

To What and to Whom do we give allegiance to?



MATTHEW 22:15-22

Philip Schaff

THE

TESTIMONY

OF A HISTORIAN



Historian Philip Schaff famously described Jesus' unmatched influence by highlighting how, without writing a line, He set more pens in motion than all ancient/modern thinkers.

Schaff emphasized that Jesus influenced history more than any other figure and he described the overwhelming influence which Jesus had on subsequent history and culture of the world.

"This Jesus of Nazareth, without wealth or arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon.

Without science...he shed more light on all things,
human and divine than all philosophers and
scholars combined.

Without the eloquence of schools, he spoke such
words of life as were never spoken before or since
and produced effects which lie beyond the reach
of orator or poet.

“Without writing a single line, he set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times who have been influenced by Him.”

His followers down through the centuries have found fulfillment and joy in following His teachings. They were transformed when they met Christ and yielded their lives to Him. Each of them has made a positive impact on the world.

They realize that agnosticism, atheism, and secular humanism hold no true answers. His teachings, His truth, is still relevant today. As of 2026, there are approximately 2.5 to 2.6 billion Christians worldwide, making it the world's largest religion.

Christ followers represent roughly 32% of the global population, with significant, growing populations in sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Philippines, alongside large populations in the U.S. and Brazil.

THE TESTIMONY OF

HISTORY



Historically the influence of Jesus
honestly is undeniable.

the
Gospel
according to
Matthew

CHAPTER 22

16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not [a] regard the person of men.

Footnotes

[a] Matthew 22:16 Lit. *look at the face of*

A 3D graphic of a folded American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is folded into a fan-like shape, with the top edge pointing towards the viewer. The word "ALLEGIANC" is overlaid in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a blue drop shadow. The background is a textured, reddish-brown surface.

ALLEGIANC

THE CONFLICT OF ALLEGIANCE



“Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

PAX ROMANA

ESCOCA

Muro de Adriano

TERRA

OCEANO ATLANTICO

Extensión del Imperio Romano en 117 d.C.

