

Luke 20.41-21.4

The Riddle of God and Man

Much of Luke reads Transcript for Q & A Session > Jesus WISDOM Tested  
Not Surprising! Teacher better than People have Ever Heard, Want His Wisdom

5.21 “Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

5.30 “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors?”

6.2 “Why are you doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath?”

10.25 “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?” 10.29 “Who is my neighbor?”

17.20 When wil kingdom come? 20.2 By what authority R U preaching gospel?

Last Week > 7-part Question > Who would be Married in the Resurrection?

Atmosphere of Most Questions asked of Jesus NOT Friendly! > HOSTILE!

11.53,54 scribes & Pharisees began to press him hard & provoke him to speak @ many things, lying in wait for him, to catch him in something he might say

Luke shows MASTERY of Jesus > Unrivaled WISDOM, Word in Flesh

Began LEFT Behind in Temple @ Age 12, Parents found Him asking Question

2.47 all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers

40 days Fasting, Toe to Toe w Satan: Shut’s him Down w Word of God 3 X’s

4.13 devil ended every temptation, he departed from him until opportune time

20.19 scribes & chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people

20.26 they were not able in the presence of the people to catch him in what he said, but marveling at his answer they became silent

Even KNOWING EVIL Motives – Jesus Answers with Respect & PATIENCE

Jesus STILL STANDING after Many VOLLEY’S of their BIGGEST GUNS!

20.40 they no longer dared to ask him any question // Job = Ready to Listen?

## 1. Two Natures

After Religious Leaders asked All Questions > Jesus had Question for Them

Context: Last Week of Jesus’ Life > Word made Flesh teaching Word of God

Jews believed Messiah > David’s SON, Eternal Promise made to DAVID

2 Sam 7.16 “your house & your kingdom shall be made sure forever B 4 me”

MANY in Israel believed JESUS was Messiah > Called SON of DAVID

1.32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

2.4 Joseph - went from Nazareth - to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David

Blind Man @ Jericho: 18.38 “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Jesus asks RIDDLE > Answer unlocks Mystery at Heart of UNIVERSE

v. 41 Jesus: “How can they say that the Christ is David’s son?” > ref Psa 110

Most Quoted OT passage in the NT > Apostle’s Explore Jesus Teaching

Jesus QUESTION: How could Messiah be David’s SON AND David’s LORD?

v. 42 David says...“The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool’...David calls him Lord, how is he his son?”

Royal Psalm: Celebrate David’s Conquest of Jerusalem > Ascension to Throne King  
Conquers, Establishes Peaceful Kingdom – HONORED by SUBJECTS

Confusing Question: Who is David speaking ABOUT?

1<sup>st</sup> LORD: Yahweh = LORD GOD > Speaker: LORD GOD ALMIGHTY

To WHOM is GOD speaking? Different name for Lord = ADONAI

Heb word Can Refer to any Dignitary – Lord / HERE ref to MESSIAH

David does something KINGS did NOT do – Calls Someone Lord

As Son might have called Father JESSE Lord? In court of King Saul: LORD

But David writes Psalm from His Throne – King of Israel – Lord of all Land

Ancient Rabbis agreed David was Prophecy about MESSIAH/Christ

What is Solution to Riddle?

Jesus accepts acclaim > HE is Son of David > Here Claims to be MORE

Uses Scripture to PROVE David’s SON is David’s LORD, David’s GOD

Riddle Solved ONLY if Jesus 2 NATURES both God & man, Divine & Human

Jesus REVEALED his Divine Glory w Moses & Elijah on Mt Transfiguration

Now Jesus proved Deity from Scripture > Riddle resolved by Man who is God

Answer unlocks Mystery @ Heart of Universe: Incarnation, God becomes man

If Jesus NOT Man cannot Take Man’s Penalty > Die in our Place for Us

If Not God then Suffering of Jesus the Man would Not be for Whole World

How do we Know that Jesus is God & Man?

