

### A Tax Test

The Pharisees and Herodians ask questions about taxes to \_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus.

- Their desire to destroy Jesus creates an \_\_\_\_\_
- They camouflage their trap with \_\_\_\_\_
- They expect their questions to \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus exposes their \_\_\_\_\_ by asking for a coin.

- They are critical of paying taxes \_\_\_\_\_ the government but are thoughtlessly using money \_\_\_\_\_ the government.

Jesus teaches that obligation is tied to \_\_\_\_\_

- We have an obligation to the one whose image is \_\_\_\_\_
- We have an obligation to the One whose image is \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal observations from the message.

1. How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?
2. What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?
3. What is a question you have?

### Discussion questions from the message.

1. What are some good things our taxes are used for? What are some things you wish your tax money didn't fund?
2. Read Mark 12:13-14. Who were the Pharisees and Herodians? Why is it unusual that these groups would work together? What might be an example of this today? Why does Mark tell us they are working together? Why might unlikely groups form an uncommon alliance today?
3. Why can the questions about paying taxes be good for us to ask?
4. Why are their questions a trap for Jesus? What will likely be the result of answering "yes"? What will likely be the result of answering "no"? What kinds of questions might groups that are hostile to Christianity ask of us today?
5. Read verses 15-17. How does Jesus' request for a coin reveal the hypocrisy of his opponents? Why are we so often blind to our own hypocrisy? What might be some examples of this?
6. What does the image and inscription on the coin reveal?
7. How does Jesus use the coin to wisely answer the question about taxes? Does this mean we should pay taxes? Does this mean we are giving undue allegiance to the government?
8. How does His answer keep him from falling into the trap that was set for Him?
9. What does Jesus' answer teach us about what we should "render to God?"
10. What would be wise, biblical responses to the questions you came up with in question 4?