



Drop Your Agenda - Mark Mitchell  
Matthew 22:15-46

1. Sometimes we come to Jesus with our own agenda. Can you think of some examples of that?
2. How does Jesus respond to those who come to him with a political agenda in vv. 15-22? What are the implications for us today?
3. How does Jesus respond to those who come to him with a rationalist agenda in vv. 23-33? What are the implications for us today?
4. How does Jesus respond to those who come to him with a religious agenda in vv. 24-40? What are the implications for us today?
5. What is Jesus trying to accomplish by asking them a question in vv. 41-45?
6. How did the religious leaders respond to Jesus in each of the above questions? What does this say about Jesus?
7. Mark ended his sermon with this words: *A lot of people find Jesus handy to have in the car as long as he's in the passenger seat, because something may come up where they require his services. Jesus, I have a health problem, and I need some help. I want you in the car, but I'm not so sure I want you driving. If Jesus is driving, I'm not in charge of my life anymore. If he's driving, I'm not in charge of my money anymore. Now, it's his money. It's scary. If Jesus is driving, I'm not in charge of my career anymore. I no longer have the right to satisfy my own ambition. No, it's his agenda. It's his life. Now, I'm not in charge of my tongue anymore. I don't get to gossip, flatter, deceive, rage, manipulate, exaggerate. I get out of the driver's seat and hand the keys to him.* How can you apply this to your own life?



Matthew 22: 15-46 - Dominic Rivera

1. In the question about taxes, what was the dilemma that Jesus faced in answering the question (i.e. danger in regard to Rome, and danger in regard to the Jewish people)?
2. The Roman tax was a form of subjugation of the nations it had conquered. What does Jesus mean by "give to God"? How does that answer the question about paying the tax?
3. Describe a recent action you intentionally did that resulted in a changing a relationship or circumstance for the better?
4. The Sadducees use a text (Deut. 25.5-10) about continuing the family line so that God's promise will remain. They are concerned with how to control life. What areas of your life do you seek to control?
5. In response, Jesus challenges the Sadducees to better trust (a) the Scriptures and (b) the power of God. What practice(s) could you implement in your routines to do the same?
6. Jesus says the greatest commandment is to love God and love people. Which is more difficult for you? Why?
7. How would you evaluate CPC's effectiveness on creating space and direction to love God and love people?