ciudades actuales entre paréntesis y nombres antiguos

VIA DOMICIA
(Arles) Arelate

ESPAÑA

Rio Tiber

ITALIA

Roma

(Nápoles) Neapolis

VIA APPIA

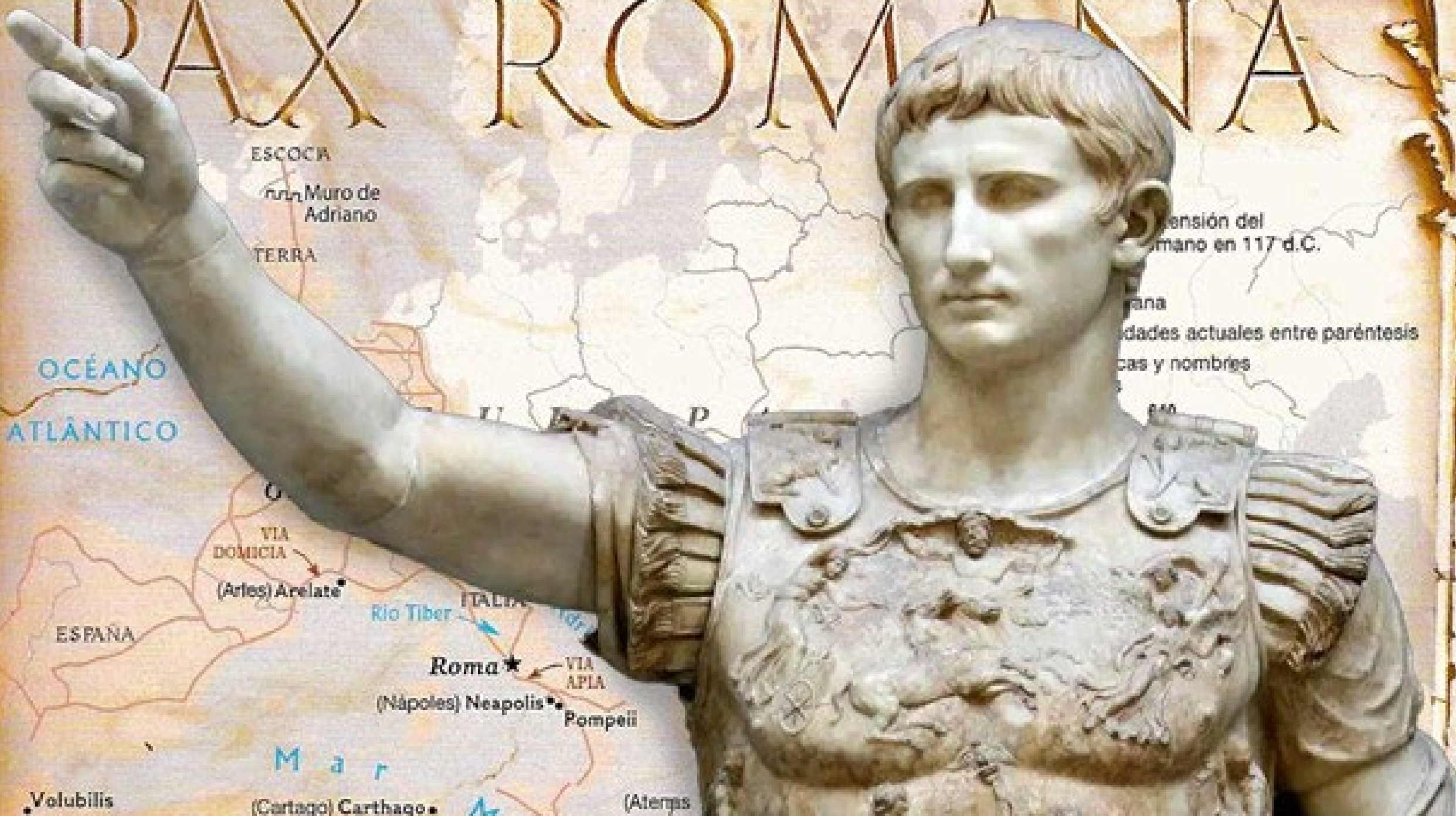
Pompeii

Mar

Volubilis

(Cartago) Carthago

(Atenas)

