

There are indeed always some tumultuous spirits who believe that the kingdom of Christ cannot be sufficiently elevated, unless all earthly powers be abolished, and that they cannot enjoy the liberty given by him, except they shake off every yoke of human subjection. This error, however, possessed the minds of the Jews above all others; for it seemed to them disgraceful that the offspring of Abraham, whose kingdom flourished before the Redeemer's coming, should now, after his appearance, continue in submission to another power...We ought to obey kings and governors, whoever they may be, not *because* we are constrained, but because it is a service *acceptable* to God; for he will have them not only to be feared, but also honored by a voluntary respect.

John Calvin

The Roman Christians and we today should learn that it is God's will to govern the world of mankind through human civil authorities. This is God's plan. Man did not create government. God did. Man does not sustain it. God does. Civil authority is God's idea in this age. Yes, we are not to conform to this age. Yes, many of these rulers kill Christians. Yes, they tax you and take your money—God's money. Yes, your lifestyle should be merciful and not vengeful. Yes, they can exile you and make you leave Rome or anywhere else. And I say to you, civil authority is God's chosen instrument to govern the world of men. Submit to it out of reverence for God—not reverence for the ruler.

John Piper

Jesus Christ demands more complete allegiance than any dictator who ever lived. The difference is, he has the right to.

Vance Havner

When the church takes its mind and heart away from Christ and His words, human authority and tradition fills the vacuum.

R.C. Lucas

All authority is under Christ. When we disobey lesser authorities, we are guilty of disobeying Christ. You cannot serve the King and honor his authority by rebelling against his appointed governors. To say you honor the kingdom of Christ while you disobey His authority structure is to be guilty not only of hypocrisy but of cosmic treason.

R.C. Sproul

Kingdom Purity
God and Caesar
Luke 20:19-26

Introduction: In the second of 4 controversies, the leaders of Jerusalem try to trap Jesus in the area of politics. *Do you think God's people should support a pagan ruler and a wicked regime?* They think they have put Jesus into corner, but His brilliant answer not only wins the day, but also instructs our hearts as we live for God in the realm of Caesar.

The Leadership Conspiracy

Luke 20:19, 20

The desire to destroy Jesus
The plan to trap Jesus

The Political Question

Luke 20:21, 22

The ironic introduction
The political question

The Perfect Answer

Luke 20:23-26

Recognizing trickery
Uncovering hypocrisy
Demanding honesty
Displaying heavenly authority

Applying God's Truth to Our Lives ...

What do we owe Caesar?

Honor, subjection, active participation, informed participation

What do we owe God?

Our lives, and an honoring stewardship of the Gospel

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Honor

Subjection

Active participation in the community

Informed participation in the political process

What do we owe God?

Our lives

An honoring stewardship of the Gospel

Kids Notes

God and Caesar

The Questions

Answer the following questions. The answers are on the back.

1. In order to trap Jesus in an error the leaders:

- A. sent men to spy on Him.
- B. had their spies try to trap Jesus in a political debate.
- C. sent men who pretended to be righteous.
- D. all of the above.

2. The enemies of Jesus asked Him is it was right to:

- A. go to the mall on Sunday.
- B. build a wall to keep illegal immigrants out of the country.
- C. pay taxes to the Roman government.
- D. all of the above.

3. The coin Jesus asked for had a picture of _____ on it:

- A. George Washington.
- B. Tiberias Caesar.
- C. Sid Caesar.
- D. Caesar's Palace.

For Family Discussion: Why should we pay taxes and obey the law?

Space to Doodle

Did You Hear It?

Mark the times you hear these key words:

TAXES _____	TOTAL: _____
CAESAR _____	_____
KINGDOM _____	_____
OWE _____	_____
JESUS _____	_____
JUDGMENT _____	_____

Word Search

Find the following words in the scramble below. Letters are sometimes used twice, and words may go around corners.

TAXES CAESAR RENDER GOD RIGHTEOUS SPIES PRETENDED
 PRIESTS SCRIBES CONSPIRACY QUESTION POLITICS INFORMED
 VOTE TRUTH TEACH AMAZED SILENT AUTHORITY HONOR OBEY
 PARTICIPATE COMMUNITY STEWARD GOSPEL STORY DENARIUS

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P S J S H H D S S U P D S O Y U N
Q Y U T T R O I K A S E E E X T V
R U U O A S L N R K T D B P X O E
G R E W E E E T O Y O N I A T A R
T G E S N T I I T R R E R E L R T
L T E T T C H I R G Y T C A V Q S
S F J Z I I R G I P P E S M S Y Y
A Q I P X O O N I Z O R H A E B K
T E A C H A F N A R L P N Z I U L
T D T C O M M U N I T Y E P C K
E E U O R Y E B O C T V F D S N T
N A N M G Q C N S U I R A N E D Q
G S E D L E P S O G C X I X R N F
E D J A E A E P Z N S R Z E Y P Z
C A E S A R F Y C A R I P S N O C

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