



GIVE TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD



KEY SCRIPTURE : MATTHEW 22 V21 "THEY SAID TO HIM, "CAESAR'S." AND HE SAID TO THEM, "RENDER THEREFORE TO CAESAR THE THINGS THAT ARE CAESAR'S, AND TO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S." (NKJV)

The Pharisees' Trap (Matthew 22:15-22)

The Pharisees came to Jesus with their disciples and the Herodians, saying: "Master, we know that you are true and teach the way of God in truth. You don't care for any man's opinion. Tell us, is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar or not?" Jesus perceived their wickedness and said: "Why do you tempt me, you hypocrites? Show me the tribute money." They brought Him a penny. **Jesus asked:** "Whose image and inscription is this?" **They answered:** "Caesar's." **Then Jesus said;** "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard these words, they marveled and could not ensnare him with his own words.

Understand the Principle of the Kingdom of God

Jesus knew the heart of men and he used this question to answer other kingdom principles that may arise in years to come about other subject matters like;

- Tithes
- Offerings
- Man's obligations to God

The First Principle: God First!

No matter how you live your life, make sure whatever you do is okay with God first. In any condition, wherever you find yourself, in any decision—make sure it God's First, his will must become priority above all that we decide to do always!

Let this mind be in You! It is after you have satisfied God that you consider demands of man.

Embrace your Divine Obligations

Jesus said: "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." This is profound because in this world, there are things that belong to God and things that belong to man.



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Examples of What Belongs to Whom:

The Tithe belong to God

Imagine a woman says: "I cannot give tithe because my husband doesn't want me to give tithe". The truth is that the tithe does not belong to the husband but to be taken to the Priest. The tithe is not yours and does not belong to you as the tithe holder. Today, we see government deduct tax from everyones income without question or permission of the employer. This is the government taking what belongs to them, and give into God what belongs to him..

Your Tithe Does Not Belong to You

Your tithe is not your property. You don't own it. Your tithe belongs to the Lord.

There is no confusion in the scripture about how you should do things. God said: **"Bring tithes to my house."**

He didn't say:

- Give tithe to your friend
- Give tithe to your family member
- Give tithe to a beggar

The word of God is Simple! **"Bring the tithes to my house."**

That's the instruction. Give to God what belongs to God, and give to man what belongs to man.

Make Sure Every Decision Pleases God First

In every decision you make, God first. After God, then man. Any decision that is okay with God is the best decision—because sometimes, most decisions may be okay with God but will not be okay with man. So, live to give to God what belongs to Him.

Reflection: Check Your Life

In what way have you withhold what belongs to God from him. Reflect on those things the bible identify as belonging to God that you are not giving Him? Jesus said: "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God that which belongs to Him."

The Significance on Tithing

Whenever you are giving your tithe, **know that you are giving to God what belongs to Him. It's not your own. You are not making Him rich.** He told you: "I will rebuke the devourer for your sake." It's good we understand this principle.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we must Give to God what belongs to God, and to man what belongs to man. Don't let societal pressure, human opinion, or fear cause you to withhold from God what is rightfully His. Your tithe, your obedience, your devotion—these belong to God first! **This is the pathway to blessing, protection, and divine favor. Hallelujah!**