

Sermon Notes

Insights from Luke

#81 – “The Divine Riddle” – Luke 20:41-44

I. Teaching inquisitive minds

A. Good teachers love class questions.

1. Questions demonstrate interest in the course material.

B. Jesus was the greatest teacher of all.

1. He dealt with all sorts of questions.
 - a. Some were honest inquiries while others were combative and deceptive.

C. Our Luke study has brought us to the last week of Jesus’ earthly life.

1. He answered all of the questions brought to Him, and now He asks his own question of the religious leaders.

II. Exposition

A. Luke 20:41-44

1. Remember the setting

- a. Why the dialog initiated by Jesus? He was clearly rejected by the religious authority.
- b. Mark adds greater context.
 1. Mark 12:28-33,34
 2. Verse 34 sets the backdrop for Luke’s comments.

2. Here is the logic Jesus used in the riddle.

- a. The Christ (anointed) would be David’s son.
 1. II Sam. 7:12,16; Isaiah 9:6-7
- b. Luke has extensively reported Jesus’ lineage.
 1. Luke 1:27,32; 2:4; 1:69
 2. Other authors: Matt. 1:1; Romans 1:3; 9:5

- c. Now Jesus asks how the Christ can be David’s son and at the same time David’s L_____.

d. Psalm 110 is central to the question.

1. Psalm 110:1
2. How is it that both figures are called Lord?
 - a. The first is Yahweh.
 - b. The second is Adonai.
3. David never referred to anyone as Lord except God or perhaps his father or King Saul.
4. The son should honor the father, but David, the father, honors him with the title “Lord”.

e. The answer is – Jesus is more than David’s son.

1. James Boice.

f. Note the timing of Jesus’ question.

1. Jesus has taught and performed signs indicating His divine origin. Now, He reasons from Scripture.
2. Jesus the God/man.
 - a. Doctrine of the Trinity

III. Points for Reflection

- A. All of our most burning questions become insignificant when our mouths are shut while contemplating the awesome nature of God.
 1. Luke 20:40; Job 40:4; 42:3,6; Romans 3:19
- B. Jesus never lost sight of the central message of the gospel and neither should we.
 1. Mark 12:28-34
- C. Cults and false religions all deny the deity of Christ, but it is basic to the message of Jesus.
- D. Jesus’ instruction on Psalm 110 made quite an impression on the apostles.