**A Corporate Mentality**

April 12, 2025

The Church and taxes. How our Lord Jesus Christ handled the question of paying tribute or taxes; and how he gave us an example of what we as the Church are to do as well. We are to be an example of the believers in all manner of our life; and that includes apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers of the gospel of Christ. The religious organizations today are operating with a corporate mindset concerning taxes and defrauding the people; they have forgotten who they serve and who they are to be serving. God our Father is blasphemed among the unbelievers through that example given by these organizations which say that they follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and his gospel. We are not to be as the many who corrupt the word of God, but to be of the few who hold forth the word of God in sincerity and in truth walking honestly in the sight of God and men. This is the example we have been given.

Matthew 22:15-21 Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk. And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men. Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not? But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites? Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny. And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription? They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's. (KJV)

Matthew 17:24-27 And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee. (KJV)

God has ordained powers (Romans 13:1-8) to keep order and peace on our behalf; and we as Christians, including those organizations that claim to be of God, are to do our part in supporting them. Whether it be through by prayer and supplication on their behalf or by paying our taxes in support of them.

Brethren, a workman is worthy of their hire, no matter who it is; and we are not to defraud our neighbor; we are not to look just on our own things but on the things of others. We have been ordained of God through his Son Jesus Christ to minister the word of God in all manner of our life. So do your part in not holding back wages from those who tread out the corn for you, because God our Father in heaven knows all things and hears their cries. Be not conformed to this world: instead, be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God. God bless and keep the faith.

Video scripture list in order left to right:

James 5:1-4, Leviticus 19:13-14, Deuteronomy 24:14-15, Proverbs 22:22-23,

Proverbs 11:24-25, Jeremiah 22:13-16, Luke 6:24, Luke 6:31, Philippians 2:4,

Malachi 3:5-6, Hebrews 13:8, Matthew 17:24-27,

Tribute = tax

Matthew 16:23,

Offence = stumblingblock

1Timothy 1:8-10, Romans 3:27-28, Matthew 22:15-21, Mark 12:13-17,

Luke 20:20-25,

Craftiness = trickery or deceit

Romans 13:1-8, 1Corinthians 9:9-14 (v9 & 14), 1Timothy 5:18, Deuteronomy 25:4