

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

10-25-15 Ken Carlton

Title: TRIBUTE TO GOD

Main Text: Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon Description: I Cor 3:19 returns to mind with today's text in view. Proverbs 8:15-16 also is relevant to the situation at hand... "by me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just, by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly..." Our text displays the wisdom of Christ in deftly thwarting the hypocrite's attempts to entangle Him. Instead He leaves them befuddled and demands they pay tribute to God. This exchange will eventually lead up to the most dramatic judgement language in the record as Christ pronounces 7 woes on factions of this type in Chap 23. This preacher tries not to make a habit of directly debunking misuses of various texts, but rather to focus most of our attention on the contextually verifiable merits of each passage, with the goal to equip the hearer to do his own debunking with exposition enhanced discernment. Today's message may contain an exception or two to this practice simply because of the all too common cherry picking of Mat 22:15-22 for ulterior motives. Modern sensibilities inflamed by political questions and tensions have forced this passage by stretching and twisting through the proof text juicer. Let us seek to understand it on its own terms...

Heading: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TAXATION QUESTION IN LIGHT OF...

1. THE CONFRONTATIONAL CONTEXT (MT 21:23-27, 22:23-30)

- a. War of words (21:23-27)
- b. Dual factions (Mk 8:15)
- c. Hypocritical entrapment (22:16)

2. THE GOSPEL'S CHAIN OF EVENTS

- a. Betrayal (Lk 20:19-20, Mt 26:14-16)
- b. Prophecy (Mt 23:28-36, Mt 24)
- c. Trial (Lk 23:2, Jn 19:10-16)

3. AUTHORITY AND OBLIGATION

- a. Exegetical imperative
- b. Christ vs. Caesar
- c. Closing application (Heb 1:1-4)

Close: Are we guilty of betraying Christ, selling Him out because we recognize ourselves or any earthly government as a more compelling representation of authority than Jesus Christ incarnate God in flesh!?

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Jesus confounds	Leaders fail	Jesus' betrayal	Jesus' prophecy	Jesus' trial	Jesus image
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Mt 21:23-27	Mt 22:15-22	Lk 20:19-20, Mt 26:14-16	Mt 23:29-36	Jn 19:10-16	Heb 1:1-4

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Further Study' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Heb 6:9-12 ...sure of better things...