
Worshipping God and Government

Matthew 22:15-22



the
Gospel
according to
Matthew



God and Government

Religion and Politics **Two taboo subjects!**

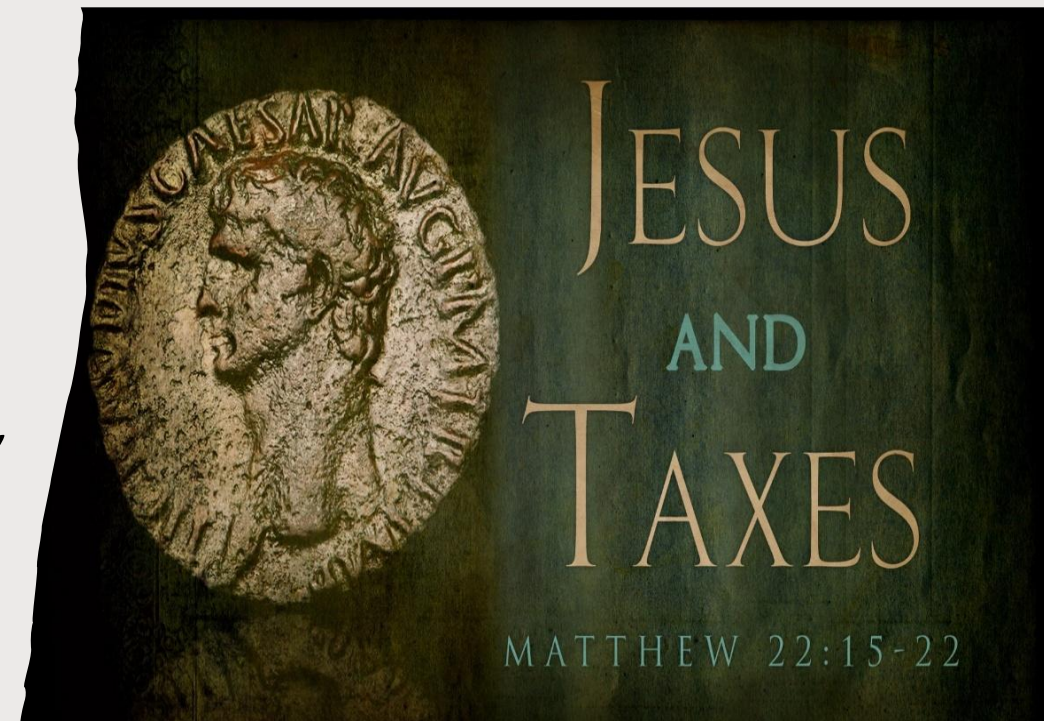
- *Can they be mixed?*
- *How to differentiate between them?*
- *How to respond to them?*



Matthew 22:15-22 Worshipping God and Government

- **The Trap**
- **The Counter Attack**
- **The Remarkable Answer**

*Give to Caesar what is Caesar's,
Give to God what is God's*





JESUS AND TAXES

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. ‘Teacher,’ they said, ‘we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are.

***¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion?
Is it right to pay the poll-tax to Caesar or not?’***



***¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said,
'You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?
¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax.' They brought
him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, 'Whose image is
this? And whose inscription?' ²¹ 'Caesar's,' they replied.
Then he said to them, 'So give back to Caesar what is
Caesar's, and to God what is God's.' ²² When they heard
this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.***

The Trap

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. ‘Teacher,’ they said, ‘we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are.

An Unusual Perfect Team

Religion + Politic

Playing False Flattery



A Trick Question

Tell us then, what is your opinion?

*Is it right to pay the poll-tax
to Caesar or not?’*

**No answer either way
was acceptable**

NO - Sedition to the Romans

YES - Traitor to the Jews





Th Counter Attack - Jesus's Wisdom

¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, 'You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for paying the tax.' They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, 'Whose image is this? And whose inscription?'

Saw through their Trickery, Sarcasm, Malice
He exposed their hypocrisy

The Remarkable Answer

Give it back to the Owners!

