

**2025 1/5/2025**

MS - **1Thes 5:4** But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

**5** Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

**6** Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

Praise Segment;

The Word; Pastor White

**Lu 20:25** And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.

As we enter into this new year let us be mindful of our need to become increasingly vigilant in light of the upcoming changes in leadership.

Although these changes do not affect how we the family of God do ministry in the body of Christ they may very well affect the life we live outside these hallowed walls.

This building is the place were we collectively gather to worship Jesus Christ our lord and savior. It is the place He has sanctified/set apart for that expressed purpose.

However what the enemy has planned is far more diabolical than shutting down churches. What we have seen throughout history is the dumbing down of the church through false prophets and teachers. We've seen the institution of religion spawn all manner of heretical thinking and doctrine contrary to the truth Jesus taught.

More and more churches have erred from the true teachings of the Gospel and become something other. Other meaning they're just derivatives which use the name of Jesus to foster their own agenda.

WHAT WE NEED TO REALIZE, is that the the anti-christ who is soon to come (or revealed after the rapture of the church) will use these same churches to promote his agenda through the false prophet according to the book of Revelation.

What we are seeing now is merely a setup for what's coming. Although we will not have to go through the 7 years of tribulation when God will pour out His judgement on this world we may have to endure some of the labor pains before the delivery. This is what Paul was referring to in;

**1 Thessalonians 5:3** For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall

not escape.

*Paul continues* on in that same text to remind them (which BTW was our morning scripture) of who they are;

**1Thes 5:4** But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

**5** Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

**6** Therefore let us not sleep, as *do* others; but let us watch and be sober.

I believe as God has always done and will continue to do with us His children, is to prepare us for what is about to take place.

I believe that we will be tested to the very core of your faith.

If your faith does not rest surely and securely on Jesus and the truth of His gospel you will be deceived. Just like so many others who have already drank the koolade (reference to Jim Jones).

The title of this series is the year which we have entered 2025 in conjunction with our focal verse Lu 20:25

back to our text; we're going to start at

**Lu 20:21** And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of *any*, but teachest the way of God truly:

**22** Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?

In order for you to have a clear understanding of what's being taught you have to go back to chapter 19.

Within ch19 we have Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem...

His weeping over the city...

His turning over the tables of the money changers and driving them out saying You've turned my fathers house into a den of thieves. This was the 2nd time he had to do this.

and His teaching them daily in the temple while the chief priest and the scribes plotted on how to kill him.

At the beginning of ch20 we have them challenging Jesus and His authority to teach in the temple.

**Lu 20:1** And it came to pass, *that* on one of those days, as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon *him* with the elders,

**2** And spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?

**3** And he answered and said unto them, I will also ask you one thing; and answer me:

**4** The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men?

**5** And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not?

**6** But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet.

**7** And they answered, that they could not tell whence *it was*.

**8** And Jesus said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.

Throughout Jesus ministry he was constantly being challenged because of the gospel he preached and the miracles he performed. His life was constant danger of those who were jealous of His ministry or else by those whose livelihoods were threatened by the truth He presented.

The last thing the enemy wants is for those held captive by him to be set free...

Jesus at that point began to speak a parable beginning at verse 9. (no time to go there)

This parable convicted them (as it should)... ref V19

**19** And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them.

**20** And they watched *him*, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor.

(Today we would call that (coercion..., and entrapment

Which brings us back to where we started

**Lu 20:21** And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person *of any*, but teachest the way of God truly:

If they truly believed that then why are you trying to find reason to have him killed.

**22** Is it lawful for us to give tribute unto Caesar, or no?

If they knew who they were dealing with they would not have asked him such an idiotic question trying to trap him. Jesus is lord! He is the lawgiver ...

**Rom 13:1** Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is

no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

\*Ceasar would have no power had not God given it...

**23** But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why tempt ye me?

**24** Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's.

**25** And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.

**26** And they could not take hold of his words before the people: and they marvelled at his answer, and held their peace.

You need to prepare yourselves for the challenges that we all will have to face as we draw nearer to the rapture. We must resolve now that in this year and for the rest of our days we're going to give to God that which belongs to Him, regardless of what Ceasar, the president, the government, and even the Supreme Court says.

The apostles after being threatened not to preach and teach in Jesus name resolved that they were going to obey God no matter what...

## **Tuesday Family Night**

Welcome

Prayer

Review

On last Sunday we embarked on a new series. The title of this series corresponds to this new year we've just crossed over into, 2025.

I don't believe that this was happenstance, but I believe as I sought the Lord for a series of messages for His people I was led to Luke 20:25. I believe that this focal verse sets the tone for a plethora of messages concerning what should be our focus for this year of our Lord.

Often when we gather to worship we may quote

**Psalm 118:24** This *is* the day *which* the Lord hath made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

But I believe that this is another year that the Lord gave. Yes we should rejoice, for the Lord has given us another year to get it right.

I believe, that with all that God predestined for us to do individually, and the church collectively, we should stop wasting time on things that do not edify. It's time for us all to wake up, or sober up, or get up and get moving with God's plan and will for our lives.

Now in order for us to be successful in that endeavor it requires something more

than what we to this point have been willing to commit.

Some of us have only been willing to give God 2 to 3 hours on a Sunday. Some may throw in an added 2 ours on Tuesday or Wednesday for a bible study. Still others may kick in an additional hour for Sunday school.

Now please don't get me wrong because if that's where you are right now, you're still way ahead of so many other so-called christians who's commitment to God is a one hour live stream / Tv broadcast / youtube or facebook video of there favorite church.

*\*But please don't settle on staying at that level spiritually.*

There is so much more to being true disciples and followers of Jesus than what some currently render.

In this 2025 series you will learn through Gods word how to commit not only yourself, but every part of your day to the Lord. From the time you wake up in the morning, to the time you lay your head down at the close of the day, you're on Gods time.

It's only when your come to that realization that you'll then become vigilant to the point of knowing how to render unto God, the things that are His.

### **Lets look at our focal verse**

**Lu 20:25** And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's.

Question for the family;

1. Based on the teaching Sunday have you thought anymore about that scripture?

2. Did your understanding of that scripture change at all?

3. Did you know that the response that he gave to the Pharasees was based on there attempt to trap Him?

ref; **Lu20:23** But he perceived their craftiness, and said unto them, Why tempt ye me?

**24** Shew me a penny. Whose image and superscription hath it? They answered and said, Caesar's.

a. this was not a response given as a guideline for christian living. Why?

what if Ceasar ask you to do that is sin?

\*sometimes the enemy won't ask you to do anything, but will make it legal knowing that thats all the license you need to sin against God. (give me some examples)

1. drug legalization
2. gay marriages
3. squatter rights
4. stand Your ground laws (Stand Your Ground (SYG) laws allow people to defend themselves without retreating if they are threatened with violence. In 23 states, the Castle Doctrine includes SYG laws.)