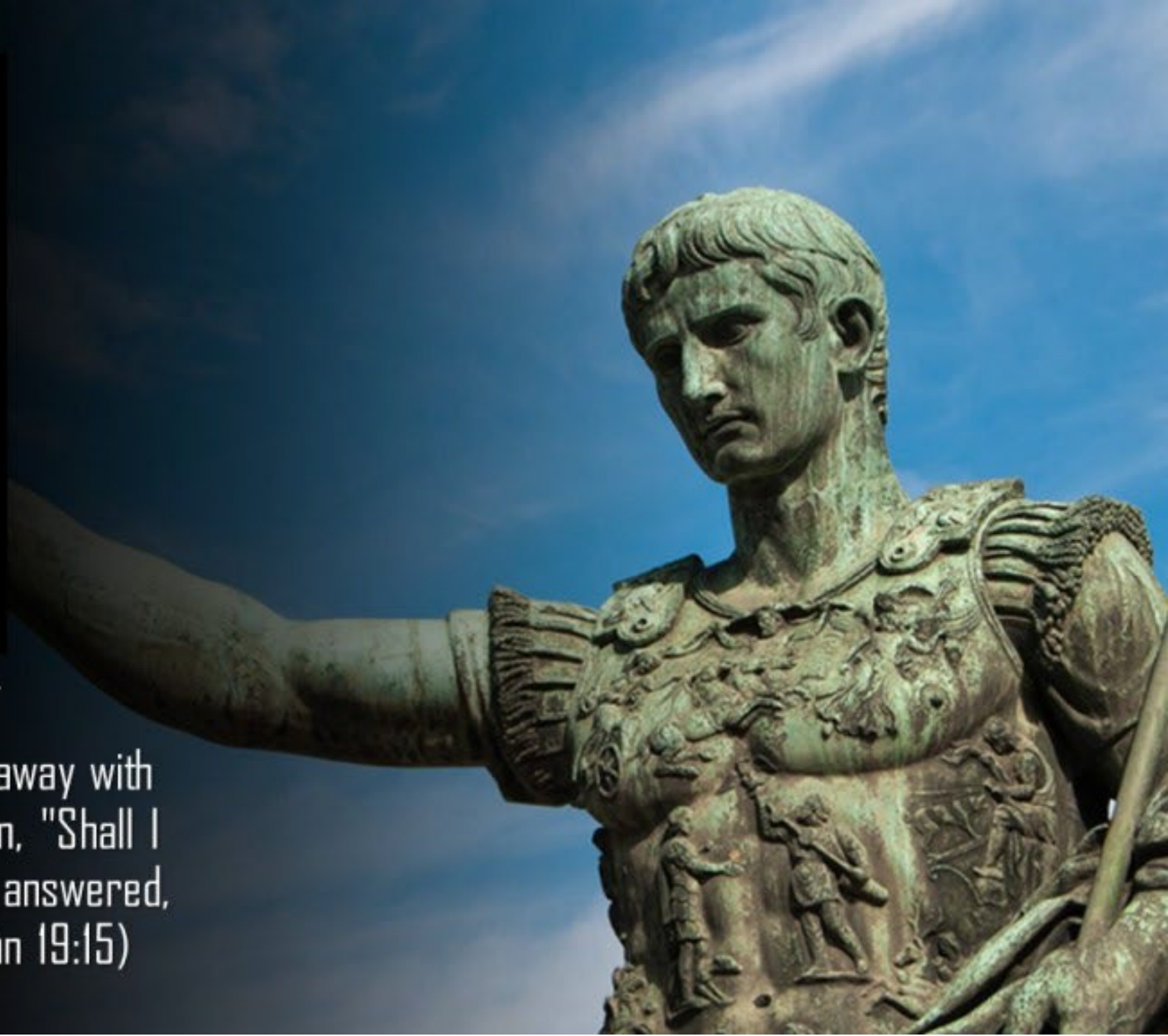


CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS



We Have No King But CAESAR

But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" (John 19:15)

