



Key Scripture:

Matthew 21:23 NKJV

"By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

Authority Questioned

Matthew 21:23-27 NKJV

23 Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said,

"By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"

24 But Jesus answered and said to them, **"I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me,**

I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things:

25 The baptism of John — where was it from? From heaven or from men?"

And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'From men,' we fear the multitude, for all count John as a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus and said, "We do not know."

And He said to them, **"Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."**

Why do people reject authority?

✓ **Wrong Expectations**

Mark 6:3 NLT

Then they scoffed, **"He's just a carpenter,** the son of Mary and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And His sisters live right here among us."

They were deeply offended and refused to believe in Him.

✓ **Unwilling to Honor**

Mark 6:4 NLT

Then Jesus told them, **"A prophet is honored** everywhere except in his own hometown and among his relatives and his own family."

✓ **Different Agenda**

Matthew 9:4-7 NASU

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, **"Why are you thinking evil in your hearts?**

5 **"Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, and walk'? 6 "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"**

— then He said to the paralytic, **"Get up, pick up your bed and go home."**

7 And he got up and went home.

Notes: _____

Authority
Receiving Authority

Receiving Authority...

Matthew 28:18 NKJV

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying,

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

1. Place yourself under authority.

Luke 7:8 NIV

For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me.

I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

2. Use your authority to serve and help others.

Matthew 20:25-28 NIV

25 Jesus called them together and said, **"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you.**

Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,

27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to **serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.**"

3. Follow in full agreement with the Lord's agenda.

Matthew 16:24-26 NLT

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, **"If any of you wants to be My follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow Me. 25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake, you will save it.**

Notes: _____

