

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD



October 18, 2020 // Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time // Lectionary: 145 // Gospel MT 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Spiritual Reflection: The following quote from Mother Teresa really struck me hard: "If everyone could see the image of God in his neighbor, do you think we should still need tanks and generals?" - Mother Teresa

Spiritual Questions:

1. What prevents you from believing that you are made in the image of God?
2. What prevents you from believing others are made in the image of God?
3. Why would our world need less tanks and generals if everyone believed they were created in God's image?
4. How did Mother Teresa live the quote out?
5. How can you help others believe that they are made in the image of God?