

Download Giving Unto Caesar The Law And The Church

"Render unto Caesar" is the beginning of a phrase attributed to Jesus in the synoptic gospels, which reads in full, "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:17-21, Mark 12:13-17, Luke 20:20-26). Romans 13:6-7 instructs Christians to attend to finances in this manner: to pay taxes, revenue, respect, and honor to whom each is owed. In the shuffle to cover mortgage payments, daily living expenses, and the unplanned events in life, it's easy to forget about giving unto Caesar and giving unto God. Render Unto: Caesar's Law, God's Law, and the Church. The cure of the leper in this morning's Gospel was more than a miracle of physical healing; it was a moral resurrection of a man who suffered from a disease that made him an outcast from society, doomed to crying out, as the first reading indicates, "Unclean,..." Tell the stories of the ministry of the church not the tax break of the donor. What will happen as a result of the gift? For the church, the biblical narrative and teachings of Jesus are clear, giving is a discipline in response to God's generous outpouring. Framing the money conversation around this is more important than telling the tax ...