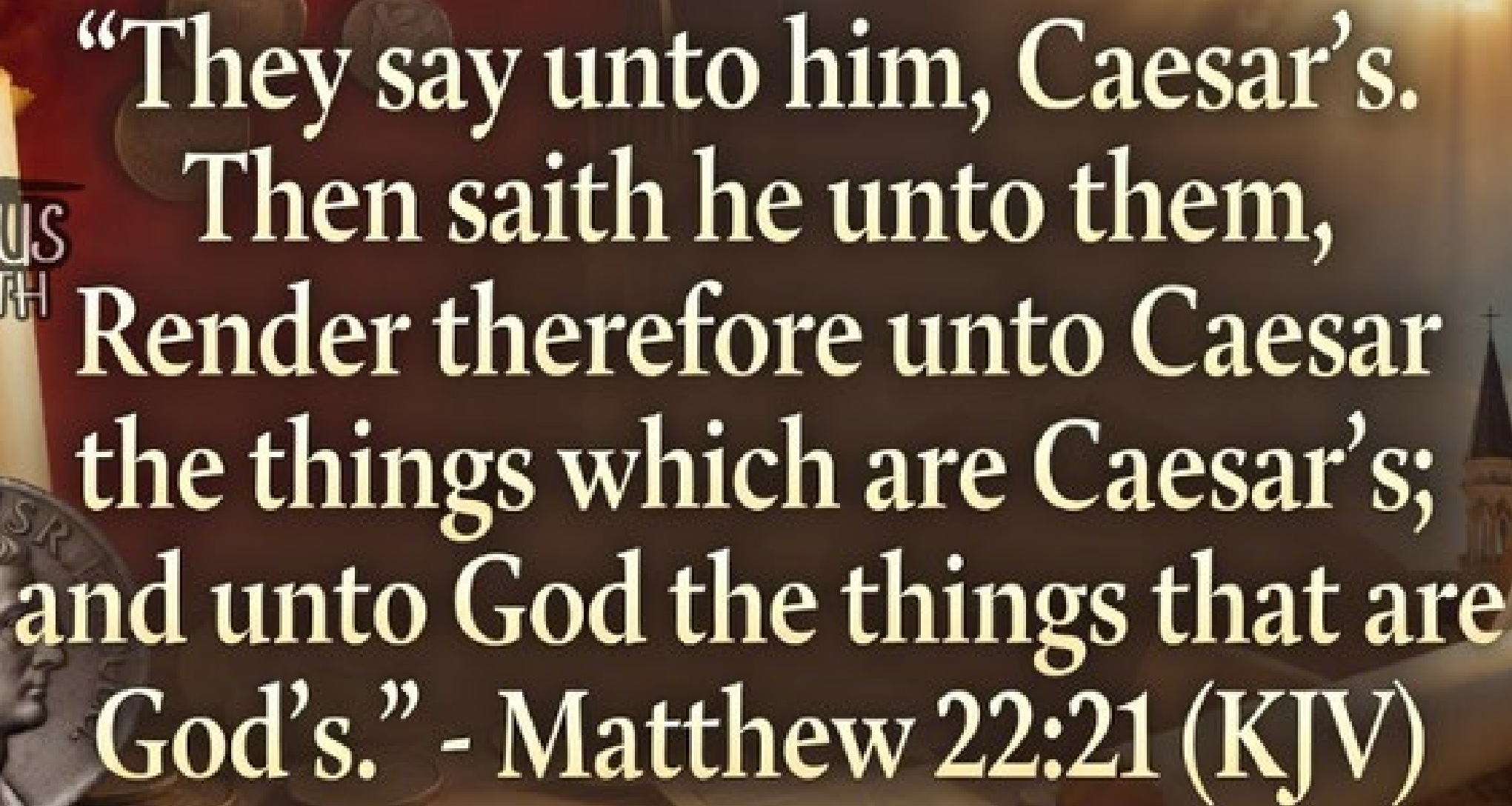




The Cost of Allegiance



Therefore, their desire for the death of Jesus came at the expense of their allegiance to God.



“They say unto him, Caesar’s.
Then saith he unto them,
Render therefore unto Caesar
the things which are Caesar’s;
and unto God the things that are
God’s.” - Matthew 22:21 (KJV)

JESUS
= TRUTH

TAX
COLLECTOR



This implies that their ultimate duty and unconditional allegiance, worship, and one's very self belongs only to God, because people are "imprinted" with God's image, not Caesar's

LEVEL 1



LEVEL 2

At a basic level Jesus is saying give the minimal allegiance to Caesar, that is required.

and give the total allegiance to God that He expects of us.

THE CROSS OF ALLEGIANCE





"Take up your cross
and follow Me"?

This is in part the cross we
are called to bear today,
the cross of allegiance.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached
in the whole world as a testimony to all nations,
and then the end will come.

Matthew 24:14

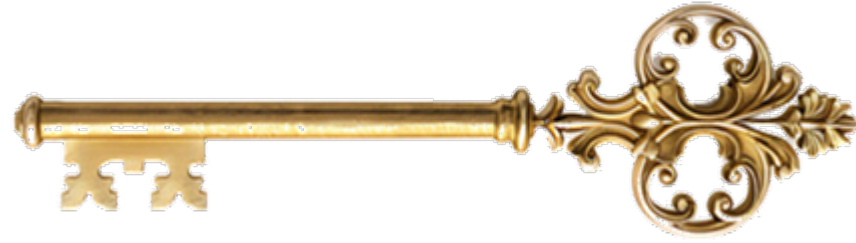


The tax is given from my paycheck
the tithe is given from my heart.



TITHE





My allegiance to the Government is minimal,
my allegiance to the LORD is maximal.



TITHE



CORE AREAS OF



✚ **Jesus Christ as King:**

✚ **The Kingdom of God:**

✚ **God's Word (The Bible):**

A L L E G I A N C E



⊕ **Earthly Authorities:**

⊕ **Conditional Patriotism:**

⊕ **Limits to Obedience:**

(Acts 5:29)



JESUS CHRIST

THE

King of Kings

CORE AREAS OF



Biblical allegiance is described as living a faithful, honorable and wholehearted obedient life, following the teachings of Jesus, and regularly gathering, together* with the family of God in worship and prayer.

A L L E G I A N C E

*Hebrews 10:25



YOU'RE INVITED

TO STAND AS WE PLEDGE

OUR ALLEGIANCE TO

JESUS, THE LAMB OF GOD.