

Bible Study Questions

A Hunted Man – Mark 12:13-17

Focus

As the beloved Son of God now come to His people, Jesus is a hunted man and yet He cannot be trapped, for His wisdom and authority eludes even the most sinister motives of the political and religious authorities of the day. Jesus' response to their trap about taxes exposes their failure to honor God as God, as well as the very nature of His mission in this world to give His life for us.

Read

[Mark 12:13-17](#)

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Mark 12 which can be found on our [website](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

1. Who are the Pharisees and the Herodians? What's surprising about the fact that they're partnering together?
2. What does this passage reveal about the motives of the Pharisees and Herodians towards Jesus?
3. What question do they ask of Jesus? What makes it a challenging question to try and answer?
4. Recall what Sunday's sermon said about the image and inscription on the coin of the denarius. How is that significant to what takes place here?
5. How did Jesus avoid the trap set by the Pharisees and Herodians? At the same time, why might neither of them have been satisfied with His answer?
6. What makes Jesus' teaching in verse 17 so revolutionary?

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Closing Reflection and Application

1. Verse 17 says that people marveled at Jesus following this teaching. What's your response?
2. What questions do you have about how a Christian is called by God to engage with human governments? As you work through your questions, here are some passages you might find it helpful to consider:
 - Romans 13:1-7
 - 1 Timothy 2:1-4
 - 1 Peter 2:13-17
3. In light of Jesus' teaching and the rest of Scripture, what does it mean exactly to "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's"?
4. How can we do that even when we might significantly disagree with the government of our country? (Consider: how does your situation compare with the Jews under Roman rule?)
5. What does it mean for us to give "to God the things that are God's" and how does that impact what we give to Caesar?
6. In what way is God's image on every human being? In what way is God's image specifically on genuine Christians?
7. What would be a healthy and godly way to engage in politics? See 1 Corinthians 7:31... what would it look like for us to "deal with the world" (including politics and government) "as though we had no dealings with it"?
8. Do you believe it's true that the gospel will flourish everywhere? Can you think of examples of the gospel thriving under ungodly governments?
9. How does the gospel truth that Jesus has given everything for you on the cross now equip you to give the whole of your life to God?