

# Mark 2:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

## Analysis

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The scribes' internal reasoning (διαλογιζόμενοι ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις, dialogizomenoi en tais kardiais, 'reasoning in their hearts') reveals hardened unbelief masquerading as theological discernment. Mark emphasizes their silent objection—they didn't verbally challenge Jesus but harbored hostile thoughts. This interior resistance demonstrates that sin's root is in the heart (Mark 7:21-23). The scribes, religious experts charged with interpreting Torah, immediately questioned Jesus' authority rather than marveling at His compassion or power. Their presence in this Capernaum gathering suggests official scrutiny of Jesus' growing ministry. Reformed theology notes that unconverted religious professionals can be Christianity's fiercest opponents—their theological knowledge, divorced from humble faith, becomes a weapon against Christ.

## Historical Context

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Scribes (γραμματεῖς, grammateis) were Torah scholars who copied, preserved, and interpreted Scripture, holding significant religious authority in first-century Judaism. They served as teachers, lawyers, and religious judges. Most scribes affiliated with the Pharisaic party. Their theological training made them arbiters of orthodoxy, which they jealously guarded. By Mark 2, scribes had begun monitoring Jesus' ministry from headquarters in Jerusalem, representing institutional opposition that would culminate in His crucifixion.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How can theological knowledge become a barrier to faith rather than a pathway to it, and what heart posture prevents this distortion?
2. In what ways do you silently resist Jesus' authority while maintaining outward religious respectability?
3. How does this passage challenge you to examine your heart's true response to Christ's claims and authority?

## Interlinear Text

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ἦσαν	δέ	τινες	τῶν	γραμματέων	ἐκεῖ	καθήμενοι	καὶ
<b>there were</b>	<b>But</b>	<b>certain</b>		<b>of the scribes</b>	<b>there</b>	<b>sitting</b>	<b>and</b>
G2258	G1161	G5100		G3588	G1122	G1563	G2532
διαλογιζόμενοι	ἐν	ταῖς	καρδίαις	αὐτῶν			
<b>reasoning</b>	<b>in</b>		<b>hearts</b>		<b>G846</b>		
G1260	G1722		G2588				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Mark 8:17** (Parallel theme): And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened?