

# LUKE I Questions & Answers Text: Luke 20:19–44

*Set your mind on things above*

*—Bill Turner*

1. If we truly love God, then we will love His Word—  
—and the more we study His word, the more we will love God.
2. **Jesus is Teaching in the Temple—it's the week of Passover—It's a Day of questions**
  - 1st Question was about Politics and Taxes—Where we spend most of our time arguing about!
  - 2nd Question was about Heaven & Life after death—a much more important question to study
  - 3rd Question is about the eternal nature of God Himself—even more worthy of understanding

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## I. A QUESTION ABOUT TAXES (v.19-26)

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### A. NOTICE THEIR MOTIVES (v.19-20)

1. **They want to arrest Him but they can't because of all the people**
  - a) So they sent spies to appear as if they are righteous...
2. **These are wolves in sheep's clothing!**
  - a) Setting a trap for Jesus—hoping He will incriminate Himself in His own words
  - b) So they Disguise their Trap with Flattery & set the trap with a Question!
3. **Try to Remember that—A tree is known by it's fruit**
  - a) What they are saying and what they are doing are two very different things!

### B. NOTICE THEIR TRAP (v.21-22)

1. **Flattery to DISARM Jesus—A Trick Question to ENTRAP Jesus**
  - a) Flattery works with some people—but not with Jesus!
2. **This was a political hot topic of the day...**
  - a) Many Jews claimed that only God was their King...
  - b) and therefore it was wrong to pay taxes to a pagan government (or any government)
3. **But it's not an honest question from honest people—IT'S ENTRAPMENT!**
  - a) If Jesus says they must pay taxes—then He sounds like He's supporting Rome!  
Which would cause Him Many of His New Followers to Leave...  
Which means they could seize Him and kill Him without causing a riot!
  - b) If He says to not pay taxes—then they can have Him arrested for insurrection  
by teaching the people to break Roman law!

### C. NOTICE THE WISDOM OF JESUS (v.23-26)

***Show Me a denarius. Whose image and inscription does it have?***

*“Tiberius Caesar Augustus / son of the divine Augustus / pontiff maxim [trans. High Priest]*

- a) The Coin was inscribed with the image of Caesar — issued by authority of Caesar
2. **RENDER UNTO CAESAR THE THINGS THAT ARE CAESAR'S:**
  - a) Jesus answer was Yes—render unto Caesar what is due to Caesar  
—but NOT MORE than what is due...
  - b) Caesar was ruler of the Roman empire—but he was only human...  
He was not deity or even a High Priest.

### 3. RENDER UNTO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S:

- a) The Coin was inscribed with the image of Caesar...

You are Made in the Image of God

- b) God is the Creator and Ruler Above All
- c) Give God what is God's—give Him your heart!

### 4. They were shocked by His answer — and it had a sting of rebuke...

- a) They loved money—lived for money—Coveted this money...

even with a pagan Caesars face inscribed on it!

- b) But suddenly on tax day they want to claim it shouldn't go to a pagan government?  
—It was Issued by a Pagan Government! —and they used it all year!
- c) Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of their argument.

### 5. As Christians we are DUAL CITIZENS—w/ citizenship on earth & in Heaven

- a) Just as Paul had rights as a Roman citizen — he also had obligations

- b) We have rights as children of God—we also have obligations (**Rom 13:1–2**)

### 6. If Your an American—You can remove Romans 13 out of your Bible Right?

**And take Jesus words here out of your Bible right?**

- a) **because our government rules by consent of the people:** *“of the people, by the people, for the people”* – [so we don't have to obey if we don't consent to]

- b) IT IS TRUE that our government is SUPPOSED to work for us—not us work for them

- c) **BUT This argument is forgetting something— AS CHRISTIANS...**

**We don't obey the laws of the land JUST because we CONSENT to...**

• or Want to... • or we're Loyal to the constitution... • or we fear imprisonment

• We obey the laws of the land because God commands us to (**Rom 13:5-7**)

