

Give to God what is God's

Mark 12:12-17



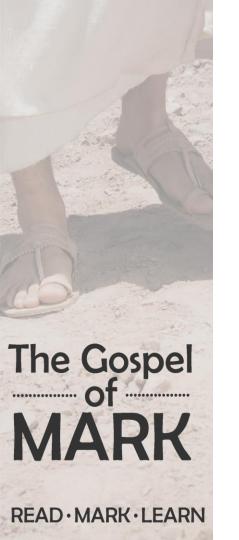


Then the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders looked for a way to arrest him because they knew he had spoken the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd; so they left him and went away. Later they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Jesus to catch him in his words.



They came to him and said, 'Teacher, we know that you are a man of integrity. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are; but you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. Is it right to pay the poll-tax to Caesar or not? Should we pay or shouldn't we?'





But Jesus knew their hypocrisy. 'Why are you trying to trap me?' he asked. 'Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.' They brought the coin, and he asked them, 'Whose image is this? And whose inscription?' 'Caesar's,' they replied.

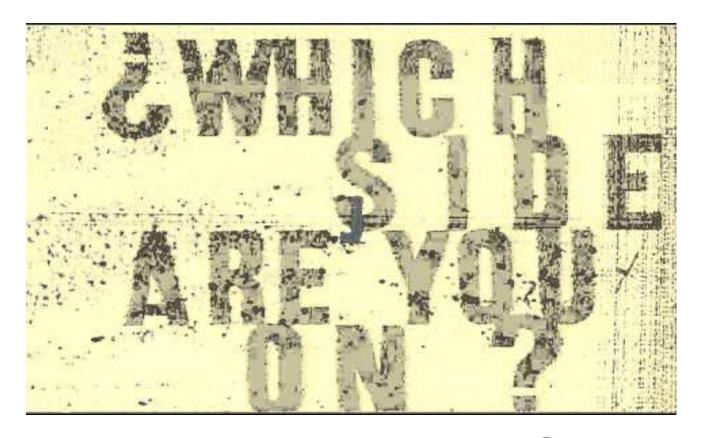




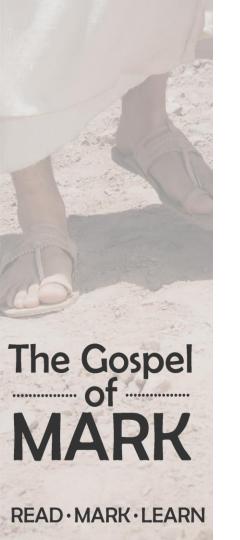
Then Jesus said to them, 'Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'
And they were amazed at him.







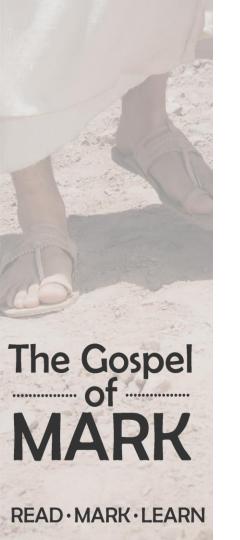




Herodians

- •Cosy with the Romans who were occupying.
- •Herod has a deal with them that gave him power and wealth.
- •Want Jesus to answer in a way that displays some support for the paying of taxes to Rome, thus alienating and upsetting the Jewish people.





Pharisees

- •Self-appointed religious/thought police.
- Obsessed with upholding the Jewish law.
- •Think that Jesus is a threat to the law.
- They want Jesus to denounce the tax causing
- •Pontius Pilate (Roman Governor) to arrest and execute Jesus for inciting a revolt.





