

Greek Readings
Series A, Proper 25
Matt. 22:34–46

- **Verse 34**
 - Parse ἐφίμωσεν. _____. The only other occurrence of this verb in Matthew's gospel is 22:12. Why might that fact hold a particular significance for today's text? _____.
 - Parse συνήχθησαν. _____. Give the dictionary entry _____.
 - The phrase συνήχθησαν ἐπὶ τὸ αὐτό appears verbatim in Ps 2:2 (LXX). Why is the connection with this Psalm important and how does it affect our understanding of this pericope? _____.
- **Verse 35**
 - What is the meaning of νομικός? (cf. BDAG, p.626, 2) _____. What are the text-critical issues involved? (cf. Metzger, Textual Commentary, 48-49) _____. If you decide not to keep νομικός, what may have been the origin of this word in Matthew's gospel? (cf. Lk. 10:25) _____.
 - We have seen the use of πειράζω in previous pericopes. What does this verb mean and what does it tell us about the intentions of the Pharisees? (cf. BDAG, p.793, 3; Mt. 16:1; 19:3; 22:18) _____.
- **Verse 36**
 - Parse Διδάσκαλε. _____. What is the Hebrew equivalent of this word? (cf. BDAG, p.241) _____. Why do you think διδάσκαλος is not a very important Christological Title for the Evangelists? _____.
 - Rabbinic literature testifies to the practice of reducing all 613 commandments. Some Scriptural examples include: 6 by Isaiah (33:15-16), 3 by Micah (6:8), 1 by Amos (5:4), and 1 by Habakkuk (2:4). What does this tell us about the historical significance of the question posed to Jesus? _____.
 - What is the meaning of ἐν τῷ νόμῳ here? (cf. BDAG, p.677, 2b) _____.
- **Verse 37**
 - Parse ἔφη. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____.
 - In response to the lawyer's question, Jesus quotes Deut 6:5. What does Jesus add to the version presented in the LXX? _____. How might this addition affect our interpretation? _____.
 - How does Jesus response relate to the First Commandment? _____.
 - What is the meaning of καρδιά? (cf. BDAG, p.509, 1bζ; TDNT 3:611) _____.
 - What is the meaning of ψυχή? (cf. BDAG, 1099, 2c; TDNT 9:637) _____.
 - What is the meaning of διάνοια? (cf. BDAG, 234, 1; TDNT 4:965) _____.
- **Verse 38**
 - In what way is Deut 6:5 ἡ μεγάλη καὶ πρώτη ἐντολή? _____.
 - How might the Pharisees have responded to this answer? _____.
- **Verse 39**
 - What is the meaning of δευτέρα δὲ ὁμοία? (cf. BDAG, p.706, a) _____. Why is this important for understanding Jesus' response? _____.
 - What word connects both commandments in v.37, 39? _____.
 - From where does Jesus quote this second commandment and how does it appear in the LXX? _____.

- This commandment is also cited in Rom. 13:9; Gal. 5:14; and Jas. 2:8. What can we learn about this commandment in these contexts? _____.
- **Verse 40**
 - Parse κρέματα. _____. What is the meaning of this word? (cf. BDAG, p.566, 2b) _____.
 - How is it that both the νόμος and προφῆται are summed up by these two commandments? _____.
- **Verse 41**
 - Parse Συνηγμένων. _____. What type of construction is this and how does it connect the two parts of this pericope? (cf. Voelz, 2 edn., 149; 3 edn., 133) _____.
- **Verse 42**
 - Jesus asks a two part question: (1) Τί ὑμῖν δοκεῖ περὶ τοῦ Χριστοῦ; (2) τίνας υἱὸς ἐστίν; If you were asked to simplify Jesus' questions into one, how would the question read? _____.
 - From the Pharisees' point of view, does this seem like a difficult question? _____. How does their response compare to 2 Sam 7:12-13; Ps 89:4; Jer 23:5? _____.
 - What do these references assert about Jesus (cf. Mt. 1:1, 20; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30-31; 21:9)? _____. Why is this important in light of Jesus' question? _____.
- **Verse 43**
 - What does Jesus mean when he says that David speaks ἐν πνεύματι? (cf. 2 Sam. 23:2) _____.
- **Verse 44**
 - From where does Jesus cite this passage? _____.
 - The phrase Κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου is a reference to God's divine throne. What does this imply about David's τῷ κυρίῳ μου? (cf. Daniel 7:13-14) _____.
 - What is interesting about the fact that David calls his son κύριος? _____.
 - Parse θῶ. _____.
- **Verse 45**
 - What is the point of Jesus question, πῶς υἱὸς αὐτοῦ ἐστίν? _____.
 - How is this question answered in the Gospel of Matthew? (cf. 10:32-33; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16) _____.
- **Verse 46**
 - Parse ἀποκριθῆναι. _____.
 - Why do the Pharisees not respond to Jesus question? _____. What does this tell us about how they think about Jesus? _____.
 - This passage marks the end of Jesus' time with the Pharisees and Sadducees in Matthew's gospel. Mt. 23:1-26:1 is commonly called "the fifth Discourse" (cf. Scaer, Discourses, 343). Summarize the tone of the fifth discourse. _____.

Integration of Meaning

Come up with a sermon title and two to three supporting points.