

The Truth about Death and Taxes **Mark 12:13-27**

The temple debates continue with Jesus again outwitting the hostile religious leaders, whose goal is to trap Him.

Tax question: Should we be expected to pay them? 12:13-17

❖ Question by Pharisees & Herodians (3:6) is on hot topic of taxes.

Goal = get Jesus in trouble w/Pilate or the crowd, Lk. 20:20.

Why all the flattery here?

❖ Answer: Issue is *image*. Vineyard parable also on ownership.

❖ Response = amazement / silence: Matt. 22:22, Lk. 20:26

❖ Implications? Rom. 13:1ff / II Cor. 3:18, Rom. 8:29

Death question: Should we expect a resurrection? 12:18-27

❖ Question by Sadducees begins with a sad hypothetical story.

❖ Goal = Embarrass Jesus before the crowd. See Dt. 25:5,6.

❖ Answer: False assumptions about the next life plus mistaken grasp of God's character and promises. See Ex. 3:2-6.

❖ Response = astonished / too chicken: Matt. 22:33, Lk. 20:40

❖ Implications? I Cor. 15:40ff., II Cor. 2:14-18, Titus 1:2.

