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Mark Chapter 12 – Mark is an action Gospel.
Jesus – God's servant doing God's will. Jesus is a man of action.

Acknowledge listening to Dr. Vernon McGee thru the bible teachings.

Let's review: In chapter 11

The final week of Jesus Life.
Jesus arrives in Jerusalem and rides into the city on a King's transport, a mule colt.
1st days entry - Enters Jerusalem with Hosanna in the Highest (Save Now)
Curses the fig tree – example of non-fruit bearing ministries.
2nd days entry - Enters the city and the Temple, disrupts the selling and buying inside the temple.
3rd day entry – passes fig tree dried up from roots – Have faith in God.
Confrontation with the religious leaders.

Jesus suffering as he entered Jerusalem for the 1st time down the mount of olives:
Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.
Jesus loved his people and his land, it was difficult for him to be rejected. He didn't accept all this as ho hum.

Let's talk about sincerity. Sincerity does not mean correctness. Lots of people are sincere in their religious beliefs, Mormonism, Hinduism, Jehovah Witness, Muslims, but they are in error with the Word of God,

There are many people in the other faiths that are loving, very loving, very caring, but they are in error with the Word of God,
which is the standard that God is going to use to judge us. Not only judge us but bless us this life.

Chapter 12

NO miracles in the chapter. But that does not mean that he didn't do any miracles. I think he was teaching, healing, touching, praying for, right up until his last breath. His loving words on the cross back that up.

This is a confrontation coming to a head and ending with the slaughter of Jesus.
Mark 12:1 (NASB) And He began to speak to them in parables:
(Who - From the end of Mark 11: chief priests, and scribes, and elders. More Parables!
"A man PLANTED A VINEYARD, AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT, AND DUG A VAT UNDER THE WINE PRESS, AND BUILT A TOWER, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey.
Nation of Israel.

2 "And at the harvest time he sent a slave to the vine-growers, in order to receive some of the produce of the vineyard from the vine-growers.
3 "And they took him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed.
4 "And again he sent them another slave, and they wounded him in the head, and treated him shamefully.
5 "And he sent another, and that one they killed; and so with many others, beating some, and killing others.
These are the many prophets God sent to Israel, the owner of the Vineyard. Israel would not listen to them.

6 "He had one more to send, a beloved son; he sent him last of all to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.'
7 "But those vine-growers said to one another, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours!'
8 "And they took him, and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.
9 "What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the vine-growers, and will give the vineyard to others.
10 "Have you not even read this Scripture: 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone;
11 THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'?"
From Psalm 118:22-23.
Corner Stone = a large stone near the base of a building where two walls meet
God turned from the Jews to the Gentiles with Christ being the corner stone. (God accepting man's sin by Christ's atonement)

Ephesians 2:19-21 So then you (we/you) are no longer strangers and aliens, but you (we/you) are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord;

12 And they were seeking to seize Him; and yet they feared the multitude; for they understood that He spoke the parable against them. And so they left Him, and went away.
Son in this parable is Jesus. They killed him, which is coming up. God will destroy the vine-growers: Romans did that in 70A.D. This parable lays it all out doesn't!

13 And they *sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him, in order to trap Him in a statement.
Herodians – Keep Herod in Power
14 And they *came and *said to Him, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful, and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth.
They were all lying, they did not believe that at all.

Is it lawful to pay a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?
15 "Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?" But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why are you testing Me? Bring Me a denarius to look at."
16 And they brought one. And He *said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" And they said to Him, "Caesar's."
17 And Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they were amazed at Him.
Another trick question: yes or no both a problem. Yes, going against Moses, No, going against Caesar. We have two responsibilities here: to the government and to God. Just amazing how he answers.

Question already answered before:
Matthew 17:24 And when they had come to Capernaum, those who collected the two-drachma tax came to Peter, and said, "Does your teacher not pay the two-drachma tax?"

18 And some Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection) came to Him, and began questioning Him, saying,
Another chance to put it to Jesus.

19 "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that IF A MAN'S BROTHER DIES, and leaves behind a wife, AND LEAVES NO CHILD, HIS BROTHER SHOULD TAKE THE WIFE, AND RAISE UP OFFSPRING TO HIS BROTHER.
20 "There were seven brothers; and the first took a wife, and died, leaving no offspring.
21 "And the second one took her, and died, leaving behind no offspring; and the third likewise;
22 and so all seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman died also.
23 "In the resurrection, when they rise again, which one's wife will she be? For all seven had her as wife."
It is a ridiculous situation but it is scriptural. Deuteronomy 25:5.

24 Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are mistaken, that you do not understand the Scriptures, or the power of God?
Two errors:
#1. Don't understand the scriptures – read the Word, study the Word.

#2. Understand the Power of God!
Luke 1:37 "For nothing will be impossible with God."
God is all powerful, he can do anything he wants. No stopping him. If you listen and look, you can see the power of God in Throne of Grace Sunday services.
Your prayer life will show if you understand the Power of God.

25 "For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.
Not saying husband and wife won't be together, just not a household.

26 "But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB'?
27 "He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; you are greatly mistaken."

Scribe standing here that is receiving all that Jesus says, not all with their heart closed.
28 And one of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?"
29 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; (Deut. 6:4)
30 AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'
We don't measure up – that's why we need a Savior.
It wonderful how kind and considerate Jesus is in his answers, practically that many of them will kill him. He doesn't accuse them. Even as King of Kings, he doesn't claim authority over them.

31 "The second is this, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' There is no other commandment greater than these."
32 And the scribe said to Him, "Right, Teacher, You have truly stated that HE IS ONE; AND THERE IS NO ONE ELSE BESIDES HIM;
33 AND TO LOVE HIM WITH ALL THE HEART AND WITH ALL THE UNDERSTANDING AND WITH ALL THE STRENGTH, AND TO LOVE ONE'S NEIGHBOR AS HIMSELF, is much more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."
34 And when Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."
This Scribe receives an encouragement from Jesus. Jesus is an encouraging God.

And after that, no one would venture to ask Him any more questions.
Religious leaders – we are done talking to him. We can't catch him in any wrong statements. We are going to kill him. It is the end when you stop talking in any situation.

35 And Jesus answering 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 THINE ENEMIES BENEATH THY FEET."'
37 "David himself calls Him 'Lord'; and so in what sense is He his son?" And the great crowd enjoyed listening to Him.
Joseph, Jesus earthly father was certainly of the lineage of David, Luke 2:4.
But Jesus's father was God, he was conceived of the Holy Spirit.
King David was not his father.
That's the kicker isn't it. You think I am from man.

38 And in His teaching He was saying: "Beware of the scribes who like to walk around in long robes, and like respectful greetings in the market places,
39 and chief seats in the synagogues, and places of honor at banquets,
40 who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers; these will receive greater condemnation."
Picking out the scribes here, pointed out others earlier. Privilege creates responsibility.

41 And He sat down opposite the treasury, and began observing how the multitude were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums.
42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent.
43 And calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury;
44 for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on."
Was the old widow giving tithes or offerings? Do you think she starved to death? Principle – not how much you give but how much you keep.

Summary Chapter 12: Mark an action Gospel

No miracles in this chapter that are written.
Compares a vineyard to the Kingdom of Israel.
Jesus is the chief corner stone.
Testing Jesus on his paying taxes, (using Roman money).
Jesus rebukes Sadducees – not knowing the scripture of power of God.
Condemns the scribes for unbelief.
Jesus points out a financial giving example.

It is so wonderful to see Jesus interaction with the Pharisees, the scribes and Herodians. He gives righteous responses, but in a loving manner. What a great Savior we have, how fortunate we are!