

HORSESHOES AND HANDGRENADES
MARK 12:28-34 / MARCH 8, 2017 WED

I. HOW CLOSE DID HE GET TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN?

- A. Who was this man?--12:28a.
- B. Why did he approach Jesus?--12:28b.
- C. What did he ask Jesus?--12:28c.
- D. Jesus' answer was a scripture every Jew recited twice a day--Deut. 6:4-5 plus Lev.19:18--
-Mark 12:29-31.
- E. The scribe's response to Jesus' answer....
 - 1. He acknowledged the sovereignty of God--12:32.
 - 2. He acknowledged the importance of loving God and others--12:33a.
 - 3. He recognized that salvation is about relationship not ritual--12:33b.
 - 4. He could see that the "heart" is more important than the "hand".

II. HE WAS CLOSE TO BECOMING A CHRISTIAN BUT CLOSE DOESN'T COUNT.

- A. Jesus acknowledged that this scribe had come very close to becoming a Christian-12:34a.
- B. Why isn't close, close enough?
 - 1. He had a "head" knowledge about salvation--12:32a.
 - 2. "Head" knowledge without "heart" knowledge isn't close enough.