



Controversy

Definition: a prolonged public/heated disagreement

Latin origin: contro (against)/versus (to turn)

Synonyms: dispute, argument, debate, dissension, contention



10 THE KING'S
CONTROVERSIES

A STUDY OF
Mark



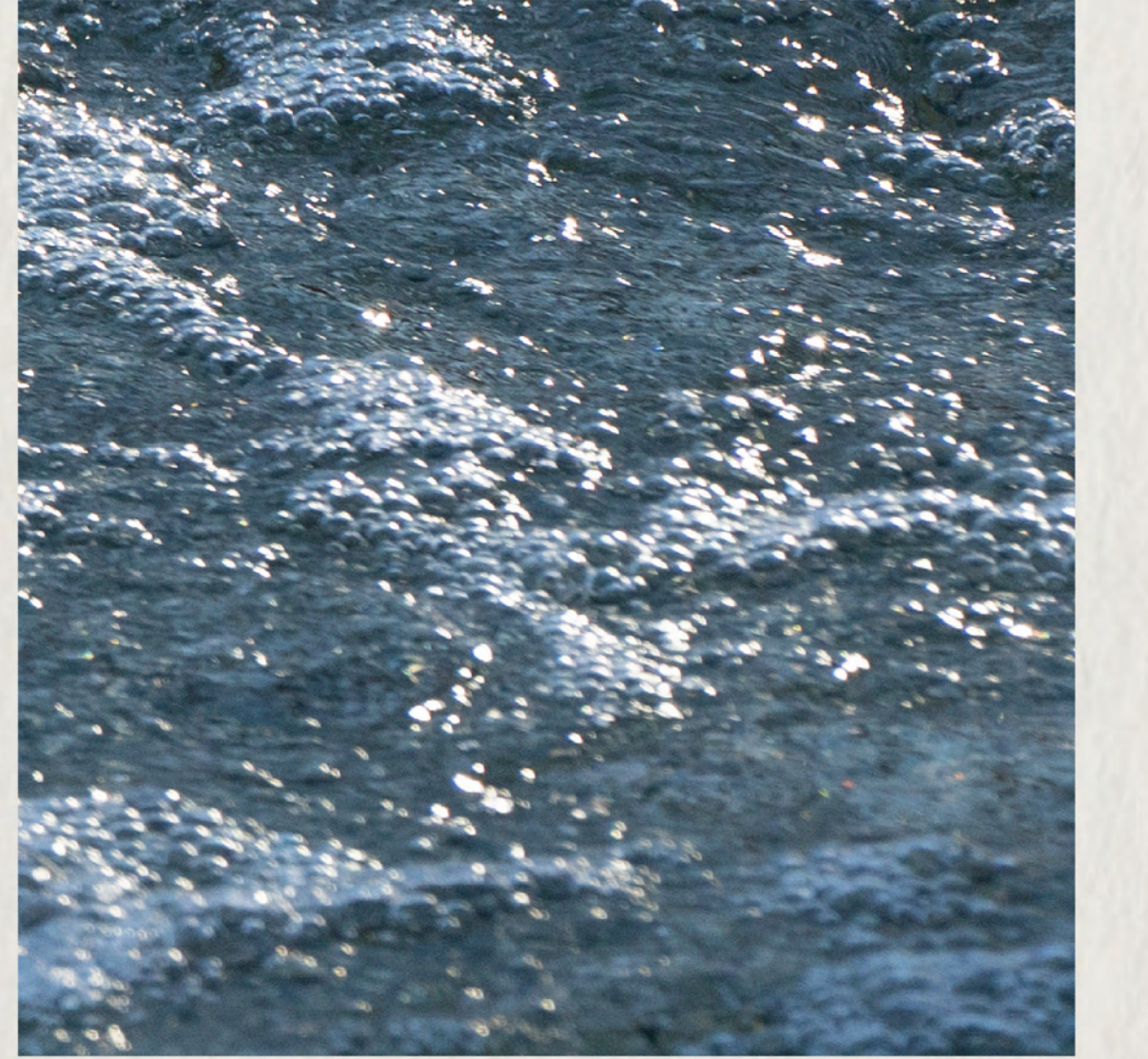
Mark 11:18 NIV

The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.





Jesus is both the *source of* and
the *solution to* controversy.



Context



JERUSALEM
TEMPLE COURTS
PASSOVER



Characters

- CHIEF PRIESTS
- SCRIBES
- ELDERS
- PHARISEES
- HERODIANS
- SADDUCEES



Mark 11:27-33 NIV

They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. ²⁸ “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you authority to do this?” ²⁹ Jesus replied, “I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ³⁰ John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!” ³¹ They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ³² But if we say, ‘Of human origin’ ...” (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.) ³³ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.” Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”





Mark 11:27-33

CHARACTERS | Chief priests, Teachers of Law, Elders

CONTROVERSY | Where does Jesus' authority come from?

CONCLUSION | "We don't know." They feared the people.



