



# Who does it belong to?

Average credit card debt per household:

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Total U.S. consumer debt:

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Something is desperately wrong with our nation's view of money.

Mark 12:13–17 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk.

<sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, “Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone’s opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?” <sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, “Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.”

<sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said to him, “Caesar’s.” <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, “Render to

Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.

## I ENEMIES OF JESUS

A) Looking for a way out, an excuse, justification, attack on Jesus

B) Set a trap

1) Not \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_!

C) Flattery

"Flattery is like counterfeit money which, but for vanity, would have no circulation."

François de la Rochefoucauld

D) Don't be concerned with anyone's opinions of you

Psalm 62:7 (ESV)

On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

## II THE TRAP: IS IT LAWFUL TO PAY TAXES TO CAESAR?

A) If Jesus says yes then the people

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- B) If Jesus says no then they can turn him over to the Romans for insurrection

### III JESUS' ANSWER

<sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, **“Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it.”**

A) Hypocrisy

- 1) ‘to have two faces,’ ‘to have two tongues,’ ‘to be two people,’ or ‘to have two hearts.’
- 2) The religious leaders didn’t want to learn anything
- 3) They just wanted to

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<sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, **“Whose likeness and inscription is this?”** They said to him, **“Caesar’s.”** <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, **“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”** And they marveled at him.

- B) You have a debt to pay
- C) And then Jesus says the most profound thing of all

**“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”**

1) The coin bears Caesar's image  
and therefore belongs to him  
and should be given to him

2) You bear \_\_\_\_\_  
and therefore \_\_\_\_\_  
and should \_\_\_\_\_

### **Genesis 1:26–27 (ESV)**

**<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**

### 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (ESV)

**<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, <sup>20</sup> for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.**

D) God not only \_\_\_\_\_  
but He also \_\_\_\_\_