

THE AUTHORITY OF THE SERVANT



TRI-CITY BAPTIST CHURCH
MARK 11:27-33
JULY 17, 2011 - MESSAGE #50

I. THE APPEARANCE OF THE SANHEDRIN



- (11:27) And they come again to Jerusalem:
and as he was walking in the temple,
there come to him
the chief priests,
and the scribes,
and the elders,

II. THE AUTHORITY OF THE SERVANT



- (11:28) And say unto him,
By what authority doest thou these things?
and who gave thee this authority to do these things?

III. THE ALERTNESS OF THE SON OF MAN



- (11:29) And Jesus answered and said unto them, I will also ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things.
- (11:30) The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? answer me.

The Use of the Counter Question



The Opponent's Attack	Jesus' Answer
2:7	2:8-10
2:18	2:19-22
2:24	2:25-28
3:22	2:23-30
8:11	8:12-13
10:2	10:3-12
11:27-28	11:29-33
12:18-23	12:24-27

IV. THE ANXIETY OF THE “SPIRITUAL” LEADERS



- (11:31) And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, **From heaven;** he will say, Why then did ye not believe him?
- (11:32) But if we shall say, **Of men;** they feared the people: for all men counted John, that he was a prophet indeed.

V. THE ANSWER OF THE SANDHEDRIN



- (11:33) And they answered and said unto Jesus,
We cannot tell.

VI. THE ANSWER OF THE SERVANT



- And Jesus answering saith unto them,
Neither do I tell you by what authority I do these things.

LESSONS FOR THE DISCIPLES



1. Be Circumspect! Be Alert to your Surroundings! Be Prepared for Confrontations!
2. Be Not Intimidated by those in High Positions or by the Size of the Group!
3. Be Aware of the use of the Counter-question in Debates and Altercations and use it when appropriate!
4. “Believe Him!” Disciples will live by Faith or Fear! Submit to the Authority of God and His Word!
5. Do not fear men!
6. Spiritual leaders need to discern what is from God and what is from man or Satan!
7. Realize you do not need to answer every question!

“Why then did ye not believe him?”



- If Jesus' Authority for His earthly ministry was from God, then we need to know the purpose of His mission.
- If Jesus' Authority came from God to lay down His life for sinners, then we should believe in the crucifixion.
- If Jesus' Authority came from God to be resurrected from the grave the third day, then we should believe in the resurrection.
- If Jesus offers to us the gift of eternal life, then we should **“believe him.”**

Do you “believe Him?”



Dear God:

I believe that You authorized the mission of your Son. I believe He died for my sins. I believe He rose from the grave. I “believe Him.” I now turn from my sins and by faith ask for the gift of eternal life.

I pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.