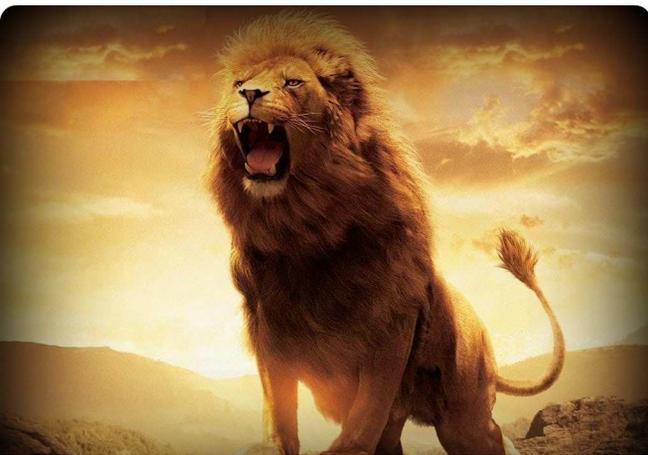
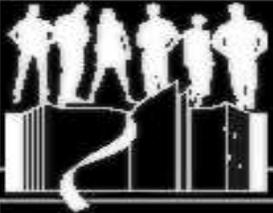


Among the Lions: Jesus



Whose is Whose?
Matt 22:15-21



Matthew 22:

14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

15 ¶ Then the Pharisees went and plotted together how they might trap Him in what He said. 16 And they *sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any. 17 "Tell us then, what do You think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?" 18 But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, "Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites?"



Matthew 22:

19 "Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax." And they brought Him a denarius. 20 And He *said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" 21 They *said to Him, "Caesar's." Then He *said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's." 22 And hearing this, they were amazed, and leaving Him, they went away.

Someone who hates us...



- Jesus was in the wilderness, He knew ...
 - When among “religious” - do we know???
 - We see the same today... manipulation, self-serving, out-of-context – just like Satan did!
- Look at the information here:
 - Vs. 15 – to TRAP – entangle, snare
 - Pharisees with Herodians

A Question of Taxes?



- Since they had been doing this... not the issue!
- A “no-win” situation?
 - If Jesus says pay the tax – collaborator, no Jew!
 - If Jesus says don’t pay – rebel and law breaker...
 - Either way, Jesus is “evil”
- Like this situation, people are not interested in the answer, just creating confusion!

Tithing and taxes... much the same!



- Pharisee's thrived on tithing issues
- Self-defined pleasing of God - no love!
- Jesus perceived their malice (18)
- 2 things:
 - Why are you testing Me? What is your motive??
 - Don't you know you are hypocrites?

“Show Me the coin...”



"Tiberius Caesar, Son of the Deified Augustus, [who also is] Augustus"



Tiberius — a man distinguished for the grossest vices, and most disgusting and debasing sensuality.



And they had one???



- Note: dramatic present in these next verses...
- Jesus is speaking NOW, to all of us...
- Whose likeness, whose inscription... He KNEW!
- ‘render’- pay off, restore...
- Jesus wants to show some truth here...
- “things that are (belong)”

Whose are you?



- Things for Caesar... taxes, honor, civil law...
- Things for God:
 - ALL power, authority, created things!
 - Man's power (Caesar) is because of God - John 19:11
 - Man's power is limited – death!
 - Man's power is submissive. Acts 5:29

Whose are you?



- Things for God...
- Whose likeness – whose inscription?
- **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.