

Paying Taxes to Caesar

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Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection

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1 Greek for you do not look at peoples faces 2 A denarius was a days wage for a laborer

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The Great Commandment

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such images idolatry, forbidden by the second commandment (Ex. 20:4), which made this tax and these coins doubly offensive.

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"The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet?"

44 If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son? 45 And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Seven Woes to the Scribes and Pharisees

23 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 2 The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, so practice and observe whatever they tell you—but not

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4 [Rom. 2:17-23] 4 [Luke 11:46; [ch. 11:28-30; Acts 15:10] 5 [See ver. 1 above] [ch. 6:1, 16; [John 9:40] Ex. 15:8; Deut. 6:8; [11:18] See ch. 9:20 6 [Luke 14:7, 8] [Luke 11:43] 7 [See ver. 6 above] [ch. 11:16, 20:3] See John 1:38 8 [James 3:1] [Luke 22:32; John 21:15; See Philom. 16 9 [1 Cor. 12:12-14] [ch. 6:9]

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what they do. For they preach, but do not practice. 4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. 5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, 6 and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues 7 and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others. 8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. 10 Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. 11 The greatest among you shall be your servant. 12 Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

13 But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,

the Messiah who is also "son of God" (Luke 22:70). The inescapable implication is that Jesus was declaring his deity.

23:2 Moses' seat. The expression is equivalent to a university's "chair of philosophy." To "sit on Moses' seat" was to have the highest authority to instruct people in the law. The expression here may be translated, "[They] have seated themselves in Moses' seat"—stressing the fact that this was an imaginary authority they claimed for themselves. There was a legitimate sense in which the priests and Levites had authority to decide matters of the law (Deut. 17:9), but the scribes and Pharisees had gone beyond any legitimate authority and were adding human tradition to the word of God (Matt. 15:3-9). For that Jesus condemned them (23:8-36).

23:3 observe . . . do not practice. I.e., insofar as it accords with the word of God. The Pharisees were prone to bind "heavy burdens" (v. 4) of extrabiblical traditions and put them on others' shoulders. Jesus explicitly condemned that sort of legalism.

23:5 phylacteries. Leather boxes containing a parchment on which is written in four columns (Ex. 13:1-10, 11-16; Deut. 6:4-9; 11:13-21). These

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**Matthew 22:34-38  
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**Matthew 22:37**  
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**LOVE THE LORD  
YOUR GOD**

**AGAPAO**

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**UNCONDITIONAL AND SACRIFICIAL LOVE**



16 For God so **loved** the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**John 3:16 (ESV)**

**DO YOU LOVE GOD  
UNCONDITIONALLY  
AND SACRIFICIALLY?**

**LOVE GOD  
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The "chosen" enter the kingdom only because of the grace of God in choosing and drawing them.

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