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Wyatt Sawyer Sermon Outlines

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5-26-1996

## By What Authority?

Wyatt Sawyer

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### Recommended Citation

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

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

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 <sup>source: 2</sup>

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. "Frauds!"

# 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 lame.

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. Lk. 7:11. 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 Bapt. for remission. Be faithful unto + until death.