



SIGNPOSTS

A Journey in
The Gospel of Mark

Do We Really Want Jesus?

SignPosts in Mark 11-12

For the people of the Inversion Fellowship

November 29th 2007

By Jonathan Phipps

Part I - Mark 11:7-11 (ESV)

7 And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. 8 And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. 9 And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" 11 And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Part II - Mark 11:27-33 (ESV)

27 And they came again to Jerusalem. And as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to him, 28 and they said to him, "By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?" 29 Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. 30 Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer me." 31 And they discussed it with one another, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 32 But shall we say, 'From man?'"—they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet. 33 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And Jesus said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Part III - Mark 12:1-12 (ESV)

12:1 And he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. 2 When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. 3 And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 4 Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. 5 And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. 6 He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' 7 But those tenants 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 tenants and give the vineyard to others. 10 Have you not read this Scripture: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; 11 this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'" 12 And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

KEY SIGHTINGS FOR TONIGHT

LOOKING FOR A FIGHT

Jesus enters Jerusalem with much on his mind. He has told his disciples on three different occasions about what will happen to him, but it seems to be lost on them. After his triumphal entry into the city, he goes directly to the temple to check things out. He returns there day after day to mix it up with the religious elite. This of course is only a prelude to the ultimate events which will happen later in the week.

A JESUS OF OUR OWN LIKING

The crowds had certain expectations of what Jesus would do for them. When it didn't look like he was going to come through for them, they turned on him. Much like those crowds, when Jesus doesn't produce in the way we think he should, we can lose hope in Him. We must accept Jesus for who He really is, not what we or the culture simply want him to be.

MY NOTES:

Review and Introduction

Jerusalem and the Temple (Mark 11:1-25)

Confrontation with the Sanhedrin (Mark 11:26 - 12:12)

Question on Authority from the Chief Priest, Scribes and Elders

Parable of the Tenants

Questions from the Religious Elite

Political trap from the Pharisees and Herodians (Mark 12:13-17)

Theological trap from the Sadducees (Mark 12:18-27)

Genuine Question from a Scribe (Mark 12:28-34)

Jesus has a question of his own (Mark 12:35-37)

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