Mark 12:1-5 NIV

Jesus then began to speak to them in parables: “A man planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a pit for the winepress and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ² At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants to collect from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³ But they seized him, beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ Then he sent another servant to them; they struck this man on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁵ He sent still another, and that one they killed. He sent many others; some of them they beat, others they killed.



Mark 12:6-12 NIV

“He had one left to send, a son, whom he loved. He sent him last of all, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ⁷ “But the tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ⁸ So they took him and killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹ “What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.

¹⁰ Haven’t you read this passage of Scripture:

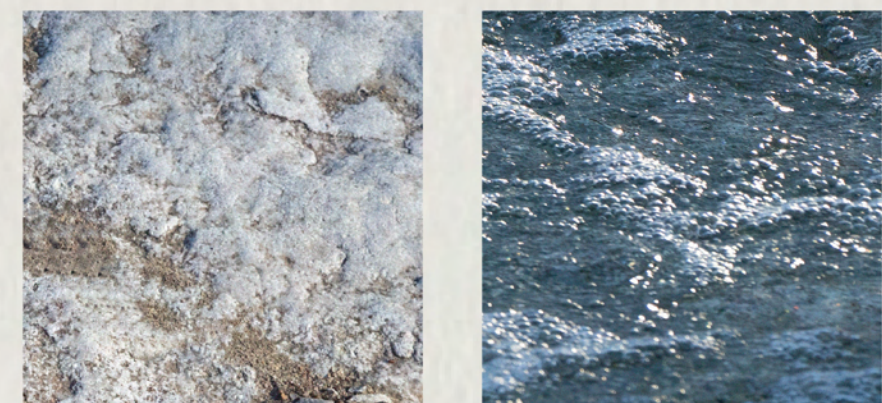
“The stone the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

¹¹ the Lord has done this,

and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

¹² Then the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders looked for a way to arrest him because **they knew he had spoken the parable against them.** But they were afraid of the crowd; so they left him and went away.



Mark 12:1-12

CHARACTERS | Chief priests, Teachers of Law, Elders

CONTROVERSY | Jesus confronts the failed Jewish leadership.

CONCLUSION | They look to arrest Him. They feared the crowd.



Mark 12:13-17 NIV

Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words. ¹⁴ They came to him and said, “Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not? ¹⁵ Should we pay or shouldn’t we?” **But Jesus knew their hypocrisy.** “Why are you trying to trap me?” he asked. “Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.” ¹⁶ They brought the coin, and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?” “Caesar’s,” they replied. ¹⁷ Then Jesus said to them, “Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.” And they were amazed at him.





Mark 12:13-17

CHARACTERS | Pharisees, Herodians

CONTROVERSY | Should a Jew pay Caesar's imperial tax?

CONCLUSION | They were amazed.



Mark 12:18-23 ^{NIV}

Then the Sadducees, **who say there is no resurrection**, came to him with a question. ¹⁹ “Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁰ Now there were seven brothers. The first one married and died without leaving any children. ²¹ The second one married the widow, but he also died, leaving no child. It was the same with the third. ²² In fact, none of the seven left any children. Last of all, the woman died too. ²³ At the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?”



Mark 12:24-27 NIV

Jesus replied, “Are you not in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God? ²⁵ When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. ²⁶ Now about the dead rising—have you not read in the Book of Moses, in the account of the burning bush, how God said to him, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? ²⁷ He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are badly mistaken!”

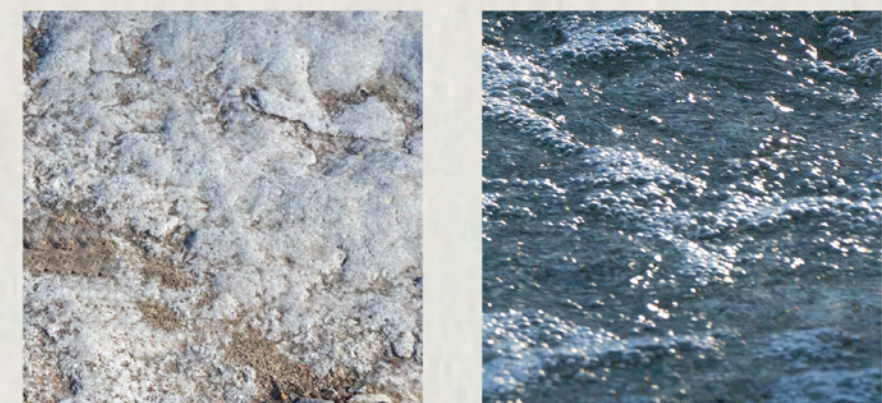


Mark 12:18-27

CHARACTERS | Sadducees

CONTROVERSY | How does Levirate law apply to the afterlife?

CONCLUSION | You do not know Scripture, the power of God and are badly mistaken.





