

## **Audition Script 10 – Prophets/Pharisees**

**\*Please read ALL the lines for the pharisees (1-3) and have someone else read the other lines of possible.\***

*Pharisees pause to look self-righteously toward Jesus.*

**Jesus:**       *(continuing)* **When you come to pray, have faith in God, not in yourselves. And if you have anything against anyone, forgive him – let it go so that your Father in Heaven may also forgive you of your sins.**

**Pharisee 1:** *(with disdain)* **And by what authority do you teach these things?**

**Jesus:**       **By what authority did John baptize?**

*Pharisee 1 drops head and turns away, unable to answer.*

**Pharisee 2:** *(Picking up the debate challenge and flipping a coin toward Jesus!)* **Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar?**

**Jesus:**       **Who is pictured on the coin?**

**Pharisee 2:** **Why...Caesar.**

**Jesus:**       **Pay to Caesar what is Caesar's and give to God the things that are His.**

*Pharisee 2 also drops head and turns away. Pharisee 3 hurls a final challenge across the stage to Jesus.*

**Pharisee 3:** **Which commandment do you say is the most important one?**

**Jesus:**       *(turning to the audience)* **The first and most important one is this: *(arms outstretched)* Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord. Love the Lord your God with your whole heart**

**and soul and mind and strength. *(drop arms)* That is the most important commandment. *(emphasize with right arm)* But... a second one is equal to it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. No commandment is greater than these two.**

*Suddenly from the risers, three Pharisees cry out with self-righteous indignation as they come to stand with Jesus. The fourth Pharisee – Nicodemus – remains silent but comes with them.*

**Pharisee 1:** *(trying to anger the crowd)* **What do these uninformed peasants know about the commandments!**

**Pharisee 2:** **They haven't studied the law!**

**Pharisee 3:** *(also trying to anger the crowd)* **They are empty-headed fools!**

**Nicodemus:** *remains silent*

**Jesus:** *(calmly)* **They are your brothers.**

**Pharisee 1:** *(responding to Jesus)* **They are unwashed.**

**Pharisee 2:** **Unclean!**

**Pharisee 3:** *(also trying to anger the crowd)* **Unqualified!**

*Apostles surrounding Jesus begin to move away at this confrontation. Several gesture in disgust and turn aside to move offstage. A couple just back away, still facing the Pharisees, unsure as to what to do when confronted. (They eventually back completely offstage.) Jesus remains still.*

**Jesus:** **To be forgiven, you must first forgive. To receive, you must first give.**

**Pharisee 1:** *(proud)* **We do give.**

**Pharisee 2:** **Tithes of everything.**

**Pharisee 3: (*proud*) Even the mint in our gardens!**