

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

## LUKE CHAPTER 20:19-26

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-685 MAY 31, 2009

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### “SHOW US YOUR GOD”

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN, SAVIOR OF ALL MANKIND*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Government, God, Priority, Son of God**

### IN CHARLES DICKENS’

The Tale of Two Cities – There’s That Opening Line That is known around the world - - “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times”

#### Luke 20:19-26

Now the chief priests and the scribes from that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people - for they knew He had spoken this parable against them. **:20** So they **watched Him**, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might **seize on His words**, in order to **deliver Him** to the power and the authority of the governor. **:21** Then they **asked Him**, saying, “Teacher, we know that You say and teach rightly, and You do not show personal favoritism, but teach the way of God in truth: **:22** Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” **:23** But He perceived their craftiness, and said to them, “Why do you test Me? **:24** Show Me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?” They answered and said, “Caesar’s.” **:25** And He said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” **:26** But they could not catch Him in His words in the presence of the people. And they marveled at His answer and kept silent.

### SHOW US YOUR GOD

**1.) And you show us your priorities v.19-20**

**priorities being;**

your main reasons and purposes. The thing or things you esteem to be worthy of your efforts and resources.

**1a.) When “self” is at the center v.19**

Now the **chief priests** and the **scribes** from that very hour sought to lay hands on Him, but they feared the people - for they knew He had spoken this parable against them.

## When “Self” is at the Center – Nothing Else Makes Sense.

### I’ve Got to Ask You - From the Heart;

How could these men be so enraged against Jesus Christ when they had seen such great miracles and heard such great sermons and had experienced the Savior face to face?

### The Answer was/is the same today;

Because Jesus hates false religion and hypocrisy and seeks to rescue people from it. When he reaches out in His mercy to save someone and is rejected and refused by pride and self-righteousness, then nothing remains for that lost man but the hell that he was bent on having.

### They were so close to heaven, But!!!

#### Acts 7:51

“You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always **resist** the Holy Spirit; as your fathers *did*, so *do* you.

#### The Lamentation of Paul

#### 2 Timothy 4:10

For Demas has **forsaken** me, having **loved this present world**, and has departed for (Vegas) Thessalonica

## YOU SHOW US YOUR PRIORITIES

### 1b.) When “manipulation” is at work

v.20a

So they **watched** Him, and **sent** spies who **pretended** to be righteous,

Wouldn’t It Have Been Easier to Just Accept Christ?

But They **Looked** Religious, **Sounded** Religious, **Thought** Religious  
(like that **little skunk** this morning looked really sweet, until !!!!)

A Real, Personal, Sacrificial God  
was somewhere else on their list of “To Do’s”

#### 2 Timothy 3:2-5

For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, :3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, :4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, :5 **having a form of godliness** but denying its power. And from such people turn away! :6 For of this sort are those who **creep into households...**

# YOU SHOW US YOUR PRIORITIES

## 1c.) When “agendas” are in play?

v.20b

...that they might **seize** on His words, in order to **deliver** Him  
to the power and the authority of the governor.

Jesus was “Discerning” of their actions  
**The World has an Agenda and It’s on Steroids.**

**There is an Antichrist Spirit Like I’ve Not Seen Before**

**1 John 2:22**

Who is a liar - but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?  
He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

Are you driving your own agenda?

**Mark This Well;**

A man-centered agenda will always be accompanied by  
a critical, judgmental spirit that is quick to condemn...

# SHOW US YOUR GOD

## 2.) And you show us your ethics

v.21-22

**ethics being;**

your moral code of conduct, how you think and live.  
your beliefs that govern your actions. your values.

## 2a.) By what you say and do

v.21a

Then they asked Him, saying,

“Teacher, we know that You **say** and **teach** **rightly**,

**“This Is The Butter Up”**

**The Things We Say and Do Define Us as a Person.**

**Pride & Hypocrisy are Inseparable Evils.**

Hypocrisy Has Wounded Many People.  
*(It happens when we set ourselves up for it)*

People Draw Conclusions About Us and Our Jesus By Our Words  
And The Attitude That Delivers Those Words.

## There's an **INTEGRITY CRISIS** in Our Culture Today

**Psalm 19:14**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in **Your sight**, O LORD,

## **YOU SHOW US YOUR ETHICS**

### **2b.) By how you treat others personally v.21b**

...and You do not show **personal favoritism**, but teach the way of God in truth:

**Elitism** was one of the perks of being a professional religionist.

**These Men saw what was right and true**

But could not come to agree with it because it was “universal” And “nonsectarian”

**2 Corinthians 10:12**

For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

**Colossians 4:5**

Be wise in the way you act toward unbelievers; make the most of every opportunity.

**“Treat people like they’re Christians”**

**John 13:35**

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”  
(on Tuesday at fox television, the Lord blessed and Christians came out of the closet)

## **YOU SHOW US YOUR ETHICS**

### **2c.) By the example you set publicly v.22**

...Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

**The Question Was Designed to Catch Jesus in a Quandary**

If He agreed the tax should be paid, He seems to deny the sovereignty of God over Israel, and will lose popular support. If He says that it should not be paid, He declares Himself an enemy of Rome, which branded Him as a revolutionary and put His life in danger.

## It's not hard for us to understand the times

that existed in that 1<sup>st</sup> century. Caesar had a "Stimulus Package" I mean "A Poll Tax" that every person within the empire had to pay for being alive. You had to pay to breathe Caesar's air.

## What Should Be The Christian's Response to Authority?

What does the Bible teach?

a Christian is to be submitted to the government that is over him.

The only exception is when that government violates the direct will of God as revealed in the Bible.

### Paul told Titus to...

#### Titus 3:1-2

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, :2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

#### Romans 13:1-2

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. :2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.

