

**MATTHEW:  
THE GOSPEL  
OF THE KINGDOM**

## **To Offend, or Not to Offend?**

Matthew 17:22-27

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### **Jesus' Second Prediction (22-23)**

As they were gathering in Galilee,  
Jesus said to them,  
"The Son of Man is about *to be delivered* into  
the hands of men,  
and they will kill him, and he will be raised  
on the third day."

And they were *greatly distressed*.

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### **The Collectors' Question (24)**

When they came to Capernaum,  
the collectors of the two-drachma tax  
went up to Peter and said,  
"Does your teacher not pay the tax?"

He said, "Yes."

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### **Jesus' Question to Peter (25-26)**

And when he came into the house,  
Jesus spoke to him *first*, saying,  
"What do you think, Simon?  
From whom do kings of the earth take toll  
or tax?  
From their *sons* or from *others*?"

And when he said, "From others,"

Jesus said to him, "*Then the sons are free*."

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### Jesus' Question to Peter (27)

However, *not to give offense* to them,  
go to the sea and cast a hook and take the  
first fish that comes up,  
and when you open its mouth you will find  
a shekel.

Take that and give it to them for me *and for  
yourself.*"

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### Application/Participation

• **What this reveals to us about Jesus Christ**

- His *penetrating knowledge*
- His conscientiousness of *unique sonship*
- His *considerateness* toward others
- His *authority* over the sea and its creatures
- His *generosity* in paying for Peter

• **But here is a foreshadowing of *the Gospel***

- Jesus pays the ransom for others through miraculous act
- In doing so, He brings them into His Sonship and into the family of God (the work of v.22-23)

• **As *worshippers* of Christ...**

• **As *imitators* of Christ... (1Cor 9:19-23; 9:12)**

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