

Children of the King

Matthew 17:24

Background

- the two-drachma tax
 - about 2 days wages
 - every male 20 and over
 - used for the upkeep of the temple
- This is not a governmental tax.

Background

- Exodus 30:12-16
 - each one must pay the Lord a ransom for his life at the time he is counted
 - Each one...is to give a half shekel... an offering to the LORD...

Background

- 2 Chronicles 24
 - collect the money due annually from all Israel to repair the temple of your God
 - they should bring the LORD the tax that Moses...required of Israel in the desert

Background

- Nehemiah 10:32
 - We assume the responsibility for carrying out the commands to give a third of a shekel each year for the service of the house of our God

Background

- came to Peter and asked
 - Doesn't your teacher pay the two-drachmas?
 - Yes

Freedom

- When Peter came into the house,
 - Jesus was the first to speak.
 - What do you think, Simon?

Freedom

- From whom to the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes -
 - from their own sons or from others?
- From others

Freedom

- Then the sons are exempt.
 - “free”
- God is our loving and gracious Father.
 - We relate to him not as taxpayers but as sons and daughters.

Freedom

- God sent his son...
 - to redeem those under law,
 - that we might receive the full rights as sons.
 - You are no longer a slave, but a son...
 - God has made you also an heir.
 - Gal. 4:4-7

Freedom

- It is for freedom that Christ has set us free...
 - do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.
 - Gal. 5:1

Freedom

- You did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear,
 - but you received the Spirit of sonship.
 - And by him we cry “Abba, Father.”
 - Rom. 8:15

Sacrifice

- But so that we may not offend them,
 - take the first fish you catch
 - you will find a four-drachma coin
- Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours.

Sacrifice

- There are times when we lay aside our freedom to serve others.
 - Avoid offending people unnecessarily.

Sacrifice

- Live as free men,
 - but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil.
 - live as servants of God.
 - Show proper respect for everyone;
 - Love the brotherhood of believers,
 - fear God, honor the king.
- 1 Pt. 2:16

Sacrifice

- Though I am free and belong to no man,
 - I make myself a slave to everyone
 - to win as many as possible.
- 1 Cor. 9:19

Sacrifice

- You, my brothers, we called to be free.
 - But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature;
 - rather, serve one another in love.
- Gal. 5:13

Children of the King

- Live freely.
- Give freely.