Controversy

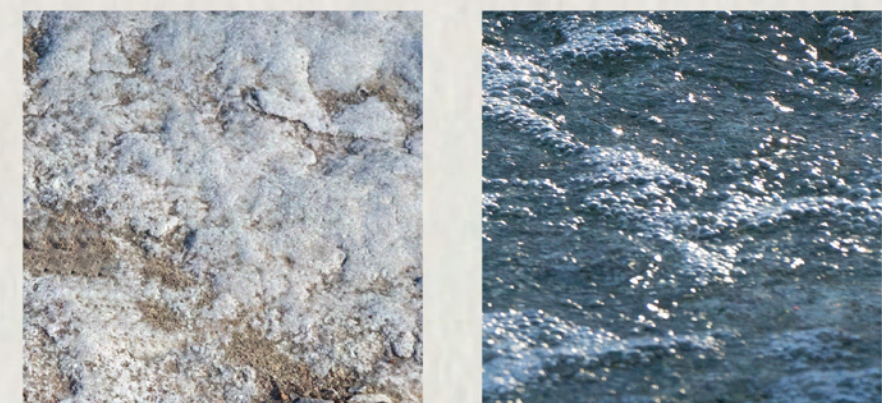
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*Is Jesus the greatest
controversy in your life?
How?*





The “Heart” of Controversy

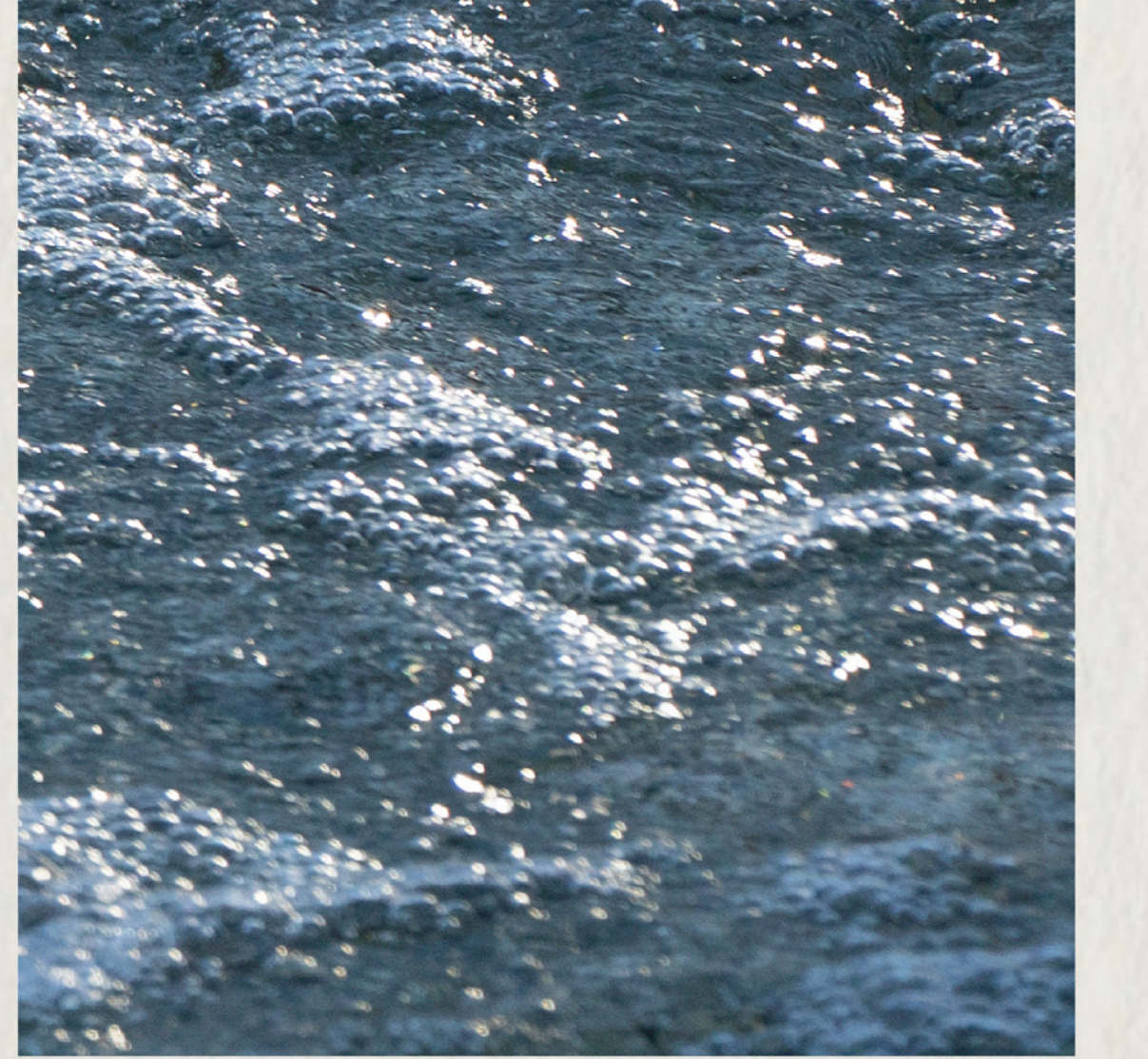
Authority (power/control)

Fear (others)

Greed (comfort)

Hypocrisy (compromise)

Unbelief (resurrection)





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