

# *The Clash of Kingdoms*

Gospel of Mark Series – Part 37

Scripture text – Mark 12:13-17

## Introduction

- It's still \_\_\_\_\_ of Passion Week
- The plan was to get Jesus into trouble with either the \_\_\_\_\_ or with \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Pharisees & Herodians were very much at odds with each other, but \_\_\_\_\_ in their hostility toward Jesus.

## The Imperial Tax

- This was an annual tax used to fund the \_\_\_\_\_ military that occupied Palestine.
- When first implemented (in 6 AD), it sparked a revolt led by \_\_\_\_\_ the Galilean.
- The tax had to be paid in \_\_\_\_\_ coinage. On the coin was a portrait of the \_\_\_\_\_, with an inscription asserting his \_\_\_\_\_.
- This was the perfect trap!

## “Give to Caesar”

- In this statement, Jesus is affirming the \_\_\_\_\_ of government (even pagan, idolatrous ones) and calling upon his followers to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of citizens.
- This is echoed by both \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 13) and \_\_\_\_\_ (I Peter 2).
- Key biblical understanding: Everyone in authority has been placed there by \_\_\_\_\_.
- As Americans, we are \_\_\_\_\_ to live under the government we do.
- However, it's apparent some of our most cherished liberties are under \_\_\_\_\_, especially our \_\_\_\_\_ liberty. We will have to adjust.
- Christians are like \_\_\_\_\_; we can thrive under any government.

## A Caveat

- As Christians (and as the church), we must always leave open the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_ . This is happening right now in parts of the US.
- 2 requirements:
  1. A clear clash of \_\_\_\_\_; and
  2. A willingness to \_\_\_\_\_.

“Give to God”

- In this statement, Jesus is affirming the totality & comprehensiveness of our \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
- While the coin bore Caesar’s image, we bear \_\_\_\_\_ image.
- Abraham Kuyper: *“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ does not cry, ‘\_\_\_\_\_!’”*
- What will God do with what we give back to him? 2 promises:
  1. He will use it \_\_\_\_\_; and
  2. We’ll have no \_\_\_\_\_.