

you And God And Caesar ①

LUKE 20:20-26

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

11:53-54 1. "And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and Pharisees began to urge him..."

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

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

3. "...and to provoke him to speak of many things".

"PROVOKE" = ἀποσπαρατίζω = "to prepare questions to be answered offhand", and on many subjects"

[B] ^①laying wait for him, and seeking to ^②catch something out of his mouth, that they might ^③accuse him."

1. ἐνεδρεῖω, "to lie in ambush for, as in war".

2. ἑλκύειν = "to take prisoner, not to kill".

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

4. It never worked!

I. The Continued Attempt To Trap Jesus.

[A] "And they watched him, and sent forth spies..."

παραρηρῶν = "sinister intent"

16:20a 1. "...which should feign themselves as just men..."

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

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

16:20b [B] The purpose of the masquerade.

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" = εἰκὼν = "to be like", "resemble". (2)
"Superscription" = ἐπιγραφὴ = "a writing upon or over"
3. "They answered and said, Caesar's".

B. "And he said unto them,
vs. 25 1. "Render therefore unto Caesar the things
which be Caesar's..."
ἀποδίδωμι = "to give away from one's self", "to give in full".
2. "and unto God the things which be God's".

C. The failure of the conspiracy.
1. It was a conspiracy!
vs. 26 2. "And they could not take hold of his words
before the people".
3. "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.
I Tim 5:8 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?