

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar- and to God what belongs to Gods

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The Romans imposed taxes upon the people. They did it in Palestine, they did it here. Nobody likes taxes. Some of the taxes were wasted there. Some of the taxes were wasted here. Never the less there is a road not far from here that we use called Roman Road, which was built originally by these imperialists.

All over Palestine there are features of the Roman occupation.

Practical features. Irrigation, buildings, Monuments.

The Roman Empire is now history

Which perhaps puts things into context

The wars and revolutions

The science and the development

The politics and the power struggles are all history

Here and there practical consequences remain

However for those of faith

More important than the Roman Empire

More important than Rome

Is the love of God

A constant throughout

A constant calling

A constant creative presence

That now calls me

To love of those I care for

To live love in the expressions of my life

When I die

all that will actually remain of me is love

All else is of minor significance

This clearer vision puts into context the practical reality's.

Allows me to work within this imperfect world

I cannot put a stop to the war in the Ukraine

I am obliged by circumstance to accept what is beyond my control

But with the love of God I can express what goodness is open to me.

I cannot remove the bombs and methods of mass destruction

I am obliged to accept my helplessness

Thus giving to God those children and victims of violence

The politics and power struggles I have a minor share in

But I am a voter not a president, an influence not a decision maker

I can do my best then place into the hands of God that which is beyond me.

There is always the fear that during the darkest times

My hope will be drowned in the hysteria and anger of our world

History will eventually reflect

When all that will remain of us is love

Let me give to Caesar what is Caesars

To practically act upon what I can

Then let me give to God what is Gods

Gods not mine

Let me let go

Then in that freedom hold on to my faith and health.

Then in that freedom

Celebrate the practical love

Then in that freedom

Take the next possible step forward.