

Luke 20: 20 – 47 Growth Group Study

Intro question:

Pray and read **Luke 20: 20-47**

- 1) Any standout details? Or questions from the passage?
- 2) Of the three sections, the first two have leaders trying to trap Jesus is what he says.
 - a) Break into groups of 2-3 and consider either **20:20-26** or **20:27-40**.
 - b) What is begin tested in the question brought to Jesus?
 - c) How does Jesus answer both respond AND test the questioners (in what way)?
 - d) What is the result of this test?Share results.

e.g. A test of allegiances, and whether they can get Jesus into trouble with the Romans. But while the denarius bears Caesar's image, each person bears God's image.

e.g. a concocted scenario about the resurrection they don't believe in. But the full number of God's children will be with God in the age to come (no further procreation). But all will be raised (all are alive to him) some for eternal condemnation, and his children for eternal life.
- 3) Jesus then raises a challenge to the leaders in v41-44. What is his challenge to them from what King David says about God's Messiah in Psalm 110:1 / Lk 20:41-44?
He is God's appointed Lord.
- 4) What in particular does the Ps 110 quote tell us God has done, is doing and will do through his Son?
He's given him the place of unique and matchless honour (sit at my right hand).
He is currently waiting: for enemies to lay down their opposition and honour the Son.
He is and will one day put all enemies of Christ under his feet.
- 5) How do the teachers of the law use their position among God's people acc to v46-47?
- 6) What will be the outcome for those who grab after the honour of the Messiah for themselves? Who will bring this outcome?
The Lord Jesus they challenge is the same Messiah who will be the judge over all.
- 7) What is the strong warning for God's people from this chapter? (v46)
Beware glory-grabbers. People who want God's honour and glory for themselves, rather than pointing all people to the honour and glory of the Only Son. Glory grabbers are greedy idolaters (they're just in it for themselves) and they chew up and spit out vulnerable people to further their own ends.
- 8) What is the positive point being made about Jesus from this chapter?
Jesus alone has God's authority. He alone has authority to forgive. He alone bears God's authority and will be our judge. To sit in judgement over him now is a great mistake: it will lead to severe punishment on the day he comes.
- 9) God gives his people pastors and teachers. So what is the chapter saying about such teachers?
Is it saying: 'trust no one?' Or 'only trust your own instincts about Jesus?'.
More likely it's saying: the teachers we want are those who point us not to themselves but to Jesus, and who teach us to hear and trust in what he says (including the hard bits). Because he is our judge and he is good.

Prayer: e.g. that we'll recognise the unique honour of the Son, and live for Him, his glory, and putting his word into practice. That we'll not be foolish in thinking we can sit in judgement over the Son as if we know better. That we'll be alert to false teachers who make more of themselves than Jesus.

Big idea: Sitting in judgement over God's Messiah is foolish and doomed.

Main application: beware of people who grab after the honour that belongs to Christ alone.