

Jesus' Divine Authority

Mark 11:27-12:12

1. Why we do what we do vs. 27-33

People from the Sanhedrin questioned Jesus' authority; wanting to know who Jesus thinks he is to have the right to act like he has authority over them, the temple, and over the Jewish people? Although they believed they are God's appointed authorities, the question that Jesus responds with revealed the Sanhedrin's true nature of their authority; authority controlled by the fear of the crowds, and the power the Roman Empire had over them.

The Sanhedrin's only concern was to hold on to their position of power; that is what they ultimately valued.

Why do we do what we do? Refusing or Accepting Jesus Divine Authority?

We as the church can have the wrong motivation in how we do church. We can operate from a motivation of fearing people and only doing what makes the congregation happy rather than ministering the way the Lord has shown us how to lead and be a discipleship making church.

Question:

- Are we a church united in Jesus, or are we motivated to be the church for another reason?
- Besides serving in Jesus Name, what other motivations could someone have for serving in the church?
- At times, we may focus on the fear of people when we it comes to confronting a hard situation (conflict, unsound doctrine, ...etc.). What scripture would you encourage each one of us to focus on that would spur us to make choices that would honour God?

2. Who Is Jesus to you? Ch. 12:1-12

Jesus adapts the song from Isaiah 5:1-7 and then quotes Psalm 118:22-23 to the question the Sanhedrin asked him (11:28). Jesus' authority to shut down temple operations comes from none other than the God of Israel. Therefore, this leadership

is guilty of rejecting Jesus and their plans will in no way override the plans of God, as Father God will vindicate Jesus and judge the temple overseers.

Who is Jesus to you? Are you convinced of the Supremacy of Jesus? Jesus has the authority over our lives because Jesus is the Son of God.

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”

Colossians 1:15-20