

I Only Asked for One
Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes, observing Jesus answer his opponents with wisdom, steps forward with a sincere question: *"Which is the first commandment of all?"* He only asked for one.

The Question Behind the Question

Mark 12:28

A sincere inquiry in the middle of a hostile environment.

The Answer Nobody Expected

Mark 12:29–30 | Deuteronomy 6:4–5

Jesus responds with the Shema — the foundational confession of Israel. Love God with everything.

I Only Asked For One

Mark 12:31

Without being asked, Jesus adds a second. Then calls them both the greatest. One question. Two answers. One commandment.

You Are Not Far

Mark 12:34

The scribe grasps the heart of the answer. Jesus responds:
"You are not far from the kingdom of God."

CONCLUSION

Proximity to the Kingdom is not only about what you have received — but how fully you have embraced the heart of the King.