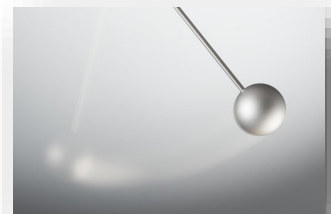


Teaching in Trouble

Jesus appears in the Gospels to swing across the pendulum of popularity in the minds of the multitudes. Jesus began as an unknown. He quickly rose to great heights in popularity.



- Mt 4:25 "And great _____ followed Him from Galilee and Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan."
- Lk 12:1 "Under these circumstances, after so many _____ of the multitude had gathered together that they were stepping on one another."
- Mk 12:37 "...And the large crowd _____ listening to Him."
- Lk 5:17 "And it came about one day that He was teaching; and there were some Pharisee and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from _____ of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing."
- Mk 6:32-33 "And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves. And the people saw them going, and many recognized them, and they _____ there together on foot from _____ the cities, and got there ahead of them."

A As the divine appointment with the Cross approached and the call to discipleship intensified, Jesus fell out of favor with many. The great crowds that once came to hear Him, were now shouting "Crucify Him, Crucify Him." And, aside from just a handful of followers, Jesus died alone.

As the tide of popularity turned against Him, verbal attacks arose. The Jewish leadership tried to do two things:

(1) **Win back the _____ with the people** (Mt 27:18 "...it was because of _____ they had handed Him over")



- Jn 12:10-11 "But the chief priests took counsel that they might put Lazarus to death also; _____ on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus."
- Jn 11:53-54 "So from that day on they planned together to kill Him. Jesus therefore no longer continued to walk _____ among the Jews."
- Jn 7:1 "And after these things Jesus was walking in Galilee; for He was _____ to walk in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill Him."

(2) _____ **Jesus in a theological corner that would expose Him as a false teacher and a blasphemer**

- The healing of the bent over woman (Lk 13:10-17)
 - who does the synagogue official speak to? _____
- Asking for a _____ (Mt 16:1-4) How is this a test?
- Mt 19:3 How is this a test?
 - They added another layer of testing (Mt 19:7)
- A test from _____ (Mt 22:15-22)
- A test from the _____ (Mt 22:23-33)
- A test from an _____ (Mt 22:34-40)
- A test involving _____ and _____ (Jn 8:1-11)

Mt 22:41-43 Jesus tests the Pharisees

B Some Lessons We Learn:

1. Many of the questions that Jesus was asked were not _____ or _____
2. Many of the questions were intended to make Jesus look _____ and trip Him up in His teaching
3. Many of the answers Jesus gave did not _____ hearts that were closed and minds that were unwilling to consider
4. Jesus didn't _____ from controversy
 - controversy can challenge a person to _____
 - controversy causes a person to _____

C Things we need to Remember

1. Be _____ to answer (James 1:19; Prov 15:28; 18:13))
2. _____ their question to make sure you understand what they are asking
3. Many begin with assumptions that first need to be _____ and supported with evidence
4. Remember your _____ and your _____ (2 Tim 2:24-25)
5. Always take people to the _____ of God (Acts 17:2-3)
6. Do not answer a _____ (Prov 24:6; 2 Tim 2:23)

There is some expected resistance, turmoil and conflict when truth intersects with error and light transcends darkness.

