

*STUDIES
IN
MARK*



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LESSON 46

MARK 12:13-17

REVIEW:

In the parable of the vineyard in the last lesson, who did Jesus talk about?

1. Who was meant by the **owner of the vineyard**?
2. Who were the **servants**?
3. Who were the **husbandmen**?
4. Who was the **well-beloved Son**?
5. What was meant by the vineyard?

(If you do not remember all the answers above, look back to the notes on the last lesson.)

In the parable of the stone, who did Peter mean was **the chief cornerstone**?

(Acts 4:10,11)

READ MARK 12:13-17

THE LAW OF GOD AND THE LAW OF THE COUNTRY

1. In this lesson, some more of Jesus' enemies came along. The chief priests, the scribes, and the elders had gone away. Who came to try and catch Jesus in verse 13? _____ and _____.
(You will remember that the Pharisees were the religious leaders. The Herodians were the followers of King Herod.)
2. In our last lesson the enemies of Jesus were beaten, but they were ready to try again. They sent the _____ and the _____. These men talked very nicely, but they were really hypocrites. Like Pierre once said of one of the other people in his tribe, "He talks with sugar in his mouth!" This was Pierre's way of saying, "He is a hypocrite. He is really not as nice as he sounds."
3. By what name did the Pharisees and Herodians call Jesus? (verse 14)
4. The Pharisees and Herodians said four good things about Jesus before they tried to catch Him in their trap. What nice things did they say about Jesus?

- 1) .
- 2) .
- 3) .
- 4) .

The first thing they said is easy to understand. The second thing means Jesus was not afraid of any man. He did not care what they said about Him. The third means that Jesus does not see a rich man as any better than a poor man, or a king as any better than the man he rules over. He sees all men on the same level. The last thing they said was really true too. These enemies thought that if they talked nicely to Jesus it would be easier to catch Him.

5. What trap did these enemies set for Jesus? What question did they ask Jesus in verse 14?

(Caesar was the Roman ruler. Everybody had to pay a tax to Caesar in his own kind of money. This tax is called tribute.)

6. What question did they ask in verse 15? “Shall _____, or _____?”

Why were these questions a trap?

- 1) If Jesus told them not to pay tribute (tax) to Caesar, he would be in trouble with the ruler.
- 2) If Jesus said they should pay, it meant He told them to help a ruler who did not believe in God. They would say He was against God’s law. So you see this question of the Pharisees and Herodians had two sharp horns. They were sure that He would get caught on one, if He did not get stuck on the other.

7. These enemies of Jesus were sly like foxes. They wanted Jesus to think they really would like to know the answer to the problem. They thought Jesus would not see the hidden trap in their words. Was Jesus fooled by them? (verse 15)

What question did Jesus ask that showed He was not fooled? (verse 15)

“Why _____ ye me?”

8. What did Jesus tell the men to bring to Him?

(A penny was a small piece of silver money worth 17 or 18 cents. This was what a workman earned in one day. Caesar, the Roman emperor made each person pay a penny as a poll tax.)

9. What question did Jesus ask His disciples when they gave Him the money?

Whose “_____ and _____” on

the penny? In easy words He asked whose picture and whose writing was on this piece of money.

10. Whose picture and writing was on the money? (verse 16)



11. Jesus surprised the scribes, Pharisees and Herodians. He answered their hard question in a way that they did not catch Him in their trap. What was His wise answer? (verse 17)

“Render (give) to _____ the things
and to _____ the things that are _____.”

Jesus always gave His enemies such wise answers. All they could do was marvel. (To think Jesus was wonderful.)

The law of the country said the people must pay their taxes. Jesus told them to obey the laws of the country.

The law of God said they should give to God what belonged to Him. They should give their hearts to God. Then they would believe in Jesus, the One God sent to save them.

What do we really owe to God? One time an Indian chief sat listening to a missionary preaching. As the chief listened, he felt like giving something to God. God did so much for him. He got up and walked to the front of the church. He said, "I give God my blanket."



The missionary went on talking about what Jesus had done, and how much He loved the people. The Indian chief thought to himself, "I want to give Jesus something better than my blanket." Again he went up to the missionary. He said, "I give my horse to Jesus."

The missionary kept on preaching how Jesus had given His life to save sinners. The chief thought, "I would like to give Jesus something even better than my blanket and my horse, but I do not have anything good enough to give to Jesus." Pretty soon he thought of something else. He walked up to the missionary the third time. He bowed his head. He said quietly, "I give my self to Jesus." Then the missionary stopped preaching.

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