



Daily Verse and Comment

[Matthew 22:15-22](#)

(15) Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. (16) And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. (17) Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? (18) But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? (19) Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. (20) And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? (21) They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. (22) When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

King James Version

Though people in [the world](#) heard what [Jesus](#) taught, marveling at it ([Matthew 7:28-29](#)), they did not believe what He said. Moreover, He intentionally taught principles in the form of [parables](#) so that they would not understand, but His disciples understood because He opened their minds ([Matthew 13:10-17](#)). His message, we can conclude, was not directed at the world at all.

When the Pharisees questioned Jesus about paying taxes to Caesar, He replies, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to [God](#) the things that are God's.” He points out a clear distinction between God's Kingdom and the nations of the world: They have authority here on earth now and should be obeyed, but they were given that authority by God ([Romans 13:1](#)). He, then, is the ultimate authority. Though Jesus paid taxes to them ([Matthew 17:24-27](#)), His first loyalty was to God. As He said, we should follow Him.

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[Would Jesus Christ Vote? \(Part Two\)](#)

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