

2025 - Render, But Don't Surrender

Prayer Of Invocation - Diane White

MS - Dec Eugene - **Mt 6: 31** Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Alter Call - Elder Davis

The Word; Pastor White

Lu 20:24 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.

We are living in the time that we should all be very concerned. I'm not just talking about the daily concerns that even Christ said we should not worry about. Remember our morning scripture?...

Our time would be better spent in prioritizing our lives according to God's word. Yielding to the pressures of daily life will leave you wasted, unfruitful, and unfulfilled as you seek after those things that the world seek after.

Need I remind you that according to;

1 John 2:16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

When you become so focused on the things of this world you become more and more like them, and that's not who we are!

Knowing who you are in Christ, understanding and applying God's truth, and being about the work of kingdom will keep you focused. It will give you the wisdom of knowing that which is Caesar's, and how to operate in it, and that which is God's and how to please Him.

Back to our text;

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.

Jesus perceiving their thought was able to answer them in a way that foiled any

possibility of them trapping him and accomplishing the evil plan.

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

What is amazing to me is these same folk who wanted a reason to trap him with his own words just to get him off the seen, stilled lied on him about this same event.

Luke 23:2 And they began to accuse him, saying, We found this *fellow* perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ a King.

**When the enemy sets out to destroy you he'll pull out all the stops to accomplish it...*

It was this same crew, even the chief priest who cried out against Jesus stating his ungodly alliance...

John 19:15 But they cried out, Away with *him*, away with *him*, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

Render unto Caesar

**What we as believers need to realize is that rendering unto Caesar is not the same as surrendering unto Caesar... (Caesar here being representative of the the God of this world, Satan)*

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Paul speaks here of the intentional plot to keep this world from the truth of Christ. To keep them in the dark (total blindness is total darkness) It is possible to see all the beauty of this world and still be totally blind in the arena of your mind...

Those who know Jesus as their savior and Lord are not in darkness...

1 Peter 2:9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

The world has adopted this saying "when in Rome do as the romans" (which by the

way has been attributed to a 4th century christian bishop named St Ambrose)

*But I stand here this morning to tell you that account to the the law render... but according to the word don't surrender. Let me explain:

about Rome;

During Jesus' time, Rome had already established power over the region of Judea, where Jesus lived, through military conquest, taking control of the area in 63 BC and installing Roman governors to rule the land. So the land of Judea was Roman province where the Jewish people were subject to Roman rule and taxation, while still being allowed to practice their own religion; this is why Jesus was ultimately tried by a Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, when he was crucified.

We are (Like them) are under authority of government, but when the rule of law contradicts the truth of Gods word, thats where we the body of Christ draw the line. We have the liberty to assemble and worship God, and thats our priority as believers to keep God first, in all things...

Your rendering should never become surrendering;
your worship, your obedience, your family, your christian world view...

If you're ever faced with taken before the authorities for your faith, the same spirit that spoke from Christ will speak through you too. Jesus said it would.

Lu 12:11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and *unto* magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

We are not of this world, that is if we belong to Christ.
This world is not our home.

John 18:36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.

John 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

***Jesus has prayed for us...**

John 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou

shouldest keep them from the evil.

16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

end;

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. end;