



ALFA ROMEO

**HARDER, BETTER, FASTER, STRONGER**

## Mark 12:13-17

13 And they sent to him some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. 14 And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?"

A close-up photograph of Steve Moss from the TV show 'The Mindy Project'. He has a prominent mustache and is wearing a brown suit jacket, a light blue striped shirt, and a dark blue patterned tie. He has a serious, slightly skeptical expression. The background is a blurred office setting with a painting on the wall.

**FIRST OF ALL,**

**INCOME TAX IS ILLEGAL!**

## Mark 12:13-17

15 But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." 16 And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's."



“The Greek word translated “trap” (*peirazein*) means “to test or tempt” (8:11). Retaining his own authority, Jesus requests a denarius and asks, “Whose portrait is this?” There is some irony in the fact that the inquirers possess the requisite coin for the tax, whereas Jesus does not. They apparently share more complicity in the tax system than their question suggests. Since the image and inscription are Caesar’s, says Jesus, the coin belongs to Caesar.

## Mark 12:13-17

17 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.

“By saying that we are to give “to God the things that are God’s,” Jesus recognized only one God, thus obviating Caesar’s claim to divinity. Moreover, because Jesus named God in the second half of the statement, the demands of the ultimate, eternal King subsumed the petty reign of Caesar. Jesus put Caesar in his place, and again there was nothing his critics could do about it!

“Next, Jesus’ call to give “to God the things that are God’s” subtly stated God’s claim to total ownership of us all. Here is why: the coin was Caesar’s because it bore his image; we are God’s because we bear his image!

# Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

## Exodus 20:3-4

3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

45 FRYKIV  
\$40 FORTY  
20 TY  
7 SEVEN  
\$25,000 25 THOU  
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10 TEN  
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\$50 FIFTY  
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## Mark 12:18-27

18 And Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked him a question, saying, 19 "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.

## Mark 12:18-27

20 There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no offspring. 21 And the second took her, and died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. 22 And the seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman also died. 23 In the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife."

““ At the heart of their trick question was the custom of Levirate marriage: if a man's married brother died, he must marry the widow (cf. Deuteronomy 25:5, 6). This was an ancient custom that existed long before the Law, and its neglect brought the scandal of Judah and Tamar (Genesis 38:6–10). Its purpose was to keep a family from dying out, and to keep family wealth intact.

## Mark 12:18-27

24 Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God? 25 For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

## Mark 12:18-27

26 And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? 27 He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong."



“ [It] is ridiculous for God to say that he is the God of men who have no existence. Therefore, because God says, “I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob,” they must be living, and thus the resurrection is a reality. Or put another way: if Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are nothing more than dust, God cannot now, at this moment, be their God. God is not the God of that which has ceased to be.

# Mark 12:24

24 Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because **you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?**

# Jesus Turns Traps Into Teaching

- We belong to God ultimately
- We're called to *know the person* we belong to
- We're called to *know the power* of the person we belong to



**MORE  
IS  
MORE**

## Ephesians 2:4-5

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved

## 2 Peter 1:3-4

3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.



**WRONG  
WAY**

07/10

RB 22

# 3



Summer  
Opportunities

Pray

Serve

Give





●  
● O were my love yon Lilac fair,  
●  
● With purple blossoms to the Spring,  
●  
● And I, a bird to shelter there  
●  
● When wearied on my little wing!  
●  
● How I would mourn when it was torn  
●  
● By Autumn wild, and Winter rude!  
●  
● But I would sing on wanton wing  
●  
● When youthful May its bloom renewed

A landscape of rolling hills at sunset. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center of the frame, casting a warm, orange and yellow light across the sky. The hills are silhouetted against the bright sky, with the foreground hills being dark and the background hills appearing as lighter, hazy layers. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

**I'm not suffering from anything a good  
resurrection can't fix.**

**D.A. Carson**

# Gospel Response

***Start:*** God is inviting you to know him and his power. Belong to him today.

***Strengthen:*** God has resurrection power available for you right now and forever. Put *more* hope in that than anything else.