

## Sermon Outline: Render to the King

**Series:** The Formation Code (Part 4) **Scripture Focus:** Matthew 22:15–22; Luke 19:1–10; Genesis 14:17–15:1

### I. Introduction: The Concept of Rendering

- **The Series Recap:** Part 4 follows *Rest in the Savior*, *Rejoice with the Family*, and *Run to the Lost*.
- **Defining Rendering:** It is a continuous transformation of the mind to move all that you are and have out of your hands and into Jesus's hands.
- **Spiritual Before Natural:** Before we can render "things" in the natural world, we must first render our identity and heart in the spiritual realm.

### II. The Likeness and the Inscription (Matthew 22:15–22)

- **The Trap:** The Pharisees and Herodians attempted to "entangle" Jesus by asking if it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar.
- **The Wisdom of Jesus:** By asking whose "likeness and inscription" was on the denarius, Jesus revealed a deeper theological truth.
- **The Image of God:** Just as Caesar's image gave the coin value and ownership, the image of God inscribed upon humans gives us worth and means we belong to Him.
- **The Command:** "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's".

### III. Case Study: Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10)

- **The Identity Paradox:** Zacchaeus (meaning "pure" or "righteous") lived as a "chief tax collector" and a "rich snob" hated by his people.
- **The Divine Appointment:** Jesus "looked up" at Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree—a man others usually "looked down upon"—and invited Himself into Zacchaeus's home.
- **The Joyful Response:** Unlike the grumbling crowd, Zacchaeus received Jesus joyfully and immediately practiced the "discipline of rendering".

### IV. Overcoming the Three Barriers to Surrender

1. **Sovereignty Anxiety:** The fear that surrendering control to God will cost us safety, identity, or future security. We must move from anxiety to **Sovereign Assurance**.
2. **Loss Aversion Faith:** A faith shaped more by fear of what is lost than the hope of an eternal inheritance in Jesus.
3. **Deferred Allegiance:** Agreeing with Christ in principle while postponing surrender in practice. "Delayed obedience is disobedience".

### V. The Seven Acts of Rendering

The sermon identifies seven specific "W's" that believers are called to render to the King:

- **Words:** Turning our conversation toward God rather than grumbling.
- **Wounds:** Surrendering past history, mistakes, and pains.
- **Worship:** Offering our bodies as a living sacrifice rather than worshipping "mammon" (money).
- **Wealth & Work:** Repenting of greed and working as "unto the Lord".
- **Witness & World:** Rendering our public testimony and our entire worldview to His lordship.

### Conclusion: Only One Life

- Rendering is not "downgrading" your life; it is aligning with the one whose presence offers fullness of joy.
  - **The Call:** As C.T. Studd wrote, "Only one life will soon be passed / Only what's done for Christ will last".
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## Congregational Worksheet: Render to the King

**1. Reflection: The Inscription on the Coin** The sermon notes that the coin bore Caesar's likeness, but you bear God's likeness.

- *How does knowing you are "inscribed" with God's image change how you view your personal value and your "belonging" to Him?*
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**2. Identifying the Barriers** The speaker defines **Sovereignty Anxiety** as the fear that surrendering to God will cost us security.

- *Which of the three barriers (Sovereignty Anxiety, Loss Aversion, or Deferred Allegiance) do you find most difficult to overcome when God asks you to render something to Him? Why?*
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**3. Word Study: The "Chief Tax Collector"** Zacchaeus was a man of "low stature" (short) and high social "stature" (rich).

- *What are the "crowds" or "insecurities" in your life currently hindering you from seeking Jesus with the fervor Zacchaeus showed when he climbed the tree?*
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**4. The Seven "W's" of Rendering** Review the list: **Words, Wounds, Worship, Wealth, Work, Witness, and World.**

- *Which of these areas feels the most "temporary" right now, and how can you move it into Jesus's hands to gain what is "eternal"?*

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**5. Immediate Obedience** The sermon states, "Delayed obedience is disobedience".

- *Is there a "deferred allegiance" in your life—something you've agreed to do "later"—that God is calling you to render today?*

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**Key Memory Verse:** *"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."* — **Matthew 22:21**