God gave them pictures all along to believe
 - a. The Christ would be from the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10)
 - b. He would be the son of David (Isaiah 9:7)
 - c. He would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
 - d. Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
 - e. He would spend a season in Egypt (Hosea 11:1)
 - f. A massacre would happen during his birth (Jer 31:15)
 - g. A messenger would prepare His way (Isaiah 40:3-5)
 - h. He would be called the Son of God (Psalm 2:7)
 - i. He would be rejected by His people (Isaiah 53:3)
 - j. He would teach in parables (Psalm 78:2-4)
 - k. He would be called King (Zech 9:9)
 - l. He would be betrayed (Psalm 41:19)
 - m. He would be crucified (Zechariah 12:10)
 - n. He would be resurrected (Psalm 16:10)
30. In **Psalm 110** God placed the Messiah in a position of authority that was co-equal with Almighty God
 - a. The word "sit" in that verse speaks of a continuous sitting. God will elevate the Messiah to a place of equal exaltation with Himself, **Phil. 2:9-11.**

- b. Messiah must be God because He will be in a position of absolute equality with God in His honor, His power and His glory. (**Carr**)

31. **They understood Jesus claimed to be God**

- a. **John 10:31** Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.
32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"
33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

- i. Even though He made it clear, they still missed it and held on to one idea that they couldn't let go

- 1. He has be a ruler to deliver our people

- o. Jesus is giving them a verse that speaks not only of the deity of Christ, but the danger of becoming His enemy

32. "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet."

33. Who were the enemies of Christ?

34. That would have been an easy questions for the scribes

- a. **The unbelievers:**

- b. Those who chose not to believe suffered the consequences

- c. Those who refused to believe Noah all died

- i. Noah spent 120 years building the Ark

- ii. God gave Canaan 400 years to repent

- 1. What they share in common is the refusal to believe

- d. **Noah** - When you see the animals coming in 2x2, it's time to believe and race the turtles to the ark

e. **Canaanites:** When you hear the sea split for Israel, it's time to believe in the God of Israel

f. **For the Jews:**

i. When they refused to believe Jeremiah, many were killed or taken captive

g. During the time of Jesus

i. When you see blind eyes being opened

ii. The lame walking

iii. The poor have the gospel preached to them

1. It's time to believe

35. But they simply had something in mind that they could not or would not let go of.

a. What are we looking for today?

b. God has initiated His love and is moving toward each of us

36. Out of His love and concern for us, God may be asking each of us a question

a. Adam, where are you? (Gen 3:9)

i. I can see you

ii. I want to cover and restore you

b. Elijah, what are you doing here? (1 Kings 19:9)

i. I didn't call you to a place of isolation and depression

ii. I have something for you to do

c. Disciples, who do you say I am? (Mark 8:29)

- i. I want you to really know who I am
- ii. I want you to grasp my heart and walk closer to me

d. How can the Messiah be the Lord and Son of David? (Mark 12:35)

- i. For the religious, I want to reason with you
- ii. Don't be unbelieving, but believing.