

5-26-1996

By What Authority?

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Recommended Citation

Sawyer, W. (1996). By What Authority?. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons/1454>

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SS CofC. 5-26-96 #1366 (1)

John 17:3. BY what authority?
John 8:24.

Int. Matt. 21:23-27. (Mk. 11:27-33.)
challenge comes after Triumphal Entry +
the cleansing of the Temple. Jesus is getting
unusually popular + exercising
unheard of power and influence
in Jewish Religio-politics.
Seen here as a dangerous threat
to the Jewish control of religion in
the Holy City in the Holy Land; a
1500 yr. institution: Judaism.

Judaism had become corrupt
and sp. ineffectual. Needs replacing.
also: in fullness of time!
✓ THE
TEMPLE
✓ Soon will be replaced by the
Church of Christ on the day of
Pentecost.

SO: Christ's mammoth job: to prepare
the Jewish leaders and people
for this grand religious
change - over. But ---
Wealthy, greedy, + jealous Jewish
leaders do not want to give up
their wealth + vested interests.

I Authority defined: Two types. (2)

A. Voluntary authority -

Ability & freedom to exercise power & influence over others ^{source: 2}

1. Granted by elections in a democracy

2. Delegated power from the highest power of all: almighty God. (This was Christ's source of permission in his personal ministry on earth.)

B. Usurped Authority - by superior strength!
Involves coercion, duress or force. The Jewish method: Dilemma.

II Jesus' Masterful Response.

1. John the Baptist's Baptism: Divine or Human?

2. Either response was fatal for them. Not answered. It stands!

III What Jesus could have answered, - BUT - no answer

would have been accepted!
Quote: "There are none so blind as those who WILL NOT see."

A. Christ's first answer: could have been given.

Had said: 1. John 4: 34 - I serve by the
2. authority of the "Sovereign of the Jews":
Matt. 8: 23-28.
Matt. 14: 25-33.
OR:

B. Christ's second answer:

1. John 5:19. - I cleansed the temple by the authority of the Omnipotent - Ophthalmologist

Galilee

Believe?

8,000 from Jericho

2. Matt. 9: 27-31. 2 blind men. Mk. 8: 22-26. Bethsaida blind man. John 9: 1-7. Blind citizen in Jerusalem. Matt. 20: 30-34. Blind Bartimaeus + a friend leached.

C. Christ's Third answer:

1. John 5:30. My work is under the direction of the Supreme Director of death

Job. 1:21

only son. glorified!

2. the director of death. Port almighty. Matt. 9:18. table away. a. Jairus' daughter resurrected. b. Widow of Nain's son. Lk. 7:11. c. Lazarus of Bethany. John 11:43. d. AND, "I shall be raised from the dead on the 3rd day." Mk 8:31.

Close: Matt. 28:18-20. In full public view. Had cured: 18 cases of illness + injury.

Had harnessed Nature: 10 times. He cured: 6 + demoniacs. cast out demons.

Had raised 3 from the dead. and in spite these 37 miracles some still questioned Christ's authority. why? Blind!

Now: By His authority He requests that all of us: Believe 100% in Him. Repent of all our sins. Confess Him openly daily. Be Bap. for remission. Be faithful unto + until death.