Matt 22:21. "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things which are God's."

The Christian view was that they would force Jesus to side with the Romans or with the Jews. Tribute was imposed by the Romans and the Jews did not like it. If Jesus would say "no," he would make himself liable to Rome; if "yes," he would offend the Jews. Christ sets down the basic law that man owes a duty both to state and Church, government and God. "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things which are God's."