

## **Luke 20:41-21:4**

### **Whose Son Is the Christ?**

<sup>41</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “How is it that they say the Christ is the Son of David? <sup>42</sup> David himself declares in the Book of Psalms:

“ ‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand

<sup>43</sup> until I make your enemies  
a footstool for your feet.” ’

<sup>44</sup> David calls him ‘Lord.’ How then can he be his son?”

### **Jesus Warns Against the Religious Leaders**

<sup>45</sup> While all the people were listening, Jesus said to his disciples, <sup>46</sup> “Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and love to be greeted in the marketplaces and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>47</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. Such men will be punished most severely.”

## **Luke 21**

### **The Widow’s Offering**

<sup>1</sup> As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury.

<sup>2</sup> He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. <sup>3</sup> “I tell you the truth,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. <sup>4</sup> All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

## Luke 20:41-21:4

1. Why did Jesus ask a question of the religious leaders at this point? (20:40)
2. Did the Pharisees think the Messiah would be a descendent of David?
3. If the Pharisees understood that the Messiah would be a descendent of David, why did Jesus quote the verse from Psalm 110:1 (written by David)?
4. What's the meaning of "The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand?"
5. Looking further into 20:42-43 (Psalm 110:1), what does it mean to make your enemies your footstool? (Joshua 10:24-26)
6. (20:45-47) What did the teachers of the law seek? Of what were they guilty?
7. How did Jesus say that proud people would be treated for their actions? (20:47)
8. How do proud Christians hinder the work of God? How can you prevent yourself from doing works for show?
9. (21:1-4) Have you even given sacrificially to a cause (money, time, other)?
10. How did the woman "put in more than all the others" when her gift was much smaller? (21:3) What had she sacrificed? (21:4) Why do you think she gave to the church "all she had to live on?"
11. How does God judge our gifts?
12. Why did Jesus call attention to this seemingly unremarkable event?
13. What, besides money, can *you* give to others sacrificially *this week*?

## Luke 20:41-21:4 — Notes for Leader

1. The Pharisees and Sadducees had asked their questions. Then Jesus asked them a question that went right to the heart of the matter—what they thought about the Messiah’s identity.
2. Yes.
3. Ps 110:1 shows that the Messiah would be more than a human descendent of David. And indeed David knew that the Messiah would be both human and divine.
4. This is a sticky area because many Bible scholars argue that God’s name appears in the OT but not in the original Greek manuscripts of the NT. In literal translations of the OT, such as Young’s, the New World, and others, the first line of Ps 110:1 appears as “Jehovah said to my Lord,” but most NT translations substitute “the Lord” for the actual name of God, even when it is quoted from the OT. So in this passage, David was actually saying, “Jehovah said to my master...” Eugene Peterson in *The Message* deals with this differently and, in my opinion, more correctly than other NT translations when he translates it as, “God said to the Messiah, rule together with me.”
5. Footstool is a tough place for an enemy to be. "The Lord says to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.’" (Ps 110:1) Jesus referred to this several times, in Matthew 22:44, Mark 12:36, Luke 20:43, and others. What does it mean to make your enemies your footstool? Let’s look back to Joshua when he said to the commanders of his army, “Come and put your feet on the kings’ necks.” And they did as they were told.  
<sup>25</sup> “Don’t ever be afraid or discouraged,” Joshua told his men. “Be strong and courageous, for the Lord is going to do this to all of your enemies.” <sup>26</sup> Then Joshua killed each of the five kings and impaled them on five sharpened poles, where they hung until evening.  
The meaning then, “to be made a footstool,” was that the men would cut off their heads, completely removing the enemy.