

Matthew 22:41-46 A Question about the Christ

Introduction: The Jewish leaders have been asking Jesus questions. Their questions were designed to entrap, embarrass and to lead to His arrest. In our text today Jesus asked them a question. His question was designed to enlighten them and lead them to salvation.

I. His question and their answer, verses 41-42.

- A. His question was “What think ye of Christ?”
 - 1. Note that Jesus did not refer to Himself directly. (Not “What think ye of me?”)
 - 2. Rather “What think ye of Christ? (Whether Himself or not.)
- B. Specifically Jesus asked, “Whose son is he?” (That is “Whose descendant?”)
- C. Would you believe? – They answered right!
 - 1. They said that the Christ is the Son of David.
 - 2. This was in keeping with II Samuel 7:12-13.
 - 3. Many other Scriptures speak the same truth.
 - 4. Jesus did not imply that they were wrong.
- D. Their answer was right as far as it went; but it did not go far enough.
 - 1. They saw the Messiah only as the son of David.
 - 2. They failed to see Him as the Son of God.
 - 3. They also failed to see that Jesus is the Messiah.

II. A follow through question, verses 43-45.

- A. Jesus knew what their answer to the first question would be and asked it so He could follow with this second.
- B. He asked, “How then doth David call Him Lord?” verse 43.
- C. He pointed out that David called the Messiah Lord, verse 44.
 - 1. He quoted from Psalm 110:1 which was written by David.
 - 2. David said, “The Lord (Jehovah) said to my Lord (Messiah).
 - 3. Jesus does not even bother to discuss what the Father said to the Messiah.
 - 4. He concentrates on the fact that David called the Messiah his Lord.
- D. This second word, Lord, in the verse does not necessarily of itself imply deity.
 - 1. The word means master, owner.
 - 2. It was commonly used to refer to a slave owner or person of superior authority. (For example: King).
- E. The question is “Why would David call his grandson his Lord, master, owner or king.”
 - 1. David was himself a king.
 - 2. As king, no mere man was his Lord and certainly not his grandchild.
 - 3. Only God was David's superior.
- F. Yet, David called the Messiah “Lord.” Why? verse 45.
 - 1. The answer is obvious.
 - 2. Messiah, in keeping with prophecy, was David's descendant. (A grandson somewhere down the line.)
 - 3. But at the same time He is also Deity God dwelling in human flesh. (One of the Trinity. The Son of God).
- G. Jesus wanted them to see not only that the Messiah is the Son of God, but that He (Jesus) is the Messiah.

III. Their reaction to the followthrough question, verse 46.

- A. The Pharisees couldn't answer His question.

- B. Their problem was not their failure to understand but their failure to believe.
- C. But at least He stopped the trick questions.

IV. The question applied today.

- A. The most important question of life is: What think you of Christ?
 - 1. Men often get hung up on questions about taxes, the various commandments, the church, baptism, the Lord's Supper, security, the Second Coming, the Rapture.
 - 2. But all these fade into insignificance in comparison with the question: What think ye of Jesus?
- B. But let us get more specific:
 - 1. Do you realize that He is the very Son of God?
 - 2. Do you realize that Jesus is the Christ?
 - 3. Do you know that He is the Savior of men?

Conclusion:

- 1. It bothers me that some men do not know what the Bible teaches on this subject. Do you?
- 2. It bothers me that some men know that the Bible teaches that Jesus is the Christ and Savior but just refuse to believe it. Do you?
- 3. It bothers me that some men know that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior, but still have not trusted Him as their own person Savior. Have you?

Preached at Pleasant Hill 3-16-86 A.M.