

The Authority of the Servant
Mark 11:27-33

A Christian's authority is rooted in Jesus Christ and His Word, not the conventions of human wisdom.

They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priest, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. 28"By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you authority to do this?" (11:27-28)

The question of authorization (What/who gives you the authority you to do what you do?)

Jesus replied, "I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ³⁰John's baptism – was it from heaven, or from men? Tell me!" (11:29-30)

The question of origination (From where does your authority come to do what you do?)

They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' ³²But if we say, 'From men'...(They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.)" (11: 31-32)

The question of motivation (Why do you do what you do?)

So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." Jesus said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things." (33)

Application:

What is your authorization?

For by him (Jesus Christ) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. (Colossians 1:16)

What is your origination?

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

What is your motivation?

Therefore make it your aim to please God." (2 Corinthians 5:9)

A Christian's authority is rooted in Jesus Christ and His Word, not the conventions of human wisdom, so that while on earth we can live the abundant life promised to us!