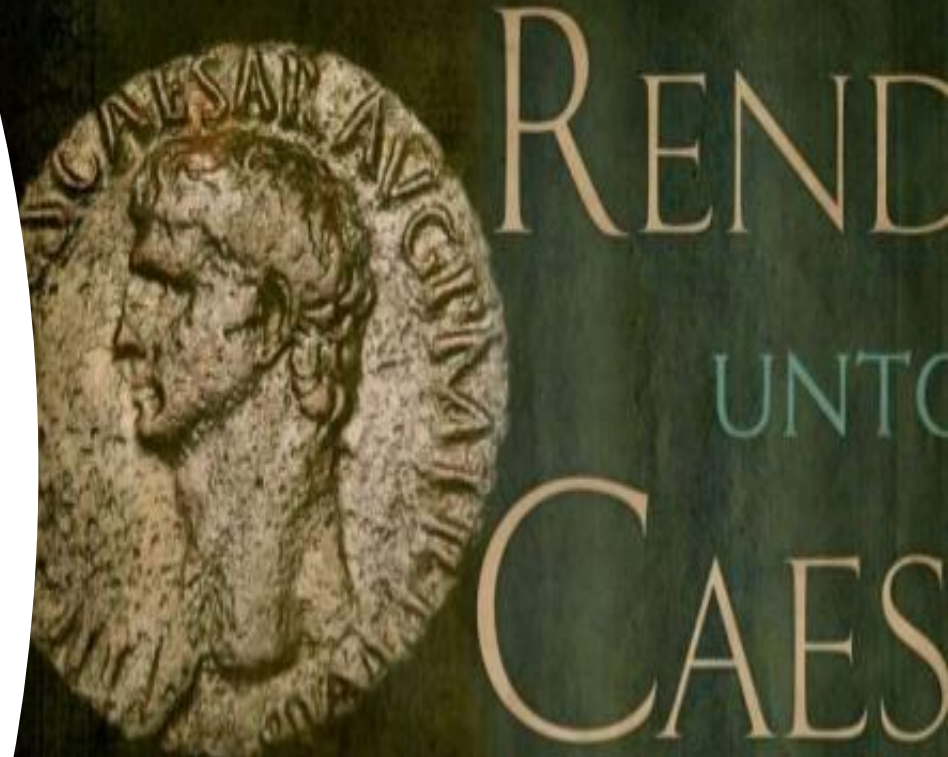
²¹ ‘Caesar’s,’ they replied.

Then he said to them, ‘So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.’

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s

Give back to the Governing Authority whom you benefited



The coin bore
Caesar's image,
it belonged to him

Give Back to God What is God's

We Bear His Image Gen 1:26

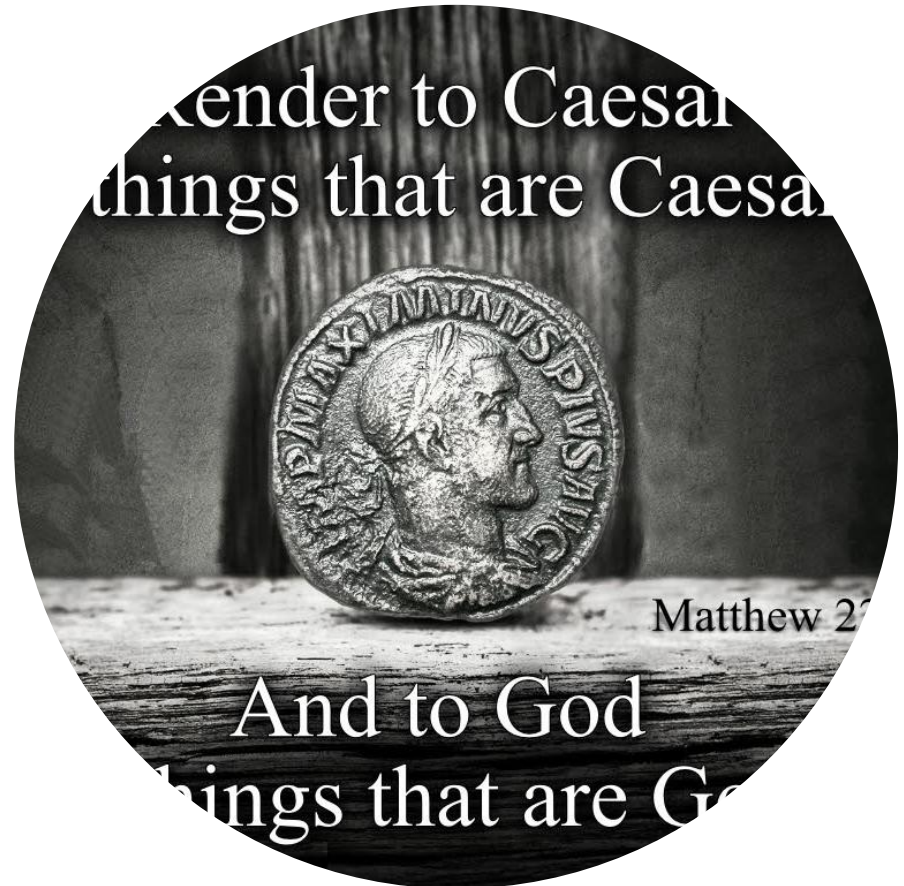
*We belong to God,
Give ourselves back to Him!*

