

DYING TO LIVE

July 28, 2024 | Pastor Reggie Roberson

WARM UP QUESTION: When have your emotions “gotten the best of you?”

READ: Mark 12:28-33

FOCUS: We honor God by giving Him what is rightfully His, loving Him fully and loving others.

OBSERVE:

- Mark records a conversation that Jesus had about paying taxes. Jesus answers with His own question: “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?” Since Caesar’s face was on the coin, we should give our taxes to him. Likewise, because we are God’s treasured possession, we should give our loving devotion to Him.
- Later, the Sadducees, referring to the resurrection, tried to stump Jesus about remarriage on earth and marriage in heaven. Jesus said that they did not understand the power of God or the Scriptures. In Heaven, we will be like the angels neither married nor given in marriage, as and being in God’s presence is far better than the joys of marriage.
- Jesus then asked the crowds, “Why do the teachers of the law say that the Messiah is the son of David?” He then issued a warning that the teachers were seeking the praises of people and abusing their power like the scribes. Instead, Jesus calls others to follow Him and love others as He does.

REFLECT:

- How do you fulfill the command to love God with your entire being?
- How are you actively loving others like Jesus does?

TAKE ACTION: Consider the greatest commandments: love God and love others. Commit yourself to doing an act in devotion to God and expressing love to a neighbor.

PRAY: *Lord Jesus, You are perfect in all of Your ways. You are worthy of all honor and glory. We worship You and acknowledge You as Lord of our lives. Increase our capacity to love You as we should. Help us to love others as ourselves. Forgive us where we have failed to love. May our love increase so that You receive glory and others may know we are Your disciples. We ask that our church would be known for love in our city and that every person whom we meet will know the love of God. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.*