

## **“ Authority and the Christian”**

*Does God really know what He is doing putting him in Authority?*

**Luke 20:19-26**

**Christians must wrestle with the:**

### **I. Pretense - “feign themselves”** (verses 19-23)

*Christians say “Jesus is Lord” but reserve the right to :*

**Be in Control**

**Be Cool**

**Be Defensive**

**Be Sly**

**Be Dishonest/disceitful**

- **We say to God and His Word:**
  - **You are Correct**
  - **You are Consistent**
  - **But are you Contemporary?, ie relevant**

### **II. Principles -“take hold of His words”(verses 24-26)**

*Jesus wants Christians to understand Authority and it’s:*

#### **A. Power:** *Romans 13:1-5*

*Can be described as:*

- *Higher*
- *Of God*
- *Ordained by God*
  - *Remember what Jesus said to Pilate in John 19:11: **Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above***

*Can be responded to by:*

- *Resistance of Power:*
  - *Is resisting God’s plan*
  - *Is to receive damnation*
- *On the Issue of Fear:*
  - *Submit not fear*
  - *Fear only if Disobedient (evil)*
  - *Do good and receive Praise*
  - *Conscience sake also*
  -

#### **B. Purpose**

- 1. It is Practical**
- 2. It is Piety**

## 1. It is Practical – Romans 13:6-7

### Key Words:

- **Minister**
  - Of God
  - To You
  - For Good
- **Taxes**
  - Doing God's work
  - Pay for services rendered
- **Love**
  - Never fully paid off
  - Required for true obedience
    - Obedience is enhanced
    - Obedience is normal outgrowth
      - Children who love their parents have a better capacity to obey them.
  - Directed at fellow man, especially authority

## 2. It is Piety - I Peter 2:13-17

- **Piety = reverence for God**

### ➤ **For the Lord's Sake**

- Every law of man
- Every level of government

### ➤ **For the Will of God**

- Put to silence ignorance of foolish

### ➤ **For Freedom's Sake** ---Proper use of freedom – to do what you ought (serving God) - not to do what you want

### ➤ **For Relationships** ---Proper Interpersonal Relationships:

- Value all men
- Love (agape) Christians
- Reverence God
- Value leaders

### The Issue:

The tribute was a poll tax imposed by Rome on every Jew. The Poll tax was an annual property tax. The relevant question of that day was: If God gave the land of Israel to the Hebrews, and if God meant them to live there, and if He received their sacrifices and offerings in acknowledgment of His relationship with them, Why should they pay tribute to any other power, king, or person.

### ➤ Christian Application:

Why to submit(to place under) to authority:

*Even though Christians are a “special” people elect by God, redeemed from the world and no longer dependent upon it, they are not above the necessity of getting along with the civil authorities who govern them.*

### **denarius = “containing ten”**

deni = 10      arius = ass or donkey

- 1) A Roman silver coin in NT time. It took its name from it being equal to ten “donkeys”, a number after 217 B.C. increased to sixteen (about 3.898 grams or .1375 oz.). Roman empire. From the parable of the labourers in the vineyard, it would seem that a denarius was then the ordinary pay for a day’s wages.(Mt 20:2-13)

- Protects
- Provides
- Gives Direction
- Gives Definition
  - Illustration of Laser
    - Without definition, it would not be of value

### **Authorities in your Life:**

- Church leadership – know them that labor among you
- Parents – Obey your parents
- Spouse – Submitting yourselves – Eph 5
- City Leaders – even regional
- State Leaders
- National Leaders – IRS?

### **What Bad Authorities can do to you:**

- Hurt
- Harm
- Harang
- Abuse
- Steal
- Misdirection

### **What Authority does for you:**