**If the law is in conflict with God's Law—we must obey God rather than man**

**POINT: Don't confuse the things of the world—with the things of God**

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## II. A QUESTION ABOUT THE RESURRECTION

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### A. NOTICE THE TRICK QUESTION (v.27–33)

#### 1. The Sadducees were Modernists—and modernists become moralists<sup>1</sup>

- a) Wealthy intellectuals who scoff at the idea of life after death, or the spiritual realm
- b) They were more interested in ruling on the Sanhedrin and having positions of honor
- c) So they excelled at collaborating with Rome to maintain their power

#### 2. Skeptics have a permanent sneer on their face...

- a) They like to mock God and those who who worship God
- b) They arise in every generation—gather followers for themselves—then they're gone
- c) The Sadducees are gone—But the Truth Remains

#### 3. Here they created an absurd scenario question...

**To embarrass Jesus—and Mock the resurrection**

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<sup>1</sup> Darrell Bock, Luke, The IVP New Testament Commentary

## **B. NOTICE THE WISDOM OF JESUS (v.34–38)**

1. **Their Scenario was based on thinking heaven is no different than earth**
  - a) As if the spiritual realm is the same as the physical realm!
  - b) That was their mistake! Making assumptions—rather than reading the scriptures!
2. **Jesus dispels their myths with the Truth—**
  - a) in Heaven there is NO marriage!
  - b) There is NO Death!
3. **In Heaven we are spiritual beings—not human beings!**

## **C. NOTICE THE PROFOUND IMPLICATION (v.38)**

1. **God is not God of the Dead—but of the Living!**
  - Death does Not have the last say—God does!
  - Death is not the end of life—it is the beginning of eternal life
  - There is Life After Death!—There will be a resurrection of the dead
  - and if they read the scriptures they would've known that! (Dan 12:2-3)
2. **Every Question they ask—Jesus totally blows their minds w/ eternal truth**

**POINT: Don't confuse the things of this life—with that of the next life**

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## **III. A QUESTION ABOUT THE MESSIAH**

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### **A. JESUS ASKS THEM A QUESTION (v.39–44)**

1. **“How can they say that the Christ is the Son of David?”**

**...David calls Him ‘Lord’; how is He then his Son?”**

  - a) We started with a Question on Taxes and Human Government!
  - b) Then a Question on Life after death and Heaven,
  - c) But Now Jesus takes this discussion to a another level!
2. **He has raised the level of understanding way over their heads...**

**with A question about the eternal nature of God!**

  - a) A Question that points to the Trinity, the Deity and the Majesty of God!
3. **The Messiah was God as well as man—The Son of God AND Son of Man**
  - **AS THE SON OF MAN**—By His Incarnation—

He is the descendent of David of the Tribe of Judah  
Born in Bethlehem the very village David was born in!
  - **AS THE SON OF GOD**—He is Much More than a Descendent of King David  
He is King of kings and Lord of lords—Now ruling at the right hand of God!

### **B. A PROFOUND TRUTH THEY DID NOT GRASP**

1. **They Professed to be Wise...**
  - a) they claimed to be teachers of the Law
  - b) But they could not answer His question...
  - c) Even in the Temple courtyard, in front of everyone

2. **They have no idea that Jesus is the Word—and the Word Became Flesh!**
  - a) He made the heavens and earth!
  - b) And He is standing right in front of them! (John 1:1-5, 14)
3. **And then Jesus finishes them off! (Luke 20:45–47)**

**POINT: Don't confuse the things of the world—with the things of God**

**POINT: Don't confuse the things of this life—with that of the next life**

**POINT: Don't confuse the True Messiah—w/ a Worldly Wish-fulfillment Messiah**

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. In other words... **Set your mind on things above (Colossians 3:1–4)**
2. **On the Day of Judgement—**  
**Some think they can argue with God to justify themselves**
3. **You Can't Justify yourself—But you can be justified by His blood**

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. (Romans 5:8-9)