A Divine Element

Whom Do You Worship

God is Supreme

*Submit to Authority
but Worship God Only!*



Render to Caesar
things that are Caesar's

Matthew 22

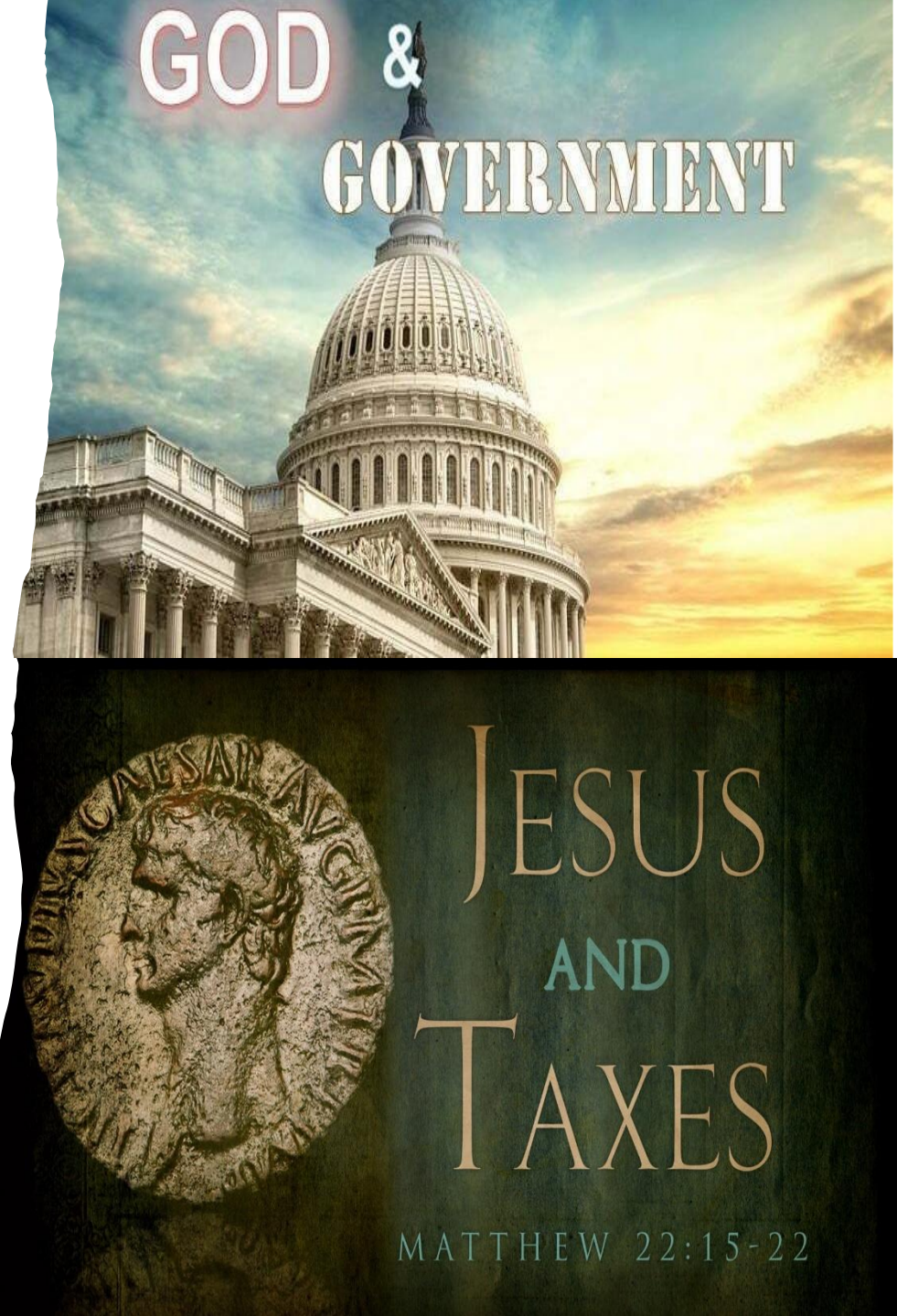
And to God
things that are God's

**How do we worship God
and respond to government ?**

***“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s,
Give to God what is God’s”***

**We Belong to God
and His Kingdom**

***Loyalty is due to the
government, but worship
belongs Only to God***



God Established Government for Our Good

- *Submit to it wisely*
- *Give to government what is due them*
- *Do what is good and right*
- *Pray for them*

GOD &
GOVERNMENT



God Established Government for Our Good Submit to it Wisely

Romans 13:1-2, 4

“Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted...4 For he is God’s servant to do you good.”



Give to government what is due them

Romans 13:6-7

“This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.”

**We are to be Good
Stewards of God**

Support and pay the taxes



We must do what is good and right

Romans 13:3

*Do you want to be free from
fear of the one in authority?
Then do what is right and
he will commend you.*

**Be good citizens
who uphold the rules
and obey the law**



We must pray for them

1 Timothy 2:1-2

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

God's desire to advance His kingdom on earth through us



**Is there a time when we
may go against government?**

*Yes, when Worshipping
God is being challenged*

God is Supreme

He is the Only One we Worship

Stand Firm

Do Not be Fearful

*We belong to Him! He owns us
and He takes care of us!*



***Come Follow Jesus
Love and Serve Him!***

Submit to Government, Worship God Only!

