

Refrigerator Note 19 October 2014  
Given of Your Time, Talents and Tithes  
(Have you Considered the Goodness of God)  
Matthew 22:15-22

1. The text clearly is indicative of what is meant by separation of Church and State
2. However, most Christians never give it a second thought when they are asked to pay their taxes, city, county, municipal, or Federal – we as a nation pay taxes on everything including tax
3. Caesar's face may not be on our coin, but for sure, it is the portrait or bust of some dead president – the point is that we are required by law to pay our taxes to maintain services
4. On the other hand, God does not require a Christian to pay his or her tithes and offerings which are needed to sustain the church
5. The problem is that we as Christians willingly give to Caesar what we owe, but we have a hard time fulfilling the last part of this morning's scripture "Given to God what is God's"
6. If we refuse to give our offerings and tithes to God, does God punish us – not really
7. But for those who tithe and give of their offerings freely, God's giving is such an abundance that one needs not only a cup, but a saucer as well to catch the over flow of God's goodness and grace
8. The talents that we have were given to us by God most Christians either waste or squander their talents, which means they have not been good stewards
9. 'Steward' and 'stewardship' signify responsible management of God's resources that the Lord has given freely to all
10. Above all things a 'steward' is responsible for taking care of God's property (the church)
11. Each of us have a choice on how we intent to use the time, talents, and pay our tithes to the Church
12. Christian giving is based on the idea that each person lives in Christ, and if that person has life in the church it is meant to transform the fullness of the church in its teachings to others and manifestation of testimony of how good God has been to His servants
13. If you sow sparingly you surely will reap the same!
14. The one area of disciple lacking in most Christians' lives is their being obedience to God – In giving back to the Church in tithes and offerings
15. Have you ever considered the goodness of God, don't rob God of what God has given you!