

# The Last Week Of Jesus' Life -

Luke 20:20,21 - Prelude To Two Questions

Sunday AM 04/21/19

## Introduction:

Lyle Alzado played football for the Oakland Raiders and Cleveland Browns. He made anti-drug commercials. Only to die from the use of steroids. A player for the Atlanta Falcons was honored by a "Christian" organization for his purity and good role model. Only to be arrested the night before the Super Bowl for soliciting a prostitute. Other examples could be given but I think you understand the point. What we profess and what we do must be consistent, otherwise, we are hypocrites.

### I. The Prelude to Two Hard Questions

#### A. The questions

1. Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not? *V. 22*
2. In the resurrection, whose wife does she become? *V. 33*

#### B. There a lot of "hard" questions for us today.

1. Divorce/marriage/remarriage, social drinking, immodesty, dancing, gambling, discipline, etc.
2. Hard questions are generally hard because we make them hard. Not being content with what the Bible says we start giving situations that would seem to cause us to change what the Bible says.

### II. Verse 21

## **A. We know**

1. How did they know?
  - a. Sent out spies, men to keep watch for every wrong move Jesus would make.
  - b. By examining His teachings and actions.
2. What some other people knew about Jesus.
  - a. At the end of the sermon on the Mount the people knew Jesus taught as one having authority, *Matt. 7. 28-29*
  - b. Nicodemius knew Jesus was from God, *John 3.2*
  - c. Soldiers sent out to arrest Jesus knew no one ever spoke like Him, *John 7.45-46*
3. Jesus' answers were consistent with the Law of Moses otherwise they would have pointed out His error.
  - a. People will listen to us if they see we are consistent.
  - b. People will watch us to see if our practice follows our profession.

## **B. You do not show personal favoritism**

1. Favoritism is the same as partiality and prejudice.
2. The Pharisees were angered by those who Jesus taught. (Sinners, harlots, tax collectors, etc.)
3. Jesus applied to law to everyone alike.

4. Favoritism creates enmity and strife. Ex. Jacob favored Joseph over his brothers.
  5. Jesus did not favor one commandment of Moses over another, *Matthew 5.17-18, Hebrews 4.15*
    - a. the Pharisees had "their passages", the Saducees "their passages", do we have "our passages." Then neglect the other parts, *Matthew 23.23-24*
  6. They want to use Jesus' impartiality against Him.
  7. God shows no favoritism, *Acts 10.34-35; Romans 2.11-13*
  8. Two warnings about favoritism: *James 2.1ff; 4.11.*
- C. Teach the way of God truly
1. Jesus was faithful in executing the will of the Father.
    - a. Literally He was full of faith. He was faithful in all things. He knew the will of God.
  2. Faithfulness requires total commitment.
    - a. *Hebrews 3.2,5* Moses was faithful in building God's house.
    - b. *Ephesians 1.1* the saints were to be faithful in Christ
    - c. *1 Timothy 3.11* wives were to be faithful in all things.
  3. Jesus emphasized the importance of faithfulness in executing one's duties, *Luke 16.10*
    - a. David, *Acts 13.22*

- b. Church at Philippi, *Phil. 2.14*
- c. Church at Corinth was being tested to see if they were faithful in all things, *2 Corinthians 2.9*

**Conclusion:**

The answers to their questions were rather simple. The same can be said for ours today.