

Spurgeon's Notes on Mark

12:37 - They could not answer that riddle, but we can. We know Jesus is both David's son and David's Lord.

12:38-40 - We often hear foolish people say, "You must always preach in love and not say anything against anybody. Jesus did not denounce anybody." Then what about this denunciation of the scribes? **Were Jesus here today he would not be the soft-shelled creature some people want us to be. He had a backbone and a conscience—and a heavy right hand—and he brought that hand down like a sledgehammer on hypocrisy and error. And if we would be like Christ, we must be bold and outspoken.**

They tell us this in order that we may easily glide through the world and that all may speak well of us. But so did their fathers to the false prophets. Are we to suppose that those of us who preach God's Word are going to keep back any part of our testimony because it will bring us into ill repute with the ungodly? God forbid! We live for something higher and nobler than being fed on the breath of evil persons. If there is error in high places, if there is vice anywhere, it is the duty of the servant of Christ, in his Master's name, to attack it with all his might. The truth of God must still be spoken, whoever may be offended by it.

12:43 - Christ measures what we give by what we have left—by the proportion it bears to what we possess.