THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:13–44

Key Verses: 12:29–31

1. What did the Pharisees and Herodians come and ask Jesus and how was this a trap? (13–15a) How did he use a denarius to answer them? (15b–17) How did this foil their plot? What should we learn from Jesus’ words here?
2. Who were the Sadducees? (18a) What was their made-up story and their question? (18b–23) What did this story reveal about them? What did Jesus say their problem was? (24) What did he teach about the resurrection? (25) About God? (26,27) What can we learn from Jesus?
3. What seems to have motivated the teacher’s question? (28) Of all the commands of the law, which did Jesus say are most important? (29–31) How and why are the intensity of these loves described? Why are these the “greatest” commands? How did this teacher and Jesus commend each other, and why? (32–34)
4. What question did Jesus ask to counter his attackers? (35–37) How did his quote from Psalm 110 contradict the common notion of the Messiah? How would the promise in this verse have been a comfort to Jesus personally? What does it mean to us?
5. In Jesus’ warning about the teachers of the law, what was their main problem? (38–40) In what respects do we need this warning? What did Jesus witness in the offerings? (41,42) What did he teach his disciples, and why? (43,44) What should we learn from this?