### Should You Pay Taxes? – Yes!

even politicians should have to pay taxes

## The Pharisees had an Issue with Rome

They couldn't see their Judaism co-existing in a secular world.

### Christianity is Designed to be Infused into The World.

There is no place, no issue, no topic that can exempt us out of it.

#### Matthew 28:18-19

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. :19 Go therefore

## SHOW US YOUR GOD

3.) And you show us your future

v.23-26

3a.) By the words you speak

v.23

But He **perceived** their **craftiness**, (**dexterity**) and said to them,  
"Why do you **test** (attempt to trip up, seek to stumble) Me?"

“It’s futile – so why are you lying to Me?”

Can a Human Being Lie to God?

*(It’s impossible to Lie to God because He knows Everything)*

We Can Only Lie to Another Human or Ourselves

**Matthew 12:33-37**

“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. :34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. :35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. :36 But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. :37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

**Psalms 139:23-24**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; :24 And see if *there is any* wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

## YOU SHOW US YOUR FUTURE

**3b.) By the understanding you have**

**v.24**

Show Me a **denarius**. Whose **image** and **inscription** does it have?”  
They answered and said, “Caesar’s.”

Jesus’ Counter-Question was Like Nails on a Chalkboard to Them Because...

**IN THE ROMAN MIND AND IN THE ROMAN WORLD,  
CAESAR WAS A GOD ON EARTH**

**Exodus 20:2-4**

“I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. :3  
“You shall have no other gods before Me. :4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image

Whose **image** and **inscription** does it have?”  
(whomever’s image appears on the coin, that’s the one who owns it)

**image** i-kone´; likeness, profile, representation, resemblance:

**inscription** ejpigraphw epigrapho, ep-ee-graf´-o

to inscribe or emboss upon, to write on something that is owned, to mark, label, identify something or someone with a seal or stamp.

It was the face of Tiberius Caesar Augustus

and the inscription was this;

## **“Tiberius Caesar Augustus, Son of Augustus, the Divine”**

in the ancient world, as far away as a currency circulated was as far as that king's realm extended. If you bought and sold in roman currency in Spain or north Africa, it spoke of roman rule & influence.  
(the death of the dollar)

to the Jews this was blasphemy – it was to the Christians as well.

### **John 1:1,3,9**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... :3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. :4 In Him was life, and the life was **the light of men**... :9 That was the true Light which **gives light to every man coming into the world.**

The Understanding is – God is Real, I Need to Get Back Home.

## **YOU SHOW US YOUR FUTURE**

### **3c.) By the decisions you make**

**v.25-26**

:25 And He said to them, “**Render** therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” :26 But they could not catch Him in His words in the presence of the people. And they marveled at His answer and kept silent.

### **An Obedient Israel was a Free Israel**

Originally, It was never God's plan to have Israel under the rule of any Nation. It was their rebellion and neglect of God that carried them away into exile and holocaust. – The Lord never wanted it

#### **Render**

**ajpodi+dwmi** apodidomi, ap-od-eed'-o-mee:

to give away or to give back, to restore to its origin, to put something back where it belongs.

## **Jesus Here “Endorses” Caesar's Authority**

We are to pay taxes for the things we use and enjoy.  
The state provides roads, streetlights, and courts and police and fire....

### **1 Peter 2:13-15**

Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, :14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and *for the praise of those who do good.* :15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—

The Christian is to Walk with Both Eyes Open – and more

A rare and often overlooked verse;

### **Matthew 11:19c**

**...Wisdom is justified by her children.”**

Wisdom has kids. And her kids are wise and they make wise decisions

“**Render** therefore to Caesar **the things** that are Caesar’s...  
and (**Render**) to God **the things** that are God’s.”

**Philippians 3:20**

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

**As Christians we hold a dual citizenship status in this world.**

We have two passports - one is of this nation and the other of heaven.

**John 18:36**

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world.

**We are to fight for and leave behind us - - His image**  
*Thus being salt and light in this evil world*

**2 Corinthians 5:20**

Now then, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were pleading through us... - - *grk.*  
*Ambassadors sent to a hostile nation*

**Jesus’ answer is the wisdom of God.**

There are temporal, physical things that matter. And there are eternal, spiritual things that matter the most. Give Caesar his little, Give God your all.

**Romans 12:1-2**

I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, *and* beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service *and* spiritual worship. :2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, *even* the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].

What does “rendering” look like in **my life**? Obedience to God & And Obedience to State

**The coin bore Caesar’s image – it belongs to Caesar**

Every human being bares the image of God and thus – belongs to God

**Genesis 1:26-28**

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” :27 So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. :28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth...”



**Ecclesiastes 3:11b**

“...He has placed eternity in their hearts.”

**there are three (3) basic actions that define a Christian  
in his or her culture.**

#1 is that the Christian must never violate a direct command of God

#2 a Christian must refuse to participate in an immoral act.

#3 a Christian must never violate their own convictions.

**1 Corinthians 10:31**

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

**what is the Lord asking you to “render” to Him?**

(is it a child, a luxury, a desire, a career, a person, a house)

**I know what Caesar is demanding**

(My freedom, my money, my rights, my liberty, my identity)

Church, we are entering into some very turbulent times.

The culture is now driving this bus and there’s no brakes

**Revelation 3:12**

He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him **My new Name**.

**Revelation 2:12-13**

“And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, ‘These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword: **:13** “I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne *is*. And you hold fast to **My Name**...”

**Revelation 3:8**

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, **:8** “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have **kept My word**, and have **not denied My Name**.

**SHOW US YOUR GOD  
AND WE’LL KNOW ALL ABOUT WHO AND WHAT YOU ARE**

*End of Study*