The Pharisees Try Again

Matthew 22:34-46

Intro:

A. The enemies of Jesus could not trap Him.
   1. The disciples of the Pharisees and the Herodians failed.
   2. The Sadducees failed.

B. The Pharisees were gathered together.
   1. They heard of the failure of the Sadducees. V.34
   2. Jesus had put them to silence.
   3. silence = φιμω = "to muzzle."

C. A smart aleck lawyer attempts the impossible. V.35
   1. "Then one of them, which was a lawyer..."
   2. "...asked him a question, tempting him..."

I. Their Question And His Answer.

A. "Master, which is the great commandment in the law"? V.36
   1. master = διδάσκαλος = "a teacher of scholars."
   2. great = μεγας = large
   3. commandment = εντολη = "an injunction,"
      "precept"

B. The answer of Jesus.
   1. "...Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind..." V.37
   2. love = αγαπαω = "to cherish with reverence."
   3. heart = καρδια = "the seat of life", "the center of man's personal life" "this is the "inner man" "sanctum sanctorum"
   4. soul = ψυχη = "breath," "man's physical life"
   5. mind = διανοια = "a thinking through", mature thought, activity of thinking, the faculty of thought, the reflective exercise of the heart, consciousness called into exercise by moral affections.
   6. "This is the first and great commandment." V.38

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C. The second commandment. (Precept)
   1. love = ἀγάπαω = (See 1, B, 3) v.39
   2. neighbor = ο πλησίον = the one near, also, a fellowman, see John 4:5
   3. thyself = εαυτου = "of one’s self"

D. "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets"
   1. commandments = εντολη = "an injunction"
   2. hang = κρεμανομαι = to hang, to hang up, let hang down, Mid. "to be suspended".
   3. "The whole of the law and the prophets is summed up in these two commandments" - Wey
   4. Without these two commandments all other scripture writings will have little affect.

II. Jesus Asked The Pharisees A Question.

A. "...What think ye of Christ? Whose son is he?
   1. "What is your opinion..." - Knox  v.42
   2. "What about the Messiah"... - Tay
   3. Jesus is not asking them what they think of Him but, whose Son will He be?
   4. "They say unto Him, The Son of David."

B. He will be a descendant of David but He will be David’s Lord.
   1. David, by the Spirit of God, called Him Lord. V.43
   2. Jesus quoted scripture. V.44
   3. The scripture. Psalm 110:1

C. The dilemma.
   1. He is not David’s literal son. V.45
   2. He is a descendant.
   3. Christ will be God’s Son and the one who sits on His father David’s throne.

III. The Pharisees Silenced.

A. "And no man was able to answer him a word..." v.46
   1. able = δυναμαί = "inherent power" "strength"
   2. No one could match His power!

B. "...neither durst any man from that day forth ask
him any more questions."
1. After this incident.
2. No one person or group dared quiz Him.