



Synopsis

A snapshot of the chapter

Chapter twenty provides a record of three very direct and deliberate confrontations of Jesus with the Jewish leaders in the temple grounds. Members of the Sanhedrin questioned His personal authority (vs. 1-8), Pharisees interrogated Him about His political position (vs. 20-26), and Sadducees challenged Him on His religious views (vs. 27-40). The form of their attacks in each case was inquisition. By questioning, they were shielded from having to answer to the people for their own positions and from any sympathetic backlash resulting from their part in direct confrontation. If they could catch Jesus in some self-contradiction, or religious error, they thought they would discredit Him with the people.

Observation—What do you see?

Important Person(s):

Main Event(s):

Study Questions:

1. *Though Jesus did not directly answer, by what authority was he doing those things?*
2. *Who does the one who planted a vineyard represent? Who does the "son" represent?*
3. *Is it lawful for Christians to pay taxes even when government is corrupt?*
4. *Why was their question about the wife with seven husbands not a good question?*
5. *How was Jesus both David's Lord and David's Son?*

Questions:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.