His own Claims – B 4 Abe was I am – I & the Father are One – STONED > Well Understood

Others > Thomas – My Lord & My God – Jesus Blessed / Received WORSHIP

Changed Weather – Created Food for 1000’s – Forgave Sins – Water into Wine

Cleansed Lepers – Made Blind See - Raise Dead – Knew what People Thinking  
 Titles of God – Judge of All – Shepherd of Sheep – Light of World – First Last – Alpha  
 Omega – Bridegroom – Bright Morning Star – The Way, Truth, Life  
 Those Knew Him Best Came to Conclusion GOD - STRICT Monotheists  
 John 1.1 In beginning was Word & Word was w God, and the Word was God

Paul Rom 9.5 the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

2 Peter 1.1 our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

Jude - to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty,  
 dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Understanding – We must See Him as God / Man

Missed by Other Religions – Muslims – Never Died / Jews – Never Rose Mormons &

Jehovah Witnesses: Not Fully God, No Trinity: ANOTHER Jesus

Bible > Jesus – 2 NATURES fully God AND Man who Died AND Rose

He did ALL This for You – God became Man to Save Us

Real Man – Take our Place / Real God – Take Everyone's Place

Jesus calmly asks this Question – Not Demand Answer – Wants them to Think

## 2. Two Wrongs

20.40 “they no longer dared to ask him any question”

Silence Not MEAN Agree or Support Him – Lost Face, Seething RAGE: KILL  
 CONTEXT Eliminates Possibility that SINCERE Questions were being Asked  
 CONFLICT of Jesus and HIGHEST LEVELS of Leadership in Jerusalem  
 Door of Opportunity CLOSING FAST > This is FINAL Rejection of Jesus

a) Wrong Belief Luke takes OFF their MASK > Pretended to be HONEST  
 QUESTION > Can these Legal Experts RIGHTLY Interpret Scripture?? Jesus  
 CANNOT ENDORSE Pharisees as PROPER Exegete's of Scripture  
 Impt Question > RELIABILITY of SCRIPTURES & Responsibility of Servants  
 Teachers of Law – Scholars of Scripture > REJECT Obvious Fulfillment: Jesus  
 Reason MOST of Jesus' Sermons in Luke OUTSIDE > Not Welcome in Synagogue

b) Wrong Behavior > See-Saw: God is DOWN, then We are UP!

45 And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, 46“Beware of the scribes, who  
 like to walk around in long robes,

Characteristics – Long Flowing Robes / Prayer Shawls w Tassels

Working People cannot Wear – Too Expensive – Not allow to Work

“Gentlemen of Leisure” > Prosperity Preachers > Anointing of God

“Man looks on the outside, God looks on the heart!”

Our Lord & Savior makes us Special! – Not Clothes or Praise of Man

46 “and love greetings in the marketplaces”

Right Clothes > Right Connections > Identity in their SOCIAL STATUS

VIP Parking – Platinum Service – Lots of Instagram Followers!

Of all the Rackets, Religious Rackets are the Worst > Dripping w Hypocrisy

Do you Want to be Godly? Or content if People THINK you are Godly?

46 “and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts”

Love to be Honored – People had to Stand, Seated in Places of Honor

Honor more than Aged, more than their Own Parents

Sounds like SINS I struggle With > Desire Praise of Men, more than of GOD

47 “who devour widows’ houses” > Religious GRIFTERS, Greedy Not Godly

Widows had No Means of Support > Turned to Lord and Faith Community

Should DEFEND Widows but they DEVOUR Them > STEAL Not Support

“Something similar happens today when unscrupulous evangelists prey on the lonely and elderly, stealing their children’s inheritance” Philip Ryken

47 “and for a pretense make long prayers” Jesus Prayed ALL Night Sometimes

1981 5 pm Curfew in Kampala, U > Locked Down – Prayed During Shooting

Their Prayer Publicity Stunt > Hypocrisy Not Piety > Seen by Man, not God

Jesus TENDER w People done Terrible Things > Furious w Hypocrites!

That Scares Me as a Religious Leader > Sees My Hypocrisy

Jesus been PATIENT > Loved them Too, Wants them REPENT & Be SAVED

Gone Too Far, Crossed LINE >> Judge of World Speaking!

