

## Jesus Outwits the Hypocrites

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Mark 12:13-17

### **Paying Taxes to Caesar**

<sup>13</sup> And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances,<sup>[a]</sup> but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" <sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius<sup>[b]</sup> and let me look at it." <sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's." <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.

1. The Hypocrites and their traps (vv. 13-14)
2. The Son of God and His wisdom (vv. 15-17)

Lessons for us

1. Jesus possesses superior wisdom.
2. Jesus cannot be outdone.
3. Jesus has given us what we need to live as citizens of Heaven and citizens of Earth.