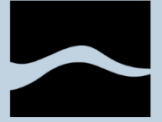


# SERMON NOTES

A STRANGE TAX (MATTHEW 17:24–27)

**STRANGE STORIES, PECULIAR GLORIES**



**BIG IDEA:** Jesus files jointly

# APPLICATION GUIDE

August 3, 2025

## DISCUSS

Read Exodus 30:11–16; 2 Chronicles 24:6–10; Nehemiah 10:32–33. What is the two-drachma (temple) tax? Why is it significant to this strange tax story?

What does the term “atonement money” (Exodus 30:15–16) imply about the theological importance of the temple tax?

Why does Jesus pay the temple tax even though, as God’s Son, He is exempt from it? How does this story act as a parable or preview of the Gospel?

How does the miracle of the coin in the fish connect with the Old Testament story of Jonah?

## APPLY

How does Jesus’ humility challenge the way you think about your power, rights, or privileges?

How do you typically use your spiritual freedom—selfishly or for the good of others? Are there areas in your life where you are resisting submission to God’s Word?

In what ways is the idea of “filing jointly” with Jesus comforting or challenging for you? Where have you been relying on your own works instead of resting in Christ’s finished payment?

What does it look like to live as someone who has “filed jointly” with Jesus in your everyday relationships?

## COMMIT

Ask yourself: Where am I trying to earn access to God instead of receiving grace? Write it down, confess it to God, and replace it with a Scripture about Christ’s sufficiency.