

Greek Readings
Series A, Proper 24
Matthew 22:15-22

• **Verse 15**

- The last time the Pharisees are mentioned by name is in Mt. 21:45-46. How is this connection important to understanding this pericope? _____.
- What is the purpose of the Pharisees in this passage? (cf. συμβούλιον ἔλαβον in 12:14 and πειράζοντες in 16:1; 19:3) _____.
- Parse παγιδεύσωσιν. _____. What type of clause is ὅπως . . . παγιδεύσωσιν? _____. This word is only used twice in the LXX (1 Kgs. 28:9; Ezk. 13:20, 21) and once in Mt. here. What is the meaning of this word? (cf. TDNT, 5:595; BDAG, p.747) _____.
- A different idiom for entrapment occurs in Mt. 26:4. What is that idiom (write the Greek phrase) and how does this differ from παγιδεύω here? (cf. BDAG, p.256) _____.

• **Verse 16**

- The Ἡρωδιανοί also appear in Mk. 3:6; 12:13. What do we learn from these references? _____. Why might they have an interest in helping the Pharisees? _____.
- What is important about the title Διδάσκαλε and who most often uses it in Mt? (cf. 9:11; 12:38; 17:24; 19:16; 22:24, 36) _____.
- Parse εἶ. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____. For what likely purpose do the Pharisees' disciples and the Herodians tell Jesus ἀληθῆς εἶ and τὴν ὁδὸν τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν ἀληθείᾳ διδάσκεις? _____.
- What may the τὴν ὁδὸν τοῦ θεοῦ allude to in this pericope? (cf. Gen. 18:19; Mt. 3:3; 7:14) _____.
- In the phrase, οὐ μέλει σοι περὶ οὐδενός· οὐ γὰρ βλέπεις εἰς πρόσωπον ἀνθρώπων, the Pharisees and their minions basically say that Jesus shows no “partiality” (προσωποληψία, cf. Rom. 2:11; Eph. 6:9; Col. 3:25; James 2:1). Look up these passages (and BDAG, p.887) and explain what “partiality” means biblically: _____.
- Parse μέλει. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____. How is this verb being used? _____.
- What is the meaning of πρόσωπον ἀνθρώπων? (cf. 1 Sam. 16:7; BDAG, p.888, 1b2) _____.

• **Verse 17**

- Who normally poses the question τί . . . δοκεῖ? (cf. 17:25; 18:12; 21:28; 22:42) _____. What does this tell us about the Pharisees' disciples and the Herodians? _____.
- What conclusions could be drawn from this question put forth to Jesus, both if he answers affirmatively or negatively? _____.
- What is the meaning of κῆνσος? (cf. BDAG, p.542) _____. Who pays this and what is closely associated with it in the minds of the hearers? _____.

• **Verse 18**

- Parse γνούς. _____. To what may this particularly refer in respect to Jesus? (cf. 12:15; 16:8; 26:10) _____.
- πονηρίαν is a hapax in Mt. What might we infer about the intended meaning of this word _____.

when we consider the much more common πονηρός? (cf. Mt. 5:11; 5:37; 6:13; 13:19, 38)

- Compare Τί με πειράζετε with LXX Exod. 17:2. How does the relation between these verses help us understand the force of Jesus' question? _____.
- Matthew uses the word ὑποκριτής several times in his Gospel. What can we infer about the meaning of this word from its other uses? (cf. Mt 6:2; 7:5; 15:7; 23:13ff.) _____.
- **Verse 19**
 - Parse ἐπιδείξατε. _____. Give the dictionary entry. _____.
 - What is interesting about Jesus action in this verse? _____.
 - The word τὸ νόμισμα means "coin" according to most dictionaries, but what is the etymology of this particular word? (BDAG, p.676) _____. Here it may signify a technical expression for what? _____.
- **Verse 20**
 - What significance may the word εἰκὼν have in this particular pericope? _____.
- **Verse 21**
 - Parse Απόδοτε. _____. What is the meaning of this word? (cf. BDAG 2b, 109) _____. How might the particular force of this word be important, especially when one considers Caesar's image is on it? _____.
 - To what does Jesus refer when he states τὰ τοῦ θεοῦ? _____.
 - How do the τὰ τοῦ θεοῦ compare with τὰ Καίσαρος? _____. How does this affect the early church's understanding of paying taxes, etc.? (cf. Rom. 13:7; 1 Pt. 2:17) _____.
 - What particular Lutheran doctrine may be expressed in this teaching? _____.
- **Verse 22**
 - Matthew uses the word ἐθαύμασαν several times in his Gospel (cf. 8:27; 9:33; 15:31; 21:20). What is unique about its use here in relation to the other instances? _____.
 - How does Jesus demonstrate the early claims of the Pharisees' disciples and the Herodians in v.16? _____.

Integration of Meaning

Come up with a sermon title and two to three supporting points.