

# PAYING TAXES

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**Matthew 17:24** After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, “Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?”

<sup>25</sup>“Yes, he does,” he replied. When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. “What do you think, Simon?” he asked. “From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?”

<sup>26</sup>“From others,” Peter answered. “Then the children are exempt,” Jesus said to him.

<sup>27</sup>“But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours.”

## HISTORY

This was a \_\_\_\_\_ Tax

**Exodus 30:12** “Whenever you take a census of the people of Israel, each man who is counted must pay a ransom for himself to the Lord. Then no plague will strike the people as you count them. <sup>13</sup> Each person who is counted must give a small piece of silver as a sacred offering to the Lord. (This payment is half a shekel, based on the sanctuary shekel, which equals twenty gerahs.)

Capernaum was where Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 4:12** When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum

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\_\_\_\_\_ have a right to tax their people

\_\_\_\_\_ have a right to their money

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ his rights

**Matthew 20:25** “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— <sup>28</sup>just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

## JESUS CONSIDERED LIVING \_\_\_\_\_ MORE IMPORTANT THAN HIS RIGHTS

**Romans 14:19** Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. <sup>20</sup>Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of *INSERT YOUR BELIEF*... <sup>21</sup>It is better not... to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall. <sup>22</sup>So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God.

**1 Corinthians 10:23** “I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but not everything is constructive. <sup>24</sup>No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

**What rights can you \_\_\_\_\_  
for the \_\_\_\_\_ of others?**

