

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT OF THE SAVIOR



TRI-CITY BAPTIST CHURCH
MARK 12:28-34
AUGUST 21, 2011 – MESSAGE #54

I. THE SCRIBE'S ASSESSMENT



- (12:28) And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

FIRST CENTURY DISCUSSIONS



- The request given to Hillel and Shammai for a summary statement regarding the Law: “... teach me the whole Torah while I am standing on one leg.”
- Hillel’s response, “Do not do to your neighbor what is hateful to you; this is the whole Torah: the rest is commentary.”
- Simon the Just stated the scribal position, “The world rests on three things: the Law, the sacrificial worship, and expressions of love.”

The “Silver” and “Golden” Rules



- Hillel’s statement is called the “silver” rule, which is simply the negative form of the “golden” rule of Matthew 7:12.
- **Matthew 7:12, Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.**

II. THE SHEMA'S AUTHORITY



- (12:29) And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:

III. THE SAVIOR'S ANSWER



- (12:30) And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

IV. THE SECOND'S AFFINITY



- (12:31) And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

V. THE STUDENT'S APPROVAL



- (12:32) And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he:

VI. THE SCHOLAR'S ANALYSIS



- (12:33) And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

VII. THE SAVIOR'S AIM



- (12:34) And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

ENTERING THE KINGDOM



- John 3:3, Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, **he cannot see the kingdom of God.**
- John 3:5, Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, **he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

PRAYER TO ENTER THE KINGDOM



Dear God:

I desire to enter your eternal kingdom. I confess that Jesus is Lord and is the King of the kingdom. I now repent of my sins. I believe Jesus died for my sins and rose from the grave. I now call on you to save me.

I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

LESSONS FOR THE DISCIPLES

