

Exempt from the Rule

WK 70 Mt. 17:24-27

WARM UP: There's an old saying that there are only two things of which one can be certain in life: death and taxes. Do you agree or are there other things of which a person can be certain? What would be your proof?

It's April and you know what that means. It's time to pay your taxes! If you are like me, your tax exemptions are probably less now than they were when you were raising a family. There just isn't that much you can write off once you reach a certain age. But, we still do it, we go looking for exemptions. So let me ask you a question or two.

If you never had to pay taxes again, what would you do with the money? Better yet, if you had never had to pay taxes, how would your life be different now?

READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 17:24-27

- 1. What was the temple tax and who was required to pay it? (see Exodus 30:11-16)
- 2. When the tax collectors approached Peter about Jesus paying the temple tax, do you think it was a question or more of an accusation?
- 3. Why did they approach Peter and not Jesus himself since he was right inside the house?
- 4. What do you make of Jesus' question to Peter about who has to pay the tax and who is exempt from taxation? What was his point?
- 5. What lesson is Jesus teaching Peter? How does this apply to us?
- 6. In what areas of your life do you need to learn to apply this truth?