



## Embroidered Picture - Render Therefore Unto Caesar

### Primary Maker

Elizabeth Bowne

### Medium

Plied wool and silk threads on canvas

### Description

A large-scale embroidered picture on sturdy cotton canvas ground, worked in plied wool thread, plied silk thread, and fine chenille silk thread in shades of red, rose, pink, dark green, medium green, light green, dark blue, medium blue, light blue, dark brown, medium brown, tan, cream white, medium gray, light gray, and black. The scene depicts Jesus Christ standing on a stone step within a temple setting, dressed in red robes with a white cloak. Five figures flank Christ. Four appear to be Pharisees, robed in elaborate garments with two wearing red and

white headdresses and two wearing draped scarves. The fifth figure, bareheaded and in simple robes, standing at Christ's right shoulder, may be the apostle Peter. Christ gestures with his left hand to the coin held by one Pharisee, while pointing upwards towards Heaven with his right hand. All garments, draperies, and architectural details are worked in wool cross stitch. The faces, hands, and skin of the figures are worked in fine silk cross stitch. Hair, beards, and even eyebrows are worked in fine silk chenille thread. The embroidery is mounted under a reverse-painted glass panel with a wide black border and a narrow inner gilt edge. Along the bottom of the glass is painted in gilt italic lettering "Render therefore unto CAESAR the things which are CAESARS / and unto GOD the things which are GOD'S / ELIZABETH BOWNE 1861." Needlework and glass are in their original gilded wooden frame.

### Dimensions

Sight: 38.5 × 26.25 in. (97.8 × 66.7 cm)