

The Great Physician

Luke 20:21-47

- Jesus has openly declared that He is the Messiah that Israel has been waiting on for centuries but instead of the religious leaders accepting Him and surrendering to Him they reject Him and plot to kill Him. Jesus in turn gives a parable that says **“those who aren’t broken before Him will one day be broken by Him”**. **Philip 2:10** says **“every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord”** the only question is when will you do it, now when you can be saved, or in eternity when it will be too late, Jesus left the decision up to them just as He does for us.

V21-47

- **V21-22** its sad when man thinks He’s smarter than God, and attempts to entrap the Lord with his loaded questions, people do this today, they ask questions in hopes of catching God’s servants in their words in order to try and discredit them. Look how they approach the Lord with flattery > **Prov 29:5** - flattery is a trap, and these spies are spreading a net in hopes of catching the Lord.
- This is just hollow praise and the Lord is not as insecure or foolish as man to fall for this clumsy attempt to influence Him with their flattery, and so their question is simple: **“is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not”** there are people within the church who ask this very same question. For us **Rom 13:1-7** tell us plainly that where taxes and Laws require payment then we pay, but in Jesus time it wasn’t as simple, for if Jesus says **“taxes should be paid”** they would accuse Him of denying the Sovereignty of God over Israel and make Him unpopular with the Jewish people.
- If He said **“taxes should not be paid”** then He would make Himself an enemy of Rome, and the religious leaders would report Him as a threat to Caesar making Him a wanted criminal, so these spies are doing their job, for whatever way Jesus answers He is trapped in their eyes. All of this in an attempt to get Jesus to offend either the Romans or the Jewish people, man at his worst.
- **V23-26** never think that because you can fool man that God doesn’t see through your scheme, Jesus knows exactly what their doing and even asks them **“why do you test Me”**. Jesus could have been silent and not given an answer but just because the answer you give may get you in a lot of trouble doesn’t mean you shouldn’t give it, especially if it will help those who are in need of hearing the truth. Remember this all started with Jesus teaching in the temple, so there are a lot of people around who need to hear what he has to say, even if it cause Him trouble.
- You can hear it in Jesus tone that He’s exasperated by their attempts to dishonor Him, but still He asks for a **“Denarius”** a days wage, and says **“whose image and inscription does it have”**, They answer **“Caesar’s”** and Jesus said **“render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s”**. Jesus affirms that we are responsible to God in all things, but we must be obedient to government in matters of civil-national, as the government can make legitimate requests of us > **Prov 8:15-16**.

- Jesus gives a wise and appropriate answer to their question, nevertheless they will take this perfect answer and twist it into an accusation in **Lk 23:2**- when they accuse Jesus of forbidding to pay taxes to Caesar, when He actually said the opposite. **V27-33** next the Sadducees come and ask Jesus this ridiculous hypothetical question of one woman being married to seven brothers at different times in her life, and in eternity they want Jesus to answer whose wife will she be known as? This shows man will go to any lengths to try and remove truth from their conscience.
- What's interesting is the Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection, immortality, Angels, spirits, or anything supernatural, they only accepted the first five books of Moses as authentic, and disregarded what was written in those books if it disagreed with their interpretations of God and scripture. They use **Deut 25** that says if a married man dies childless then it was his brother's responsibility to impregnate his brother's widow and count the child as the deceased husband's descendant, that way the property the husband had would remain on his side of the family.
- **V34-36** Jesus corrects their misunderstanding of resurrection life by showing it will not be like this life but of an entirely different order. **Mk 12:24** says Jesus began His answer by saying they neither knew the scripture or the power of God, there are so many people who quote and interpret scripture wrong because at the root of their problem is they don't know the power of God, meaning they aren't surrendered to the Lord yet they falsely act like they know the Lord.
- In this life once you reach a certain age and maturity you can marry, but in the resurrection life there is no marriage except one, and that is our marriage to the Lamb of God. Jesus also says there also is no death, as we are like the Angels then eternal beings, true sons of God, as we have been resurrected to new life > **Jn 11:25-26**, **Dan 12:2-3**- the fact of the matter everyone who has ever lived will live in eternity, the question is where, some to everlasting Righteousness, and others to everlasting shame, those in everlasting righteousness will shine like the stars above.
- **V37-40** this shows how gracious and merciful our Lord is He even corrects their misinterpretation of eternity by using scripture from the first five books of Moses. Illustrating how Moses referred to God as the God of Abraham, The God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, all of whom had already died, which is why Moses didn't say "was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- **V41-44** now Jesus asks them a question concerning **Ps 110:1**- in which David called the Messiah both His Lord and his Son. Oh Oh, they are caught in their own trap, for this shows that the Messiah is not only a son of David coming from the line of David, but also the Lord of David, being His King, that would make Jesus as Messiah their Lord as well, they didn't want any part of this question. Jesus silenced them in the same way He silenced Satan in the wilderness--- through the Word, we have to always remember it's the Word where we get our truth from.

- **V45-47** finally Jesus exposes the religious leaders as hypocrites who really are in using their positions as a way to scheme money out of the pockets of the people. Notice they were men of leisure who watched others work while they wore long robes, demanded recognition from others as people called them Pastor, demanded special benefits of status and privilege taking the best seats in the Synagogue and religious functions.
- They even used prayer making long ones in order to seem like they cared for those who they prayed for. Jesus says it was all a show for their real motive was to steal from those who they should have been serving, and for that they will receive the greater condemnation > **Ps 18:25-26**