

1. Mark 12:28-34 An Excellent Question

2. 4 Questions

1. **11:28** — Who gives you the authority (right) to do these things?

Answer — we should all be under God's authority and not our own.

2. **12:14-15** — Should we submit to Caesar's authority or not?

1. **Answer** — Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that belong to God.

3. **12:23** — Is there a literal resurrection?

1. **Answer** — God is the God of the living - absolutely!

4. **12:28** — What is God's greatest commandment?

1. **Answer** — to love God

3. Text Mark 12:28-34

4. An honest scribe — with an honest question (Text of Mark 12:28)

5. v.28 **"Which is the first commandment"**

1. "What commandment is the first of all?" more literally "what sort of commandment is first of all?"
2. The rabbis counted 613 different commandments, 365 negative and 248 positive. But their comparative importance was debated.

5. Jesus' answer to an excellent question (Text of Mark 12:29-34)

6. (Text of Mark 12:29)

"The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one."

Begins with Shema — prayer — "hear" (Num 15:37-41; Deut 6:4-9, 11:13-21)

7. Mark 12:29

"The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one."

Isa 64:4 "For since the beginning of the world men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him."

8. Mark 12:29

"The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one." LORD = Hebrew tetragram

YHWH

9. Mark 12:30 text

10. Mark 12:30-34 text

11. [1Jo 5:1-3 NASB] Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the [child] born of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

1. [1Jo 5:3 CSB] For this is what love for God is: to keep his commands. And his commands are not a burden,
2. [Gal 5:13-14 NLT] For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."
3. [Rom 13:8-10 NKJV] Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if [there is] any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love [is] the fulfillment of the law.
4. James calls love your neighbour as the **"royal law"**.

12. [Mar 12:30 NKJV] 30 **'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This [is] the first commandment.**

6. "Love to God must possess the whole heart, the seat of personality, the whole soul, the self-conscious life, the whole mind, the rational faculties, and the whole strength, the entire active powers of man." Hiebert