Intro. [A] The religious leaders of Israel decided early that Jesus was a threat to them.

Luke 20:20-26

11:53-54: "And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and Pharisees began to urge him..."

"Evē̂n" = "to hold or keep fast in", "to hem in", "surround".

2. "vehemently" = διέφρενον = "unusually", "terribly".

3. "...and to provoke him to speak of many things". "Provoke" = ἀποκαταμαρτίσεω = "to prepare questions to be answered offhand", and on many subjects.

1. [B] Saying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him.

1. ἔκφυγον = "to lie in ambush for, as in war".

2. ἱβάζον = "to take prisoners, not to kill".

3. καταγγέλειν = "to speak against before Judges, to have an accusation".

4. It never worked!

I. The Continued Attempt to Trap Jesus.

14. "And they watched him, and sent for spies..."

15:20 a [1] "...which should feign themselves as just men..."

Ἐπικρίνομαι = "to be judged under", "to represent another person by acting under a mask", "to pretend".

2. "that they might take hold of his words".


1. "...that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor".

2. They feared the people, and would not stone Him. (They would later stone Steven) They hoped to turn Him over to the Romans.
“Image” = εἰκόνα = “to be like,” “resemble.”
“Superscription” = ἐντυπωσία = “a writing upon or over.”
13. They answered and said, Caesar’s.

18. And he said unto them,

Ver. 25. 1. “Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar’s…”
ἀνοιχτόνιον = “to give away from one’s self,” “to give in full.”
12. “and unto God the things which be God’s.”

C. The failure of the Conspiracy.

11. It was a conspiracy!

Ver. 26. 12. “And they could not take hold of his words before the people.”
13. “they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.”

IV. You and God and the IRS (Caesar)

A. You. (God is ignored and Caesar is sick)
1. I do not suggest that you are first,
only that the money starts in your hands, first.
2. You earned it, inherited it, etc.
3. Whatever God gets or Caesar gets will depend upon you and your decision.
II Tim. 5:18 4. You must provide for your own.

B. God.
1. What pleases God?
2. Not so much the amount but the sacrifice.
Luke 21:4 — II Cor. 8:2, 3, 5, 12.
3. Sacrifices are always pleasing to God.
4. Have I foregone something I wanted?