47 “They will receive the greater condemnation”

Greater Responsibility > Greater Accountability – DANGER of Leadership

Hypocrisy done by Religious Peeps, Only Religious People CAN be Hypocrites

Only HOPE is Faith in Jesus “No condemnation for those who are in Christ”

### 3. Two Cents

Temple Massive, Beautiful Structure > Costly Decorations > Disciples Amazed

3 Courts – Gentile (Jesus taught) – Women (smaller) > 13 Trumpets for Coins

PASSOVER Week > Pilgrims from All Around Mediterranean World

All had to Pay VOWS, Temple TAX, Offerings to God > Loud CLANG!

Crowds Watched GIVING Show > Rich People bags of Gold & Silver Coins

21.1 Jesus looked up & saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.

2 Small Copper Coins > Lepton, smallest coin in Israel 1/128<sup>th</sup> of DENARIUS

Denarius: Normal Daily Wage > Lepton = 4 minutes work, normal 10 hour day

Priest would not Accept just 1 – Minimum 2 – Less than Dollar!

21.3 And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on”

God sees PROPORTION, Not the PORTION

Men see WHAT is GIVEN > God sees WHAT is LEFT

Total Amount – Rich Gave much MORE / Percent – She gave ALL

She does MORE than GIVE > She CASTS herself upon the Lord for her Life

“Jesus held in his hands the balance scales of eternity. On one side he emptied all the contents of the thirteen trumpets – the shekels, the denarii, the heavy gold and silver. On the other side he placed two minuscule copper coins. And the massive load of the rich gave way to the eternal weight of the widow’s tiny offerings.”  
Kent Hughes

Contrast btwn GREEDY Religious Leaders and GENEROUS Humble Widow

False Religion / True – Takers / Givers – Proud / Humble

Don’t Think Belongs to God? Are you going to Take it with You

Deuteronomy 16.17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.

Matt 10.8 You received without paying; give without pay.

“The question is not, ‘How large is my gift to God?’ The real question is, ‘How large a place will God have in my life?’”  
Paul Kooistra

Jesus Kingdom is Upside Down > Serve, Give, Honor Others, Exalt Christ

Not about Us > See Saw, Who is Up? Down? > Gain Life by Loosing It

We will Meet Her One Day > No Idea how God has Used her Witness

Scripture Read around World for 2 Millenia

Religious Leaders think we will Honor Them – Won't be There – Forgotten!  
 Jesus is "Man for Others" and those who Follow Him have same Responsibility

2026 – Some of Us Last Year on Earth > Where will we Go Next?  
 Every Religion > Strive to Follow Teaching and If Good Enough Accepted  
 Various People Help You – Priests, Gurus, Avatars, etc.  
 End of Life you Come to Gate > Good Enough you GET IN  
 Jesus > Accepts you at Beginning NOT End > Become Child of God by Faith  
 Not a Religion > Path of God follows Acceptance > then Walk WITH God

45 yrs ago met Lovely Girl > Present – Cook Book > If Food is Good Enough  
 After you Cook Good Food – Clean House – Meet all My Needs > Accept You  
 Otherwise you Can Go Back to Your Mother! – What kind of Man? What God?  
 Amazing Thing is that She Accepted Me! Unconditional Love! Life Together!  
 Nobody Else Offers – Acceptance, Love, Forgiveness, Hope at Beginning  
 Only Thing I Contribute to the Plan of Salvation is the Sin to make Necessary

If we seek *salvation* it is by the very name of Jesus. If we seek *gifts of the Spirit* they will be found in His anointing. If we seek *strength*, it lies in his dominion; if *purity*, in his conception; if *gentleness*, it appears in his birth...If we seek *redemption* it lies in his passion; if *acquittal* in his condemnation; if *remission of the curse*, in his cross; if *satisfaction*, in his sacrifice; if *purification* in his blood...if *newness of life*, in his resurrection; if *immortality* in the same...In short, since rich store of every kind of good abounds in him, let us drink our fill from this fountain, and from no other.

John Calvin

Psalm 72 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! // **May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!** // Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! // **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!** // May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! // **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!** // In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! // **May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!** // May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! // **May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!** // May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

**For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.** // He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. // **From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.** // Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day! // **May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field!**

May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun!

**May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed!**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory!**

**Amen and Amen!**