

The Last Week Of Jesus' Life -

Luke 20:27-39 - Two Questions

Sunday PM 04/28/19

Introduction:

According to William Barclay, Every man from 14 to 65 and every woman from 12 to 65 had to pay a poll tax of one denarius per year. Their question pertain to whether they should be paying this tax or not.

I. Question #1 v22

A. Background

1. Solomon collected tribute (taxes) from other nations, *1 Kings 4.21*.
 - a. Show of power and authority, goes from the weaker to the greater power.
 - b. Jehoshaphat collected tribute from the Philistines, *2 Chron. 17.11*
 - c. Ammorites brought tribute to King Uzziah, *2 Chron. 26.8*.
2. Hoshea paid tribute to Assyria, *2 Kings 17.3*
3. Jehoahaz paid "tribute" to Pharaoh Necho of Egypt, *2 Kings 23.33*

B. Between the Testaments

1. Medo-Persian Empire was still ruling at the time of Malachi, 435 BC
2. 330 BC Greeks defeated the Persian, establishing the Macedonian (Greek) Empire

3. After the death of Alexander the Great the Greek Empire divides. Palestine was caught between the power struggle between Syria and Egypt.
4. 203 BC King Antiochus of Syria conquers Jerusalem. After his death, his brother, Antiochus Epiphanes hates and persecutes the Jews, defiling their temple.
5. Judas Maccabeus leads a revolt and takes control of Jerusalem.
6. Pompey captures Jerusalem for Rome in 63 BC
7. Herod the Great is set up to rule over this region.
 - a. At this time they are paying tribute to Caesar
 - b. See their attitude in *John 8.30-33*

C. Jesus' answer

1. He understood their motive was wrong.
2. However, their question needed answering.
3. Their government had authority to collect taxes, *Romans 14.1ff.*
4. Of greater importance is our recognizing the authority of God and serve Him.

II. The Resurrection, vv. 27-33

A. The Law of Moses was the basis of this question, *Deut. 25.5*

1. They thought they had the impossible situation.
2. Fact: What we perceive to be moral dilemmas do not negate what God says. *Isaiah 55.8-9* Some moral

dilemmas are not really moral dilemmas at all. For instance: Can we put to death a person convicted of murder? Must properly define murder and apply it to this situation. A couple in their third marriage with young children. It seems wrong to tell them to divorce. What about their other children and the first family?

B. Jesus' answer

1. The question had nothing to do with the resurrection.
 - a. Be careful of letting others define the issue.
 - b. They were just making things complicated but it had nothing to do with the fundamental issue.
2. In the resurrection there will be no marriages, *vv. 34-36*
 - a. Suddenly this takes care of their moral dilemma.
 - b. They assumed the resurrection will be like this world. A false assumption leads to a false conclusion.
3. Simple answer: God refers to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the present tense. Although they had died over 400 years earlier they still existed. Man survives this physical death.
 - a. One reason this answer was so powerful was the Sadducees accepted the first 5 Books as being authoritative.

Conclusion:

We must rightly divide the word of God, *2 Timothy 2.15*; be sincere in our study and do what ever God says. They recognized the answers as being true but they did not accept Him. To not accept Jesus is to reject our Savior and condemn ourselves to everlasting destruction. To accept Jesus is to accept who He is, what He did, and His words.