

Sermon Discussion Guide:

A Question About Tribute to Caesar

Scripture: **Luke 20:19–26**

Series: **The Gospel of Luke**

Sunday, October 13, 2019

OVERVIEW

The religious leaders approach Jesus with a question regarding if it's lawful for Jews to pay taxes to Caesar. This isn't a sincere question and their goal is to try and trap Jesus—giving them license to have him murdered. Jesus sees right through the question and responds in a way that once again silences the religious leaders. By declaring “render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's,” we're reminded that submission to God's authority doesn't nullify our responsibility to submit to our earthly governing authorities. In fact, the former fuels the latter. **The heavenly minded will be of the most earthly good.**

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Matthew 23:13-15, Luke 18:32, Romans 13:1-7, Psalm 116:12-14, Psalm 29, 1 Peter 2:9, Colossians 3:1-4

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Joe brought up the old saying, “They're so heavenly minded that they are of no earthly good.” Why is this a false dichotomy? Is it possible to be too heavenly-minded?
2. What is Jesus affirming when he tells the religious leaders to “render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's?” In what ways might this challenge your view of or attitude towards our government?
3. How does submitting to God's authority fuel our submission to our earthly governmental authorities?
4. What, if anything, do we owe God? What's the hardest area of your life to “render to God”? What lies keep you from submitting to his authority in these areas?
5. What does worldly-mindedness usually look like in your life? What implications does this mindset have on how you live day in and day out?
6. What does it mean to be heavenly minded from a biblical standpoint? How do we grow in this on a practical level?