

# 2015 The Parables of Jesus

Parable Summarization – Part 1

Luke 20:20 - 26

# The Text

- **Luke 20:20 – 26** Watching for their opportunity, the leaders sent spies pretending to be honest men. They tried to get Jesus to say something that could be reported to the Roman governor so he would arrest Jesus. Teacher, “they said, “we know that you speak and teach what is right and are not influenced by what others think. You teach the way of God truthfully. Now tell us—is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” He saw through their trickery and said, “Show me a Roman coin. Whose picture and title are stamped on it?” “Caesar’s,” they replied. “Well then,” he said, “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.” So they failed to trap him by what he said in front of the people. Instead, they were amazed by his answer, and they became silent.

# The Time Period Of Jesus' Parables

The Roman Republic (509 BC–27 BC) was the ancient civilization in Rome following the republican form of government. In other words, the people or a part of its people had an impact on its government as opposed to monarchy wherein the head of the state or the monarch holds supreme power.

# A Comparative Time For Kings...

## Jesus and Caesars

The Roman Empire (27 BC–AD 476 / 1453) was the succeeding phase of the ancient Roman civilization identified for its autocratic form of government and its control over some territories in Europe and the Mediterranean.

Although at this period Rome was ruled by an emperor (a monarch) enforcing autocracy, Caesar Augustus who was bestowed as first Roman emperor, did not want to associate himself with anything suggestive of monarchy and dictatorship.

# Caesar and Roman Coins

The image on the old Roman coins became drastically significant when Julius Caesar (military general and political leader who played vital role in transforming the republic to an empire) issued coins that bore his own portrait. The Roman Caesar coins were the first in the Roman money that featured the image of a living individual.

# Basic Elements To Identifying Roman Coins



**On the obverse or heads of the ancient coin -**

Portrait of the reigning emperor; the image of an emperor's relative such as his son

**Legend** – the wording etched right below the rim (outline) of the coin above the emperor's head; usually the legend would be the name of whose portrait appeared on the coin.

**Headdress of the emperor** – if a portrait does not have a headdress (or any ornaments on the head) it may signify a person of lower rank than an emperor

**Bust type** – the drapery or armor that is worn by the image on the coin would show his rank or status in the government or society

# Basic Elements To Identifying Roman Coins



- **Motif** – the motif is the image or message stamped on the coin. It usually recorded certain important events during the specific period that the coin was issued; sometimes the motifs portray religious images or commemorate won wars.
- Some historians suppose that the coins were also used as “newspapers” during the reign of the Roman Empire
- **Legend** – in the reverse side of the ancient coin, the legend or wording right below the rim of the coin would briefly describe what the motif is about
- **Exergue** – was similar to a track mark that would tell where the coins were minted (like a mint mark in modern coins)

# Jesus Taught Using Parables

Matthew 13:34 All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in **parables**; and without a **parablespake** he not unto them:

Mark 4:34 But without a **parablespake** he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.

**Parable – a placing of one thing by the side of another for the purpose of comparison.....**



# Three Summary Points On Parables

- The Parables are God's Coins About The Kingdom of Heaven
- The Parables are God's newspaper about all things spiritual
- The Parables are God's "Obverse" about The Head of the Kingdom
- **Luke 22:44** - And he said unto them, these are the words that I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses, in the prophets and in the psalms concerning me.