

“Facing the Enemy with Wisdom”

Luke 20:19-26

Steps to facing the enemies of God with wisdom:

I. Fear the Lord and yield to His reproof.

A. Jesus’ warnings yielded hostility from the religious leaders.

Luke 20:19 “The scribes and the chief priests tried to lay hands on Him that very hour, and they feared the people; for they understood that He spoke this parable against them.

1. They perceived that Jesus was threatening them if He should rise to power: **v18**
2. Instead, they should have responded like the Ninevites to the warnings of God: **Jonah 3:4-10**

B. Lessons when God gives warnings:

1. Don’t despise the messenger... the package that God might send (prophets, Jesus, a believer).
2. Consider that it might be God speaking directly to you.
3. Heed the warning and turn from your path.
4. Be compassionate enough to pass the warning to others.
Ezekiel 3:18-19

II. Accuse-proof your life against the enemy of your soul.

A. Spies were watching to accuse Jesus of wrongs.

Luke 20:20 So they **watched** Him, and sent **spies** who pretended to be **righteous**, in order that they might **catch** Him in some statement, so that they could deliver Him to the rule and the authority of the governor.

B. Accusation is the enemy’s greatest weapon against God’s people.

1. The incrimination of Daniel was through a trap - **Daniel 6:3-5**
2. We are to accuse-proof our life against the enemy:
 - a. In our Behavior - **1 Peter 2:12**

b. In our Speech - **Titus 2:8**

c. Through Good deeds - **1 Peter 2:15**

III. Guard yourself against the traps of flattery.

A. The spies used flattery try to deceive Jesus.

Luke 20:21 They questioned Him, saying, “Teacher, we know that You speak and teach correctly, and You are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth. 22 “Is it **lawful** for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?”

B. They placed a trap hidden in the question -v22:

IV. Use the shield of God’s wisdom.

A. Jesus sees the trap and He responds with wisdom.

Luke 20:23 But He detected their trickery and said to them, 24 “Show Me a denarius. Whose likeness and inscription does it have?” They said, “Caesar’s.” 25 And He said to them, “Then **render** to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” 26 And they were unable to catch Him in a saying in the presence of the people; and being **amazed** at His answer, they became silent.”

B. When God’s wisdom is employed, it causes amazement -Acts 4:13

C. Reasons to clothe ourselves with wisdom from on High:

1. Wisdom will protect our life - **Eccl 7:12**
2. Wisdom will strengthen us - **Eccl 7:19**
3. Wisdom comes through Christ’s teaching- **Colossians 3:16**
4. Wisdom comes through asking God - **James 1:5**
5. Wisdom if for doing good to others - **James 3:13**

THINK, PRAY AND OBEY:

1. Let us submit and yield when Lord reproves us.
2. Let us allow the Lord make our life accuse-proof?
3. Let us give the government what is theirs and to God what is His?

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