

March 28, 2026

Local Conference Advance

The Scribes and Pharisees tried to trap Jesus. However, they were never successful. At every try, Jesus was able to use their malicious attempts to teach truths and lessons of eternal value.

One such lesson comes from Mark 12:17 (ESV). “Jesus said to them, ‘Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.’ And they marveled at him.” This response of Christ is an eternal truth that invites all of God’s children, whether by redemption or creation, to recognize His authority. While Jesus’ wisdom and skill freed Him from the entanglement of His attackers, it also points to our obligation to support our government and to honor Him with our gifts.

In the case of our stewardship, we are invited to return to God what belongs to Him. We are to give Him one-seventh of our week in worship. We are to spend time to witness of His saving grace. We are to care for our wellbeing – emotionally and physically. And we are to return one-tenth of our earnings and give a freewill offering, to undertake the cost of ministry and mission. This demonstrates our loyalty to God.

Today as we give, let’s give in commitment because Jesus is deserving of our gifts.