

Matthew 22:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

Analysis

This verse reveals profound theological truth central to Reformed understanding of Scripture. The passage demonstrates God's sovereignty and grace working through human circumstances. Christ's teaching here challenges contemporary religious assumptions while pointing to deeper spiritual realities.

Historical Context

The historical setting involved complex religious and political dynamics. Jewish leaders maintained authority through Roman tolerance while common people sought deliverance. Jesus' teaching addressed both immediate concerns and eternal truths.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does this passage challenge your understanding of God's character?
2. What practical application does this truth have in your daily walk?
3. How should this verse shape your priorities and decisions?

Interlinear Text

εἶπε	οὖν	ἡμῖν	τί	σοι	δοκεῖ·	ἔξεστιν	δοῦναι
Tell	therefore	us	What	thou	thinkest	Is it lawful	to give
G2036	G3767	G2254	G5101	G4671	G1380	G1832	G1325

κῆνσον	Καίσαρι	ἢ	οὐ
tribute	unto Caesar	or	not
G2778	G2541	G2228	G3756

Additional Cross-References

Luke 2:1 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

Matthew 17:25 (Parallel theme): He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?