



Series: Unexpected Messiah
Passage Matthew 22:15-33
Title: The Unsurmountable Messiah
Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 5/2/2021

Discussion Starter – What about this sermon best describes Jesus as the Unsurmountable Messiah?

Paying Taxes to Caesar (Matthew 22:15-22)

- What are some of the recent background events that have just happened in Jesus' ministry that have brought these two specific groups of people together to pose a question about paying Roman taxes to Jesus?
- Who are these two groups, what is their motivation for coming together and why would their alliance in this case be considered bizarre?
- Describe how the Pharisees and the Herodians approach and engage with Jesus. What deceptive tactic do you see them using here? Why do you think they posed this specific question about paying taxes to Caesar?
- Jesus was able to see right through their deception and calls them hypocrites. Read 2 Chronicles 16:9, Hebrews 4:12-13 and Jeremiah 17:7-11. What do we learn from these verses? In what way should these verses bring us comfort? What additionally do you see as warnings to us mentioned in these verses?
- What did Jesus reveal about the Pharisees and the Herodians by telling them to render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and render to God to the things that are God's?
- Describe in your own words, our application of rendering to Caesar the things that are Caesar's in the world we live in today?
- What is the connection between rendering the tax money of a denarius and the rendering of the things that are God's to God? Read Genesis 1:26. What does this verse teach us and why is this verse so significant to those whom Jesus was addressing?
- Why does Jesus want our heart? Why is it so important that we guard our hearts? How do we guard our hearts? Read Ecclesiastes 10:2-3, Proverbs 4:20-23 and Joshua 1:8-9. What additional insights do we gain from these verses?

The Sadducees try to Defeat Jesus (Matthew 22:23-33)

- What point were the Sadducees trying to make by the question they asked Jesus according to the law in the book of Moses? What is so amazing about how Jesus responded to their question? What can we learn from this?
- How do you respond to people who have a wrong understanding of scripture? What if you run into someone who believes that there is no afterlife, how do you approach them?