

A Struggle with Christ's Authority...

January 22nd & 23rd, 2022

Mark 11:27-33

"And they came again to Jerusalem. And as He was walking in the temple, the chief priest and the scribes and the elders came to Him, and they said to Him, 'By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?' Jesus said to them, 'I will ask you one question; answer Me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer Me.' And they discussed it with one another, saying, 'If we say, "From Heaven," He will say, "Why then did you not believe him?" But shall we say, "From man"?'—they were afraid of the people, for they all held John really was a prophet. So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And Jesus said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.'"

... Is a result of confronted behavior.

- ❖ We question Christ's authority over our conduct...

...when we don't like His confrontation.

Mark 11:17 "And He was teaching them and saying to them, 'Is it not written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations"?' but you have made it a den of robbers."

...when we don't accept His truth.

Mark 11:18 "And the chief priest and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy Him, for they feared Him, because all the crowd was astonished at His teaching."

...when we don't intend to change.

Mark 11:31-33 "And they discussed it with one another, saying, 'If we say, "From Heaven," He will say, "Why then did you not believe him?" But shall we say, "From man"?'—they were afraid of the people, for they all held John really was a prophet. So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And Jesus said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.'"

... Is a result of the refusal of God's truth.

- ❖ God gave all His authority to the Son.

Matthew 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel"

Mark 9:2b-3,7 "...And He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ... And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is my beloved Son; listen to Him.'"

📖 John 5:18-29

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves know—"

- ❖ The authority of Jesus is over all creation.

Colossians 1:15-19 "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,"

↪ Jesus demonstrated His authority over physical situations.

📖 Mark 3:1-6

↳ Jesus demonstrated His authority over spiritual forces.

📖 Mark 2:1-12

📖 Mark 9:14-29

↳ Jesus demonstrated His authority through His teaching.

📖 Mark 7:1-13

📖 Mark 11:17-18

❖ The whole universe is under Christ's authority.

Matthew 28:18 "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me.'"
Revelation 1:8 "'I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.'"

Philippians 2:9-11 "Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

❖ The nations continually reject the authority of Christ.

Psalms 2:1-3 "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, 'Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.'"

📖 Acts 4:24-28

Psalms 33:12 "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!"

... **Is a result of an unchanging heart.**

❖ The religious people of Jerusalem were not willing to surrender to the authority of Christ.

Mark 11:27b-28 "And as He was walking in the temple, the chief priest and the scribes and the elders came to Him, and they said to Him, 'By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?'"

John 1:11 "He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him."

John 3:18-19 "Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because He has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil."

❖ Christ, in His mercy, is delaying the complete establishment of His kingdom while He gives us time to repent!

Acts 17:29-31 "Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead."

❖ The Word of God challenges us to submit and live under the authority of Jesus Christ!

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you?"

❖ The only possible way to submit to His authority is to deny ourselves, to take up our cross and follow Him.

Matthew 16:24 "Then Jesus told His disciples, 'If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.'"

↳ We willingly submit to His Sovereign Authority.

↳ We aim to obey His commandments.

↳ We seek to establish His will in our lives.

↳ We establish His will in our families, church, and community!

Endnotes:

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