

# The Temptation of Christ

## MARK 12:13-17

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Intro. **A.** The temptation of Christ is a subject of much discussion.

- 1.** Could Jesus sin? If not He could not have been tempted.
- 2.** Jesus was God. God cannot be tempted.
- 3.** What if Jesus had sinned?

**B.** Jesus had many temptations.

- 1.** Satan tempted Him in the wilderness.
- 2.** Here, Jesus is tempted by the Pharisees.
- 3.** The created testing the Creator.

## I. The Pharisees Tested Jesus

**A.** The men and their mission.

Vs. 13a **1.** Pharisees - a Jewish religious sect.

**2.** Herodians - Jews who supported the Herod family. The Herods were not of proper Jewish descent. They had supplanted a royal Jewish family with priestly ties. They sought to please the Romans.

**3.** This was an unholy alliance.

**B.** Their mission.

Vs. 13b **1.** "... to catch him in his words".

**2.** λαμβάνω = to take, to lay hold of, grasp.

## II. The Trap They Laid.

**A.** The complements they paid.

Vs. 14 **1.** "... Master, we know that thou art true..."

**2.** "... Carest for no man..."

#### IV. Lessons For Us.

(2)

**A.** We should never tempt God.

1. God never invites us to test Him.
2. The invitation of God is always to trust Him, Not to test Him.

**B.** If we could test God, how would we know if God failed or passed?

1. Would failure be that we didn't get Him to do what we desired?
2. When can we say, "God failed"?

**C.** It is far better to have God test us.

1. This brings experience.
2. Experience brings patience.

**D.** We should consider His answer.

1. What things are Caesars?
2. What things are Gods?

**E.** Paul's understanding of Caesar.

1. Romans 13: 1-14
2. This is what belongs to government.

**F.** Paul's understanding of what belongs to God.

1. Romans 12: 1-21
2. This is his summation.